

Number 97 February 2010

Letter from the PREZ

Dear Friends,

It is raining outside today. January seems a good time for reflection. The holidays flew by in a blur of activity. In December, we took time out to gather at Georgianna Greenwood's lovely home for a warm and wonderful Holiday Party among Friends. Laura Bernabei helped Georgianna organize; they and other members provided a variety of mouth watering treats. Alan Blackman devised a thoroughly entertaining literary quiz, and we had sharing and gift exchange and lots of hugging and schmoozing and good cheer. Plus a silent auction, organized by Jerry Lehman and Laura, made possible by former member Brenda Walton, who donated her collection of calligraphy books.

Last summer, Christi Payne gave a Saturday Kalligraphia demonstration of her decorated versal letters, which have a modern look, but all the moves are based on her research in old manuscripts. We asked if she'd do a set of initials for our Directory, along with her playful versals for the cover and, to our delight, she agreed. But we also needed a designer, and Megan Lucas volunteered. In August and September, Megan took intensive courses in InDesign and Photoshop and proceeded, with some support from Judy Detrick, to do the layout and design for the Directory, using the SanVito Pro font to complement Christi's drawn letters. (During this time, Megan was also organizing the Sara Frank workshop.) I think the Directory is stunning and I hope you agree.

In January, came Trivial Pursuits XXII, our jam-packed day of mini-workshops. This event requires tremendous organization to flow smoothly. The teachers (David Brookes, Sara Loesch Frank, Phawnda Moore, Melissa Titone, Mary Ann Wight and I) spent time prior to the event distilling presentations into a lean 50-minute module, which they presented five times over the course of the day. In charge of the event, Lily Stevenson and her husband Charles spent months planning, working and coordinating in order to make everything seem quite effortless on the day itself. Last minute roster changes and making needed adjustments during the event were only two of the many types of challenges they met. We are indebted to them, to the teachers, and to all the TPXXII helpers, particularly Laura Bernabei (providing lunch), Vicky Lee (goody bag donations and stuffing, name tags calligraphed on her famous brayered paper), Jerry Lehman (goody bag stuffing, calligraphed names on bags), Dorothy Yuki (goody bag stuffing), and Ron Greenwood (assembling mini watercolor palettes and manning the sign-in desk), for a fabulous experience, a true gift to the members.

Coming up are workshops with Georgia Deaver in late February and Sheila Waters in mid-April, and this summer, Judy Melvin will be here to teach the summer workshop. Our Fort Mason classes are filling, so if you are interested, sign up early (see class information elsewhere in the Bulletin).

Also coming is the FOC Spring Retreat at Santa Sabina, a time of reflection shared with other members, perhaps writing, painting, meditating, and of course catching up with the others. As the rain comes down now, I think of how lovely the courtyard at Santa Sabina looks just after a rain, with the leaves and flowers glistening and perfuming the air. When March comes, I'll be ready.

Sincerely,
Meredith

FOC Council Members

President
Meredith Jane Klein


Vice President
Laura Bernabei

Treasurer
Teresa Doane

Secretary
Jerry Lehman

Council Members
Jennifer Enault
Georgianna Greenwood
Megan Lucas
Elizabeth Nisperos
Sandy Sanches

Alphabet Editor
Judy Detrick



Your Humble Bulletin Editor
David Brookes

FOC Bulletin #97

The masthead is another provided by Yves Leterme. The other titles and most of the text, are set in Jovica Veljovic's typeface Silentium Pro, with some Sava used for emphasis. Design and layout by the editor, David Brookes, whose heart's in the Highlands (of Italy).

Friends of Calligraphy is a nonprofit society of persons interested in calligraphy and related arts. Membership is \$36 annually, open to amateurs and professionals. The mailing address is
PO Box 425194
San Francisco CA 94142
www.friendsofcalligraphy.org

To submit articles for the Bulletin, please send files to
David Brookes at
chancerycursed@comcast.net.

BOOKS BY HAND 2009

Five FOC faithful travelled to Arezzo, Italy last October to participate in Monica Dengo's Books By Hand workshop: our President Meredith Klein, Martha Boccalini, Dean Robino, Ellen Bauch, and your humble editor. This was the third of these workshops held in Arezzo (in Tuscany, southeast of Florence), originally an Etruscan town, then Roman, then a self-contained city-state, then under Medici domination, and today a prosperous city of about 100,000 people with a rich cultural history.



