

# The Nibbler

THE BIRMINGHAM CALLIGRAPHY GUILD'S NEWSLETTER  
[www.birminghamcalligraphy.org](http://www.birminghamcalligraphy.org)

## Rosemary Buczek

Rosemary Buczek Workshop April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>



This weekend's workshop began Friday evening when several of us met with Rosemary at Brio's for dinner and enjoyed hearing about her life and career as an artist. She has a degree in Fine Arts as well as 40 years of experience as both a lettering and painting artist and it was like opening a treasure chest and getting a glimpse of gold. Look for her new products coming out in August marketed under the name Gilded Age Greetings. It should be fabulous! She also shared with us that she has found some wonderful sources for a great diploma style parchment as well as other artist's supplies which she was willing to share with us. More on this later at a guild meeting perhaps.

As we settled down to begin the actual workshop she shared some thought provoking information regarding the uses and origination of many of our artists' tools of the trade and how important she felt it was to understand just what we were "pushing around on our paper". When we dove into the "golden grisaille" technique for our golden apples, we could see the wisdom of knowing more about what we were using.

For the purposes of understanding color, she supplied the definitions for the following: HUE: the simple color of a substance, TONE: the effect produced by light shade and color, TINT: a delicate color or hue (tinge) a gradation of color with reference to its mixture with white, VALUE: the relative lightness or darkness of a color – the artists' equivalent to the scientist's brightness, and SATURATION: the degree of its intensity or vividness of a material or solution.

We then went straight into the tracing and transferring the pattern for the illuminated letter and tray for the apples that she so thoughtfully had provided. Not having to worry about doing the actual layout or lettering was nice so we could concentrate on learning the gilding and watercolor techniques she prefers. The steps she favors for doing an original illuminated piece: 1) figure out the general layout design

(Continued on page 2)

### Next Event:

Saturday Workday with

*Jim Davis*

Exploring Bill Lilly's Tips for  
Enhancing your Lettering

Saturday, June 5th

Homewood Library  
9:00 AM- 1:00 PM

Don't miss this treat to learn  
from one of Birmingham's best  
calligraphers

# Mark Your Calendars

## Upcoming Events:

**June 5th:** 9 AM to 1 PM Jim Davis  
"Bill Lilly's Tips for Enhancing your Lettering"  
New Location: Homewood Library  
(Park behind the library and enter the back and go downstairs)

This workday is free of charge for Guild Members! Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to learn from our own members.

**August 28th ORIENTATION**  
9am-2pm Mtn. Brook Board

Six Learning Stations including tips, tools, techniques and different writing styles! Put on your calendar NOW

**October 2-3, 2010**

**Xandra Zamora**

**"Not Yo Mama's Paste Paper"**

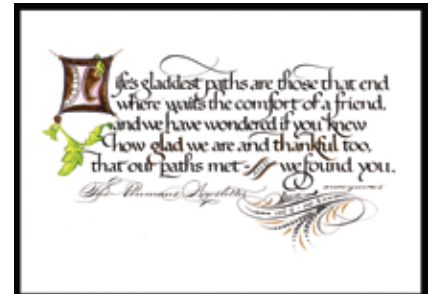
\*Please reserve your place by sending a check for \$50.00 to B'ham Calligraphy Guild to Ann Steves: 5637 Hampton Road  
Birmingham, AL 35210

## Recession Hits the Guild!

Like everyone else, the guild is having to be more mindful of their spending. Our July workshop with Sharon Zeugin is in danger of cancellation due to a lack of people signing up. We understand that all of us have a limited amount of money for "extras". If you are interested in taking a workshop with a visiting calligrapher or artist, please sign up quickly or you may find that it disappears.

As a guild, we are always looking for economical venues to have our workshops. If you have a suggestion or recommendation, Bettie Perkins would love to hear from you!

Inspired by  
Rosemary Buczek,  
Melinda made this  
Thank You Card for  
her.



(continued from page 1)

2) draw your letter to be illuminated onto tracing paper and move around to get it situated where you want it 3) do the lettering 4) transfer the letter gently onto your paper by double tracing, once on the reverse side, then again on the right side 5) add gilding and 6) paint your design. **Always use a cover sheet to protect your paper/vellum from hand oils which repel ink and color and to prevent dirtying up your piece.**

Lunch Saturday was provided by our president Bettie Perkins and was mightily enjoyed by all who participated. On Sunday afternoon, we enjoyed gourmet pizza from Maffiosos which Eve picked up for us. After lunch, a small presentation of a card and a silk scarf was made to Rosemary by myself and Barbara Mitchell on behalf of the guild.

