

CBBAG - OTTAWA VALLEY

Minutes

September 9, 2015

Theme: Wabi Sabi, with Holly Dean

Chair

Roxanne welcomed everyone to a new season of meetings! We have a great line up of programs and workshops. The meeting was held in the games room. There were no new attendees.

The executive will meet prior to meetings, when there are issues to be discussed. The chair will then report to the assembled members on the discussions.

We have updated our membership with the Ottawa Arts Council. Benefits of membership include being able to advertise our workshops on their website and taking advantage of their funding opportunities.

Art of the Book 2018 is going to be organized by the BC Islands Chapter. They have asked for suggestions of venues in Ottawa, for the exhibit, which would likely be in 2019.

Meetings regarding the Book Arts Show will resume in October.

Workshops

The workshops with Dan Mezza, hosted at Paul's in May and June, went very well. There are two new workshops in the near future. Bookbinding 101 is full with 8 people, and one more person was accepted into the class. The Sensuous Book has 6 people registered so far, and will be held at Spike's studio in Franktown, which is 22 minutes from Stittsville. Carpooling can be arranged.

Holly reported on Seth Apter's workshop. At the moment, registration is open only to the West Carleton Arts Society. Membership in this Society costs \$20. Registration will open to the general public on October 1.

Communication

Two requests for bookbinding have been received. Gayle and Steve will represent CBBAG at the Cornwall Culture Days, on September 26 at the Cornwall Public Library, where art work may be sold. Others are welcome to join in.

Josiane, Julie and Roxanne will handle our website translation.

Swap

We would like to decide on this year's swap in October. Please think about it.

Co-Chair

Roxanne asked if anyone were interested, but no one came forward. No experience is needed. What is required, though, is for someone to be organized, good with people, and a member of CBBAG.

Minutes - September 2015

October's program

Gayle spoke about the program next month, Tricks of the Trade, or "things I wish I'd known earlier". Everyone is invited to share tips, something learned, tools, techniques, supplies, reference material, or knowledge of a special artist. The aim is to produce a list that everyone can consult, with expectations that it could be added to in the future. As an incentive to get people to participate, names will be entered into a draw for prizes.

Suggestion for purchase

Susan asked if the Chapter could purchase a leather paring machine, such as the one used in the June workshop with Dan Mezza. We used a Schärfix at this workshop. Also favoured is the Brockman parer, made by P & S, which is not made anymore, but may still be available. Spike will investigate getting a parer, and will keep it in her studio. Any member would be able to borrow it. When Roxanne asked for approval, nearly everyone raised his hand. The Chapter does have the money.

Bookbinding in Wales

This summer, Paul took a bookbinding course in Wales, and showed the books he had made. We asked if he would be willing to show pictures of his course at our January movie night.

Show and tell

There was lots to show, including a small antique press, which is actually a button press. Larry had a set of 3 clamshell boxes, joined together, to hold copies of a book, each bound slightly differently. Also part of this set was a map in a folder. Gayle showed the sample book, *Tibetan paper & handicraft*, which one could obtain from the Tibetan Paper Place, if an order over \$20 were placed. She had a book as well, *Tricks of the trade, confessions of a bookbinder*, by Jamie Kamph.

Diane showed a small charity box, for collecting money. She shared an interesting story of meeting a bookbinder in Los Angeles. Geneviève attended the Twist Fibre Festival in Québec, in August, where she used natural dyes for colouring threads. She showed a set of threads, from a wool farm in Maine, which had been dyed with different colours. She will give a workshop next weekend on this topic. Val had some linocuts, with some versions in colour.

Susan showed her Chinese sewing kit and another book she made using directions found in an early issue of *Tabellae Ansatae*, the forerunner of *Bound & Lettered*. In addition, she had some crocheted bags. Sylvie had wonderful paste papers (papiers à la colle) from the French workshop, Les musardises d'Hippocrène (www.musardises.com). Val and Josiane had prints and handmade paper to show. Wendy shared news of a west end studio tour, which starts September 19, and runs for 2 weekends. She will send the information to Holly, so it can go on our webpage.

Program

Wabi Sabi is the Japanese art of impermanence. Holly took an 8 week course on Wabi Sabi, and recognized that she had been connected to this her whole life, but had not known what it was called. The philosophy is that art does not have to be perfect. It is the beauty of things: imperfect, impermanent, incomplete. One of her experiments was using rusty things on watercolour paper, next sprayed with water and vinegar, then left outside, covered. Ferns and feathers can be used to paint on canvas or paper.

Minutes - September 2015

Beautiful collage pieces resulted. We were treated to a demo, where Holly sprinkled water on watercolour paper, then dropped on bits of Golden fluid acrylics: Van Dyke brown, quinacridone nickel azo gold, Payne's gray and titan buff. Many things could then be done with the paper, such as folding, lifting off some of the colour, and using a brayer. As Holly noted, the role of the artist is that of a medium.

Upcoming events

From advertisements left on the table: Before the rush show, October 30-November 1, Leeds and the Thousand Islands, Ontario; MAG artists, Merrickville Artists' Guild, September 26-27 and October 3-4; West Carleton Arts Society, Expressions of Art 2015, 35 artists show & sale, vernissage October 9 and October 10-11, in Carp.

Next Meeting

October 14, Tricks of the trade

24 in attendance