Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo’s

Record of Contributions to the Art & History of

Ornamental Penmanship
September 2, 2022

Dear friends,

I have spent many years searching and documenting the art, techniques and historical information of the pointed pen art form. I proceed in the footsteps of those who came before me that have added greatly to our knowledge base.

In 2015, I decided to document, or at least to put into perspective my own contributions to the pointed pen art form. The result of that effort was this document. While these pages do not contain a complete list, they do represent the majority of my efforts on behalf of Ornamental Penmanship and the pointed pen art form in general. It is my hope that this document will serve as a roadmap to those seeking this information in cyberspace. It gives me great satisfaction to know that pen artists around the globe now know the art and contribution of penmen such as Lupfer, Madarasz and Zaner. I am convinced that the spark many of us have seeded over the years has now become a raging fire.

I am often asked, “Why do you give it all away?” The answer is very simple. I was a novice once too and it is my way of repaying the extraordinary kindness and generosity that I was shown at my first IAMPETH Convention way back in 1999. The quote of Pablo Picasso on page 3 of this document best sums up my thoughts on this matter. All I ask in return from anyone that has enjoyed/benefitted from the materials I provided is that you ‘Pay it Forward’ if you get the chance to help someone who is struggling in calligraphy or in life.

Sincerely,

[Image]

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Penman, Script Specialist and IAMPETH Historian
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Advance Education
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DEDICATION

From one Penman/Historian to another

“For my dear friend and colleague Michael Sull who served as the initial spark that ignited my interest in the history of this wonderful art form. His continued dedication to the Art and History of Spencerian Script and Ornamental Penmanship continues to serve as a source of inspiration to me.”
Author’s Bio

Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo is the owner/webmaster for both Zanerian.com and The Ornamental Penmanship Group on Yahoo. In addition, he is the founder of IAMPETH.com. Dr. Vitolo spends most of his spare time studying and promoting the history and art of ornamental and plain cursive penmanship. An expert Engrosser’s script (commonly called Copperplate) and an active member of The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) he has published more than sixty articles on penmanship/script and lectures extensively around the country on topics ranging from science to dentistry to calligraphy. He holds two doctorates: one in Dentistry and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry. Dr. Vitolo is currently the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Advanced Education for The Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University.

A note from the author: For anyone that feels my free instructional materials have helped them on their calligraphic journey I have just one request, please ‘Pay It Forward’.
Books Published on Script

1. ‘Script in the Copperplate Style’ with Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo (requires an iPad or Mac)

   **Description:** This is the first interactive iBook for Copperplate-style Calligraphy made specifically for the Apple iPad. This is a free book. The multimedia instructional materials contained within will help both the novice and advanced students. The fundamentals of Copperplate calligraphy are the focus of this Book with particular emphasis on letterforms. In addition, advanced concepts including Needle Stitch Script, and Gilded Script are examined. This book’s more than 80 pages are packed with instructional text, images and more than 35 videos presented in an interactive format that will allow the student of the art form to accelerate their learning.

2. ‘Learn to Write Script in the Copperplate Style’ with Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo

   **Description:** For those that do not own an iPad or Mac: I also produced a ‘hyperlinked version’ of my 80-page Script in the Copperplate Style Workshop book/handout in PDF. It is also available for free. The links in blue are to my instructional videos related to the text. The text of this version was intended for workshop use only. Since not everyone has access to an iPad or a Mac I decided to release it.

Calligraphic Web Sites Owned/Founded

1. Zanerian.com
   http://www.zanerian.com
   Web site founder/Owner, 1999-Present

2. IAMPETH.com
   http://www.iampeth.com
   Web site founder, Web Master from 2000-2003

3. The Ornamental Penmanship Group on Yahoo (CLOSED)
   Web site founder, Moderator/Owner, 2001-Closed 2020
Recovered/Scanned Rare Penmanship Books

The following Rare Books are available at: http://www.iampeth.com
*Click on the ‘Rare Books’ link (http://www.iampeth.com/rare-books)*

1. The Secret of the Skill of Madarasz (The Madarasz Book)
2. Knowles and Maxim's Real Pen Work (c. 1880)
3. Standard Practical Penmanship (Spencerian) (c.1880)
4. Ames - The Daniel T. Ames Notebook
5. The Blue Book
7. Lessons in Ornamental Penmanship, P.Z. Bloser, 1948
8. Theory of Spencerian Penmanship (c. 1870)
9. Spencerian Script and Ornamental Penmanship, Volume I
10. WA Baird's Lessons in Round hand Script from the Business Educator
11. Lessons in Practical Penmanship, Behrensmeyer
12. Palmer’s Penmanship Budget (1919)
13. WE Dennis’ Studies in Pen Art
14. Gems of Penmanship by Williams & Packard, 1867
15. CC Canan: Collection of Penmanship, 1921
16. The New Spencerian Compendium

Instructional Videos Created/Edited

All videos available at:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKLzXrjp79KN74gKyPuCbwazumRjT6Bqk

**Getting Started with Pointed Pen Script** (filmed and edited)
1. Before We Get Started
2. Adjusting the flange on your Oblique Penholder
3. Preparing the flange on your Oblique Penholder
4. Adjusting your Pen and Paper

**Copperplate/Engrosser's Script Instruction** (filmed and edited)
5. How to use the Guidelines
6. Fundamentals of Script in the Copperplate Style
7. The Fundamental Oval Form
8. The 'Retouched' Cutoff
9. The Fundamental 'i'
10. Illustration for The Fundamental 'i',
11. The Fundamental 'v'
12. The Compound Curve
13. The Square Cutoff
14. Fundamental Concepts: Drawing versus Writing
Script in the Copperplate Style: Lowercase Letters (filmed and edited)

15. Lowercase Letters Group I, Part 1 of 3, c,e,o,s
16. Lowercase Letters Group I, Part 2 of 3, a,d
17. Lowercase Letters Group I, Part 3 of 3, g,q
18. Lowercase Letters Group II, Part 1 of 3, i,u,w
20. Lowercase Letters Group II, Part 3 of 3, f,k
22. Lowercase Letters Group III, Part 1 of 2, v,x
23. Lowercase Letters Group III, Part 2 of 2, r,m,n
24. Lowercase Letters Group IV, Part 1 of 2, b,h,y
25. Lowercase Letters Group IV, Part 2 of 2, p,z

Script in the Copperplate Style: Uppercase Letters (filmed and edited)

26. Uppercase Letters: Guideline Usage
27. A Sample of Uppercase Letters: A, O, J, Z
28. Uppercase Letters F, T
29. Uppercase Letters B, P, R
30. Uppercase Letters U, X, Y
31. Uppercase Letter D
32. Uppercase Letters O, Q
33. Uppercase Letter E
34. Uppercase Letter C
35. Uppercase Letters G, L, S
36. Uppercase Letters H, K
37. Uppercase Letters V, W
38. Uppercase Letter Z
39. Uppercase Letter I, J
40. Uppercase Letters A, M, N

Advanced Concepts (filmed and edited)

41. Gilded Script Using 23K Gold Leaf
42. The Oblique Pencil
43. Needle Stitch Script
44. Writing LARGE Letters, Capital B
45. The Symmetry of Curves
46. Fishhook Capitals

DVD Preview Buddy Blackwell

47. Learning Roundhand and Flourishes, Video edit by Dr. Joe Vitolo

Ornamental Penmanship: Delbert Tysdal

48. Del Tysdal demonstrates OP Technique, Video edit by Dr. Joe Vitolo
Induction of Master Penman Brian Walker (2003) Convention in Cleveland, Ohio (filmed and edited)
49. Part 1
50. Part 2
51. Part 3

Video Interview Series ‘Inside the Penman’s Studio’
Reference URL: http://www.iampeth.com
*Click on the ‘Videos’ link (http://www.iampeth.com/videos)

Video interviews with the following penmen: (filmed and edited)
1. Introduction https://youtu.be/ky5neQg30ug
2. Rosemary Buczek - IAMPETH Master Penman and President 2001 https://youtu.be/B71oN3wPD9Q
5. Harvest Crittenden - IAMPETH Master Penman https://youtu.be/z6tCEIYerM0
Documents & Specimens Scanned/Compiled (partial List)

