

Escritura

N E W S L E T T E R

Albuquerque's Calligraphic Society is open to anyone interested in the fine art of beautiful lettering.



A
WORD
FROM
THE

President



Greetings!

It is hard to believe how fast this year is flying by. I guess that is because we are so busy. The homework assignments that we have been doing and bringing to meetings are beautiful, humorous and stimulating. I hope even more will join in. It is just brain stimulation and it makes us practice our favorite art.

We are getting some new members and the new Mentor Program should be in full swing shortly. More things are in the works for beginning calligraphers and will be announced when the details are worked out. Keep watching!

The By-Laws were reviewed and approved at the April meeting. Next year's officers were elected in June. Beth House, Program Chair, has planned excellent programs for the upcoming year...so I hope we will see you there. It is also time for you to start thinking about your entries for the State Fair.

In case you are looking for a reason for a little trip this summer...Ghost Ranch is hosting Literally Letters Calligraphy Festival June 23 – 29th, while two of our members are teaching classes at the Legacies II Conference in Dallas this summer, July 19th – 26th.

May the letters keep flowing from your pen.

~ Jan Florence ~

OFFICERS

President Jan Florence
281-5771 jsfcallig@yahoo.com
Vice President . . . Beth House
717-1032

house.richard807@gmail.com
Secretary Ginger Larkin
385-1347 ging1330@aol.com
Treasurer Evelyn Costello
877-9288

evelyncostello@msn.com

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ESCRIBIENTE

P.O. Box 30166
Albuquerque, NM 87190
Summer Issue 2014

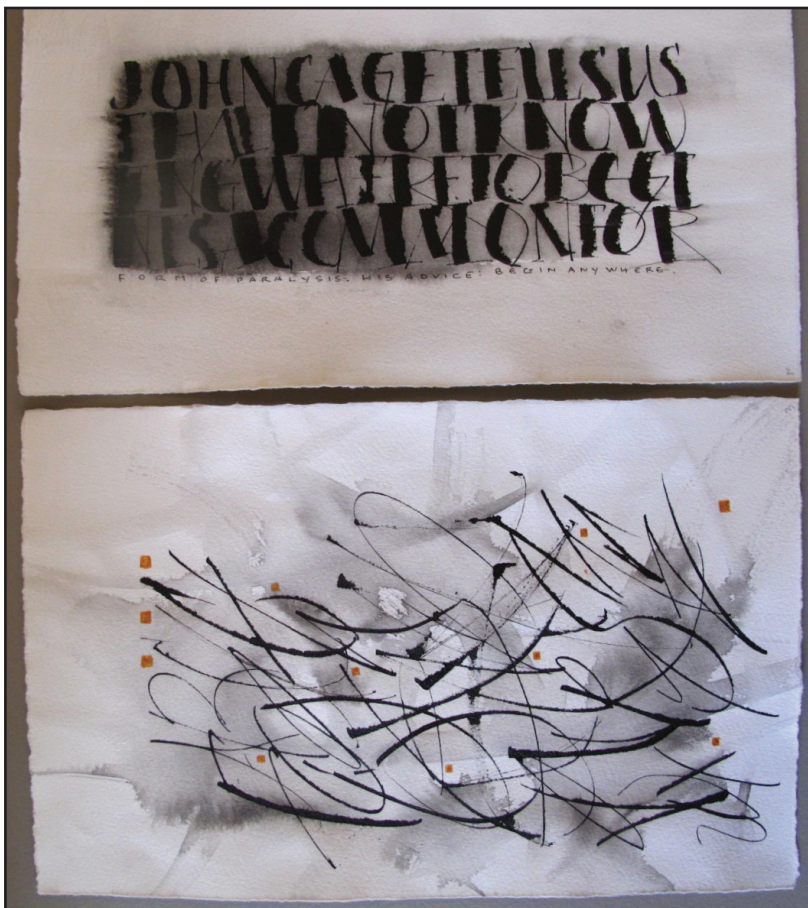
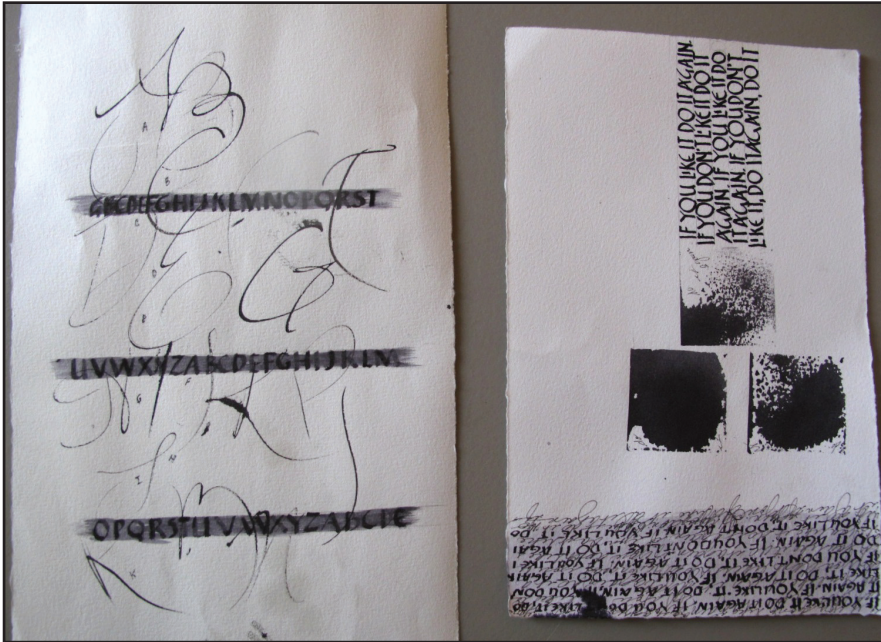
in this issue