Dean Robino and Martha Boccalini studying hard at the Arezzo library

But we weren't there to sightsee. Actually, I was there to sightsee, eat, roam, and soak in the wonders of a Tuscan October, but for an intensive 7 days (with a day off) we immersed ourselves in the workshop. We began by making books for two days under the patient but eagle eye of Cristina Balbiano d'Aramengo, a book arts specialist from Milan, and then spent five days working with Monica on the content of the books. The first book was a version of the Hedi Kyle blizzard book structure in which you fold the top and bottom of the cover to form a series of triangles that you then fold down/up to hold the pages in place. The second, of which we did two versions, was a structure that Cristina called "Due Stelle" or Two Stars. The covers were made from a very sturdy paper

made by hand in a Dutch windmill. We made what Monica calls "latta" pens (the Italian word for "can"), with lithoplate and used them to write with sumi and Sennelier shellac inks on a Sicilian paper similar to Arches text wove and a see-through vellum paper that allowed us to layer text. We mixed complementary colors to get lovely and subtle shades of gray, although, as Meredith pointed out, some people couldn't resist the temptation to add some full color. I have no idea to whom she refers, and anyway, I can do whatever I want in my own book. We studied eight Carolingian manuscripts during a day at the Arezzo Public Library and developed a set of capital letters based on the models. Monica pointed out that manuscripts in Italian regional libraries (as opposed to the national libraries) are available for anyone to study.

The true gift of the workshop, of course, was the chance to work with Monica. Martha feels that some sort of bonds gave way allowing her to free float and at the same time plunge into the pool of tasks. That is one advantage of the luxury of a seven day workshop, but also a reflection of Monica's careful planning: meeting us at the Arezzo train station, supplying all the things you have at home but do not carry to Europe like jars of coins and pottery shards to hold lengths of paper steady while you cut and fold, and supplying the individual guidance allowed by having only seven students.

There was plenty of time for the joy of being in Italy. Meredith remembers gelato, morning cappuccino at the small cafe on the Piazza Grande, the thrill of watching women effortlessly negotiate the cobblestone streets in ultra high heels, a visit she, Ellen and I made to the Piero della Francesca frescoes in the church of San Francesco including a wardrobe malfunction pointed out by Ellen that was uncovered when the frescoes were restored a few years ago, and the Piccolomini library with an incredible display of choir books that we visited in the Duomo in Siena on our day off.

I suspect you will see a couple of the books we created in the next Kalligraphia; the books I did may well be my best work in next couple of years. I also visited Florence, Ravenna, Venice and Rome on this trip, an exciting and exhausting month in Italia bella, but the time in Arezzo was special. Mille grazie Cristina and Monica. db



Martha Boccalini's Two Star book

HAMBURGER EPIPHANY by Georgianna Greenwood

Last summer, envious of FOC members enrolled in Monica Dengo's Arezzo workshop, I was prowling on her website and discovered that she had a workshop scheduled in Hamburg, Germany, during the last weekend of my November stay in Berlin. A visit to the Deutsche Bahn website showed 2-hour fast trains between Berlin and Hamburg. YES! I contacted Birgit Nass, one of the workshop organizers. She warmly invited me to join the class and offered me a bed in her (book-lined) guest room as well. I learned that most of the people in the group were students of Professor Martin Andersch (1921-1992), a respected teacher of calligraphy for decades in Hamburg, and author of *Spuren Zeichen Buchstaben*, published in 1988, showing his methods and profusely illustrated with his students' work.

On the first morning of the workshop my train arrived late in Hamburg, but Birgit and Fred, a class member from Heidelberg were waiting. They packed me into her large Citroen, and within an hour, Monica and I were enjoying a long happy hug in the spacious workspace provided by one of the organizers.

(continued on page 3)

The epiphany arrived the following day as I slaved away, trying to develop a script based on drawings of a stone chosen from Monica's pile spread on a table. Things weren't looking good until Monica reminded me to keep looking at the stone and to draw what I saw. I needed to be using drawing as a way of inquiring about what the tool, ink, paper might do together, rather than as a way of rendering a variation of previously experienced ideas, forms, methods. I needed to be reminded that a character is most exciting when it is a new, can-I-do-it-or-not, original mark: a cliff hanger.

