

# The Nibbler

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

October  
2 & 3

## XYZ Workshop With Xandra Zamora

### It's not Your Mama's Paste Paper

I was a participant in the Birmingham Calligraphy Guild's weekend workshop featuring instructor and Professional Calligrapher, Xandra Zamora. Paste Paper on Saturday and Sunday Copperplate classes were attended by about 15 calligraphers. Xandra provided us with a huge number of paste colors already mixed for us to apply to our quarter sheets of Arches text wove. This paper is able to withstand the application of wet mediums without degrading and when dry is an excellent weight to make book covers or cards. Xandra also provided us with a packet of patterning materials. She then gathered us around to show us various techniques of application of the paste to paper and decorating methods. The acrylic colors added to the paste were Golden brand because of their intensity that allowed a small amount to be applied for maximum effect.



Our supply list included any type of patterning tools we might have on hand, plastic combs forks, chopsticks, rubber stamps, sponge brushes and sponges anything we could use for making patterns in the paste after applied.

This is a messy process, though lots of fun and all participants had a wonderful experience decorating papers for use in some future projects. The dried papers are perfect for writing on with our calligraphic instruments. We drew inspiration from the others around us in color combinations and designs. This was well worth the time and energy!

by Sandra Hudson

(More inside on the Copperplate part of workshop)

*Christmas Brunch & Card Exchange*



Saturday, Dec. 11  
10:30

*Angela Welch*

**Workday  
Planned**

*see inside for details*



pictures by  
Maggie Naylor

# Mark Your Calendars

## Upcoming Events:

Saturday, December 11, 2010

### Christmas Brunch and Card Exchange

At Marsha Lassiter's 10:30 AM  
4205 Old Leeds Road

All members are welcome and invited to attend to enjoy the festive time. You do not need to be in the card exchange to share in the fun time ! We hope to see you there !

January 10, 2011

**Guild Meeting** at Mountain Brook Board of Education  
6:30- 8:30 Hands on Program

Saturday, February 12, 2011

**Guild Workday** at Mountain Brook Board of Education from 9:00-3:00  
We are pleased to have founding member **ANGELA WELCH** as our guest instructor. Anyone who knows Angela knows what a treat we have in store for us! Layout tips, flourishing instruction, a Q & A as well as seeing some of Angela's fabulous creations are included. A light lunch will be provided. This is a members only event . All members are invited to participate at no charge.



## Calligraphy

The word calligraphy comes from the Greek *kalli* meaning beautiful and *graphia* referring to writing, and calligraphers today still emulate the beautiful letterforms of scribes throughout the centuries. Even in an age of computer-generated type, this ancient craft is flourishing, but it is also evolving. Calligraphy is now a respected visual art, the creative expression of the written word.

-Washington Calligraphy Guild

In honor of

January 23, 2011  
is National Handwriting Day  
Let's all send a note to  
someone to promote  
penmanship on that day!

<http://www.wima.org/NationalHandwritingDay/tabid/79/Default.aspx>

## Envelope Exchange for 2011 is due to begin in Jan.



Thanks to those who signed up for the envelope exchange beginning in January 2011.

Everyone should have received their grid calendar by now. Please contact Bettie Perkins if you did not receive the calendar and addresses.

# Nibbler Bits

## Orientation Fair A Huge Success



**Black and White** was the theme of this year's Orientation Fair held at the Emmet O'Neal Library on August 28th. Thank you to those participating in this wonderful event



Copperplate (cont from Page 1)  
All the participants were anxious to have Zandra's instruction in Copperplate script. She is an outstanding calligrapher that has a beautiful website, XYZ Ink. Zandra gave us a packet of pen nibs and paper to start with. She asked us to use our oblique pen holders to write with a Gillott 1068 A nib and Speedball XF . She had guide lines printed on acrylic sheets and provided white laser copy paper on which to write. She recommended we use Higgins Eternal Ink but mentioned we could also use Winsor & Newton Designers gouache in Jet black. If we were interested in white ink she suggested Luma Pro White for best coverage. Her suggested manuals were "A Copperplate Manual, Gerald Krimm (out of print). Mastering Copperplate Calligraphy, Eleanor Winters and Universal Penman, George Bickham. We could work on light boxes if we had them. We warmed up for about an hour before she started instruction so we could continue after each illustration of lettering she did on the white board at the front of the room. She had a table full of samples of her work in doing invitations and other projects for clients. Her work was glorious. She informed us that she hand lettered her work then scanned it into a computer for final layout. She sends a copy for proofing to the client on the computer and then if all is well sends the file to the printer. This relieves the need for pick-up and delivery that takes a lot of time. It allows her to deal with clients long distance easily also. She uses Pay Pal on line for payment of her work. She demonstrated many of the letters in the exemplars she handed out and worked with everyone individually. In the last few hours of class , she showed us many of her uses of flourishing, she is very good at embellishing in her work. We all learned a lot from Zandra and I would recommend her classes.

### Who Do I Contact?

**For workshop details?** Barbara Mitchell  
256-739-2842

barbjmitchell@yahoo.com

**Meeting Information?** Bettie Perkins, 256-881-6198  
bettiejoyce2002@yahoo.com

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

**Join or pay dues to BCG?** Ann Steves, 956-5493  
p47ams@yahoo.com

# OOEY-GOOEY BARS



1 pkg. yellow cake mix  
1/2 butter, melted  
3 large eggs, divided  
1 ( 8 oz. ) pkg. cream cheese, softened  
4 c. confectioners' sugar  
1 c. peanut butter baking chips  
1 c. toffee bits, divided

Garnish: sifted confectioners' sugar

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray 13 x 9 baking pan with cooking spray with flour.
2. In a medium bowl using an electric mixer at medium speed, beat cake mix, butter, & 1 egg until combined. Press mixture into bottom of prepared pan.
3. In a medium bowl using an electric mixer at medium speed, beat cream cheese until fluffy. Add 2 eggs and sugar; beat until well combined. Fold in peanut butter chips and 1/2 cup toffee bits.
4. Pour cream cheese mixture over cake mix mixture in pan. Sprinkle remaining toffee bits on top. Bake for 45 minutes. Garnish with confectioners' sugar, if desired.

## 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  
Hospitality: Elsa Penso-Allen  
Newsletter: Eve London  
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!