



March 2024
Number 154

Letter from the President



Hello Everyone,

Sitting down to write this note, I felt like I don't have much to say, which reminded me of receiving letters from my father, who always started them with, "I don't have much to say, but ..." and then he'd fill several pages with his ramblings. I may have inherited that trait.

Call for new Trivial Pursuits Coordinator.

The FOC calligraphic year starts early in January when we meet for Trivial Pursuits, a day of 6 mini-workshops taught by volunteers from our membership. It's always fun and in many ways educational. Marcia Friedman has been the excellent Trivial Pursuits coordinator for several years, but she is stepping down and we need to find a new coordinator or we won't be able to have Trivial Pursuits. So this is a call for volunteers! Whoever takes on this job will not be working alone. Marcia has organized lists, charts, and descriptions to help the new coordinator stay on track, and she is willing to be a reference and coach. If you are interested in learning more about what is involved, send me an email: escrita@gmail.com.

Once again many FOC members from the San Francisco Bay Area went south to attend Letters California Style, a 4-day mini-conference sponsored by the Society for Calligraphy in Southern California and held in Pomona. A huge disappointment for me was that I wasn't able to attend this year, and I'm so envious of those who did, because all of the reports I've heard so far have been enthusiastic. You can read about the mini-conference and see a group photo on page 4.

Friends of Calligraphy turns 50 in the span of 2024 to 2025. We are planning several ways to commemorate this impressive event, which we will let you know about in the coming months.

Last but not least, don't forget to regularly check out the FOC website for classes and events coming up. You can see the current and upcoming listings at <https://www.friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/classes.html>.

That's not bad for having nothing to say, right?

Cheers,

xxxooo *Evelyn*

FOC AGM

The Annual General Meeting for the Friends of Calligraphy is May 5, 2024 at the San Francisco Main Library, Latino-Hispanic Room, 100 Larkin Street. Please join us for a wonderful talk between Andrea Grimes, Head of the Special Collections and Rare Book Room and Judy Detrick, calligrapher and designer, who will discuss the many treasures acquired by the Harrison Collection, started by Richard Harrison and Susie Taylor. This event is in-person and not on Zoom. We hope to see you there. This will also be a great opportunity to visit with members of our guild and a chance to win a door prize.

FOC 50th Anniversary

We are excited about the unfolding plans for FOC's 50th Anniversary Year, which we will be celebrating throughout 2024-2025. We are one of several calligraphy guilds in the U.S. commemorating golden anniversaries. If you are interested in writing a short article during the coming year for the *Bulletin* or *Alphabet* related to our history, please contact Nancy for the *Bulletin* or Carl for *Alphabet*.

To view the Bulletin in color, please visit the FOC web site under Publications.

FOC Council Members

President Evelyn Eldridge	Vice President Elena Caruthers
Treasurer Dean Robino	Secretary Fredí Juni
Council Members Katie Leavens Soohyen Parks	Billy Ola Hutchinson Raoul Martinez Michael Starkman
Alphabet Editor Carl Rohrs	Bulletin Editor Nancy Noble



Calligraphy as an Experiment

Joanna Homrighausen says that art and science rely on the same skills. In her lecture *Calligraphy as an Experiment: Martin Wenham's Carved Letters and the Interiority of Words*, Joanna proves this point through a showcase of Martin Wenham's calligraphic works. Specifically, Joanna presented three phrases that Martin Wenham lettered multiple times, and how *he captures different aspects of those phrases in different pieces sometimes made decades apart.*

Introduction

Joanna describes Martin Wenham's background as a path to approaching calligraphy as an experiment. Martin Wenham has a PhD in botany, specialized in tree science, and had a considerable academic career in primary and secondary education. Joanna describes Martin as someone who thought about education a lot and said, a lot of his work is on art and science and how the two are connected. Eric Gill and David Jones are two lettering artists who influenced Martin.

Materials and Methods

Many of Martin Wenham's works that Joanna showed were letters carved in wood. Joanna emphasized that they are real, 3-dimensional objects that you can touch. Often, they're pieces of wood that washed up on the shore near Martin's home in Wales.

Martin's typical method includes drawing the letters on wood, carving them out, and painting them. You can learn more about Martin's techniques and methods in his artist profile *Silent Voices* a documentary through Goldmark Galleries.

