



# St. Louis Calligraphy Guild

minuscule jan. 2024

## President's letter

Here we are in the New Year...we were sad that our Holiday party was cancelled but that covid keeps reoccurring. Hold on to your gift for next year or perhaps you can use it yourself. Our Treasurer, Barb, is on the better side of her surgery and is able to email a little. We are glad to have her almost whole again.

My hope is you all got the calligraphy tools you wanted for Christmas. Dave and I wandered around the new Dick Blick Store for the longest time one day. I was trying to buy something for my niece; so many interesting supplies to try...so distracted from my mission.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at our Thursday night meetings. Come spend some time together working on the Graceful Envelope project in January and February.

Cheers, Karen

## 2024 board

President: Karen Pfeifer

618-978-7327

karen.pfeifer@charter.net

Vice President: Denise Gerstung

Secretary: John Hammons

Treasurer: Barb Reed

Leslie Barnes

Jim Borchers

Carol Savage

Susan Zenner

Check us out on  
Facebook and Instagram!

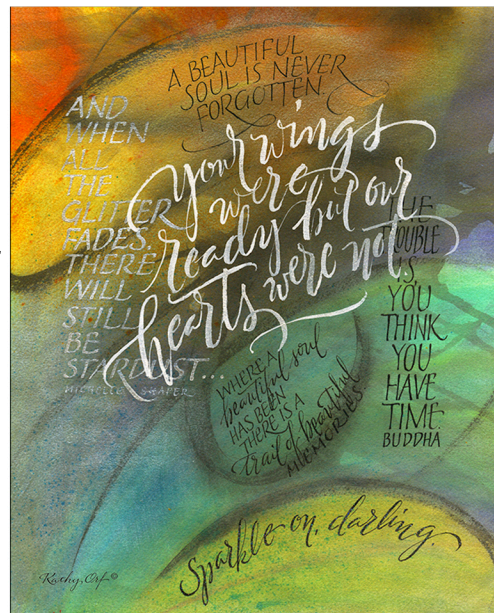
**The artwork to the right, I created  
in January 2018 (6 years already!)**

**in memory of our good friend &  
guild member, Nancy Grable.**

**With this, I would also like to  
acknowledge the passing of  
both Marsha & Larry Brady on  
Dec. 9, 2023 in a car crash in CO.**

**They were both internationally  
known calligraphers extraordinaire  
and Marsha was, IMHO, the  
BEST teacher. They will be missed.**

Kathy Orf, editor



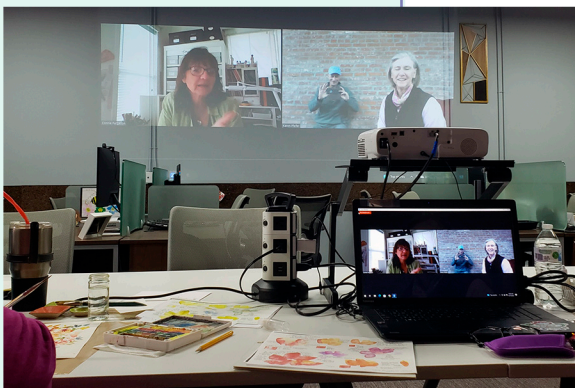
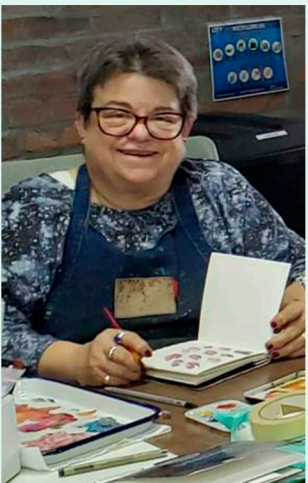
# Workshop review

BY DENISE GERSTUNG

On October 15, & 16, 2023, workshop attendees met at Co Radius on Russell to participate in a Zoom set-up class with Connie Ferguson. Connie lives in Lethbridge, Alberta Canada which makes traveling a challenge, not only distance, but always the chance of snow. While most of us enjoy the in person workshops, the Zoom worked well. We were able to receive feedback from Connie and our first attempt at a Zoom workshop went relatively smoothly.

Connie is known for her watercolor paintings and often her watercolors contain an Italic variation script. We began with strokes resembling petals, dropping in color, and blending colors. We were encouraged to remain loose and experiment with different brush sizes. We moved onto tulip and daisy strokes. We created what Connie called the essence of blooms or free form type of flower: fun and whimsical. We filled an entire page of watercolor paper with flowers. We then created a floral landscape of sorts, these two sheets became the framework of a small book of "Windows into Flowers." The windows were cut outs from the painted papers.

The variation on the Italic had bounce and some exaggerated branching and downstrokes. The Italic worked into the watercolor gives the painting a fun, and sometimes funky look. I really like how my little book turned out and I enjoyed seeing what everyone else did too!



