

Kaligrafatos

MAY 2016
VOLUME 36 NO. 9



TOOL BOX TIME
with Thomas Burns



"We Ink 'em Up!"
Presidential Seal By Janell Wimberly

President's Letter

Misters and Misses Magical Majuscule-

It's the ending of our year.....what a year it's been! Spanning several wonderful exhibits, great programs, a change in our monthly meeting location, Dallas Pen Show debut, and so much learning and sharing my head is spinning. Now let's enjoy the summer and have some fun with friends and partake in a bit of



silliness as to not take ourselves too seriously or beat up our own creations too much....if you don't like it today; set it down and look at it tomorrow or next week. I bet you'll like it then.

On your trips this summer don't forget to pack up some lettering "tools" to take with you. Inspiration strikes at the strangest times. Not to mention when you start lettering/drawing in a coffee shop or pub, you never know who might stop by and stare or strike up a conversation. The program this month is Tool Box Time and I have the inside scoop that travel lettering will be on the agenda.



Big Thank You to all that signed up for the SWCC Envelope Exchange. May is the first exchange month. I can't wait for the show and share in August with all the envelopes on display.

Speaking of envelopes and exchanges; I mentioned at the last meeting about Pushing the Envelopes blog. There is the link: <http://pushingtheenvelopes.blogspot.com>



Check it out for ideas and I encourage you to sign up for an exchange. They are what I call "one Shots" meaning it's only a single month and you typically have the option of either 5 or 10 envelopes.

I want to give a another BIG Thank You to my entire board and all of YOU. It's been my privilege leading Kaligrafos for another year. We come together, work together, and play together to get away from the hum drum repetition of the everyday and immerse ourselves in the art of letters!

Humbly yours,
Thomas





BOARD MEMBERS

President:
Thomas Burns

Vice President:
Betty Barna

Treasurer:
Rick Garlington

Secretary:
Trish Manche

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Margaret Mall

Historian:
Randy Stewart

Library:
Brenda Burns

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Eric Doerr

Newsletter:
Anita Hofmeister

Programs:
Cynthia Stiles

Fund Raising:
Kathy Setina

Javier Mardones-Hermosilla

Communications & Workshops:
Sherry Barber

2015-2016 CALENDAR

General Meetings - 2nd Saturdays 10:00am

Come early at 9:30am for social time.

May 14 • Thomas Burns - Tool Box Time

Board Meetings

May 21 1:00pm • Rick's Place

Workshops

Jaycee Park Center for the Arts in Irving

Playdates

Senter East Building in Irving

9:00am-12:00pm

June 11 • Rick Garlington, TBA

The Kaligrafos Newsletter is published 9 times yearly in the months of regular meetings. Send art, articles, announcements or comments by [clicking here.](#)

Definition of a Volunteer

A person who expresses a willingness to undertake a service and use their time and talents for charitable, educational, or other worthwhile activities, especially in one's community for the benefit of other people as a social responsibility rather than for any financial reward.

Kaligrafos is a community; all of us collectively become Kaligrafos and give it life. Without us there is no Kaligrafos and without volunteers and Chairman there might not be a newsletter, or any exhibits, or workshops. A single person cannot run Kaligrafos nor can 5 people; it takes teams and leaders combined to give the community the programs every month and workshops with instructors from across the country, not to mention the directories and name tags we get every year. If we don't have enough volunteers then things will have to be re-evaluated.

All of us contributing make Kaligrafos the what it is today. Let's make it better for tomorrow. If your not sure what is needed but you want to help, seek out myself or any of the current Chairman.

Don't wait to be asked, volunteer!

Thomas Burns

Meeting Location

The Kaligrafos meeting on May 14, 2016 will be held at the

Lovers Lane United Methodist Church

9200 Inwood Road, Dallas, TX 75220

Look for us in Room C103-105 on the first floor over by the gym on the west side of the church campus.

MAY PROGRAM TOOL BOX TIME

with Thomas Burns

The tools of a calligrapher are unique and many. Dip pens, straight and oblique; nibs, pointed and chisel edge; Ink, Oh My Goodness, what do I use?! Paper, paper, paper....sooooo much paper, what do I use?! What do I carry it all in to a workshop? What about traveling across the country, by car or plane, what should I take, how should I pack it, will TSA confiscate my nib as a weapon!?! And what about all these gelli pens and sharpies and pencils and erasers, and, and, and....I'm overwhelmed and tired. Where was that Sci-Fi novel I wanted to read.....

