

Washington Calligraphers 35 years

1976

Bylaws, under the name The Calligraphers Guild, adopted. Sheila Waters was named president, 1976-77.

First general meeting was held; 120 attendees at the Chevy Chase Library.

Sheila Waters gave a workshop on "Calligraphy Basics and Beyond" at her Gaithersburg home; Donald Jackson presented a workshop on gilding.

First program meeting held at Chevy Chase Library. Roger Powell, distinguished British bookbinder and restorer, spoke about his work on the Books of Kells.

Vol. 1 No. 1, The Calligraphers Guild Washington Metropolitan Area Newsletter, edited by Sheila Waters, was mailed to members.

1977

Second program meeting at George Mason University. A subsequent program at Georgetown University featured a slide presentation by Donald Jackson.

First Guild membership directory was printed, listing 161 members and 9 other guilds.

Three issues of Newsletter mailed to members.

President: Dick Jackson, 1977-78.



1978

Program meetings included presentations by Ieuan Rees, Kevin Maricle on the new copyright law, Tom Gourdie on "The Reform of Handwriting" and Richard Grasby on lettercutting.

Exhibit on Calligraphic Design at the Folger Shakespeare Library.

Ieuan Rees gave workshops on letter cutting, pointed brush lettering and "Back to Basics."

Three issues of Newsletter, edited by Penny Pickett, mailed to members.

The first issue of "Scripsit: The Calligraphers Guild Quarterly" (editor, Rose Folsom; art director, Julian Waters) was published in November. Julian designed Scripsit for the next seven years.

President: Penny Pickett, 1978-79.

1979

Officially incorporated in Virginia as the Washington Calligraphers Guild.

Scripsit continues as a thrice-annual publication; Workshop Bulletins begin.

Carolyn Behnke starts WCG library at her home.

Program meetings included presentations by Ieuan Rees and Hella Basu as well as a holiday party.

More than a dozen workshops were held during the year, including Julian Waters on printing techniques; Mimi Armstrong on color and brush versals; Richard Grasby on lettercutting; Sheila Waters on Carolingian; Ieuan Rees on Roman capitals, foundational, versals and uncials; Anne Lane on posters; Rose Folsom on copperplate; Tom Gourdie on italic handwriting; and Robert Williams on bookmaking.

President: Linda Abrams, 1979-80.

1980

WCG begins publication of its monthly newsletter, the Bulletin.

Program meetings included Russell Armentrout on his work as a White House calligrapher, Paul Shaw on the life of George Salter, Frank Mowrey on bookbinding. Julian Waters and Rose Folsom discussed a workshop with Hermann Zapf and Sheila Waters moderated a panel discussion on standards.

Exhibits at the Church of the Pilgrims and by invitation of WETA for their Arlington, VA lobby.

Workshops: Rose Folsom, copperplate; Mimi Armstrong, illumination and Christmas cards for reproduction; Sheila Waters, gothicized italic; Anne Lane, tools for your studio; Jonathan Kremer, Hebrew calligraphy; Julian Waters, Roman minuscules; Paul Shaw, logos and monograms. Phyllis Goodnow gave a silk screen demonstration.

President: Charlie Smith, 1980-81.

1981

Programs included Ieuan Rees on modern calligraphy and on Edward Johnston; Donald Jackson on "The Story of Writing"; Sheila Waters on "Thirty Years of Calligraphy"; and Gunnlaugur S.E. Briem on "Forces of Change."

Workshops included Ieuan Rees on layout and design; Mimi Armstrong on calligrams and Celtic illumination; Paul Maurer on marbling; Anne Lane on simple bookbinding and gothicized italic; and Nan Barchowsky on everyday italic cursive handwriting.

WCG formed a committee to work on Guild exhibits and produced a Board of Directors Manual, edited by Cynthia Campbell.

Exhibits: Sculptors and Calligraphers, the Art Barn in Rock Creek Park, Washington, DC; Guild members' works at Martha Washington Library, Alexandria, VA; calligraphic works of Julian Waters and Sheila Waters, Monongalia Arts Center, Morgantown, WV.

President: Ken Snyder, 1981-82.



Julian Waters teaches blackletter at a weekend workshop.