The golden apples in the quote were painted using a technique called "Grisaille" which means shading, and involves "tapping" watercolors into shell gold (or Schminke faux gold in our case) that has been painted onto a surface which created a lovely subtle shading and leaves the item looking like it is glowing and very three dimensional.

We really just dipped our feet into the water when it came to painting acanthus leaves and making our versals look three dimensional. Several "lights" did come on though as I watched the master at work Saturday afternoon. It has made me eager to learn more and I can't wait to see her again at Iampeth this August in Orlando! Melinda

# Nibbler Bits

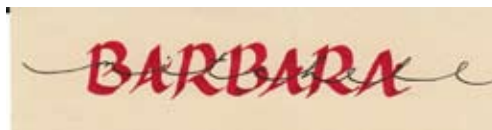
At the April 5th Birmingham Calligraphy Guild Meeting, members were treated to Melenda Sapp's version of Linda Schneider's *Floral, Faces and Figures*.



We had fun practicing compound curves and filling spaces to create our own design.



## Uptown Uncials Workday



On March 6 the large turnout of members who showed up were in for a treat as Barbara Mitchell presented this very appealing and cheerful alphabet. Barbara's own Exemplar and skillful instruction made a great review for fine tuning our uncials or in just getting started with this historic alphabet. In conclusion as a fun bonus Barbara shared her wonderful method of combining uncials and string writing! Write a first name large in uncial. Then in a contrasting color, write the last name through the middle of it in a lowercase, stretched-out rolling style. This makes an unusual and eye-catching way to address an envelope. Thanks, Barbara. We learned a lot!

!!! Bonanza !!!

Those who attended the Workday had an additional surprise treat. Jim Davis has been the repository for a large assortment of calligraphic items from Travis Jones's collection. Jim brought a large variety of paper, cards, envelopes, books, tools, etc. to share with the guild. We were all delighted to help Jim clean out his studio and take home these treasures. Thanks, Jim!



## BCG Postcards are available!

If you have an event or venue you would like to distribute promotional BCG postcards- Call Eve 870-5418

## PUBLISHED!



Dana Jacobson's A-Z Unusual Words was printed in Letter Arts Review The Annual Juried Issue congratulations Dana!

### Who Do I Contact?

**For workshop details?** Suzan Bishop, 326-3926  
sofbishop@gmail.com

**Meeting Information?** Bettie Perkins, 256-8816198  
bettiejoyce@bellsouth.net

**Workday Information?** Marsha Lassiter, 967-0969  
mml4205@charter.net

**Join or pay dues to BCG?** Ann Steves, 956-5493  
p47ams@yahoo.com  
(\$25.00 to BCG)

Graceful Envelope Entries were due the end of April.

This year's theme was "Stream of Letters".



check out Deb's Entry (left) Hopefully you can see top righthand corner!

Looking for more envelope ideas?  
<http://pushingtheenvelopes.blogspot.com/>

# Fun-Raiser

Design a card to enter in the  
Birmingham Calligraphy Competition!  
The deadline is May 1st!

## Here is your chance to be published!

Design a Thank you card using any hand of calligraphy and submit it to Suzan Bishop  
Three judges (not related to the competition) will decide on a winning design. The card will be printed in July and available to be sold at holiday bazaars, craft fairs and art venues. The proceeds from the sale of the cards will go toward off-setting the cost of the rent for workshops.

## Specifics:

Phrase to letter: *Thank you* or repeating  
*Thank you*

Finished size: 4.25 x 5.50 inches

Write your name, e-mail and phone # on the back of the design.

Mail to: Suzan Bishop  
21 Glen Iris Park  
Birmingham, AL 35205

We will e-mail you confirming that the entry was received.

