

WINTER/FEBRUARY 2025

# Mysticalligraphers

[www.calligraphyconnecticut.org](http://www.calligraphyconnecticut.org)

THE CALLIGRAPHY GUILD OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT



Our  
Holiday  
Tree -  
Thank you  
Pam Lambot  
for organizing  
our display  
and taking  
the tree  
down by  
yourself!!!



## Co-President's Message:

With this inaugural presidential message, I would like to thank my intrepid Co-President, Stu Sharack. The president who does the heavy lifting. Stu is a master of keeping us moving forward and on track.

In the past year, we have acquired four new members, and we welcomed Gabrielle Zelepos, a flower farmer, just in the last month. Vin Trapani moved back to Connecticut from Pennsylvania. He never dropped his membership and kept up with us on Zoom. Welcome back Vin.

Although I thanked members during the January meeting for all their help, not all were present. I was lucky to have Terry Philbrick, Laurie Murphy and Fran Baldwin join me in putting up our Holiday Calligraphy Tree at the Mystic & Noank library. You made it a joy, not a chore. Chris Bradley, director of the library, said it was the most stunning tree she had seen. I am grateful for Barbara Read, Muffy German and Fran Baldwin for volunteering their time and talent in penning stunning gift tags at the library for attendees of The Mystic Stroll. Recipients were speechless seeing their calligraphed tags. Perhaps we can do this annually?

We are indebted to Milly Carlson who opened her beautiful home for our Holiday fete. Merci, Milly. The hand-made holiday cards displayed at our gathering continues to inspire me. To Sean Kane, our one-man walking Sunshine Committee/Social Director, who oozes positivity and thoughtfulness, you are rare among men (and women). Gracias.

To each member who generously volunteers to teach a lesson at our monthly meetings or summer workshops, opens their homes, hangs a show, arranges a guest artist, balances our books (Terry), Arigato. To Karen Burgess, who jumps in to letter exhibit labels, page exchange titles and contributor pages and anything else that needs doing, Danke. A special note to our graphic artist, photographer, editor-in-chief and creative force behind this newsletter, Annette Chittenden. Completing this every quarter is a yeoman's task, and Annette does it seamlessly. She arrives early and coordinates our ZOOM participants on top of that. All hail Annette, Grazie.

By the time this newsletter is in print, Milly will have directed the hanging of our February exhibit at the Mystic & Noank Library. And our "Secret Valentine" exchange is in motion. Let's enjoy this calligraphy year, "The Year of the Pointed Pen". Stu mentioned that IAMPETH is in Norfolk Virginia this July - within commuting distance. Perhaps we can get a group together and make this pilgrimage.

By Pam Lambot



## NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE:

\*WINTER - FEBRUARY 1st ~ SPRING - MAY 1st  
SUMMER - AUGUST 1st ~ FALL - NOVEMBER 1st  
\*APPROXIMATE

# Announcements

**SPREAD THE SUNSHINE!  
MAKE CARDS FOR OUR SUNSHINE/SOCIAL DIRECTOR, SEAN -  
TO SEND TO MEMBERS ON BIRTHDAYS AND MORE....**

**Get ready for our first exhibit of 2025 - February!  
at the Mystic & Noank Library**

**We will meet to hang artwork on Friday January 31st at 11am.  
All artwork should have wire secured on the back to hang.**

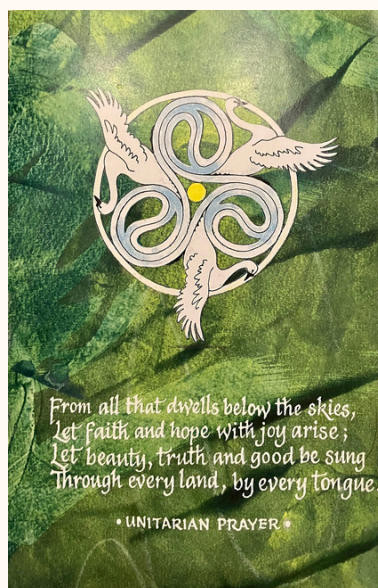


Thank you Milly  
for hosting our  
Holiday Party again!  
A warm welcome,  
good food, and  
good conversation  
was had by all!