1) Images from Images from University of Scranton’s Special Collections Library - The Zaner-Bloser Penmanship Collection in two parts:
   Part I: [http://www.zanerian.com/ZBCollection.zip](http://www.zanerian.com/ZBCollection.zip)
   &
   Part II: [http://www.zanerian.com/ZBCollection2.zip](http://www.zanerian.com/ZBCollection2.zip)

2) Lupfer’s handwritten album provided by Nick D’Aquanno into a pdf file of ~30 megs in size. Nick scanned the images. I Photoshopped them and compiled them into two PDF files. To download just click on:
   &
   Part II: [http://www.zanerian.com/LupferAlbumFromNickDAquannoVol2.pdf](http://www.zanerian.com/LupferAlbumFromNickDAquannoVol2.pdf)

3a) I received a package in the mail from John DeCollibus containing items from the late Del Tysdal. These were notes from Charles P. Zaner’s (1864-1918) class penned in 1908 by AB Endress. One third were beautifully handwritten and the other two thirds were typed. I scanned the handwritten notes that I believe were Zaner’s classes to handwriting teachers and compiled them into a pdf for download. One of the lectures was from HL Darner. This is a large file of over 123 megs. He discusses OP in the last three pages. You may download the file at:

3b) Here are the typed notes from Zaner’s class (some are faded and hard to see):

4) Here are signatures from the pen of CP Zaner:

5) Here is OP Instruction with Pen Work by Zaner and Commentary by Lupfer.

6) I rescanned some of the EC Enriquez specimens at higher resolution (300-600 dpi) you may download the zip file containing these scans at:
   [http://www.zanerian.com/EnriquezHiRes.zip](http://www.zanerian.com/EnriquezHiRes.zip)

7) Here is a Portfolio of work from HB Lehman:
   [http://www.zanerian.com/LehmanHB_Portfolio.pdf](http://www.zanerian.com/LehmanHB_Portfolio.pdf)
8) The Masterful Pen of Rene Guillard. Here is a 25 page compilation of the pen work of IAMPETH founding member:

9) Student Testimonials for The Zanerian Art College (1895) into a single pdf for download:

10) Lessons in Flourishing by M.B. Moore:
http://www.zanerian.com/MooreMBLessonsInFlourishing.pdf

11) Ten lessons in text lettering from CW Norder, 1907:

12) From A-Z in Ornamental Penmanship by HL Darner:

13) The June 1948 HP Behrensmeyer Memorial Issue:
http://www.zanerian.com/Behrensmeyer1948BE.pdf

14) JJ Bailey’s Milestones on the Penmanship Highway:

15) Selected pages from The Business Educator Charles P. Zaner Memorial Issue, February 1919:

16) JA Olson’s Nine Lessons in Roundhand Taken from The Business Educator, 1910:

17) An Interview with Engrosser Stella Bennett Dennis taken from The Educator Journal, circa 1940’s:

18) Lessons in Card Carving:

19) JC Ryan, The Handless Penman:
http://www.zanerian.com/RyanJC.pdf

20) Signatures of Famous Penmen:
http://www.zanerian.com/PenmenSignatures.pdf
21) William E. Dennis’ Six Lessons in Offhand Flourishing. Taken from The Penman Artist & Business Educator Journal, 1:  
http://www.zanerian.com/DennisWELessonsInOffhandFlourishing1902.pdf

22) Flourishing Plates by Clinton C. Canan, written commentary by Earl A. Lupfer taken from The Business Educator:  

23) The story of Louis C. McCann taken from a 1930 Business Educator, written by his son Charles McCann:  
http://www.zanerian.com/McCannLCStory1903BE.pdf

24) Letters for Illumination by EE Marlatt:  

25) F. Leland Watkins Penmen’s Newsletter images zipped folder:  
http://www.zanerian.com/Watkins.zip

26) Images of English Writing Masters:  
http://www.zanerian.com/EnglishWritingMastersJPEG.zip

27) Charlton V. Howe Specimens:  
http://www.zanerian.com/HoweSpecimens.zip

28) Zanerian Student Ads from 1895:  
http://www.zanerian.com/ZanExpStudentAds1895.zip

29) Spencerian Testimony Against claims by P, D & S, 1872:  
http://www.zanerian.com/SpencerianTestimony1872.zip

30) A Zaner-Bloser Penmanship Catalog (32 page) from the early 1920’s:  
http://www.zanerian.com/ZanerBloseCatalog1920s.pdf

31) OP Lessons by EW Bloser with commentary provided by EA Lupfer circa 1930:  
http://www.zanerian.com/BloserEW&LupferEALessonsInOP.pdf

32) Ten Lessons in Roundhand Writing from H.W. Strickland (1906-1907)  
http://www.zanerian.com/StricklandHWLessonsInRoundhandWriting.pdf

33) Lessons in Ornamental Penmanship with EA Lupfer from 1914-1916:  
http://www.zanerian.com/LupferEALessonsInOP1914.pdf

34) M.A. Albin's 12 Lessons in Artistic Penmanship for Beginners from 1921-1922:  
http://www.zanerian.com/AlbinMALessonsInArtPenBeginner.pdf
35) Clinton C. Canan: His Life and Works:

36) J.W. Lampman Lessons in Artistic Writing:
http://www.zanerian.com/LampmanJWArtisticWriting.pdf

37) Lloyd M. Kelchner: His Life & Works:

38) Nina Pearl Hudson Noble: Lessons in Penmanship:
http://www.zanerian.com/NobleNinaPearlHudson.pdf

39) Olive A. Mellon: Lessons in Business Penmanship:

40) The Life & Works of John Austin Wesco:

41) From the Pen of HL Darner:
http://www.zanerian.com/DarnerHL.pdf

42) Earl A Lupfer Script Insights:

42) Early Philadelphia Penmen by Henry W. Flickinger:

43) The Life & Works of Charlton Valentine Howe:

44) EE Marlatt: Engrossing Specimens and Letters:

45) The Life & Works of Willis A. Baird:

46) Lessons in Dashy Writing from FB Courtney:
http://www.zanerian.com/CourtneyFBLessonsInDashyWriting.pdf

47) The Life & Works of Eliseo C. Enriquez: (over 50 meg file)
48) The Life and Works of Louis Madarasz:  
http://www.zanerian.com/MadaraszHisLifeAndWorks.pdf

49) The Life and Works of Samuel E. Bartow:  
http://www.zanerian.com/BartowSELifeAndWorks.pdf

50) The Life and Works of Harry S. Blanchard  

51) The Life and Works of Daniel T. Ames:  

52) The Life and Works of Henry P. Behrensmeyer:  
http://www.zanerian.com/BehrensmeyerHPLifeAndWorks.pdf

53) The Life and Works of Albert D. Taylor:  
http://www.zanerian.com/TaylorADLifeAndWorks.pdf

54) Chris Yoke: Yoke Oblique Penholder Fabrication:  

55) Brian Smith: Unique Oblique Penholder Fabrication:  

56) A Tale of Three Penholders: Vintage Kelchner-made Penholders:  

57) The Life & Works of Francis B. Courtney:  
http://www.zanerian.com/CourtneyFBLifeAndWorks.pdf

58) The Life & Works of Charles P. Zaner:  

59) Aileron Fountain Pen Fabrication:  
http://www.zanerian.com/AileronFountainPens.pdf

60) Isaac Weldon Bullock & His Legendary Oblique Penholder:  

61) Ornate Pen Work by Charles R. Hill:  

62) M.B. Moore Specimens of Offhand Flourishing:  
http://www.zanerian.com/MooreMB-FlourishingSpecimens.pdf
63) The Making of a Custom Snakewood Oblique Penholder for Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo by Chris Held, Pen Maker:  

64) An Examination of Line Spacing in Letters Written by Past Masters:  

65) Lessons in Ornamental Penmanship by Del Tysdal (1944-2013) as posted to the Ornamental Penmanship Group on Yahoo with additional commentary by Brian Walker. Compiled by Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo:  

66) A PDF to illustrate for the novice pointed pen enthusiast what a properly inked pointed flexible nib should look like:  

67) Lessons in Engraver’s Script by Joseph Galterio:  

68) Pen Grips of Penmen Past and Present:  