Joanna explained that one thing Martin Wenham really likes about working with wood is, unlike stone, wood will eventually rot and that the wood is on its way back to the earth, its way back to the ongoing stream of life. All he's doing is delaying the journey for a little bit.

Results

Joanna presented works by Martin Wenham that demonstrate calligraphy as an experiment. The first phrase examined was a line from a Christopher Smart poem: *From the heart of God and from the hand of the artist inimitable.* Joanna showed the following three works by Martin featuring this phrase:

Hallelujah – 1999
A Silent Hallelujah – 2018
Hallelujah, Acrylic on paper

The second phrase was a translation from the Gospel of Thomas 77: *Raise the stone and you shall find me; cleave the wood and there am I.* Joanna showed the

following four pieces by Martin Wenham with this phrase:

Toccatà 16 – 1984
Toccatà 40 – 1992
Raise the Stone – 1997
Raise the Stone 3 – 2022

The third phrase was from *The Song of Songs*, in Latin: *Surge, amica mea*, which means, *Arise, my love* in English. Joanna showed the following four pieces by Martin Wenham featuring this phrase:

Arise 1 – 2010
Arise 3 – 2010
Object and Image – 2011
Chalis – 2011

Discussion

In showing these works, Joanna asked the audience to share their observations about each one using the chat feature of the virtual meeting. She led the discussion about how the artwork changed as Martin created them at different points in time, pointing out the experimentation that led to the results. This was the most engaging dialog between the presenter and audience in the entirety of the FOC Lecture series. So enjoyable.

Conclusion

Joanna discussed Martin Wenham, his work, and her own take on it as art, concluding that the carved lettering art of Martin Wenham is art that is really engaging in the interiority of words that is doing art and science as a mode of observation.

There is more to come from Joanna's exploration and study of Martin Wenham's work: Joanna has a book in progress called *Sensory Letters: Religion and Language in the Art of Martin Wenham*, which will be a part of new book series called *SCRIBAL – Sacred Calligraphy and Religious Imagery in Book Arts and Lettering*.

Joanna Homrighausen presented *Calligraphy as an Experiment: Martin Wenham's Carved Letters and the Interiority of Words* as part of The Friends of Calligraphy virtual lecture series on January 10, 2024. You can watch the recording of the lecture on The Friends of Calligraphy YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFupIDf9fgeSy2FOd4BMrQ>

Martin Wenham works: *Silent Voices* documentary:
<https://www.goldmarkart.com/collections/martinwenham>

Martin Wenham, Magnificat, 2008
<https://www.luceedartsandreligion.org/wenham-magnificat>

Continued on Page 10

Trivial Pursuits 35

Eager calligraphers came in from the gray morning outside, shaking water off umbrellas and raincoats. They picked up goodie bags and nametags beautifully handmade by David Brookes. The church hall filled with the chatter of old and new friends greeting each other and warming up with coffee and tea. The White Elephant table began to overflow with books, magazines, supplies, and other donations.

FOC president Evelyn Eldridge surveyed the room and said, "I've been so looking forward to seeing everyone in person again!"

It was the 35th occurrence of Trivial Pursuits, FOC's annual gift to its members, when volunteer teachers share techniques and foster a sense of play.

The forty or so participants rotated among six craft stations throughout the day. Schedules printed on the back of the nametags made it easy for attendees to be at the right station when event director Marcia Friedman rang the bell at the start and end of each session. And the six instructors were dazzlingly well prepared, with all the tools needed and pre-cut and arranged materials at every participant's station, often including handouts.

For extra fun, FOC held an envelope contest. About 29 members had decorated the envelopes of their entry forms, and during the morning, members voted for their favorites. The winner was Dean Robino, second prize went to Evelyn Eldridge, and third was won by Elena Caruthers. Carole Dwinnell and Marcia Friedman donated the prizes.

Kestrel Montes taught members how to blend colors using the CMYK method. By checking the pigment code on paint tubes and applying some simple ratios, you can save money by mixing all the colors you need from just five tubes of paint: cyan, magenta, yellow, black, and white. She also shared pro tips like wiping a paint-laden brush before rinsing it, to keep the water cleaner, and that gouache will dry to a darker shade than when wet.

