

GBW Annual Report of the Board of Directors 2021-2022

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - BEXX CASWELL-OLSON

This year felt both shorter and longer than the last in many ways. It turns out that this “new normal” that everyone was so excited for is anything but normal. Daily life seems rife with complications, interruptions, and delays. We’ve all had to embrace “flexibility,” and have come to expect that things might not go as planned. The world feels like it is moving both too slow and too fast at the same time. With all of that in mind, I can’t help but feel proud of everything that GBW has achieved in the last year.

Managing a traveling exhibit is challenging even in the best of times, and 2021-2022 certainly presented a number of additional challenges. Exhibitions Chair Jeanne Goodman did an excellent job of handling shipping mishaps and unpredictable venue schedules. Despite the challenges, the exhibit traveled to six venues and produced a fabulous catalog (as a special issue of the Journal). I am grateful to Jeanne for all of her work, but also to the venues, local volunteers, and Chapters for their work to get the exhibit installed, and to host both virtual and in-person events.

Last October, the Guild held its first-ever online-only Standards of Excellence Seminar. Hosting such a large virtual event looks a lot easier than it is—and Standards Chair Jennifer Pellicchia did an absolutely amazing job of putting this event together. I am truly in awe of the work that she did to make this happen. I am of course also grateful to all of our fabulous presenters! If you weren’t able to attend, recordings of the presentations are available to stream on Vimeo. While I appreciated the ability to continue Standards in a virtual format, I look forward to getting back to an in-person Standards for 2022!

This year, the Board also navigated the process of gifting the GBW library collection to the University of Iowa Library, where it has resided since the late 1980s. While I know that not all of our members were in support of this decision, I believe that this was the right thing to do. The collection will now have a permanent home and rare or significant bindings (such as those done by Edith Diehl) will be well protected and cared for. The library made it clear that they may not wish to keep everything in our collection, and those materials will be returned to GBW by the end of 2022. The future of those items will be determined once the Board has a better sense of what those materials are. Negotiating the library gift also allowed us to clarify policies regarding the GBW Archive, which was formally gifted to Iowa in 2010. The finding aid can be found online on our website, and anyone wishing to access these materials may

contact the University of Iowa Library’s Special Collections department for assistance.

Last fall, the *Newsletter* suddenly found itself without a Chair/Editor and the future of the *Newsletter* became uncertain. I immediately put out a call for an Interim Chair, and Lang Ingalls quickly stepped in to help get the next issue out on schedule. Bridget McGraw, Emily Bell, and Lindsie Yost stepped forward to create an amazing editorial team, and I can’t tell you how grateful I am that we were able to continue to publish the *Newsletter* on Schedule. In the most recent election, Bridget, Emily, and Lindsie were elected as Co-Chairs and will continue to serve as a team for another two years.

GBW is committed to making our community a safe and welcoming place for anyone practicing or interested in the book arts. With that in mind, the Board made it a priority to approve a Statement of Values and Code of Conduct for our organization. While we still have more work to do, I see this as a big step forward. I want to thank Henry Hebert, Suzanne Glemont, Linnea Vegh, and the DEI committee for their work.

I am pleased to announce the 2022 award recipients. Katie MacGregor has been chosen to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award and Iris Nevins has been selected as the recipient of the Laura Young Award. I wish them both a heartfelt congratulations!

Several new officers joined the Board in FY21-22, including Henry Hébert as Vice President, Lindsey Jackson and Secretary, Lawrence Houston as Treasurer, and Kyle Clark as Journal Chair. For FY22-23, Kate Levy will join the Board as President.

After 9 years on the Board (3 terms as President and 1.5 terms as Vice President), I will be stepping down at the end of my term in October.

For almost a decade, GBW has been a large part of my life—and I don’t expect that to change once I leave office. I’m not sure that I can put into words how grateful I am to have had the opportunity to serve the Guild. I’ve learned a lot about running a volunteer organization, and have had the privilege of meeting and getting to know a great many people that I would not have otherwise had the chance to connect with. Stepping down from the Board is bittersweet in many ways. While I don’t think I will miss attending evening Board meetings on Zoom (sorry!), I am certain that I will miss working with my colleagues on the Board—many of whom I now consider friends. I’m not much for long sappy goodbyes, but I’d like to leave you all with one final thought. The Guild of Book Workers is a member organization that is 100% volunteer-run. GBW therefore cannot exist without the work, support, and engagement

of its members. If you have ever served on the executive committee, as a standing committee chair, chapter chair, chapter officer, or on an ad-hoc committee—THANK YOU. If you have helped organize or volunteered at a GBW event, workshop, or exhibition—THANK YOU. If you have written, edited, or proofread an article for the Newsletter or Journal—THANK YOU. If you have participated in the Standards Seminar as a presenter, vendor, or attendee—THANK YOU. If you've submitted work to an exhibition—THANK YOU. If you've attended a GBW exhibit, workshop, or other event—THANK YOU. If you've donated time or money—THANK YOU. And finally, if you have taken the time to read this—THANK YOU.

VICE-PRESIDENT - HENRY HÉBERT

It has been very exciting to rejoin the GBW Board of Directors after taking a break for the last couple of years to just be a regular member. A lot has changed in that time. The pandemic came with some big challenges for the Guild, but our volunteers at both the national and chapter levels met them with innovation and creativity. I can see a lot of improvements to the ways we communicate and work together to keep our organization moving forward.

