

SPRING/MAY 2025

Mysticalligraphers

www.calligraphyconnecticut.org

THE CALLIGRAPHY GUILD OF SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT



MUFFY
GERMAN

Co-President's Message:

By the time you receive this newsletter I expect warm weather will have settled in. The daffies are already out. I can't wait for T-shirt days.

Our guild continues to be strong. Within the past year we have added 5 new members. Welcome to Maureen Gleason, our most recent new member. Our monthly meetings average between 15-20 attendees. Special thanks to the patience of Annette who runs our hybrid Zoom meeting each month. We have 2-3 members from afar who join us that way. I have sent out our Mysticalligraphers information card to about 20 university art instructors/departments in hopes they will pass the word that there has been and still is an active calligraphic art guild in our state.

Thanks to Gail for teaching us how to have fun with textured capital letters. Thanks also to Barbara R. for presenting a program on Weaver writing using the pointed pen. Pamela LaRegina was our guest presenter who taught us Napkin Art as a way to spread the word about calligraphy through gift giving. Thank you to Milly and her helpers for setting up our February exhibit in the Mystic/Noank Library. Additionally, we must thank Julieta, Chairperson of the Workshop Committee of one, for setting up a Fall weekend on illuminated letters by Debby Reelitz. If I forgot to thank anyone else, here's thanks!

Write on! Stu Sharack

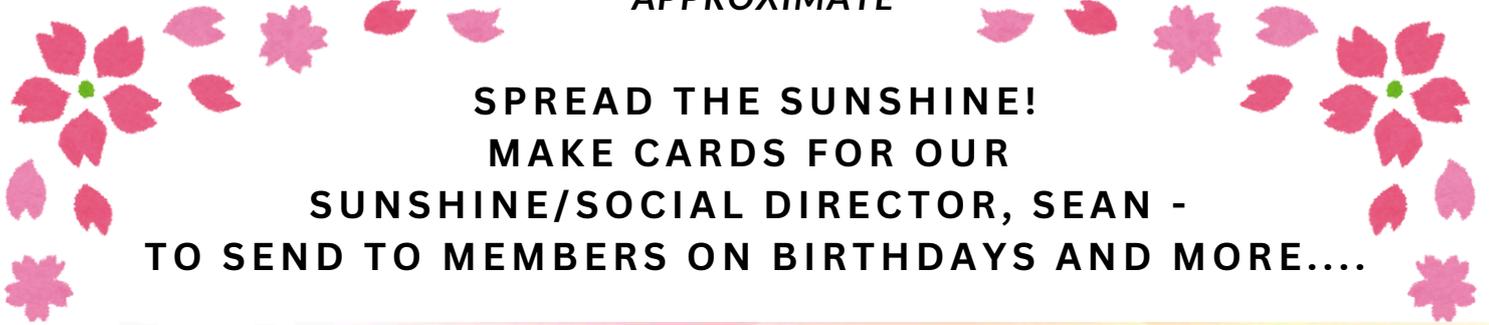


Announcements

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE:

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

*APPROXIMATE



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

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

OCTOBER WORKSHOP WITH DEBBY REELITZ “INTRO TO ILLUMINATION”