69) Pointed Pen Inspiration: Before and After Specimens:  

70) The Life and Works of William E. Dennis (1860-1924):  
http://www.zanerian.com/DennisWELifeAndWorks.pdf

Published Articles (partial list)

1) “Iron Gall Ink”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2001. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Spring:8

2) “The Point & When to Change It”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2001. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Summer:4-5
3) “The Master Penman Induction Ceremony”
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo
2001. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Fall:9

4) “Letterform Analysis in Engrosser’s Script”
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo
2002. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Spring:8-9

5) “Analysis of Letterforms: Part II of a Series”
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo
2002. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Summer:3-4

6) “The Zanerian Manual”
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo, Robert Hurford
2002. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Summer:4-5

7) “Lessons in Engrosser’s Script: Lesson I”
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo
2002. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Summer:10-11

8) “Lessons in Engrosser’s Script: Part Two of a Series”
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo
2002. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Fall:12-13

9) “Analysis of Letterforms: The Symmetry of Curves (Part 3 of a Series)”
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo
2002. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Fall:14-15

10) “Lessons in Engrosser’s Script: Part Three of a Series”
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo
2003. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Winter:10-11

Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo
2003. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Newsletter Winter:14-15
12) “Lessons in Engrosser’s Script: Part Four of a Series”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2003. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Penman’s Journal Spring:7-8

13) “Letterform Analysis: Part V, The Descender Stem Loop and The Baseline Crossing”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2003. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Penman’s Journal Spring:11-12

14) “Setting and Stabilizing The Removable Flange”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2003. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Penman’s Journal Summer:3-4

15) “Lessons in Engrosser’s Script: Part 5 of a Series”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2003. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Penman’s Journal Summer:12,14

Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2003. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Penman’s Journal Fall:7

17) “Letterform Analysis Part VII, The Slant on ‘N’”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2003. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Penman’s Journal Fall:13-14

18) “Lessons in Engrosser’s Script: Part 6 of a Series”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2003. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Penman’s Journal Fall:12-13

19) “Styles of Script”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2004. The Newsletter: The Association for the Calligraphic Arts. 7:20-22

20) “Demystifying the Oblique Penholder”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
21) “Letterform Analysis Part VIII, The Key of ‘D’”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  

22) “Lessons in Engrosser’s Script: Part 7 of a Series”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  
2004. The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrosser’s and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH) Penman’s Journal Winter:3

23) “Needle Stitch Script”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  

**Invited Publications**


2) “American Masters of the Pointed Pen”  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  

3) Tips on using Dinky Tubes and Properly Inking a Nib  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  

4) Demystifying the Copperplate-Spencerian Script Enigma  
Dr. Joseph M. Vitolo  

**Text Converted/Compiled Documents (259 documents)**  
Documents are available as a zipped file at:  

http://www.zanerian.com/VitoloJMTextCovertedDocuments.zip

- Acidity of inks: What about the acidity of ink? This seems to be a point of ongoing talk on various discussion sites.
• Addy, William: William Addy (b. 1618, d. 1695?) is best known as the author of a system of shorthand, founded upon that of Jeremiah Rich

• American Copybooks: An Outline of their History from Colonial to Modern Times by Stanley Morison

• Ayers, John (1680-1705): John Ayres was the most eminent writing-master of his day

• Bailey, J.J. - Memorial by Eileen Richardson: This issue is dedicated to the memory of Canada's foremost penman, J. J. Bailey and his lovely wife, Mary.

• Bailey, J.J. - Memorial by Fred Richardson: J. J. Bailey, Canada's foremost penman, was one of a group of seven who founded the International Association of Master Penmen and Teachers of Handwriting.

• Baird, W.A. - Lessons in Engrosser's Script: By way of apology for this course in Roundhand or Engrossing Script, little need be said of this style of penmanship itself. While it is an old style, it seems to be quite popular at the present time, and its popularity seems to be increasing.

• Baird, W.A. - Obituary: It is with saddened hearts and a realization of an irreparable loss that we learned of the recent death of our friend, Willis A. Baird, the master engrosser and illuminator of Brooklyn, New York.

• Bartow, S.E. - Obituary: Samuel Everett Bartow was a native of Cassville, Ohio. He received his training in the public schools there and later attended the Oberlin, Ohio Business College, which is the present Oberlin College.

• Beginning Class in Penmanship, W.D McDaniels and A.N. Palmer: In fact, the mastery of a fluent, plain style of writing is well worth to any one the time and effort expended.

• Behrensmeyer, H.P. - One of America's Most Skillful Penmen: H.P. Behrensmeyer was born on February 18, 1868. He received his first penmanship lessons from C. L. Martin followed by a course under Fielding Schofield, who was known as one of America's finest.

• Benguria, Enrique - Memorial: We regret to report the death of our Honorary President, Enrique Benguria on April 8, 1985 in New York City, He would have been 92 on May 26.
• Bickham, George, Sr. (~1684 - ~1758): Bickham attained a much higher position as an engraver of calligraphy than as a practitioner of the art.

• Blackwell, Buddy - Memorial: It is with heavy heart that I must tell you of the passing from this life of Buddy Blackwell on March 16, 1999.

• Blanchard, H.S. - Memorial: Through friends we learned of the death December 31, 1940 of H. S. Blanchard, Los Angeles, Calif., one of America's oldest and finest penmen.

• Bloser, E.W. - Memorial Resolutions: As a Penman, he was recognized as one of the finest in the profession, being a product of that famous Oberlin, Ohio, College which gave so many penmen to the educational world.

• Bloser's Ink - A recipe by E.W. Bloser (written before 1929): Use a large ink well, filling it 3/4 full with pure Arnold's Japan Ink. After using it in the pure state until it gets too dark or thick, thin it with water, strong black coffee (strong enough to KILL A CAT)

• Bloser's Ink - A letter by E.W. Bloser: E.W. Bloser, was owner of the Zaner-Bloser Co. in Columbus, Ohio. He described his ink in two paragraphs of a typewritten letter to Daniel W. Hoff, Meadville, Pennsylvania, April 28, 1913

• The Blue Book - Compiled by L.E. Stacy, 1907: An amazing compilation of biographical sketches of over 150 Commercial Penmanship Teachers of that era.

• Blue, S.M. - Memorial: It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Stanley Matthews Blue, known to many penmen as "Billy" Blue.

• Brooks, William (1696-1749): To Bickham's Universal Penman William Brooks contributed one plate (No- 32), and another plate (No- 50), dated 1720, to his Penmanship in its Utmost Beauty and Extent. Massey says that there is one plate of his in Bickham's Penman's Companion, but no copy of this book has been seen.

• Brown, Coats - IAMPETH Member Spotlight: Coats Brown was a senior member of IAMPETH and a truly wonderful gentleman and penman. The following was taken from The IAMPETH Newsletter, Summer 1995

• Browne, David: "Master David Browne, His Majesties Scribe, Sainct-Andrewes" is how this writing-master styles himself on the title-page of his Calligraphia which was published in 1622 from the University Press at St Andrews.
Brown, E.L - Display Script - A few helpful hints: We show herewith a sample of script which is very attractive for head-lines, window signs, etc. Study the character of letters carefully.

Brown, E.L - Lessons in Engrossing: Taken from The Educator, December 1953

Brown, E.L. - Lessons in Engrossing: This is quite an important lesson, as it shows the lay-off of a set of resolutions. Attention is called to the diagram showing how the double-curved heading is made.

Brown, E.L. - A Dedication: Taken from the December 1953 issue of The Educator. EL Brown was an all-around penman. He was very skilled with a pointed pen as well as a broad pen and brush.

Brown, E.L. - A Dedication by the Zaner-Bloser Company: Edwin L. Brown, the master penman, engrosser, and artist, was born in Camden, Maine, in 1869. In his early youth, he manifested great interest in handwriting and pen work

Brown, E.L. - Engrossing Script, 1907: This is a most useful and profitable style to acquire, and every penman should be able to write a strong, accurate shaded round hand.

Brownfield, W.C. on the death of C.P. Zaner, February 1919: After dropping a sprig of evergreen in the open grave of my dear teacher, I returned home feeling keenly the distinct and awful loss of a courageous, kind-hearted friend.: This one is for Del.