Guild

1982

Programs included Mark Van Stone, medieval illumination; Paul Werner, "Thirteen ways of looking at a manuscript"; Richard Grasby, "Word and Image"; Michael Harvey, "A Word in your Eye."

Exhibit: Dundalk Community College Art Gallery, Baltimore, MD.

Workshops: Allen Q. Wong, square rustic, brush lettering and Chinese calligraphy; Mark van Stone, "The Decorated Letter" and vine initials and borders; Sheila Waters, layout; Mimi Armstrong, calligrams, brush versals, illuminated letters and creating with color; Rose Folsom, copperplate; Paul Maurer, marbling; Mimi Armstrong, Christmas cards; Michael Harvey, lettering design; Abraham Cohen, Hebrew calligraphy; Paul Werner, "Recipes of a Medieval Scribe"; Anne Lane, foundational.

WCG membership reached 702; dues raised to \$15; Nan Barchowsky started an Italic Cursive Handwriting newsletter.

President: Linda Levine, 1982-83.

1983

Programs included Richard Grasby on Romans; Michael Gullick on the role and identity of medieval scribes and artists; David Howells on three German writing masters; and Sheila Waters on "Types and Techniques in Historical Illumination" (first annual Edward Johnston Memorial Lecture).

Sheila Waters presented with honorary lifetime membership.

Exhibits included one on Christmas themes of "Expectation, Joy and Advent" at United Methodist Church, Washington, DC.

Workshops: Richard Grasby, lettercutting; Shirley Damon, matting and framing; Ieuan Rees, italic; Maury Nemoy, calligraphy and the graphic arts; Mimi Armstrong, medieval illumination and brush versals; David Howells, expressive calligraphy; Mark van Stone, foundational, paleography and Celtic script and illumination; Richard Lipton, poster lettering; Rose Folsom, copperplate.

President: Earl Kreins, 1983-84.

1984

Exhibit: "Lettering Arts in the Eighties" at Strathmore Hall Arts Center (held in cooperation with the Society of Scribes and Illuminators, London, and the Colleagues of Calligraphy, Minnesota).

Programs: Marsha Brady, "What's New in American Calligraphy"; Dick Beasley, "It Ain't All Pens, Ink and Paper"; Justine Hughes, paleography; Alan Fern, the revival of calligraphy as an art form; and Thomas Ingmire, "The Power of Words" (second annual Edward Johnston Memorial Lecture).

Workshops: Marc Drogan on Roman rustic, Roman square capitals and gothic; Mimi Armstrong on illustration for calligraphers; Nan Barchowsky on cursive italic handwriting; Marsha Brady on paper and ink and techniques for teaching calligraphy; Thomas Ingmire on Sanvito caps, expressive calligraphy and formal italic; Paul Maurer on marbling; Anne Lane on gothicized italic; and Rose Folsom on copperplate.

President: Paula Raudenbush, 1984-85.



Ieuan Rees leads a workshop on letterforms.

1985

Exhibits: "A Picture of Medieval Life" at Children's Hospital National Medical Center, Washington, DC; "1985 Objets d'Arts Guild" at the Maryland Federation of the Arts.

Tenth Anniversary Calendar was produced with contributions from 150 WCG members.

Programs included: Helen Frederick, traditional handmade paper techniques; Ieuan Rees, "Dressmaking with Ink"; Philip Bouwsma, "New Ideas in Calligraphy"; Peter Thornton, "Calligraphy—Fine Art or Craft?"

Workshops: Sheila Waters, color and italic variations; Linda Levine, foundational; Anne Lane, italic flourishing; Ieuan Rees, drawn Roman letters and uncials/versals; Michael Gullick, making a manuscript book and medieval pattern making; Philip Bouwsma, the new calligraphy; Jenny Groat, notan; Peter Thornton, modern Roman capitals and gilding, quill cutting, vellum preparations and versals; Helen Frederick, handmade paper; Anne Lane, "How do I start?"

President: Sheila Waters, 1985-86.

Private tour of museum manuscript collection.

1986

Exhibits: "Put It in Writing, WCG Tenth Anniversary Juried Show," Strathmore Hall Arts Center; National Capital Orchid Society show; "Show & Tell, Works by WCG Members," Wheaton Library, MD.

