Nature Printing Society
Annual Meeting
Wildacres Retreat, Little Switzerland, NC
September 29, 2026

Call to order at 7:35 p.m.

Welcome by Lori Loftus, NPS president

Lori wished all NPS members a happy 50th anniversary and thanked the present members for attending, reminding all to hold onto the raffle tickets they received when they entered.

Approval of minutes from the 2025 NPS Annual Meeting at Wildacres Retreat, North Carolina, October 21, 2025

Bridgett Benton motioned to approve the minutes, and Donna Frider seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Introductions and thanks - Lori

Lori introduced the NPS Board and asked each member to stand when his/her name was called:
Vice President - Chris Caran
Treasurer/Education Coordinator - Bee Shay
Secretary – MaryJo Lomax
Newsletter Editor – Lynn McKinney
Website/Social-Media – Jessie Swimeley
Member-at-Large – Susann Ely
Past-President – Sue Fierston
Archivist and Co-founder – Chris Dewees

She also introduced this year's Fellowship recipient, Liza Pierce.

Lori thanked Patti Anderson, Workshop Organizer and Bridget Benton, Education Coordinator who put together this year's workshop. She also acknowledged the time and effort of all of instructors and volunteers.

Lori then thanked Sharron Huffman for her many years of running our Quarterly Show and Tell. Sharron has retired from this position, and Lynn

McKinney has volunteered to take over the responsibility of these quarterly meetings for members to share their nature prints and techniques.

Finally, Lori thanked Suzanne Becker for proofreading many emails and documents for the Society.

Treasurer's report – Bee Shay
There are 287 **Members in Good Standing**. The breakdown is as follows:

- 7 Printmaker Members (19 at this time last year)
- 25 New Members in 2026 (and counting) (10 this time last year)
- 73 Lifetime Members (77 this time last year)
- 182 Annual Members (155 this time last year)

This year to date we sold 37 **Guidebooks**. 10 sales were domestic, 3 were international, and there was one bulk order of 10 copies.

The current **bank balance** in our Bank of America account is $122,616.20. Please note that this balance does not include workshop payments. Those payments have been collected and will be deposited on October 5. Our credit cards have zero balances, the Officer's Liability Insurance was renewed in August, and our taxes have been filed.

Final **2026 workshop count** is 77 Printers, 1 Fellowship Student and 3 Klingons

Newsletter report – Lynn McKinney
The Summer Newsletter was emailed to members on September 25. The target for the Fall Newsletter is mid-November. Lynn invited everyone to contribute by answering her Quarterly Question, sharing acts of kindness, upcoming shows or exhibits of yours or others, printing techniques you enjoy doing, and news of members who have passed away.

Website & Social media reports – Jessie Swimeley
Jessie sang the praises of Sue Fierston and Susann Ely for their contributions in making the NPS website "amazing". She urged members to look at the website (www.natureprintingsociety.org) and encouraged all to participate in the Quarterly Printing Prompt and to send any ideas or upcoming events to her (webadmin@natureprintingsociety.org) so that she

can add them to the Events Calendar and/or the Blog. Jessie explained that the website has members-only areas as well as areas that the public can access. Both the Blog and Events tabs, for example, are great ways for the public to learn what NPS members across the country are doing.

The members-only tabs include the Members' Gallery where all members are invited to participate and are eligible to send two images of their work to be added to the Gallery. Also, LEAP classes are now free for members to watch lessons and interviews by Bee Shay, Linda Goldberg, Sue Fierston and Chris Dewees.

2026 Educational Grants - Lori

NPS awarded 10 educational grants this year. Lori thanked Sue Fierston for overseeing this project. Sue has volunteered to oversee the 2027 grant program unless someone else wants to volunteer.

First Cycle Recipients:

PATRICE BAKER: Nature Print Jewelry in Silver Metal Clay
SUZANNE BECKER: Nature Printing: A Celebration of Trees; Nature Printing: Takuga - Plant Prints with Ink and Watercolor; Nature Printing: Plant Prints on Fabric
DONNA BELLER: Nature printing using plants at La Casa Blanca AJ
BRIDGET BENTON: Natural Impressions: Botanicals and Wax
LISA MADSON: Gyotaku: fish printing workshop
ELIZABETH PALMER: Forest to Sea Nature: Printing with Elementary Students
RACHEL REEVE: Natural Impressions: monotype botanical printing workshop
TRUDI VAN DYKE: Exploring nature printing with gelli plates

Second Cycle Recipients:

JULIE MASSEY: Let's Gyotaku on paper and fabric
PAULA WHITEMAN: Gyotaku fish replica printing

Watch your emails in December for the 2027 Application dates

2027-2028 NPS Board Nomination

Elections for the 2027-2028 year will take place in early 2027. We are looking for someone to fill the Member-at-Large position. Vice President

Chris Caran is stepping down, and Member-at-Large Susann Ely will run for that position.

Bee Shay will continue to be the Treasurer for one more term. Anyone who has bookkeeping experience and wants to know more about the Treasurer's responsibilities can contact Bee at naturprintingsociety.treasurer@gmail.com.

Board member Lynn McKinney has volunteered to lead the nomination committee. She is looking for a few members who can help her to reach out to the membership to find someone who wants to run for Member-at-Large. If you would like to volunteer to be on the nomination committee, would like to run for Member-at-Large, or would like to nominate someone, please contact Lori at president@natureprintingsociety.org.

2027 workshop Location – Lori
Lori thanked Andrew and Melanie Jensen for volunteering to organize and help locate a 2027 workshop location on the West Coast. The date and location have not yet been confirmed, but as soon as they are confirmed, Lori will share the information with the NPS membership. Lori thanked other members who did research for the 2027 workshop, including Chris Caran, JoAnn Brand, Julie Massey, Jill Marks and Bruce Koike.

50/50 Anniversary - Best of the Newsletters – Sue Fierston's idea, with Susann Ely and Jessie Swimeley assisting with the creation.
Sue spoke about a 50th Anniversary project that she, Susann and Jessie have been working on for many months. Long before the internet, the NPS Newsletter was how we connected with one another. Now that the newsletters have been digitized and are in the NPS Archives at UC Davis in California, Sue, Susann, and Jessie combed through them all and chose 50 of the best, most iconic articles to put on a flash drive which will be given to each member. There are articles, images, and live links on the drive. It's an amazing treasure trove of our first 50 years at our fingertips. A true labor of love!

Motion to adjourn

Nora Terwilliger motioned to adjourn, and Cynthia Pederson seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.