

It's that time of year...



The Nashville Calligraphers
Guild is having a party...

You're Invited!

Christmas Open House
December 7th, 2014 1:30-4
Home of Sheryl and Fred Bracey
NCG Board providing food & drink
Wrapped gift exchange value ≤ \$15
Give one get one calligraphic gift
136 Saranac Trail
Hendersonville, Tennessee 37075
RSVP by 11-26 to Sheryl 615-824-5989
or sbracey@bellsouth.net
Spouses welcome - try to come!

Details inside....

**NASHVILLE CALLIGRAPHERS
GUILD OFFICERS AND CHAIRS
2014-2015**

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Sheryl Bracey
VICE PRESIDENT: Lisa Webb
TREASURER: Alice Johnson
RECORDING SECRETARY:
Carol Savage
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:
Ruth Haskins
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:
Rose Wathen
MEMBERS AT LARGE:
Carol Ann Bailey
Ann Kaderabek
Molly Povolny

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

WORKSHOPS: Ann Cobb
EXHIBITS: Valerie Cypress
Molly Povolny, Co-Chair
DOOR PRIZES: Louise Thompson
LIBRARIAN: Patrice Hicks
MEMBERSHIP: Lynn Noga,
DaleAnn Webb
NAME TAGS: Lilo Regen
NEWSLETTER: Beth Paul,
Joyce Skaggs
REFRESHMENTS: open
SCRIBEHAVEN: Vicki Brandt
WEBSITE: Ann Cobb
SUMMER ENVELOPE EX-
CHANGE:
Ann Cobb, JoAnn Bates

NCG SCHEDULE FOR 2014-2015

Nov. 15 - 16, 2014 -- Capitals and Fraktur with Julian Waters
Dec. 7, 2014 -- Christmas Open House at Sheryl Bracey's
Jan. 10, 2015 -- Guild Meeting
Feb. 26 - Mar. 1, 2015 -- Scribhaven Retreat
Mar. 14, 2015 -- Guild Meeting
Mar. 21, 2015 -- One-Day Workshop
Apr. 3 - May 27, 2015 -- Guild Exhibit at Centennial Arts Center
Apr. 25 - 26, 2015 -- Two-Day Workshop
May 9, 2015 -- Guild Meeting
July 13 - 18, 2015 -- IAMPETH in Franklin
July 25 - Aug. 1, 2015 -- Passionate Pen Conference in California
Sept. 12, 2015 -- Guild Meeting
Sept. 19, 2015 -- One-Day Workshop
Oct. 17 - 18, 2015 -- Two-Day Workshop
Nov. 14, 2015 -- Guild Meeting

ADDRESS CHANGES

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WELCOME, NEW MEMBER

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pmlee.9935@yahoo.com

CONTRIBUTORS:

Thanks to Ann Cobb, Sheryl Bracey, Lisa Webb, Carolyn Lovelace, Vicki Brandt, Laura Kraft, Kathy Evett, Marilyn Stirrett, and special thanks to Rose Wathen for providing the cover art this issue.

About the Guild

The Nashville Calligrapher's Guild was formed in 1981 to foster the continued study, practice, and use of calligraphy among its members and to encourage community awareness of the art of calligraphy. To this end, the Guild meets five times a year, publishes a newsletter, and sponsors workshops and related activities.

Membership is open to anyone interested in calligraphy. Dues are \$30 per year for a regular membership, \$40 a year for a contributing membership. Membership inquiries can be directed to DaleAnn Webb at 615-473-3295. Membership dues should be paid to: Alice Johnson, 1128 Silverleaf Terrace, Nashville, TN 37221

The Guild meets at the Plaza Arts Store in downtown Nashville, 633 Middleton Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203. Meetings are held the second Saturday in September, November, January, March, and May. Meetings begin at 10:30 a.m. with social time immediately before at 10:00 a.m.

For more information visit our website at: <http://nashvillecalligraphersguild.org>.

NCG MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November

Judi Bradford	11/9
Ruth Haskins	11/17
Barbara Thomas	11/25
Judy Sproles	11/25
Carol Ann Bailey	11/26
DaleAnn Webb	11/28

December

Laura Kraft	12/12
Carolyn Lovelace	12/13
Donna Hacker	12/23
Alice Johnson	12/23
Marilyn Stirrett	12/25



SPEAKING OF BIRTHDAYS....

Lilo Regan celebrated her 80th birthday in September with a few of her friends. See pics of the party elsewhere in the newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Autumn, Everyone!

I just love this time of year...it is my all-time favorite!