As the Vice President, my primary role is to represent the Chapters on the Executive Board and to help coordinate their activities. The Chapter Chairs have put a lot of effort into developing virtual programs during the last two years, but are now shifting back to some in-person events. We've met several times as a group over Zoom to share effective strategies for rebooting chapter activities and recruiting new volunteers. If you aren't already a member of your nearest chapter, please join. If you are already a chapter member, we hope that you will consider volunteering. Your local chapter can be a great resource for organizing local events and for meeting other book workers in your area. Speaking of in-person events: Thanks to donations and proceeds from the 2019 auction, we were able to offer 9 scholarships to the Standards of Excellence seminar in Atlanta this year. Several chapters have generously provided support for scholarships to their members as well.

Finally, one of our accomplishments in the past year has been the development and adoption of the Guild's Statement of Values and Code of Conduct. As our organization has grown to serve our members in both real life and virtual spaces, it became clear that we should codify our shared expectations for respectful and productive interaction. I would like to acknowledge Suzanne Glemot and Linnea Vegh for their work in drafting this document and extend a big thanks to members of the DEI Committee for their helpful feedback.

SECRETARY - LINDSEY JACKSON

I have been honored and grateful to be a part of the board for the first time, and am especially thankful for the warm welcome I have received and the patience I have been shown as I gain my footing in this position.

As Secretary, my primary duties involve sending notices of Guild meetings, administering the Guild's Zoom account, hosting virtual meetings for the Board, recording meeting minutes and disseminating them to the Board, and maintaining the Guild's official minutes book with signed originals of the minutes and attachments. In addition, I have been gathering chapter archival materials to send to the Guild archive, receiving reports for the 2021-2022 fiscal year from Board members and chapter chairs, and preparing this master Annual Report for presentation to the membership at the 2022 Annual Meeting.

Thank you all once again; I look forward to another year working with everyone and serving the Guild!

TREASURER - LARRY HOUSTON

Guild of Book Workers Operating Funds are held by Bank of America (BoA) and Reserve Funds are held at Morgan Stanley. We have a revolving account via PayPal where deposited funds, mainly membership dues and event registrations, are transferred quarterly to the BoA Accounts. The Reserve Funds held at Morgan Stanley are currently invested in 3 laddered 9-month Certificates of Deposit, with 1 CD maturing every 3 months to provide access to the principal, should it be needed in an emergency. The remaining Operating Funds are held in a checking account, and the Operating Reserve is held in a savings account, both at Bank of America. Funds captured from credit card payments are held in a PayPal account, pending quarterly transfers. At year-end June 30, 2022, the Guild of Book Workers had a total of \$224,764.56 at Morgan Stanley, \$89,531.42 at Bank of America in Operating Funds, \$51,351.55 in Operating Reserves, and \$1,468.33 with PayPal. Of the total cash amount, Chapter Funds totaled \$96,508.99.

With the Fed currently targeting a rise in interest rates to curb inflationary pressures, the bulk of our reserves are held in CD's to take advantage of the expected rate hikes. The prior year saw 0 interest on the Morgan Stanley funds, with the last 6 months of this fiscal year seeing a modest \$185.24 so far, which should increase markedly when the next CD rolls over. This CD investment strategy is revisited quarterly with Morgan Stanley, the current plan is deposit the funds into 4 1-year Certificates of Deposit (federally insured up to \$250,000 each) with laddered expiration dates now that their yields are at 2.15% APY.

Operating & Cash Statement at end of report.

STANDING COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS - *MARIANNA BROTHERTON*

As Communications Chair I spend most of my time maintaining and updating our website. You may have also noticed that I tend to be the name you most often see at the bottom of our GBW emails. Behind the scenes, I help facilitate the digital arrival and departure of our Chapter Chairs and Board Members, and to support Chapters in setting up their workshops. Generally, my officer report focuses on our website and social media, and how our membership and the greater book community has used it over the past year. But as Communications Chair, I feel this year I need to use my report as a dedication to our recent Board and Chapter Chairs. Our ability to communicate has changed in a way none of us could have predicted. When the Guild was first formed, everything was done in person, or via snail mail. Telephone conferencing and recorded meetings helped span the gap between Standards Meetings, but our ability to communicate has recently changed at a speed, and in ways completely unprecedented. We are now more in touch than ever before, but we have also found ourselves more isolated as well. Our Board and Chapters have taken this evolving responsibility to connect, teach, and learn in stride. From the very difficult discussion and decision to postpone our in-person Standards meetings, to making the excited vote to meet in person again, our volunteers have had to go above and beyond to bring the Guild of Book Workers and its membership the sense of community we have all come to love, and need. I was so proud to be able to help facilitate the hosting of our online Chapter events, and am thrilled to have seen the rise of in-person workshops this year. I look forward to seeing a hybrid of events as we move forward, the digital aspect enabling more people, of all abilities, to attend and participate.

This year also marks a very important change in our board: Bexx Caswell-Olson is stepping down as President and Kate Levy has graciously agreed to run in her place. Working with Bexx has been a true pleasure and honor. I began my term fresh out of North Bennett, excited and unsure what bookbinding could possibly look like in the real world. Joining the Guild, and then serving on the Board were second in great decisions only to enrolling as a bookbinding student. Bexx was both patient and expectant with me. Demanding excellence while also being happy to teach what a position entailed. The Guild is a better organization as a whole because of this.

Despite the usual twists and turns a President has to maneuver in a given year, Bexx was thrown into the very unpredictable pandemic. She continued to lead our Board with generosity, thoughtfulness and an unprecedented amount of her time; seeing us through and ensuring that

the Guild stood by its membership and continued to offer opportunities for learning, engagement, and the very crucial ability to connect. Even in a time when priorities changed radically—for everyone—all at once, Bexx never lost sight of her duties, frequently over extending herself to see that the Guild had the support (and gentle reminders) it needed. Bexx's time as President saw the creation of our website back in 2014, and required learning to “meet” face-to-face over Zoom,. Her presidency also saw the creation of our instant-watch archives of Standards presentations (which as you all recall was once filmed on VHS), but also the facilitation of our DEI Committee, all while reminding us of the importance of continuing to send tangible letters and physical mailings. It is incredible to imagine how different her term started then how it is ending, and I know the next decade will see even more inspiring changes and improvements. Our next President has a great opportunity ahead of them, and very large shoes to fill, and I truly look forward to helping you “make yourself a tome” with the Guild!