Cover: a color exercise by
Lois Wagner from Louise
Grunewald's workshop (see
pages 6-8).

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woodworking
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FYI: Escribiente is a non-profit organization of persons dedicated to the advancement and promotion of calligraphy. Meetings are held at 6:30 pm on the first Wednesday of each month at Manzano Mesa Multi-Generational Center (SW corner of Elizabeth and Southern SE), except for January and July. December's holiday meeting will be announced. Yearly dues are \$30 with online newsletter and \$40 with printed and mailed newsletter. Dues may be mailed to: ESCRIBIENTE, PO Box 30166, Albuquerque, NM 87190. They are not pro-rated and are payable May-July. Benefits of membership include: receiving the newsletter; book, tape or DVD checkout from our lending library; discounts to attend workshops; and discounts at local art, paper, and frame shops. Escribiente's Newsletter is published quarterly and supplemented by monthly flyers. Articles from this newsletter are copyright, and may not be reprinted without permission from the editor. Do you want your work featured in the Newsletter? Do you have an article of interest you would like to publish? Do you have an event you would like to publicize? Send information by mail or e-mail to: Escribiente Newsletter Editor, PO Box 30166, Albuquerque, NM 87190 or to eofeske@yahoo.com.

Lettering as Texture workshops with Amy Jones



Black and white pages by Nancy Napier and Trish Meyer

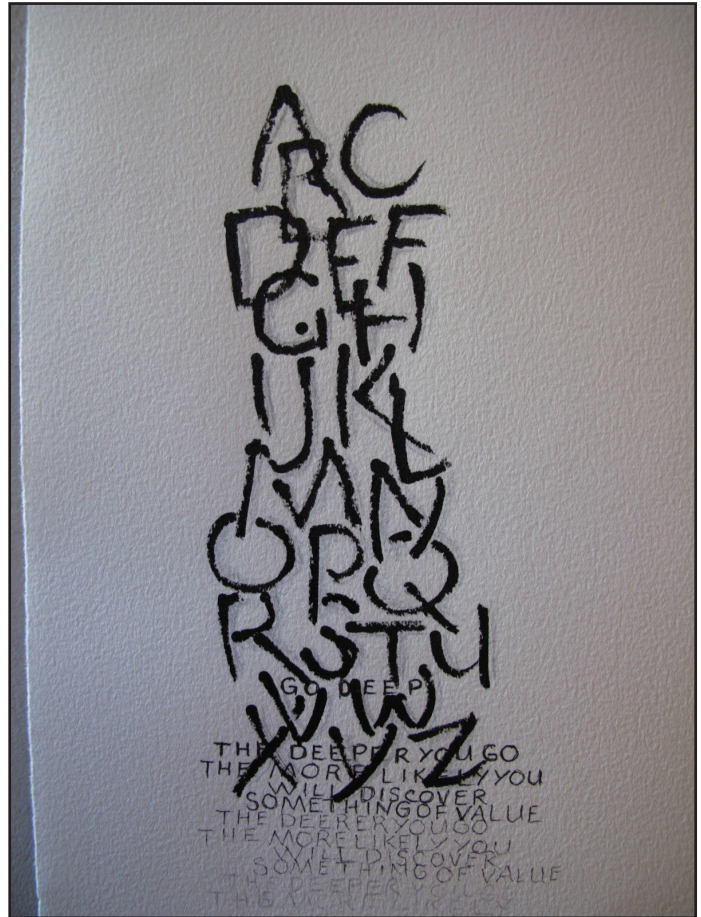
review by Rodger Mayeda

I have a confession: I'm a calligraphy newbie and this was my first Escribiente workshop. After receiving the supply list, my first reaction was "Wow, this is a lot of stuff and I don't even know what some of it is." My second thought was "I'm going to be in way over my head!"

