



Volume 1-2

Masthead designed and cut by Frank Joest

FIRSTCUT/ Number 1:2 September 1988

Steve Woodbury and Rose Weidner
Editors pro tem

REPORT OF MAY BUSINESS MEETING

A business meeting was held on May 1, 1988, preceding the opening of the papercut show at the Paul VI Institute for the Arts, in Washington DC. About twenty mid-Atlantic papercutters attended, as well as several guests from beyond the region: Pam Dalton (Ghent, NY), Tsirl Waletzky (Bronx, NY), and Britta Kling (Leucadia, CA).

The group approved forming the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Guild of American Papercutters. In fact we are the ONLY chapter, but we hope that this will change in the future. Our approach reflects two general concerns. First, we should start small, and build from the ground up. Second, we should develop a framework within which other local/regional groups can form, and associate in a national group. ("think globally, act locally.")

After some discussion, the group agreed to have general members and "juried members". Juried members would be eligible to submit works to shows sponsored by the Chapter. The intent is to provide a level of recognition for those who cut original works, but otherwise to be as inclusive as possible. Several people, based on experience in other craft guilds, pointed out the pitfalls of establishing a hierarchy with "amateur" and "professional" categories.

The group approved formation of an Interim Executive Committee, composed of Sukey Harris, Steve Woodbury, Kerch McDonloch, Rose Weidner, and Trudy Kauffman. They will report back to the October meeting with:

- a draft set of bylaws,
- a proposed slate of officers, and
- a proposed budget.

The Interim Executive Committee will also oversee the work of the Newsletter co-editors, the ad hoc committee planning the October meeting, and the committee planning the Hershey show. The Interim Executive Committee may authorize disbursements by the treasurer.

The group approved annual dues of \$15.00 for the first year; this includes the quarterly newsletter. Those outside the Mid-Atlantic area who wish to subscribe to the newsletter may do so for \$5.00 per year. Trudy Kauffman agreed to serve as treasurer, and will establish a separate bank account for Guild funds.

Karen Schloss agreed to coordinate plans for a meeting in October in the Philadelphia area. (Details are provided elsewhere in the Newsletter.)

The meeting adjourned to enjoy the splendid show upstairs.

MEETING OCTOBER 9 IN PHILADELPHIA

The third meeting of the Guild of American Papercutters, Mid-Atlantic Chapter, will take place on Sunday, October 9, 1988, at the National Museum of American Jewish History at 55 North Fifth Street, Independence Hall East, in Philadelphia, from noon until 4:00 pm.

There will be an exhibit of works from several of Philadelphia's Jewish papercutters, including Sheila Weinberg, Ethan Weiner-Kaplow, Dr. Stan Tauber, and Karen Shain Schloss. The museum shop will be open for members to browse and see other samples of current papercutters.

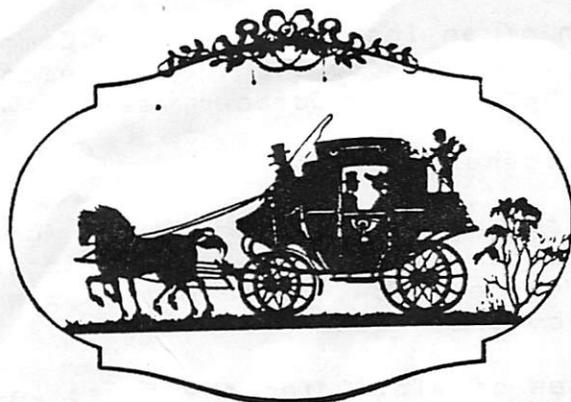
A light luncheon will be provided in the meeting room promptly at noon. After becoming reacquainted and seeing the exhibitors' artwork we will be able to get down to Guild business by 1:00. Matters concerning the February show at Hershey will be discussed. By 3:00 we would like to allow the exhibitors to discuss their work and methods of paper-cutting and give a brief overview of what Jewish papercutting is all about.