Don't get overwhelmed in needing everything and wanting everything. It's easier said than done, but show up for the May Program as Tom attempts to de-mystify the tools in his tool box and what that supply list is all about for workshops. He's got a couple suggestions for traveling too.



Announcements

Book Reviews

If you are looking for an opportunity that will help others, fill a need and be more rewarding than you could imagine, then the Library Committee wants YOU!

We have an extensive library and it can be overwhelming (especially to those new to calligraphy) to decide what books to borrow, which is why the Library Committee is asking its members to write reviews of our books.

The reviews will be published in both a future newsletter as well as posted on the Library Thing. For more information, please contact [Brenda](#).

Donate Cards

Donate your handmade cards to Membership Chair, Eric Doerr! We need them for birthdays and other occasions! Thank you!!!

Like Kaligrafos on...



Library Books

Remember that library books are due at the next meeting.

Browse The Library Thing to pick out a few titles at: <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/Kaligrafos> then send Brenda Burns an email with your selection(s) at library@kaligrafos.com so she can bring your selections to the meeting.

Please note:

When requesting a library book from Brenda, be sure to put in the subject line "Library Book" or "Kaligrafos."

2016-2017 Membership

Join Kaligrafos

The Dallas Calligraphy Society

\$25 for individual membership

\$35 for family membership

http://kaligrafos.com/join_us/join_us.html

Please send membership changes of your information via email to Eric Doerr calligraphy@letterboxes.org

How to Explain Calligraphy to a Teenager

by Beverly Stewart

I just got back from the grocery store. Being the friendly type, the cashier asked what I had been doing with my Saturday. I told him I had been to calligraphy club. The bag boy said, "What's calligraphy?"

I started with, "It's the fancy writing on a diploma..."

Before I could continue the cashier jumped in and said that computers do that now. He took the bag

boy in hand and explained, "Remember that episode of *Sponge Bob* when he had to write a paragraph? He worked for a long time and all he had written was a really fancy N. That's calligraphy." Immediately, understanding dawned on the bag boy's face.

So in case you ever have to explain what you do to a teenager, now you know how to do it!

Practice Time

Compiled by
Randy Stewart

A good listener is not only popular everywhere, but after a while he gets to know something. Wilson Mizner

"Well ... That Didn't Work" – my personal autobiography Anon

Trust me ... the more you get to know me, the weirder I get. Anon

Setting a good example for children takes all the fun out of middle age. William Feather

Money doesn't always bring happiness. People with ten million dollars are no happier than people with nine million dollars. Hobart Brown

People find life entirely too time-consuming. Stanislaw J. Lec

Everything I say before I've had my first coffee doesn't count. Anon

The trouble with having an open mind, of course, is that people will insist on coming along and trying to put things in it. Terry Pratchett

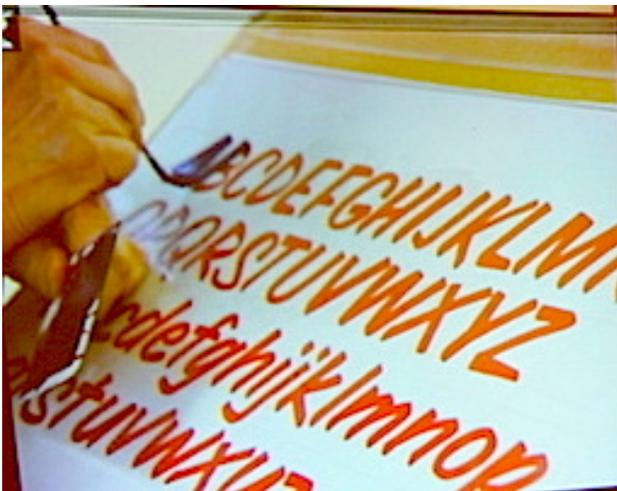
THE AGING PROCESS HAS YOU FIRMLY IN ITS GRASP IF YOU NEVER GET THE URGE TO THROW A SNOWBALL. DOUG LARSON

April Program Review
BACKHAND CASUAL SCRIPT
With Ken Robison

by Suzanne Levy



“My name is Ken Robison, and I'm an artist.”
Thus began Ken's demonstration of his Backhand Casual Script, the lively telling of his philosophy and the showing slides of his work.
When doing the script, study the alphabet and practice. Practice produces muscle memory. We