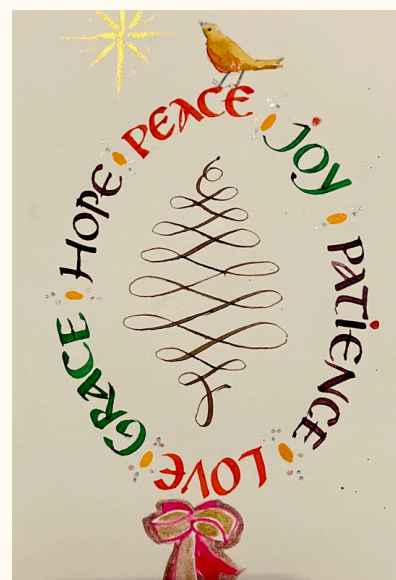
## HOLIDAY CARD EXCHANGE - JUST A FEW SAMPLES



Melissa Straton



Karen Burgess



Fran Baldwin

# Lettering Gift Tags

The Mystic & Noank library hosted a holiday night of fun on December 3rd. Pam Lambot organized a group of our members to letter holiday gift tags for all who asked! Thank you to Muffy German, Barbara Read, and Fran Baldwin for your beautiful lettering!



Pam Lambot and Muffy German



Close up of ornament on our holiday tree



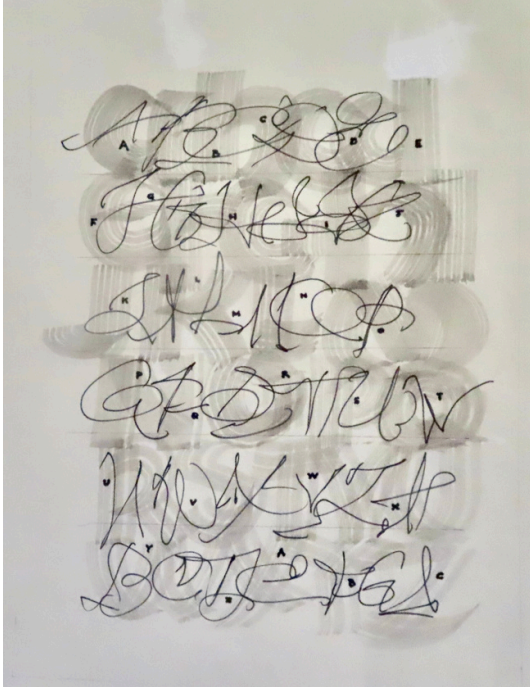
Barbara Read



Fran Baldwin

# A to Z A Collaborative Book of Alphabets 2024

Thanks once again to Karen Burgess for designing our Title Page!