Raoul Martinez shared the history and practice of the "Elephant's Trunk" flourish in Fraktur, which was commissioned by Emperor Maximilian I in the 16th century for his own publishing house. Raoul provided an elegant exemplar of all Fraktur capital letters and reviewed the uses of nib, reservoir, guide sheet, and basic principles so that even those who had never studied Fraktur could participate and learn.

Katie Leavens helped participants make quick and dirty versions of illuminated initials. Using shortcuts in technique, and gouache instead of gold leaf, attendees got an idea of what an illuminated letter will look like before putting in all the work of making one. Katie had

Carl teaching his Cut Letters.
Additional Photos on Page 6



Teachers: Jody Meese, Carl Rohrs, Katie Leavens, Raoul Martinez,
Director: Marcia Friedman, Meredith Klein & Kestrel Montes

examples from medieval manuscripts showing possible embellishments for the letters, and she encouraged her students to just jump in and not try to be perfect.

Carl Rohrs welcomed participants to his station for some paper cutting, saying, "This is for when you have a birthday party to go to that night and need to make something fast." He showed how to make a quick card: use a template to cut out the shape of a name, mount it on black paper and cut that to a border around the shape, then mount it on the card. During one session, he observed, "Every time you make a mark, you are making a change in the world."

Meredith Klein taught members how to make mandala pebbles. In contrast to expensive commercial kits, Meredith showed attendees how to use pointed pen, toothpick, and chopstick to make lines and dots. She shared inspiration photos and some information about traditions as well as pro tips—for example, that mistakes could be removed with Windex. Then she turned her students loose to create, saying, "There are no rules, there are just options."

Jody Messe presented a concertina card design suitable for birthday cards or valentines. Using Jody's pre-cut papers in elegant colorways, participants scored and cut their way to three-dimensional cards. Jody also provided a template for an envelope that would exactly fit the cards.

Letters California Style 2024

By Martha Reich

From February 16 through 19, 2024, I attended Letters California Style at the Kellogg Conference Center, Cal Poly Pomona in Southern California. This event is put on by Society for Calligraphy, with Carrie Imai as the very capable Conference Director. Many interesting classes were offered and, as usual, we had a wonderful group of instructors. One of them, Viktor Kams, came all the way from Spain and gave an interesting slide show of his work to all attendees. We were amazed to find out that he started as a graffiti artist!

I took a class with Cherri Moote on making small books. We made mostly mock-ups but also finished books colorfully decorated. It was a fun class, and Cherri's handouts were numerous and will help us make more books on our own.

Sunday noon was an enlightening time as we had a walk through all the classrooms. Everyone was impressed with the variety of work being done. We saw serious lettering, journaling techniques, acrylic creations, gilding techniques, folded pen work, and so much more. What a great learning experience!

A poignant tribute was presented one night by Randall Hasson. It was on the lives and contributions of great calligraphers and graphic artists Larry and Marsha Brady. Sadly, they died recently in a tragic car accident. So many people in the audience, and elsewhere, were profoundly influenced by the Bradys, myself included. Randall's presentation was excellent as he talked about all the connections that exist between great artists and their students.

I was pleased to see quite a few "younger" participants at Letters California Style. I have recently been so concerned that our state of California decided some years ago that teaching cursive handwriting in our public schools was not important. Quite recently that decision has been overturned, thankfully. As M. Konnikova said, "Children not only learn to read more quickly when they first learn to write by hand, but they also remain better able to generate ideas and retain information. In other words, it's not just what we write that matters...but how."

Therefore, to help my nine-year-old twin granddaughters catch up on learning good writing skills, I am tutoring them in cursive. So far it is going well!



Friends of Calligraphy members who attended Letters California Style 2024 at the Kellogg Conference Center adjacent to the Cal Poly Pomona Campus, Pomona. Photo: Chava Gerber



Ed Fong's practice on fabric using a flat brush and EZ-A pen. Photo: Lona Lee



Viktor working with Carrie Imai and Ed Fong. Photo: Lona Lee



Next Page: Group shot of Viktor's class: Page 5. L-R, Standing: Kristi Darwick, Chava Gerber, Sue Gruhn, Lona Lee, Nancy Noble, Caroline Arakaki, Dorothy Yuki, Carole Johnson, Lynn Ayres, Loan Nguyen, In front: Carrie Imai, Viktor Fernandez, Ed Fong. Photo: Nina Tran.