Programs included: Richard Grasby, "Environmental Lettering and Lettercutting"; Julian Waters, modern trends in lettering; Stan Knight, "The Making of Historical Scripts"; Sheila Waters, "London Link."

Workshops: John Stevens, brush Romans and contemporary writing; Allen Q. Wong, "East meets West"; Linda Levine, brush uncials; Shirley Damon, matting and framing; Julian Waters, blackletter; Rose Folsom, copperplate; Stan Knight, uncials; Ieuan Rees, calligraphic rhythms and tempos and italic variations; Peter Thornton, Roman capitals and layout and design; Joanne Wasserman, roundhand for reproduction and illustration and calligraphy.

WCG publishes Tenth Anniversary issue of *Scripts* (Anne Lane, editor; Jodie Powell, designer).

WCG Library collection of 150 books moves to Strathmore Hall Arts Center. First open house held.

Classes: Linda Levine, "Beginning Calligraphy" (six weeks); Rose Folsom, "Flex and Extend" (six weeks); Anne Lane, "Materials and Tools" (three weeks).

President: Judy Hoyle, 1986-87.

Highlights

1987

Guild meetings move to Concord-St. Andrews Church, Bethesda, MD. Membership reaches 798. Calligraflea market held in Falls Church. First WCG sweatshirts become available for sale.

Programs included: Myrna Rosen, "The Life and Work of Arnold Bank"; Nancy Frankle, "Getting to Know Both Sides of Your Brain"; Mark Van Stone, "World Calligraphy." Tour of Walters Art Gallery's "Time Sanctified: The Book of Hours." Sammy Little presented a mini-workshop on dealing with commercial printers.

Exhibits: "Calligraphy in Print" at the Martin Luther King Memorial Library, Washington, DC; "Calligraphy in Miniature" at Tysons Pimmit Library, McLean, VA; "Words & Images" at Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, DC.

Workshops: Rose Folsom, color mixing, loosening up and working with the writing surface; Charlie Hughes, logos and type; Myrna Rosen, simple hand; Nancy Stutman, the business of calligraphy; Jaki Svaren, expressive calligraphy; Alan Blackman, addressing envelopes, initials and monograms; Claude Mediavilla, logotype design; Mark Van Stone, uncials, Celtic script and Roman capitals; Jerry Kelly, Roman minuscule; Jovica Veljovic, expressive calligraphy; John Prestianni, Renaissance Roman bookhands; Richard Kindersley, large letters and architecture.

President: Rose Folsom, 1987-88.

1988

WCG hosted 8th International Calligraphy Conference, Letterforum (#1), at Marymount University, Arlington, VA (director: Judy Hoyle). 635 participants take part in 114 classes and presentations. Julian Waters created the logo (right).

Publication of "Put It in Writing" perpetual calendar. Charlie Hughes created "ABCXYZ" logo for WCG (below). Hermann Zapf Educational Fund endowed at Letterforum by Professor Zapf, who was presented with honorary lifetime membership.

Programs included: Sheila Waters, "Historical Development of Calligraphy as seen through the Letter O"; Justin Howes, "Edward Johnston Now"; Joan Machinchick, "It's Gocco"; Tamar Fishman, "Paper-cutting"; Cecil Uyehara, "Japanese Calligraphy." Brenda Broadbent brought her bookstore to a meeting for the first time for a library program on miniature books and artists' books.

Exhibits: "Roses in the Snow," Howard County Board of Education, Columbia, MD; Rose Folsom's work at the Foundry Gallery, Washington, DC; Irene Wellington's work at Strathmore Hall Arts Center.

Workshops included Trudy Nicholson on scratchboard and Paula Raudenbush and Linda Levine on layout and design.

WCG produced Workshop Committee Manual.

President: Jo Seymour, 1988-89.



1990

Workshops: Nancy Culmone, neuland and numbers; Ward Dunham, blackletter; Sheila Waters, versals; Mark Van Stone, batarde, rotunda and white vine illumination; Margaret Prasthofer, flat gilding; Charlie Hughes, expressive scripts for designers; Jodie Powell, greeting card design; Peter Thornton, foundational and layout and design; Joan Machincick, accordion books; Alice, certificates with broad-edge pen drawings.

Exhibits: "Love and Letters," Gaithersburg City Hall; "Mysteries of Nature," Howard County Department of Education; "Painting with Words, The Calligraphy of Donald Jackson," Strathmore Hall Arts Center.