Sheila Weinberg has recently had a large cut-paper piece laser cut in a small edition. We hope to have a lively discussion about the inevitability of lasercutting as a means to reproduction for greater monetary possibilities, and its repercussions.

The Museum is located on Independence Mall just around the corner from Independence Hall, and across the street from the Liberty Bell. There is a full range of accommodations nearby. The three-day weekend of Columbus Day should allow those coming from some distance to enjoy a sampling of Philadelphia's atmosphere and great historic sights, artistic milieu and lots of family oriented fun. Great restaurants too! For additional information contact Karen Schloss at (215) 379-2052.

The cost for lunch will be \$3.00; if you want lunch, please let Karen know by September 23. We look forward to seeing you there!

--RLW



EDITOR'S CORNER It's time for a word of commendation and appreciation for Joseph Bean. Papercutting World was not a financial success, and that was a disappointment to many. It was that and more to Joseph. He felt a responsibility to his subscribers, and with no money left in the till is putting out the remaining two issues anyway. That kind of integrity should be acknowledged and applauded. Through Papercutting World Joseph has done a great deal for papercutting, and for each of us as papercutters. He has shared the results of his research, he has provided a forum for sharing information, and he has put us in touch with one another. Thank you Joseph for Papercutting World, and thank you for your example and inspiration.

--Steve Woodbury

TIDBITS

Helen and Nel Laughon Featured Helen and Nel Laughon, silhouette cutters, researchers, and collectors of Richmond, VA, are the subject of an article in "Traditional Home" (Spring 1988, pp. 56-61, 110). "Silhouettes in Profile," by Sharon L. Novotne O'Keefe, describes their work, and is extensively illustrated with silhouettes from their collection. Their studio, and the camera obscura they use to cut silhouettes, are also shown.



Silhouette Cutting Ann and Deirdre Woodward have written a book, Silhouette Cutting for Fun and Money, to share Ann's experience in cutting silhouettes, and the results of her researches in the history of silhouette cutting. It is available from Profile Press, 3004 S. Grant Street, Arlington, VA 22202 for \$12.50 plus \$1.50 shipping and handling. 1987, 100 pp; ISBN 0-944095-00-3

Origamic Architecture More pop-up paper designs from Japanese architect Masaniko Chatani are contained in his recent book Paper Magic. Chateaus and castles, abstract waves and 'cute' animals are presented, all with patterns for cutting. (Published by Ondori, Tokyo, Japan, 1988, distributed in the US through Harper and Row, \$9.95; ISBN 0-87040-757-0)



Papercuttings by Alison Alison Cosgrove Tanner publishes a catalog with a wide variety of papercutting patterns and patternbooks, as well as scissors, papers, etc. Besides her own designs, she offers patterns and cards by a number of other cutters. The fall catalog caught my eye with two T-shirts featuring different papercuttings by Gertrud Richter. (404 Partridge Circle, Sarasota, FL 34236)

Papercutting and Calligraphy Three illustrated articles by Ingrid Schenck in "Calligrapha" describe her approach to papercutting and to teaching papercutting to calligraphers. Ingrid's calligraphy, in ink and cut paper, is memorable from the Paul VI show in Washington. (Journal of the Society for Calligraphy, PO Box 64174, Los Angeles, CA 90064, fall '86 pp 40-41, winter '87 pp 34-35, spring '87 pp 25-27)

Mozart in Scherenschnitte Lotte Reiniger, who died in 1981, was famous for her shadow films dating back to the 1920s. She was an accomplished scissor cutter as well as a puppeteer. Now a large volume has been published by Katzmann in Germany containing the librettos of four Mozart operas, illustrated with 153 cuttings. (Mozart: Die grossen Opern in Scherenschnitte von Lotte Reiniger, ISBN 3-87324-060-2)