Members Teaching

San Francisco

Black Sabbath — Ward Dunham & Linnea Lundquist offer classes in the black(letter) arts one Saturday a month from 10 am to 1 pm at Atelier Gargoyle in San Francisco. All levels welcome. There is also an afternoon class from 2 to 5 pm for beginning students. Call 415-864-2928 or send an eMail to info@AtelierGargoyle.com.

JUDY DETRICK is teaching at the San Francisco Center for the Book, 300 DeHaro, San Francisco, 415-565-0545:

- 1) Beginning Calligraphy (March 13),
- 2) Calligraphic Ornaments (March 28).

THOMAS INGMIRE International Calligraphy Correspondence Program. Classes at all levels. CPA-HO, 1040A Filbert Street, San Francisco, CA 94133. Call 415-673-4938. www.scriptsfor.com or www.thomasingmire.com

East Bay

GEORGIANNA GREENWOOD Call 510-841-6924 or eMail her at grunwoo@pacbell.net for more info.

ANTONIA (NINI) SMITH Year round calligraphy classes for all levels at the Piedmont Adult School (510-594-2655). Call Nini at 510-526-7249 or eMail her at antoniatsmith@hotmail.com for info.

CARLA TENRET Almost year round (not summer) classes at Albany Adult School. Call 510-526-1214.

ERMA TAKEDA Call 925-284-7368 or eMail ehtakeda@yahoo.com

HOLLY YNOSTROZA Private classes and public adult program, Orinda Community Center. Call 510-655-7591.

South Bay

MELISSA DINWIDDIE Call 650-938-3939 or eMail info@mddesignworks.com. Calligraphy, book arts and illumination.

SARA LOESCH FRANK Ongoing calligraphy classes for beginners and intermediates. Call 408-446-3397 or eMail frankfam@jps.net.

MARIAN GAULT Calligraphy classes at South Side Community Center. Call 408-395-8026 or eMail mariansg@aol.com.

ANN THOMPSON Call 408-378-6965.

Marin County

JOANN BURCHFIEL BRAND Ongoing private instruction in Uncial, Italic and Foundational. Call 415-924-2625.

PATTI COOKE Ongoing classes through Tamalpais Community Adult Education. Call 415-888-3299 for more info.

Sonoma County

SHERRIE LOVLER Call 707-528-1723.

MELISSA TITONE Call 707-573-3810 or go to www.wordsofafeather.com.

Mendocino County

JUDY DETRICK Call 707-964-9276 or eMail jdetrick@mcn.org. See the San Francisco section for classes at the Center for the Book.

Monterey/Carmel

DEBRA FERREBOEUF Call 831-655-4311.

Reno/Tahoe

CAROL PALLESEN Ongoing classes in calligraphy and book arts in her studio and the Nevada Museum of Art. Call 775-329-6983.

New Mexico

KAZUAKI TANAHASHI Courses at the Upaya Zen Center in Santa Fe. Kaz is a master calligrapher, Dogen scholar and social activist. Contact Upaya Zen Center at 505-986-8518 or eMail upaya@upaya.org, www.upaya.org

Online

ANN MILLER Calligraphy and Letterform. Two accredited online courses through SF Academy of Art University: online.academyart.edu or call 650-558-8270.



MEMBER TEACHERS!

Please send any teaching changes, corrections, or additions to

David Brookes
chancercursed@comcast.net

And if I were you, I would back up any oral request for changes with an eMail.

Change of Address

If you change your contact information (address, phone, or eMail), please send the information to our membership chair

Jenn Enault
4067 Paladin Drive
San Jose CA 95124
jennenaault@yahoo.com
or call 408-267-6717.

谢谢

to the November 5 mailing crew:

Laura Bernabei
JoAnn Brand
David Brookes
Meredith Klein
Jimmy Koide
Vicky Lee
Mary Ann Wight, czarina

organized by JoAnn Brand whom you should contact if you would like to join us happy few:
415.924.2625
lettersandimages@comcast.net

Fort Mason Classes

HANDWRITING

Claude Dieterich A., instructor
Seven Wednesday evenings, 6:30-9:00
March 10-April 21, 2010

ROMAN CAPITALS

Judy Detrick, instructor
Seven Tuesday evenings, 6:30-9:00
April 27-June 8, 2010

BASIC LAYOUT

Georgianna Greenwood, instructor
Seven Tuesday evenings, 6:30-9:00
September 14-October 26

ENVELOPES ANYONE?

