

# Bulletin

## Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

**F**riends of Calligraphy is about to observe its 50th birthday! The way I've heard it, several people who enjoyed calligraphy here in the SF Bay Area got together back in 1974-1975 and decided to form an official calligraphy group. Some of you may have even been there; I know I wish I'd been there.

FOC has a great committee in place, co-lead by Ann Marie Foley and Paul Plale, that is coordinating the many ideas and suggestions we have for how to observe this significant occasion. To keep you all up to date with the goings on, we will be sending you regular emails about events, dates to keep in mind, and progress. One of the events will be the picnic on August 17 in Tilden Park, Oakland, CA. You can see the *Save the Date* card and learn more about the picnic on page 5.

We even have a fiftieth-anniversary logo, designed by Carl Rohrs. Carl's logo combines Susie Taylor's elegant calligraphy from the original logo with Georgia Deaver's imaginative swoosh on the number 5. You can see the new logo on page 5.

Everyone knows that when FOC has a get together, we have fabulous snacks; we've jokingly sometimes called ourselves Friends of Calligraphy and Eating Society. That fun fact inspired us to try for a commemorative FOC cookbook. The idea is to feature recipes for treats that have been served at FOC events. If you have a recipe you'd like to have included, please see the "Wanted Poster" on page 5.

The FOC Annual General Meeting was held on May 5. We met in person at the main San Francisco Public Library, with FOC member Judy Detrick in conversation with librarian Andrea Grimes discussing the history of the Harrison Collection and many of its contents. Of course snacks were served! The officers and council for the coming year were elected, and they are: President, Evelyn Eldridge; Vice President, Elena Caruthers; Treasurer, Dean Robino, Secretary, Michael Starkman; Council: Laura Bernabei, Fredi Juni, Katie Leavens, Raoul Martinez, MarthaSlavin;

*Continued on Page 10*

## In Memoriam

**Alan Blackman**

May 26, 1928 — June 6, 2024

*This note from Alan's niece Lissa Spitz, has been shared with her permission.*

**H**ello lovely people, thank you all for your well wishes and love for Alan. I spent all day today reading the birthday and well wishes to him and showing him the pictures. He was mostly asleep but I felt like he heard me, I know for sure he heard some of the well wishes because he responded with his expressions. I told him he was being carried on this journey on an infinite cloud of love. He waited until I left and then he left too, not a half hour later. The doc said he was completely comfortable, no distress.

All my love to you who loved him, Lissa

*Our beloved Alan.*



By Jessie Evans

## Pushing the Boundaries of Calligraphy



Renowned calligrapher, painter, and scholar Kazuaki Tanahashi recently unveiled a series of 30 large-scale calligraphic paintings, each depicting a Zen Buddhist paradox or kōan. In a wonderful talk hosted by the Friends of Calligraphy, Kaz shared insights into this series and his approach to calligraphy, challenging traditional notions of East Asian calligraphy.

Kaz's Zen Paradox series is a departure from conventional Eastern calligraphy tools and materials. Instead of using the customary sumi ink on rice paper, Kaz opted for acrylic paint on canvas, allowing him to work on a large scale. Each piece measures 4ft x 7ft, a size not often seen in traditional Eastern calligraphy.

The choice of medium is not merely an aesthetic one; it is integral to the conceptual framework of the series. Kaz explained that acrylic paint allows for a level of spontaneity and boldness that can be difficult to achieve with ink on paper. The vivid colors and textural variations created by the paint add an extra layer of meaning to the calligraphy, enhancing the visual impact of the paradoxes.

Kaz's creative process is a fascinating blend of traditional techniques and experimental approaches. Before beginning work on the final canvas, he creates what he calls "rehearsal pieces"—smaller versions of the calligraphy on paper, which allow him to experiment with different brushstrokes and compositions. These preparatory sketches serve as a roadmap for the final pieces.

When it comes to the actual execution of the calligraphy, Kaz's mastery of the brush is evident in every stroke. He uses a variety of brushes, each chosen for its specific properties and the desired effect. For the bold, sweeping strokes that characterize many of the pieces in the series, Kaz favors large, sturdy brushes that can withstand the pressure of the acrylic paint. For more intricate details and finer lines, he relies on smaller, more delicate brushes.

One of the most striking aspects of Kaz's technique is his use of negative space. In many of the pieces, the white of the canvas is just as important as the black of the paint. By leaving certain areas of the canvas untouched, Kaz creates a sense of balance and harmony that echoes the Zen principles underlying the series.