Brownfield, W.C.: Since taking a course in the Zanerian, Mr. Brownfield has been making very rapid progress as a penman and teacher.

Brunet, G.R - A Letter: During the summer, while motoring with my wife to eastern Canada, I made a short stop at Detroit. There it was my privilege to meet one of the greatest living penmen and handwriting experts-one who never grows old.

Bugbee, the most celebrated New England penman, was fully as famous in his section as Spencer was in Ohio. Bugbee taught throughout New Hampshire shire, and some in Vermont.

Business Handwriting by the Editor (E.A. Lupfer), 1955: Most school teachers are today endeavoring to teach their students to write easily and legibly. If we may judge by the sales of textbooks and supplies, much more attention is being given to this important subject than most persons realize.
• Canan, C.C., Taken from The Educator, December 1941: From time to time some of our readers, who have heard of the skillful work of C. C. Canan, ask questions regarding him. We are, therefore, printing his photograph and a few facts regarding this unusual penman.

• Canan, C.C., Taken from "Collection of Penmanship": The pen work executed by the late C. C. Canan is of such a high order of skill that we deemed it our duty to reproduce his best efforts in book form so as to preserve them for the benefit of others who wish to master penmanship.

• Card-Carving, by J.D. Carter: This month we present some simple designs in Card Carving which illustrate how card carving can be used on various greeting cards.

• Carstairs, Joseph and E. Butterworth, Writing Masters: I checked Sir Ambrose Heal's book The English Writing Masters (1580-1800) for info on Carstairs and found it surprisingly wanting. He was mentioned but no biographical info was listed. Therefore, I am posting what I found including the E. Butterworth bio. - J. Vitolo

• Carter Ink Company, Taken from Pen, Ink and Evidence by Joe Nickell: Much ink was made by apothecaries who found they could easily prepare the fluid in quantity and pour it into standard bottles, which they sold with their own labels affixed.

• Champion, Mary, from The Champion Method of Practical Business Writing (1921): This is a complete course in plain business writing, and is intended for use in private and public school, and for self-instruction.

• Clark, John, (1683-1736): Between John Clark and Charles Snell a bitter and undignified controversy arose in the year 1712.

• Coca-Cola's logo - Frank M. Robinson: It was Robinson who was responsible for the white spencerian handwriting on red background that would become the most famous trade mark in the world.

• Collins, R.S. - Penman and list of Ohio Penmen: R. S. Collins, penman, penmanship instructor, penmanship connoisseur, and world traveler, recently arrived home again after spending a year abroad.

• Costaras, Chris J. - An Interview: Obtained a Gold Seal Certificate in Engrossing from The Zanerian College. Signed by R.E. Bloser, P.Z. Bloser and E.A. Lupfer

• Costello, P.W. - Obituary: America Loses One of Her Most Skillful Engrossers
• Costello, Clark and Courtney: Biographical information.

• Coulter, E.M, National College of Business & Technology: E.M. Coulter came to the College as an instructor in 1896. He became president in 1901, and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1946, a full fifty years of leadership.

• Courtney, Francis Bernard - Biography: Francis B. Courtney, one of the most skillful penmen the world has ever known, was born in Worcester, Mass., in 1867

• Courtney, F.B. How to create "Letter Heads": FB Courtney, The Wizard of the Pen, explains how he creates caricature faces using letterforms.

• Courtney, F.B., How To Hold The Pen: There is but little difference between the appearance of the hand when holding the pen correctly, and when at rest with the fingers partly closed.

• Courtney, F.B. "Lessons in Dashy Writing": Dashy writing is worth the attention of anyone who can appreciate the beautiful. The graceful curves, the harmony of lines, the delicate touch, and the dashy shade combine to make forms both pleasing and fascinating

• Courtney, F.B., On Movement: There is but one movement to which I have chained my life's work in the field of dashy and rapid writing. It is the muscular movement, the movement that has done more for penmanship than any other ever tried or even suggested.

• Courtney, F.B., Taken from The Western Penman, 1905: Probably no other penman is so admired for his skill as is Mr. Francis B. Courtney. His versatility is remarkable and is peculiar to himself.

• Cragin, Charles T. "Three Master Craftsmen" on L. Madarasz, C.P. Zaner and W.E. Dennis: I have been quite intimately acquainted with three who are admitted headliners in Chirographic (i.e., Calligraphic) Art, and in this, my first contribution to the Business Educator, after a long period of illness, I wish to pay tribute to them in order of their passing.

• Cragin, Charles T. on Charles A. Gaskell: When I graduated from business college I had spent all my money. I had no friends with any influence to get me employment, and I was painfully bashful. People say I have recovered from that fault, if fault it be. But I really did not know, how to get a start.
• Cragin, Charles T. on the death of C.P. Zaner: Zaner was a quiet, modest man, yet he was always listened to with attention and respect at conventions, gatherings of teachers, and by students, for he was a man who made no false motions; his ideas were practical and his explanations were clear and simple.

• Craig, G.G.: Mr. William Lilly studied under Mr. Craig while at the Western Kentucky State Teachers College. It was Mr. Craig who advised Bill to further develop his skills by attending the Zanerian College of Penmanship in Columbus, Ohio.


• Dakin, A.W. Taken from The Business Educator, 1937: A. W. Dakin was born at Hillsdale, N. Y., Feb. 21, 1859, and moved to Tully, N. Y. At the age of 18 he became interested in penmanship through Gaskell's Compendium of Penmanship, a book which influenced many to drop the plow and take up the pen.

• Darner, H.L.: His name was H L Darner. He attended Zanerian in 1906-1907 and then taught school for Zaner in 1908 and 1909. He was Lupfer's teacher along with Zaner and Bloser.

• Dennis, William E. "How I Became A Penman": You have asked me to give the boys some idea of how I got started in my special line of work, I assure you it is not with the least bit of egotism that I rake up a few facts regarding my experience.

• Dennis, W.E. "Individuality in Ornamental Penmanship": In all artistic work there should be a certain personality to stamp it as the production of someone in particular, and not appearing as the result of a mechanical profess, depriving it of that feature so interesting in art work, Individuality.

• Dennis, W.E. "Lessons In Text Lettering": To do text lettering well and rapidly at the same time, requires considerable practice, but it seems as though anyone who has the fine perception of form and skilful touch requisite to an artistic writer could also become a good text letterer.

• Dennis, W.E., "Sickels Letter": This is a very elegant and beautiful letter for elaborate pieces of engrossing. It is not the most difficult, though rather slow of execution; therefore it is not used so much as other alphabets.
• Dennis, W.E., "What is Engrossing?": What is Engrossing? According to Webster's Dictionary, it is "To copy in a large hand" Engrosser "One who copies in a large fair hand."

• Dennis, William - from a recent book on the history of Chester, N.H.: William Dennis (1860-1924), calligrapher. His grandfather was Sir George Barney, the chief justice of India. He grew up on Chester Street.

• Dennis, W.E. on Materials - taken from "Studies in Pen Art": Soennecken pens, turkey quills and reeds are used for text lettering. The best is that which you can use best. Most engrossers use the Soennecken pen, probably because it is easier to obtain, but others think there is nothing like a turkey quill.

• Dennis, William E. - Obituary: Mr. W. E. Dennis passed from this life on June 6, 1924, and the world of professional penmen mourns the passing of a master. Mr. Dennis was born in Manchester, N. H., in 1860

• Dennis, W.E.: "Old English": This is one of the most beautiful and useful of all alphabets, and, no doubt, one of the most difficult. There are several ways of making it.

• Dennis, W.E. on Flourishing Swans: The swan used to be considered by old-timer's as one of the most difficult things to flourish, and no doubt it does require about as much practice as any small design.

• Dennis, W.E. on The Delicate Art of Flourishing: Time was when I considered a fellow who could flourish a swan, a bigger man by far than any monarch that ever sat on the throne, but now I will be blamed if I do not think he is about the smallest vegetable that grows.

• Doner, Charles E. - Obituary: Again we mourn the passing of a dear friend and coworker, Charles E. Doner. He was born in 1875 on a farm in Cumberland Co., Penn.