If everyone signed the roster at our last meeting, we had 26 in attendance. I knew many who were out of town. Thank you for being there. You will want to be there for our program on "Numerals" for November. Lisa has worked extremely hard on this task! The hardest thing for me is numerals so I am looking forward to improving my skills!!

We had a delightful party for Lilo Regan in celebration of her 80th birthday at the home of Valerie Cypress. I saw people whom I haven't seen in years...Barb Bartels and Bobby Wright! Lilo's sister was visiting from Germany for her birthday as well. It was a great time and thank you Valerie for doing that for us all.

Ann Cobb is filling our time with great workshops. Reggie Ezell did Stone Carving and I enjoyed sharing about envelopes in Sept., Heather Held and her beautiful pointed pen work in October and Julian Waters will be back in November to work on Fractur. We are blessed and thank you Ann for all of your hard work.

Has anyone begun to work on their "Letter a Week"? They will be great to use in an exhibit. I had a piece framed this week for our next exhibit so I hope you all are thinking about it now so you won't have to be rushing around in the spring. That's what I usually do.

I hope that we have a good turn out for our Christmas Open House Dec. 7 at my home in Hendersonville. Read elsewhere in this newsletter for the details. We have never done this before in our 30 plus years and it is time!!

IAMPETH is coming up before we turn around twice so lets all chime in and help Ann get it pulled together.

Have yourself a wonderful holiday season and I hope to see you at the meeting!

-Sheryl Bracey

Our condolences to Carol Percy and her family on the passing of her father, Roland Champagne, age 99, on October 9, 2014.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE!

It may come as a surprise to some but the Nashville Calligraphers Guild has never had a Christmas Party. This year, we are starting a new tradition!

All NGC members (and spouses!) are invited to our Christmas Open House on December 7, 2014, hosted this year by Sheryl and Fred Bracey at their home on 136 Saranac Trail, Hendersonville TN. The hours will be from 1:30 to 4 p.m. and since it is an Open House, there's no worry about being late. The NCG Board will provide food and drinks for everyone. There will be an optional gift exchange. If you wish to participate in the exchange, all you have to do is bring a wrapped gift of less than \$15. You may then pick a gift from the basket.



Since Sheryl and Fred are gracious in hosting this year, please RSVP by 11-26-14 so Sheryl will know how many are coming. You may call her at 615-824-5989 or email at sgbracey@bellsouth.net. What a wonderful way to share the season with our fellow calligraphers!

Directions to the Christmas Open House

From Nashville take I-65 North
Keep right to take TN-386 E/Vietnam Veterans Blvd E via Exit 95

Take Exit 7 (NOT EXIT 3) to Indian Lake Blvd. exit right

Take Indian Lake Blvd to Main Street (Gallatin Pike, Johnny Cash Parkway...it's all the same) You will see a Methodist church on your front left and a Walgreens on your right.

Cross Main Street and turn left on Saratoga Blvd. (just past the football stadium) The subdivision is called Indian Ridge

Turn left at the first street Galway Lake N and then right on Saranac Trail. My house is on the left...136

SCRIBEHAVEN 2015

Greetings fellow Scribes!

This reminder may seem early, but we are already in the planning phase for the NCG annual retreat, Scribehaven. The dates are February 26 through March 1, 2015 at Lake Barkley State Resort Park in Cadiz, Kentucky. Lake Barkley has been a wonderful host every year, and the staff always looks forward to our visit. The registration fee (\$25) and room rates (\$64.95/dbl queen) have remained unchanged since the first year. Please save the date and join us. This is an opportunity to work on projects, share ideas, mentor, fellowship and simply relax. Programs and demonstrations will be announced at a later date, but we hope to incorporate some of the requests from the recent NCG survey. Many thanks to the loyal followers who have supported Scribehaven—you know who you are. I can't believe this will be our seventh year! I look forward to seeing everyone. Any questions, comments or concerns, please call or email. I would love to hear from you.

-Vicki Brandt
Scribehaven Chair

GUILD WORKSHOPS

Thank you to those who completed the Workshop Survey in September. Top requests this year were very close: versals, Gothicized italic, uncial, book-making, decorated letters, lettering on a curve, and watercolor flowers.

We have the 2015 workshops planned and will announce them in January. We will open the spring workshops for registration with the January newsletter.

It has been a very busy fall, and we appreciate your participation in our workshops. Your attendance makes our workshops possible. We constantly hear positive comments from our workshop instructors about how much they enjoy teaching in Nashville.

Thank you for supporting our efforts!