When you first begin your position as a volunteer with the Guild, it can feel a bit overwhelming, and it is not always a smooth transition. Each position carries many responsibilities, and coordinates with many different people and committees. It can be as large of a task teaching your incoming volunteer the ropes as it is serving your term. But Bexx always made sure to help you find your footing, and has created a culture on the Board that feels like family, and allows for questions and dialogue to flow freely. Despite the turn-over of many positions during my own term, the Board and our Chapters have felt like one continuous group. That said, we have been working hard to improve, writing manuals and protocols, and creating a cohesive online presence for all of our volunteers and members. We not only want the Board and Chapters to be able to communicate effectively and respectfully within itself, but with our membership as well. We have worked to streamline our behind-the-scenes digital communications, as well as create a uniformity for our emails and chapter communications. With Bexx's earnest support, this year also saw the creation of our Statement of Values and Code of Conduct, and a course of communication and action to help keep our membership feeling safe and heard. And while Jay will have more to say on the topic, I believe that the decision to donate our library collection to the University of Iowa fits perfectly with our desire to increase the Guild's ability to reach all people, facilitate a greater understanding of the Book, and to greaten our profession by sharing our resources.

I would also like to welcome Henry Hébert back to the Board as Vice President. I think it speaks volumes that our volunteers come back time and time again, taking on new positions, stepping in to assist their successor, and

helping to improve the Guild. This repeated participation is a testament to the importance of GBW, the caliber of our members and volunteers, and its value to our community at large. To all those not named above, I want to thank you for being so wonderful to work with. We would not be meeting together this year (YAY!) without all of your dedication, thoughtfulness, time and love. Like any book, we are a compilation of many moving, working parts. And like any book, if even one of those parts are faulty, or rushed, the entire book as a whole suffers. I am proud to say the Guild of Book Workers is the finest binding I have ever seen. Here's to another year of creating and communicating together!

EXHIBITIONS – JEANNE GOODMAN

The *Wild/LIFE* exhibition has concluded its successful two-year tour of six nation-wide venues, starting in San Francisco, Californian in September 2020 and concluding in Cincinnati, Ohio in September 2022. Items will be shipped back to their artists in late October, early November.

The traditional opening reception for Standards 2021 with the current membership exhibition as background looked a little different this year as we held our first Online Standards. A short video was produced and animated with clips from the first unwrapping of *Wild/LIFE* at its first venue at the American Bookbinding Museum in San Francisco and each exhibitors' work was featured.

Many venues were able to host receptions, artist talk panels with regional members and exhibitors, workshops, and other special events while the exhibition was in their city. A full color catalog was produced and shipped to membership as an edition of the Journal, with each exhibitor receiving an additional copy. Each venue was given the option to pre-order additional copies of the catalog, which several took advantage of, and one venue ordered an additional 30 copies to give away at their opening reception event.

Exhibition budget remained as projected, except in the area of final shipping costs to venues due to the pandemic and nationwide inflation. The exhibition shipping crates are also on their last legs and will be replaced before the next exhibition cycle. The exhibition budget for the following three years has been adjusted to account for these rising costs and the entry and venue fees have been raised to offset the costs. The entry fee will be raised from \$50 to \$65, and the venue fee will be raised from \$2000 to \$2500.

The next theme for cycle 2024–25 will be announced at Standards 2022 in Atlanta and the call for Intent to Enter will go out in early Spring of 2023.

JOURNAL - KYLE CLARK

In the reporting year 2021–2022 the role of Chair and Editor of the Guild of Book Workers Journal transitioned

from Peter Verheyen to Kyle Clark. This year the Journal has also developed an editorial board consisting of Victoria Birth, Martyna Gryko, Susie Cobbledick, and myself. The four editorial board members worked together to produce Volume 51 of the Guild of Book Workers Journal, which will be published by September of 2022. Each member of the editorial board served as individual author liaisons, helping to solicit and bring articles to fruition. Additional volunteers on the editorial board would be welcome and there is a need to establish a more permanent board structure and a co-editor role. Establishing a co-editor role will make our publication more sustainable going forward and would build in a plan of succession to ensure continuity from chair to chair.

The articles included in Volume 51 fit within a theme reflecting on life and working within our associated book centered disciplines during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the social and political events of 2020 and 2021. In addition to thematic articles, a few craft and practice based articles explore technique and process, such as in Roger Green's *Tooling with Foils—An Alternative Approach*, Jen Hunt Johnson and Maren Rozumalski's *Preserving the Passage of Time Through Anachronistic Bindings*, and Radha Pandey's *Making a Place for Paper*. Editorial board members Martyna and Victoria also conducted a series of seven interviews with book arts professionals, book arts educators, and students to document their experiences over the last few years. This interview project was intended to serve as an oral history of sorts, documententing the history of our associated disciplines during this moment in history. The list of authors within Volume 51 consists of the following: Gabby Cooksey, Todd Davis, Craig Fansler, Katie Garth, Roger Greene, Tracy Honn, Jen Hunt Johnson, Lena Kraemer, Dorothy Krause, Radha Pandey, and Maren Rozumalski. Interviewees within Volume 51 include: Jeff Altepeter, Laura Beyer, Sarah Bryant, Erin Fletcher, Mitchel Gundrum, Andrew Hout, and Aimee Lee. Additional support for the publication of Volume 51 was provided by Rebecca Chamlee (designer), Eric Alstrom (copyediting), Shawn Douglas (editing), and Peter Verheyen (advising).