Amy began the workshop by providing some background on herself. Amy then went over some concepts of using letters as textures: overlapping, rows of text, nested, concept of 3, bands, scribbling, squares, rule of thirds, direction, washes and water. She mentioned the elements of design: line, shape, form, texture and pattern, value, color and proportion. She also

mentioned the principles of design: balance, repetition, unity/harmony, gradation/proportion, alternation (rhythm), dominance (focal point) and contrast. Contrast can be further broken down into size (height), form (font), weight (nib size), color, direction (vertical/horizontal), structure and texture. She showed us examples of her work, illustrating these points. We then began a series of exercises to reinforce these points. The first day was dedicated to black and white with shades of grey. The second day was dedicated to the use of color although we spent a good portion of the morning completing our projects from the previous day.

Among many things, we learned to “work outside the box,” which was a new or forgotten theory for many. Since I was the ‘newbie’, I also learned from other nine students, as has always been my experience with Escribiente members. I was able to overcome my fear of sharing my work in front of others and not to overthink my next project, just start it. I had a blast!



Left: Janice Gabel; above: Lynda Lawrence and two pages by Caryl McHarney. Photos by Evelyn Costello



*Top: participants in Amy Jones' January workshop
Bottom: participants in her February workshop*

“Good Hues” Workshop by Louise Grunewald

review by Ron Peterson

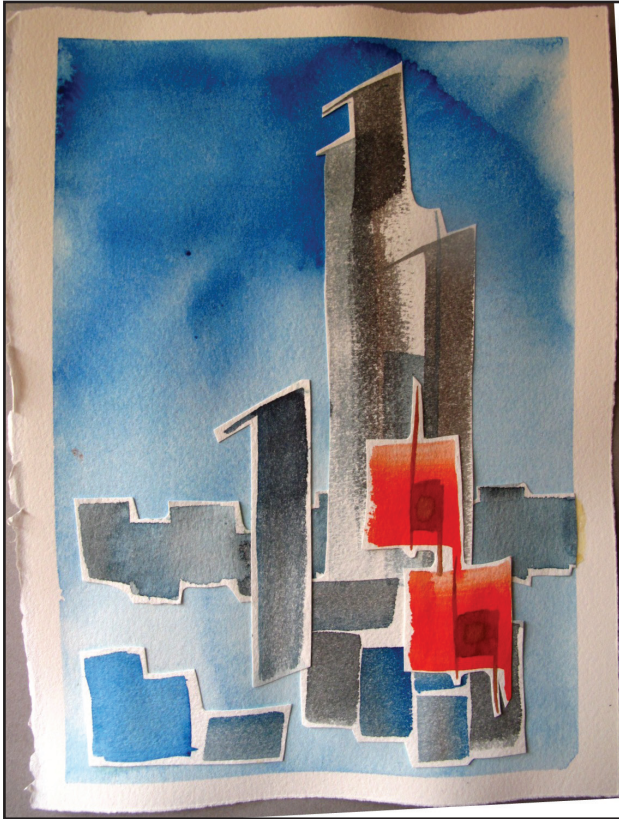
This April 26 & 27 workshop included a good review of how to use a color wheel to mix and select colors that combine well in a piece. Watercolors were used because they result in brighter colors in more striking pieces. Included were exercises in Value (light to dark) and design principles of Balance, Unity, Harmony, Rhythm, Variety, Contrast, and Repetition, each of which can make our pieces of art (mostly in our cases, calligraphy) better.

Use of color schemes (monochromatic, complementary, analogous, split complementary, or triad) will make a work go together in a pleasing way. There were additional exercises in geometric motif (rectangular, curvilinear, and triangular).

The primary focus was on design elements rather than calligraphy. This is something many of us play by “feel” instead of developing in our work. Those who attended went away with a lot of good color theory which will be evident in future projects.