• Dyer, H.L., Penman, Missionary, Former POW - An Interview.: It was in Bryant and Stratton Business College that I became intensely interested in penmanship not only because the school was noted for its fine penmanship teachers, but because of a young man by the name of Knight who attended your school.

• Ellefson, C.O. - A Visit with L.M. Kelchner: Mr. Kelchner has had a wide and varied experience in the penmanship profession and has been recognized as one of the outstanding penmen for the past half century.
• Ellsworth, Henry W., "How I Became A Penman": You ask me to tell you "Why I became a penman?" Same way as friend Isaacs and Topsy did - 'specs I grewed into it'

• Ellsworth, H.W. - Obituary, The Educator September 1924: It is said that he was, the first to make the change in reducing the length of loops from four or five spaces in length to thirds, and which was later followed by other publishers.

• Endress, A.B. "A Generation Remembers A.B. Endress" by Donald Tate: The last hundred years have given us much in comfort, and our tools have been improved many times. We cannot forget that it was the penmen of a hundred years ago that enlightened us.

• Enriquez, E.C. - Penman: Enriquez was a great penman, artist and engraver. He was a master of offhand flourishing producing highly intricate specimens.

• Fairbanks, David Parish (1913-2004): David was one of Michael Sull's mentors and had a tremendous impact on his development as an engrosser. He was honored at the 2001 IAMPETH convention in Kansas City with a Master Penmen award presented by Michael Sull.

• Fields, Lester Lincoln - Obituary: Lester did superb work, but he was so very humble about it. He was a partner of Chester L. Cook in Chicago for many years and the work of both of these men was of the highest caliber.

• Fife Pen Patent: A patent by William Fife dated September 28, 1839 for the holder of metallic pen points.

• Filling, Walter J., IAMPETH Newsletter Member Spotlight: My life as a penman began in a one-room school in Cameron County, Pennsylvania - I was one of the few children who greatly enjoyed practicing the circles and loops in Penmanship class.

• First Penman Convention: An authentic vintage photograph (not a print of a photograph) of "Members of the First Business Educators' Convention of America Held in New York City in 1864"

• Flickinger, H.W., "Methods of Securing Good Writing": This paper was read before the Philadelphia Teachers' Association, April 17 1905. After urgent solicitation on the part of the editor of The Business Educator, Mr. Flickinger finally consented to allow us to publish it. It is now yours to peruse and enjoy.
• Francis, J.A. - Biographical: In 1929 J A Francis was called the 'coming Madarasz' in various Zaner Bloser publications. He was the only person at that time to be able to 'capture' the style that Madarasz used.

• Galtiero, Joseph A. - Biographical: Galterio wrote a series of illustrated articles on engraver's script for the American Penman, 1913-1914

• Gaskell, George A.: Notes from Del Tysdal: The family moved around 1857 to Ashtabula, Ohio and that is where Gaskell became acquainted with P R Spencer senior.

• Gaskell's Magazine: "Blustering Blasts From His Boisterous Bazoo", 1887: A prominent college man echoes the sentiments expressed in the November magazine concerning the qualifications demanded in a teacher of penmanship

• Gaskell, G.A., A Pioneer Penman: G. A. Gaskell was one of America's most skillful penmen. He was one of the best known penmen because of his national advertising.

• Gaskell, George A. - Biographical: George A. Gaskell (1844-1885) was one of the most famous calligraphers in America. Gaskell's Complete Compendium of Elegant Writing was a bestseller, with over 250,000 copies sold in ten years.

• Gaskell's Penman's Handbook, 1883, Pages 9-22, "The History of Writing": It is thought by the best authorities, that the many ancient systems of writing had at least three different sources, the Egyptian, the Assyrian, and the Chinese. All of these systems were originally hieroglyphic.

• Gaskell’s Compendium of Forms (1882) On Platt Rogers Spencer: Spencer, the originator of the Spencerian system, was, without doubt, the most successful itinerant of his time.

• Gaylord, Elston E. - Obituary: Elston E. Gaylord, Beverly, Mass., was born on a farm near Coleta, Whiteside County, Illinois, on January 25, 1870

• Gems of Penmanship (1867) By Williams & Packard: Writing, as an art, and more especially as a department of education, is rapidly attaining an important position in this country

• Gillott, Joseph, Pen Maker: Joseph Gillott, steel pen maker and art patron, the son of a workman in the cutlery trade, was born at Sheffield 11th October 1799, and commenced life as a working cutler, soon becoming a 'noted hand' at forging and grinding knife blades.
• Gillott Pen Factory Tour: By combining the text from The Trades and Manufactories of Great Britain published in 1865 and the pictures from when The Prince of Wales visited Gillott's factory in 1874 published in The Graphic, we can take a guided tour around Joseph Gillott's pen making establishment.

• Golden Age of Ornamental Penmanship: In the years following the death of Platt Rogers Spencer, a number of his former students continued their mentor's efforts in promoting the Spencerian System of Writing.

• Goldsmith, Oliver on the ascendancy of the Steel Pen.: Text obtained from Nash's book but was originally from Goldsmith's Gems of Penmanship, 1846. 'Lecture on "The Pen"

• Griffith, John S. (1899-1980): John S. Griffith of Astoria, Oregon, was born in 1899, and in due course of time graduated in the Idaho Technical Institute of Pocatello. In this institution he came under the inspiration and instruction of one of America's foremost penmen and teachers, Mr. F.B. Courtney.

• Hatten, Charles E, The State Department's Penman: Urgent among the official diplomatic documents which a new President is called upon to issue are consular exequaturs. and recently Charles E. Hatten of this city has been turning his finely trained hand to inscribing a number of these for Mr. Eisenhower.

• Hausam, L.H. (1870-1941): L. H. Hausam was born in St. Charles, Mo., in 1870. Mr. Hausam became interested in penmanship when he was quite young and became an expert.

• Hausam, L.H., taken from "The Hausam System of Plain Penmanship" 1923: Slant in writing, when done with the arm movement, is determined physiologically, and must, therefore, vary with individuals.

• Healy, Horace G. (1867-1938) - Obituary: Horace G. Healy In the passing of Horace G. Healey at St. Petersburg, Florida, in December, the penmanship profession has lost one of its most outstanding and lovable characters.

• Henning, William.C. on the death of C.P. Zaner: A man of such high qualities, whose highest purpose and efforts were to make the world better and to enrich the profession to which lie devoted his life, deserved a kindlier fate.

• Henning, W.C., "Ornamental Writing": In the practice of ornamental writing as well as in business writing, your movement should receive the first consideration.
• Henning, W.C. - Biographical: William C. Henning, studied under Louis Madarasz and Austin Palmer in 1893 at the Cedar Rapids Business College

• Higgins, Charles M., Founder of Charles M. Higgins & Co., Inc.: The inks Mr. Higgins had invented, which included colored inks as well as black and India, sold very slowly for the first few years, so that he manufactured it at his own home and continued to conduct his patent soliciting business.

• Hinman, A.H., "A History of Penmen", Part I: In July, 1867, the principals of the Bryant and Stratton schools assembled in Buffalo, which was the first meeting held after the death of Mr. Stratton.

• Hinman, A.H., "A History of Penmen", Part II: Among the earnest, capable and successful teachers of penmanship who have honored our profession during the past forty-five years is the subject of our sketch, Mr. Orrin Reynolds

• Hinman, A.H., On W.E. Dennis and E.L. Brown: As every city has a leading engrosser, Brooklyn, New York, has in WE Dennis one of the ablest pen-artists in the country.

• History of Oblique Penholder Patents: (The Mordan and Brockedon patent information was obtained from Michael Sull’s Spencerian Script and Ornamental Penmanship, Volume I. The remainder of the patent information was obtained from the US Patent Office Web Site thanks to the efforts of Charles Osborne.)

• Hoffman, W.A., "How I Became a Penman": So don't be discouraged, boys, because you don't acquire the skill of a Madarasz or a Courtney in a few weeks or months of earnest effort, but stick to it with the tenacity of the proverbial bull pup and success will crown your efforts.

• Hoole, G.G. - Biographical: G G Hoole was from the Glendive Montana area.

• Hovis, O.E. - Biographical: Mr. OE Hovis is a specialist In Round Hand Writing. He was born in Pennsylvania a little over thirty years ago, and received his first penmanship training in Meadville.