The Zen paradoxes and kōans that inspire each piece are central to the meaning and impact of the series. Zen Buddhism is known for its use of paradoxical statements and questions, designed to challenge the student's conventional thinking and encourage a direct experience of reality. Kōans are often short, enigmatic phrases or dialogues that defy logical explanation and point to a truth beyond words.

For this series, Kaz selected and categorized nearly 300 paradoxes from the writings of 13th-century Zen Master Dogen, whose teachings are known for their depth and complexity. For example, the piece titled *Extremely Small is Vast* plays with the concept of scale and perception, challenging the viewer to reconsider their understanding of size and significance. Another piece, *Mountain Walks on the Water*, presents an impossible scenario that defies the laws of physics, pointing to the illusory nature of our everyday reality.

Kaz explained that the goal with this series is to make Dogen's teachings, which can be difficult and inaccessible to modern readers, more tangible and understandable to contemporary audiences. By translating these paradoxes into the visual language of calligraphy, he hopes to encourage a deeper engagement with the essential principles of Zen philosophy.

The series culminates in a stunning ensō circle painting, a classic Zen symbol representing the unity of form and emptiness, the interplay of black and white, and the cyclical nature of existence. The ensō, which is executed in a single, fluid motion, encapsulates the essence of Zen in a single, powerful stroke. Kaz's Zen Paradox series is a testament to the power of calligraphy as a medium for spiritual and artistic expression. By combining his technical mastery with a deep understanding of Zen philosophy, Tanahashi has created a body of work that is both visually stunning and intellectually provocative.



# Judy Detrick's Master Class

By Nita Padamsee

Judy Detrick's class was the perfect opportunity to learn from such an accomplished artist! Layouts, the use of different glues, sewing options to bind our books and so much more were covered in this class. We were asked to choose two styles or two weights of scripts, one for the body and the other for headings or titles. We had the freedom to make whatever size books we wanted and to use the paper of our choosing. The Anatomy of a Book was explained in detail, where the sequence of parts of a book are important: Front Matter, Text and Back Matter, which constitute the title page, forward, table of contents, illustration credits, acknowledgements, colophons, to name just a few. Judy also covered copyright information and how that should be handled, where should page numbers appear on a page, how large should they be and so many other details, which is important when one is making a more formal book.

Following along with Judy, we made quite a few trial books. She gave us a list of binding materials, how they can be used and how they would work for different kinds of bindings. Over the weeks we learned several binding techniques and styles, so that we could choose what would work best for each of our books. We began with the Folded Cover with a Spine, and moved on to a pamphlet bound book, which included sewing the pages together, and then covering it. For those of us who were making books with several signatures that consisted of 2 to 4 sheets of paper, the link stitch binding was very important, since the book sits flat when open. We made a case bound book which was very helpful to see all the various steps that go into it. The case can be covered with book cloth or with decorative paper. Drum leaf binding, which involves only glue and no sewing, is a great option when you want to add more pages to the front or back of the book if so desired.

After the sixth class, we emailed images of our books, complete or incomplete, for a Show and Tell session. Oh this was the exciting part where we got to see each participant's creativity, showcasing lettering styles, page layouts, illustrations and so many other techniques. Michael Starkman had done a wonderful book with a beautiful photogram or sun prints as they are sometimes called. Lily Yee-Sloan had used paper she had dyed blue for her book which was lovely and unique. I decided to use two scripts, Devanagari for Sanskrit and translation in English, with collage for decorations. Linda Turner was bold enough to have a book with black pages and a lot of calligraphy!

Each book was wonderful and unique and Judy held that space to allow us to showcase our varied styles, all while encouraging and guiding us through this wonderful journey. If Judy offers to teach this class again, I would highly recommend it to those wanting that extra knowledge of what goes into the making of a manuscript book and beyond. You will not be disappointed. I had

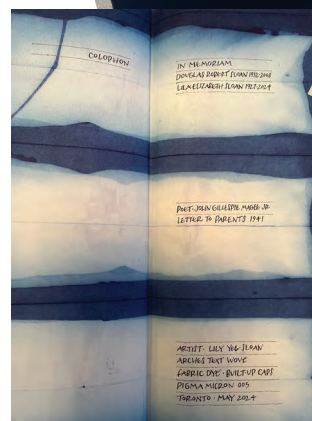
not taken a formal class on a manuscript book. I'm a graphic designer and calligrapher and have made several books, but I still consider myself new to the book arts.



Nina Tran's Manuscript Pages



Linda Turner's Manuscript Pages



Double Page Spread for Nita Padamsee's book

# Michael Kecseg Workshop

By David Brookes

## Pointed Pen Variations

I think that the official title of this class was something like “Mike Kecseg’s Pointed Pen Variations”. What an understatement. I was introduced to Mike and his take on using the pointed pen over 25 years ago as a novice calligrapher. It was the first time I had encountered pointed pen writing of ANY sort; I was hooked.