Calligraflea market held at Concord-St. Andrews Church, Bethesda, MD. WCG library collection grows to 327 titles; librarian Alix Levy develops computerized catalog and first subject catalog is printed for members.

President: Mary Lou O'Brian, 1990-91.

1989

Programs included Brian Smolens, consumer aesthetics; Hermineh Miller, Roman lettering; Rosemary Sassoon, handwriting problems; Sheila Waters, the Bockskay Manuscript; Dr. Thomas Seamster, ergonomics; Peter Thornton, "The Language of Letters"; Tamar Fishman, Jewish papercutting.

WCG sponsored tours of Pyramid Atlantic and home studios, held a reception for new members, a holiday party and Calligraflea market in Falls Church, VA.

Exhibit venues included the Falls Church City Hall, the Howard County Board of Education and the Arlington Central Public Library.

Workshops: Sheila Waters, preparing vellum; Carolyn Behnke, copperplate; Louise Megginson, brush Romans; Rosemary Sassoon, "Breaking Away from the Broad-Edged Pen"; Leanna Fay, "Paper on Paper" and "Colors that Sing"; Ramona Spain, lettering on silk; Peter Thornton, modern and built-up Roman caps; Hermineh Miller, embossing.

President: Gretchen Elson, 1989-1990.

1991

Exhibit "Just for the Fun of It" held at Howard County Department of Education.

Calligraflea market held at Concord-St. Andrews Church, Bethesda, MD.

Programs included Richard Grasby on how lettering in an environment contributes to a sense of that space; an evening with Timothy Botts at Strathmore Hall; Joanne Fink on mixing colors; Ann Hechle on her work; Fran Strom on "The Spirit of Aha."

Workshops: Marcy Robinson, italic; Susan Skarsgard, creative collaborations; Turner Framing, custom framing techniques; Rose Folsom, copperplate; Timothy Botts, color; Joanne Fink, greeting cards; Ann Hechle, versal texture and text; Fran Strom, sumi brush.

President: Carol Burgess, 1991-94.



35 years Highlights

The Washington Calligraphers Guild



WCG's generously illustrated journal Scripsit explores a wide array of calligraphic topics.

1992

Exhibits included "Letters, Lines & Images," Strathmore Hall Arts Center; "Calligraphic Artists' Books," National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC; "Impressions: Calligraphy & Color," Howard County Department of Education.

Calligraflea market held at Concord-St. Andrews Church.

Iris Anderson becomes WCG librarian; over next 10 years collection more than doubles in size.

Workshops included Linda Levine on brush uncial; Barry Morentz on gothicized italic and flourishing; Brady Neuenschwander on modern versions of ancient ornament; Leanna Fay on weaving message and media; Mary Lou O'Brian on italic; Carl Rohrs on German typefaces; Carol Pallesen Hicks on greeting cards; Thomas Ingmire on Roman capitals; Reggie Ezell on gilding; Linda Levine on carolingian.

1993

First award of the Hermann Zapf Educational Fund (to Rose Folsom).

Exhibit included "Lettering Arts in the Zapf Tradition," Strathmore Hall Arts Center; "Speak to the Earth: Conversations in Calligraphy," Meadowlark Gardens, Vienna, VA.

Workshops included Sheila Waters on color; Alice on italic; Diane Von Arx on contemporary resolutions and certificates; Annie Cicale on calligraphic drawing; Anne Lane, "Snapping Banners or Granny Knots," Peter Thornton on capital letters and "Quills, Vellum, Gesso & Gilding"; Mike Kesceg on copperplate; Suzanne Moore on "Letterforms as Illustration in a Manuscript Book."

Programs included Brenda Broadbent on overcoming fear of fine art paper; Diane von Arx on calligraphy and graphic lettering for commercial use; Annie Cicale on continued study and experimentation.

1994

Exhibits: "Speak to the Earth: Conversations in Calligraphy" at Meadowlark Gardens; "Books & Boxes," Strathmore Hall Arts Center.

Workshops: Charlie Hughes on logotypes; Stan Knight on moving from foundational; Bob Boyajian on calligraphic designs; Karen Charatan on business cards; Michael Clark on non-tradition tools; Julian Waters on calligraphic textures and gradations; Christopher Calderhead on calligraphy in cut paper; Enid Adams on Japanese marbling.

