

January/February/March 2022

www.capitalcalligraphers.org

Mark your calendar

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month (except July & August) at 7 p.m. via Zoom due to COVID-19 concerns. A notice is emailed to members with instructions and supplies. Information can also be found on our website. January 6, 7 p.m. Monthly meeting via

Zoom. The program is **Clothesline Letters** presented by Yuki Tanaka.

January 15/16 – Virtual workshop with Suzie Beringer "The Unconventional Pointed Pen." Registration opened November 1. Details on Valley Calligraphy Guild website.

February 2-28 Exhibit at the Lunaria LOFT Gallery in Silverton. Theme: "Love Letters" Details follow.

February 3, 7 p.m. – Monthly meeting via Zoom. Lori Festa will present **Re-Versals** – white on black drawn Versals.

March 3, 7 p.m. – Monthly meeting at a location TBA, hopefully. Program is still being planned.



Happy New Year!

So long 2021, hello 2022! As we dig out of the snow of our first white Christmas in 20 years, we look forward to the new year with hope for good health, in-person meetings, connecting with friends, and creating art together.



Exhíbít Elsínore Fíne Arts and Framing Gallery November, 2021



Many thanks to Laurie Naemura and

Barbara Taylor for taking the reins and organizing the wonderful exhibit at the Elsinore that hung the month of November. It was an excellent show filled with many pieces of art created by our members. They solicited members to enter pieces, transported pieces to and from, and stored a few following the show until they were picked up. Kudos!!











"Never stop learning"

Editor's interview with Carol Dutoit Photography by Carol



I loved art work and the lettering just happened. I was

What led you to study calligraphy?

Carol served in the early 90's as President of the Capital Calligraphers. In 1992 and 1993, she chaired the All Oregon Calligraphers' Conference. Twice she won Best of Show at the Oregon State Fair and was also a winner in the Graceful Envelope contest printed in Letter Arts Review. Her glass quilt of letters is pictured in Annie Cicale's "The Art and Craft of Hand Lettering." Exhibit participation includes the Oregon State Fair, Sandy Gallery, Reed College, Westminster Fine Arts Festival, the Oregon Capitol, Marylhurst University, the Elsinore, on line with the Portland Society for Calligraphy, and at various fundraisers for the symphony and chamber music chair exhibits. Art in the Garden with Carol were segments for Mike Darcy's Garden Time TV show where she made cement leaves, stepping stones, and rocks with lettering and sand blasting. Carol also published a cook book "A Taste in Time." Through the years, Carol's enthusiasm, talent, and unforgettable laugh have infected us all with good spirits and friendship.

taking night classes and that led me to choose lettering as an art form to pursue. My first calligraphy teacher was Kristi Hildebrand at the Senior Center in Salem.



Are their artists who have been particularly influential to you through the years?

I have been fortunate to study with Carol DuBosch, Prindi Flug and Reggie Ezell. Attending conferences and workshops is a great opportunity to study with many talented calligraphers and teachers. At the international conferences I studied with Brody Neuenschwander, Massimo Palleo, Annie Cicale, and Dennis Brown. I've also experienced



time with Betty Locke, Carl Rohrs, Gemma Black, Colleen Cavin, Peter Thornton, Amity Parks, Suzanne Moore, Inga Dubay, and Suzie Beringer. All of these experiences have made calligraphy fun today.



Is there a favorite project or type of projects you enjoy working on? What is your favorite lettering style?

I love books and Roman Caps. I've made books out of everything: from pottery, copper, wood, tin cans, and anything that can be put together as a book.

Describe your process for creating a piece.

I start with an idea for a project, it flows, and my outcome is not always what I plan. My creativity comes from the experiences I've had learning from different teachers.

Do you ever experience artist's block? What helps you feel inspired during those moments?

I've never had a block. There are times when other things require my time (gardening), but when I settle down and have time, I can go ahead. What really helped me most is teaching. When planning lessons, I get

more excited to try new things. I feel so lucky, as far as creating

calligraphy. The last few years I have been privileged to teach private lessons and feel I have gained so much from my students—such a fun life!

