

In the Arts

Calligraphy enjoys new popularity

Calligraphy means beautiful writing. It does not mean penmanship which is done with a pointed pen, and is not drawn lettering which infers use of a triangle or a compass. Calligraphy is lettering with a broad pen and has the beauty of thick and thin letters. Contrary to popular belief, lettering with the broad pen can be learned fairly easily with a degree of enthusiasm and even more of a degree of practice. It opens up a whole new world. As one learns to control the pen, one has only to have access to good example of letter styles. Most common styles are Italic, Roman, Uncial, Black Letter or Gothic (Remember your diploma?). It's a good feeling to be able to channel your skills into any lettering style—and soon one learns what style is appropriate for what purpose. And it's even more exciting to develop one's own personal style. The flexibility of the skill lends itself to creative design, whether for personal or commercial purposes.

Only in the last few years and particularly in the Pacific northwestern

United States, has calligraphy enjoyed a renaissance. In the Middle Ages and before everyday handwriting (called current hands) was done with the broad pen and they retained the dignity and design of formal styles the scribes used for copying books. With the invention of the printing press, much of the job of the scribes was diminished. Then in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries there was an increased interest in learning and the scribes began teaching writing through duplicating copysheets printed from woodblocks. Metal, silver and copper replaced the woodblocks in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and the scribes themselves became master engravers. Many of names of these experts are familiar today with the new interest in calligraphy—Arrighi, Palatino and many others. So lettering with the broad pen as we well know, gave way to the fountain pen and in more recent years, the ballpoint pen.

The resurgence in interest in calligraphy has opened up opportunities for experimentation in lettering tools.

Most common is the C-Series Speedball points and steelbrushes. But with a bit of doctoring or tinkering, innovations in the form of garden stakes, goose feathers, bamboo strips, cattails, tongue depressors and modified (snipped and filed) cartridge fountain pens, can produce unique results.

Insofar as ink is concerned, there are many possibilities in addition to black India ink. There are lots of new bright and rich colored inks developed for the broad pen, but calligraphers are trying out their own recipes including mixing watercolors.

Supplies are simple—Good bond paper, a couple of pen holders and points (nibs), India Ink and a good reference book. Also helpful is a good smooth surface on which to work, good light and good but relaxed posture. If you're interested in learning calligraphy classes are being offered through SUNY Continuing Education, September 20-November 22. Tuesday evenings 7-8:30. There is limited enrollment. Call Continuing Education at 268-3197 for information.

Put your Italic to work
Make it your daily handwriting

CALIGRAPHY is enjoying a new popularity today, and many people are eager to learn the art. The Continuing Education division at State University College at Potsdam will offer classes beginning September 20.

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Bartlett engravings at Museum

The Potsdam Public Museum will hold its first opening for the 1977-78 year on September 14, at 7:30 p.m. Featured will be some 45 William H. Bartlett black and white steel engravings. Also displayed will be several of the same scenes as hand-colored prints.

The engravings and prints are on loan to the Museum from Dr. and Mrs. Theodore Fenner of Potsdam. Some of these prints were previously on view in the fall of 1975.

The 1830's was an era of growth in the United States, both physically and culturally. America was a garden of scenic beauty when a young Englishman, William Henry Bartlett, came to this country.

Bartlett came to the U.S. in 1836, consigned by a London publisher, George Virtue, to draw the scenery of the young nation. He captured the natural beauties of the land as no one had before with rare scope and comprehension. Following his return to England a year later, one hundred and nineteen of these sketches were amassed and developed into engravings by master craftsmen. They were

initially issued in monthly installments of "American Scenery" with a text by Nathaniel F. Willis, but were later put into book form.

The Bartlett prints were used as the standard for further American illustration of any kind. Unfortunately, Bartlett was not protected by copyright laws as in present day and so following his death in 1964, other publishers produced likenesses of his prints. By 1885, Selman, publisher in the United States, issued his version of the Bartlett scenes.

Among the engravings on exhibit will be several "plagiarized" copies of originals. Some have Bartlett titles and some are completely changed.

Also on exhibit will be the costume exhibit "Wedding Bells are Ringing" which recently returned from the New York State Fair. It was estimated by officials in Syracuse that the exhibit was viewed by about 175,000 people during the week.

Refreshments will be served and the Fenner and members of the Museum staff will be available to answer questions concerning any of the articles.

For those unable to attend the opening of the exhibit, the Museum is opened Tuesday through Saturday, 2 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. Exhibits such as this are made possible by the support of the New York State Council on the Arts.

People

COUPLE PROMOTED

A husband and wife team Daniel G. and Patricia J. McGrew, have been promoted to senior airmen in the U.S. Air Force.