This reporting year also saw the implementation of a contributor stipend program. The stipend rate for Volume 51 consisted of \$100 for interviewees and \$209 for authors. In future volumes we will reassess the stipend rate given budgeted funds, the number of contributors, and the type of contributions received.

Lastly, the editorial board has decided that the theme of Volume 52 will be focused on supporting underrepresented practitioners within the disciplines associated with the handmade book. While not exclusive of Volume 52, authors, artists, researchers, and book/paper/print artists more broadly will be solicited and to highlight diversity

within our organization. To date, we have nine potential contributors lined up for Volume 52.

LIBRARY - JAY TANNER

Continuing from the previous year, the board officially approved the donation of nearly 1,300 books to the University of Iowa. The collection of books, serials, and video footage was donated to the library through a signed agreement this past May. The collection went through a several months long appraisal process in preparation for its permanent move to the Iowa collection. The appraisal was needed in the donation process for our tax-exempt status, and was completed on September 10th, 2021. The Guild's Library Collection was formed in 1958 after a donation by then outgoing president Kathryn Gerlach, and has grown through countless donations small and large over its past 63 years. The collection has had many homes since that time, but has lived the longest in the University of Iowa special collections. Being that the University has taken care of the collection since 1986, it is the opinion of this board and myself that their new ownership of the collection will afford the proper conservation and care it deserves, while also serving a broader community. The University collections are public, and therefore any and all interested parties will gain better access to its wealth of knowledge. As the University is already home to the Center for the Book, we believe the collection will better serve the Center's aspiring bookbinders, book conservators, librarians, and book artists.

Each book will receive a Guild of Book Workers bookplate, which, along with the online catalog will denote the book as historically ours. The plate designs are well underway and have been budgeted for next year's budget.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind the membership of the discounts each of you receive on our Standards videos. The discount codes can be found by logging into the Guild website and hitting the "Store" tab near the top of the screen. The codes can only be seen by logging in as a paid member, and can be seen in a column on the right side of the screen. The Standards Presentation videos are kept in our digital archive on Vimeo, an online streaming platform. While we no longer mail out physical DVDs, Vimeo offers a free account which is very user friendly and accessible. If you are having trouble, or are wanting help accessing the free account please reach out to library@guildofbookworkers.org. Once you create or login to your account on Vimeo, simply go back to our website and click on the "resources" tab, then "Library," then "Standards Videos." This will bring up a list of all the videos and their descriptions by year. Click on the blue title link and it will direct you to the correlating Vimeo page. If you are already logged in, click either rent or buy and be sure to enter in your discount code. Again, I am happy to help with any questions or issues you may have in this process.

It has been an exciting year of change and progress for the Library, and I have enjoyed being a part of it.

MEMBERSHIP - CHERYL BALL

As of July 31, 2022, GBW had 795 active members. Last year, I reported 787. This includes (in parenthesis are last year's numbers):

Lifetime Achievement Members 20

Institutional Members 83 (91)

Student Members 47 (37)

Sustaining Members 8 (2)

Family Memberships 41 (43)

Low Income 10 (10)

There are 10 *Regional Chapters* (in parenthesis are last year's numbers):

California 109 (113)

Delaware Valley 91 (94)

Lone Star 69 (65)

Midwest 99 (97)

New England 172 (167)

New York 75 (78)

Northwest 46 (50)

Potomac 67 (67)

Rocky Mountain 63 (67)

Southeast 64 (64)

The Guild has *International members* (in parenthesis are last year's numbers):

Canada 18 (17)

Argentina 2 (0)

Australia 0 (2)

Brazil 1 (1)

China 1 (0)

Columbia 1 (1)

Costa Rica 1 (1)

Czech Republic 1 (1)

Hong Kong 1 (2)

Israel 2 (2)

Japan 1 (0)

Luxembourg 1 (1)

Netherlands 2 (1)

New Zealand 2 (3)

Peru 1 (0)

Philippines 1 (0)

Spain 2 (2)

Sweden 0 (1)

UK 5 (10)

CONCERNS/ISSUES:

We have erroneous emails going out to members who have recently renewed. The emails are telling them that we hate to see them go and their membership has expired. Answering all the emails has been time consuming. We (the board) had thought there was a fix by deleting all the scheduled reminders and resetting them, however, the issue

has continued. To help with renewals, we will start mailing out paper renewal forms every quarter. During the GBW California Chapter Exhibition at the San Francisco Center for the Book, we provided membership forms, as there were many people interested in bookbinding after seeing all the members' work.

NEWSLETTER - BRIDGET MCGRAW, EMILY K. BELL, AND LINDSIE YOST

PRODUCTION ANALYSIS

The editorial team of the Newsletter is grateful to past editor Matthew Zimmerman as our most recent predecessor, and to Lang Ingalls, who went beyond the call of duty to help us get happily settled into our joint editorship. Lang was especially helpful with the June Standards issue, with all its many inserts! Our three-person team has a particular complementarity of skills, making the not inconsiderable work of pulling together each issue a much more pleasant and manageable task than it otherwise might be.

BUDGET ANALYSIS

The cost of the Newsletter production exceeds the cost of advertising revenue. Our income and expenses for this past year are as follows:

Income: \$7,025.00

Expenses: \$23,767.34

We have included a separate spreadsheet which details where the income and expenses are coming from. In the upcoming year we would like to propose a few additional expenses:

- Color on both sides of the cover: ~\$123.75/Issue for an annual total of ~\$742.50. The cost for this could potentially be offset by charging extra for color advertisements. We have not yet determined if there would be enough demand for this from our advertisers, so this is currently theoretical.
- Reimbursement for access to the Adobe Suite: \$29.99/month for 12 months for a total of \$359.88.
- Purchase of rights to stock photos or copyrighted images: \$200.00.