* Maria Konnikova is a writer for *The New Yorker*.

Viktor Kams Teaching at Letters 2024

By Lona Lee

This year's Letters California Style Conference went strong into its 17th year over President's Day weekend. As a relatively new calligrapher, this was my second conference, and it was nothing shy of memorable times with the warmest group of letter enthusiasts.

The class I chose this year was *Italics: From Pen to Brush* with Victor Kams from Madrid, Spain. They say you can never take enough italic classes and so this year, I wanted to push myself out of my comfort zone – and it definitely got me out of my comfort zone and even uncomfortable!

Over the three and a half days, we focused on Italic letterforms. It was wonderful to be in a class of fellow SfC and FoC members, with a range of calligraphic experiences, from well-seasoned to budding broad-edge calligraphers. We laughed, applauded, practiced, and even struggled a bit with our new tool!

Day 1, Friday, we worked with different sized nibs and reviewed the italic alphabet. Victor went around the classroom and helped us with our letterforms. One of the words we started out with was *murcielago* which means “bat” (animal) in Spanish and conveniently has an ascender and descender.

Day 2, we wrote words using all the majuscule letters and reviewed letter variations. Victor demonstrated some very small nibs like a Speedball C-4 and he wrote with speed to show some dynamism on a smaller scale. In the second half of Day 2, we started testing the flat brush, making basic strokes, and getting used to holding the tool perpendicular to the paper.

Day 3, we continued to work with the flat brush. For some, including myself, it was quite challenging to write clean letters on the paper. At one point, I got very close to giving up on the brush and vowing to myself to never take it out again after this class! Victor promised us that we would have better luck on fabric once we returned from lunch.

Sunday afternoon, post-lunch, was reserved for *Works-In-Progress Walk-Throughs*. This is when we do a casual walk-through of all the classrooms and see what the other students and teachers were working on. We viewed the work of fantastic teachers: Suzie Beringer, Barbara Close, Carol DuBosch, Randall Hasson, Schin Loong, Harvest Crittenden, Cheryl Moote, Cora Pearl, Jane Shibata, and Viktor, of course.

After the walk-throughs, it was time for us to take out our fabrics for brush italic. Dorothy Yuki was kind enough to provide canvas for all the students in class! Well, much to my skepticism, writing on fabric looked to be the saving grace. We had several aha moments and exclamations of joy. The letters on canvas were surprisingly more manageable than on paper. I had spoken too soon! Monday was a half day. Victor demonstrated more of his brush techniques on a larger scale and produced some fun, dynamic pieces for SfC, banners we'll keep as mementos.

Throughout the workshop, he demonstrated on different types of paper using a variety of his flat brushes – one of his favorites being the Manet Galaxy flat brush.

During class, I enjoyed Victor sharing stories of his many teachers, luminaries, and friends, including Claude Mediavilla, John Stevens, Denis Brown, Carl Rohrs, Elmo van Slingerland, and many more, and our calligraphy veterans in class sharing similar stories of their experiences with said teachers. As a student, it's always interesting to hear whom my teachers learned from and were influenced by.

Sprinkled throughout the conference there were some fun demos and talks. On Friday, Carol DuBosch gave a presentation on her collection of creative, inspirational artists' books created over the years. Randy Hasson put together a very touching and fun tribute to Larry and Marsha Brady. As DeAnn Singh put it, Larry and Marsha are like royalty for the Society for Calligraphy. Randy's presentation was special for us this year because it is SfC's 50th anniversary, and as founding members of the guild, the Bradys' influence to the calligraphy community is far-reaching and deeply engrained in many of our current teachers and SfC members. On Saturday, Victor presented a lecture of his calligraphic journey starting from his younger graffiti days to his current world filled with murals, tattoos, calligraphy workshops, and special working relationships with Montblanc and other luxury brands. In the evening, he shared his special technique combining the flat brush and ruling pen. Post Letters, Victor stayed in the LA area and taught for one of SfC's regionals. He taught *Fraktura* in Gardena, before moving on to the rest of his tour in San Diego, *SfC*, Portland, *Portland Society for Calligraphy*, Houston, *Texas Lettering Arts Council*, and New York, *Society of Scribes*. Thank you, Victor, for spreading your love of letters as you complete your first US tour.