From top left: Carol Savage and Denise Gerstung, Leslie Barnes, Cheryl Tefft & Carol, Karen Pfeifer & Denise, Zoom set up, and Jone Boland, Carol & Erin Werner





fall  
bi-annual

# Retreat

November 10-12, 2023



Nine SLCG members gathered at Todd Hall for our 2023 retreat. On Friday night, after prepping the big work room, we made paste paper. Saturday we each did an individual abstract art piece. Leslie Barnes had us take a sheet of Arches text wove and divide it into 1 and 1/2 "squares" which we then taped with 1/4" tape. Then, using masking fluid we did gestural calligraphic movements. When the fluid dried, we water colored over all with a variety of colors. The masking fluid was rubbed off and we then did mono-line writing, pastel marks and colored pencil marks. When we removed the tape, we had 40 (or so) small squares which we cut apart to paste on note cards as an embellishment. We each donated two squares which were used to create "get well" cards for Jane V. and Barb R. who each had recent surgeries.

Joanne Kluba had us use our paste paper to do a folded book binding. She also had us make a folded packet-pocket---I'll use mine for monetary gifts for my grandchildren.

Kathy Orf showed us her hand-painted rocks and some of us painted our own in holiday motifs.

Susan Zenner brought plain brown paper wine bags to decorate for host/hostess gift giving. We lettered words like "cheers," "a votre sante," "skal," "l'chaim," etc., in automatic pen or brush in bright colors for a cheerful presentation.

It was an enjoyable weekend for all. Our creative juices were put to good use. Hopefully a few more calligraphers will join us in 2025.

Submitted by Susan Zenner



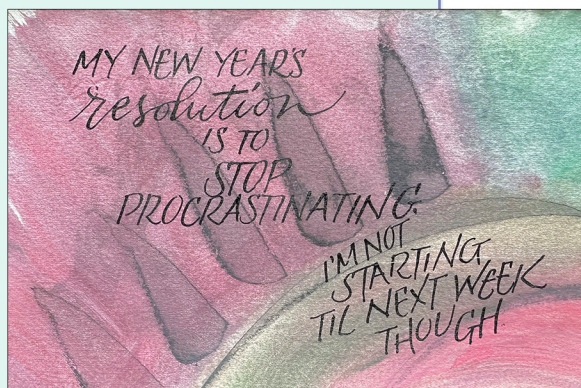
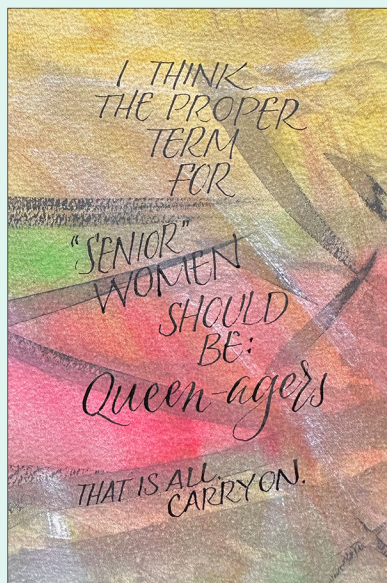
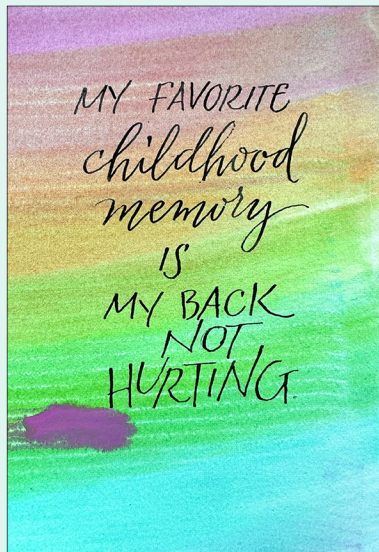
From top:  
Kathy Orf's rock;  
Joanne Kluba  
& her work;  
Susan Zenner's  
wine bags;  
Karen Pfeifer;  
Kathy, Joanne,  
Denise & John  
looking at  
Denise's work;  
John Hammons  
preparing to do  
paste paper.





## Dues

Please renew your annual Guild dues if you haven't yet. The new year starts each Sept. Please send your check for \$30, payable to the STL Calligraphy Guild, to Barb Reed, Treasurer, 5733 Lindenwood, STL 63109.



# calendar

## spring/summer 2024

- January 18th 7pm \*PRCP Graceful Envelope Discussion/slide show, with Carol Savage
- February 9 Holiday Party at 6:30pm at Susan Zenner's, 550 Brentwood Blvd. STL (We had to cancel due to illness) Please bring a dish to share and your gift to exchange. RSVP: susanzenner@icloud.com
- February 15th 7pm \*PRCP Graceful Envelope, planning/working on our designs. Our envelopes must be post marked by March 18th
- March 21st 7 pm \*PRCP Illuminated Letter with Cheryl Tefft. Cheryl will guide us through her process in Illuminating a Zafp Capital Letter. We will email out a list of supplies closer to the date. Questions call Karen Pfeifer 618-978-7327 or karen.pfeifer@charter.net
- April 20 -21 **Tentative** Reggie Ezell class in Foundational hand via Zoom ....more info to come
- May Workshop or Field Trip, TBA
- June 21st to 23rd STL Pen Show
- June 22nd to 29th International Calligraphy Conference, Roman Holiday Davenport, Iowa.
- July 1st to 6th IAMPETH will be in San Antonio, Texas

\*PRCP is Providence Reformed Presbyterian Church  
9124 Sappington Rd., St. Louis), meetings held from 7pm to 9pm

All meetings are open to the public and free of charge...



This page needed some color and we all need a laugh... so here are a few of my daily writings, posted each day on FB.

Kathy Orf, editor