Antonia Smith, instructor
Four Tuesday evenings, 6:30-9:00
November 2-23

For more information about these classes, go to the FOC website at
www.friendsofcalligraphy.org
or contact Elizabeth Nisperos at thewaytorite@aol.com.

Council Meeting Notes

FRIENDS OF CALLIGRAPHY COUNCIL MEETING, 13 SEPTEMBER 2009

At the home of Jerry Lehman, San Francisco

Council members present: Jennifer Enault, Teresa Doane, Georgianna Greenwood, Meredith Klein, Laura Bernabei, Jerry Lehman, Elizabeth Nisperos. Excused: Suzanne Yoshii, Megan Lucas.

Meeting called to order 10:15 a.m. Georgianna moved to approve the July 26 minutes as corrected, Jennifer 2nd all approved.

MEMBERSHIP: The Council thanked Jennifer for taking on membership. She reported 292 renewals, 13 new & 9 honorary (314 total). She will send a membership reminder to recent non-renewals. A volunteer list will be sent to Council members.

TREASURER: Teresa Doane presented the treasurer's report. We are still searching for an accountant. Meredith asked other non-profits for recommendations. The US government has changed the forms. Meredith suggested we raise the accountant's fee in accordance with her discussions with potential accountants. Jerry moved to raise the available money for the accountant's fee as suggested. Jenn 2nd all approved.

WORKSHOPS: Yves Leterme's workshop was full with a waiting list. His lecture at Mills College was well attended with approximately 40 people. FOC thanks Janice Braun who made the location available. Peter Thornton's summer workshop was well received, and reported to be a lively week. Sara Frank will present a 1-day workshop October 3, on Parallel Pen. Currently 9 are signed up for the class, to be held in the East Bay. Possible 2010 Workshops: February, 1-day (Liquitex representative). April (Sheila Waters). May, 1-day (Judy Detrick, decorated letters). Fall (Gina Jonas). Suggestions for future workshops: Luca Barcelona, Janet Takahashi, Peter Thornton. Carla Tenret has scheduled Judy Melvin for the June 23-27 summer workshop. Trivial Pursuits will be held January 9. Laura has again generously volunteered to cater the affair.

FT. MASON CLASSES: Georgianna's Italic class is full, with 10 on the waiting list. 9 students registered for the Envelope class. 3 of next session's classes are set (Melissa Titone, Copperplate; Claude Dieterich A., Handwriting; Judy Detrick, Roman Caps). Georgianna asked Georgia Deaver to teach Beginning Brush, but it is not yet settled. The number of interested students has exceeded expectations, with class numbers exceeding the break-even of 10-11 students. The Fort Mason Committee met August 22 to organize next year's classes and are interested in student "feed-back." Georgianna will design the brochure. Susie Taylor suggested 2-color printing; the Council agreed.

KALLIGRAPHIA: Meredith reported Kalligraphia was successful, with 79 exhibitors, including representatives from 9 other states, Canada & France. The reception was beautifully presented by Jerry, Helen Fung & Laura. Attendees enjoyed the Saturday demonstrations. Thanks to all the volunteers for another successful triennial show.

HOLIDAY PARTY: Georgianna will host the party at her home December 6. Laura will design the invitation to go out in the October mailing. Alan Blackman will be asked to again be master-of-ceremonies for fun & games.

PUBLICATIONS/MAILINGS: Judy Detrick will have the Alphabet ready for the next mailing. Megan volunteered to do graphic design for the membership Directory; Christi Payne will design the initials & headings. Next mailing will be October 8.

OLD BUSINESS: Although the policy for FOC e-mails is that we normally would not send out announcements of conferences or workshops hosted by other societies, the Council agreed it would be appropriate to send e-mails when neighbor societies have last minute spaces to fill & request that we let our members know. This policy will allow us to send e-mails to our members on occasion to help our neighbor societies.

Suzanne will continue collecting & organizing key FOC documents.