• How Are Steel Pens Made, The Spencerian Pen Company: METALLIC PENS were made in small quantities before the Nineteenth Century, but the Pen as we know it now was really invented by James Perry, the founder of the firm of Perry & Co., Ltd.
• Howard, H.A. - Biographical: While quite young H. A. Howard became interested in penmanship, and received a copy of the Penmen's Gazette, published by G. A. Gaskell, author of Gaskell's Compendium.

• Howe, Charlton V., Instructions for Learning Engraver's Script: After fourteen years' experience with various pens, I have come to the conclusion that the Gillott No. 303 pen is best adapted for Engraver's Script.

• Howe, Charlton V.: I have come to the conclusion that Prof. Zaner's simplified writing is the proper thing, after giving it a fair trial.

• Huntsinger, E.M., "How I Became A Penman": I took a course in penmanship under that master teacher A.H. Hinman, who knows how to inspire students and how to criticized the handwriting for the best good. Mr. Hinman pounded into me that nine-tenths study and one-tenth practice made the fine penman. He is right.

• IAMPETH Convention 1954: The penmanship convention held at Geneva, Ohio, in July, 1954, was one of the most inspiring we have attended. Persons, interested in handwriting or in some line of pen work, attended from various parts of U. S., Canada, and Cuba.

• IAMPETH History by Eileen (Broad) Richardson: In July 1950, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Walter, Enrique Benguria (Cuba's foremost penman), Mr. and Mrs. Rene Guillard and Charles Begin came. My Mother and her neighbor friend, Mrs. Murrell came to take care of the cooking.

• IAMPETH Newsletter - Historical Lineage: While the IAMPETH Newsletter is not a direct permutation of The Business Educator via Zaner-Bloser, it was created specifically to pick up where The Educator left off.

• INKS, taken from Gaskell's Penman's Hand Book, 1883: Ink has not only been useful in all ages, but still continues absolutely necessary to the preservation and improvement of every art and science, and for conducting the ordinary transactions of life.

• Ito, Kaiji - Obituary: I am sad to announce the passing of a fine penman/calligrapher, Mr. Kaiji Ito of the Japan Penmanship Association (JPA) this past May.

• Jenkins, John - Biographical: John Jenkins was born in about 1755 and died in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1822. He was the first American writing master to make a strong contribution in his field.
• Jones, Travis (1907-1997) IAMPETH Member Spotlight: A gentleman in every sense of the word, Travis Jones, of Birmingham, Alabama, is one of IAMPETH's most loved members.

• Judy, Manasseh S. - Biographical: During the summers of 1910, 1911 and 1912 he was a student at the Zanerian Art College, Columbus, Ohio

• Kelchner, L.M., on the death of his cousin C.P. Zaner: I mourn the loss of a dear cousin, whose memory I shall always cherish.

• Kibbe, H.W. (1853-1905) - Biographical: As a penman, his writing combined in enviable and well-balanced proportions the elements of accuracy and facility of execution.

• Kowalski, Joseph (1912-2003) - Biographical: Joe was a graduate of the Zanerian College and a contemporary of Bill Lilly. He earned a Zanerian Certificate (Green Seal) in Text Lettering from the Zanerian.

• Kuhl, A.A. (1873-19??) - Biographical: In 1894 he first attended the Zanerian, returning two or three times since. Ten years ago, he went South and taught for three years in the jasper, Fla., Normal Institute.

• Lacquering, by A.A.S. Charles: The final operation before 'looking over' or 'viewing' and subsequently boxing and labeling was the lacquering process.

• Leslie, Scott E., (1881-1941) - Biographical: Those who knew Mr. Leslie personally and were acquainted with his work, considered him one of the most skillful and talented penman the profession has produced.

• Lessons in Ornamental Penmanship, by P.Z. Bloser: Two things are essential in the execution of superior penmanship. They are perception and performance. The hand cannot well perform that which the mind does not perceive.

• Lester, J.E. "Ornamental Penmanship": There is much in common between business and ornamental writing. In fact, business writing is an outgrowth of ornamental penmanship.

• Lister, Clyde C., (1866-1940) - Obituary: His name will go down in history as one of the most skillful penmen, a thorough, painstaking teacher, and a true gentleman.
• Lister, C.C. on Writing Movement: Muscular movement, combined movement and arm movement are terms used to describe the approved process of writing. None of these is ideal.

• Lowe, James K., The Korean Penman, by W.E. Dennis: We do not know of any Korean penmen except Mr. Lowe, and he tells us that the "professional penman" is something unknown in his native country.

• Lowe, James K., on Engrossing the Gettysburg Address: After the 1915 diploma season was over, I found some spare time and conceived the idea of designing Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

• Loya, Paula, (19??-1994) - Obituary: One is constantly amazed at the volume of work she produces. There seems to be no limit to her originality and creativeness. She is at home with all styles and mediums.

• Loya, Paula, Studio Announcement: Pauline Loya, who is conducting a Studio in Boston, Massachusetts, with the aid of her sister, reports that their Studio is doing a very nice volume of business.

• Lupfer, Earl A., "Bird Flourishing": Flourishing is to a large degree conventionalized nature. Forms are not flourished true to nature, but are slightly modified.

• Lupfer, Earl A., "Handwriting: An Old Art": Handwriting on one hand, is a tool for communication, and on the other hand, is an enchanting art.

• Lupfer, E.A. "On Becoming Professional Penmen" Penmanship as an art will not die for many years; not until we penmen allow our ideals to fall so low that we disgrace the term "penmen."

• Lupfer, E.A. "Lessons in Engrosser’s Script": If we examine the formation of the letters we find that there has been slight change in the past hundred years which all indicates that this style has been perfected years ago had has stood the test of time.

• Lupfer, E.A. "Good Spacing": Pleasing spacing in handwriting, lettering, scrolls, etc., can be secured by dividing fields or areas into equal sections. Unpleasing spacing is where areas are divided into unequal spaces.

• Lupfer, E.A. "Modern Engrossing": We suggest that you lay out the entire piece of work on a piece of scrap paper, any spoiled wrapping paper will do for this
first rough draft. This will enable you to make many changes until you decide on the design of the work.

- "Lupfer Zanerian Memories" by Eileen Richardson: Young Earl Lupfer had so much difficulty learning that Mr. Zaner called him into the office and said he would like to refund his tuition because after many weeks of work, he could see no sign of his ever being able to master the art.

- Lyons, W.H. Taken from the book 'Golden Gems of Penmanship and Self Instructor (1884). The claims made will bring a BIG smile to your face.

- Machine or Hand-Made, by Edward Summers Squier, 1919: Reliance on the typewriter has lessened the individual ambition for skill in penmanship. The virtue of the machine's product has been exalted until the matter of the personal handwriting has come to be regarded as something quite unimportant.

- Madarasz, Louis - born in 1859 or 1860? Notes from Paul Meltzer: A letter from Madarasz--printed in the same issue of Business Journal I just wrote about--indicates Madarasz was born in 1859, not 1860

- Madarasz, Louis - complete text from The Madarasz Book: Louis Madarasz was born in San Antonio, Texas, January 20, 1859, on the outskirts of the city where, in the freedom of outdoor life, he developed a fine physique and a strong constitution.

- Madarasz, Louis, on Card Writing: For years there has been a constant demand from the expert penmen of this country for a course in card writing by Madarasz

- Madarasz, Louis, on Insurance Policy Writing: One of the most "sure-of-a-good-positions" lines of penmanship is that of policy writing in an insurance company.

- Madarasz, Louis - publication information on The Madarasz Book: Fortunate it is that the Master Penman, L. Madarasz, left material for a book to be published as a "Dowry", as he termed it, to his beloved wife.

- Madarasz, Louis: Many opinions have been expressed regarding Madarasz as a teacher. Measured by the results he secured from his pupils; he was one of the greatest teachers of penmanship that has ever lived.

- Madarasz, Louis, The Last Article Written by Madarasz: No title has been given it, but it is a most thoughtful contribution on environment and character.
- Madarasz Memories, taken from the Business Journal March 1912: The penmanship of his first letters was somewhat immature, but still it revealed a firmness of touch and a character of touch that showed he would soon be a master of the calligraphic art.

