



Letter Perfect

March—April, 2008

The Newsletter of the San Diego Fellow Calligraphers

Vol. 29, No. 4

March

John Harwood

General Meeting: Friday, March 14, 2008, at 7:00

GOING DIGITAL

Learn to take professional photographs of your art work.

Location: San Diego Education Association, #300,
10393 San Diego Mission Road, San Diego 92112

For directions go to: www.sdfconline.com.

Risa Gettler

Workshop: Two half day Saturdays, 10:00-2:00
March 8 and March 22, 2008

GROOVY PAINTED PAPERS

Location: San Diego National Bank
16789 Bernardo Ctr. Dr., SD 92128

April

Carl Rohrs

General Meeting: Friday, April 11, 2008, at 7:00

MOSTLY MODERN

EUROPEAN LETTERING

& 20TH CENTURY MASTERS

Location: San Diego Education Association, # 300,
10393 San Diego Mission Road, San Diego 92112

For directions go to: www.sdfconline.com

Workshop: Sat. & Sun., 9:30-4:30
April 12 & 13, 2008

MODERN MOVES FROM 20TH CENTURY MASTERS

Location: San Diego National Bank
16789 Bernardo Ctr. Dr., SD 92128

WORKSHOPS UPDATE

Yvonne Perez-Collins

Workshop Coordinator

All workshops are officially full. If you want to be first on the waiting list, send your workshop registration form to Yvonne Perez-Collins with payment (check made out to SDFC). Yvonne will hold the check. If there is a cancellation, you will get the spot.

Thank you to SDFC members and friends who have supported our ambitious workshop schedule and anxiously await the next three fabulous workshops. Wait until you see the next season!

MAY GENERAL MEETING

Our May General Meeting will be another fun, fast-paced and wonderfully organized presentation by Sylvia Kowal. We are fortunate to host our Burbank friend once again. Sylvia is a talented calligrapher and paper project teacher. It will be our most highly attended hands-on meeting this year.

There will be a \$5 fee for every SDFC member attending that night. Every guest attending that night will pay the \$5 fee plus a \$20 fee which will provide them with a pro-rated membership to SDFC (enabling them to join us in our special members only June Gala).

Yvonne will have the reservation list at the March meeting and will accept the \$5 payment to reserve your kit for the May program. One kit per person in attendance.

We appreciate that our membership is courteous and helpful — listens attentively, shares table space, helps get the meeting room set up, and puts tables and chairs away after the meeting. This will be a fast-paced evening.



SDFC CALLIGRAPHY TEACHERS

Take advantage of ongoing local calligraphy classes taught by our own talented teachers:

Diesenhaus, Eva-Lynn: artfulwordsmith@aol.com

Gettler, Risa: risa@risagettler.com

Introduction to Blackletter, #165, March 12 & 19, 2008, 1:00 - 3:00; Illuminated Medieval Letters, June 2, 2008 12:30 - 3:30 AND A Day at the Bleach, June 16, 2008 1:00 - 3:00
To register: www.oasisnet.org

Hirsh, Linda: inkinofu@sbcglobal.net

Italic class offered at Michaels in Mira Loma on Tuesdays, 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM; Copperplate at her home, 6 Thursdays beginning March 6; Private lessons in pointed pen, brush and/or italic.

Kinsella, Sylver: inkstone@cox.net

Reiter, Diane: LetterReiter@aol.com

Learn Pointed Brush Lettering on Thursdays, 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM. March 6 to 27 use pointed brush markers; April 3 to May use the pointed brush. Registration begins in mid-February. For more information and/or to register, go to www.powayadultschool.com. Questions? Call Diane 858-538-0595.

Richardson, Susan: susan@susanrichardson.com

Roeder, Patsy: birdiehoot@sbcglobal.net

The class has been designed to give beginners as well as returning scribes a taste of five different hands. They are quarter Versals, Funky Typewriter, Pointed Italic, Legend, and Skeletal Gothic.

Wright, Edna: wriighthand@ca.rr.com

SUBTLE COLORS IN THE NIGHT, JANUARY 12 & 13, 2008 with Sherrie Lovler



Sherrie Lovler starred in the colorful production, "Subtle Colors in the Night", a workshop on January 12 & 13, 2008, brought to us by our illustrious talent scout, Yvonne Perez-Collins, who truly knows talent when she sees it!

The talent, experience and insight of our instructor were evident as she circulated throughout the class, offering suggestions of new ways to mix, apply or transition colors; giving participants "new eyes." Using watercolors and gouache on the several different black papers was interesting. Discovering the different absorption properties and color intensities was instructive. We learned to anticipate color changes as the paint was applied to the papers, as well as when it dried.

Sherrie made the class a truly communal sharing of materials, and the results were something that could not be achieved on one's own without a huge outlay of money and significant time spent in experimentation. In other words, she made the class bigger than any one person's

experiences could be. It was a truly a valuable sharing of results, involving each participant and making the production of "Subtle Colors in the Night" at least as memorable as "The Color Purple".

Bravo, Sherrie, and to our talent scout as well! Thank you both for a most worthwhile workshop.