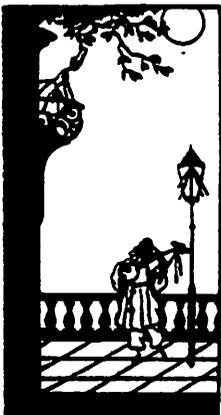


Quaker Silhouettes Helen and Neil Lauchon have published an elegant book of Quaker silhouettes by Edouard. They discovered and identified the collection at the Science Historical Library; their extensive research is reflected in the book. *Edouard Edouard, A Quaker Album: American and English Duplicate Silhouettes 1827-1843*. Cheswick Press, Richmond VA, 1987

Elegant Silhouettes of the Twenties This new Dover book includes reproductions of 57 German die-cut silhouettes from the 1920s. A variety of ships caught my eye, along with humorous, courtly, and romantic scenes. (Edited by Bonnie Welch, 1987, \$3.50; ISBN 0-486-25502-6)



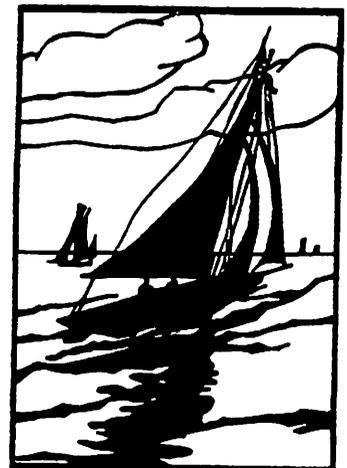
Ready-to-use Old-Fashioned Silhouettes Another Dover book, with more than 400 silhouettes, edited by Carol Belanger Grafton. Like the editor's two earlier Dover archives, this is chock full of silhouette ideas: men, women, children, nature, musicians, transportation, and on and on. Unlike the earlier two, this is in "clip art" format, printed on one side on repro-quality stock. My only complaint is that I wish she would credit her sources. (1988, \$3.50; ISBN 0-486-2559604)



German Die-Cut Silhouettes -- Continued In the last issue I described a catalog illustrating German die-cut silhouettes, including some "two-tone" (black and gray) cuttings. Fave Harber writes from West Chester PA that she has seen such cuttings, and they are in fact two black cuttings, with a piece of tissue paper between them.

Polly Winkler-Mitchell Polly writes to say she now has a catalog available for \$3.00. RR#4 Box 128, Carbon-dale, IL 62901.

UNICEF Books Over the years, a number of UNICEF cards have featured papercut designs by a variety of artists. They also offer a pair of "Storycraft Books" one with a Polish folktale, the other with instructions on how to make paper cutouts and other traditional crafts. Both are illustrated with multicolored papercuts by Charles Mikolajcak. (\$5.00 plus \$3.00 p/h. Order No. 88974J, at your local UNICEF outlet, or 1-800-553-1200)



Send in Tidbits This column will only be as interesting, diverse, and comprehensive as you make it. I will be glad to publish short notices of articles, books, happenings, cards, sources, outlets relating to paper cutting, but only if I find out about them. That's where you come in. Keep those tidbits coming folks: Steven Woodbury, 5250 Lonsdale Drive, Springfield, VA (703) 425-5943.

1989 PAPER EXHIBITION - GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS



THEME TITLE..... 'HEARTS & FLOWERS'

SPECIAL EXHIBIT... Papercuttings by contemporary artists and "Tools of the Trade."

EXHIBIT DATES.... February 12 to May 14, 1989
(Includes Valentine's Day and Mother's Day)

SPONSOR..... Guild of American Papercutters, Mid Atlantic Chapter (GAP-MAC).

PLACE..... Hershey Museum of American Life (HMAL)
179 Hersheypark Drive, Hershey, Pa. 17033.

HOURS..... 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Daily including weekends
(Last Tuesday of Month 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.)

ADMISSION..... Adult \$3.00, children 4 to 18 \$1.25, HMAL members free. Senior citizens \$0.50 discount.

PASSES..... 2 complimentary one-time use museum passes for each exhibitor.

CATALOGUE..... Will include prices, biosketch, and B&W photos of both artist and artwork sample.