Do you have other artistic interests?

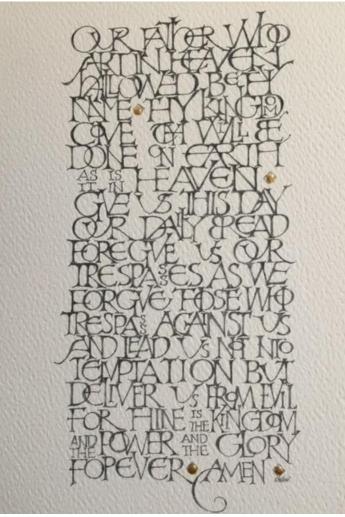
Yes, I love to decorate! Everything: food, my home, the garden. I love having parties and bringing people together. I love to cook and prepare brunches, lunches, and dinners. I love to paint letters on people's walls.

Is there a mantra you live by?

Every day you need to find time to smile. Share some tips for successful lettering projects. If you take time to smile and have fun with your

friends, things just happen. Creating something for myself or for others has always been a pleasure for





me. With a career in nursing, calligraphy was always for my own enjoyment and fun. Relax and enjoy the ride. What legacy do you want to leave?

Never stop learning, take advantage of time to share with calligraphers; they are our forever friends.

Upcoming Exhibit in February, 2022

We've been invited to exhibit at the Lunaria Loft Gallery in Silverton (113 N. Water Street) during the month of February. The theme is "Love Letters." How appropriate for Valentine month! Suggestions for the subject: your embossed letter from October, a love letter to a friend, relative, or ?, words about love, valentines, poems about love, big letters filled in. Think outside the box! A reception will be held on the evening of the 1st Friday of February (unless COVID interferes) February 4. Their commission is 40% and they encourage work that can be for sale.

- The show will open Wednesday, Feb. 2. Deliver work to the gallery Monday, January 31 and no later than Tuesday, February 1 by 11 a.m.
- Send the following information to Laura Drager for the inventory list: Title, medium, price.
- Attach small removable labels on the back of the piece with your name and the price.

Classes/Programs

Online classes have become the best way to continue learning during the pandemic. John Neal Bookseller has the most comprehensive list to refer to. Go to <u>www.johnnealbooksellers.com</u> and browse. You're sure to find just the one(s) for you.



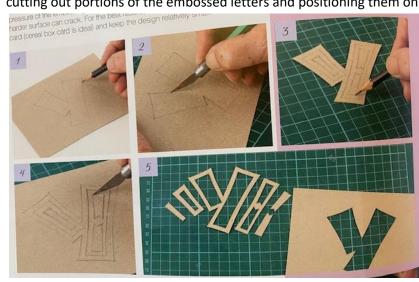
Layered Embossed Letters

Written by Brenda Russell

The program for the October 7 meeting was a demonstration of embossing by Yuki Tanaka. We learned how to create raised or recessed letters by following the procedures she showed us. She indicated the best papers to use and the best craft knives, and techniques for achieving the best results such as cutting templates out of cardboard the thickness of cereal boxes, rotating the cardboard not the tool, and for greater precision, before cutting

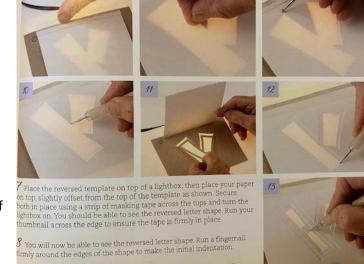


the template, making a tiny hole in its corners with the knife's sharp point. She recommended a craft knife with the brand name Olfa, that can be purchased through Amazon. The angle of the brace should be 30 degrees and it should be changed after every three or four letters. She then demonstrated the positioning of the template on the paper and the use of the embossing tools. She showed how beautiful effects can be produced by cutting out portions of the embossed letters and positioning them on colored paper. Instructions from *Decorated*