This time Mike focused on three hands—informal letters, uncials and blackletter, lower and uppercase. We wrote on 8 to the inch graph paper with a 1/4” letter height and a 55° slant. He used an Esterbrook 556 nib, *school medium firm*, a little hard to find any more, although I did manage to secure a BOX of them online. When I took my first class with him in the 1990s, the Internet did not exist widely. He prefers to use a straight handle nib holder instead of an oblique holder, but, as with almost all his recommendations, he leaves that choice to you.

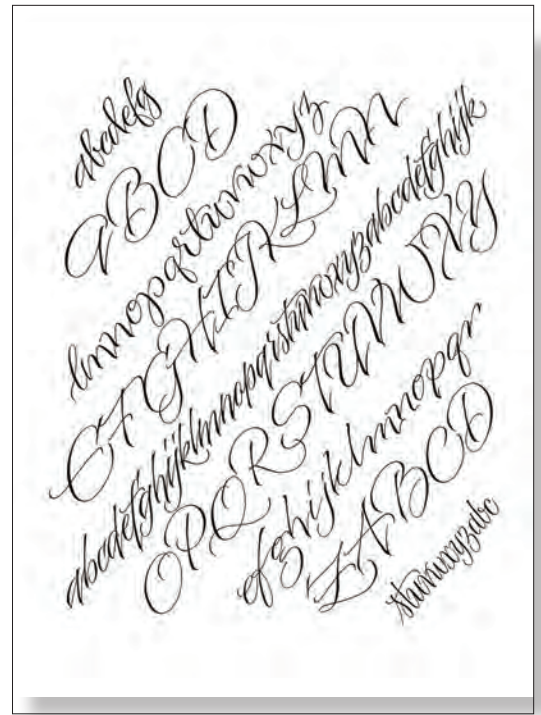
His current ink of choice is a Boku Undo ink stick, ground with slightly watered Moon Palace sumi on a slate stone and poured into a small container to use. If you are writing with gouache, you may find it helpful to add some liquid gum arabic with a dropper, but you should not need that with Moon Palace.

When doing a formal piece, Mike uses the same graph paper, slant lines and tools that we were using for practice and the same 1/4” x-height. He recommends using a 2B mechanical pencil to set up a page so it can be easily and cleanly erased.

Mike demoed the informal italic letters, gave us time to try our hand at them, then the uncials, saving blackletter for Sunday. Day of rest? I think not. When I took the class in the 1990s, I had not taken any blackletter class. Now, after years of Blackletter Sabbaths with Linnea and Ward, and several weekend workshops along the way, I still find that Mike’s pointed pen Blackletter has a special charm.

After this workshop I have been dabbling in the informal italic letters and the uncials. Thanks, Mike.

25 of the 32+ attendees of Mike’s Zoom Workshop



## Roman Holiday

The International Calligraphy Conference 2024 will be held at St. Ambrose University, in Davenport, Iowa at the end of June.

FOC sent a box of 350 Vanish Erasers for the attendees “Merch Bag”. Dean Robino, Elena Caruthers, and Meredith Klein met at Nancy Noble’s home to attach the stickers with the 50th Anniversary Logo designed by Carl to each box. We completed that task in a timely fashion and enjoyed quiche afterwards. Groupwork!!!




# FOC 50th Anniversary

# FOC 50th Anniversary

Save the Date  
An FOC Picnic on August 17, 2024

*For all those who love letters,  
or who love those who love letters, & their friends, & their children,*

*Friends of Calligraphy* invite you to a  
**POTLUCK PICNIC**



Berkeley  
Tilden Park  
Padre Picnic Site

Saturday  
August 17  
from 12 to 4pm

Questions: Contact Ann Marie Foley or Paul Plale. Info in the next mailing.

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*.



See below, the beautiful 50th Anniversary Logo designed by Carl Rohrs. It is a combination of Susie Taylor's: The Friends of Calligraphy and Georgia Deaver's numerals.

VOX  
AUDITA  
PERIT  
LITERA  
SCRIPTA  
MANET

*The spoken word vanishes,  
the written word remains.*

Friends of Calligraphy  
celebrating 50 years  
2024

Our purpose is to promote the study and practice of calligraphy, to encourage individual excellence, to foster a wider appreciation and deeper understanding of calligraphy, its history and applications.

FRIENDSOFCALLIGRAPHY.ORG



FOOT: Calligraphy by Jane Brenner. FOC's 50 years logo lettering by Georgia Deaver & Susie Taylor, crafted by Carl Rohrs.

