

Rogue Pens

The Calligraphers' Guild
of Southern Oregon

www.roguepens.org

July - Aug - Sept 2024



Steve Ostrander

From the President's /Editor's Desk

Sorry for the delay in getting this issue of the newsletter to you. It has been a challenge.

We were hoping to receive more pictures and articles from guild members, but we are very grateful for what we did receive. We realize that the content is a little slanted but we were limited on participation.

We are also hoping for greater meeting attendance, so that is a subject that will need to be addressed.

On the lighter side, I am looking forward to our anniversary exhibit at the library in April with submissions by as many members as possible. Framing is optional, but matting is necessary. Remember that we all started somewhere, so don't feel intimidated about participating.

We are looking forward to the Card Exchange and our Christmas gathering at ScrappyCraft in December.

Remember that Zoom is always available for our meetings, for those who cannot attend in person. Zoom starts at 10:00 sharp as we only have a limited number of minutes available to us.

We hope you have a wonderful holiday season.

Michael



Exquisite Creatures Revealed at OMSI

This is a beautiful, dazzling exhibit by artist / naturalist Christopher Marley. Check out the 8 second video at omsi.edu (Pause often to see it all.)

The exhibit is up thru February 17, 2025.



Kintsugi at the Portland Japanese Garden

Kintsugi is a 500-year-old art form of mending damaged ceramics with urushi, natural lacquer, dusted with powdered gold. This method of mending is seen as enhancing the beauty and value of objects by celebrating their imperfection and impermanence. This approach is the opposite of traditional Western ceramic restoration, in which the damage to the work is sought to be hidden.

This art exhibit extends thru January 27, 2025
See japanesegarden.org



Cover: Artwork by Steve Ostrander

August Planning Meeting

April 2025 is Poetry Month.

In preparation for our 50th Anniversary Exhibit at the Medford Main Library, we decided to focus our meetings on various forms of poetry.

Sept 21 – Haiku

Oct 26 – Limericks

Nov 23 – Cinquains

Dec 15 – Holiday Party /
Card Exchange

2025

Jan 25 – Sonnets

Feb 22 – Epigrams

Mar 22 – Elegies / Acrostics

April 26 – TBA

May 24 – TBA

June ____ – Social

Aug _____ – Planning Meeting



JoAnn Evans, Carol Jones and Steve Ostrander attended the August Planning Meeting. President Michael Rowbottom snapped pictures for us.



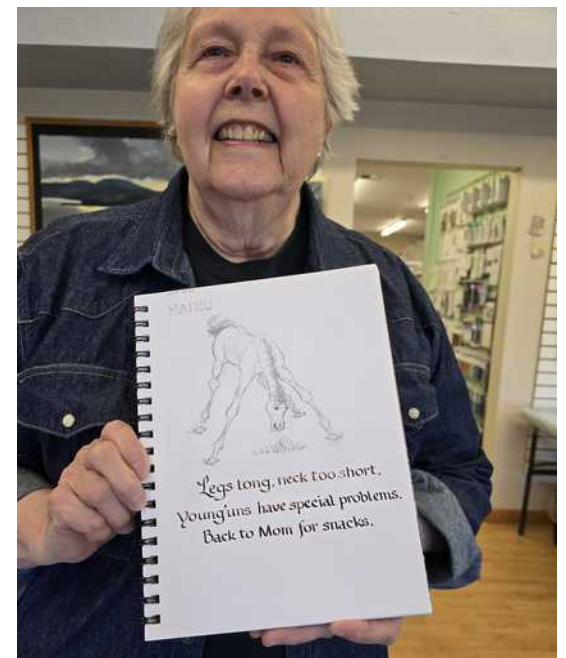
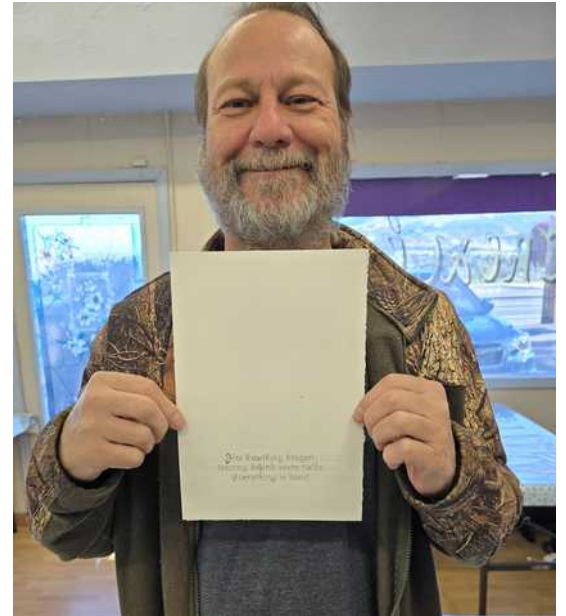
Steve, Eleanor Lippmann, Joann Cleckner and Pat Herdklotz sat in the shade at JoAnn Evans' home.