None of these proposed expenses are requisite, especially if the budget is tight; we are definitely making do without them, but if there are extra funds these are some ideas on where they could go.

Total proposed budget for the upcoming year:

Income: \$7,025.00

Expenses: \$25,069.22

EDITORIAL CHANGES

We have endeavored to keep the traditional elements of the Newsletter that Guild members have come to expect, including national and chapter news, letters from the Executive board, and topical correspondents reporting in with original content related to the technical, artistic, and scholarly elements of Book Work. We always welcome new

contributors, whether interested in a single article, a series, or with ideas for a regular correspondence. In addition to updating the look of the Newsletter, we have added some new features that we hope to include regularly, including Tools of the Trade, which focus on articles about tools that bookbinders have found useful, and RetroVerso, which features past articles or images from the Guild's rich history that we feel are worthy of remembrance. Stay tuned for an exciting year ahead!

STANDARDS SEMINAR - JENNIFER PELLECCIA

Many thanks are due to everyone who joined us for the 2021 Standards of Excellence Seminar. Held exclusively over Zoom, with 280 registrants from 14 countries, it's fair to say that it was a seminar like no other!

We were able to take advantage of the online event's low overhead to cover the cost of 15 scholarships, many of whom were new members. Over \$11,000 in scholarship funds remained from 2019 fundraising. We are enormously grateful to our donors, sponsors, and everyone who participates in Standards auctions for continuing to make scholarships possible.

The Standards of Excellence Seminar will take place October 20-22, 2022 at the Courtyard Atlanta Decatur Downtown/Emory. We look forward to presentations from Dr. Cathleen A. Baker, Béatrice Coron, Erin Fletcher, and Monique Lallier, and to tours of the Center for Puppetry Arts, Emory University Libraries, and The Robert C. Williams Museum of Papermaking. The latter will also serve as the host for our opening reception.

Seminar attendees are encouraged to visit the Decatur Arts Alliance's Book as Art Exhibition, which was generously extended to the end of October in order to accommodate Standards.

In 2023, Standards will be held from September 28-30, at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square.

CHAPTERS

CALIFORNIA

No Report.

DELAWARE VALLEY

OFFICERS

Chair: Jennifer Rosner

Vice Chair: Tara O'Brien

Treasurer: Lisa Scarpello

Secretary: Rosae Reeder

Exhibition co-chairs: Ruth Scott Blackson and Kristin Balmer

Newsletter Editor: Sophia Dahab

Newsletter Designer: Karen Lightner

Webmaster: Val Kremser

MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 94 members.

FINANCIAL

Our balance as of 6/30/22 is \$6880.22

WORKSHOPS

We held a workshop with Janey Chang in September 2021 on making fish skin leather. In December 2021, we held a workshop with Kristin Balmer on another, yet different, Magic Box. Both workshops were held online and were well attended.

NEWSLETTER

We sent out one newsletter this year.

COLLABORATIONS

We had a valentine mail art exchange again in February.

WEB

Our website continues to be updated with online exhibitions and events. DVC activities are announced on multiple social media outlets. Val also produced the online exhibition for “Let’s Eat Cake.”

A challenging year, with all the pandemic restrictions. Many thanks to everyone who contributed their time and energy to our chapter.

LONE STAR

OFFICERS

Chair: Kim Neiman

Secretary/Treasurer: Craig Kubic

Events Coordinator: Syd Webb

Communications Director: Elizabeth Mellott

Communications Committee: Veronica Vaughn

Incoming Communications Director: Esther Kibby

GENERAL

It’s been a rough and tumble year with another round of COVID. Classes remain online and it’s creating more work for everyone. Facebook, Instagram and lots of email kept us together through sight, talk and text, but not “in touch.”

COLOPHONE

This year we continued to host our monthly Zoom Colophone. Members and guests meet every second Monday of the month to share with the chapter. The group usually consists of 6-10 people and has become a core component of building community in our chapter.

VALENTINE PRINT EXCHANGE

In February we organized a Valentine Print Exchange via post. 7 members participated in the mail exchange, photos of which were posted to our social media accounts.

FREE MINI ZOOM WORKSHOP

We hosted Helen Hiebert for a Mini Zoom Workshop in April. Six people attended to learn Helen’s method for making paper lanterns. The workshop coincided with the release of her new book. A copy was given away to a lucky winner via raffle during the workshop.

EX LIBRIS INTERVIEW

An interview with Lone Star Chapter Guild of Book Workers member Jesse Hunt was published in April. What an adventure, thanks for sharing it with us. Thanks to Craig Kubic who conducts the interview and writes the story.

WILD/LIFE: GUILD OF BOOK WORKERS TRIANNUAL EXHIBITION AT CUSHING MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

Lone Star Chapter helped sponsor the exhibition with Jeanne Goodman’s direction.

SPRING WORKSHOP WITH REBECCA CHAMLEE, “THE BOOK ARTIST AS NATURALIST”

Scheduled to be held in June, at Texas A&M University. Unfortunately, due to low registration we decided to cancel the workshop. We’re starting early to make this happen in 2023.

