



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020 GUILD OF BOOK WORKERS

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - Bexx Caswell-Olson

2020 has certainly been an “interesting” year, and I am so grateful to have such an amazing Board of Directors to help me steer the ship during this tumultuous time!

Even before the pandemic hit, FY19-20 got off to a bit of a rocky start when the Nominating Committee was unable to find a candidate for the position of **Journal Committee Standing Chair**. With co-chairs Cara Schlesinger and Chris Ameduri both stepping down, this put us in a bit of a bind (no pun intended!). The Board decided to move forward with the election as planned, hopeful that a candidate would be found. I am eternally grateful to **Peter Verheyen** for stepping forward and for keeping the Journal going. However, Peter has made it very clear that he is only willing to serve a single term (ending October 2021) and so I would encourage anyone who thinks that they might be interested in taking on this role to get in touch with Peter as soon as possible.

Jay Tanner joined the Board as **Library Standing Committee Chair**, and I was happy to hand off oversight of the Guild’s streaming video service to him. When Jay took office in October, neither of us could have imagined how in demand our on-demand videos would become!

In March, academic institutions and business across the country began to close to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Academic programs were forced online, and hands-on book arts education became increasingly difficult. The GBW Board unanimously voted to make all of the

Standards videos on Vimeo free for 30 days – and later extended the offer through May 31st. The response was overwhelming! People in **77** countries rented **6,756** videos, which were watched over **10,200** times! Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine that we would reach so many people, and I am so grateful to everyone who sent along a word of thanks.

Income from our streaming video service saw an uptick this year, generating \$1,940 in FY19-20 vs. \$770 in FY18-19. This still doesn’t quite cover the cost of filming, producing, and hosting the videos – but I hope that this service will become self-sustaining in the future.

In late March, the Board began to discuss the possibility of canceling the 2020 Standards Seminar in Atlanta. It rapidly became clear that we would not be able to hold our annual conference as planned and the Board voted unanimously to move forward with canceling the conference. Standards Chair MP Bogan immediately began discussions with our site procurement vendor, HelmsBriscoe. HelmsBriscoe helped us navigate the process of cancelling a renegotiating our contract with the hotel. Thankfully, the hotel agreed to waive almost \$27,000 in cancellation fees if we agreed to reschedule for 2022. Although we felt financially prepared to assume this burden, this was a huge relief!

We decided against holding a virtual Standards Seminar but will be holding the **annual business meeting** in a **virtual format** using **Zoom**. This will

be a first for us – and we hope it goes as smoothly as possible!

I am hopeful that it will be possible to hold the **2021 Standards Seminar** in **San Francisco** as planned – but it is possible that restrictions on indoor gatherings and travel will still be in place more than a year from now (*ugh!*). We will pay close attention to the situation and will make a decision well in advance of the event.

I have been **incredibly impressed** with how the **regional chapters** have adapted to our current situation – sponsoring collaborative book arts projects, holding virtual “show and tell” meetings, and conducting workshops via Zoom – **thank you to all of the chapter chairs and their officers** for doing such amazing work! While I think we all prefer meeting in person, virtual offerings are a great way to stay connected.

I’ve been so touched by the generosity of our members during this time. We have received a number of donations over the last few months – including a large anonymous donation that covers membership dues for those experiencing financial hardship. We also recently received word that the late Bernard Middleton has left us a small bequest in his will. With so much of the country in financial straits right now, I did not expect GBW to be the beneficiary of so much generosity – and I truly do not have the words to express my thanks.

This organization relies on the work and support of its members to be a successful and thriving organization. To all the Board members, Chair Chairs, everyone that served on a committee or volunteered at event - THANK YOU.

VICE-PRESIDENT - Brien Beidler

As Vice President, my primary role is to act as a facilitator to the Chapter Chairs, and to organize a committee and selection process for the Standards scholarship recipients. As Standards

was cancelled this year, there isn't anything to report in the realm of Standards scholarships.