- Madarasz The Great: When devotees of the history and art of Ornamental Penmanship discuss masters of the past one name stands out above all others, Louis Madarasz.

- Manly, Roy H., Sr. (1896–1981): In his early teens he became enamored with Ornamental Penmanship and became an ardent subscriber to the "Educator" (a Zaner-Bloser publication). Ornamental Writing became his hobby, constantly striving for improvement, never tiring of practice from day to day.

- Marlatt, E.E. on Engrossing and Illuminating: It is the purpose of this course in engrossing and illuminating to train the student to do the highest grade of engrossing work, including pieces for framing and albums that are being done by the artists of today.

- Martin, Frank W., (1875-1943): Frank W. Martin was proprietor of the Martin Diploma Company and was one of the finest Engrossers in this country.

- Materials and Implements, from Gaskell's Compendium of Forms (c 1882): Few things are more annoying than to be compelled to stop writing on account of a poor pen and replace it with a better one. To the penman it is particularly vexatious.


- McCann, L.C. - A Testimonial: About twenty years ago, after having pursued a course in a business college and followed the work of stenographer and bookkeeper, I realized that there was a general scarcity of penmen throughout the country and that the field was not only inviting, but, very profitable.

- McCray, Dr. Kelvin, "McCray's 1,011 Penholders A Gift to Cultural Center": Dr. McCray, whose skilled loops, swirls and turns of the pens have been learned from top names in the field, is the past-president of The International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers and Teachers of Handwriting.

- McKee, Uriah, Frank W. Martin, John A. Wesco
• Michael, G.W. and his assistants, Zaner and Bloser: They received no instruction outside of our college. They are thorough teachers, and have but few, if any, equals as penmen.

• Michael, George W., Pen Patent: The object of my invention is to make it possible in writing to hold a pen of ordinary form in a holder in a stationary oblique position.

• Miscellaneous Facts: I scoured some of IAMPETH's incredible archive resources at this year's convention. The following was the result. - J. Vitolo

• Moore, M.B., Card Flourishing: To accompany the Madarasz course in Card Writing THE JOURNAL has procured the services of M. B. Moore, Morgan, Ky., to prepare a series of Card Flourishes.

• Mordan and Brockedon Pen Patent 1831: TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, we, Sampson Mordan of Castle Street East, Finsbury Square in the County of Middlesex, Engineer, and William Brockedon, of Devonshire Street, Queen Square, in the same County, Esquire, send greeting.

• Movement, from G.F. Herhold's Compendium of Modern Penmanship: It may be of four kinds: Finger, Muscular, also called ForeArm, Combined and Whole-Arm movement. All of these have their proper place for use.

• Musselman, D.L. (1842-1910): DL Musselman On Thursday, June 16, 1910, Prof. D. L. Musselman, one of the foremost private commercial schoolmen of America, died after a brief illness, the result of a cold and heart trouble, aged 68 years.

• Nicholas, Abraham III (b. 1692, d. 1744?): George Bickham, in a letter prefixed to The Compleat Writing-Master, says that he "never saw any pieces that were wrote with greater command of hand than the originals of that book".

• Norder, C.W. (1881-1979): This article will recite the life story of a Zanerian graduate who became one of the very best Engraver's script penmen, ever.

• Norder, C.W., Foundation Strokes in Engrosser's Script: As you become more skillful in Professional penmanship you should study letters in sections.

• Oblique Penholders: A list of modern and vintage penholders compiled by Joe Vitolo.

• O'Hara, Paul on the death of C.P. Zaner: He stood by me in time of need. He has been a constant guide by my side, one whom I could consult from time to time.
• Ollyffe, Thomas: (fl. 1685--circa 1725): The first mention of this writing-master is by John Ayres who dedicated a plate, in his Tutor to Penmanship, to " W. Thos. Ollyffe Penman in London ". The plate is dated 1695

• Origin of the character "&", Taken from The American Penman July 1921

• Osborne, Charles, on the History of Oblique Penholders: Taken from a post in the Yahoo Discussion Group "Ornamental Penmanship"

• Other Penmen I: Some lesser-known penmen from "The Golden Age"

• Other Penmen II: Some lesser-known penmen from "The Golden Age"

• Oval - The Importance of the Oval in Ornamental Penmanship: Taken from two articles in The Educator, 1944

• Packard, Silas Sadler (1826-1898): Taken from The Penman's Art Journal, November 1898

• Palmer, A.N. on William E. Dennis: William E. Dennis and I were pupils together in the Gaskell, Bryant & Stratton Business College of Manchester, New Hampshire. We were then in our teens, and to our youthful minds nothing else in the world was quite so important or beautiful as ornate penmanship.

• Palmer, Austin Norman (1860-1927): At the time of his death, over 25 million Americans had learned writing from the Palmer Method of Penmanship.

• Penholders - The History and Development of the Zaner Method Penholders: Here is the story of the Zaner-Bloser penholders, as published in The Business Educator (vol. 34, no. 10), June 1929

• Penman's Hall of Fame: It has been nearly 150 years since Platt Rogers Spencer published his first book on penmanship. In the ensuing years, penmen have come and gone without fanfare, leaving for us the legacy of their art. It is time we knew who they were.

• Penman's Newsletter Number 1, 1949: The sad news has reached Most of you, lovers of penmanship, that the beloved penmanship publication, The Educator, (formerly The Business Educator) published by Zaner & Bloser Co, Columbus, Ohio for the past 55 years, will discontinue its publication with the December 1949 issue.
• Penmanship: The following was taken from "The Zanerian Theory of Penmanship", by the Zanerian Authors of the Zanerian Art College 1892.

• Penmanship Experts Compare Notes: In 1850, the Spencerian method of penmanship was developed in the United States and was taught in public school, and colleges around the nation until the 1940s when it was dropped and replaced by more academic subjects.

• Penmanship Made Easy, George Bickham: Writing will never look Ornamental without a due portion of Characters throughout the Whole, a just Distance between the letters themselves as well as the Words, a Natural inclination of one Letter to another, & a Smooth Stroke performed with boldness & freedom.

• Penmanship Problem in Public and Private Schools, C.A. Chessman: Taken from The American Penman, September 1907

• Penmen from Pocatello, Idaho, E.E. Gwin: The man responsible for the success of good penmanship and good penmen from Pocatello was that nationally known penman and teacher, and fine gentleman, T. Courtney

• Peterson, Percy O. (1877-1941): Dr. Peterson attended the Zanerian College in 1902. In 1911 and again in 1926 he sent his sister, Elizabeth, to the Zanerian.

• Poole, E.A. (1857-1946): The day of the itinerate teacher is no doubt gone but those old teachers filled a definite niche in our educational system and the work which they did left a wholesome influence.

• Presidents of IAMPETH: A list of Past Presidents from 1950

• Pritchard, Albert S. (1846-1910): Albert S. Pritchard died on January 13, 1910 at the age of 64. He was a penman of the old school, having been a student in penmanship under the late George J. Becker at Girard College, where he graduated.

• Rice, J.D.: Mr. Rice went to the school in 1901 as a teacher when the school had an enrollment of four hundred students.

• Richardson, Eileen (Broad) (19??-1995): Eileen Richardson has done much to keep the traditions of penmanship alive and has brought many lovers of the art together. The members of IAMPETH have forged lasting friendships we will treasure forever, and owe a great debt of gratitude to our founders for bringing us together.
• Richardson, E.F. (1856-19??): Mr. Richardson has studied penmanship of E. K. Isaacs, H. W. Kibbe and G. W. Michael, three penmen who were very active in penmanship work and nationally known over a quarter of a century ago.

• Richardson, F.D. on E.C. Mills: Then 25 years later, E. C. Mills of Rochester, developed practical penmanship from the calligraphy of Platt R. Spencer known as "SPENCERIAN" and that was about the turn of the century.

• Ricketts, C.L. (1860-1941): For many years Mr. Ricketts has conducted an engrossing studio in Chicago. Mr. Ricketts made quite an extensive study of Medieval Manuscripts and illuminated work. He made frequent trips to Europe where he collected a vast amount of very precious manuscripts.