Programs: Rose Folsom on her manuscript book project; Charlie Hughes on "From pen to pixels"; Christopher Calderhead on his manuscript book in progress; Daniel Belief on gold leaf artistry.

President: Linda Levine, 1994-95.

Sheila Waters leading a weekend workshop in 2005. She created the logos at the top of this page and page 44.

1995

WCG hosted 15th Annual Assembly of Lettering Artists, Letterforum (#2): The Great Escape, at St. Mary's College, St. Mary's City, MD (director: Judy Hoyle). Publication of Great Escape Perpetual Calendar and Scripsit covering Letterforum (editor: Nan Jay Barchowsky).

Exhibits: "Speak to the Earth: Conversations in Calligraphy" at Meadowlark Gardens; Juried Exhibit at Marymount University, Arlington, VA.

Programs: Tom French on sign making; Colette Roberts and Sandy Olson on marketing your calligraphy; Carol Barton on creating books; Carolyn Armbrustmacher on calligraphic polymer jewelry; Thomas Ingmire on his recent manuscript work; Barry Morentz on lettering Shakespeare to music.

Workshops included Barry Morentz on contemporary decorated letters, gothic capitals, and album and scrapbook design; Linda Levine on neuland.

President: Ann Pope, 1995-96.

1996

Exhibits: "Speak to the Earth: Conversations in Calligraphy" at Meadowlark Gardens; "A Show of Hands: Works by the WCG" at McCrillis Gardens & Gallery, Bethesda, MD; WCG's 20th Anniversary Exhibit, "The Spirit of '76" at Strathmore Hall Arts Center. WCG published 20th Anniversary issue Scripsit (editor: Esther S. Washington).

Programs: Karin Tunnell on envelopes and mail art; Ken Harris on greeting cards; Fran Sloan on creativity "The Artist's Way"; Marsha Brady on calligraphic inspirations; Reggie Ezell slide lecture, "New Dimensions in Calligraphy."

Workshops included Fran Sloan on pointed brush and Marsha Brady on textura.

Charlie Hughes was presented with honorary lifetime membership.

President: Marta Legeckis, 1996-97.



Holiday CalligrapherFest

1997

Programs: Julian Waters on calligraphy, lettering and design; Jean Formo on calligraphic artists' books; Cheryl Adams on the image of calligraphy; Nancy Culmone on finding your own truth; Cecil Ueyehara on Japanese calligraphy; Paul Shaw on his 1995 sabbatical. Docent-guided tour of medieval and Islamic manuscripts at the Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore, MD. Stone carver John Benson led a tour of his work at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial.

Exhibit of invited lettering artists at Covington & Burling Law Firm, Washington, DC.

WCG's membership directory begins adding members' email addresses. First listing in Bulletin of best calligraphic websites.

Workshops included: Jean Formo on uncials; Cheryl Adams on monoline; Nancy Culmone on colored pencil techniques; Louise Megginson on rotunda; Gwen Weaver on pointed pen; Ann Pope on versals; Diane Maurer on paste papers and marbling; Paul Shaw on "Designing with Letters."

President: Tom Landon, 1997-99.

1998

Exhibits: Annual unjuried show, Meadowlark Gardens, Vienna, VA; juried exhibit honoring Mary Delisio, Marymount University, Arlington, VA; Calligraphic Books and Boxes, Strathmore Hall Arts Center.

Workshops: Brenda Broadbent on papers; Leanna Fay on "Painting with Papers" and "Letters as Texture"; Carl Rohrs on contemporary calligraphy; Sheila Waters on "The Golden Thread: Forward to Basics"; Carol Maurer on greeting cards; Jean Formo on "The Calligraphic Book"; Joan Machinchick on the Gocco printer; Sherri Kiesel on contemporary decorated letters.

Programs: Marta Legeckis, drawing hints; Lynne Mohr, rubber stamping; Ann Pope, applying colors for backgrounds; Leanna Fay slide lecture; Carl Rohrs, drawn and decorated letters; Sheila Waters, capitals; Louise Megginson, lettering on fabric; Sammy Little, working with printers.