In light of recent events, we've put together a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to explore ways in which the Guild can reach more people and grant access, community, and resources to those who are interested in the Book Arts but unable to participate for reasons that we might not be aware of. Though we are still in the early stages of action, we have hired a wonderful diversity consultant to help with the endeavor, and we'll be sharing more about our efforts in the near future. If you have any questions about this or would like to get involved, please don't hesitate to contact me: vicepresident@guildofbookworkers.org.

SECRETARY - Rebecca Smyrl

Over the past year, my duties have included creating and hosting electronic meetings for the Board and the Chapter Chairs; sending official notices of Guild meetings; recording meeting minutes and disseminating them to the Board; maintaining the Guild's official minutes book with signed originals of the minutes and attachments; working with the Nominating Committee and the Communications Chair to prepare the 2020 election ballot with candidate information; receiving the ballots submitted via postal mail and the final electronic vote tallies, and preparing a final election report for presentation to the Board; and receiving reports for the 2019-2020 fiscal year from Board members and preparing this master Annual Report for presentation the membership at the 2019 Annual Meeting. In collaboration with the relevant Board members, I have continued to coordinate revisions of outdated job descriptions in order to provide better information for candidates and incoming officers and committee chairs. I have enjoyed working with my fellow Board members and thank them all the help they have provided!

TREASURER - Laura Bedford

Guild of Book Workers Operating Funds are held by Bank of America and Morgan Stanley. The Cash Reserve, 66% of the Chapter Funds, and 25% of the Operating Funds are held in 4 1-year Certificates of Deposit with laddered expiration dates at Morgan Stanley. The remaining 34% of the Chapter Funds and another 25% of the Operating Funds are held in a savings account, and the remaining 50% of the Operating Funds are held in a checking 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, 2020, the Guild of Book Workers had a total of \$180,000 at Morgan Stanley and \$111,836.08 at Bank of America. Of this amount, Chapter Funds totaled \$89,907.

With the Fed having lowered interest rates in March 2020 and forecasting few changes to that until early 2021, one-year CD rates are now around 0.15 to 0.2% - hardly worth exploring. Therefore, as our current 1-year CD's mature, I will keep the funds in a savings account with Morgan Stanley that pays 0.15% until such time as I see new 1-year CD rates start to climb, which will hopefully be happening later this Fall.

Operating & Cash Statement at end of report.

STANDING COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS

Marianna Brotherton

Communications has seen another year of improvements to the website, with overall traffic increasing 14% from the previous fiscal year. We now have 17,257 users visiting our site! Google Analytics reports that from July 1, 2019 to July 1, 2020, there were 25,436 unique web sessions, including 17,257 recorded users (16,948 were new users!) and 69,472 page views (up by nearly 1000 since last year). 59% of all visits are coming

from a desktop computer, compared to 66% from last year. It is interesting to note that as our website visits continue to increase, more and more people are visiting our site on mobile devices. This certainly speaks to our membership, and the bookbinding community as a whole, as welcoming the use of technology and taking advantage of what it can offer our hands-on craft. I think this has been especially important this past spring while we all adjusted to life at home during the Covid-19 pandemic. Typically, we see a spike in web views when Standards registration opens, and again during the week of Standards, but this year we also saw a tremendous spike in users in mid-March. On average, we have about 45 daily users, and had 42 users on March 15th. However, on March 17th we had 229 users, March 18th saw 171 users, and then we continued to hover around 100 individual daily users through the end of May. The last two weeks of March saw 1,360 users, 1,274 being new users to our site. Users from 54 different countries visited our site during this time, as compared to 49 different countries during the first two weeks of March. Still, the majority (69.7%) of traffic comes from the U.S., but visitors access our website from 116 countries worldwide.

Throughout the year our social media platforms also provide ways to engage with both GBW members and non-members alike, but this year we saw an incredible increase in traffic to our Facebook and Instagram accounts during the first few months of the Covid-19 pandemic. Our Facebook page now has an additional 634 followers, totaling 3,084! Our Instagram account, @GuildofBookWorkers, shows 1,777 followers, up by 421 from last year. Subscriptions to our email Listserv continue to hover around 600, with a current total of 605. The Listserv provides an invaluable platform for members to communicate directly and informally - it is a place to share job posts, tips and tricks, pose questions or share GBW related news. Again, this uptick in internet traffic can only point to how vital our bookbinding community is to our members and to binders

across the globe, and it is my hope that we can continue to find new and innovative ways to help share, connect and learn from each other when we are apart.