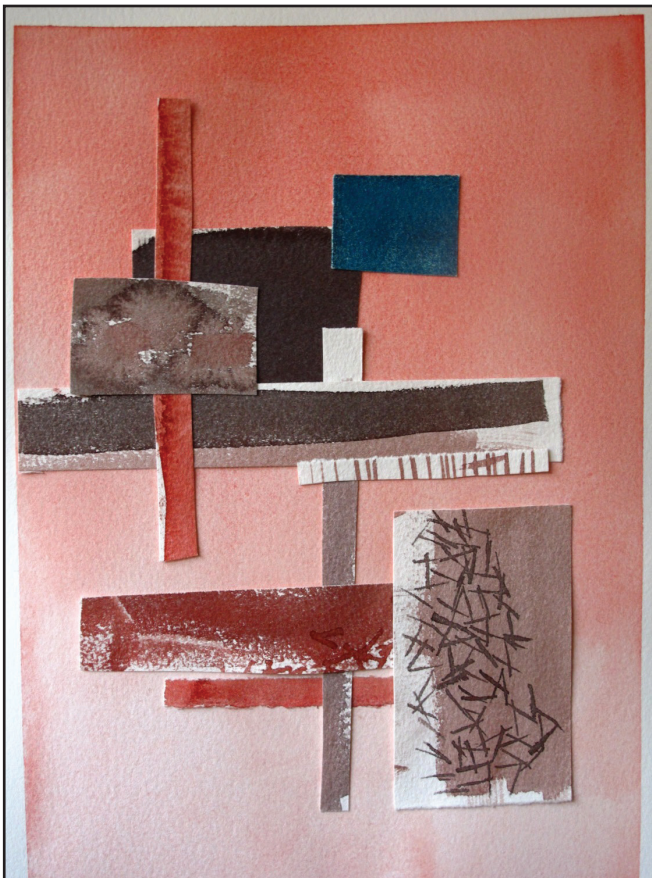
*Left: designs by Patty Hammarstedt and Thelma Hahn
Above: A collage exercise by Nancy Brandt*



Above: Lois Wagner; below: Sue DeWalt

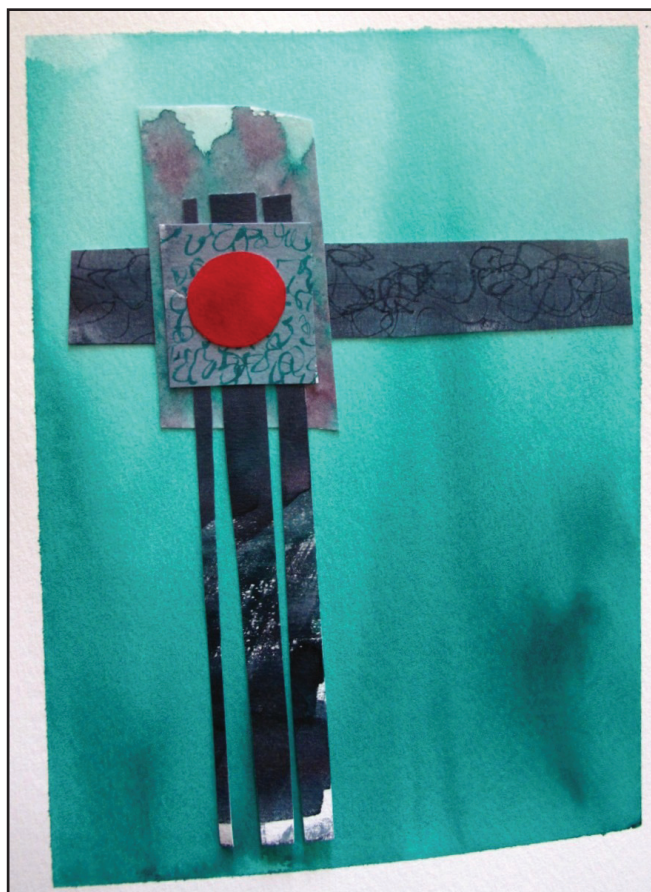


Above: Pat Vizzini; below: Beth House





*Above: attendees of the Louise Grunewald workshop
Below: collage exercises by Ginger Larkin and Catherine Hogan*





Member Rodger Mayeda gets internet attention

This is the box that Rodger Mayeda completed for the club's Christmas party raffle. The box was sized to fit a Clairefontaine pad (8.25" X 11.75") or a Clairefontaine Triomphe pad of the same size. It will also fit a normal 8.5" X 11" pad. The box is completely hand made from genuine Mahogany. The tray is deep enough to fit 1 oz. bottles of McCaffery's Penman's Ink.

Rodger is making some wonderful pen holders also! He just opened up an Etsy shop, and is also selling them in Pen & Pad in Albuquerque. There is a blog complete with detailed photos of the process to make the pen holders, written by a satisfied customer. <http://thepostman-sknock.com/artisan-made-calligraphy-pen-holders/>

So enjoy the article and congratulations Rodger!