COMMUNICATIONS ANNOUNCEMENT

Elizabeth Mellott, Communications Director, and Veronica Vaughn Communication Committee have completed their two year term and are stepping down. We will miss them immensely. Please take a moment and thank them for all their hard work. Officers are currently working to complete this process.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Esther Kibby volunteered to become our new Communications Director. Wow! Did you see that angel walk by? So lucky. Thank you Esther we are forever grateful. Esther has big plans.... responsible for redesign of the Lone Star Chapter website. Clean up site content and update to Web 2.0 standards. Selected feature-rich WordPress Theme with prominent header graphics with chapter logo display. Header image will be changed out each month—each image will display a bookbinding related scene. Set up file naming conventions to establish easy site maintenance for future Communications officer. Establish image file web production processing to conserve space on Wordpress server. Establish content organization to accommodate new chapter activities and finalize navigation map. Homepage direct visitors to chapter activities, Colophone online meetups, member interviews and membership information. New site sections include Colophone page, Exhibits page, and Workshops page to share resources and showcase member activities. Establish Search Engine Optimization (SEO), Accessibility compliance and chapter history records through detailed Media labeling, site, post, and; page content titling. The site has been released to public viewing on July 1, 2022.

ANNUAL MEETING

We closed our 2021/2022 fiscal year at the Helen Warren DeGolyer Bookbinding Conference. In conjunction with the conference, we hosted our Annual Meeting. It was a casual lunch meeting of 15 people and served as the first time many of us had been together since before the pandemic.

NOMINATIONS

The current officers have volunteered to stay another term: Chairman: Kim Neiman, Secretary/Treasurer: Craig Kubic and Events Coordinator: Syd Webb. There will be a call for nominees to fill these positions sometime in the coming year 2023. We would like newly elected officers to shadow the current officers for several months making sure the transition is solid and makes sense.

MEMBERSHIP

Our current membership stands at 71.

FINANCES

Balance as of May: \$5,016.75

MIDWEST

OFFICERS

Chair: Lisa Muccigrosso
Programs: Danielle Creech
At Large: Chris Brown
Webmaster: Eric Alstrom

GENERAL

The Midwest Chapter Board reconvened in March of 2022 after several years of inactivity. We sent a poll to the membership to record member feedback about activities, programs, and events to bring back; the board is working on implementing some of these suggestions. We are also using some of our budget to fund two Standards scholarships to Midwest Chapter members in October 2022.

We're looking forward to submitting a more robust annual report for FY 22-23.

MEMBERSHIP

The Midwest Chapter has 96 new, current, or in grace members as of July 26, 2022.

FINANCIAL

Our opening balance on 7/1/2021 was 13,776.25. We received \$870 in member dues during FY 21-22. There were no expenditures. Our current balance as of 7/26/2022 is 14,646.25.

EVENTS

The Midwest Chapter did not hold any events in FY 21-22.

NEW ENGLAND

OFFICERS

Chair: Sephora Bergiste

MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 148 members.

FINANCIAL

Balance as of 7/1/2022 is \$15,807.15. We will be sponsoring at least one student for this year's Standards of Excellence Seminar 2022 in an effort to utilize these funds.

EVENTS

We hosted a Chapter Soiree on Saturday, April 23rd, 2022 so members could get together if they felt comfortable to

do so. There were 11 members in attendance. It was also a farewell and thank you to a longstanding chapter chair, Erin Fletcher.

An online gallery talk was held in relation to the 40th Anniversary Show, in collaboration with the University of Southern Maine—hosted by Kate Cheney Chappell of Center for the Book Arts. video.maine.edu/id/1_nl60ov6a.

EXHIBITIONS

The guild's 40th Anniversary exhibit, which was hosted at the North Bennett Street School, and at the Boston Athenaeum. Gallery talks with local artists from the exhibition took place at the Boston Athenaeum in July and August 2021. The exhibit was also hosted online thanks to the hard work of many past chapter officers. negbw40thanniversary.com.

PROJECTS

To commemorate the accomplishments of the Guild's 40 years, we took on the massive project of interviewing past New England chapter chairs of the last 40 years. Interviews are still being edited and processed, but finished ones have been posted here: negbw40thanniversary.com/interviews.

WEB

negbw.wordpress.com

We have not had the chance to update our web page since June 2021.

All the webpages referenced above are also listed here:

Online Gallery Talk, USM—video.maine.edu/id/1_nl60ov6a

40th online gallery show—negbw40thanniversary.com

40th interviews—negbw40thanniversary.com/interviews

NEW YORK

OFFICERS

Chair: Jane Mahoney

GENERAL

The New York State Chapter remained dormant for most of FY22 in relation to the pandemic changes and pandemic rules. The membership count remains steady at 80 members and usually varies by one or two in count. Financials have remained stable for the year as no events have taken place that would incur expenses. A call for volunteers to fill vacated roles was sent to membership in June 2022. The chapter has scheduled events starting in the next fiscal year beginning July 18, 2022 in conjunction with the Center for Book Arts, NYC.

MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 80 members.

FINANCIAL

Our funds are approximately \$4000.

EVENTS

No events since May 2021.

NORTHWEST

No Report.

POTOMAC

OFFICERS

Chair: Shannon Kerner

Vice Chair: Charlotte Mauler Hayes

Treasurer: Paige Billin-Frye

Secretary: Nora Lockshin

CHAIR – SHANNON KERNER

A great year for the chapter considering the limitations of the global pandemic. Our chapter continued to have get-togethers on Zoom and released Chapter Newsletters, thanks to member Tawn O'Connor. We showed gratitude to our members who volunteered their time. We subsidized a four-part workshop for our chapter members. We had our fourth Book swap, with the theme two. Potomac Chapter had a holiday party this year in January, where we caught up and made a piece of book art. We also had a meeting in February, basically because we all had so much fun in January. That is the best part about being in a chapter like this, connecting with other book people or people who are interested in books! I hope we can continue to connect in the future.

VICE CHAIR – CHARLOTTE MAULER HAYES

We welcomed Charlotte to the chapter. As a calligrapher and staff educator at the Frederick Book Arts Center, Charlotte brings valuable perspective on member-based participation and experience that made our hosting an ambitious four-part Zoom workshop flow efficiently.