Article by Janice Shigehara



COLOR THEORY THRU THE BACK DOOR, FEBRUARY 6, 2008

with Teri Martin

The news from Yvonne Perez-Collins came as a delight for those of us awaiting another visit from Teri Martin. Yvonne arranged for her to stop at SDFC for a one-day workshop on her way to Los Angeles' SFC. The subject: coat acrylic paint over Fabriano and Strathmore sheets in dried layers to create color forms in depth. The tools: large plastic plates as palettes - kindly offered by Jeanen Monteleone; a utility brush to spread the rainbow of colors, and items to incise or draw on the work.

We each started by creating a color wheel to direct our use of color. With easy-flow Daniel Smith acrylics we painted, waited to dry, used a different sheet. At various stages, Teri showed us how to proceed.

Teri brought posters, calendars, cards - a sweet range of beautiful art at a special price for us. She has licensed the greeting cards to Leanin' Tree - the simple quotes by Goethe, Emerson or Confucius juxtaposed amid a riot of brilliant color. The posters and other pieces are licensed to other companies. Teri gave us a great start, and now it is up to us to follow through.

Article by Phyllis Miller

POINTED PEN MAGIC, FEBRUARY 9 & 10, 2008

with Barbara Close



I am a born artist and have a bachelor's degree to prove it. That was the first thing working against me in the Pointed Pen workshop with Barbara Close.

Second, I'm at a stage in my life where I can get away with mostly doing things I'm good at, which means I'm not used to being bad at anything.

Third, I don't take very well to instruction - even when I've signed up to be instructed. So imagine this certified artist and reluctant student sitting down to

begin copperplate for the first time ever and not even knowing how to fit the nib into the holder. To her great credit, Barbara didn't laugh but calmly showed me the proper way. But it got worse: I put pen to paper and was horrified at the crooked curves that stumbled out. Where was my artistic gene?

Humbled, I plodded through the workshop, thankful for Barbara Close's gentle and very gracious guidance. What a teacher! What a wonderful combination of rigor, excellence - and rule-bending! First, Barbara made sure that we knew the principles and, like the best of teachers, demonstrated her own superb command of those principles. Then, to my great relief, she proceeded to show us different ways of bending the rules because let's face it, copperplate is fine but that freewheeling contemporary version is a lot kinder to novices like me.

Apart from lettering, Barbara shared several other skills like how to make dot flowers, and elementary bookbinding. She was also very generous with words of encouragement and affirmation to everyone, stopping us every now and then to point out a participant's beautiful work. I honestly didn't think I'd have much use for pointed pen lettering before this workshop but Barbara was such an inspiring teacher that I'm determined to master both contemporary *and* traditional forms, and add them to my artistic vocabulary. Thank you, Barbara Close!!



Article by Boatema Boateng

SDFC MEMBERS EXHIBIT 2008
SAN MARCOS COMMUNITY CENTER
HEARTH GALLERY

If Walls Could Talk

Our member's exhibit, *If Walls Could Talk*, is coming up in April and May. It's not too early to start thinking about what piece you will enter, or even doing something new for this exhibit. All members are encouraged to enter something in our non-juried show. Detailed information is posted on the SDFC website, www.sdfconline.com.

Direct questions to Kathleen Morgan Exhibits Chair, kmacmor@att.net.

GRACEFUL ENVELOPE CONTEST 2008



Envelope Art by Marsha Vanetsky

This year's theme is "C's the Day!" Each contestant may enter only one envelope. There is no entry fee. Entries must be post-marked no later than Wednesday, April 30,

2008, and addressed in hand executed lettering to:

The Graceful Envelope Contest
Washington Calligraphers Guild
P.O. Box 3688
Merrifield, VA 22116

Entries must be processed and delivered through the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail and may not be wrapped in a separate envelope or protective covering. Only the front of the envelope will be judged. Legibly print your name, complete address and email on the BACK of the envelope (entries will not be opened) and indicate your age group:

- Adult
- Junior (grade 6 through Grade 12)
- Child (Kindergarten through Grade 5)

Winners will be chosen based on artistic hand lettering, creative interpretation of the theme and effective use of color and design. Computerized type and images are not permitted. For complete rules or to view last year's winning envelopes, go to: www.calligraphersguild.org



THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

PR Chair Kathleen Morgan has organized two exhibits for us. The first is our non-juried, Members Exhibit, *If Walls Could Talk*, scheduled for this May and June, in the San Marcos Community Center. This is a fun exhibit and a wonderful opportunity to see examples of newly gained skills and techniques learned in

our workshops. If you have any questions or would like to give Kathleen a hand with the exhibit, please contact her, kmacmor@att.net

Speaking of Workshops...thank you Yvonne for all the extras you do, but in this case, special thanks for providing us with a wonderful, unscheduled, one day workshop with Teri Martin. When Teri lived here she served as Workshop Chair for SDFC. Now that she lives across the country it was a rare treat for lucky SDFC members.