Saturday October 4 - Sunday October 5

9 am to 5 pm

Stonington Grange Hall

637 Pequot Trail (rte 234)

Stonington, CT

\$160 members \$170 non-members

plus material fee

See Gail Turgeon or Pam Lambot for scholarship applications

Board Meeting Wednesday October 15, 2025 5 pm - 7 pm at Stu's house

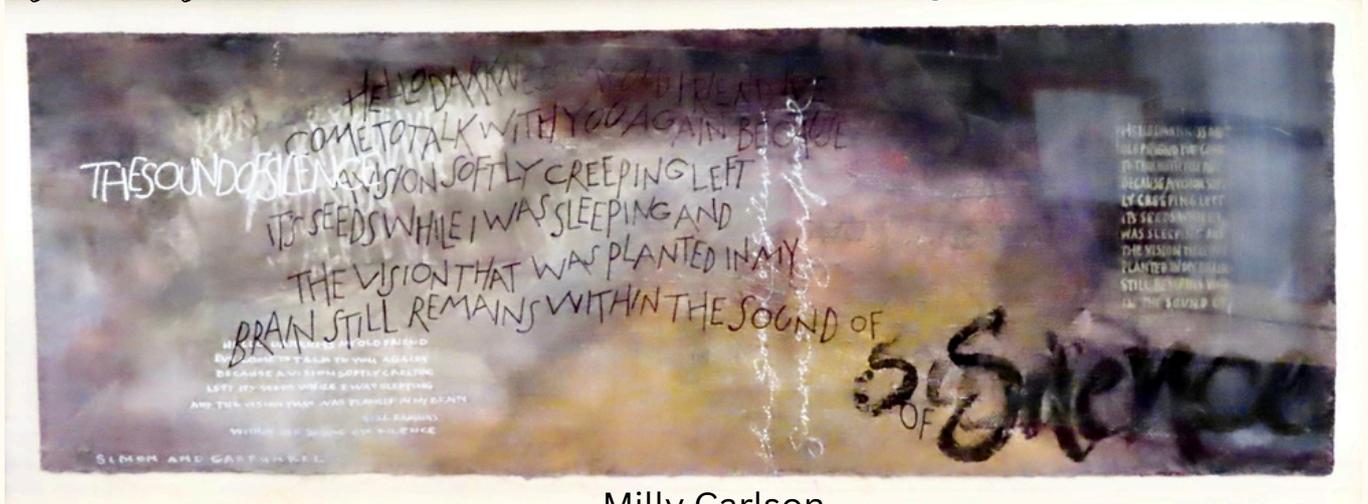
NOVEMBER 2025 EXHIBIT WATERFORD LIBRARY

49 Rope Ferry Rd. Waterford, CT 06385

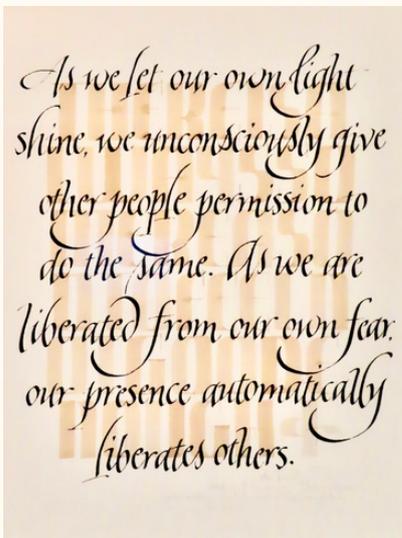
***Plan on creating something new - and look through work done in presentations at
our meetings for inspiration, or work done in previous classes.***

Now is the time to begin!