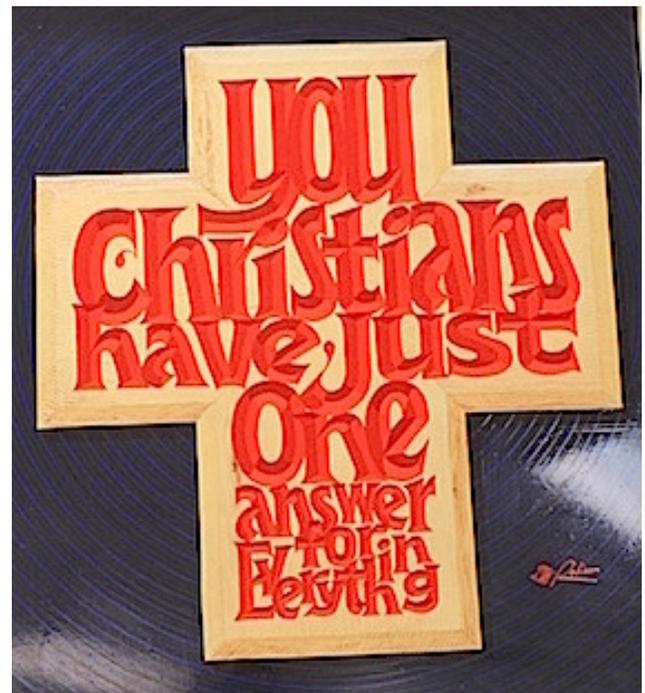


have a desire to create, but we need to develop skill in order to bring our creations into being.
As we write, keep in mind four steps as we paint each letter: address, push/pull, twist, and release.
As we work, we need to keep the angle of the brush the same, but change the angle of the hand, and leave “tails.” It's best to work fast, but you must master the technique first. This basic script can be used as a basis for other styles, varying the slant, size, width and shading.

Ken educated us about so-called camel hair brushes. They are actually made from squirrel hair. The invention dates back to 250 BC when



Chinese general, Meng Tian created a brush from camel hair lashed to a wooden handle with twine. Eventually it was discovered that squirrel hair was more suitable, but Meng Tian's invention of the paintbrush made writing much



easier and helped to develop the art of Chinese calligraphy.



Backhand Casual Script Review continued...

Ken makes a distinction between a sign writer and a sign painter, the former creating a call to move a person, the latter merely a visual attack. We enjoyed a slide show of his work; some highlights were:

- Chalk Drawing, an example of “protest art.”
- Quintanillas, where he varied the value of the



paint to give a three-dimensional effect



- The Greene House, repurposed from a bed-board
- Honey for Sale, with the sign cut in part to illustrate

honeycomb

- Drink Pepsi-Cola, a trompe l'oeil sign

Ken has taught over 20 sign-painters from his shop. He has his students work on glass placed over his alphabet, both capital and lower-case



letters, working in a contrasting color with a slightly smaller brush.

Besides the learning and inspiration gleaned from Ken's presentation, we can look forward to seeing more of him. At the end of the meeting,

KenRobisonArts.com



Show and Share

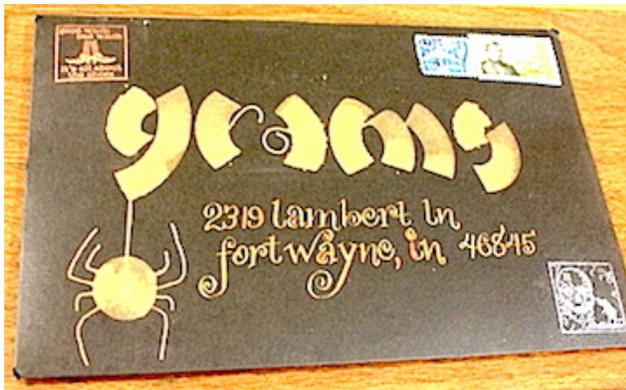
Rick Carlington



Randy Stewart: Paper Cutting



Thomas Burns: Envelopes to his Grandmother



Members' Local Classes

Workshops taught by Janell Wimberly

www.jkwimberlydesign.com/Home.html

Carol Measures Scott

Summer Majestic Majuscles Calligraphy Class aka, Classy Capitals

Want to improve your calligraphic capitals? In this engaging class we will learn the basics underlying the formation of most calligraphic majuscles. Then we will discover the guiding principles to adapt the basic forms to many calligraphic styles. In other words, what you learn here can be applied to many styles! You'll be treated to a small class with plenty of personalized attention. Rudimentary knowledge or experience with broad-edge pen calligraphy is suggested. We will cover all 26 majuscule (upper case) letters in the Roman style plus adapt them to the Italic hand. Join us for the calligraphic fun!

