

CBBAG - OTTAWA VALLEY

Minutes

October 14, 2015

Theme: Tips of the trade

Chair

If anyone has any suggestions for venues where Art of the Book 2018 could be held, please let Roxanne know. The organizers want ideas.

Roxanne has been asked to write a 500 word article in November for the Ottawa Arts Council website, describing our Chapter and how to participate. We could add details of our upcoming events, including our workshops and meetings.

Holly and Roxanne will be going over the website in November, and are interested in hearing of anyone's suggestions. The question came up about the original Wordpress website put together by Maggie and John. If one enters "CBBAG OV", then it will come up. The answer is that it should now be retired. If one enters "CBBAG Ottawa", then the current website appears.

Spike will ask for funding from National, to cover the cost of the leather paring machine we wish to acquire, as funds are available from them. Spike will store the machine at her studio, but members will be able to borrow it.

Workshops

Nine people participated in Spike's Bookbinding 101 workshop on September 19. It went very well.

Eight people have signed up for the Sensuous Book, which will take place this weekend. There might be space for one or two more participants. One would have to contact Spike or Cristina in that case.

Crossed structure binding is set for November 14, with Val Bridgeman. Eventbrite registration is now open.

Sewn boards binding will take place on December 12 with Lynn Curry, relating to the technique she used to bind the Altona Haggadah at LAC.

Cristina plans to start promoting the 6-day Bookbinding 1 workshop, in late November or early December. This workshop will take place over two weekends in March.

Holly sent an update on the sign up for Seth Apter's workshops.

Susan mentioned that a half day workshop on marbling will take place on November 14, at LOAM Clay Studio, on Hamilton Ave. Details can be found on LOAM's website, <http://www.loamclaystudio.ca/workshops/>. Last month, we had received a request about marbling.

Communication

We received another request, this time for a 25 page book of poems, either typeset or done in calligraphy, needed by the end of the month. As the timeline is completely unrealistic, we will refuse.

Cornwall Culture Days

Gayle and Steve represented CBBAG at this event, held on September 26, at the Cornwall Public Library. It was a success! A book event held in a library is great for a start. The location for the event within the lovely old building was also good. Visitors liked going away with little books. This was the first time that the Culture Days at the Cornwall Library took place, testing the waters, so to speak. If it is organized again, we should take part and support it. There is a fair bit of interest in bookbinding in Cornwall. Gayle and Steve related our experience in forming a Chapter in Ottawa. Perhaps Cornwall could form their own? We could take advantage of each other's workshops.

Shenkman Art Centre Exhibition

Gayle and Steve, with our thanks, have agreed to set up and take down this exhibition, which is scheduled for February. Facilities there consist of two free-standing showcases in the lobby. The theme is our swaps, with a possible title: The Swap Meet/L'échange. Pieces can be submitted from any of the previous swaps. *It is very essential that the owner's name be clearly marked and included on or with the submitted item.* This would also be helpful when returning the pieces back to the owners.

The plan is to start collecting potential works now. Photos can be sent to Gayle of what one intends to submit before having to bring it in. Later on a work party will be set up, probably in January, to choose the items, do labels and translate them. If anything is not accepted for the exhibit, it is by no means a judgement of the work. The goal is to create an attractive display of a wide variety of works to demonstrate the swap concept. More information is to come in December. Geneviève has the archived collection of pieces as well.

This is a promotional event for CBBAG, and is sure to attract people.

Book Arts Show

The committee met before the meeting. The venue for the show needs to be decided by November 2. At the moment, there is a short list of venues. The preferred dates for the show itself are either May 28 or June 4.

Swap

Two ideas were presented for the next swap. One would be to decorate paper. This would involve a lot of work, for creating enough paper to swap with others. One possible theme would be to have one particular colour. Another idea, to get the swaps back to focusing on content, would be to do signatures, with a theme of polarity, i.e. opposites, such as light and dark. Everyone was in favour of this idea. Gayle and Holly will work out the details, and get back to us in November. Signatures would be due for exchange in February, and then assembled, to be ready for the show & sale in the spring. Another suggestion was to divide a large group of participants into two smaller ones, so that the swaps would be among fewer people, requiring fewer signatures to be made. One of each would still be needed for the archives, in this case.

Some members were unfamiliar with the *Windows & Doors* books, thus it would be good for people who have them to bring in samples.

Announcement

The Ottawa Small Press Book Fair will take place on November 7, at the Jack Purcell Community Centre, on Elgin Street from noon to 5 p.m. This event is put on twice a year. Steve has a table booked there, to

represent CBBAG. Volunteers are needed.

Show and Tell

Cristina showed a poster she had come across which featured printed words on cups of coffee. Diane had several samples of "single page" bound books, which she had done in the bookbinding workshop. These books included fabric on the covers and ribbon. Wendy had made journals for the West End Studio Tour. Echo printed papers were used to wrap the signatures, with her purpose being to use up her stash of papers and scraps. Spike had a colourful assortment of tie-dyed papers. Mulberry and Japanese papers were the best. Ritz fabric dyes were used, and even tissue papers, which had been tied first. Vinegar added to the water enhanced the take up of the dye. All in all, it was rewarding to do the experimenting. Deirdre had St Armand paper, 300 lb., and offered to obtain more, if anyone were interested.

With respect to the question, if someone joined CBBAG, would the Ottawa Chapter be so advised and the name added to the roster? The answer is yes.

Program

The list of tips of the trade has been compiled and will be available as a separate document, to which additions may be made. Thanks to all that participated.

Next Meeting

November 11. Part 2 of the report on the 32nd International Association of Paper Historians Congress, attended by Maria Bedynski and Geneviève Samson

18 in attendance