The Board continues to think of ways to update the services and membership benefits we offer online. Our Librarian, Jay Tanner, has taken on the large job of continuing to post more of our Standards Videos to our online streaming platform, Vimeo. And I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Jay and Bexx for all the hours spent uploading the 108 DVD's we currently have available on Vimeo. Of all of our online resources, these videos were perhaps the most utilized by both our membership and the global bookbinding community, during our struggle to find ways to continue working, learning and teaching remotely.

While distance learning can never replace the invaluable time at the bench, pass on the nuances of an instructor's technique, or replace the human connection forged while learning and working side by side, the Guild's online presence has continued to prove itself indispensable over the past several months. But I want to remind you all that the Guild is merely a platform. It is you, our members, who generously share, connect and inspire us all on a daily basis, and who transform this space (be it online or in person) into a Community and a Family. I would like to sincerely thank all of you for being a part of the Guild of Book Workers, and for selflessly creating and sharing all of the content that has helped book lovers all over the world find a place of comfort and hope. In a year where we cannot recharge and reinvigorate ourselves together at Standards, I am especially looking forward to helping maintain this online bindery of ours. I invite all of you to be in touch if you have any concerns, or better yet, new ideas for how we can improve our online presence and increase your membership benefits. Be well, and happy binding.

EXHIBITIONS - *Lizzie Curran*

Following a successful tour around the country, the *Formation* exhibition had its last stop at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. After a lively reception during the 2019 GBW Standards meeting in October, the show closed in early November and was shipped to Dartmouth College. Deborah Howe and I assessed and packed the objects for return shipment to their respective makers. It was a joy to handle each item from the exhibition!

The Intent to Enter for the next exhibition, *Wild/life*, was sent out in January and, after a Covid-19 related extension, the form closed in late April. Marianna Brotherton has been instrumental in making this process streamlined and setting up automated email reminders for all entrants. Over 130 GBW members signaled their intent to submit work. I anticipate that all other dates on the exhibition timeline will remain the same.

So far, I have confirmed American Bookbinder's Museum in San Francisco, RCW Paper Museum in Atlanta, North Bennet Street School in Boston, the University of Puget Sound library in Tacoma, and the Cushing Library at Texas A&M as venues for *Wild/life*. I'm still working with the Midwest Chapter to identify an appropriate venue in their area. Shifting staff and schedules caused by the pandemic have made the simple matter of securing contracts and deposits more complicated than usual. I will be sure to update the board and membership when all venues are finalized.

I'm proud to announce that three talented members—Denise Carbone, Erin Fletcher, and Jessica Spring—will serve as jurors. If travel is safe in March 2021, they will meet in the Boston area to conduct the selection process in person. I look forward to finishing the planning stages of *Wild/life* soon so that we can begin fundraising for the exhibition and catalog.

JOURNAL - Peter Verheyen

This past reporting year 2019-2020 was marked by a changing of the guard with Cara Schlesinger stepping down from the Board and Peter Verheyen stepping forward to fill the void when no other candidates stepped forward. I am grateful for all the work Cara and her team have done over the years to produce the *Journal*. I am also very thankful that Cara agreed to bring Volume 48 to publication.

Volume 48 of the *Journal* was distributed to the membership electronically in mid-May as it only contained 2 articles in the end. The articles were “Looking Out for The Little Guys: small book conservation through the eyes of a paper engineer” by Kyle Olmon and “Elizabeth Corbett Yeats and the Cuala Press” by Robert Walp. As in the past, the issue was laid out by Rebecca Chamlee – thank you. These two articles will be folded into a combined Volume 48/49 print issue that will be mailed to the membership late this year.