A New Mexican Calligrapher in NYC

by Margie Disque

I have a new love. It is The Cloisters, a part of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. It may be because, when my 78-year-old mother, along with my 83-year-old father, stepped up and ordered “two seniors and one child” at the ticket office, the gal looked at them, looked at (mumble) year-old me, smiled, and GAVE HER THE CHILDREN’S PRICE! It may be my inherent love for medieval art. It may be the stunning lettering I saw everywhere I turned. From grave markers (yes, in good Romans! I was amazed!) to a genealogy of Jesus that had to have been lettered with a broad-edged hair, to the most beautiful antiphonals I have ever seen, I reveled in this beautiful place. It is at the far northern end of the Manhattan borough. One can arrive by subway or bus, but we chose a taxi from impatience. Plus, Dad was paying. The building is bits of authentic buildings from Europe, dismantled, shipped, and remantled here. There are lovely gardens that beg to be sat in, teaching herb gardens, amazing collections right and left. In one garden they had dozens of different columns. Who knew a column could be so varied? My favorite column was the wavy one, taken from a building near a river. I guess we know what influenced that carver, hmmm? The representation of the chapter room from a monastery was sobering: uncovered windows, all stone, little tiny benches for sitting. Those poor men could not have been comfortable. You’d think I would have taken pictures, but I am a horrible photographer. I heartily recommend making a field trip to this beautiful place, but be warned: there is no food service, except in the summer, so even though you could spend all day there you can’t if you don’t pack a lunch. The grounds are quite lovely and would provide perfect picnicking if you knew ahead. We didn’t. Also, if you ask them to call a taxi for you, there will be no time to enjoy the gift shop because the taxi comes immediately. I still think Dad did this on purpose, but he maintains he did not.

The color Red through the years

by Margie Disque

350,000 BC: paleolithic period, when the earliest known pigments, including red ochre, were used for tattoos and to decorate the dead.

1,000 BC: Tyrian dye, made from murex shellfish, was produced for paintings, clothing, and rouge.

650 BC: Spartan armies rose to dominate Greece wearing red cloaks, presumably to hide bloodstains and threaten their enemies.

11th Century: The Crusades sparked a trend of people dyeing their naturally red hair black or blonde, because red carried implications of witchcraft.

1295 AD: Roman Catholic cardinals began to wear red robes, an indicator of high status in various cultures. Commoners in Japan broke this rule by lining their clothing in red or wearing red underwear.

1587 AD: Mary, Queen of Scots, was beheaded in a red bodice and petticoat, the color of Roman Catholic martyrdom.

1697: The first version of “Little Red Riding Hood” was published, in which the red cloak, a symbol of sin and scandal, serves as a warning against promiscuity.

1700-ish: King Louis XIV of France wore scarlet shoes, a popular style at Versailles and across Europe.

1850s: The film Jezebel, set during this era, has Bette Davis rebelling against her suitor by wearing a garish red dress to a ball rather than virginal white.

1911: Matisse, who once said “A certain red has an effect on your blood pressure,” paints The Red Studio.

1950: Revlon launched its first ad for the red lipstick shade Where’s the Fire? In The New York Times, the ad mimicked a smoking hole and charred pages.

1981: Nancy Reagan wore a red suit to her husband’s inauguration. She was seen in the color so often people dubbed it “Reagan Red.”

1992: Christian Louboutin first painted the soles of his heels their signature red with nail polish because he felt they “lacked energy.”

All of these rosy tidbits are courtesy of Allure magazine.

*“If I don’t see you in the future,
I’ll see you in the past-ure.” --Jay Evans*



Obituary for Jay Lee Evans

Age 60, a lifelong resident of Albuquerque, passed away suddenly on January 9, 2014. He is survived by his mother Bonnie of Albuquerque, sister Kay (husband Tommy) of Bellingham WA, and an abundance of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Jay was preceded in death by his father James Lee Evans. Jay was known by many as “Roadrunner Red,” his stage name during the years he spent in the circus, trick riding and roping -- an homage to his long family history of cattle ranching in New Mexico.

After retiring from the circus, Jay worked for the City of Albuquerque in several roles including Assistant to the Mayor, Director of Parks and Recreation, and most recently as Associate Planner with Open Space.

Jay made a special connection with each person he encountered, whether it was having him draw a sketch of you, watching him juggle, singing a song together, subjecting you to a corny joke or engaging in a thought-provoking conversation. He will be sorely missed. Please join us in a celebration of Jay’s life on Thursday, January 16 at 1:00 p.m. at The City of Albuquerque Open Space Visitor Center at 6500 Coors NW. Should friends desire, memorial contributions can be made to the Albuquerque Center for Peace and Justice, 202 Harvard SE Albuquerque, NM 87106 or Open Space Alliance 6500 Coors Blvd Albuquerque, NM 87120.