Lettering by Jan Pickett. 1. Use a 2H pencil to draw out your letter on thin card (cereal box card is ideal). 2. Place the card on the cutting mat and cut out the letter shape using a sharp craft knife. 3. Add additional details on the cut-out letter shape. 4. Place the letter shape back within the template, and use a craft knife to cut out the details. Having the shape supported by the larger template makes it more stable, and thus neater and safer. 5. Put all of the pieces safely to one side. Keep them arranged so you can easily identify which parts fit together. 6. Turn the main template over and mark it on the reverse side. It is vital you emboss from this side (the back) or your design will be in reverse.

7. Place the reversed template on top of a lightbox, then place your paper on top, slightly offset from the top of the template as shown. Secure both in place with masking tape across the top and turn the lightbox on (or hold up to a window which is harder but possible if you don't have a lightbox). You should be able to see the reversed letter shape. Run your thumbnail across the edge to ensure the tape is firmly in place. 8. Run a fingernail firmly around the edges to make the initial indentation. 9. Run the large end of





an embossing tool around the perimeter edge, working firmly to make

sure each corner is embossed to a crisp point. 10. Run the smaller end of the embossing tool around the edges to strengthen and sharpen the effect. There is no need to work over the open areas, only the perimeters. 11. Using the tape as a hinge, lift the paper up to check the embossing has been worked crisply all round the shape. Keeping the paper out of the way, slip the next largest part of the template back into place within the main template. 12. Lower the paper back into place and repeat steps 8-10 to emboss the inner shape. 13. Once complete, add the final inner section and repeat once more to finish the embossing. Carefully remove the work, then detach the template and store for another time. The image can now be enhanced with additional decoration, if you wish. (See Yuki's finished examples of the Y, S, and I)

Brush Up with Betty

Written by Brenda Russell



The highlight of the November 4 meeting was a delightful demonstration of brush lettering by Betty Locke. Betty demonstrated how, by varying the position of a half-inch flat brush as it contacts the paper, you can create a variety of different shapes to complement your lettering. She showed us how to angle the brush to make shapes that are wide at one end, sharply pointed at the other and wide at either end and gracefully tapering in the middle. These brush strokes have names such as "golf tee" and "ballet slipper." When these and others are combined a very different shape is created. Betty

drew a

Christmas tree and fitted brush stroke shapes within its outline. The result was a different and highly original depiction of a tree. She showed how a brush can be used for producing "confetti spots," tiny squares that can fill spaces around letters or designs. They are very effective, she said, with letters with open tops, like "U" and "Y." Betty concluded her program with instructions for creating a poinsettia. She showed how to position and move the brush to set out the bright red bracts, then the stem, leaves, and tiny yellow flowers. She recommended a series 850 gold sable as the best brush, but several brushes will work well, including some from the Dollar Tree.



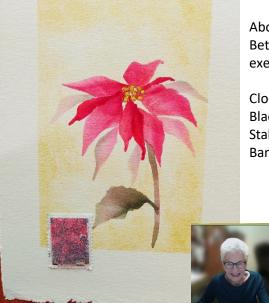
Doing a Poinsettia is hard!!

This flower is said to represent good cheer and is vibrant in the holiday season. To make them with our flat brush requires much crushing of the brush as you must try to get six petals to fit within a circle. If you are looking at the flower from the top this is what must happen but if you are looking at it from the side, you will not see some of the petals and will likely need about four and a suggestion of the others that you cannot see. It is impossible to put on all the leaves that the plant has so there must be some indication or suggestion that they are there but it is not something that should have great importance. Start your stroke with a pull lightly on the tip of the brush before

you go into the crush as the flower petals must eventually attach to a cluster of yellow hall like structures. For this a swipe of

yellow after the rest is dned is needed. After the yellow is dry then a Pigma pen or a black ball point can be used to indicate the round shapes.