TREASURER – PAIGE BILLIN-FRYE

2021-2022 Income:

Membership Dues: \$600.00

Springback Binding Workshop: \$750.00

2021-2022 Expenses:

Workshop Honorarium, S. Kerner - \$150.00

Karen Hamner Workshop Fee - \$1800.00 (600 paid by workshop participants.)

Gifts to outgoing officers - \$200.00

Current Balance: \$4960.40

SECRETARY - TAWN O'CONNOR AND NORA

LOCKSHIN

After many years of wonderful interviews, collating chapter news, photographs and workshop reports, Tawn O'Connor has stepped down from the Secretary role. Nora Lockshin stepped up into the acting role, and is concentrating on pulling prior e-records into the GBW-sponsored Google Workspace account. We thank Tawn for her inimitable joy and staunchly reliability in recording the business transactions of the chapter, and wish her many years of just enjoying making books for her friends and her family.

Nora Lockshin put together a Potomac Book Arts Map using Google Maps for our region, which is publicly

accessible from our website. It uses layers to reflect a variety of interests, from exhibiting sites to local book trade history, to practicing studios, to supplies. If this is of interest to other chapters, this could be a way to link regional information in an embedded national or worldwide map on the National website, with each chapter contributing local highlights. Check it out at gbwpotomacchapter.wordpress.com/potomac-book-arts-map!

GENERAL

The Chapter has had a great year considering we could not get together in person yet as a result of the ongoing global pandemic. We met on Zoom, hosted workshops, and swapped art to make up for the lack of in-person events.

MEMBERSHIP

69 Members as of 6/30/2022.

FINANCIAL

Seeing fit to return benefits to members, the chapter spent more on expenses than earned revenue this year by subsidizing workshop fees. The national treasurer's report states an operating balance of \$4960.40.

EVENTS/WORKSHOPS

January: New Year's Get together: 1/15/2022, 1-4 pm, Zoom Meeting, Show-and-Tell from Chapter Members and Flag Book Tutorial (led by Shannon Kerner, Chapter Chair, with Art of the Fold as instructional).

February: Bookish Get Together: 2/27/2022, 1-4 pm, Show-and-Tell and Interlocking Loops Tutorial, (led by Shannon Kerner, Chapter Chair, with Art of the Fold as the instructional).

April/May: SpringBack binding workshop on Zoom, instructor: Karen Hamner. Videos available to participants for 30 days. Springback Binding. Four sessions, taped, April 30-May 1.

May 21-22, 2022 The nineteenth century Springback Binding with its enthusiastic opening is ideal for journals, guest books, sketch books, or any application where it is desirable that the book open flat, and then some. The book both opens and closes with a satisfying jolt. The Springback Binding is also a perfect way to delve more deeply into traditional binding. The book features two-part "split boards," reinforced "made" endsheets, and a "spring" made of layers of card and paper. With its robust aesthetic, the Springback Binding is a great way to begin working with leather. The paring requires minimal finesse, and the modest leather headcap is easy to form.

Spring: Spring Swap: Send out June 1, 2022. Nine participants, Theme: Duo, Two (as in 22)

NEWSLETTER

Tawn O'Connor produced newsletters for the Chapter through Winter of 2022 (February). She has since retired from this post. We hope to release another newsletter this summer or fall. Member activities:

- Tawn O'Connor hosted a booth at Frederick Heritage Days festival, which brought out more than a few folks.
- Beth Curren, former Chapter Chair, and Carolee Jakes had a show at the Studio Gallery. We had a spontaneous turnout of folks in a joyful reunion after hours of Zoom.
- Paige Billin-Frye has work in Timeless: Historic Photographic Processes in the Digital Age, Photoworks Gallery at Glen Echo Park.
- Unfortunately, in mid-June, our good friends Frederick Book Arts Center suffered a building electrical fire. The fire department responded swiftly, and the damage was limited. You can keep up with the status of recovery here frederickbookarts.org and on their social media. Consider supporting their fire sale through the online store and/or surplus equipment sales.

COLLABORATIONS

Potomac Chapter continues to work well with the Lone Star Chapter on sharing our Zoom account. Thanks to Syd Webb for her continued partnership!

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

OFFICERS

Co-Chair (Colorado): Nicole Cotten
 Co-Chair (Utah): Petrina Bryce
 Workshop Coordinator (Colorado): Richard Pollock-Nelson
 Workshop Coordinator (Utah): Chris McAfee
 Treasurer: Karen Jones

MEMBERSHIP

We are happy to report our membership is growing! We currently have 82 members!

FINANCIAL

As of 7/1/22 our balance is \$10,675. In an effort to utilize these funds for the benefit of our members we're planning a traveling member exhibit for 2022-23 as well as experimenting with allowing a discount to chapter members who take a workshop from an allied nonprofit.

WORKSHOPS

Over the last year, we have held 2 workshops for our chapter. The first was a virtual beginner class taught in February 2022 by Rhiannon Alpers where the students were instructed on how to do a simplified longstitch binding. This was a one-day instruction, and had 6 participants. The second class was taught at the BYU Conservation Lab in Provo, UT in April 2022 by India Johnson. This was a three-day instruction where students not only learned the process of making 19th Century bookcloth, but also got the chance to see 19th century books that featured this type of cloth.

EXHIBITIONS

We held our first digital exhibition in February 2022, which was featured on our new chapter website! It was an open exhibition where members could submit one project to feature! We had 12 people submit a range of books from miniature books to sculptures to fine bindings. We are just around the corner from our next digital exhibit, set to launch September 1st 2022. This is a themed exhibit and the topic is Sci-Fi/Fantasy! We are very excited to see what people will submit this time! :)

NEWSLETTER

We currently do not have a newsletter, but are hoping to have one going for 2023.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

We are hosting two gatherings for our chapter, one for Utah in July 2022 and one for Colorado in September 2022. These gatherings will be a great opportunity for a fun night of visiting, sharing our passions/nerdiness, getting to know each other better, and reconnecting with friends we haven't seen in a while! We will also offer instructions for different types of endbands for any who might be interested.