Trivial Pursuits 35



Katie Leavens



Jody Meese



Kestrel Montes teaching.
Elena Caruthers & Dorothy Yuki in the background.



Carl Rohrs's Cut Paper example of the name 'Janet'.

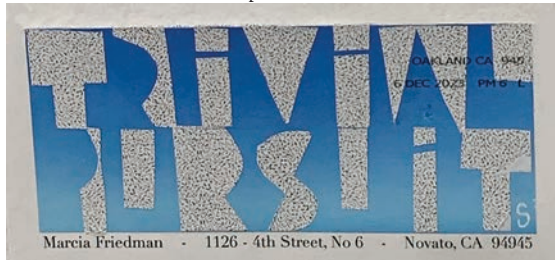


Your Bulletin editor's decorated stone
from Meredith's Mandala Pebbles class.



Meredith Kline teaching Janet Glessner
& Gaston Yagmourian.

Decorated Envelope 1st Place: Dean Robino.



Decorated Envelope 2nd Place: Evelyn Eldridge.



Decorated Envelope 3rd Place: Elena Caruthers.



David Brookes, Jody Meese, Vicky Lee and Bart Burrows.



Katie Leavens sample artwork
for her class.

Risa Gettler



Congratulations to Risa on the acquisition by the Harrison Collection, San Francisco Main Library, of her book of poetry and the Robert Renzoni Winery Logo.



Michael Clark, The Bradys & Carol Walls

In Memoriam

MICHAEL CLARK was an unforgettable lettering artist whose main tools were rather simple and humble drafter's ruling pen, Speedball B nibs, Bleedproof White, and India ink. His calligraphic influences were Hermann Zapf, Rudo Spemann, Rudolf Koch, Friedrich Poppl, Hermann Kilian, Carl Rohrs, Julian Waters, Michael Podesta, and Werner Schneider.

Predominantly a commercial calligrapher, his résumé ranged from working at Hallmark Cards along with Rick Cusick, to designing logos and titling for music packaging, books, and magazines.

His interests would later pivot in the 1990s to font development, mostly for the P22 Type Foundry. Most of his better known fonts are available through Adobe: Frenzy, Lucilee, Pooper Black, Pouty, Sneaky, and Sweepy (along with two historic revivals, Brass and Casual Script, on which Michael assisted Richard Kegler, P22's president.) Other classic Clark original typefaces, like Monumental Titling, Peanut, and Sting, are available from IHOF, a P22 offshoot, through myfonts.com

Throughout his career, he produced several portfolio booklets, with the main and final book, *In a Lone Breath It Is Written*, available at John Neal Books, offering a comprehensive culmination of his creative endeavors, including several collaborative works with UK lettering artist, Rachel Yallop.

A selection of his original works and portfolio scrapbooks are currently housed and available for study in the Richard Harrison Collection of the San Francisco Public Library.

This is an excerpt Tamara Stoneburner wrote on the Washington Calligraphers Guild Facebook page. It is shared here with her permission.

As most of you now know MARSHA and LARRY Brady passed away together in December.

Randall Hasson has created a beautiful and touching tribute to the well-respected and beloved calligraphers in the current issue of *Alphabet*, Volume 49, Number 3, Spring 2024, in this mailing.

Carl shared with me that there are further articles on the Brady's in the following issues of *Alphabet*:

Spring 2014 Volume 39, Number 3, Editor Marcia Friedman.

Marsha and Larry Brady: A Retrospective by Cecelia Harris.

In the Fall 1989 issue, Volume 15, Number 1, there are two articles: Norma Fong Chan wrote a review of Larry's workshop: an in-depth article about his color theory workshop. Marsha Brady wrote the profile of her husband Larry.

At Letters California Style, February 2024, attendees were treated to an informative presentation Friday evening by Randy Hasson. His talk and slide show titled: *A Legacy in Lettering*, is available on YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ChK_HtHi3Ds

Randy Hasson stated ... we all have teachers and mentors that have made an impact on our lives. Marsha and Larry Brady were a significant part of many lives in the calligraphic community, including mine.