Center and bottom are the two sides of Jane Brenner's 50th Anniversary Bookmark.

BY DECREE OF THE  
FRIENDS OF CALLIGRAPHY

**YOUR RECIPES ARE  
WANTED**



FOR A COOKBOOK CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF FOC GATHERINGS. AFFECTIONATELY REFERRED TO AS "FRIENDS OF FOOD," WE'RE FIXIN' TO FIND US SOME POT RUSTLERS! RECIPES MUST HAVE BEEN MADE BY A FOC MEMBER

« DEAD OR ALIVE »

AND SHARED AT AN OFFICIAL EVENT: PICNIC, WORKSHOP, HOLIDAY PARTY, AGM, ETC.

To submit a recipe follow the information included in the PDF posted on our website:  
[friendsofcalligraphy.org/docs/submitting\\_recipe.pdf](http://friendsofcalligraphy.org/docs/submitting_recipe.pdf)

For the specifics on the recipe:

[friendsofcalligraphy.org/docs/submitting\\_recipe.pdf](http://friendsofcalligraphy.org/docs/submitting_recipe.pdf)

# Annual General Meeting



Judy Detrick and Andrea Grimes



President Evelyn Eldridge and Vice President Elena Caruthers



The unveiling of the new FOC 50th Anniversary Logo by Carl Rohrs.

Michael Starkman handing over the awards he lettered for the AGM.



With a great turnout of over 50 people for the AGM on May 5, 2024 at the San Francisco Main Library, we shared lots of hugs and lively conversations before enjoying delicious homemade cookies and other treats. It was the start of a wonderful afternoon. Andrea Grimes, Special Collections Librarian for the Harrison Collection, was interviewed by longtime FOC Member Judy Detrick. They shared the history and collection of amazing calligraphy that continues to grow. Their talk was so lively and entertaining with beautiful slides showcasing this unique and special collection. The business meeting continued afterwards with awards and voting in the new slate of officers — top right.



The 2024 AGM Slate lettered by Elena Caruthers

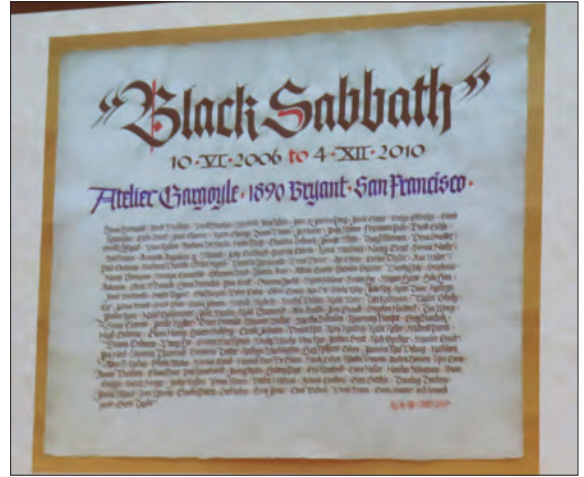


Above: Marcia Friedman sharing her beautiful award for her work coordinating Trivial Pursuits.

Below: Meredith Klein showcasing the membership growth for FOC.



Ward Dunham's Black Sabbath was highlighted in the talk.



## Social Media

Every month, the @FriendsOfCalligraphy Instagram and Facebook pages posts an Art prompt. Play along each month with the #FOCcreates hashtag, and we will re-post your work on the 25th of that month.

July	Share a spread of a book that you have made with calligraphy in it.	#foccreates0724
August	World Calligraphy day is August 14. Share some calligraphy you've made this month.	#foccreates0824
September	September 1 is World Lettering Writing Day. Share a favorite envelope you have created or received.	#foccreates0924
October	Oct 28 is national chocolate day. Create a lettering piece in brown ink (or chocolate).	#foccreates1024
November	Share an image of your favorite penholder.	#foccreates1124
December	Share something interesting you have done with your practice pages.	#foccreates1224
January	Ring in the New Year and write your favorite greeting.	#foccreates0125
February	Write your favorite quote about love.	#foccreates0225
March	World Pencil day is March 30. Share some lettering you've made in pencil.	#foccreates0325
April	Share a calligraphic logo you have created.	#foccreates0425
May	What did you want to be when you grew up? Tell us in calligraphy.	#foccreates0525
June	Write an Ampersand and share it with us!	#foccreates0625

### Thank You to 2023–2024 FOC Volunteers

FOC might seem to run like an automated machine, but what makes that smooth appearance a reality are all of the many, many volunteers who do the actual work. Here is a list of most of those volunteers—I say “most” because names are inevitably left out of lists like this. If your name should have been included, please let me know at [escrita@gmail.com](mailto:escrita@gmail.com), and we will print it in an erratum in a future *Bulletin*.