Memories from members

“Friday, January 10, 2014

It is with a heavy heart that I have to send this email out. I was notified yesterday that a long time member of Escribiente and friend to many of us, Jay Evans, passed away yesterday. Apparently he passed away in his sleep. As I get details I will send them on to you.

I saw Jay toward the end of December when he came by my house to pick up calendars. It was a delightful visit. We sat for 45 minutes or longer and just talked. The conversation was from calligraphy to my wife’s collection of pop-up books. Jay was an incredible person and surprised me with his knowledge of so many things. I had just finished a commission piece, the poem “Invictus” by William Henley. Jay looked at it for a second, gave me back the piece and recited the entire poem, word or word. He was incredible, a good man, and will be dearly missed.”

-- Bill Kemp



Escribiente at Ghost Ranch, May 17-19, 2002, Jay did rope tricks as Mariachis played before Saturday supper, and showed he was also an inkrobat (previous page). Jay left the final session on a unicycle while being photographed by Petrita Alcon. photos by Esther Feske.

“There was always a treat, a surprise awaiting, around this talented and versatile man with such a kind manner. Jay found many ways to connect with people around him, leaving them happier or laughing or just feeling good to be alive. At a recent Escribiente holiday party, he sang what may have been *all* the verses of “Here We Go A’Wassailing” with everyone joining in on the chorus. A woman who spoke at the memorial service said she always felt special when she met Jay, and that she didn’t know if she should be disappointed or pleased that she just found out she was not the only one! Jay was extraordinary, highly intelligent and a keen observer, always learning, immersed in the next thing, while living the honest principles learned on the ranch, with animals, and in nature. Sadly, with Jay gone, it’s like the circus has left town.”

-- Esther Feske

“Perhaps the most unusual and entertaining Escribiente program ever was when Jay Evans taught the group how he painted the lettering on a circus wagon while the elephants were moving around inside the wagon making it jiggle and shake. Jay was an excellent steward of the land, working

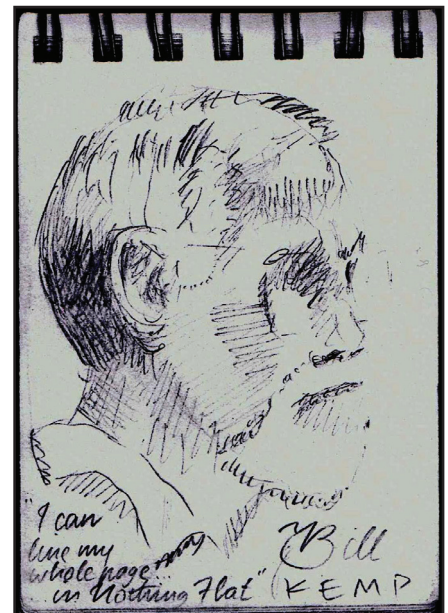
for the Open Space department for the city of Albuquerque. He was a peace activist. He was a president of Escribiente. And he always had a bit of the circus in him. He had been a trick rider and juggler.

I am forever grateful to Jay for his many talents and especially for his willingness to make our daughter’s homecoming at the airport memorable. One Christmastime arrival was enhanced by Jay, wearing the Santa Claus outfit I sewed for him, playing carols on the harmonica while performing rope tricks and juggling. Years later he came over to teach my grandsons some magic tricks.

A favorite story I heard was that at a forest service event, Smokey Bear was scheduled to pose for photos with children. The costume arrived but the inner man did not. Jay donned the outfit and dutifully entertained the children. Then, as a true New Mexican bear would, he ambled over to the garbage cans, knocked them over and pretended to eat the garbage.

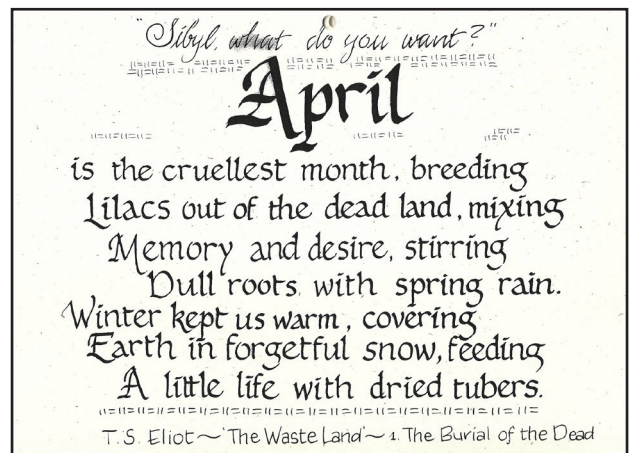
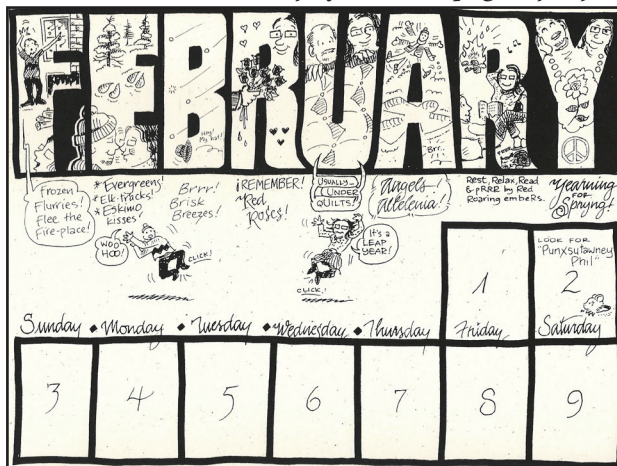
He brightened our programs, our haiku, our calendars, and our lives.”