• Rickets, C.L., Engrosser, Chicago, Illinois: There are 12,000 (yes, the zeroes are correct) of his items at the Lilly Library, Indiana University.

• Risinger, T.J. (1843-1919): When a young man, Mr. Risinger entered the Spencerian Art School at Geneva, Ohio, and while there was under the personal instruction of Platt R. Spencer, father of the Spencer Brothers, who were the authors of the Spencerian System of Penmanship.

• Robinson, Oscar Urban (1880-1949): The remarkable thing about Mr. Robinson was the fact that he was confined to a wheel chair for 43 years of his life.

• Roundhand or Engrosser's Script: Roundhand is one of the main styles used by Engrossers today. It can be appropriately used for any occasion; it fits in with other styles very well.

• Ryan, J.C., The Handless Penman: He travels farm city to city and has in his time met and called on all the best penmen of the profession. He knows all their secrets of working and is a master at handling ink and putting it into condition.

• Schofield, Fielding: (1845-19??): Without doubt it was while Mr. Schofield was at Quincy, that he reached the apex of his artistic powers. Surely all penmen of the period are agreed that from 1883 to 1890 no one surpassed him in skill or in ability to produce original designs.

• Schofield, Fielding: An open letter to The Business Educator March 1924: This veteran penman and teacher celebrated his 79th birthday on January 17, 1924, the, day having been made one of overflowing happiness to him by the remembrances of his friends
• Shaded Script, taken from "Studies in Pen Art" by W.E. Dennis: A very practical style of penmanship is Shaded Script. Much of the art Engrosser's work includes this bold effective kind of writing. Policies, diplomas, wills, deeds, etc., are often written in this style.

• Signature Writing: Signature Writing, or "Superscription" as it was frequently called, represented the epitome of a person's skill in Ornamental Penmanship.

• Skeels, Arthur G.: Mr. Arthur G. Skeels, whose portrait appears herewith, was born in 1881 near Mineral City, Ohio. As usual, he is a farm product, receiving his education on the farm and in the country schools.

• Spencer, Bushrod H. (1863-1948): Another of the old Penmen has left us, This time it was Professor Bushrod H. Spencer the well known educator and expert penman of Paterson, N. J.

• Spencer, Harvey A., Penholder Patent: Letters Patent No 89,354, dated April 27,1869

• Spencer, Harvey A., Penholder Patent: 1882: The object of the invention is to facilitate the teaching of penmanship by placing the pen in the oblique position first, indicating thereby the proper position of the letters

• Spencer Publications: A listing of publications on penmanship by P.R. Spencer as well as his Sons

• Spencerian Key to Practical Penmanship, Chapter 1: Theory of Penmanship

• Spencerian Key to Practical Penmanship, Chapter 4: Movements

• Spencerian Key to Practical Penmanship, Chapter 9: Shading

• Stewart, Thomas J. (1845-1936): Mr. Stewart was a master penman having studied under Mr. Flickinger, of Philadelphia, and his school was ranked among the best.

• Stoddard, Dwight L. "The Passing of Great Penmen": Possibly the passing of great penmen is not different from the passing of any other great men

• Studio Engrossing: While individual penmen promoted their skills through magazine and mail advertising, in public demonstration, and by means of written
correspondence, engrossing artists tended to ply their trade from the more formalized aspect of a business, that is, a studio.

- Temperature and Color in Nib Manufacturing, taken from "The Steel Pen Trade" by A.A.S. Charles

- The Secret of the Skill of Madarasz I: In order to get accurate, uniform letters Madarasz used his little finger for the support of his hand.

- The Secret of the Skill of Madarasz II: The skill involved 3 things, two of which everyone in professional penmanship knew they did, and the third Madarasz did for sure, but others may not have known they were doing.

- The Steel Pen Trade 1930-1980: Text Only

- The Steel Pen Trade 1930-1980: With photos

- Tomkins, Thomas (1743-1816): Taken from English Writing Masters by Ambrose Heal

- Tower, Francis Leon by Charlton V. Howe: In 1894, he studied and practiced penmanship and drawing under the personal direction of that able penman and teacher, S. E. Bartow of New York.

- Tower's Penholder Collection: Collecting penholders which have been used by penmen is a hobby with Mr. Tower, who believes in having a holder for each kind of work and pen.

- Tributes to the Late W.E. Dennis: Taken from The Educator September 1924

- Vaughan, Frank E. on the passing of S.S. Packard: Taken from The Penman's Art Journal, November 1898

- Warner, AJ: We are publishing herewith a portrait of and signature by Mr. A.J. Warner, of Elmira, NY, at the age of 85 years, who is probably the oldest penman now living capable of executing work of, this quality, and probably the last graduate of. P. R. Spencer, Sr.

- Watkins, F. Leland F.: Leland Watkins followed his father's footsteps as president of Dakota Business College, Fargo, N.D. and has long been a great promoter of good penmanship.

Public Schools, died. His pen is silent forever, but his skillful work will remain with us as an inspiration.

- Wesco, J.A. On Holding the Pen: The holder is placed against the side of the nail of the second finger and crosses the hand below the knuckle joint of the first finger. This is very important as in resting there it helps to hold the wrist up.

- Wetmore, Ivan A. (1892-1979): Mr. Wetmore was one of the few recognized calligraphers in the country, a master penman and engrosser.

- Where Ink Materials Come From: Few persons think as they dip their pens into the ink that they are using materials that come from every corner of the globe. Yet ink is made of some of the queerest of things that come from far-away places.

- Williams, John D. (1829-1871): This superior teacher was widely known; probably a very considerable number who read this knew him personally, He was at one time "general superintendent of Ornamental Penmanship for the Bryant & Stratton chain of colleges," and was undoubtedly one of the finest penmen the world ever produced.

- Williams and Packard, Preface to "Gems of Penmanship", 1867: Writing, as an art, and more especially as a department of education, is rapidly attaining an important position in this country. The advantages possessed by those who write, we in securing good positions and rapid advancement are so palpable that very few of our young men undervalue this acquirement.

- Williamson, Walter S. Jr.: Walter Williamson was a rare breed of lettering artists capable of producing artwork in all facets of the lettering arts. When he joined IAMPETH in 1970, he was considered the youngest Master Penman in the world according to the members.

- Willis, John (1698-1760): John Willis was a native of Child Okeford and kept school at East Orchard, near Shaftesbury, for thirty years. Massey tells us that he "was a fine penman, but never published anything from the rolling-press ... except a few single copies, for the use of his own school, engraved by Mr. George Bickham and Mr. Thorowgood

- Women in Calligraphy, by C.J. Hollandsworth: There is a tendency to look down on calligraphy as something only women are interested in, because it is viewed in the art community as little more than glorified handwriting.
• Writing Papers: In writing papers we are able to give the greatest possible value for the money. In fact, we know of no other firm in the United States that sells equal grades of papers at figures as low as we quote.

• Zaner, C.P. "Simplified Penmanship": A paper read before the Western Penman's Association, held in Chicago, December 1885, by C. P. Zaner.

• Zaner, C.P. "The New Zanerian Alphabets": Roundhand is the highest art in the matter of script forms. It is essentially decorative in character and partakes largely of fine arts.

• Zaner - The Private Library of C.P. Zaner

• Zaner - Tributes to Charles Paxton Zaner, taken from The Business Educator, February 1919

• Zaner-Bloser Penholder: The history and development of the Zaner-Bloser penholder began in 1891 when C.P. Zaner and E.W. Bloser joined forces and began their careers as professional penmen, authors, and educators.

• The Zanerian Taken from a brochure for the Zanerian College’s Summer School program and 25th Anniversary and Convention dated 1912

• The Zanerian College One hundred years ago one of the most famous colleges of penmanship and engrossing was established in Columbus, Ohio.

• Zanerian Fine Writer Ad Taken from an early Zaner-Bloser Penmanship Supplies catalog

• Zanerian Ink

• Zanerian Manual Reprint - Introduction The Zanerian-Manual has been the definitive instructional guide in the training of Engrossers and calligraphers for over 75 years.

• Zanerian Memories from J.T. Stockton Taken from The Educator, Volume 58, 1955

• Zanerian Oblique Penholders Taken from a Zaner-Bloser ad for oblique penholders in The Business Educator, December 1928