

CBBAG - OTTAWA VALLEY

Minutes

September 12, 2018

Theme: Getting back into the groove: what did you work on over the summer?

Chair

Spike began her first meeting, by welcoming the group, which included several new faces. Each person introduced himself/herself, giving some information about their interests and work. Spike asked how they had heard of our group. Answer: the website.

This year's program will soon go onto our website. The position of program coordinator needs to be filled to ensure that things run smoothly this year.

Spike described the benefits of membership: lower workshop fees and receiving the journal, Book Arts/arts du livre Canada, which is published twice a year. In the last couple of years, we have been able to get Dan Mezza, from London, Ontario, to come and teach core courses. Normally, these are offered only in Toronto.

Question: do we have bulk purchasing power? Technically, we order individually, however, sometimes we order more and share the cost. We do not have a bulk supplier. Since we are a non-profit organization, we cannot be making money from this. We do have a rep coming from Columbia Finishing Mills in the fall, who will give us more information about orders.

Notices need to be put on the website, with blurbs and pictures, of varied things. Email Spike if you have any questions.

Financial Report

The bank balance is good, standing at \$9405.

Workshops

Workshops are held every month, on a Saturday, at the Routhier Community Centre, in the Market. Some workshops run for 2 days, and these have been held on Friday & Saturday, due to the extra expense required, if it were on a Sunday. We would need to pay the person's salary as well on that day.

On September 29, Bookbinding 101 will be held, and it still has room for more participants. Spike recommended that people go to Eventbrite, where information can be found about the workshop.

The list of workshops for the year is:

September 29 Bookbinding 101, will include tools and materials, with Spike Minogue

October 13 Miniature books galore, will include blind tooling, leather covers, with Spike Minogue

January 12 Treasure boxes, with Susan Pinard

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Cherryl Moote will do a 2 day workshop on folded structures.

Wendy Southin will do a workshop on book covers.

Nancy French will do a 2 day workshop on marbling.

We are waiting for confirmation from some out of town people. Dea Fischer, who lives in the UK, would like to teach a course here. See her work in Pages magazine, which is a subsidiary of Cloth, Paper, Scissors. We are hoping for the spring for this. Spike also has some leads on teachers in Boston. The core courses stand at a higher level, and her goal is to bring other classes back up to this level, to raise the bar.

Challenges

We debated last year what to do about challenges and swaps. Spike explained how challenges worked, as an unorganized way to create things. People are still in favour of swaps. Can we do both? Answer: Yes. Swaps are more structured and have rules about size, materials, etc. Challenges have fewer rules, and are more inclusive, with the goal being to inspire. There was not a lot of participation, as doing it monthly meant a lot of work. What about combining a technique and a theme?

There will be 3 challenges this year. The themes will be chosen in September, with work due in December; December, due in March; and March, due in June.

Who would organize the swap? Deidre offered, assisted by Wanda. Participation in this is voluntary, with the requirement being to make the number of things according to how many have signed up. The topic will be decided in October, and participants will have to give their names in November. Gail has sent to Deidre her notes about running swaps. Making multiples is more expensive, it was noted.

The challenge chosen this month was buttonhole/boutonnière. Deadline: December.

Program

The list of programs this year:

October 10 John Holmes on his apprenticeship

November 14 Dan Plourde from Columbia Finishing Mills

December 12 Susan Pinard - hands on demo of folding structures

January 9 Christine McNair on a surprise royal binding

February 13 makers' tables, demos at tables on how to do things, for example Spike on distress inks,
Susan a calligraphy demo

March 13 Paul Champion-Demers on Byzantine bindings

April 10 Roxanne on her Art of the Book submission

May 8 image transfer demo

June 12 AGM, end of year flea market, end of year challenge & swap

There are some other ideas as well: photographing your work and Béatrice's sewn boards. There is a new Minutes - September 2018

film, Graphic Means, due to be released soon, that could be shown on movie night.

Announcements

Nancy French, our new treasurer, mentioned that Paper/Papier will now be carrying her marbled papers. The book lab being built at Carleton University has gone to the industrial design company, who will decide where it will be built.

Madeleine had some things to give away, donations from calligrapher Claire Turpin and book cloth from Roberta Huebener. She announced her participation in a show at the Shenkman, Sélections, from September 20 to October 16. Next May, the Calligraphy Society of Ottawa will be offering a workshop on paste paper, with Beth McKee. The Ottawa Gatineau Printmakers' Connective has an exhibition at The Nepean Creative Arts Centre from September 6th to November 19th, entitled "Murray Dineen and Friends, and the Earth".

Show and Tell

Nancy French had a miniature book with a ribbon, that was a Christmas ornament. The text was the poem, The Night Before Christmas. She made these with Spike's help and intends to sell them. Christine McNair had a mock up of a 19th century commercial binding, a herbarium by Catharine Parr Traill. Roxanne had the catalogue of the Art of the Book Exhibit, which includes her work. Over the summer, she gave a session to the library staff at the University of Ottawa on the pamphlet stitch and its variations. Karen Hanmer sent her instructions for the stitching.

Kelly did a workshop with Stu Hill, using deer hide in a long stitch book. She had some leftovers from the Show & Sale in May. In the Netherlands, she made a slipcase and a clamshell box. Wendy had several books not yet bound, with covers of paste papers and echo printed papers. She had a small wallet, based on the Chinese sewing kit. If paste paper is still sticky when dry, what can one do about it? Suggestion was to put baby powder on it, then wipe it off. Tiffany had rebound some old books.

Spike had book covers, done in acrylic pours. She also had a book and box from a workshop, first called "exquisite corpse", then "Lovely Creatures" with Holly and Seth Apter. The idea is having signatures in three sections inside the book, representing heads, torsos and legs. One could flip the sections to show whatever "body" was desired. Collage was involved as well, making for interesting covers. The box had various tools collaged onto it, dollar store items, some of them bright pink (originally). Spike has also purchased a leather paring machine, and is willing to help people get into using leather with it.

Next Meeting

October 12, John Holmes on his apprenticeship

23 in attendance