Highlights from our February Art Exhibit



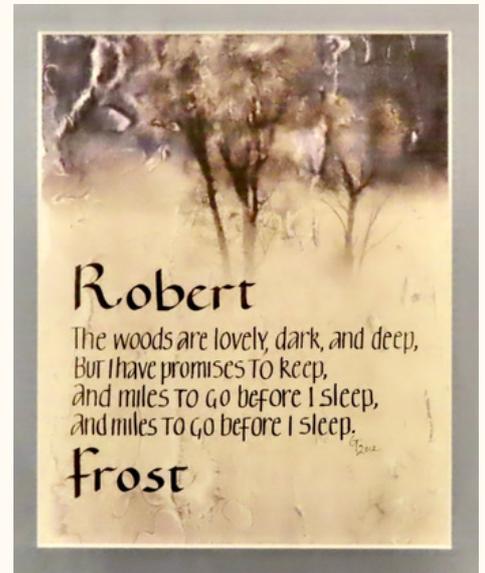
Milly Carlson



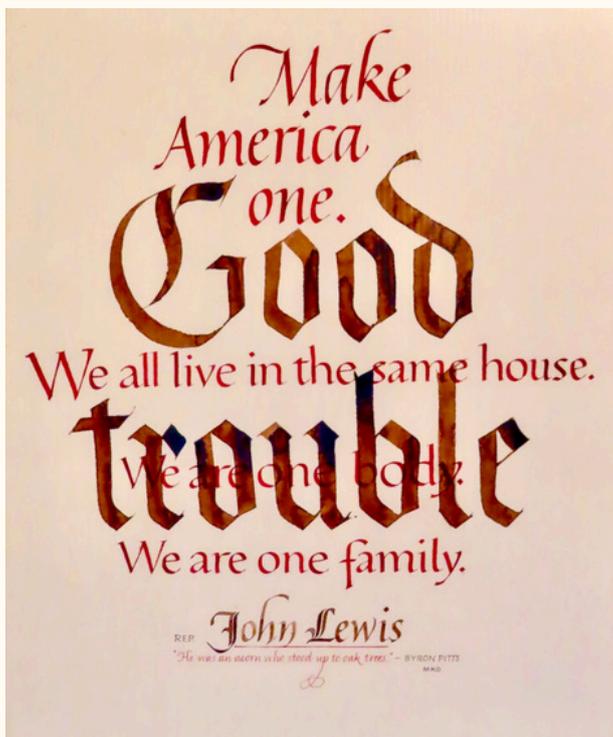
Debby Reelitz



The Crew -
Muffy, Karen, Ellen,
Milly, Fran, Gail



Gail Turgeon



Muffy German



Gail Turgeon

Valentine Card Exchange



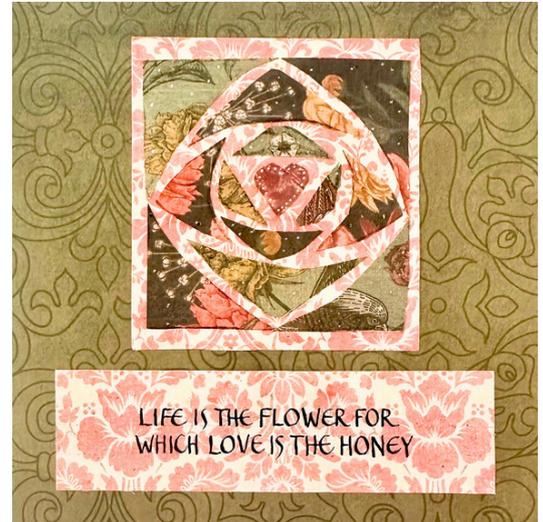
What a joy to get an original work of art in the mail!



Karen Ragonese



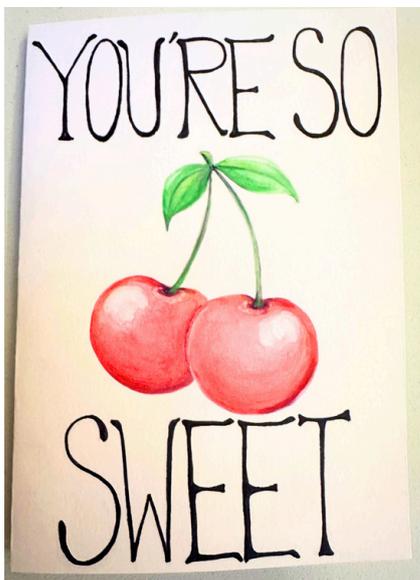
Fran Baldwin



Ellen Koh



Gail Turgeon



Gabrielle Zelepos



Vin Trapani



Kim Curtin-Marino



Annette Chittenden



Annette Chittenden



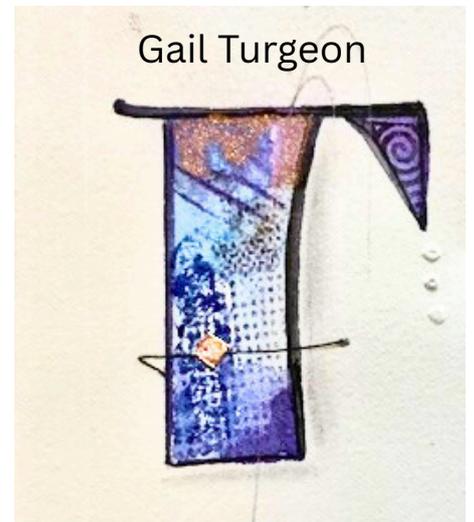
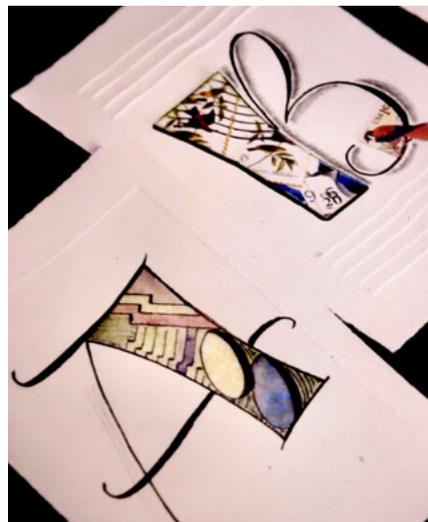
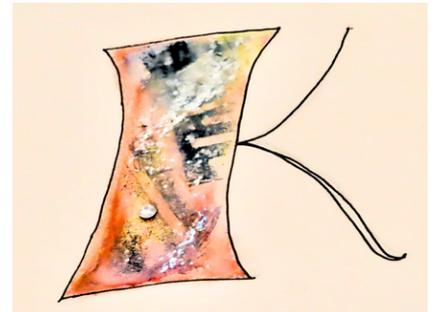
Laurie Murphy

