



Spencerian Saga Celebrates 26th Anniversary

Welcome!

We would like to welcome you to the special world of 19th century American Penmanship and the 26th Anniversary of the Spencerian Saga! We are especially excited about our plans for this year.

A remarkable student opportunity will be the availability of magnificent full-scale reproductions of P.W. Costello's engrossing (courtesy of Thomas Costello) and over 300 phenomenal specimens of the fabled Horace Healey Collection from the Zaner-Bloser archives. In addition to our extensive collection of original penmanship specimens from Spencer, Reynolds, Zaner, Bloser, Doner, Madarasz, Courtney, Ames, Dennis and so many others, this unprecedented display is a goldmine for study and inspiration. It truly is a highlight that all students of penmanship will want to see and will be available every day for each week-long Saga program.

I am also proud to announce that Harvest Crittenden will be co-directing the program with me this year. Harvest is a certified Master Penman with the International Association of Master Penmen, Engrossers and Teachers of Handwriting (IAMPETH), and a highly respected instructor of penmanship, calligraphy, engrossing and gilding. She has served on the faculties of numerous regional, national and international conferences. Harvest and I have worked together for several years, and I feel fortunate that she will be able to share her talents and passion for the pen arts with you.

*Last but not least, this year is of special significance to the Spencerian Saga, and personally, to me. 2012 is a year of transition for the Saga. With the publication of my new book, *American Cursive Handwriting*, I have made a personal commitment to focus my career toward the teaching of traditional cursive penmanship. Over 30 states have removed the teaching of cursive writing from their curriculums, and there is a great need to instill the joy and techniques of properly-taught handwriting to young students everywhere. Like so many penmen before me, I have become a traveling teacher of penmanship. I will be spending much of my time participating in homeschool conventions around the country, which will fully involve my schedule. As a result, this will be my last year of leadership with the Spencerian Saga. However, I am filled with excitement for this program; its future has never been brighter as Master Penman Harvest Crittenden assumes the responsibilities of Director from me. As previously noted, we will share this year's leadership together. Beginning in 2013, she alone will serve as Director of the Spencerian Saga. I am extremely proud to have her succeed my efforts as she shares our American heritage of Penmanship with future students.*

The Spencerian Saga is a remarkable event. Students have attended from 45 states and 9 foreign countries, and together, we have enriched our lives with the beauty from another era. Many of us have developed treasured friendships over the years, and it has been my privilege to bring us together. Harvest and I hope that you will consider joining us this year; we look forward to welcoming you in person.

Very sincerely, from both of us,


Michael Sull


Harvest Crittenden