Date: Sundays, beginning 6/5/16; six weeks; skip Father's Day 6/19

Teacher: Carol Measures Scott

Location: 7121 Oaklawn, Sachse, TX 75048

Time: 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Ages: 14 and up

Price:

\$140 - if paying by cash, check or money order

\$144.50 - if paying online use this link

[paypal.me/calligraphy](https://www.paypal.me/calligraphy)

~ Class size limited, please register early.

Questions? [Email Carol](mailto:carol@carolscalligraphy.com)

Please bring: pencil, 18" ruler, eraser, a *few* paper towels, apron (or wear old clothes), Westwind Graphics Pad (or similar), 3.8mm Pilot Parallel Pen, refill cartridges or preferred ink

Optional: note-taking supplies, folder for handouts, your own drink.

To register by mail:

Please send check for \$140 made out to Carol's Calligraphy along with name, full address, phones, email to: Summer Majuscule Class, 7121 Oaklawn, Sachse, TX 75048. Your payment secures your reservation. I am no longer able to hold spots without payment because of no-shows. Refunds available if your spot is filled from the wait list. No refunds for missed classes.

To register online:

Use this link to send \$144.50. Please add a note including your

name, full address, phones, and email address.

Registration deadline: 6/1/16

Check out my work:

www.carolscalligraphy.com

FB: [facebook.com/carolscalligraphy](https://www.facebook.com/carolscalligraphy)

IG: @carolscalligraphy

Beverly Stewart: Instructor

Card Making Classes \$5

Saturdays 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

At THEO: <http://theonline.org/Locations.htm> or 214-551-5782 or beverlystewart@gmail.com

Bring your own scissors and adhesives.

If you make a Stampin' Up! purchase, the class is free. As always there is no pressure to buy.

Come, make cards and have fun!

Cristie R. Campo

cristiecampo@mac.com

Zentangle (artist's home) • Call: 214.714.5344

Fridays 6-9pm • Fee: \$40 supplies included

Collin College Plano Continuing Education

www.collin.edu/ce/register

972.985.3711 to register by phone

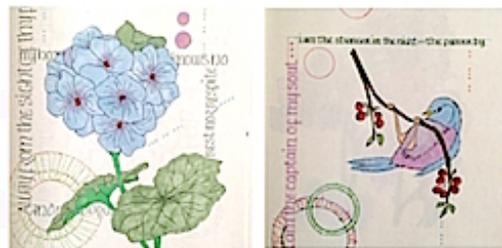
Creative Art Center Dallas

Please call for pricing and registration information for this workshop

www.creativeartscenter.org/schedules

2360 Laughlin Dr., Dallas TX 75228

214 320 1275 • June 12th 10-4pm



NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
JUNE 12TH 10-4PM

Harvey's Helpful Hints

by Harvey Anton

Some time ago I mentioned the deterioration of VHS tapes, but should have added the old 8mm movie tape roll and photo slides also. They are degrading by the minute. If there are special occasions on tape and slides that you want to keep, be sure to have them converted to CD as soon as possible. You'll be glad you did. Not to forget those old photo negatives which have been degrading for years...

If you haven't joined up with almost 3000 calligraphers worldwide to [The Flourish Forum](#) you are treading water and going nowhere. Monitored (extremely well) by Erica McPhee there are exemplars, all sorts of calligraphic threads that you can read and/or join into. You can even start your own thread – countless and almost endless information at your finger tips. You can stay online as long as you want, read and heed all you want, and all without any fees or charges. Here's a group you'll be glad to communicate with. Try it cause I said so. All you have to do is register.

Did you know that you can download almost any size and quantity of grid sheets from your computer instead of purchasing them from a store? On your browser simply type in “grid paper 1/8” (example) squares per inch. You'll have just what you want and need at no extra cost. Try it!

Most of all the pointed nib enthusiasts have tried the new Leonardt Principal EF nib, but for those of you who are trying to find your “dream nib” (one which will do everything you ask of it) look no further. This nib is a new version of the Old “Dream Nibs”, but in a newer package, a shiny gold new

coat, and non-scratchy new steel. It will not disappoint and do everything asked of it. I buy them direct from Manuscript Pen company in England, so you are getting fresh, untried stock. Plus, I have them at a most reasonable price...\$3.00 each or 3/\$6.95. Kaligrafos needs the money!