Milly Carlson



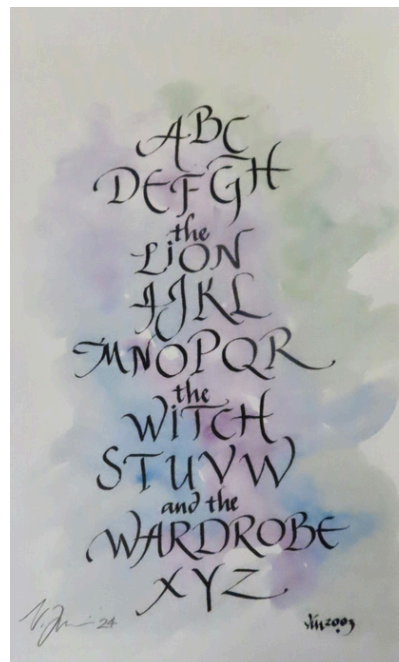
Barbara Heuer



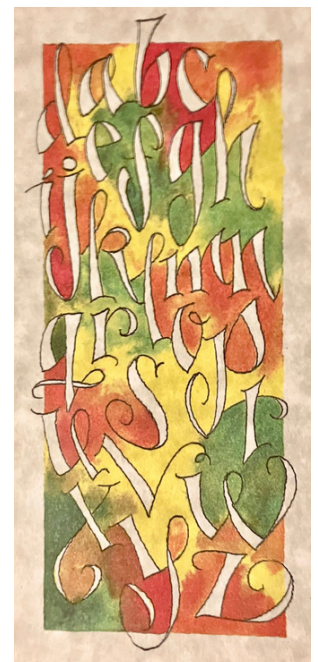
Stu Sharack



Pam Lambot



Vin Trapani

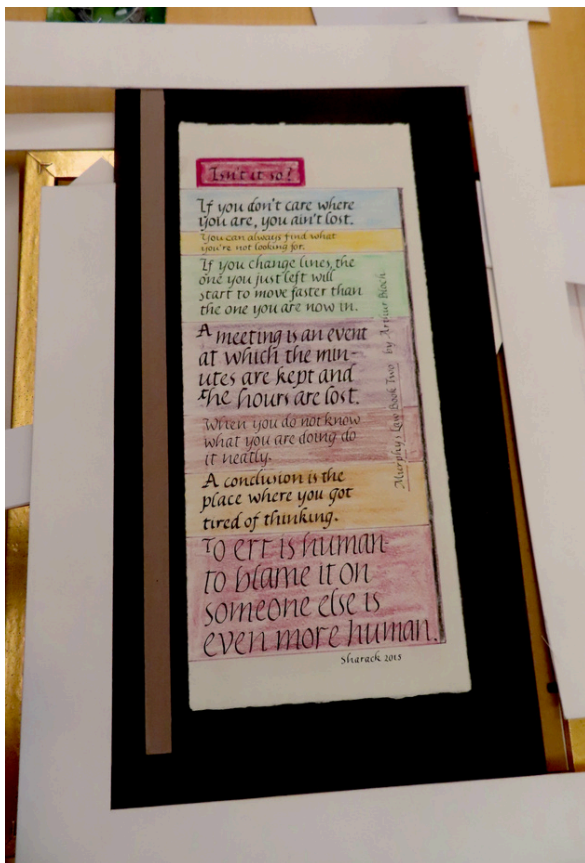


Annette Chittenden

*"What day is it?"*  
*"It is today!" squealed Piglet.*  
*"My favorite day," said Pooh.*

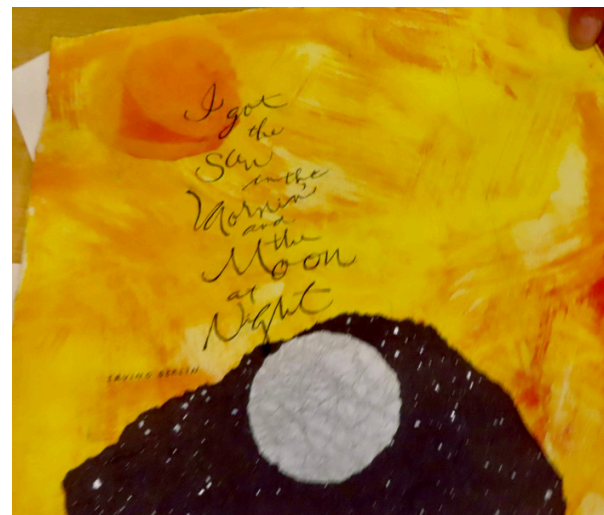
# Milly Carlson on Framing

Milly brought wonderful samples of her calligraphy to demonstrate how to find and frame artwork, using “L” shaped matboard pieces. We could see how different areas in a piece could be “harvested” from previous work.



A piece by Stu Sharack - finding the dimensions for matting.

Looking at a piece of Milly's work (at right) to see how it could be framed.

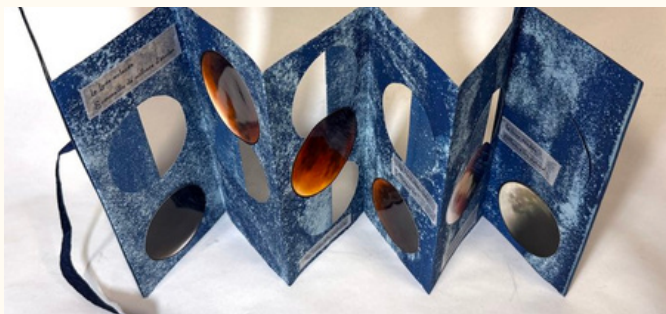


Adding screw eyes and wire to the back of a piece (left).

# Helen Heibert Paper Artist



Thanks to Amy Estabrook's past workshop on bookbinding, we learned about an amazing paper artist - Helen Heibert. In her online newsletter, "*The Sunday Paper*", she highlights artists from around the world doing amazing art on paper. In #539 she showcases the Kalamazoo Book Arts Center (KBAC), in Michigan. Below are a few samples of work from their non-juried exhibition, "*The Illustrated Accordion*".



Go to [helenhiebertstudio.com](http://helenhiebertstudio.com) to learn more about "*The Sunday Paper*".

For more information on the The Kalamazoo Book Arts Center go to [kalbookarts.org](http://kalbookarts.org)

# Fran Baldwin

## “Practical Tip on the Care of a Flat Brush”



I learned about flat brush care during a zoom class with John Stevens, who said he began as a sign painter.

Take a bar of soap and with your moistened flat brush, stroke back and forth along the soap bar until the soap fills the flat brush. Then use your fingers to squeeze out the soapy moisture so that its shape is lightly flared with the bristle ends together nicely flat and sharp. Let it dry. Do not rinse until the next time you use it.