1999

First annual Holiday CalligrapherFest, a day-long lettering arts festival in Falls Church, VA. Debra Brown created the logo (above).

WCG website debuts (Lorraine Swerdloff, webmaster).

Workshops: Eleanor Winters, copperplate; Sheila Waters, foundational; Barbara Bruene, pastels; Barry Morentz, boxes; Dennis Ruud, calligraphic tools; Linda Levine, uncials; Nan Jay Barchowsky, "Written by Hand"; Patty Leve, Hebrew calligraphy; David Mekelburg, "Enliven Your Formal Italic"; Thomas Ingmire, "The Shape, the Place, and the Space of Writing"; Jean Brinton Jaecks on "Materials and Methods of the Old Masters."

Exhibits included handmade calligraphic books by Rose Folsom at Strathmore Hall Arts Center.

Programs: Marta Legeckis, colored pencils; Hermineh Miller, stencils; Ann Pope, layered lettering; Lenore England on William Addison Dwiggins; David Tannous' Reality Check; Pat Blair, spencerian; Linda Levine, floorcloths; Debra Brown and Jill Norvell, holiday cards.

President: Lorraine Swerdloff, 1999-2001.

TWENTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY
EXHIBITION

2001

2000

Exhibit: Juried exhibit in conjunction with Sumi-e Society of America, Strathmore Hall Arts Center.

Workshops included Jean Brinton Jaecks, raised gold leaf letters; Pat Blair, spencerian; Karen Ter Haar, marbling and painting flowers with a flat brush; Kate McKulla, layering with colored inks; Peter Thornton, contrast; Sheila Waters, italic.

Holiday CalligrapherFest, Vienna, VA

Programs included Peter Thornton on MusiCalligraphy; Michael Clark on Werner Schneider; Jean Brinton Jaecks on medieval manuscripts. Tour of Chinese calligraphy exhibit at the Freer Gallery.

President's Day program meeting featured "official Washington" calligraphers Rick Paulus, Marta Legeckis and Mary Lou O'Brian. Other programs included Jane Farmer, Paper Road Project in Tibet; Stan Knight, the medieval scribe; Mark Jacobs, the evolution of a book artist; Michael Gilbert, gilding and framing. Tours of a printing plant, design firm and laser engraving studio. Lecture by Sheila Waters, Julian Waters and Mohamed Zakariya at the Walters Art Museum.

Began sponsoring the Graceful Envelope Contest, taking over from the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum. Gini Ogle created the logo (at right).

WCG 25th Anniversary Exhibit, Strathmore Hall Arts Center. Sheila Waters created the logo (above). Publication of 25th anniversary issue of Scripsit (editor: Nan Jay Barchowsky).

Holiday CalligrapherFest, Leesburg, VA

Workshops: Marta Legeckis, fixing mistakes; Ann Pope, lombardic versals; Stan Knight, uncials; Michael Jacobs, "The Book as Sculpture"; Michael Clark, developing a personal ruling pen script; Dayle Doroshov, matchbox books and boxes; Julian Waters, blackletter variations; Sheila Waters, modern carolingian; Jacqueline Sullivan, "Marks 'n Metals"; Jean Brinton Jaecks, egg tempera technique.

President: Pat Blair, 2001-03.



Mohamed Zakariya presenting an evening program on Islamic calligraphy in 2005.



WCG members at Letterforum 2006. Right: Pat Blair demonstrates pointed pen lettering at the 2007 Calligrafest.



2002

Program provides information from WCG library; library program meetings become annual event. Other programs: Marcy Robinson, certificates; Diane von Arx, "The Process"; Judith Barbour Osborne, "Regarding Calligraphy and Fine Art"; Annie Cicale, the calligraphic journal.

WCG members Linda Levine, Marta Legeckis and Pat Blair calligraphed an elephant statue for the Washington, DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities Party Animals Exhibit (below).



Workshops: Eliza Holiday, flat-brush lettering; Diane von Arx Anderson, layout and design; Brenda Broadbent, choosing art papers; Peter Duvall, photographing artwork; Sheila Waters, color theory; Marcy Robinson, certificates; Rose Folsom, flourishing; Annie Cicale, manuscript lettering.

Exhibit at the Woman's National Democratic Club, Washington, DC.

