

CBBAG - OTTAWA VALLEY

Minutes

December 14, 2016

Theme: Masu boxes

Chair

Steve praised and thanked the members for all of the activities in which they participated, in 2016, recognizing that the members are the most important part of any organization.

Two members have been recognized for their volunteer efforts by National. Susan and Spike received Exceptional Volunteer 2016 awards for their work as secretary and treasurer/coordinator of various functions respectively.

Steve had been given 3 copies of the 2016-2017 Jewish calendar, letterpress printed on fine paper. These he gave to Wendy and Diane Parkin.

He and Spike have been working on the end of year reports for National.

We enjoyed a plate of goodies brought in by Madeleine and Deidre.

Workshops

The workshop on marbling, which was scheduled for December 10, did not take place, due to low registration. However, Susan offered sessions at her home, to those who had signed up. In addition, she gave a session to one person who contacted the Chapter and was interested in seeing a live demonstration.

Spike announced that Book Binding I would likely run in the spring, at her studio in Franktown. When she sent out the email, three or four people responded right away.

Last weekend, at her studio, Spike hosted a stone carving workshop given by Paul Herrera, who had studied with Father Catich. Nancy Trottier also participated. Maggie spoke about studio insurance, after hearing that one of the participants got a piece of stone in the eye.

Treasurer

Spike reported that we are good financially.

Programs

Wendy informed the Chapter that the January program will be a presentation on Nancy Trottier's research into codicology. Nancy will be making this presentation later on to the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., so we will be getting a test run.

Wendy thought that many of us had special gifts, and recognized contributions already made, in the form of workshops and programs. She is going to ask Holly to send out a questionnaire, to solicit ideas: who would like to teach ...?

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Then she thanked Steve and Gayle for their annual Christmas book, and asked them to speak about its creation. Steve said the process usually starts in August, when they look for stories. This was the 8th year for the book. It has been kept to the same size and number of pages, as many copies get mailed out. After the gardening season is finished, Gayle gets busy choosing the colours for the covers and cuts the boards. They like to use bookcloth from Columbia Finishing Mills in Cornwall. Covers vary, and have been made out of maps, marbled papers, and even trunk lining paper. Steve does all the printing, then they work together to finish the books. As he says, "They are fun to make and fun to give away." In the recent issue of Book Arts Canada, there is an article about these books.

Online Exhibition

Roxanne mentioned that the exhibition is going well. She thanked people for their contributions. Unfortunately, the person who had promised to write the text for her was unable to do so, thus Roxanne has taken on that job. She is hopeful that all would be completed by the end of the year, or possibly early in January.

Show and Tell

Paul spoke about compo, an old technique used on books, and showed his books with compo and gilding. Susan showed the meander book she had made in her calligraphy class. Diane had a book with folded pages, which was a book sculpture.

Béatrice has been working on making a folder for the drawings handed in at the Book Arts Show. Wendy had an interesting book model, made as a journal for her grandchildren. It was bound with limp binding, and various papers, not all blank, were used. Some pages folded out. Roxanne had another of her small edition books, entitled "Here, there". It includes text and photos.

Val, who took Martha Cole's workshop last year, showed two books she had made with fabric covers. She asked for advice in binding a large book. The answer was to use 3 layers of board for the covers, two with the grain going the same way, and the middle one with the grain going in the opposite direction.

Spike had marbled paper, made in Nancy French's class. She reported that the course went well. Ruth had made a book in dos-a-dos binding, in red and green. She wants to give it to the mother of her two granddaughters, for notes on each girl. Deidre had been working with Chinese sewing kits.

Small Press Book Fair

Steve reported that CBBAG had a table at the Fair. Gayle and Spike did demos, while Steve printed covers. Gayle had a page of instructions for people to take home. Spike sold three books.

Program

Wendy showed her large collection of masu boxes, made with various papers, wallpaper, fabric and book cloth. Historically, masu boxes were used for measuring rice, which was the currency at the time.

Wendy uses iron-on fusible interfacing with certain paper to give it more strength. Spike gave us a great tip on making a lid for the box, using the same size of square as for the bottom. Do the same folding as for the bottom, but when doing the folds to the centre, leave a small gap between the fold and the centre. Repeat this for the other three sides. The sides will be a bit shorter, however the box will be slightly bigger and thus fit nicely. Of course, using a slightly larger square of paper will also make a good lid.

A draw took place for one of Wendy's boxes. Diane Parkin won. A second box was given to Spike, who was able to fold her box the fastest, in a contest staged by Wendy.

Next Meeting

January 11, Nancy Trottier on codicology

19 in attendance