

## **CBBAG - OTTAWA VALLEY**

### Minutes

November 14, 2018

**Theme:** Dan Plourde from Columbia Finishing Mills

#### **Chair**

Spike had been doing a lot of travelling in the past month, including a trip to Halifax. She reminded everyone that the buttonhole/boutonnière swap was due next month. Susan will be presenting a program on folded structures that night. Tonight was the last chance to sign up for the swap. The meeting started with 8 names on the list, and by the end of the evening, there were 12. We included Wanda, since she is a co-organizer.

#### **Workshops**

The mini book workshop on October 13 was a great day, and people went away happy. Spike had more books planned than were needed, which is always fine. One book had a leather cover.

The treasure box workshop on November 17 has 6 people registered.

#### **Financial Report**

Status quo (all good).

#### **Program**

Dan thanked us for the invitation, saying that he didn't get to Ottawa as much as he used to. He described some of the history of Columbia Finishing Mills, saying that making paper for Canadian passports, with material from the Czech Republic, was 20% of their business, but now that was no longer the case. The company started in 1965 in Cornwall. In 1991, they were going to be closed by their American owners, however they convinced the owners to let them stay open. He mentioned that they have an embossing machine, as well as a great assortment of papers, some cloth-lined, some coated, some uncoated, available in various weights and embossed patterns. Latex saturation makes craft paper softer and stronger, but not heavier in weight. These days, they are going more into packaging and doing less in bookmaking.

E-books affected the novel and pocket book industry in a big way, and now they affect textbooks. Interesting that students prefer the physical books. Gayle told how her e-textbook disappeared after she had finished taking her course! E-books are on a plateau right now, while the production of books is increasing.

Columbia has surplus inventory, sometimes in rolls or sheets. The minimum charge is \$150 for orders that they have to ship out. Cash sales in Cornwall at the factory itself will cost less. Steve and Gayle use them a lot, saying that Milbank is a good fabric to use. It is easy to clean, and costs less.

Dan circulated materials, explaining the features and uses of each. Buckram, CFM graphic board, chip board, the new glue 3001G, real leather, bonded leather, reinforcing materials and end bands were among the materials. Some rolls don't want to uncurl, so Columbia has a decurling bar that they use when

cutting rolls into sheets. He invited those present to browse through the materials spread out on the tables. He had pens and business cards, as well as samples and booklets to give away. Dan asked us to let him know ahead of time if we were going to Cornwall.

### **Show and Tell**

Spike had posters to show from her trips to Toronto and Halifax, which people were invited to take. In addition, she had things from the finishing course with Dan Mezza. She showed the plaque she had made when she took the course the first time with Betsy. She went to Wayzgoose in Nova Scotia, where she volunteered, and taught people how to do pamphlet stitches. She met Amos Kennedy, who does letter press printing, creating thought-provoking posters. Lindsay Schmittle of Gingerly Press walked the Appalachian Trail for 5 months and produced posters (26 in all) every 100 miles, reflecting what she did on the walk. Spike has two of her posters. She and others printed about 150 sheets in a print shop. Spike described the CSO meeting she attended, where Julian Waters presented a talk. She helped Julian sell his books and prints, using her square, and came away with his book on Hermann Zapf and Sheila Water's Under Milk Wood. Finally, she showed her new book, Print Maker, published by Upper Case in Calgary. It is very interesting, and shows some print making, letter press, and printing for quilters.

Tiffany went with Christine McNair to Toronto for a restoration/conservation course, and showed her book, with its unusual cover and box. Béatrice had the small books she had made in Spike's workshop. Wendy has been making paint/ink using Jason Logan's book, Make Ink. She had cut dye plants in October and then put them in the freezer. Buckthorn, which is an invasive plant here, is one she made ink from. If the pH level is changed, then the colour will change accordingly. The green she had was a historic colour, used in medieval manuscripts. Buckthorn green was also known as sap green. She showed paper coloured with dark and light berries. To make it paint, something pasty would need to be added, such as gum arabic. If the paint is filtered, one is left with light green.

Madeleine announced the Print Makers Collective show on November 17, as part of the Sandy Hill one and only fair.

### **Next Meeting**

December 12, Susan Pinard and folded structures

15 in attendance