NEW BUSINESS: Brenda Walton donated to FOC her collection of calligraphy books. Jerry will organize a silent auction of these books, to be held at the Holiday Party. Meredith will write a thank you note to Brenda Walton for her kind donation.

Jerry moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jennifer 2nd, all approved.

FRIENDS OF CALLIGRAPHY COUNCIL MEETING, 15 NOVEMBER 2009

Georgianna Greenwood's library, Berkeley

Council members present: Jerry Lehman, Laura Bernabei, Suzanne Yoshii, Georgianna Greenwood, Meredith Klein, Teresa Doane, and Jennifer Enault. Megan Lucas, Elizabeth Nisperos excused.

Meeting called to order at 10:25. Georgianna moved to accept the September minutes as corrected. Suzanne 2nd, all approved.

MEMBERSHIP: Jenn reported the current membership is 351 (322 renewals, 20 new members, 9 honorary). Volunteer lists will be compiled & eMailed to Council and others who need them. Jenn will include all contact information on the membership form in the next renewal mailing.

TREASURER: Teresa presented the treasurer's report. The CD will mature November 23 & she will renew it. The tax filing has been sent on time for this year. We will continue to research accountants for the coming year.

WORKSHOPS: Sara Frank's Oct. 3 Parallel Pen workshop was a success with 18 students. Megan discussed a class with the Liquitex representative, but combining it with a "play" period in the afternoon will involve a person to facilitate. It may not be possible to arrange for Feb., so Megan is pursuing other options. An eMail announcement would be used for this workshop. Megan is searching for new workshop venues since Atelier Gargoyles will not be available after 2010.

Lily Stevenson reported Trivial Pursuits is organized for Jan. 9. Jerry will write names on the "goody bags"; Vicky Lee, Norma Fong Chan & Dorothy Yuki will collect items to be included.

Carla Tenret has organized the FOC 2010 Retreat for Mar. 5-7 at Santa Sabina. Additional insurance coverage will be necessary for this event, costing \$258. Jenn moved that we approve this amount, Laura 2nd, all approved. There have been no insurance claims since the year 2000.

FT. MASON CLASSES: 12 students have registered for the 4-week envelope classes.

Georgianna asked 6 members to proofread the Ft. Mason brochure, which was printed in 2 colors. Georgianna will have the brochures for the art stores addressed by the envelope class students.

HOLIDAY PARTY: Jerry & Laura will organize a silent auction of books donated by Brenda Walton. Laura volunteered to bring food. Georgianna & Laura will set up the arrangements for the event at Georgianna's house.

PUBLICATIONS: Judy reported that the current Alphabet issue is shaping up nicely. David Brookes has the Bulletin under control. Meredith worked with Jenn to get database information for the Directory; Megan did the graphic design; Christi Payne designed the initials and cover.

MAILING: The Feb. mailing will include Alphabet, Bulletin, AGM nominations form, Apr. workshop flyer, & Directory update. JoAnn Brand will organize a mailing crew. We used small envelopes for the Nov. mailing & saved on postage. We need to order more small envelopes.

OLD BUSINESS: Suzanne will collect important documents from 2002 on, along with the minutes from Jerry, to be consolidated in one location. Susie Taylor has some of this information stored in her home.

NEW BUSINESS: Judy Detrick asked if it might be useful to send the FOC Directory on a pdf via eMail for members' use. Meredith thought wide distribution might lead to problems. The Council agreed, but decided that Council members, plus Alphabet & Bulletin editors should have a pdf copy. Meredith asked for ideas for lectures & a program for the Annual General Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

(MINUTES BY JERRY LEHMAN, SECRETARY, EDITED FOR PUBLICATION BY MEREDITH KLEIN)

Trivial Pursuits XXII

If you've never been to Trivial Pursuits, I suppose you're more to be pitied than censured, although it borders on the criminal. Not that it is easy to get in; the 40 student slots are usually filled on the first day that applications are accepted. I avoided the angst of waiting to hear by agreeing to teach a class on how to make and use the lithoplate pens that I contributed to the goodie bag last year.