Gail's Textured Letters Presentation

Inspired by calligrapher Barbara Close's workshop on Textured Letters, Gail demonstrated how to texture the stem of a letter - first with a watercolor wash, then stamps, then any tool that added marks, building the design with lines, patterns and color - Thank you for the challenge to explore possibilities!



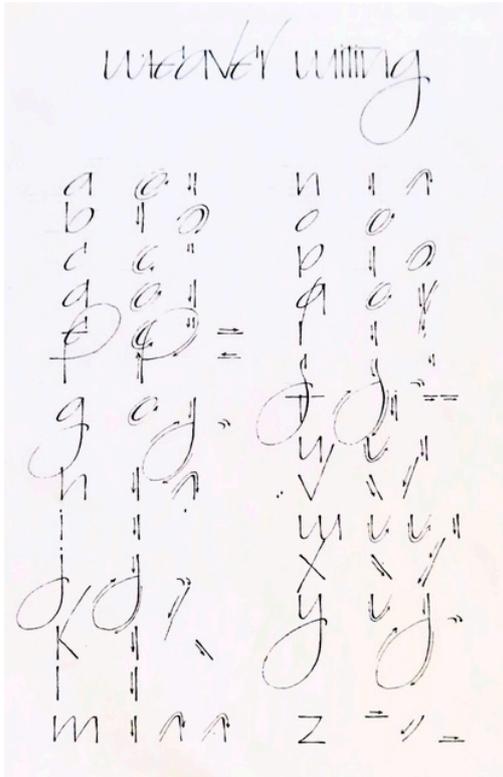
"L",
"K",
"K"
by
members



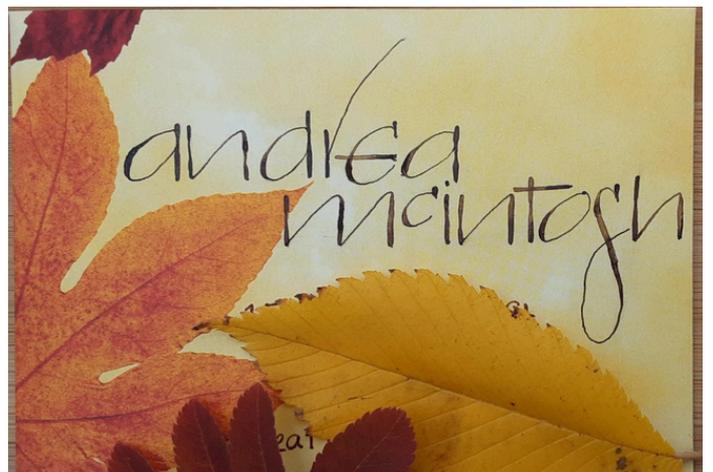
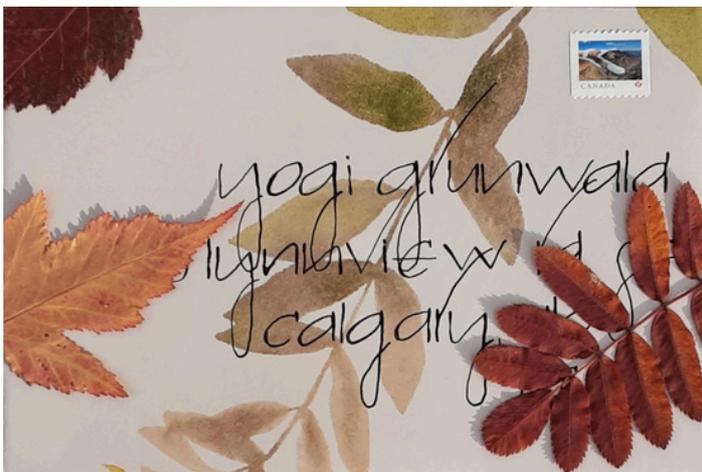
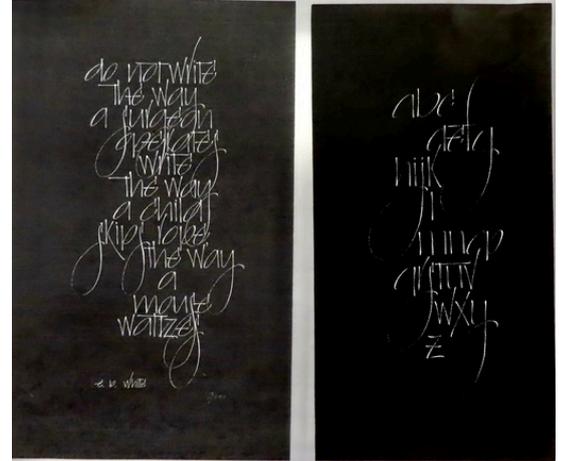
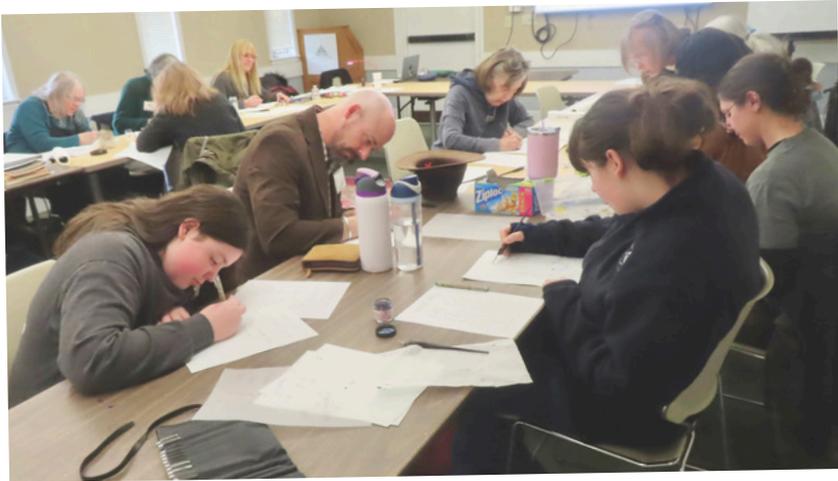
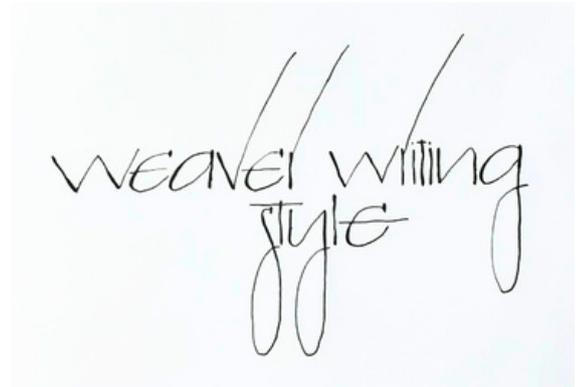
Gail Turgeon

"P", "A & B" - samples by Barbara Close

Weaver Writing with Barbara Read



Barbara Read presented a fun and lively hand at our March meeting - Weaver Writing! We also welcomed two new members - Andrew (and his very capable two daughters) and Maureen - happy to have you both! Barbara was very patient with all our learning styles as well as Gail, her very gracious helper - they moved around the tables to help and guide us - we appreciate all your efforts and skill!



Fun with NAPKINART

PAMELA LAREGINA



Pamela arrived at our April meeting with enthusiasm, ideas, passion and tools to have fun with. She shared her thoughts: “Creating NapkinArt requires imagination, spontaneity, and ultimately, generosity.”