Council: Evelyn Eldridge, President; Elena Caruthers, Vice President; Dean Robino, Treasurer; Fredi Juni, Secretary. Council members: Billy Ola Hutchinson, Katie Leavens, Raoul Martinez, Soohyen Park, Michael Starkman, Nancy Noble (who completed Soohyen's term). Membership: Meredith Klein. Bulletin Editor: Nancy Noble. Alphabet Editor: Carl Rohrs. Email Coordinator: Raoul Martinez. Social Media Committee: Katie Leavens (chair), Dean Robino, Evelyn Eldridge, Fredi Juni, Raoul Martinez. FOC Membership Directory: Michael Starkman cover art and initials; Judy Detrick, graphic design; Meredith Klein, files and proofreading. Proofreading publications: Sandi Collins, Evelyn Eldridge, Meredith Klein, Barbara Lande, Raoul Martinez, Dean Robino. FOC Mailings: JoAnn Brand (calls crew; serves on crew), Meredith Klein (labels, czarina, crew, international, PO), Dean Robino (crew, international), Mary Ann Wight (czarina), and crew members Laura Bernabei (also international and PO),

By Evelyn Eldridge

Gary Brand, David Brookes, Elena Caruthers, SA Kushinka, Linda Kruger, Vicky Lee, Iyana Leveque, Raoul Martinez, Vicki Piovia, Carla Tenret; also Andy Greenwood & Georgianna Greenwood, *use of studio space*. FOC PO Box: Laura Bernabei monitors FOC PO Box, picking up mail and distributing it. *Alphabet* Back Issues: Hobie MacQuarrie, for storing, organizing and mailing out back issues of *Alphabet*; Dean Robino for processing the requests. Fort Mason Committee: Laura Bernabei, Katie Leavens, Dean Robino; Katie Leavens is registrar, class monitor, and designed the brochure. Workshop Committee: Elena Caruthers: Chair and coordinator; coordinators Evelyn Eldridge, Darla Engelmann, Meredith Klein, Claudia Kruse, Linda Kruger, Nancy Noble, Dena Sneider; and Dean Robino: *General assistance and scheduling*. Workshop Flyer Designers: Barbara Lande, Marcia Friedman, Nancy Noble. Holiday Party: Jerry Lehman. Lecture Committee: Evelyn Eldridge: Chair, Dean Robino, Elena Caruthers, Nancy Noble, Raoul Martinez. FOC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning: Ann Marie Foley and Paul Plale: Co-Chairs, core committee members Meredith Klein, Katie Leavens, Dean Robino and project leaders Laura Bernabei, Jane Brenner, Marcia Friedman, Karen Haslag, Barbara Lande, Virginia LeRoux, Raoul Martinez, Nancy Noble, Carl Rohrs. Retreat Coordinator: Meredith Klein

## Welcome, New Members!

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

Rev Alexandra Childs      Noella Cotnam  
 Loraine Lamb Lalonde      Jeffrey P Lang  
 Nishant Nelogal      Kate Van Dyke  
 Carry Wouters

## Grazie Mille

Members support FOC in many different ways, one of which is renewing at a higher level of support. Special thanks to our newest member, Rev Alexandra Childs, who joined as a Supporting member.

## Mail Crew Merci Beaucoup!

Regular mailing, March 21, 2024 – Mille Grazie:  
 Laura Bernabei – Including help with Int'l Mail & PO  
 Meredith Klein – Czarina, labels, int'l & taking mail to PO  
 Dean Robino – Including help with Int'l  
 David Brookes    Vicky Lee    Vicki Piovio  
 Thank you to JoAnn Brand, who calls the crews, and to Georgianna and Andy Greenwood, for generously letting us use Georgianna's studio.

## Annual Membership Message

Thank you to everyone who joined or renewed this past year. Once again, as of the end of May, we are nearly at 700 members!

## Prompt Renewal

My annual pitch. I SO appreciate when you renew promptly. Mailed renewals are sent in June; emailed renewals will be sent at the end of June/beginning of July. If you renew right away when you get your notice, it's done! You don't have to think about it anymore, and it helps both me and FOC.

Why? If you renew promptly, I don't need to send you a reminder in August/September. Also, it saves FOC money. U.S. renewals before the first mailing of the year are sent via bulk mail, which costs about 90¢ per envelope on average. After the mailing, I have to send first class in October and November (between \$3 and \$5), and via Priority after the December mailing, due to the combined weight. Renewing on time also saves me extra trips to the PO to send catch-up mailings to both U.S. and international members.