MEETING..... of GAP-MAC is February 12, 1989. This is our 1st year anniversary!

MINI-RECEPTION... Sunday February 12, 1989, for participating artists, 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M., at the museum.

EXHIBITION AREA... Total 30 feet X 45 feet with lockable 16 foot display case to contain tools & antique cuttings.

PUBLICITY..... HMAL has extensive publicity coverage in Central Pa., including AM, FM, & PUBLIC RADIO, COMMERCIAL & PUBLIC TV and NATIONAL magazines.

CLIENTELE..... Last year, during this period, HMAL had 30,184 visitors despite undergoing extensive remodeling.

FLIERS..... Available now for your own mailing list, local media, show distribution, etc. (specify number). Send appropriately stamped SASE. Address request to "Hearts and Flowers Fliers" 514 E. Main St., Annville, Pa. 17003.

SALES..... Customers for papercuttings should contact the artists directly. Sales will not be handled through the HMAL or GAP-MAC.

PERMISSION..... Permission to photograph and reproduce any work accepted in the exhibition for publicity purposes is considered granted unless otherwise stated in writing.

SUBMISSION..... Submission to this exhibition constitutes agreement with all conditions of this show.



1989 GUP PAPER EXHIBITION - HEARTS AND FLOWERS

*** ENTRY RULES ***

- ELIGIBILITY.....Participation limited to members of the Guild of American Papercutters.
- ACCEPTANCE.....Works will be juried by the Hearts & Flowers Show Committee.
ENCLOSE SASE to be advised of results.
- Works to be hung in show will be selected according to overall quality, craftsmanship, design, style, variety, available space, number of participants and number of works submitted to the exhibition.
- ENTRY FEE.....\$15.00 per work, nonrefundable. Checks to be made payable to "Guild of American Papercutters."
- QUANTITY.....Up to 3 entries per artist.
- REQUIREMENTS....Works must be the artist's ORIGINAL HANDCUT paper and must reflect the "Hearts and Flowers" theme.
- Each work must be framed with glass or plexiglass, with wire, ready to hang. No sawtooth hangers.
- LABEL.....Each work must be marked on back with NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE #, TITLE, PRICE or "NFS" and VALUE. Value is required for insurance purposes.
- DATES.....All entries MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 1, 1989, but NOT BEFORE JANUARY 25, 1989.
- RECEIVING.....HMAL will receive hand deliveries on Saturday, January 28 and Sunday, January 29, 1989 from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
- Works can be shipped, addressed to:
- Hershey Museum of American Life Attn: Tanya Richter
170 Hersheypark Drive ((717) 534-0439)
Hershey, PA 17033
- RETURNS.....After exhibition HMAL will release exhibited works to artists (with ID) or representatives (only with written authorization) on Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21, between 10:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.
- Works to be returned by mail after exhibition must be provided with a REUSABLE mailing container with an ENCLOSED RETURN LABEL. Exhibited works to be shipped will be returned COD by May 21, 1989.
- NOT ACCEPTED....Works not accepted may be picked up by artist (with ID) or representatives (only with written authorization) on Sunday February 12, between 10:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.. OR will be mailed COD by February 21, 1989.