To date 5 articles have been received for Volume 49, 3 solicited, 2 received unsolicited. The articles represent binding techniques, working with materials, teaching the book arts, and historical considerations. Volume 50 will be the catalog to WILD/LIFE, the next traveling exhibition.

The systemic issues that resulted in the special election of last summer remain, and the future of the *Journal* is precarious. Contributions to the *Journal* editor published in the *Newsletter* and elsewhere resulted in some feedback and perhaps the unsolicited articles. However, the challenge of building a team-based or other kind of structure for the *Journal* remains. The critical need for a co-editor who will want to assume the lead role when the current term ends (I will not stand for election to another term) mean that publication will be suspended unless some other arrangement is found.

I am open to supporting a conversation around the *Journal*, publication models, other alternatives, and/or need for a publication like this. It is up to the membership to start that conversation and sustaining it. What do YOU want, and what can you do to help make that happen? We have one year.

LIBRARY - Jordan Tanner

With the successful launch of the Vimeo streaming service to access Standards Seminars video recordings, there have been no DVD rentals this year, and any requests that have been made were directed toward Vimeo. There have been no book requests this year.

The work of assessing and documenting the Guild’s book collection, held at University of Iowa Library, will continue as I have budgeted for a trip out to the University this coming year. The goal is to have the entire book collection recorded and have a catalogue made as either a Journal or larger newsletter publication.

This year my focus has been mainly the Guild’s video collection. Currently I am working on uploading all remaining 1994 and before videos, which the board has agreed to make free for rental for all members. The goal is to have those up by October as a gift to our membership due to being unable to have Standards as a result of the Pandemic.

NEWSLETTER - Lang Ingalls

Production Analysis

The printing company changed its name to Colorado Print & Apparel (same people); they continue to be easy to work with. Mail Solutions folded in March and the printers recommended Mailgraphics to conduct the mailing; they have worked out well. There was one issue where reports came in that the pages fell apart; this was

discussed with the print production company and seems to be resolved.

Budget Analysis

The Newsletter continues to see reasonable cost for production. Due to the pandemic, some advertisers are likely to opt out during the year; this could affect the income the newsletter brings in. Currently, some advertisers have opted out or reduced ad size, though the majority remain the same. There is no reason to raise the rates. If the Guild needs to save on costs, the recommendation is to keep the newsletter to a 20-page issue for half the year's issues or to only produce 4 issues a year (we currently produce six).

Editorial changes

Articles submitted by the membership at large have come in regularly; Emily Bell continues her series on conservation; all correspondent positions are filled, with regular contributions from each. I will be stepping down at the end of my term (October); Matthew Zimmerman will be the new Editor. We will work together on the October issue, in order to smoothly pass the baton.

Past year issues focused as follows:

AUG '19 Siegel feature; Peachey; American Bookbinders Museum
OCT '19 'Awards' Issue: Rosner & Glaister
DEC '19 Standards reviews
FEB '20 Strong feature; GBW letters/focus
APR '20 OPEN SET 2020 feature
JUN '20* Standards cancellation notices; Pattison feature

* The June issue is usually the largest and most expensive production of the year. Due to Standards being canceled, it was a regular 24-page issue. MP, Standards Chair, and I worked on all of the forms; they will be held for a possible 2022 Standards in Atlanta. (Note: the 2021 Standards will be held in San Francisco.)

MEMBERSHIP - Cheryl Ball

As of July 31, 2020, the Guild had 814 active members. Last year, I reported 807. This includes:

17 **Lifetime Achievement Members**
89 **Institutional Members** (82 last year)
49 **Student Members** (47 last year)
11 **Sustaining Members** (4 last year)
47 **Family Memberships** (40 last year)

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

California 104 (105)
Delaware Valley 95 (89)
Lone Star 59 (55)
Midwest 104 (113)
New England 172 (172)
New York 77 (89)
Northwest 46 (45)
Potomac 71 (78)
Rocky Mountain 63 (72)
Southeast 64 (65)

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

Canada 20 (16)
Australia 2 (4)
Brazil 1 (2)
Chile 1 (1)
Columbia 1 (0)
Czech Republic 1 (1)
Hong Kong 2 (2)
Israel 2 (1)
Luxembourg 1 (1)
Netherlands 2 (1)
New Zealand 3 (3)
Sweden 1 (0)
UK 7 (9)

Concerns/Issues:

The issue last year with CiVi merging and overwriting membership accounts when there was a new signup or renewal was resolved when Skvare helped with the bug and reverted to an earlier copy of our database. There were no issues with missing accounts after the fix.

