

**Nature Printing Society
Virtual Annual Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2022**

- 1. Welcome: Sue Fierston, NPS President, at 4:02 p.m. PDT and 7:02 pm EDT. 26 members present.**

Welcome and thank you for attending this annual meeting. Thank you to Sharron Huffman for a wonderful opening to the meeting with a video and music of workshop memories of Heather Fortner and Susan Hansen.

Many great things have happened this past year to keep members together and connected...LEAP Live, Show'n Tell, Zoom Classes, Printing Prompts and more....

- 2. Approval of 2021 NPS Annual Meeting Minutes held virtually over Zoom on November 10, 2021, as published in the 2021 Fall Newsletter:**

Sue motioned to approve, Lori seconded, no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

- 3. NPS Board Candidates for 2023-2024:**

- A. The 2022 Nominating Committee members were Arlene Bandes, Chair, Sue Fierston, and Nora Terwilliger. Sue announced the slate of candidates in lieu of Arlene, who was unable to attend tonight's annual meeting:**

**President - Sue Fierston
Vice President - Andrew Jensen
Treasurer - Bee Shay
Secretary - Lori Loftus
Member at Large - Susann Ely**

- B. Sue asked for any nominations from the floor and there were none.**
- C. Sue motioned for approval, Nora seconded, no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.**
- D. The first online voting for Board members will begin online on October 20th. Candidate's bios, photos, pictures and some with link to their websites will be included. Members may also "write in" a**

nominee on the online form. Deadline for voting is October 31, 2022.

E. A Pollicino will review the online voting process and they will be reviewing the votes to make sure there is only one vote per email address. They cannot change or delete any vote and they will report to Sue the results of their review before the closing of the online vote on October 31.

4. Editor's Report & Show'n Tell – Sharron Huffman:

A. Sharron said the members should have received their Fall Newsletter in the mail recently. She emphasized that members should send any address/email updates to Interim Treasurer Bee Shay. Lori, Sharron and Michael are then notified of any changes from Bee.

B. Newsletter content is focused on articles only from NPS members. Quarterly, please let her know of any nature printing related news: From Our Studios, Members' News and Tips & Tricks. She appreciates all the content she has been receiving from members. If a member has an idea for a full feature article, please contact her within a few weeks before the deadline.

C. Cost of the newsletter is going up. It was decided by the board to go back to an 8-page color newsletter, which will keep the cost about the same. When using additional pages they will be printed in black and white; for example, the annual meeting minutes.

D. Deadline for the Winter Newsletter is January 10th.

E. Show'n Tell – Tentative date December 15th.

5. Webmaster – Michael Reimer:

A. Website is up-to-date with members information. If a member has any updates or would like to be in the Members' Gallery please contact him.

B. Photographs must be sent in a .jpg format. NOTE: Cellular phones are in .jpg format.

6. 2023 Workshop – Sue Fierston:

A. Wildacres Retreat, Little Switzerland, North Carolina, is the tentative

location chosen by the Board for the next annual meeting and workshop. Sue will be contacted and presented by Wildacres staff with a contract in late January or early February 2023.

B. The Board is looking for a member or members willing to organize it.

C. NPS must have at least 80 members attending. The workshop would be scheduled in one of the first 2 weeks of October 2023. The prices are still reasonable.

D. If we are not able to have the workshop at Wildacres for any reason, we may look into renting classroom space for open printing as we did at Acadia National Park last summer. If members know of classroom space available to rent, please contact Sue. This would be for smaller local gatherings only. Lodging and meals would be arranged by members themselves.

7. Archives Update – Nora Terwilliger for Chris Dewees, Archivist:

- A. “Back at the founding of NPS in 1976 one of the four main goals that Bob Little, Eric Hochberg, Jr. and Chris Dewees established was to establish an NPS Archive to ensure that the information about the art form and the Society was preserved. Various homes for the Archives were envisioned, but nothing ever materialized. Museum space, archival quality storage facilities, lack of institutional commitment, differing visions of what was possible, and expense were among the barriers.
- B. Over the years Eric collected potential archive materials including original art, NPS business notes and letters, books, show announcements, publications, etc. and stored them at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and at his home. Other members collected additional materials.
- C. Chris Dewees had inquired at UC Davis about their interest in hosting the NPS Archives about 15 years ago and they respectfully declined. However, by around 2018 changes in digital technologies made it possible for UC Davis to agree to host our Archives. Rather than having to store a large number of original framed and unframed nature prints, they agreed to start with 12 representative original unframed works and also maintain a large digital collection of original prints. They also have received rare nature printing books not already available in the University of California system, DVDs, videos, magazine articles, letters, show announcements, NPS business minutes, workshop information, nature printing CVs of approximately 30 living and deceased nature printers, and photographs. Much of this trove of materials were gathered on two trips to Santa Barbara in 2021 and 2022. There are

significant amount of materials still waiting to be sorted and retrieved on future trips to Santa Barbara.