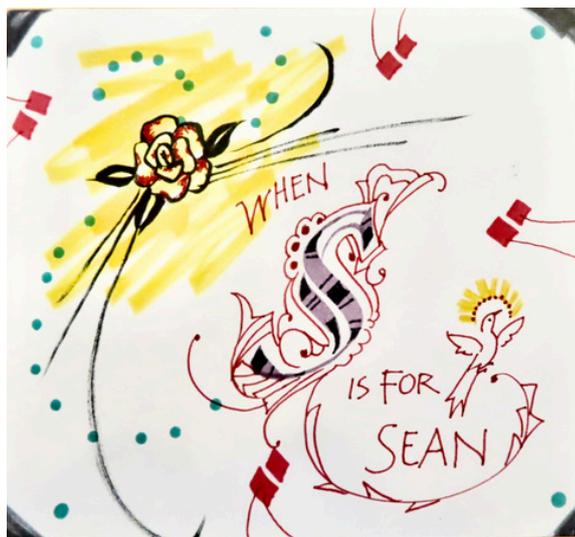
Pamela's tools for Napkin Art

For me, the idea of acknowledging the wait staff at restaurants or other gathering places is definitely a way to show gratitude and use our creativity. You Tube has videos of Pamela in action. Google Pamela LaRegina Expert Village calligraphy. The videos are out of order - but it is worth looking around to find!



Members try their hand at Napkin Art

Pamela demonstrated marks with various tools to create a background design which would accommodate a message of thanks. But then she surprised us by asking us to pass our beginning work to another person! We were to letter on a different design - which really stimulated some creative thinking - adding a word, initial or short message!



Pamela's Follow-Up Ideas

Pamela has more suggestions for getting the word out about beautiful writing. She cuts up fancy letters (at right), and keeps them in her purse to hand out to anyone interested in seeing their initial in calligraphy!



Pamela says - "Beauty, it's the ability to make it - however, whenever, wherever"

More calligraphic marks by Pamela, above.

A Blast From The Past!



Milly Carlson's home 2023



Muffy Wants You!

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). She is ready as historian to collect information.

Join
us
in
October!

MYSTICALLIGRAPHERS
PRESENTS:

**INTRO TO
ILLUMINATION
WITH
DEBBY REELITZ**

**OCTOBER 4-5
9AM TO 5PM**



This is a nuts-and-bolts class on illumination. If you've always admired illuminated pages and never thought you could create one, this workshop is for you.

We will focus on the tools of the trade, building understanding and proficiency, moving through a series of exercises gaining in complexity. Students are taught the 'how' so they can apply these skills to whatever subject or design they want to create.

Some of the subjects we will explore:

- Proper equipment and set-up
- Versals (Large decorated letters)
- Gouache (an opaque watercolor)
- Drawing with pointed nibs
- Shading
- Creating a border
- Creating creatures
- Correcting mistakes
- Knotted designs

**STONINGTON
GRANGE HALL
637 PEQUOT TRAIL (RTE 234)
STONINGTON, CT**

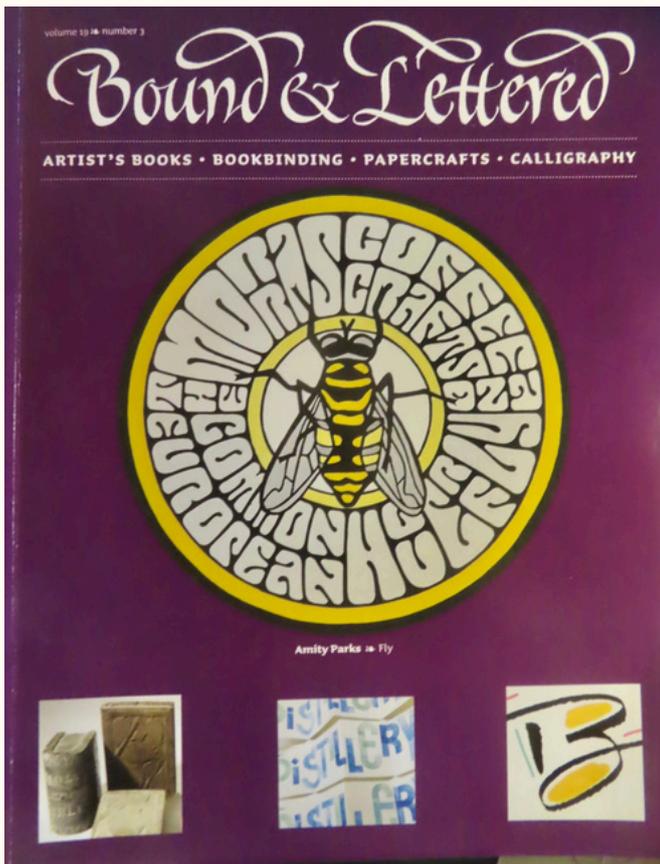
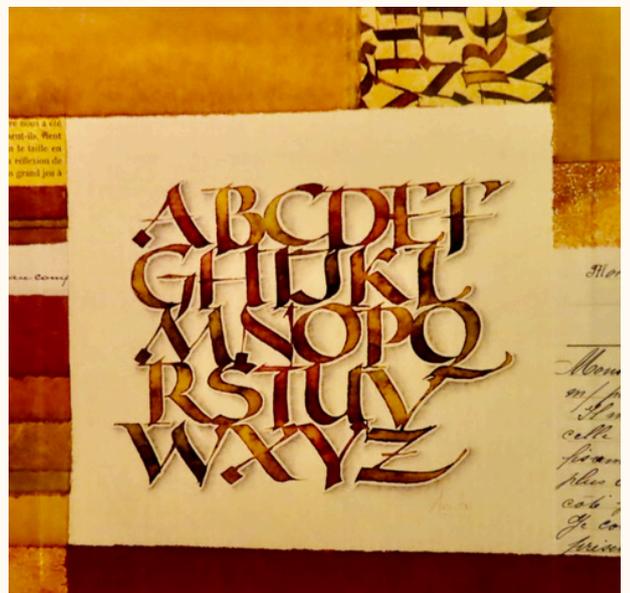
**\$160 MEMBERS
\$170 NON-MEMBERS
PLUS MATERIALS FEE**