-Ann Cobb
Workshop Chair

WRITING ON MIRRORS

There was a helpful hint on Cyberscribes recently for anyone wanting to write on mirrors. Jim Wilson uses thread! His method is to put masking tape down the left and right edges of the mirror then measure and mark where the lines for calligraphy should go. Cut a piece of thread and tape in place on top of the masking tape on the left side, pulling it tight and then taping it the other end on the right side.

In his words, "I like to use thread for lines because I can put in all the guide lines at the beginning and then do all of the lettering without stopping to move something like tape... Because the thread is so light weight, it does not sag. You stretch it slightly when you are taping the ends. Yes, the thread is flat against the mirror - it looks just like a line. I like to use the thread as the line that is exactly between the words so I write just above the thread and leave space for the descenders. If you are not comfortable that you can write straight, and a little above the thread line you could write closer to the thread and add the descenders after you removed the thread....You never touch the glass, so it stays clean - and you don't have to worry about smudging anything when you remove the lines."

Now if I could figure out how to keep a steady hand without touching the glass...

NEW CALLIGRAPHY MAGAZINE

Calligraphers love books and magazines and most of all, books and magazines about calligraphy. Now, there is a new magazine on the market especially for calligraphers. Dasherie Magazine www.dasheriemag.com is the creation of Erica McPhee of Paperwhite Studio in Northport, Florida. It is a style magazine (think Martha Stewart) featuring beautiful images of calligraphy based ideas and products for weddings and other social events. Some of the artists in the magazine will be familiar to Guild members. The first issue is themed "Something in Blue".

For research purposes, your editor purchased a copy of the first issue and Erica was kind enough to send an extra copy for the Guild library so there will be a copy at the November meeting for members to see. If you do not want to wait that long, you may go to the website and order an issue online. The magazine is not available in stores.

NEW SPEEDBALL TEXTBOOK

Most calligraphers are familiar with the Speedball Textbook. For some, it was their first instruction book for calligraphy. 2015 will be the 100th year anniversary of the first edition. In celebration, there will be a Centennial release of the 24th edition in the Spring of 2015 by the authors Joanne Fink & Judy Kastin. Unfortunately, the cutoff date for submissions was October 24 but we can still look forward to seeing the new edition when it is published in the Spring. Go to www.speedballart.com for more info or check out their Facebook page at Speedball Art Products.

DR. MARTIN'S BLEEDPROOF WHITE

For those of you who would like more information on how to use Dr. Martin's Bleed Proof White, Bob Hurford wrote a very helpful article on the subject for the IAMPETH Penman's Journal. The article can be found in Volume XII, Issue 4. Members can find it by going to the link for the Penman's Journal on the IAMPETH website. You do have to be an IAMPETH member so go ahead and join if you haven't yet. There is a wealth of information on the website as evidenced by this article so the cost of membership is well worth the price even if pointed pen is not your favorite. Many thanks to Marilyn Stirrett for pointing out this useful reference for us.

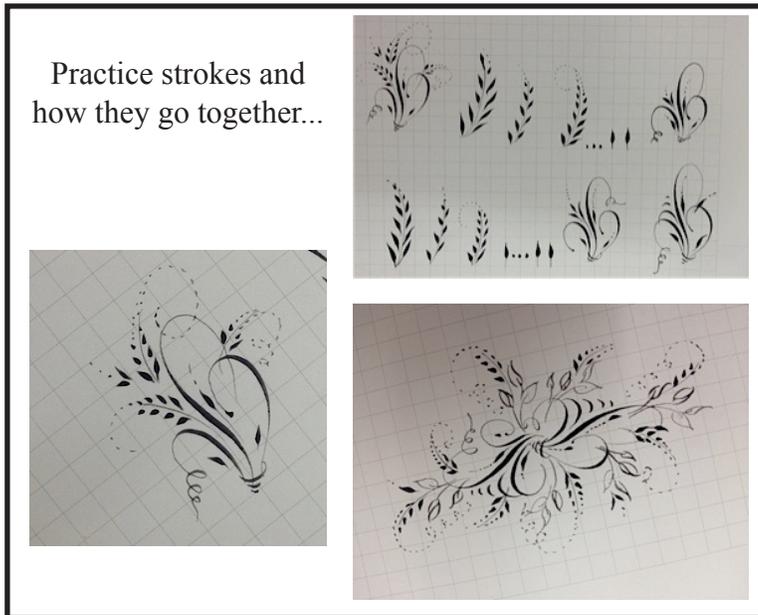
“THE ARTFUL FLOURISH” with Heather Held

-Review by Rose Wathen

Offhand Flourishing is organic. It can be meditative and relaxing, but it takes time to get to this stage. Heather Held said it is a bit like Zentangle for getting into the zone. When approaching this process, you are not following a pattern or copying a design. It can be modified to fit the space.