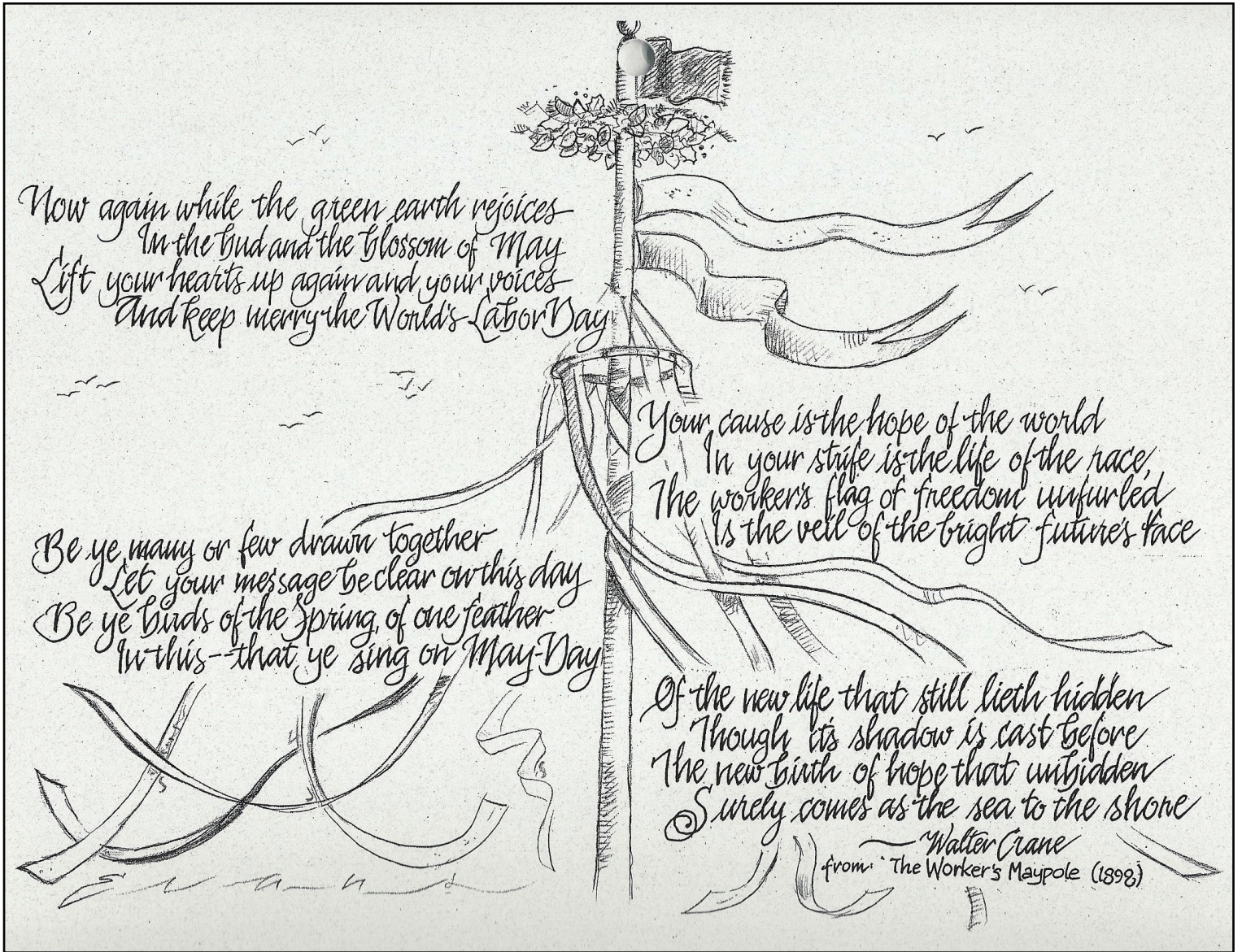
-- Kathy Chilton



Hundreds attended Jay's memorial service on a sunny January day, MC'd by his childhood friend, former mayor Martin Chavez. His notebooks and calendars were on display. (photos by Kent Swanson) Right: his sketch and quote of Bill Kemp: "I can line my whole page in Nothing Flat."