September Meeting Haiku

The traditional Haiku format consists of three lines. Lines 1 and 3 have five syllables, while Line 2 has seven.

Haikus often deal with Nature, showing observation and feeling. They are usually written in the present tense, making each word as descriptive as possible.

However, many interesting haikus vary from these guidelines.



Clockwise from Top R:

Michael Rowbottom
JoAnn Evans
Virginia Silbowitz
Virginia's haiku & grapes
Eleanor Lippman
Eleanor's haiku



October Meeting Limericks

Limericks consist of five lines. The first, second and fifth lines rhyme, while the third and fourth lines have a different rhyme.

Limericks are usually humorous, light-hearted and often irreverent or even a bit risqué.

There once was a man from Nantucket
Who kept all his cash in a bucket.
But his daughter, named Nan,
Ran away with a man
And as for the bucket, Nantucket.

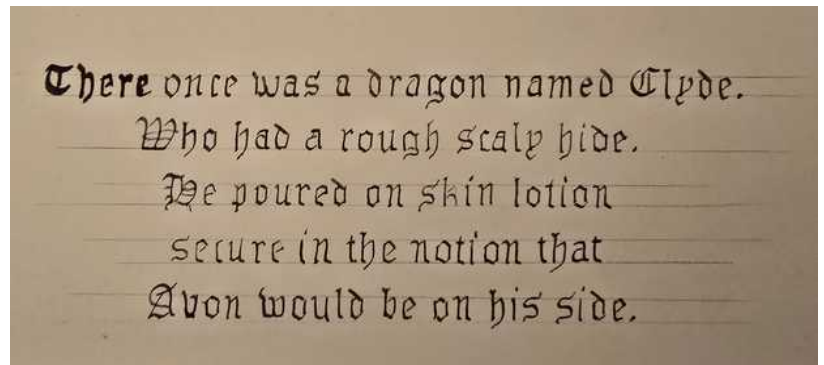
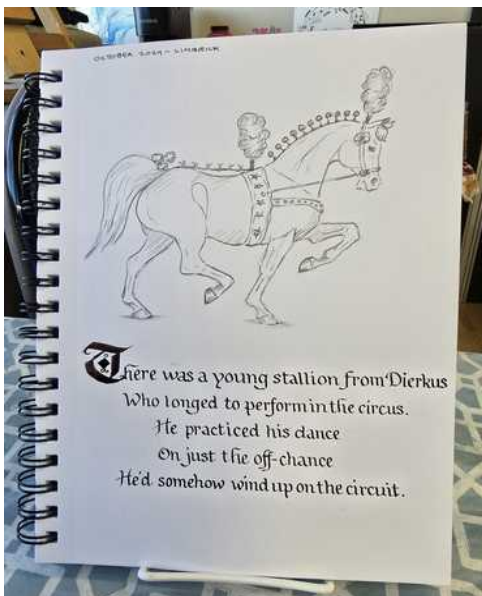
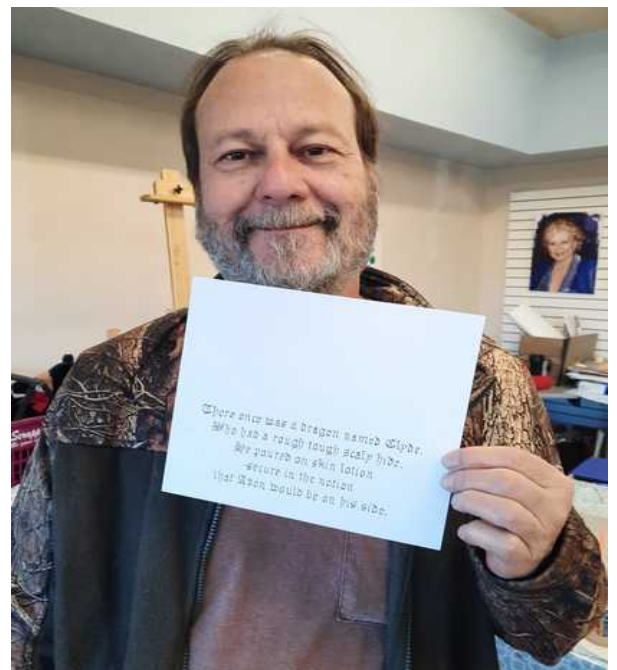
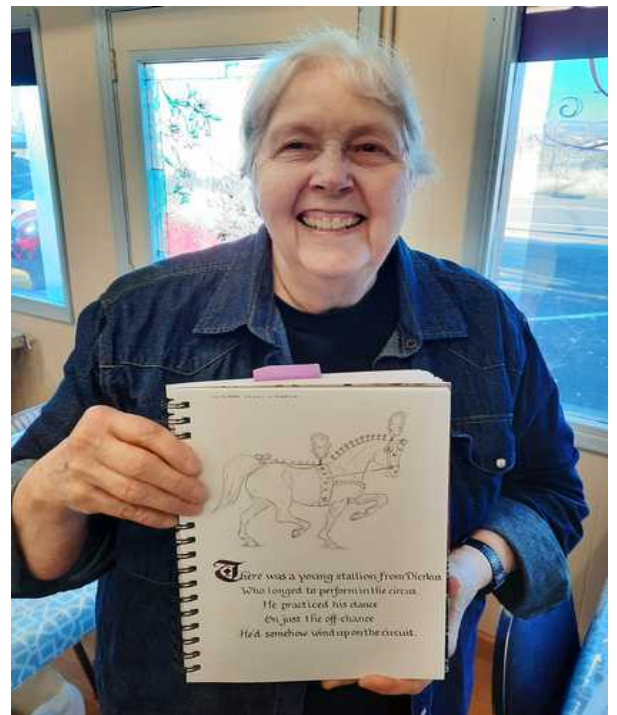
I need a front door for my hall,
The replacement I bought was too tall.
So I hacked it and chopped it,
And carefully lopped it,
And now the dumb thing is too small.

A painter, who lived in Great Britain,
Interrupted two girls with their knitting,
He said, with a sigh,
That park bench--well I,
Just painted it, right where you're sitting.

There was an old man of Peru,
Who dreamt he was eating his shoe.
He woke in the night,
With a terrible fright,
And found it was perfectly true.

Clockwise from Top R:

JoAnn Evans
Michael Rowbottom
Michael's Limerick
(Umm first draft)
JoAnn's Limerick



Death & Taxes

The only difference
between death and
taxes is that death
does not get worse
every time congress meets

Will Rogers

The idea is not
to live forever.
It is to create
something
that will.

Bits & Pieces

Eleanor Lippman
searched her
archives for thoughts
to share.

Here are her results . . .

A man without a woman
is called a bachelor.
A woman without a man
is called a genius.

A best friend
is like a
four leaf clover
hard to find
lucky to have

The trouble with having
an open mind
of course is
that people
will insist on
coming along
and trying to
put things in it.

Gerry Pratchett



SOFT-EDGED ALPHABET

A B C D E
F G H I J K
L M N O P
Q R S T U
V W X Y Z

This alphabet was done with a pointed brush on a dry paper towel.



