

Nature Printing Society - Annual Meeting Minutes
Western Oregon University, Monmouth Oregon
July 10, 2024

- 1. Welcome: Sue Fierston, NPS President, at 7:35 p.m. PDT, Slides from past workshops, keep your raffle tickets handy!**
- 2. Approval of 2023 NPS Annual Meeting Minutes from the Annual Meeting at Wildacres Retreat, NC, on October 3, 2023, as published in the 2023 Fall Newsletter:**

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

3. Introductions: NPS Board and facilitators:

- A. Introduced board members present: Bee Shay, Lori Loftus and Susann Ely
- B. Thanks to the workshop organizing committee: JoAnn Campisi, Susann Ely, Bee Shay and Lori Loftus. Special thanks to Deb Conrad and all the volunteers.

4. On the Big-Leaf Maple, Everyone present got a fresh leaf

Sue spoke on the importance of her NPS teachers, Gudrun Garkisch and John Doughty, and told the audience she was all about leaves. During the speech, Sue handed out leaves and asked audience members to slowly examine them, and she mentioned that she liked best the leaves of the west because of their large size and often furry coatings.

Sue concluded, saying the best teachers open our eyes. She said, “You don’t need to be a perfect expert to teach, in fact, you find that your students often teach you. That free exchange of ideas is what NPS is all about. “

5. Treasurer Report End 2Q2024, as of 7/10/24 – Bee Shay:

A. Membership Update: 28 New Members, 76 Lifetime Members (81-2023), 15 Printmakers (15-2023). Current members in Good Standing 286 and 19 unrenewed members from 2023.

B. Bank Balances:

- Bank of America = \$125,313.90
Does not include any workshop expenses, but does include workshop income. Updated report details in 3Q report.
- 0 balances on credit cards.
- Officer's Liability Insurance RENEWED in April.
- Taxes: Accountant has filed an extension due to their schedule – no anticipated payment due.

C. Guidebook Sales – 27 YTD

D. Workshop Update: 78 Printers, 3 Klingons, 82 Total Attendees

6. Newsletter report:

From Lynn McKinney, read by Sue:

- Do you have a helpful technique to share?
- Has someone's kindness helped you on your way as an artist and nature printer?
- Are you exhibiting your art in a show?

Please email Lynn and let her know for the newsletter.

7. Social media report – Jessie Swimeley:

A. Thank you to the membership for making NPS more visible to the public on Instagram and Facebook. Share with Jessie any

amazing prints you make. It's exciting to meet and share what you know. Email her if you don't want to be on social media but want to share information or prints.

B. Currently, 792 people on our account. Profiles go to our NPS website. She posts 2 times a week. Post on the website have gotten 17 hits in the last week.

C. If you have an Instagram account and you tag the NPS site Jessie will see it and repost it into the NPS stories. Under the post there is a "invite collaborator" button it will also share to NPS account.

8. Website report:

A. All going well with the website, no updates.

9. Archivist presentation and awesome news about our archive at UC Davis – Chris Dewees:

A. Chris' presentation will be featured in the Summer issue of the newsletter with a link to the document itself.

B. The Archives are housed at the UC Davis Library Special Collections as of 2019 and will be available to view online in August. The live link to the archive will also be available in the newsletter.

C. Only ¼ of the collection is updated due to several challenges faced: passing of NPS co-founder Eric Hochberg, COVID and staffing at UC Davis.

D. Chris is looking for a member to train as a Back-Up Archivist.

E. Sue added that any member is welcome to apply to be included in the NPS Archive. To apply, contact Sue or Chris for more information.

10. Free Raffle drawing for 3 \$50 Blick art supply gift cards and other prizes

11. Presentation: Dwight Hwang and Duncan Berry

Speaking about the transformative beauty of the western coast of the U.S. and the effects of climate change in their 25-piece show at Oregon State University: *Blue Heart: Beauty and Change Along America's Western Shoreline*

12. Looking ahead to the 2025 workshop:

2025 NPS workshop is scheduled to be held at Wildacres Retreat, Little Switzerland, North Carolina, in October 2025. Dates to be determined early 2025.

13. Questions and Comments: open to all members:

Chris Caran proposed that NPS to do a Special Exhibition for the 50th Anniversary of NPS. Sue suggested members contact Chris or any board member with ideas to honor the history of NPS and celebrate the anniversary.

Nora Terwilliger mentioned that she and Michaelann Tostanoski just returned from visiting Mineo Yamamoto in Japan, and also an artist 1 month residence. Please contact Nora to find out more about artist residences.

Sue thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for those here at WOU...See you tomorrow!

14. Motion to Adjourn:

Lori moved to adjourn at 9:42 p.m. EDT, Bee seconded, no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Lori Loftus - NPS Secretary