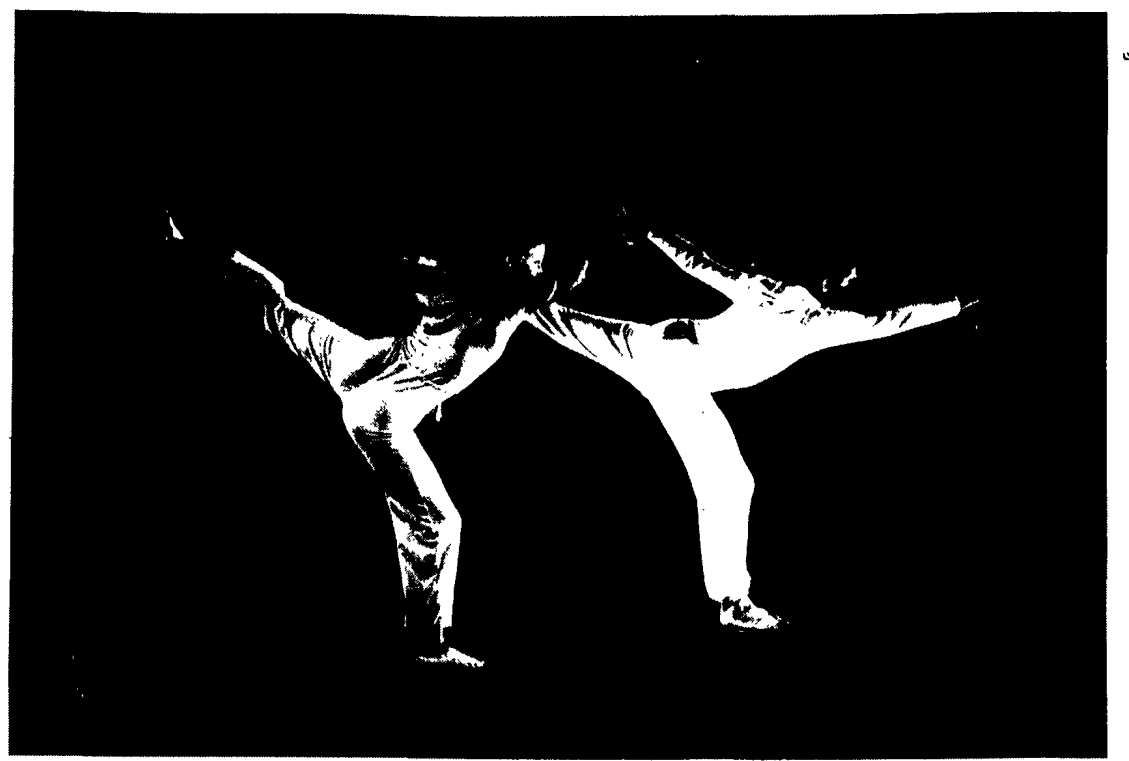
The airmen serve as electronic-mechanical communications and cryptographic equipment systems specialists with the 190st Communications Squadron at Travis AFB, California.

Daniel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter V. McGrew of 2211 Rohr Road, Lockbourne, Ohio, is a 1971 graduate of Hamilton Township High School, Columbus, Ohio, and attended Ohio State University.

Patricia is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar C. King of Route 1, Brasher Falls. She is a 1974 graduate of L.A. Webber High School, Lyndonville, N.Y.

VISIT COLORADO

Marilyn and Ann White recently flew to Longmont, Colorado for a two week vacation visiting their brother, Dale White.



MCLAUGHLIN-BESWICK Dance Theatre will open the four part concert on September 17 and 18. dance season at State University College at Potsdam with a

Season opens with McLaughlin-Beswick

The State University College at Potsdam will open this year's dance season with the McLaughlin-Beswick Dance Theatre, a newly established north country dance company. The concert will be on Saturday, September 17 and Sunday, September 18 at 8 p.m. in the multi-purpose room on the Potsdam State Campus. Admission for students is \$1.00 and \$2.00 for adults.

McLaughlin-Beswick have been collaborating since 1973 with a strong emphasis on choreography and improvisation. Their repertoire covers an extreme range from zany improvisatory events to pure movement concerts of duet-solo self choreographed works as well as pieces reconstructed through Dance Notation. Their works have been performed in St. Louis, Missouri, Madison, Wisconsin, California, Oklahoma and New York City. McLaughlin-Beswick are presently resident performer-choreographers at State University College at Potsdam in the Department of Dance.

Mickey McLaughlin has studied with the Repertory Dance Theatre of Utah and is a graduate of Washington

University where she studied with Phyllis Lamhut, Annelise Mertz and Dick Jones. She continued her study in New York with Amy Horowitz and the Nancy Meehan Dance Company.

Bob Beswick is a graduate of the University of Utah where he studied with Shirley Ririe and Joan Woodbury while also augmenting the Repertory Dance Theatre of Utah. His professional study includes work with Anna Sokolow, James Waring and the Merce Cunningham Studio.

While employed by the Henry Street Playhouse he studied with Alwin Nikolais, Murray Louis, Phyllis Lamhut and Gladys Ballin, later becoming a member of the Nikolais Dance Theatre from 1969 through 1971. He has since been a guest performer-choreographer at various colleges and universities in the United States as well as in Australia where he choreographed and performed with the Australian Dance Theatre.

Salli Jo Davis, who has come to Potsdam from Long Island, will also be performing with McLaughlin and Beswick. She began her dancing career at the Ruth Ramsey School of Ballet at the age of eight. She participated in a summer Dance at Connecticut College and later furthered her interest in Modern Dance as a dance major at Adelphi University and then transferred

as a sophomore to Potsdam State. She is currently student teaching music at a public school in Syracuse and will earn her Bachelor of Music Degree from the Crane School of Music in December. She has been extremely active in the dance department and has recently joined the McLaughlin-Beswick Dance Theatre.

Costumes for the concert are by Noelle Odom who is the costume designer for the Theatre Arts at Saint Lawrence University. There will also be a photographic study done by Doug Harper, a Sociology professor at S.U.C.P.

The next Dance concert will be Annabelle Gamson on October 24, 25, 26.

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CAMPING TRIP

The Labor Day weekend has come and gone. The weatherman, or was it Dewey Pierce (?), made the three day holiday most pleasant the first two days and gave some rain on Monday. It was Dewey Pierce who said as he was packing gear to take the family camping for holidays, "I guarantee nice weather and you can quote me on that!" When he said it, the sky was gray and threatened rain—and then it all cleared away and was just as Dewey said it would be. Dewey and Helen and children took their camper and tent and camped just outside of South Colton. They were joined by Rodney and Anita Frary and son Doug from Hermon. Dewey and Helen managed to enjoy the camping, but still had to return home for morning and evening milkings at the farm.

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