With the pandemic this year questions/issues regarding memberships were: “Will GBW extend my membership like other art institutions since I cannot make use of my membership?”; I can’t afford to renew this year; I will renew when I can; and no longer bookbinding due to age.

Memberships renewed with a different email address used with their PayPal account or by a spouse create a new membership, resulting in members receiving reminders about membership expiring. Most institutional members encounter the same issue or have too many relationships attached to the institution with different relations renewing the membership. This too results in membership expiring reminder emails.

Idea(s) to grow memberships

When the pandemic is over and institutions are allowed to have in-person workshops, GBW may want to send flyers/brochures so students can be made aware of GBW.

STANDARDS SEMINAR - M.P. Bogan

The Standards of Excellence Seminar 2019 was held in October at the Loews Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. We reached capacity attendance very quickly with 175 attendees and 27 vendors and exhibitors, and as a result, registration had to be closed to the disappointment of many. The opening reception was held at the University of the Arts Hamilton/Arronson Gallery, and tours to various local institutions were much enjoyed. Four fantastic presentations were given by Rebecca Chamlee, Graham Patten, Julia Miller and Jeff Altepeter. Each presentation was filmed, and videos can be found [here](#) on the Guild’s website. A huge round of applause goes to the local host committee led by Jennifer Rosner and the Delaware Valley Chapter for their energy, enthusiasm and planning. The 2019 conference was tons of fun and a great success!

Sincere thanks go out to all the GBW members, vendors and exhibitors who answered the appeal for financial support for Standards 2019 and such things as coffee breaks, packet production, and the Mentor-Protege meeting. We made a concerted effort to reach out for help, and membership and vendors/exhibitors generously responded by contributing over \$4350.00!

Planning for Standards 2020 to be held in Atlanta, Georgia in October was well underway when the Covid-19 pandemic derailed plans, forcing the GBW Board to cancel the seminar. This unfortunate but correct decision meant that the Guild faced a nearly \$27,000 cancellation penalty. We turned to our site procurement agents at HelmsBriscoe to guide us through the cancellation process, made all the more difficult because of hotel staff furloughs and general disruption caused by the pandemic. HelmsBriscoe’s dogged effort on behalf of the Guild led to the best possible resolution: a renegotiation of the contract; waiving of the cancellation fee; and rescheduling Standards to the fall of 2022 at the same hotel. Thankfully, all of the presenters for this year — Dr. Cathy A. Baker, Erin Fletcher, Jeff Peachey and Beatrice Coron — have agreed to present in San Francisco 2021 instead. We’ll be meeting at the Hilton Union Square on October 28-30, 2021 — the 40th anniversary and site of the first Standards of Excellence Seminar!

This year, in an effort to celebrate Standards in lieu of an in-person conference, we are organizing a Vendor & Exhibitor Appreciation for the month of October. Thanks especially to Lang and Marianna for their work to make this happen. The October issue of the newsletter will be dedicated to the thirty vendors and exhibitors who opted to participate, and a different one will be featured each day during the month of October on the GBW Instagram and Facebook pages. Hopefully the result will be sales for our friends and colleagues who have seen their conferences cancelled this year, as well as a fun way for all of us to remain connected!

CHAPTERS

CALIFORNIA - *Rebecca Chamlee and Marlyn Bonaventure*

2020-2022 Board Members/Officers

Secretary: Debra Disman

Treasurer: Barbara Wood

Programs: Clair Emma Smith and Farida Sunada

Exhibitions: Carolee Campbell

Newsletter: Jean Gillingwaters

Events

On November 23, 2019, the Artist-led Bookmaking Workshop was taught by exhibiting artist and co-chair of the California Chapter of the Guild of Book Workers Rebecca Chamlee. Participants created eight book structures: single sheet book, explosion book, Turkish map-fold book, simple Jacob's ladder book, and several books based on the accordion fold. Participants went home with many books and the skills needed to make more.

