

CBBAG - OTTAWA VALLEY

Minutes

November 12, 2014

Theme: Japanese stitching techniques and paper making, with Geneviève and Mary

President

Roxanne spoke about our workshop policy with respect to refunds. She asked National if the policy had to be the same for all chapters, and was told that no one has ever asked them that before. They see no reason why we can't form our own guidelines. She is consulting the guidelines that National uses to prepare those for our chapter.

The new CBBAG website is live, and many things need to be updated. The OV portion of the site has been updated.

Thanks to Marie's initiative, Roxanne has set up a @cbbag.ca account in Google for emails and storing important files. All emails sent to the @gmail.com account are automatically redirected to the cbbagottawa@cbbag.ca account. The link will be updated on the chapter's Website in the next week.

Gayle is collecting information on instructors and what they would be willing to teach.

Workshops

Larry's workshop, on block printing, was very good and informative. Geneviève's workshop will be held on November 15, and is full.

Cristina talked with Rose Newlove about getting Martha Cole to do a workshop in Ottawa. Martha has arranged to do a 2 day workshop in Toronto, in October 2015. Martha's fee is \$500 per day. We will investigate further.

Members' activities

Steve was at a small book fair, and handed out CBBAG information. The cost per table was \$30. We should contact Christine McNair next time, as it would be worth having a table.

Envelope swap

This year's swap will be envelopes, with enclosures, to be assembled later into book form. At the beginning of the meeting, there were only 3 names on the participants list. By the end of the meeting, there were 17 names. It was decided to allow people to join the swap until the end of November.

In February, the exchange will take place. Then in May, the bound envelopes will be shown. The size of the envelope will be 5 1/2" square. Each must contain at least one enclosure, in such a way that it will not slide out. Enclosures should lie flat inside the envelopes. As well, envelopes will need at least one usable hinge, for binding. Flaps make good hinges. Any theme and any medium can be used. Bind or assemble in some way, to keep the collection together.

Gayle will make these instructions known to those who have submitted their name and will let us know

how many envelopes we need to do. Maggie brought her supply of envelopes that are the exact size. These were distributed to those present.

December's meeting

December's meeting will be a social, a meet and greet, to celebrate the holiday. It will include a gift exchange, thus each person should take a wrapped gift (bookbinding supplies) and a small plate of treats. Thanks to Gayle for presenting the idea.

Show & tell

Maggie made 2 folders with her own paper, tied with ribbon, based on Gayle's presentation at last month's meeting. Anne had stitched pieces of marbled paper together and had mounted them on cards. Paul showed his book with the apple wood covers. Spike had done papermaking, and had two sets of papers, one made with abaca and the other with cotton.

Geneviève and Maria spoke about their September trip to Italy, where they attended a conference on paper making. The conference was held in Fabriano and Amalfi. They had many books to show.

Madeleine had picked up some brochures from the National Gallery, *Glossary of print techniques* and *Care and handling of works of art on paper*.

Program

Geneviève and Mary spoke about Japanese stitching techniques and paper making. They had a set of four large brushes, made of tree hair, deer hair, horse hair and goat hair. Each brush had a different use. A small stirring machine was used to make wheat starch paste. It was called "cook and stir" (Saucier in French) and was made by Tefal. A strainer, made with bamboo and horse hair, was also used. We each got a chance to push the paste through the strainer. Sheets of paper showing tools used in bookbinding, from *Japanese bookbinding: instructions from a master craftsman* were passed out.

In Japan, paper is used for many things, including clothing. Wooden tools or things made with wooden handles are preferred. No metal means no rust. Paper-backed cloth, like silk, is used for binding, and bone clasps for closures. Wooden clasps are often used now. The naming of sheets of paper went from scroll, to accordion folds and then to pages.

A nailhead gauge was shown. One can put two screws in a cork, one at each end, and use this as a guide to make constant measurements for stab bindings, that is, keeping the same distance from the top and bottom, and in from the spine. Mary passed around strips of paper which we twisted so that they resembled threads. One can find many images of Japanese bindings online.

Lamentably, very few people make paper in the traditional way now. There were books that showed what steps were involved in this process.

Maybe we could get Nancy Jacobi to come and talk about this topic. Nancy is from Toronto and owns the Japanese Paper Place.

Next Meeting

December 10. Holiday social and gift exchange

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