The buzz started more than an hour before the official starting time with gangs of more than four setting up tables and chairs for the six classes, while others busied themselves arranging the white elephant table, the snack table (at least they said they were arranging), and getting a head start on putting together the lunch most graciously provided by Laura Bernabei. At 9:30 the current Principessa of Pursuits, Lily Stevenson, gave a welcoming speech, followed by a welcome from FOC President, Meredith Klein, and the day got going full bore, six 50 minute classes, with lunch in the middle. When the day is over, there is another amazing flurry of activity as everyone helps break down the tables and clean up the hall. By 5 PM I, and my car mates, were in the Kinokuniya stationery store in Japantown checking out the supplies.



Phawnda's Watercolor Class

At the risk of immodesty, I thought the classes this year were particularly strong. PHAWNDA MOORE encouraged everyone to take art to the field. She provided everyone with a travelling watercolor palette, six water bottle caps glued into an Altoids tin and filled with watercolor provided by Dick Blick Art. For this, Phawnda needed 50 empty Altoids tins and 300 plastic water bottle caps; several people helped reach the goal, but I made sure to check her husband Ron for signs of water boarding. He looked OK and did yeoman's duty as greeter and door guard. SARA LOESCH FRANK taught two hands that she has developed based on Art Deco type-faces. MARY ANN WIGHT presented a 32-page labyrinth book cinched with a band closed with sealing wax. MEREDITH KLEIN offered an origami 'German Bell' and provided a sheet with her own impressive blacklettering to use. She credits Janet Glessner with the idea. MELISSA TITONE had people make their very own custom embossing press from paper and cardboard using their own designs. And the presses worked. And I, DAVID BROOKES, showed people how to make a 'cola pen' from lithoplate and a little about using it. So next year, try to make it. Start your decorated envelope now. You'll have a good time. db

Calendar of Events 2010

DATE	TIME	EVENT	DETAILS
February 27-28 (Sat-Sun)	9:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Georgia Deaver Workshop	"Stylized Writing with Brush and Pen" Fort Mason, San Francisco Coordinator: Megan Lucas 707-259-1753
March 3-7 (Wed-Sun)	Wed pm through lunch Sunday	Annual Retreat	Santa Sabina, Dominican University, San Rafael Coordinator: Carla Tenret 510-526-1214
March 11 (Thur)	--	Copy deadline for Bulletin #98	Humble Editor David Brookes 510.525.3312
March 21 (Sun)	10 am - 1 pm	Council Meeting	The Greenwood Home/Library/Studio McGee St, Berkeley 510.841.6924
April 8 (Thur)	7 - 9 PM	FOC Mailing	Atelier vecchio Greenwood, Edith St, Berkeley
April 9 (Fri)	9:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Sheila Waters Workshop	"Modernizing a Manuscript Hand" Fort Mason, San Francisco Coordinator: Megan Lucas 707-259-1753
April 10-11 (Sat-Sun)	9:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Sheila Waters Workshop	"Fine Tuning Italic Writing" Atelier Gargoyle, San Francisco Coordinator: Megan Lucas 707-259-1753
May 2 (Sun)	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Council Meeting	Jerry Lehman's home, Lyon St, San Francisco 415-346-1032
May 8 (Sat)	9:30 AM - 4:30 PM	Judy Detrick Workshop	"Decorated Capital Letters" Fort Mason, San Francisco Coordinator: Megan Lucas 707-259-1753
May 23 (Sun)	1 - 4 PM	Annual General Meeting	SF Main Library, Latino-Hispanic Room Contact: Meredith Klein 510-527-0434

The Friends of Calligraphy extends a warm welcome to our newest members, who joined after the last Bulletin went to press:

Lenka Adamová
Sue Brinton
Shari Burnham
Karen Carnevale

Howard Chambers
Jeff Cornelius
Mary Gillis

Giovanna R. Jackson
Fred Junj
Susan Richardson

Elizabeth Ringrose
Carol Spence
Pauline Moffitt Watts

Members contribute in so many ways. The Friends of Calligraphy wishes to thank members who have renewed at sustaining and supporting levels:

Pauline Moffitt Watts - Sustaining
Jeffrey L. Brodtkin - Supporting

Shari Burnham - Supporting
Jan Carrier - Supporting

In Remembrance

We have learned of the death of Shirl M. Breitling of Albuquerque, New Mexico, on December 23, 2009. Shirl lived in the Bay Area from 1978 to 1989, joined FOC in 1980 and continued his membership after moving to New Mexico.