Heather started with her black McCaffrey’s ink, warming up and then creating the largest strokes first. She constantly turned her paper when adding flourishes. When she knows that she will be adding color, she will add leaves, rosebuds, and acanthus leaves balanced throughout her piece.

We drew compound curves, oval forms, apple blossoms, rosebuds, leaves, zipper stroke, acanthus leaves, pine needles, quill feather, scrolls and ribbons. It can be used for a border, a corner, or used to highlight words or stand on it’s on.



1. Warmup

- Warmup with graceful pencil ovals, about 1” tall. Use your whole arm, not just your fingers.
- Work on a figure 8 motion, still with pencil, overlapping, no pressure...if you can hear your pencil, you are pressing down too hard.
- Draw figure 8 motion with pencil, going from large, maybe 2” to tiny, overlapping just a bit.
- Continue warmup with the ink and nib that you *will be using*.

2. Favorite papers

- Heather sticks with smaller cut papers. She recommended that we cut a pile of 5x7 papers. With these you can turn it easily when flourishing and you will not be intimidated by a large piece of paper.
- Most of us purchased the Mnemosyne Imagination spiral pads that John Neal sells. This paper was nice! Perf’ed pages allow for easy removal. Each sheet is gridded on one side and plain on the other. So, it would work well on a light board if working on the plain side.
- Heather recommends working on a padded surface like blotter paper or newspaper.
- Dark papers include Canson mi-tientes, Michaels Recollections cool water collection (has a great gray)
- Arches 140 hot press, Fabriano artistic Hot press

3. Favorite inks

- McCaffrey’s Penman’s black or brown, old world iron gall Ink, Tom Norton’s walnut drawing ink, bleed proof white
- The thinness of these is important for making the flourishes. Heather suggested being patient with the McCaffrey ink. Once opened, she keeps hers in the fridge to keep out the mold. If a jar’s color is too light, it will darken.

4. Favorite golds

- Finetec gold metallic water colors

continued on next page

Busy students! Lisa, DaleAnn, Ron, Sheryl, Marilyn and Ann...



•Holbein brilliant gold gouache

5. Color and special effects

•Derwent colorsoft Pencils for work on dark paper, color soft doesn't break as easily

•Derwent or Staedler Watercolor pencils

•Winsor Newton and Holbein Watercolor

•favorite Brushes

W/N series 7 sable or Princeton monogram 20/0

•Sakura stardust jelly roll pen, Finetec colors, Diana Townsend Terrages pastels, hot foil pen



6. Nibs

•Heather likes a Hunt 5 but it Depends on what you like. The tachikawa G was used by many in the class. The more flexible the nib, the wider the pressurized strokes.

•A hairline is the width of a hair. Strive for a light touch!

•If running out of ink too fast, then you are not dipping the nib into the ink far enough.

•Heather had the most light touch! When she was drawing an apple blossom, she used no pressure and barely touched the paper with her nib. She had no thicks and thins when drawing. When making compound curves, Heather's hairlines were still very light and her thicks were delicate.

7. Pen holders

•Either Oblique or straight pen holders can be used. Our class had Folks using either one. I like to draw with a straight and write with oblique. Either way can work

•Heather's husband Chris makes pen holders And several were purchased during our class.

From a personal view, I really enjoyed Heather's class and would recommend her. She is talented, organized, fun, encouraging, well prepared, and giving. We used our camera projector as well as looking over her shoulder. Take her if you can!

I fell in love with gold on black with a touch of color. I swung by JoAnn's this week and found the jelly roll stardust clear pen. I see making Christmas presents in my near future! ...Rose Wathen

LILLO'S PARTY PICS



“JAZZING UP YOUR ENVELOPES” with Sheryl Bracey

-Review by Kathy Evett

Sheryl Bracey recently taught a class entitled “Jazzing Up Your Envelopes” to a room full of eager learners at Plaza Art. The class began, as all of Sheryl’s classes do, with each participant receiving a beautifully personalized folder containing wonderful color handouts and lots of blank envelopes on which to practice our new skills. The class was packed full of information on decorating envelopes. (Did I mention the plethora of decorated envelopes she brought to encourage ideas?) Below are just some of the creative tips and techniques from Sheryl’s “Jazzing Up Your Envelopes.”