CAROL WALLS — To know her was to love her. Like many of us, during the pandemic, Vancouver resident, Carol Walls, became active on Zoom, participating in workshops with other guilds. It was great to keep in touch with Carol, if only via the screen! At that time, Carol was fairly new to living in Vancouver, having relocated from Houston. She was wonderfully welcoming to everyone who entered her orbit and she invited me to come back to stay with her and her equally delightful husband, Cooper. Since then, we had kept in touch via annual Christmas cards. A talented photographer, her cards always featured a gorgeous image from one of the picturesque places she and Cooper had visited that particular year. They sometimes toured areas that are rare for tourism—poorer cities in Africa and elsewhere. They wanted to know, first-hand, what was going on in the world. Staying with Carol and Cooper was like staying in a very posh hotel—complete with gorgeous guest suite and fantastic artwork throughout the house. Really, it was much better than a hotel, because they were a joy to be around and were such attentive hosts. While I was there, Carol invited mutual calligraphy friends from the Vancouver area, for art-making! We all had a fantastic, creative time together. I quizzed Carol and she told me she met Cooper when he was recommended to teach her the Cello. I was there only a couple of days and Carol invited me to come back to stay longer. I had thought I would. I was crushed, a few months later, to receive the news of Carol's cancer diagnosis. We lost her on November 1. She is missed by many.

With thanks to Kristi Darwick for this lovely tribute.

Social Media

Get excited! FOC's 50th Anniversary is coming up in July 2024–2025, but we're starting to celebrate online now. The Social Media Committee has started an initiative to honor calligraphers who were early FOC members. Our first Early Member Spotlight of Jim Lewis was posted on March 5. Keep an eye out on Instagram and Facebook for our spotlight of Cynthia White Foster on April 5.



Pear
by Jim Lewis

That's not the only thing we have going on with Social Media. We post regularly every month:

- 1st: #FOCcreates Art Prompt. Watch for a new hashtag every month.
- 5th: Early FOC Member Spotlight.
- 10th: FOC Member Feature.
- 15th: A question and conversation starter.
- 20th: FOC Remembers a past member from the Harrison Collection.
- 25th: Repost of the #FOCcreates artworks.

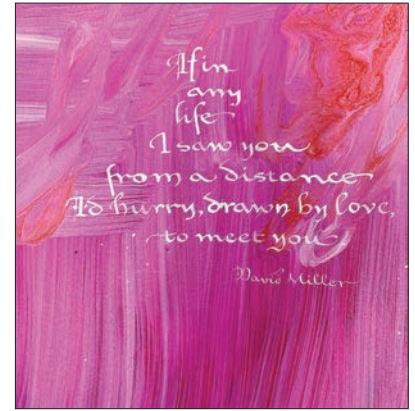
If you have an idea for any of our Spotlights or Features please reach out to Katie Leavens: hello@kleavens.com

Here is a small selection from our recent FOC Member Feature posts.

Neuland by
Nina Tran



Page from Artist book: *Genesis* by Carla Tenret



Fibonacci Soul by Mina Taylor



Mastheads by Laura Bernabei

When I asked Laura to “pen” the masthead, she hesitated at first. Then, she said she would take it on, and that she did. It was hard to choose from the four magical designs she submitted. Here are the others:



FOC Council Meeting Minutes

Friends of Calligraphy Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, 19 November 2023, Zoom
Starting Time: 1:06 PM

Attending: Elena Caruthers, Evelyn Eldridge, Katie Leavens, Raoul Martinez, Dean Robino, Michael Starkman. Guests: Meredith Klein, Nancy Noble. Excused: Billy Ola Hutchinson, Fredi Juni, Soohyen Park.

Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2023
–moved to approve as amended, seconded. Unanimous approval.

Reports Membership: Meredith

2023–24: as of November 18, 2023: Renewed—paid: 622, Honorary: 7, Honorary Spouse: 2, Renewed total: 631, New 35, TOTAL 666. Volunteer lists have been sent to the Council and editors and committee chairs/coordinators for their use during the year.

Treasurer Report: Dean Annual Federal and State filings are in on time. Transaction Report: Approved, seconded. Unanimous approval.

Workshop Committee Elena

Judy Detrick, 6-week Manuscript Book Master Class, starting April 8; Yukimi Annand, online May 4 and in person May 11 and 12, Letterform Archive, Killian Minuscules; Carl Rohrs, summer workshop, August 6–10, in Kensington; Peter Greco, Fall.

Classes: Katie

Registrations flooded in as soon as soon as registration opened. At least two students have enrolled in each of the upcoming classes. Class assistants are needed.