A variety of calendar pages by Jay.





All things on earth
 point home in old

OCTOBER

sailors to sea,
 travellers to walls & fences,
 hunters to field and hollow and the
 long voice of the Hounds,
 the lover to the love he has forsaken

Thomas Wolfe

Daffodils,
 That come before the Swallow dares,
 and take
 the Winds of

March

with Beauty

The Tempest · Shakespeare · Act IV, Scene iii, Line 118

PARAPROSDOKIANS

(Figures of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected, frequently humorous.)

1. Where there's a will, I want to be in it.
2. The last thing I want to do is hurt you. But it's still on my list.
3. Since light travels faster than sound, some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
4. If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.
5. We never really grow up, we only learn how to act in public.
6. War does not determine who is right -- only who is left.
7. Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.
8. To steal ideas from one person is plagiarism. To steal from many is research.
9. I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.
10. In filling out an application, where it says, 'In case of emergency, Notify:' I put 'DOCTOR'.
11. Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.
12. You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice.
13. I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.
14. To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first and call whatever you hit the target.
15. Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.
16. You're never too old to learn something stupid.
17. I'm supposed to respect my elders, but its getting harder and harder for me to find one

(The paraprodaskian thing is wandering around the internet unattributed so we are free to use it in our newsletter. Woohoo! Submitted by Margie Disque)

MEETING REMINDERS

Meetings are at 6:30 pm the first Wednesday of the month (except January and July) at the Manzano Mesa Multi-Generational Center, 501 Elizabeth SW in Albuquerque.

Wednesday, August 6, 6:30pm: Summer Workshop Roundup

Escribiente members who have attended calligraphy workshops and art retreats will share their summer workshop experiences and artwork. This is your chance to see the latest trends! Members will also be on hand to help you mat and frame your art for the NM State Fair. (The Fair is held at Expo New Mexico, Wednesday, September 10 – Sunday, September 21)

Dues are Past Due!

Dues are payable by June 1. Your dues for 2014-2015 might now be past due! If you wish to renew, please send your check to: Evelyn Costello, 1809 Del Norte Dr SW, Albuquerque, NM 87105. Please note if any information, such as your email address, has changed. Dues have changed: \$30 if you will view the newsletter online at Escribiente.org or \$40 if you wish to receive a printed newsletter mailed to you. We look forward to seeing you in 2014-15!

Interesting new ways to promote your lettering:

1. Have a fabric made from it. Really! Starting at \$15.95/yard, the service called Spoonflower will print your own material. www.spoonflower.com
2. Have skin-decal tattoos printed. I think this would be perfect for wedding favors, myself. The paper is \$20 for 5 sheets at www.decalspaper.com. They also have instructions and papers for many things other than tattoos.
3. Have custom nail wraps printed! Each \$19 sheet yields enough for two or three manis. Again, I see wedding business here. www.jamberrynails.net

-- Margie Disque

WELCOME New Member

Beatriz de la Torre, 4909 Spanish Sun Ave NE
Albuq, NM 87110

CONTRIBUTE TO

ESCRIBIENTE'S NEWSLETTER

Here are just a few ideas: classes you've attended, artwork you have done, tidbits of news, awards you've won, book reviews, a favorite material that you can't wait to share, conferences, conventions, contests, upcoming shows in the community, classes you are teaching, tips and material experiments, art problems that you've encountered (solved! or in need of help?).

We also love to have new members to join us in this delightful adventure. Please BRING a friend to share our love of calligraphy and to be our friend, too.

Escribiente is YOUR connection with the calligraphic world in New Mexico and beyond.

We always welcome your input.

MEMBER RESOURCES

1. Website: escribiente.org
2. Monthly Email Flyer: Lynda Lawrence--
lynda33@hotmail.com
3. Quarterly Newsletter:
Esther Feske--efeske@yahoo.com
4. K-E-M-P Hotline:
Bill Kemp--brotherbill55@hotmail.com
5. Mentors: COMING SOON!
6. Library: Donna Fastle--dfastle@cnm.edu

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505-262-2679.**

You won't be disappointed.

THANK YOU to all of you who contributed to the Summer Newsletter: Rodger Mayeda, Margie Disque, Ron Peterson, Evelyn Costello, Kent Swanson, Julie Gray.