We are in the second year of hosting our free online binding challenge, 22 for 22. The challenge is to try all 22 binding structures emailed to participants after every meeting.

Zoom meetings are held every other Thursday night throughout the year to discuss how each structure went and to give each other feedback and personal insights.

COLLABORATIONS

We put together a bulk order of Japanese tire silk thread directly from Japan in November 2021, which gave our members the opportunity to buy threads for endbands at a significant discount!

WEB

We launched a new website for our chapter in February 2022, with the digital exhibition being our first feature on the website! This new website was updated on the national guild website, and can be found at the following link as well: rockymountain6.wixsite.com/rmgbw.

SOUTHEAST

OFFICERS

Chair: Kim Norman
 Secretary: Jillian Sico
 Treasurer: Kirsten Wehner
 Communications Coordinator: Jill Sweetapple
 Events/Workshop Coordinator: Eliza Gilligan

GENERAL

All Southeast Chapter board positions were filled in 2021 with new board members, reestablishing dormant positions and filling vacant positions. Our main focus this year has been to revitalize our Chapter by establishing a listserv, bolstering membership, and offering programming.

MEMBERSHIP

The Southeast Chapter has a membership of 64.

FINANCIAL

Opening Balance on 7/1/2021 \$5,019.40

Dues \$660.00

Income \$0.00

Expenses -\$700.00

Current Balance \$4,979.40

\$700—Reflected in Expenses, the Southeast Chapter paid a \$350 honorarium each to Brad Freeman and Lori Spencer for our April event.

\$1250 (projected estimate)—Not yet reflected in our budget, the Southeast Chapter intends to support a student scholarship for Standards 2022.

EVENTS

In April 2022, the Southeast Chapter offered an online book arts presentation from JAB founding editor Brad Freeman and moderated by Lori Spencer of The University of the Arts. This event entitled A Conversation About Book Arts with Brad Freeman was co-sponsored with Emory Libraries.

EXHIBITIONS

GBW traveling exhibition, *Wild/LIFE*, was on display in Atlanta at the Robert C. Williams Museum of Papermaking at Georgia Tech University.

NEWSLETTER

The Southeast Chapter regularly contributes updates to the GBW Newsletter, and Chapter chair Kim Norman also serves as a book arts contributor to the newsletter.

COLLABORATIONS

The Southeast Chapter event offered in Spring 2022 was a collaboration with Emory Libraries.

WEB

The Southeast Chapter is currently making decisions about our online presence. The link to our online Blogspot newsletter was moderated by our previous chair, the late Jim Stovall, and is now in need of updates or replacement. segbwnews.blogspot.com

FINANCIAL REPORT

GBW MAIN ACCOUNTS:

	<u>JUNE 30, 2021</u>	<u>JUNE 30, 2022</u>
BoA Checking	57,892.40	89,531.42
BoA Savings	48,333.16	51,351.55
Morgan Stanley	227,560.71	224,764.56
PayPal	211.73	1,468.33
Total	\$333,998.00	\$367,115.86
National	\$236,530.00	\$270,606.87
Chapter	\$97,468.00	\$96,508.99

NATIONAL:

<u>21-22 Income</u>	<u>21-22 Expenses</u>
Dues 59,969.00	Admin 11,838.78
Contributions/Grants 12.56	Board 772.94
Exhibitions 5040.00	Comm/web 5,341.25
Interest 222.24	Exhibitions 13,148.00
Library/Video 1,720.90	Library/Video 8,724.00
Membership 1,420.00	Membership 90.25
Publications 9,357.00	Publications 36,296.63
Standards 40,483.75	Spec Proj 750.00
	Standards 8361.74
Total Income \$118,225.03	Expense \$85,322.85

FY 2021-2022 National Chapter Net \$33,729.18

CHAPTERS

	Income	Expense**	Net
CA	4,263.00	1,237.20	3025.80
DV	1,649.26	2,689.75	-1040.49
LS	638.04	3,976.75	-3338.71*
MW	870.00	76.75	793.85
NE	1,451.65	1,767.97	-316.32
NW	3,565.15	3,826.75	-261.60
NY	670.00	76.75	593.25
POT	1,350.00	2,226.75	-876.75
RM	2,095.00	1,502.70	592.30
SE	660.00	776.75	-116.75

*note payments to a workshop presenter hit this fiscal year, income reported in prior FY.

** The Annual Zoom Bill had been accidentally put fully on the national chapter books when chapter balances were presented to the chapters. This is the corrected expense for FY 2021-2022.

CHAPTER BALANCES

	Opening	Close (pre-zoom)	Corrected **
CA	17,773.78	20,876.33	20,799.58
DV	7,830.96	6,867.22	6,790.47
LS	8,278.71	5,016.75	4,940.00
MW	13,776.25	14,646.25	14,569.50
NE	16,046.72	15,807.15	15,730.40
NW	8,102.36	7,917.51	7,840.76
NY	4,860.96	5,530.96	5,454.21
POT	5,760.40	4,960.40	4,883.65
RM	10,005.47	10,674.52	10,597.77
SE	5,019.40	4,979.40	4,902.65
Total	\$97,455.01	\$97,276.49	\$96,508.99

** The Annual Zoom Bill had been accidentally put fully on the national chapter books when chapter balances were presented to the chapters. The correction in the amount of -\$76.75 represents 5 shared zoom accounts split equally by all 10 chapters.