Social Media Katie

Starting December, a unique hashtag will be created for every month's FOC Creates. Featured Members is scheduled through July. Suggestions wanted for FOC Remembers: *features FOC members who have passed and have work in the Harrison Collection*, posted on the 20th of every month. Examples from workshops and classes are posted regularly.

Publications and Mailings: Meredith

December 14, 2023: Next regular mailing will contain *Alphabet 49:2*; *Bulletin 153* and Directory Update II. USPS changes will affect FOC mailings. Beginning in 2024, we must submit bulk mail requests online, not on a paper form. Meredith will coordinate training by the supervisor. A software update for international mailing called for a customs form for each envelope no matter how little it weighs, instead Meredith purchased stamps for the mailing.

Bulletin – Nancy

Everything is on target. Catherine von Schwind has created the next masthead.

Alphabet – Meredith

Carl is nearly finished with *Alphabet 49:2*. Another gorgeous issue, it includes articles on Hokusai, Ernst Bentele, and Cari Ferraro on her book that was accepted in the Bodleian Library.

Directory – Meredith

The 2023–24 Membership Directory went out in the November mailing. Michael Starkman's beautiful cover and initials were praised by the Council. Judy Detrick, who again did the elegant graphic design, went to a smaller

type size, still readable, in order to fit all the member listings, and was able to retain the by-laws.

Web Administrator: Raoul

Access to the Trivial Pursuit flyer is only through a link sent to members through email. Features for Yukimi Annand and Andrea Wunderlich were posted. Meredith requested the reinstatement of the link to Marian Gault's website when she renewed. When registering for classes online, prospective students can now add special instructions in a dedicated field; these appear on the PayPal payment emails. If anyone wants to pay through Venmo, Dean can issue an invoice: FOC's fee is the same; per a CA state regulation change, payers can be asked to cover PayPal, Venmo, and credit card charges.

Blackletter Brunch – Raoul

The distinction between FOC and Blackletter Brunch has caused confusion. The Lecture Committee clarified that the Blackletter Brunch is not part of FOC. Raoul invites suggestions from FOC for Blackletter Brunch presenters. Evelyn and Nancy added that, in contrast to Blackletter Brunch's intimate audience, FOC has its own lecture series, open to 300–600 people, and offers an honorarium, so the distinction is important.

Lecture Committee: Evelyn

Laurie Doctor's lecture was very successful; Joanna Homrighausen, Hebrew Calligraphy, January 2024; Carl Rohrs, 2024, Evelyn hopes the talk will be about block letter

alphabets; Nancy Hays Hills, no date set.

Trivial Pursuits:

January 13, 2024
Registration accepted no earlier than November 27. Cynthia, Jerry Lehman, and Dorothy will create the goody bags. Fifty bags are needed.

Holiday Party: December 3, 2:00 PM

Barbara Lande created the excellent flyer when the deadline became too tight for Soohyen. Nancy will ask Ali at CopyWorld to print one for the Harrison Collection. Evelyn will ask Raoul to send out an email reminder as the date approaches, including Covid protocols. The Council agreed on this wording: *It's the Holidays and people are gathering and traveling. If you've been out and about, consider taking a Covid rapid test before you come. If you're not feeling well, please do not come. Masks are optional.*

Retreat: March 6 – 10, 2024 Meredith

Santa Sabina is being offered for sale by the Dominican Sisters. Dates for 2024 will be honored but this may be our last retreat there. Registration will open November 29 and 15 paid registrations needed by December 9.

Unfinished Business

Roman Holiday International Conference

Dean sent FOC's donation. The FOC logo is now included on their webpage as a sponsor. Nancy and Fredi are researching possible donations to the merch/goody bags; Vanish erasers are their preferred choice. They can be personalized with FOC stickers; suggested wording: *A Gift from*

Friends of Calligraphy, 1974–2024 Fifty Years. Nancy will continue researching the best price for the erasers and offers to print the stickers.

50th Anniversary – Katie and Meredith

Carl Rohrs will work on a logo that will incorporate the existing beloved Susie Taylor FOC Logo.

On November 13 the 50th Anniversary Committee hosted an online open meeting/brainstorming session with past FOC presidents and others. Ideas included:

Updating the brochures that were created for the 30th and 40th anniversaries.