WCG publishes Scripsit devoted to the Graceful Envelope Contest. Graceful Envelope Scripsits also produced in 2005 and 2009.

2003

Workshops: Sheila Waters, pointed gothic; Marta Legeckis, basic foundational; Dennis Ruud, gilding techniques; Thomas Hoyer, the ruling pen; Karen Brown, painting watercolors; Gwen Weaver, copperplate; Nancy Culmone, the painted book distilled; Jean Formo, walnut ink. Master class with Denis Brown.

Programs: Thomas Hoyer, "When Black Letters Blossom"; Dennis Ruud, "The Making of Cosmologica"; panel discussion on the business of calligraphy; Denis Brown; Jean Formo on William Morris.

Holiday Artsfest, Fairfax, VA.

President: Tamara Stoneburner, 2003-05.

2004

Programs: Iris Anderson and Brenda Broadbent, Journal Journeys and Parallel Pens; Ann Pope and Barbara Gere, brush writing on fabric; Carol Pallesen, "My Books"; Tamara Stoneburner, framing and matting; Gwen Weaver and Betsy Rivers-Kennedy, copperplate; Ella Jankowiak, holiday greeting cards.

Workshops: Sheila Waters, foundational and the Golden Thread; Carol Pallesen, neuland; Julian Waters, Roman caps for texture and design and formal italic; Hermineh Miller, bookbinding.

Holiday Calligrafest, Fairfax, VA.

2005

Over 200 books were added to WCG library's collection. The total collection, now over 700 items, was listed with donor names in the Membership Directory.

Exhibits included Rose Folsom, "Written Painting," Strathmore Hall Arts Center.

Workshops: Sheila Waters, mixing color; Ewan Clayton, uncials; Julian Waters, formal italic; Julian Waters, blackletter; Betsy Rivers-Kennedy, repairing mistakes. Sheila Waters gave a five-day workshop on writing and illuminating on vellum.

Programs: John Neal and Iris Anderson, books on calligraphy; Hermineh Miller, making your own travelogues; Mohamed Zakariya, Islamic calligraphy; Kathleen McCann, life as a freelance calligrapher.

Calligrafest, Fairfax, VA.

Series of calligraphy demonstrations at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum by Ann Pope and Lorraine Swerdloff.

WCG publishes Scripsit featuring the work of WCG's four honorary members: Sheila Waters, Charlie Hughes, leuan Rees and Hermann Zapf (editor: Mary Lou O'Brian).

President: Gretchen Elson, 2005-07.

2006

WCG hosts the 26th International Gathering of Lettering Artists, Letterforum (#3), James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA (directors: Pat Blair and Marta Legeckis). Publication of WCG Perpetual Calendar and Scripsit covering Letterforum (editor: Rose Folsom).

30th Anniversary Exhibit, Strathmore Hall Arts Center.

Calligrafest, Springfield, VA.

Private tours at the Library of Congress to view illuminated manuscripts and the St. John's Bible, followed by lecture by Donald Jackson.

Programs: Michael Gilbert, gilding and frame restoration; Iris Anderson and Brenda Broadbent, books about creating invitations; Ann Hawkins, carving letters in stone.

Workshops included: Jean Formo, walnut ink; Carol Barton, pop-up paper structures; Barry Morentz.



35 years Highlights

Washington Calligraphers Guild

2007

WCG publishes 30th Anniversary issue Scripsit (editor: Lee Ann Clark).

WCG joins the Association for the Calligraphic Arts (ACA).

WCG Yahoo Group is established to facilitate mass emails to members.

Programs: Tamara Stoneburner, family trees; Iris Anderson and Brenda Broadbent, books about illuminated letters; David Hobbs of David A. Hobbs & Tolley Studios; Tim Benas, letterpress printing; Maryanne Grebenstein, evolution of the alphabet; 50th anniversary of Helvetica.

Workshops: Sharon Haz Watson, "CalligraFun Designs"; Ann Pope, pen-drawn contemporary capitals; Lee Ann Clark, basic pointed pen; Eliza Holliday, boxes; Pat Blair, copperplate; Maryanne Grebenstein, "Uncials for Christmas." Steven Skaggs gave a master class.

Calligrafest, Springfield, VA.

President: Mary Lou O'Brian, 2007-08.