## Upcoming conferences:

**IAMPETH:** August 9-14 in  
Orlando, FL  
[www.iampeth.com/2010\\_convention.php](http://www.iampeth.com/2010_convention.php)

**Odyssey 2010:** July 24-31  
Stonehill College, MA  
[www.2010calligraphyconference.com](http://www.2010calligraphyconference.com)

**Alberta Calligraphy Conference:** Aug.8-13  
[www.cirsonline.ca/letteringartsguild/abc\\_2010-info.pdf](http://www.cirsonline.ca/letteringartsguild/abc_2010-info.pdf)



## Meet Deb Warnat

Deb was born in Fort Wayne , Indiana and lucky for the guild has ended up in Hoover, AL with her husband Doug. She has a daughter, Cassie and a son, Matt and daughter in law, Kari. When she is not spending time with her Westie, Lucy, she is creating something. Whether it is a fabulous meal, penning envelopes or book arts, Deb enjoys all aspects of creating and learning new techniques. Her favorite being teaching! She has been interested in calligraphy since she was in 4th grade. It was not until she trained under Ann Erickson did she become involved in the guild serving as a past president and secretary. She is currently the guild's workshop co-chair and president of ACA (Association of the Calligraphic Arts /[www.calligraphicarts.org](http://www.calligraphicarts.org)). The book she can't live without? Annie Cicalè's *The Art and Craft of Hand Lettering*.

# SHAVING CREAM ART



## How Art Can Be Therapeutic

Stacy Bishop

During the Birmingham Calligraphy Guild meeting in February, an art project involving shaving cream and various types and colors of ink, which was organized by Marsha Lassiter (Vice-President & Program Chair), was used to decorate cards and envelopes. This art project was presented to Jan Rowe, who is a UAB Occupational Therapy professor and practitioner whose focus lies in pediatrics. She is always looking for new and fun ideas for a program that she runs, which focuses on building social skills in children and adolescents with developmental disabilities. An art project that allowed grown women and men to express their creative side while creating fun ways to decorate stationery was used as a therapeutic activity for children in the social skills group. This art project was used with a group of four individuals with varying diagnoses. Each child was allowed to make their own choices on color and type of stationery. After each child decorated their stationery, they wrote a letter to someone of their choice and practiced the proper way to give and receive letters. Not only was this art project used for social skills, but it also worked on motor skills, hand-eye coordination, concentration, hand writing and much more. It was remarkable to see the pride and joy that each child expressed after creating their own art and showing it to their parents. The parents were excited to see their children engaging in a project where they could create something beautiful that was also easy and fun that they could do at home. In the future, keep in mind how what may seem to be a simple fun project can be used for so much more in other's lives.

# Nibbles

If you have a recipe to share, please submit to Eve London and she will be happy to include in next Nibbler!



## Applesauce Muffins

1 c. butter or margarine  
2 c. sugar  
2 eggs  
4 c. all purpose flour, sifted  
4 t. cinnamon  
2 t. ground cloves  
3 t. allspice  
2 t. baking soda  
2 c. hot apple sauce  
2 t. vanilla



Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, mix spices with flour, add soda to applesauce and heat. Add flour mixture and applesauce mixture to butter. Add vanilla. Grease small muffin pans. Bake @350 for 10-12 minutes. Roll in powdered sugar while warm. These are even better the next day. ( They also freeze well ).

Makes approx. 8 dozen

-Bettie Perkins

## Peanut Butter Balls

1 stick butter, melted  
2 1/2 cups powdered sugar  
2 cups Rice Krispies  
2 cups peanut butter ( crunchy )

White Chocolate melted in microwave, tinted if desired

Mix together first 4 ingredients. Roll into balls and chill. Melt white chocolate. Roll chilled balls in chocolate and cool on waxed paper.

( I have better luck using the pkg. of white chocolate squares insted of the chips)

Officers of the Birmingham Calligraphy Guild  
(Les Elumineurs\*)  
President- Bettie Perkins  
Vice President-Marsha Lassiter  
Treasurer/Membership- Ann Steves  
Recording Secretary- Melinda Sapp  
Workshop Chairs- Suzan Bishop, Deb Warnat,  
Barbara Mitchell and George Dorsey  
Email Communications: Leah Dueffer  
Corresponding Secretary: Shirley Sawyer  
Web Site/ Historian: Mary Ann Morrow  
Long Term Classes: Dana Jacobson  
Exhibits/Publicity: Louise Meredith

The Birmingham Calligraphy Guild welcomes both amateurs and advanced calligraphers. All you need is an interest in hand lettering.

If you would like to join:  
Contact Ann Steves  
p47ams@yahoo.com

Dues are \$25.00 to Birmingham Calligraphy Guild  
(September 1- August 31)

Mail your dues to:  
Ann Steves  
5637 Hampton Road  
Birmingham, AL 35210  
205-956-5493

Being a member keeps you up to date with events and workshops! Don't hesitate... Join today!