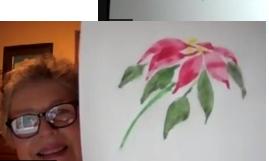




Above: Betty's exemplar

Clockwise from top left: Judy Black, Laurie Naemura, Mickey Staller, Aries Manoff, Maryellen Barker, and Nichol Rauch.

Naemura







December Projects

Written by Brenda Russell

The December 2nd meeting program was presented by Yuki Tanaka and Lori Festa. Yuki showed us how to create 3-D



Christmas trees by strategically folding and cutting a Hattifant's 3D paper Christmas tree template. The cutting may be done with decorative scissors and words can be written on each line before folding. The trees will glow if tiny lights are placed within them. The lights can be ordered from Amazon or they can sometimes be found at the Dollar Tree.

Lori demonstrated making an ornament by stacking and gluing together a number of paper bags, drawing a

design on the top bag, then cutting it out and unfolding the stack. A decorative circle will result. When the gluing is complete and a hole is punched at the top, the ornament is ready to hang. Also, a slim strip of paper with a calligraphy message may be hung from the bottom. Laurie Naemura sent a picture of hers with a 12" ruler below to give an idea of the size of the ornament.



Yuki then presented the creation of a pinwheel tower card. Folding and gluing vertical panels on a piece of rectangular cardstock results in a unique card that can be folded flat for

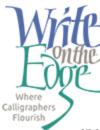
mailing. Instructions and a template can be found on the Capital Calligraphers website under Resources.

This and That

Thanks to Trish Hibler for volunteering to audit the Treasurer's books. She reports "I examined all the financial records from September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2021 of the Capital Calligraphers. We are so fortunate to have Jessie taking care of our finances. All the details, receipts, and statements were complete and without error. Well done!"

During the month of January, make time to drop into the Albany City Hall on 4th Ave. to view the fivewoman calligraphy exhibit being held from Jan. 3 to Jan. 31. Pieces by Nancy Anderson, Sandi Cormier, Laura Drager, Penny White, and Susan Wickes fill the large well-lit lobby of the hall.





Summer 2022: International Calligraphy Conference in Northern California

It saddens us to have to report that Write on the Edge will be canceled due to the ongoing pandemic. While interest in the conference remains high, the most recent version of COVID, Omicron, has caused many cancellations and there are significant indications of hesitancy among those who remain registered. For the safety of our community and in the interest of our sponsors, we have determined that moving forward presents too high a risk for all involved. We send

our heartfelt thanks and gratitude go to our dedicated, talented, and tireless team of committee chairs, volunteers, and our stellar instructors who have so generously contributed so much time and talent in pursuit of this dream. It would surely have been grand.

Please continue to visit our website's faculty page for updated links to online classes being presented by our instructors.

Until we meet again, stay well and keep creating.

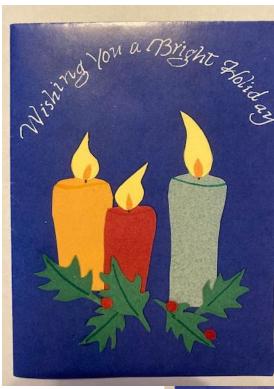
Debra and Rick

Christmas and Solstice Cards 2021





Penny White



Brenda Russell



and a Happy and Prosperous New Year



Stephanie Page

Once in our World a stable had something in it bigger than our Whole World

Christmas Wishes Lou & Mary Jane

Mary Jane Zako



Rose Tomson (Penny White's sister)

Christmas trees smelling of stars and snon and pine resin Inhale deepdy and fill your soul with nintry delight



Nancy Orr



Sally Keeney

When a profound silence covered all things and night was in the middle of its course, your all-powerful, Word Ø, Lord, bounded from heaven's royal throne? WISDOM 18:14-15

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Aries Manoff

Laura Drage 7462 Twin Fir Land Salem, Oregon . 7 . 3

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Prindi Flug





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Photo of outgoing/incoming board members by Mickey Staller