

CBBAG - OTTAWA VALLEY

Minutes

December 13, 2017

Theme: Holiday celebration

Chair

Steve handed out copies of his and Gayle's Christmas keepsake, a version of Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol, in 2 volumes, 600 hours' worth of work, or 2 ½ hours per book. An article appeared in the CBBAG newsletter, about this tradition and what was involved. Everyone who came to the meeting was honoured, because every group relies on its members to be successful.

Two Exceptional Volunteer Awards for 2017 were presented, one to Geneviève, who was absent, and the other to Roxanne, for all her work on the website. A round of applause followed.

Workshops

Larry's linocut workshop, on the topic of transferring designs, had 7 participants. January's workshop, on mini leather books, with James Spyker filled quickly, with 10 people. He will not take more than 10 registrants. Bookbinding One, set for April, has not been advertised yet.

Book Arts Show

Spike used Mail Chimp to announce the show, and the email went out to 187 people. She built her email list from contacts she had gathered over the last few years and it includes anyone interested in the book arts. CBBAG National sent it to all members. 10 people have signed up for tables, so far. The interest is good. And financially, the Chapter is still floating.

Website

Roxanne asked for any comments about information going out, reminders, etc. In answer to a question, we are linked to the National site. Our old Wordpress site, which was free, still exists and comes up in searches. On it, there is a redirect button to the present site. Roxanne will remove all other pages, so that only the redirect will appear.

A page for materials and resources has been started, and the hope is to start one for books. A few years ago, members brought in their favourite books. Susan will find this list and send it to Roxanne, so that it can be added to the resources page.

Announcements

Spike got an email from Janet Jancar recently. As Janet is retiring, she offered all of her bookbinding books to Spike, who will get them in January. The Chapter has equipment, as well as videos, which can be borrowed by members.

A new attendee, Ivanka, introduced herself and spoke about her interest in bookbinding.

Gayle mentioned the items returned from the recent Shenkman exhibit. She thanked everyone for contributing. Deidre has an exhibit that will open in January at the Shenkman. Her prints about the Experimental Farm will be displayed.

Gayle proposed that once a month the Chapter rent a community centre space, where people could go and work on their projects, thereby not being subject to distractions that occur at home. This would be on a weekday, not in the same week as the monthly meeting. Spike will check into it. We could try it for a couple of months and see how it goes.

Monthly Challenge

The topic chosen this time was headbands.

Show and Tell

Spike showed the linocut she had made at Larry's workshop, of her studio, unfortunately not reversed. She plans to do another one, with more detail, and reversed. The mini books she had last month, now have had things added to them. An ABC book was bound in Japanese stab style. For her card challenge, she had made a set, with quotes from Alice in Wonderland, and different images on the covers, with matching envelopes. Distress ink was used to colour the paper. Madeleine had embossed circle cards, made after a workshop with Loredana Zega, and a knotwork card made in a class on uncials with Susan, both CSO-sponsored events. Deidre, who works at the Ottawa School of Art, gets children to make books. One of these had drawings of the Rideau Canal. Another had linocuts of knights and dragons. A third was a long folded strip of paper with linocuts of boats. The kids bound their own books. She had book that she had done a couple of years ago, on the 12 days of Christmas, with envelopes. She read the humorous message that was written on the paper inside the first envelope.

Diane had a set of cards, with some generic holiday ones, and some of Hanukkah. She also brought her delicious fruitcake for all to enjoy. Ivanka had examples of what she did in the past, since her undergraduate degree was in print making. There was stitching around the images. Wendy showed the enclosure she had made from Spike's workshop in November. She remade her slipcase a few times, with heavy fabric. As well, she looked at Sage Reynolds' Youtube videos. These are highly recommended. Search under basic bookbinding. Another book that Wendy had was an accordion, with origami pockets, made with canal paper, which is sold in sheets of 9" x 44". One of the slipcases she had featured curved boards for the opening, instead of a half circle. These cases were made to hold the books she and Shlomo made when they were at the artists' residence in Italy. Many of the "pages" were echo-printed cloth. She noted that some papers had been trimmed to fit the book.

Nancy French had non-traditional cards with marbled fronts. Julie, who had taken two workshops, the enclosures with Spike, and linocuts with Larry, showed the linocut she had made, copied directly from her I-pad. Gayle had bookbinding supplies to sell, including tape, mull and headbands. For her cards, she chose paper quilts, using original Mennonite patterns, which were half origami, half quilting. In addition, Gayle showed cards that did not work, due to the glue used. Some glue sticks made the paper buckle. Double-sided tape won't come off if you get it where you don't want it.

Nancy Trottier paid tribute to her grandmother, Clara. She made a slipcase to hold the book of Clara's cards, received from her husband and son. Steve had an accordion book and small card made by a colleague, David Brewer. The book contained the text of a poem.

Due to the great amount of show and tell, items for sale and treats, it was decided to have Susan's presentation on themed structures in January.

Next Meeting

January 10, Themed structures, Susan Pinard

18 in attendance