Book artist and curator emerita of the Museum Sue Ann Robinson led the Bookmaking workshop on January 4, 2020. Participants created four books, using traditional Japanese stab-binding methods: ledger, coil stab, side stab, and stick binding.

On December 12, 2019, book artist and UCLA professor Johanna Drucker's engaging and detailed lecture "Artists and Books: What Is Happening Now?" tracked the past, present, and future of book art.

On January 4, 2020, Carolee Campbell led visitors to the Long Beach Museum of Art through the artful book exhibition, telling them about some of the books and the artists who made them. People responded with interest when Campbell shared details about the making of some of the books. The creative process and the tools and materials used to create broadsides, artist books, and edition books sparked many comments and questions.

The 53rd California International Antiquarian Book Fair at the Pasadena Convention Center was held Friday, February 7 – Sunday, February 9, 2020. A designated space in the lobby was

provided for Book Arts organizations to display brochures and any interesting items to attendees. Chapter members staffed a table with examples of member work and information about joining the Guild of Book Workers.

Exhibitions

The California Chapter organized a large members' exhibit, "The Artful Book", at the Long Beach Museum of Art that featured fine and design bindings, fine press and letterpress editions, calligraphy, broadsides, handmade paper, and artist books.

The artist and museum members opening was October 4, 2019 with a public opening the following day. The exhibition was on view until January 6, 2020. California Chapter member Rebecca Chamlee designed the accompanying print catalog.

Newsletter

Newsletter editor Jean Gillingwaters produced two newsletters, which featured our chapter members' exhibition and other local events.

Fun

The Board and member/exhibitors met for one last look at the members' show and enjoyed a delicious lunch at the Museum's café on January 5, 2020.

The Board met for our first-ever Zoom meeting in April.

DELAWARE VALLEY - *Jennifer Rosner*

General

Chapter Officers during the past year were: Jennifer Rosner, Chair; Alice Austin, Vice Chair; Lisa Scarpello, Treasurer; Rosae Reeder, Secretary; Denise Carbone, Workshop Coordinator (stepped down partway through the year); Ruth Scott Blackson and Kristin Balmer, Exhibition Co-chairs; Jackie Manni, Newsletter editor (stepped down partway through the

year); Karen Lightner, Newsletter Designer; Val Kremser, Webmaster. Officer changes this year: We added Sophia Dahab our committee. She will edit the newsletter. Standards Team: Jennifer Rosner, Kristin Balmer, Val Kremser, and Lisa Scarpello.

Membership

We currently have 95 members.

Financial

Our balance as of 6/30/20 is \$7547.27

Standards

The 2019 Standards of Excellence Seminar, held in Philadelphia for the first time in 34 years, was a complete and total success! Our Standards Team worked all of 2019 planning for the conference. They designed the logo, planned the tours, came up with ideas for SWAG, organized the installation of the GBW exhibition, and planned the opening reception. There were many other tasks and we had many volunteers. A complete list of volunteers can be found in our newsletter, *Pressing Matter* (Spring 2020), on our website.

Formation was installed at the University of the Arts and we also held the conference opening reception there. We organized four tours: The Free Library of Philadelphia; the newly opened Charles Library at Temple University and the Wagner Free Institute; and the Kislak Center at the University of Pennsylvania.

Our chapter enthusiastically gathered to make conference SWAG. We made buttons and magnets in a special Philly-themed package, and a handmade information booklet with a map. We packed it up in a bag with our logo on it and tossed in a few tasty Pennsylvania chocolates. Many DVC members came to the SWAG making and assembling events and volunteered to hand out all the SWAG at the registration tables.