WCG's newsletter, The Bulletin, promotes Guild programs, exhibits and other projects and provides helpful tips.

2008

Workshops: Lee Ann Clark, contemporary pointed pen; Charles Pearce, manipulating gothic blackletter; Brenda Broadbent, parallel pen and zentangle; Charles Pearce, "Letters from Hell"; Jean Brinton Jaecks, illuminated manuscript letters; Judy Melvin, "Spontaneous Combustion"; Carl Rohrs, "Modern Moves and 20th Century Masters."

Programs: An evening with Charles Pearce; Carol Barton's pop-up books; Ann Pope, watercolor washes; Lee Ann Clark, cutting quills; Joan Machinchick, accordion books; Iris Anderson and Brenda Broadbent, books for beginners.

President: Deborah Basel, 2008-09.

2009

Exhibits: "A Way With Words" members' show, Friendship Heights Village Art Gallery, Chevy Chase, MD. A Retrospective of Sheila Waters' 60 Years in the Calligraphic Arts at the Strathmore Hall Arts Center was the subject of an issue of Scripsit (editor: Julian Waters).

Workshops: Pat Blair, spencerian; Sheila Waters, gothicized italic; Julian Waters, Roman minuscules and italic variations; Kristen Doty, drawing for calligraphers; Victoria Pittman, flowers and flourishes.

Programs: Kristen Doty on her European visits to Gottfried Pott and Thomas Ingmire; mini-workshop with Brenda Broadbent on choosing paper for calligraphy; Michael Gilbert on gilding.

WCG participated in the Friendship Heights Holiday Fair.

President: Theresa Daly, 2009-11.

2010

Exhibits: "A Way With Words," Friendship Heights Village Art Gallery; invited lettering artists at Covington & Burling Law Firm, Washington, DC.

Calligrafest, Springfield, VA.

Workshops: Ieuan Rees, 6-day master class; Julian Waters, Roman minuscules and italic variations; Lee Ann Clark, contemporary pointed pen; Jacqueline Sullivan, color washes; Pat Blair, pointed pen sketchbook; Laurie Doctor, "Landscape and Lettering"; Barbara Close, invitations; Suzanne Moore, "Elucidare: Balancing Lettering and Imagination."

Programs: Show and tell of many members; Pat Blair on the pointed pen; Laurie Doctor on her artistic approach; lecture by Ieuan Rees; Julian Waters, Chris Tischer and Tamara Stoneburner on the business of calligraphy; screening of the film "Helvetica." Shane Perry led a mini-workshop on foundational.

WCG participated in the Friendship Heights Holiday Fair.

2011

WCG's 35th Anniversary Exhibit, Galleries at Quiet Waters, Annapolis, MD.

Workshops: Carol DuBosch, rustics; Gwen Weaver, pointed pen Romans; Annie Cicale, value contrast; Jacqueline Sullivan, "Visual Poetry with Acrylics"; Mike Gold, contemporary scripts; Sharon Zeugin, "Vision Quest"; Myrna Rosen, secretary handwriting.

Programs: Ann Hawkins, carving letters in stone; Marie Lenker, "An Alphabet Tasting" mini-workshop; Brenda Broadbent, "Writing Fluids" mini-workshop; Carol DuBosch, envelope art; Annie Cicale, "Word and Image."

Current membership: 550 members from 40 states, the District of Columbia and nine countries outside the U.S.



35 years Highlights

Highlights of WCG's 35-year history were researched by our late Archivist Jim Huttlinger and our Guild Librarian Iris Anderson. While the timeline emphasizes the workshops, programs and exhibits that enabled members to develop their skills, the Guild also provides informative newsletters (The Bulletin), in-depth journals (Scripsit), all-day craft fairs (Calligrafest), week-long international conferences (Letterforum), and untold other opportunities — all thanks to the contributions and dedication of countless volunteers. One long-time member who contributed selflessly and touched our lives with beauty over many years was Ann Pope, who is memorialized on the opposite page.

More about WCG's history can be found in past anniversary Scripsits, especially the 20th anniversary issue (Vol. 19, No. 3) that included reminiscences from past presidents and charter members. Past Scripsits and more than 700 titles including books, slides, videos, CDs, DVDs, pamphlets, and journals are available in our library; consult the WCG website for details.