The Graceful Envelope Contest deadline is April 30. The letter 'C' is the 2008 contest theme. 'C' how creative you



Envelope Art by Lorraine Brown

can be as you design a hand-lettered envelope around anything beginning with the letter 'C.' Please 'C' the information in this newsletter about the Grace Envelope Contest. Be sure to save a copy of your entry to show and share at our May General Meeting.

Newsletter Chair, Ginger Johnson, is coming to the end of her term. If you are curious about the tasks or interested in serving please contact Ginger. She will cheerfully fill you in and offered hands-on training. We are beginning to look toward nominations and elections for new board members. It's our 30th year! Please become more involved in your guild and consider what you'd like to do for the SDFC – each of you has something unique to offer and there is so much to be enjoyed by participating. The camaraderie and sharing can't be beat!

Yours in letters,

Risa Gettler

March/April 2008

MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Naomi Lesberg has three pieces of art hanging at the San Diego County Office of Education as part of the annual exhibit of art by county art teachers.



Art by Naomi Lesberg

RIDE SHARE

Traffic doesn't seem so bad when you're traveling with a friend. We have members who would appreciate a ride to our General Meetings and workshops. Check with folks in your area and Ride Share!

2008 CONFERENCES

Letters Mingle Souls 2008, the 28th International Conference for Lettering Artists, Chicago in July of 2008!

CONNECT -- EXPLORE -- IMAGINE
<http://chicagocalligraphy2008.org/>

IAMPETH Convention

La Quinta, California
 August 4-10, 2008

www.IAMPETH.com

International Calligraphy and Bookbinding workshop with Monica Dengo:

BOOKS BY HAND

Arezzo, Italy
 October 18th to 25th, 2008

www.articalligrafiche.it/workshopseng.html

WELCOME NEW SDFC MEMBERS!

Virginia A Bendik
 Doug Boyd
 Darlene Brueggeman

Mark Van Stone
 Georgia Waterbury

Dick Blick, art store, is offering SDFC membership a student discount card that gives 10% off all purchases. The cards are good for a year and can be renewed. They are not for website purchases. Simply go into the store on India Street and show your SDFC membership card.

Quotes for Quills



"Be sure your work has life — let it dance a bit — make sure EVERY mark you make is beautiful on its own; even marks that look spontaneous are intentional. Concentrate on watching the end of the pen or brush to be sure you are making the best possible mark — your hand will take care of itself."

Carl Rohrs

"I have no respect for a man who can spell a word only one way."
 Mark Twain

"Creativity can be described as letting go of certainties."

Gail Sheehy

SDFC BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMITTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|
| President | - | Risa Gettler |
| Vice-President | - | Open |
| Secretary | - | Sue Mann |
| Treasurer | - | Jeanen Monteleone |
| Membership | - | Kathy Gilchrist |
| Workshops | - | Yvonne Perez-Collins |
| Publicity | - | Kathleen Morgan |
| Newsletter | - | Ginger Johnson |
| Email Communications | - | Lorraine Brown |
| Web Designer | - | Naomi Lesberg |
| Exhibits | - | Open |
| Library | - | Beverly Frank |
| Historian | - | Phyllis Miller |
| Immediate Past President | - | Diane Reiter |

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LetterPerfect is the bi-monthly newsletter of the San Diego Fellow Calligraphers. SDFC is a non-profit group dedicated to the art of calligraphy and related subjects. We include beginners, professional artists and all levels in between. Our purpose is to share and to educate.

Meetings are usually held on the second Friday of each month, Sept. to June. Locations may vary. Check our website www.sdfconline.com for information and directions. Those wishing to join SDFC or to renew their membership may do so by contacting the SDFC Membership Chair; P.O. Box 84960; San Diego, CA 92138-4960.

SDFC 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please send your information, pictures, etc. for the May/June issue of *LetterPerfect* to Ginger Johnson by emailing her at: ginnylynn@att.net or by mail to: P.O. Box 84960, San Diego, CA 92138-4960; Material must be received by April 15, 2008.

www.sdfconline.com

is the official website of the San Diego Fellow Calligraphers. Bookmark this address for the latest SDFC news, photos, calendar of events and other society information. For our online gallery, we would like to publish .jpg files of your scanned calligraphy. Send them to Naomi Lesberg at:

nlesberg@cox.net

- MARCH 8 & 22** - **Workshop: Groovy Painted Papers**
with Risa Gettler
- MARCH 14** - **General Meeting with John Harwood**
"Going Digital"
- APRIL/MAY** - **"If Walls Could Talk" SDFC Exhibit**
- APRIL 11** - **General Meeting with Carl Rohrs**
"Mostly Modern European Lettering & 20th Cent. Ghosts"
- APRIL 12 & 13** - **Workshop: Modern Moves from 20th Century Masters**
with Carl Rohrs
- MAY 9** - **General Meeting with Sylvia Kowal**
"Fun with Flips & Folds"
- MAY 10** - **Workshop: Circle Book**
with Sylvia Kowal
- JUNE 13** - New workshops presented, new board announced , etc.

SAN DIEGO FELLOW CALLIGRAPHERS



**P.O. Box 84960
San Diego, CA
92138-4960**

Address Correction Requested