For scholarship information, please contact Gail Turgeon at:
turgeongail@gmail.com or 860-536-8477

For questions regarding the workshop, please contact Julieta Worley at:
julietabworley@gmail.com or 818-571-0273

Inspiration Station

Bound & Lettered is a beautiful informative source for those wanting to keep learning and growing. This issue is Autumn 2024. It features Amity Parks, renowned calligrapher who now resides in Montana. The examples of her work here are done with Bister inks. Gail, and Annette as assistant, will show us how to use these rich organic colors. Hope you can join us on Wednesday July 16th at the Grange in Stonington.



Fran's Recommendation

A video recording of "Favorite Tools of Carol Dubosch"

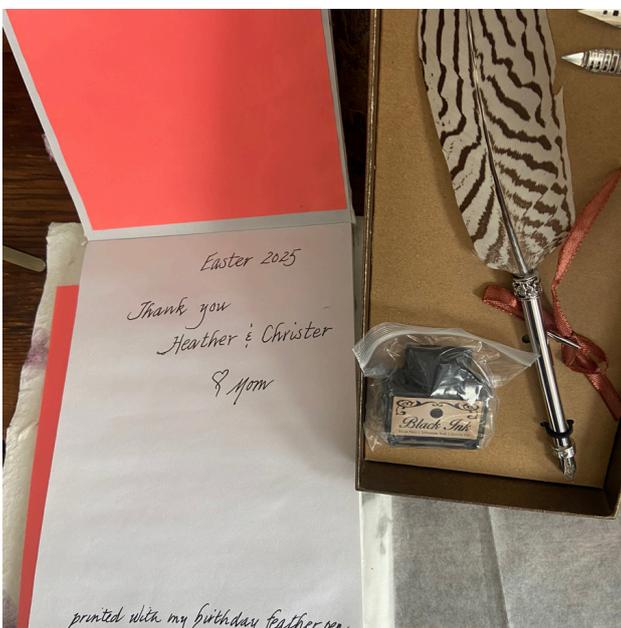
Here is a link to a free recording, in which Carol Dubosch demonstrates some of her favorite pens and inks. This past weekend I watched the live zoom and I have received permission to share the recording with our guild. It was totally fun listening to Carol talk about folded pens, Pilot pens, her gel pen preferences, the positive aspects of letting go of perfectionism, etc. You will be inspired by Carol.

www.letslettertogether.com/offers/rGFjekCh/checkout



NOTE:

The link asks you to register - it was easy and well worth it. Also you can download Carol's bookmarks there! A favorite activity of hers is to design bookmarks and make practice fun! On the left is a thumbnail of the bookmarks you can print out.



Moira Casadei's birthday present: a calligraphy feather pen and ink!

"I used it for the first time making a book plate - really fun!"

2025 Upcoming Programs

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

Food for Thought

"Today it matters what tool I choose. It matters that I love the tool, or at least am curious about what kind of mark it will make. Joy is embedded in the discovery, the drip, the imperfect ink on paper." - Lauri Doctor