## Changes to Contact Information

We try to keep our information current. When you receive your mailed or emailed renewal form, please check the information and let me know of any changes.

## Address Change

If your contact information changes: address, phone or email, please send the new information to:  
 Membership Chair: Meredith Klein    [gkle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gkle@sbcglobal.net)  
 707 Spokane Avenue, Albany, CA 94706  
 510.527.0434

## Membership Forms

I create individual membership renewal forms. If you can return your personal form to me, *marked up if necessary, it really helps*. At a glance I can tell if I need to revise info in the database. I continue to love mailed renewals, *and a huge thank-you to the members who decorated envelopes or enclosed art this past year and gave me many smiles!*, but emailing a scan or photo of your form or a note re changes via email is also fine.

## Extra Support

We have put off increasing membership dues for another year. This is our annual reminder that regular membership dues don't cover membership costs, and we are grateful when some members can renew at higher levels because this is one way to help support FOC. But we appreciate your renewal at any level of membership.

My best wishes to all of you for a great summer, filled with enjoyment of calligraphy and art.

Love, *Meredith*

## Thank You

Marsha House, a longtime FOC member and talented calligrapher has moved to Michigan to be closer to her family as she settles into assisted living. Her family contacted FOC to see if we might be interested in some of her many calligraphy items that could not be transported to Michigan. Thank you to her family for the amazing donations of fabulous papers, books, envelopes, cards, mats, and many more wonderful items. Dean Robino and Nancy Noble drove out to Marsha's home in San Ramon to meet Melissa, her step-daughter and Rob, her son-in-law. They were thrilled that we were able to load Nancy's car to the brim and find new homes for these wonderful donations. We carried them to Trivial Pursuits where the attendees were happy to partake in these donations. Thanks to Dorothy Yuki for taking what was left to Scrap, in San Francisco.

*Continued from Page 7*

## Volunteer Thank You's

*with major assistance from Vicky Lee, Susan Ito, and Ruthie Macha Petty.* Trivial Pursuits Coordinator: Marcia Friedman. Annual Financial Review and Mini Audit: Dean Robino, with auditors Laura Bernabei, Evelyn Eldridge, Billy Ola Hutchinson, Michael Starkman, and Suzanne Yoshii. Proofreaders: *Bulletin* Kris Nevius. *Alphabet*: Sandra Collins and Meredith Klein.



# FOC Council Meeting Minutes

## FOC Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, 21 January 2024, Zoom

Starting Time: 1:01 PM

### Attending

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

### Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2023,

*Moved to approve; seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Reports

#### 50th Anniversary

Ann Marie Foley, Co-Chair of the Anniversary Committee. Ann-Marie submitted a list of proposals for anniversary celebrations and requested Council input and approval.

#### Membership

Meredith: membership report: Renewed (paid): 627 up 5, Honorary: 7, Honorary Spouse: 2, New: 41 up 6, TOTAL: 677.

#### Treasurer Report

Dean will send out the 1099s this week. Moved to approve the transaction report, seconded. Unanimous approval.

#### Workshop Committee

Elena reported that we have a mostly full docket for this year.

The Making of a Manuscript Book – a Master Class with Judy Detrick, Seven Mondays, April 8 – May 20 on Zoom.

Pointed Pen Variations with Mike Kecseg, April 13-14 on Zoom.

Kilian Minuscles with Yukimi Annand, Hybrid—on Zoom May 4, in person May 11-12.

#### Summer Workshop

The Circle Expands with

Carl Rohrs, August 6-10 in person.

Peter Greco, September  
Risa Gettler, October

For 2025, we are working to schedule Jurgen Vercaemst for an online workshop in January; Suzanne Moore will be our 2025 Summer Workshop instructor.

### Classes

Katie: Judy's Caroline Handwriting is full with some additional students; Judy's Square Caps class has spaces available; Raoul's in-person Bâtarde class has few registrations and the committee will meet soon to discuss.

### Social Media

Katie recommended that teachers and the Workshop Committee check out responses to the question "What do you like or dislike about online calligraphy classes?" New posts will appear in preparation for the FOC 50th anniversary, featuring early members and members who have had an important impact on FOC.

### Publications / Mailings

**Mailings** Meredith: Next mailing, March 21, **Alphabet 49:3**, The **Bulletin**, Directory Update 3, and the Nomination Forms. As of 2024, we are required to use USPS online forms for bulk mailing. The USPS resolved the international mailing problem we had last fall.