A Glossary of Free Lancing Terms

by JoAnn Evans

(Loosely based on Standard Business Terminology)

Activate – get a deadline reminder

Clarification – client's chance to make multiiple changes to the original request

Conference – a gathering of many individuals where nothing is resolved and project ends in more confusion

Channels – ways to communicate, often with questionable life forms

Expedite – to copy someone else's work

Implement A Program – start typing a grant application

Informed Source – the guy who told you about the guy you just met

It Is In Process – we've worked on 35 humbnails and so far nothing

Let's Get Together OnThis – how did we get so far afield – we are poles apart on a solution

Let's Discuss – let's not

Meeting – a chance for the client to totally change his mind

Negotiate – reconsider costs

Note & Initial – feeble attempt to make client accept work done

Program – an assignment so large it necessitates an application for grant money

Re-Orientation – clarification of client's meaning or wishes, often a U-turn in progress

Reliable Source – guy you just met

See Me – oh, oh

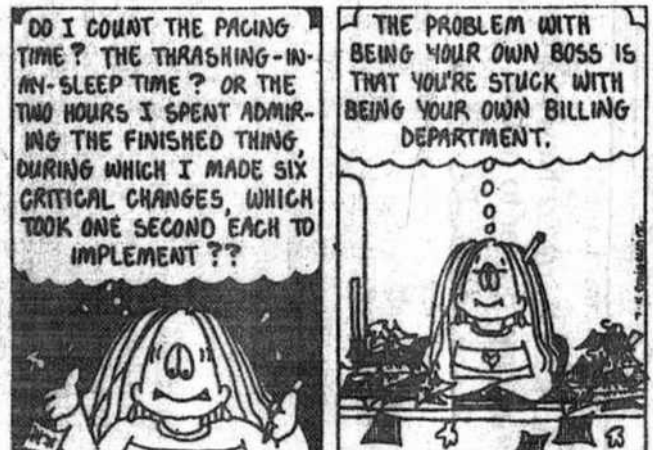
Under Active Consideration – day-dreaming while awake

Under Consideration – day-dreaming, daisy-cutting, procrastinating

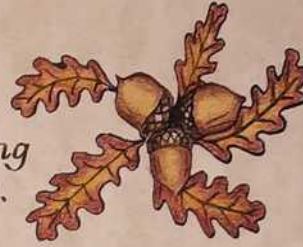
We Are Taking A Survey – opportunity for a client to air grievances that will never see the light of day

We Will Look Into It – if we drag our feet, maybe you'll forget about it and go elsewhere

CATHY By Cathy Guisewite



Love one another, but make not a
bond of love: Let it rather be a moving
sea between the shores of your souls.



Fill each other's cup but drink not from
one cup. Give one another of your bread
but eat not from the same loaf.

On

Marriage

Sing and dance together and be
joyous, but let each one of you be alone,
Even as the strings of a lute are alone
though they quiver with the same music.



Give your hearts, but not into each
other's keeping. For only the hand of
Life can contain your hearts.

And stand together yet not too near
together: For the pillars of the temple
stand apart, And the oak tree and the
cypress grow not in each other's shadow.



Kahlil Gibran



A Garland of Christmas Verses

By Richard Armour

I.

Christmas is the time of year
Known for happiness and
cheer,
Time for being kind, forgiving,
Generous to all the living.
Christmas, too, is something
more:
Being trampled in a store
Seeking bargains, on and on,
Getting there before they're
gone,
And when wrapped (don't
laugh or scoff),
Making sure the price tag's off.



II.

Christmas, time of merry
cheeriness,
Also is a time of weariness,
Time of stamping envelopes
Full of notes with news and
hopes
Sent to friends who live no
more
Where they did the year
before,
Likewise getting (quite a
plight, too)
Cards from those you didn't
write to,
Also duplicated pages
Which to read would take you
ages.



III.

How, I ask, could Christmas be
If there weren't a Christmas
tree?
Yet there's choosing one just
right,
One that's bushy, proper
height.
Place an angel or a star
On the top, which seems up far.
Dad will do it on a ladder
Held by Mom (he's glad he
had her).
Then there's that stern choice
judicial:
Tree that's real or artificial?