Picnic where FOC first met in Oakland.

Panel discussion with illustrious FOC members.

An exhibition at the SF Library of Alphabet covers and other FOC memorabilia.

Collecting memories from FOC members.

An embroidered commemorative badge with the anniversary logo.

A calendar broadside for the year with artwork from FOC members past or present.

FOC Cookbook.

Using the website to commemorate and celebrate FOC History and Anniversary.

An archive of FOC *Newsletters* that preceded the creation of *Alphabet*.

Researching how other guilds have commemorated their milestone anniversaries.

Adjourn:

Moved, seconded, unanimous approval
3:26 PM

◆
Edited for Publication

Membership

Welcome, New Members!

Friends of Calligraphy extends a warm welcome to our newest members. We're so glad you joined!

Wendy Badia	Josie Brown
Paul Fellers	ShannonProvenzano
Debbie Ryon	Ina Saltz
Sondra Simon Goldman	Annie Van Lienden
Peretz Wolf-Prusan	Barbara Wolff

Mail Crew Thank Yous



Regular mailing, Dec 14, 2023—Mille Grazie:

Laura Bernabei—Including help with Int'l
Meredith Klein labels, int'l & taking mail to PO
Dean Robino—Including help with Int'l
David Brookes SA Kushinka
Vicky Lee Vicki Piovia
Mary Ann Wight—Czarina

Thank you to JoAnn Brand, who calls the crews, and to Georgianna and Andy Greenwood, for generously letting us use Georgianna's studio.

Continued from Page 2

Books Joanna mentioned in the lecture:

The Art of Letter Carving in Wood, Martin Wenham, 2022
Planting Letters and Weaving Lines: Calligraphy, The Song of Songs, and The Saint John's Bible, Jonathan Homrighausen, 2022

Illuminating Justice: The Ethical Imagination of The Saint John's Bible, Jonathan Homrighausen, 2018

You can subscribe to The Friends of Calligraphy YouTube channel @Friendsofcalligraphy to receive notifications when a new lecture recording is available.

Friends of Calligraphy

is a nonprofit society of people interested in calligraphy and related arts. Membership is \$40.00 annually, open to amateurs and professionals.

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www.friendsofcalligraphy.org

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Fort Mason Classes

Date	Time	Event	Details
Saturdays March 16, 23, 30, April 6	10:30 AM – 12 PM Four Saturday Mornings	Square Capitals Judy Detrick	Zoom
Tuesdays May 14, 21, 28, June 4, 11, 18, July 2	6:30 PM – 9 PM Seven Tuesday Nights	Batarde Raoul Martinez	In-Person
Tuesdays September 17, 24 October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	6:30 PM – 9 PM Seven Tuesday Nights	Italic Meredith Klein	In-Person
Saturdays November 2, 9, 16, 23	10:00 AM – 1 PM Four Saturday Mornings	Engrosser's Script Rick Paulus	Zoom

Colophon

FOC Bulletin #154

Masthead: Laura Bernabei

Text: Sumner Stone's Davanti & Appia;
Optima for Headings. Adobe InDesign
CC was used for the layout on an iMac.

Proofreading: Kris Nevius, Evelyn
Eldridge, Raoul Martinez, Dean Robino.

Photos: Laura Bernabei, Ed Fong, Chava
Gerber, Lona Lee, Nancy Noble, Martha
Reich and Nina Tran.

Copy Deadline

Deadline for articles for *Bulletin 155*:

May 24, 2024. Please submit
articles or questions to Nancy Noble,
nrnoble@sfsu.edu

Address Change

If your contact information changes:
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the new information to:

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either icon: the F in a blue square, or the little
red square camera outline.

FOC Calendar of Events

Date	Time	Event	Details
Mondays, April 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13, 20	9:00 – 11:00 AM	Making of a Manuscript Book Judy Detrick	Zoom
Sat – Sunday April 13–14	9:30 AM – 12:30 PM	Pointed Pen Variations Mike Kecseg	Zoom
Two Saturdays One Sunday May 4, 11, 12	9:30 AM – 4:30 PM	Kilian Minuscules Yukimi Annand	Zoom & In-Person
Sunday April 21	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM	FOC Council Meeting	Zoom
Sunday May 5	1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	FOC Annual General Meeting	SF Public Library