During the banquet, Jennifer Rosner, longtime Delaware Valley Chapter Chair, was given the

Laura Young Award. It could not have happened in a better place – right at home in Philadelphia surrounded by chapter members.

Workshops

We did not have any workshops leading up to Standards in October 2019, but instead ran the SWAG-making events. We held a holiday ornament folding workshop lead by Karen Lightner in December. At the start of 2020, we organized two in-person workshops for April and May, only to cancel them both due to Covid-19. We then ran two Zoom workshops: Rosae Reeder taught “Long Stitch Sewn Through a Slotted Wrapper” and Tara O’Brien taught “Woven and Interlocking Book Structures” which was in two parts and took place over two Saturdays. These workshops were remarkably successful with over twenty participants at each of them.

Newsletter

We sent out one newsletter this year.

Exhibitions

The DVC held an exhibition during Standards. “Once Upon a Book” opened at the Free Library in October 2019 and was part of the tour that was organized for Standards attendees.

Collaborations

We had a valentine mail art exchange again in February. Twenty-three members participated. In April we began another collaborative project titled “Let’s Eat Cake.”

Web

Our website continues to be updated with online exhibitions and events. DVC activities are announced on multiple social media outlets.

Fun

On January 15, 2020, we hosted our seventh annual bowling party in South Philadelphia.

A big year! Many thanks to everyone who contributed their time and energy to our chapter!

LONE STAR - Kim Neiman

Executive Board Members

Chair: Kim Neiman

Secretary/Treasurer: Catherine Burkhard

Events Coordinator: Syd Webb

Communications Director: Virginia Green

General

What a whirlwind 2019-2020 has been so far. Two new officers, Syd Webb as the Events Coordinator and Kim Neiman as Chairman. It's been hard work learning everything we can from Catherine Burkhard who has been our mentor. Amen Catherine. Twelve members attended the 2019 Standards of Excellence Seminar. It's a great conference with great speakers, vendors and the chance to meet members from other chapters. The COVID-19 pandemic has interrupted our plans for 2020, but we look forward to the future.

Events

LSC Standards Lunch

2019 Standards of Excellence Seminar in Philadelphia in October. There were 12 members in attendance. Members enjoyed introductions, catching up and exchanging information, in particular about the upcoming DeGolyer Competition.

Earth Day Print Exchange

The officers worked closely to organize a print exchange in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day. Eight members participated by creating editions and mailing copies to each other via USPS. Entries were uploaded, photographed, and posted to the website and Facebook.

Holiday Skillshare

On Saturday November 16, members gathered for a fall workshop. It was held at 4 Acre Press in

Argyle, TX. 10 members attended. Members screen printed wrapping paper and letterpress printed name tags, with Syd Webb and Kim Neiman hosting as instructors.

Spring Workshop with Anne Hillam on Stiffboard Parchment Bindings

The workshop would have been held June 5–7 at Texas A & M University. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was decided to postpone the workshop until a later date yet to be determined.

Call for Nominations

Catherine Burkhard, Secretary/Treasurer, and Virginia Green, Communications Director, are stepping down. We will miss them immensely and thank them for all their hard work. We are currently working with our members to complete this process.

Annual Meeting

Due to the COVID–19 pandemic, the meeting will be cancelled and materials will be submitted via email.

Free Zoom Workshop

Going live June 27.

Communications

Over the past year, we have upgraded the current WordPress.com website from a free version to one that allowed for more functionality and eliminated advertising. The current website was reformatted and will continue to be developed to improve communications. Facebook has the most online exchange with email being the first.

Membership

Currently 60 members

Finances

\$5,000.00

MIDWEST - Ellen Wrede

No report.

NEW ENGLAND - Erin Fletcher

Members/Officers

Erin Fletcher (Chair)
Athena Moore (Secretary)
Jennifer Pellecchia and Rebecca Staley
(Programs)
Anne McLain (Exhibitions)
Emma Sovich (Communications)

General

The New England Chapter created excellent programming this year due to the hard work of its board. In June, we held our annual election for the positions of Programs Co-Chair, Secretary and Communications Chair. Jennifer Pellecchia has stepped down from Programs, but will continue to offer her support to the board. Lisa Muccigrosso has been elected to take her place alongside Rebecca Staley as Programs Co-Chairs. Athena Moore served as Secretary for several terms and stepped down; Séphora Bergiste will be taking over the position. Emma Sovich also stepped down from Communications Chair after redesigning the NEGBW blog. Yi Bin Liang will be taking over that position.