IV.

Christmas is when people
gather.
Some you welcome, some you'd
rather
Stayed away. No, that is
wrong—
Stayed, but didn't stay so long.
In-laws, outlaws congregate;

Some come early, some come
late.
Some are old and some are
young,
Most are fun to be among.
"Next year," some say, "we
invite you.
Visit us." How they delight
you!



About Richard Armour

Richard Armour, who writes "Armour's Armoury" for FAMILY WEEKLY, is an English professor who has been writing at least three pieces of verse or prose every morning for the past 35 years. He claims, "My writing is 33 1/3 percent inspiration, 33 1/3 percent perspiration and 33 1/3 percent desperation!" He has written more than 40 books, his latest being "It All Started with Freshman English." Retired as a dean from Scripps College, Claremont, Calif., Mr. Armour lectures at campuses across the country and for (of all things) the State Department!



V.

Christmas, time of starry skies,
Time for puddings, too, and
pies:
Apple, mincemeat, plum, and
others,
Baked by sacrificial mothers.
Time of turkey, gravy, dressing,
Cooked by recipes—and
guessing.
Just this once, forget your diet,
Take a second on the quiet.
One consoling thought, at that:
Santa's happy, and he's fat.

VI.

Christmas greetings, one and
all!
Christmas can be quite a ball.
Open presents, hide your
sorrow—
They can be exchanged
tomorrow.
Sing a carol, sing like birds,
Hum if you don't know the
words.
Stand beneath the mistletoe:
Kiss, be kissed, before you go.
Christmas comes but once a
year. . . .
Twice might be too much, I
fear.



GENRES of LITERATURE

~ FICTION ~

A work of literature that is the product of the author's imagination.

SHORT STORY - A short work of fiction usually under 10,000 words. Generally, few characters with the conflict concentrating on one character.

NOVEL - A narrative of considerable length usually a much more complex plot, conflict, setting, and characters than a short story.

TRADITIONAL LITERATURE - (includes fables, legends, folktales, and myths) A short story that depicts a moral lesson, religious principle, or general truth.

REALISTIC FICTION - A story that could have happened. Plot, characters, and setting are consistent with lives of real people. Settings and issues can be either contemporary or historical.

FANTASY - A story based on imaginative characters and premise that relates to universal values and struggles.

MYSTERY - A story or novel whose plot involves the solving of a puzzle, especially a crime.

ROMANCE - A novel or narrative depicting heroic or marvelous deeds, pageantry, romantic exploits, etc.

REALISTIC FICTION - A story that could have happened. Plot, characters, and setting are consistent with lives of real people. Setting and issues can be either contemporary or historical.

~ NONFICTION ~

A narrative story based on real events and people.

ESSAY - A short nonfiction work usually to inform or analyze a topic.

DESCRIPTIVE ESSAY - An impressionist recreation of places, objects, and experiences using concrete details.

NARRATIVE ESSAY - A casual discussion of a topic that is based on either real or imaginary events.

EXPOSITORY ESSAY - A serious, organized discussion of a topic or subject.

PERSUASIVE ESSAY - An attempt to convince the reader that the author's view on a topic is correct.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY - An account of a person's life written by that person.

BIOGRAPHY - An account of a person's life written by another person.

~ POETRY ~

A concentrated form of literature using allusion, imagery, irony, and metaphor.

LYRICAL POETRY - Expresses the poet's feelings using rhyme, repeated sounds, rhythms, and beats.

NARRATIVE POETRY - A poem that tells a story.

BALLADS - A rhythmic narrative usually to express adventure and deep emotion.

LIMERICK - A humorous, nonsensical verse of five anapestic (a metrical foot composed of two short syllables followed by one long one) lines.

HAIKU - An unrhymed, lyrical Japanese poem consisting of three fixed lines of 5, 7, & 5 syllables respectively.

~ DRAMA ~

Literature presented in dialogue to be acted out; a play.

TRAGEDY - A dramatic composition, often ending in death or disaster for the protagonist.

COMEDY - A funny, humorous play with a cheerful ending.