Here is an example of a beautiful envelope addressed by Jane Stanfield from our sister guild in Waco, Texas.



Harvey Anton
2601 Marsh Lane 192
Plano Texas
75093

This month's spotlight is on the vintage Palmer #9 nib. Most all of you have heard of the “Palmer Method” of writing – well, this is what started it all. This is a standard size nib and performs extremely well with very flexible tines, super fine upstrokes and broad downstrokes with little effort. You probably have noticed that my preferences lean to the pointed nib which requires a sizable amount of inventory because of the variance of tine flex. Come visit me at my table and try a few different nibs to see which you like best. And check out my handmade penstuffs and other goodies. Ten percent of all sales goes to Kaligrafos.

‘Til next month - Plano Harvey:
972-307-0172, C)817-470-2735;
penstaff@verizon.net

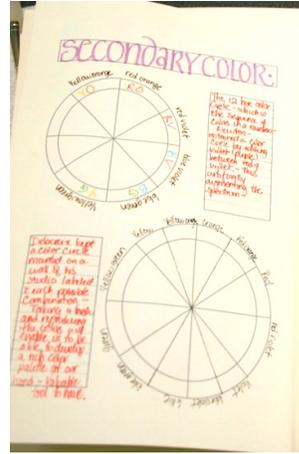
Color Study Play Day

with Cristie Campos
By Cynthia Stiles



I had no idea I was in for such a treat having Cristie lead us through color studies. It was something I was missing and did not

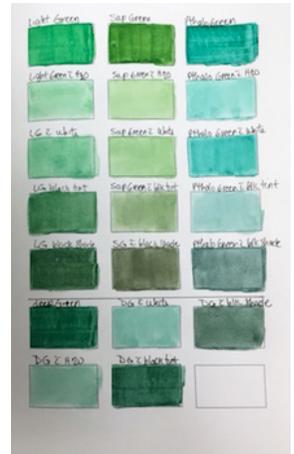
even know it. I believe we all benefited from what we learned, and I thank the person in Kaligrafos for suggesting this for one of our programs.



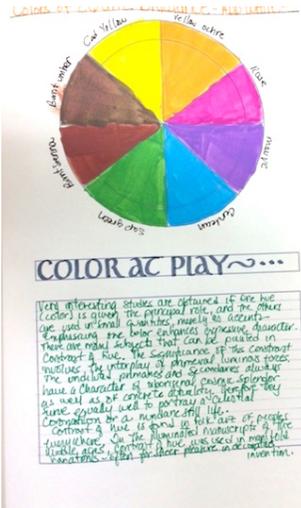
She emphasized the importance of keeping the colors uncontaminated by other pigments while placing them on the chart, cleaning the brush frequently so that we would have a true reference of colors to select from when designing art.

The play day started by studying the pure color, diluting that with water, then adding white, and eventually adding black in various

strengths to create different values. There was a lot of useful information given of great benefit to us. We created several color wheel charts and color combinations to work from. We also looked at warm and cool colors and how they interact with each other. By creating different color wheels we learned how to achieve harmonious colors with contrasts.



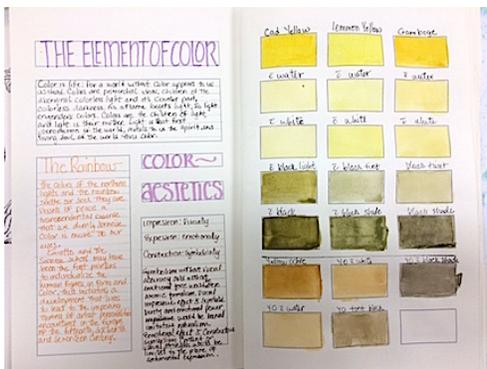
We covered a lot of ground in a short time and enjoyed the process. I hope we have a chance to do this in a longer format such as a 3 day workshop. There is a lot more to learn from those color studies. Cristie did a great job, so glad the color play day was suggested.



Cristie shared with us about the importance of doing color studies, how it becomes the foundation for us to build on to create art in calligraphy. Most great artists have built on such a foundation. She shared from her expertise of doing color studies as a student at Academy of Art University in San Francisco.

PDF's were provided of charts and generic clip art

which we printed on watercolor paper prior to the class. The intent was to give us a book form, which we can refer to when we do our artistic creations. Cristie discussed the elements, life, and aesthetics of color, how we really see color, about contrasts, and mixing colors.