### Bulletin

Nancy noted that the due date for Bulletin articles is February 23.

**Alphabet** Evelyn reported for Carl, who had left the meeting: there will be a major article on the Bradys, written by Randy Hasson and an article on *Women of the Klingspor* by Louise Grunewald.

### Web Administrator

Raoul: Facebook: 4802, an increase

of 61, Instagram: 3663, an increase of 66. Listserve: 891 no change.

### Lecture Committee

**Evelyn: Joanna Homrighausen** speaking about the work of Martin Wenham on wood, January 10, 2024. Well attended with 109 people, including Martin.

### Kaz Tanahashi

March 13, Meredith coordinating.

### AGM May 5

Andrea Grimes to do a panel discussion of the Harrison Collection. Elena coordinating.

### Brody

**Neuenschwander** July 10, Elena coordinating.

### Carl Rohrs, August

2024. Evelyn hopes the talk will be about block letter alphabets. Evelyn coordinating.

### Nancy Hays Hills

maybe Fall, no date set. Evelyn coordinating.

**Peter Greco**, hoping for Fall, no date set.

Nancy coordinating.

### Registration for Lectures

Dean and Raoul

We need registration-tracking and notice-sending software for lectures. Eventbrite changed their policy and now charges a fee for free events. Moved to increase the budget to cover the Eventbrite fees for the remainder of the year. *Seconded. Unanimously approved.*

### Trivial Pursuits

January 13, 2024

Marcia was not able to come to the meeting but reported to Evelyn. TP was successful, with few hiccups. Marcia does not want to continue being the coordinator, although she is willing to help, and volunteered to create the flyer. Dorothy will continue to help. A subcommittee will meet to discuss alternatives.

### Retreat

March 6 – 10, 2024

21 folks have signed up so far. We do not know what will happen next year; Santa Sabina is for sale.

### Unfinished Business

Roman Holiday International Conference

Nancy continues to source the least expensive Vanish erasers as our donation to the "merch bags".

### New Business

With her new position, Soohyen Park is finding participation in Council difficult. Evelyn will confirm her status; Nancy is willing to replace her for the remainder of the year.

*Moved that we adjourn. seconded. Unanimous approval. Adjourned: 3:55 PM*

*Edited for Publication*

## FOC Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, 17 March, 2024, Zoom

Starting time: 1:01 PM

### Attending

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

### Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2024, *Moved to approve [as amended], seconded. Unanimous approval.*

### Reports

#### 50th Anniversary Planning

Ann Marie Foley and Paul Plale covered events in process. Motion to approve budget for picnic site, moved; seconded.

Unanimous approval. Next meeting is April 1. Meetings are generally on the 2nd Monday of the month.

### Membership

Meredith: Numbers continue to increase. We may hit 700 by end of year. 2023-24 Renewed (paid) 633, New 46. Honorary 7, Honorary Spouse 2, Total 688. Meredith asked for a moment of silence for members who have passed away: Michael Clark, Carol Walls, and Larry and Marcia Brady.

### Treasurer Report

Dean: Transaction Report,

*Moved to approve; seconded; Unanimous approval.*

### Workshop Committee

Elena — 2024

### Judy Detrick

Zoom. The Making of a Manuscript Book Master Class: start April 8. 26 people registered.

### Mike Kesig

April 13-14: Pointed Pen Variation. 20 people registered. Zoom.

### Yukimi Anand

May 4: 1 Virtual Session, 2 Sessions in person.

### Carl Rohrs

Summer Workshop August 6-10. In person. Peter Greco: September scheduled. Risa Gettler Diapering class. Discussion regarding every other week works best so folks have time to work on pieces.

### 2025

#### Jurgen Vercaemst

Massimo, Eleanor Holland, Katie Leavens, Nancy Hays Hill, Susie Beringer, Suzanne Moore—Summer, Nina Tran—October: Gothic Cursive.

### 2026

**Kathy Milici: Ornamental Initial Capitals Classes:** Katie

**Judy:** Square Caps, full.

**Raoul:** Bâtarde, May, currently 4 enrolled, meeting soon to discuss.

**Meredith:** Italic, Fall, currently 4 enrolled.

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## Social Media

Katie: Current Instagram and Facebook Features:

FOC Remembers: Georgia Deaver, Next Sheila Waters

## FOC Creates

Tattoo Design; next Favorite Pangram

## Member Feature

Sherri Loveler

## Honoring Early

Members  
Jim Lewis

## Conversation Starters

Favorite Fountain Pen

## Publications & Mailings

### Mailings

Meredith: 3/21/24 will be the next mailing. It will include Alphabet 49.3, Bulletin 154, a Directory Update, and Nomination forms.