Three flat brushes recommended for lettering in gouache or watercolors:

Winsor & Newton 995

Kaerell - Raphael 4

Mack 162 - 1/4"

### Valentine Cards Coming!

Here is Karen's and Moira's Valentine's Day cards - more coming in the next newsletter!

Moira Casadei



Karen Burgess





# Muffy Wants You!

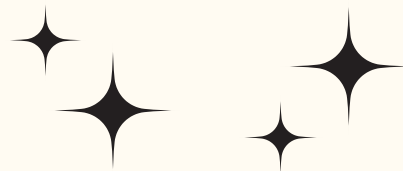
To send articles, photos, flyers, newspaper clippings of members doing calligraphy related activities in the community, drop Muffy a line, call, text or email (muffykg@aol.com) her! She is ready as historian to collect information.



# Debby Reelitz



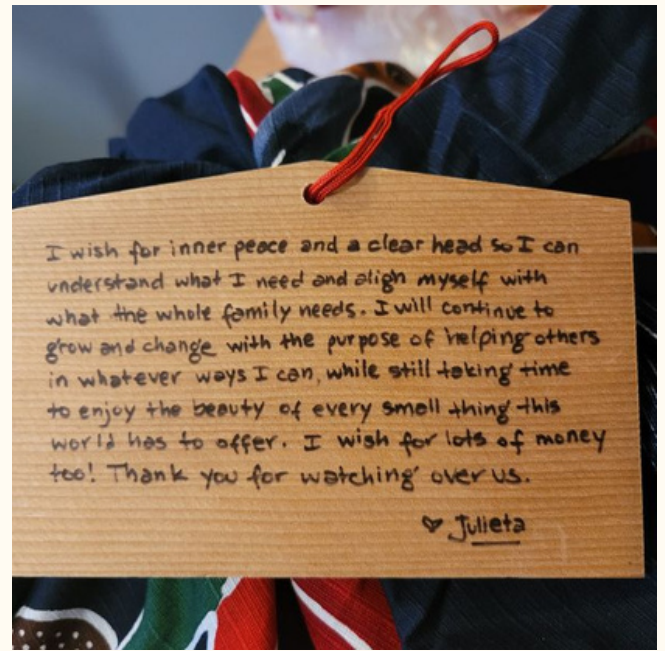
Our good friend Debby Reelitz, artist and calligrapher, offers online classes in calligraphy on her website: [letteringdesign.com](http://letteringdesign.com). She also runs our website: [www.calligraphyconnecticut.org](http://www.calligraphyconnecticut.org)





# Julietta Worley

Japanese Ema for the New Year



## Julietta's Ema

Ema are wooden plaques with colorful designs that are used to write wishes for the future in Japanese culture. Often hung in shrines and temples across Japan, they are similar to Tibetan prayer flags and Buddhist votive tablets.

This year, during the Japan Society of Greater Hartford's new year party (<https://jsfgh.org>) Julieta will be at the calligraphy table helping members create their Ema for the year. This new year will be the year of the wooden snake, beginning on January 29 and ending on February 16, 2026. - it promises to bring wisdom, adaptability and a sense of transformation. I was born in the year of the fire snake and the Ema I created has symbols special to me.

# *Upcoming Programs*

**February 12: Textured Letters - Gail**

**March 12: Weaver Writing - Barbara Read**

**April 9: Artist Night  
*with Pamela LaRegina***

**May 14: Fall Puzzle Pieces - Stu**

**June 11: Spencerian - Stu**

**July 16: Bister Inks - Gail and Annette**

**July 30: Suminagashi - Terry**

**August 13: Cards for Sean - Annette and Laurie**

**August 27: Binding Our Books - Fran and Ellen**

**September 10: Gold Inks - Stu**

**October 8: Page Exchange Prep - Gail**

**November 12: Page Exchange - The Pointed Pen**

**December 10: Christmas Party**

# DATES TO REMEMBER

**MYSTIC & NOANK LIBRARY EXHIBIT  
FEBRUARY 2025  
40 LIBRARY ST, MYSTIC, CT 06355**

**IAMPETH 76TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
JULY 7 - 12 NORFOLK, VIRGINIA  
IAMPETH.COM**

**WATERFORD LIBRARY EXHIBIT  
NOVEMBER 2025  
49 ROPE FERRY RD. WATERFORD, CT 06385**

## *A Blast From The Past!*



Pamela LaRegina Alphabet Accordion Book  
Groton Senior Center Exhibit 2023

## *Food For Thought*

*"Don't worry about mistakes...  
Making things out of mistakes,  
that's creativity." Peter Max*