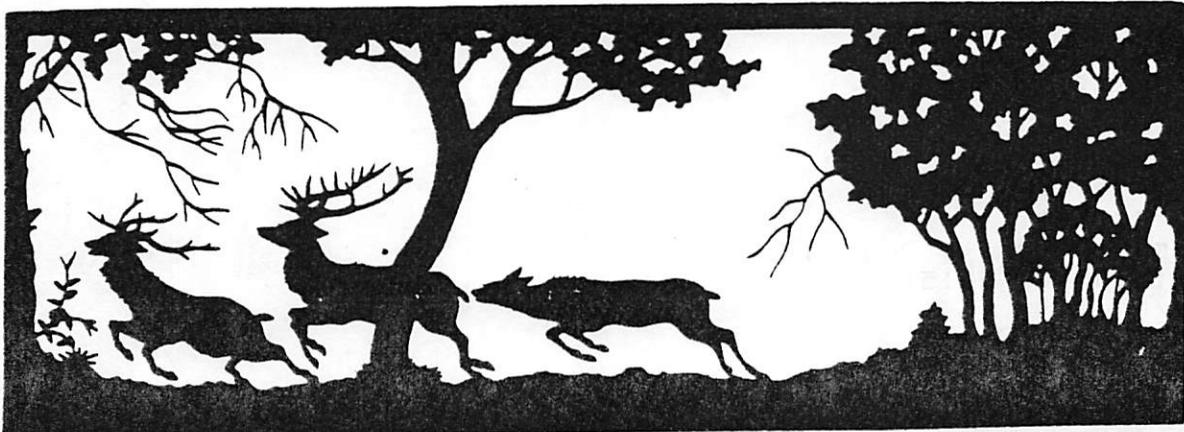
McConlogue Show in Annapolis

Contemporary papercuttings of K. Kerchner McConlogue will be featured from October 16 through November 20 at the Aurora Gallery, located at 57 Maryland Avenue in Annapolis, Maryland. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday 10:00-5:00, and Sunday 1:00-5:00. The opening reception will be held Sunday, October 23, from 2:00-5:00.

Kerch characterizes her works as "bold and bright in both color and size, departing significantly from single colored silhouettes and from traditional scherenschnitte." The show includes three pairs of animals from her African animal series, three pieces from her series celebrating the return of Halley's Comet, and several non-representational pieces.

The techniques McConlogue employs in these new works are the same ones she uses in creating her traditional certificates and house blessings. Usually the pattern is defined first as a scissors cutting. It is then painted with gouache, detailed in ink and, finally, mounted and framed. "I had a wonderful time one day trying to decide what would make my work different from other cutters I have seen. My complement of colors is surely unique in the field. The size of the works had to be large enough to support their intensity."

Send Information About Your Shows First Cut/ is eager to publish information about upcoming shows that feature or include papercutting. Send information as early as possible.



DESIGN THE MASTHEAD FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE

Frank Joest responded promptly to the announcement in the initial issue, and sent us the masthead you see at the top of page one. FIRST CUT/ will continue to use a different masthead for each issue. Submissions must include the name "FIRST CUT/", must be cut paper, and should reflect the general theme of papercutting in motif or execution. Selection and publication of a masthead are at the (sole and arbitrary) discretion of the Editor; full credit will be given. No entries will be returned.

CHAPTER STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

At the May meeting, a Steering Committee was elected to conduct Chapter business until officers are formally nominated and elected. Trudy Kauffman agreed to serve as treasurer.

Mary Lou "Sukey" Harris
514 Main Street
Annville, PA 17003
(717) 867-2554

Kerch McConlogue
701 Hunting Place
Baltimore, MD 21229
(301) 945-7441

Trudy Kauffman
1451 Friedensburg Road
Reading, PA 19606
(215) 779-6374

Rose L. Weidner
6406 Lookinglass Lane
Columbia, MD 21045
(301) 381-8617

Steven R. Woodbury
5250 Lonsdale Drive
Springfield, VA 22151
(703) 423-5943

JOIN TODAY Continue to receive FIRST CUT/ with its news about papercutting in the Mid-Atlantic area and around the country. Send your \$15.00 membership fee to Trudy Kaufmann, Treasurer, 1451 Friedensburg Road, Reading, PA 19606. And tell your friends outside the Mid-Atlantic area about it too! They can subscribe to FIRST CUT/ for \$5.00. (And tell them to start thinking about starting their own local/regional chapter!)

FIRST CUT/
Steven R. Woodbury
Editor Pro Tem
5250 Lonsdale Drive
Springfield, VA 22151

FIRST CLASS

MEETING IN PHILADLEPHIA, OCTOBER 9

4-88-8