We brought our watercolors in tubes, pans, and pencils and stuck to one medium of our choice during the play day.



March Program Review
FROM WET INK TO PRINT
With Sherry Barber
by Stephanie Bell



Find yourself needing to mass produce a piece? Need to clean up a layout? Is everything perfect except for that one thing? Sherry Barber, digital diva, demonstrated how to address those questions and more in her presentation “Wet Ink to Print”. Combining step-by-step instructions with some theory and ideas for application, this inspiring program highlighted all the possibilities of manipulating hand lettering on the computer to create stunning final products, complete with a note card produced using these techniques to take home and motivate us.

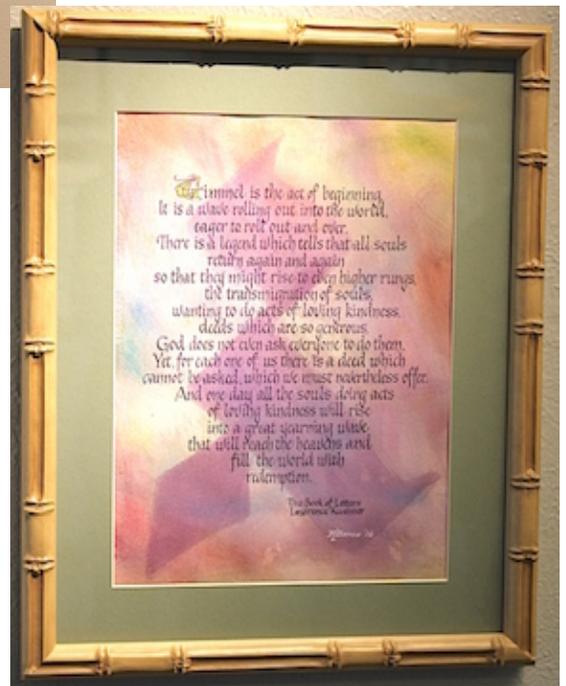
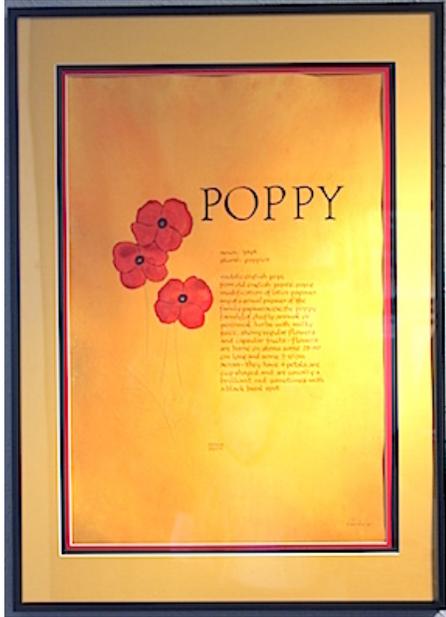
This program boasted practical tips and tricks from the start. It began with a brief tour of Photoshop Elements, its tool bars, and some recommended settings for different final products. For instance 1200 dpi is preferred for letterpress, while 300 dpi is adequate for digital printing. Then came the foundational transformations: cleaning up the background, removing any splatters, correcting any

unintentional wobbles or errant marks, and separating different elements into layers for later manipulation. Once the piece was pristine and parsed, it was ready for the efforts of the Calligraphy Cowgirl, who lassoed items and quickly created variations on a theme, sharing just a few of the seemingly countless methods available. Lettering can be rearranged, enlarged, shrunk, rotated, re-colored, textured, made transparent or opaque and combined with other images to create something new and wonderful.

The handouts will be valuable guides to anyone trying out these techniques for the first time and include screen shots and menu locations for commonly used actions, along with alternate approaches for common tasks. As a bonus, there is an included sample layout of a fold over note card and other recommendations for computer applications that can be used. There was so much interest in learning more about these techniques and trying them ourselves that it may spawn a play day in future. As an additional resource, check out the entry in Wikipedia on Image File Formats [at this link](#), which highlights best uses and properties of all the common and some not so common file types.

My big take away from this program is that with proper preparation, I can use Photoshop/ Photoshop Elements to transform lettering in any way, limited only by my imagination. Thank you, Sherry, for sharing your expertise with us and opening our eyes to the possibilities!

Spring Renewal Exhibit at Artist Showplace



More Spring Renewal...