### Bulletin

Nancy: Laura Bernabei did the masthead.

### Alphabet

Meredith: The new issue is gorgeous. It features work by Larry and Marcia Brady, Louise Grunwald, and David Singer posters.

### Web

#### Administrator

Raoul: Dropbox is full. Investigating alternatives for storage.

## Lecture Committee

Evelyn – 2024: Joanna Homrighausen, January: Well attended. Kaz Tanahashi: Well attended. Carl Rohrs: Summer.

## Meetings & Events

### Trivial Pursuits

Marcia Friedman is stepping down from being the organizer/coordinator for TP. We need a new lead.

### Retreat

March 6–10, 2024. The retreat was a great success.

*Moved to accept recommended refunds and reimbursements; seconded; Unanimous approval.*

**AGM** May 5, 2024, at the San Francisco Main Library. It will be in person only. Judy Detrick to do the flyers. Nominations form will go out in the March mailing. Andrea Grimes and Judy will have a conversation about the Harrison Collection. Soohyen has stepped down from the council, and Nancy is willing to fill her seat until the end of the term. Fredi will step down from being Secretary but wants to stay on council. Michael will consider a nomination for

Secretary.

*Motion to approve that Nancy fill Soohyen's seat until the end of term; Seconded; Unanimous approval.*

## Unfinished Business

### International Conference

Fredi and Nancy have researched purchasing Vanish erasers.

*Motion to approve budget for erasers; seconded; Unanimous approval.*

### FOC Banner

The large banner is missing. Michael will explore prices/sizes for a new large banner. He will check with Carl regarding dimensions. We need to send our banner to Roman Holiday Conference.

Will send some Alphabet back issues.

*Motion to approve budget to send; seconded; Unanimous approval.*

*Motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded; Unanimous approval. 3:45 PM Adjourn.*

*Edited for Publication*



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Alphabet editor, Carl Rohrs. Michael Starkman lettered the names for Certificates of Appreciation to the following members: Marcia Friedman for coordinating Trivial Pursuits; Soohyen Park and Billy Ola Hutchinson for participating on the Council; and Fredi Juni for being Secretary. Thank you to Elena Caruthers for the beautifully lettered slate shown below. You can read more about this event on page 6.

Be sure you keep your eye on the schedule for upcoming classes and workshops at [www.friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/classes.html](http://www.friendsofcalligraphy.org/pages/classes.html). For example, this summer's workshop will be in person in August with Carl Rohrs teaching.

Christopher Calderhead published an article about Jane Ewing's calligraphic projects in the latest issue of *Bound & Lettered, Spring 2024*.

I hope you all have a relaxing and peaceful summer.

xxxooo Evelyn

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

## Copy Deadline

Deadline for articles for *Bulletin 156*: September 12, 2024. Please submit articles or questions to Nancy Noble, [nrnoble@sfsu.edu](mailto:nrnoble@sfsu.edu)

## Colophon

FOC Bulletin #155

**Masthead:** Mike Kecseg

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

**Proofreading:** Kris Nevius

**Photos:** Laura Bernabei, Nancy Noble.

## 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.

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 425194, San Francisco, CA 94142

**FOC Website:**

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

**FOC Facebook:**

[www.facebook.com/FriendsofCalligraphy](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsofCalligraphy)

**Instagram:**

[www.instagram.com/friendsofcalligraphy](http://www.instagram.com/friendsofcalligraphy)

## FOC Facebook & Instagram

Check out our Facebook and Instagram pages. You do NOT need a Facebook or Instagram account to do so. Our pages are open to all. At the bottom of the FOC Web Page, click either icon: the F in a blue square, or the little red square camera outline.

Fort Mason Classes			
Date	Time	Event	Details
Tuesdays September 17, 24 October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29	6:30 PM – 9 PM Seven Tuesday Nights	<b>Italic Meredith Klein</b>	<b>In Person</b>
Saturdays November 2, 9, 16, 23	10:00 AM – 1 PM Four Saturday Mornings	<b>Engrosser's Script Rick Paulus</b>	<b>Zoom</b>

FOC Calendar of Events			
Date	Time	Event	Details
Sunday July 14	1:00 PM – 4:00 PM	<b>FOC Joint Council Meeting</b>	<b>In Person</b>
Wednesday July 17	10:00 AM – 1:30 PM	<b>Brody Nuenschwander Lecture</b>	<b>Zoom</b>
Saturday August 17	12:00 PM – 4:00 PM	<b>FOC Potluck Picnic: Padre Picnic Site, Tilden Park</b>	<b>In Person</b>