- D. Two related NPS-related archival events are happening. First, the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History are archiving original nature prints that are not able to be held at UC Davis. We have scanned many of these nature prints to be included in the digital collection at UC Davis. Second, we had a large number of plant prints, articles and correspondence of the late Ida Geary, a longtime NPS stalwart. Her teaching classroom was at the Presidio in San Francisco and she was a beloved teacher there. The National Park Service has agreed to archive her materials there. Her work is also well represented in our collection at UC Davis.
- E. What's the cost of all this? Most of the costs are the startup costs. NPS donated \$5000 to UC Davis to establish the Archive including labor (cataloging, photography, etc.) and material costs. Your NPS ArchivistBotanical has donated approximately \$4000 to scan the nature prints for the digital collection at UC Davis. I am also donating time and travel to collect and organize the materials. I anticipate at least one more trip to Santa Barbara to bring back original prints for scanning as well as related materials to donate to UC Davis for our Archive Once the Archives are set up there will be a relatively small amount of cost to add new materials.
- F. Kevin Miller, the UC Davis Archivist, estimates that the Archives will be ready for access in 18-24 months. If one needs to access materials before then, they should contact Kevin directly."

Chris Dewees, Archivist, 10/2022

G. Sharron said that she is in the process of digitizing newsletters for the archive. Member Pat O'Conner volunteered to send his digitized newsletters to Sharron from 1997 forward.

8. New Class of Membership – Sue Fierston:

A. The Printmaker Membership Fee will be \$100 annually, \$50 for membership and \$50 for the archival fund. This new class was voted on by the NPS Board after the Fall Newsletter went out with the 2023 Membership Form. Members can write in on the form to choose the Printmaker Membership when renewing and sending dues to the Treasurer. Online renewals will show this membership choice

B. Printmaker Members will be identified and recognized in the NPS Directory.

9. Treasurer Report – Bee Shay:

A. Current NPS Checking Balance: \$28,000+

B. January 1 through today: 26 new members, 192 renewals, 34 guidebooks to individuals, 3 bulk orders and 9 Zoom classes.

C. 2022 Workshop: Over \$5,000 in donations from members were received when the 2022 workshop was cancelled. Expenses for welcome bags were covered by donations. Workshop participants that did not receive a Welcome Bag should contact Bee. Additional money will go into the Operational Fund. Education Day participants were refunded their money and sent a NPS guidebook. Thanks to Arlene and Dean Bandes who hand delivered the welcome bags to Bee for mailing.

10. LEAP Live – Sue Fierston:

A. Participants in Sue’s Botanical Tile class will be sent a password by October 19th to view the class on the LEAP site. Any member that would like to see the class can pay \$40. Any non-members must first join NPS. The Board decided classes will be available for free to the membership after 1 year.

B. Several instructors from the 2022 workshop will be teaching classes in the near future. Please let Sue know if you would like to teach a class.

11. Secretary report – Lori Loftus:

Printing Prompts – thank you to members who have participated. Please send in photos for the current prompts. These photos are posted on the NPS website each quarter. Remember to send in .jpg format.

12. Silent Auction – Sue Fierston:

A. Submission dates: October 19 to November 3, 2022.

B. Auction dates: November 9 to 19, 2022.

C. The Committee is: Kathy Lyons, Susann Ely, Bee Shay, and Lynn Spence.

- D. Sue showed the BetterWorld platform site and how members will upload each auction item.**
- E. There are NO fees to use this platform.**
- F. An email was sent to the membership on September 30 explaining the online process and link to the form to be filled out.**

Suggestions:

- a) The starting bid price should at least cover the postage.**
- b) Donator absorbs the shipping/postage costs and donation of the item.**
- c) Write out the description ahead of time (the site may time-out).**
- d) The “Estimated Value” is the Actual Value” of the item.**
- e) Up to 4 .jpg photos may be submitted, and Kathy said a square image the fits best. Please edit photos to a square image if possible.**
- f) “Additional notes:” DO NOT USE this box, it will NOT show up on the bidding site.**
- g) Bidders will be notified by email/text if out bid.**
- h) Sellers can use U.S.P.S boxes with standard rates. These are good for multiple items, like a set of supplies for a specific printing method (ex. Gel Plates).**

13. Questions and Comments - open to all members:

No comments, and any questions addressed above in the specific category during the meeting.

14. Motion to Adjourn:

Sue moved to adjourn at 8:13 p.m. EDT, Lori seconded, no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**Respectfully submitted,
Lori Loftus - NPS Secretary**