Tips:

- Match the postage stamp to your envelope (colors or theme) or vice versa, design your envelope to match the postage stamp. There is a large selection of stamps online at the US Postal Service.
- Envelopes can be taken apart and used as a template to create your own envelopes. Envelopes can be made from scrapbook paper, magazine pages, even fabric. Delicate envelopes can be enclosed in clear cellophane envelopes, if needed.
- Address and decorate all birthday envelopes for the month at one time.
- To cover mistakes made when addressing the name or address on an envelope, one can rewrite the correct name and address on other paper, cut it out and glue on top of the error. This is great news when a lot of time has already been spent decorating the envelope.



Techniques:

- Create shadows for letters-thick or thin-to the left and bottom, or right and bottom of each letter. Just be consistent.
- Outline letters with a second, third, or even fourth color.
- Color between the letters.
- Pull an image from the card and draw or stamp it on the envelope also.
- Trace over the letters with a wide glue pen and sprinkle with very fine glitter.
- Use a pencil to draw a very light shape on the envelope (for example, a heart), then write the name and address within that shape.
- Dipping a Parallel pen in different colors to give the letters in the name and/or address a gradation of color.
- Stamps, stamp pads, embossing powders, pastels, and colored pencils were also demonstrated and available for use as we learned to jazz up our envelopes. What fun!

Although it is obvious that Sheryl spends much time in preparation for her classes, she always remains flexible. When asked to demonstrate drawing flowers and palm trees with the brush lettering marker, she was delighted to do so. She also gave an impromptu demo on using and cleaning the Parallel Pen.

Lastly, not only did I come away from Sheryl’s class with wonderfully fun tips and techniques, but I left the class with a renewed sense of wanting to use this skill to touch the lives of others as Sheryl does; for example: remembering the shut-ins in my area as I prepare my Christmas cards/envelopes or by sending something strange or surprising in a beautifully decorated envelope to anonymously brighten someone’s day. Thank you, Sheryl, for sharing.

- Kathy Evett

STONE CARVING with Reggie Ezell

-Review by Ann Cobb



Reggie's Sculpture in Alabaster

Imagine a calligraphy workshop supplies list that includes an electric drill, a dremel tool, a sandbag, leather work gloves, safety glasses, a black china marker, and a rubber mat – in addition to other non-traditional items. Well, that was our list for Reggie Ezell's recent Stone Carving Workshop.

Twelve of us spent two beautiful fall days outside Paper and Ink Arts turning chunks of stone into works of art. Reggie brought two gorgeous carved stones to inspire us.

He walked us through each step of the process for learning to carve black soapstone. We used angle grinders to create a relatively flat surface which was then sanded with seven different grits of sandpaper, creating a smooth surface for our designs, which included words and graphic images. They were transferred to our stones using carbon paper (yes, the old-fashioned paper used for making carbon copies) and transfer paper.



Reggie's Double Sided Sculpture.



Terry Cobb using an angle grinder



Dana and Reggie



Dana Jacobson using the Dremel tool



"Loaves" by Rose Wathen



Michael Hall sanding on his rock



Carolyn Lovelace fine tuning her "Hope"



Ann Cobb's "IAMPETH 2015"

Reggie explained that the designs could either be "innies" or "outies" – engraved into the flat surface, or left as the flat surface is carved away using drill bits, dremel tools, and Xacto blades..After the designs are drilled, dremeled, and Xactored to the desired smoothness, the stone surface can be treated with Minwax and Danish Oil to create a luster and shine to the finished pieces.

At the end of the day on Sunday, we left with our stones in various stages of completion – tired but very happy with what we had learned in the two days. Reggie Ezell is an extraordinary teacher who always gives 110% in preparation for his workshops. Look for some of our stones to be included in upcoming Guild exhibits!

**Next Meeting: November 8, 2014
Plaza Artist Materials
Downtown Nashville**

**Board Meeting at 9 a.m.
General Meeting 10:30 a.m.
November Program
IAMPETH Planning Meeting**

November Program:

Come and join us for our salute to all things numbered!

The Art of Numerals Program will have you lettering all sorts of numerals - from formal, fun to funky!

All materials will be supplied so just bring your creative lettering selves!

See you then!

Lisa Webb

The Art of Numerals



example courtesy of Martin Jackson

IAMPETH PLANNING MEETING

Those interested in helping with IAMPETH planning are encouraged to attend our November meeting immediately following the Guild meeting and program.

We will talk about possible spouse activities, centerpieces, donations by the Guild and by individuals, Round Robin, quotes and the book, possible corporate donors, and other items.

I look forward to seeing you then!

-Ann Cobb, IAMPETH President 2014-2015

Send corrections/returns to
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