Membership

We currently have 174 members.

Financial

Our balance as of July 31, 2020 is \$15,852.

Events

August 2019: Annual Meeting at One Cottage Studios in Easthampton, MA with a demonstration by Sarah Pringle on Traditional Water Gilding and open studios with Peter Geraty, Sarah Creighton, Carol Blinn and Daniel Kelm
October 2019: Evening of Candlepin Bowling with Jim Croft and Brien Beidler, Somerville, MA
March 2020: Girl Scouts Book Arts Workshop, Waltham, MA

April - July 2020: Zoom Show and Tell Meetings, online every 2 weeks

Lectures

November 2019: The Conservation of Dante's 1477 La Commedia with Jeff Peachey, Schlesinger Library, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

Workshops

November 2019: The Book Restructured: Wire Edge Binding with Daniel E. Kelm at Wide Awake Garage, Easthampton, MA
February/March 2020: Traditional French Pochoir with Kitty Maryatt, North Bennet Street School, Boston, MA

NEW YORK - Jane Mahoney

Board Members/Officers

Chair - Celine Lombardi; Jane Mahoney
Vice Chair - Carol Mainardi
Jane Mahoney (Programs)
Carol Mainardi (vacant - Communications)
Jane Mahoney/Carol Mainardi
(vacant - Treasurer)

General

The New State Chapter held workshops and lectures 2019-2020 FY. However, the advent of Covid-19 shut down the programming for the remainder of the fiscal year. Prior to shut down discussions were being held to create a steady gathering place to encourage more active participation of members and social opportunities, also an arrangement for an upstate event was suspended. The NY Chapter partnered with the Center for Books Arts this year to hold two lectures and two workshops. Workshops held in partnership with other organizations in general do not yield revenue for the chapter. In May 2020 Celine Lombardi stepped down as Chapter Chair upon her relocation to Maine. Jane Mahoney took over as acting Chapter Chair.

Membership

We currently have 80 members.

Financial

Our financial balance as of March 2020
\$4532.39

Events

In tandem with the OPEN/SET exhibition opening at the Grolier Club the NYS Chapter promoted the Grolier opening reception, February 19, 2020 on behalf of our members included in the show and in support of the exhibition.

An agreement was made with the Center for Book Arts to host lectures and master classes featuring binders travelling to New York concurrent with the OPEN/SET exhibition. Several international and national participants were contacted with two agreed upon. A special Guild membership tour and reception with Lang Ingalls had been arranged for April 23rd, 2020 but cancelled due to Covid closures as was the remainder of the exhibition.

Lectures

February 24th, 2020: Penelope Guidoni featuring illustrator Susan Bee: publications & projects at The Center for Book Arts, New York, NY

March 10th, 2020: Coleen Curry: Fine Design binding: work and techniques

at The Center for Book Arts, New York, NY

April 23, 2020 tour and reception cancelled
Lectures included reception, food and drink social.

Workshops

February 20-23, 2020: Penelope Guidoni: Master Class: Independent Spine Binding.

Held at The Center for Book Arts, New York, NY

March 9-13, 2020: Coleen Curry: Master Class: Articulated Staple binding techniques developed by Sün Evrard, focusing on a multi-section, soft-cover articulated binding in leather. Held at The Center for Book Arts, New York, NY.

NORTHWEST – Jodee Fenton

No report.

POTOMAC - Beth Curren

Board Members/Officers

Chair: Beth Curren
Treasurer: Paige Billin-Frye
Secretary: Nora Lockshin
Newsletter: Tawn O'Connor
Web: Nora Lockshin

At the end of January, the Potomac Chapter held our annual all-member meeting in our kitchen where we tried out the leaf-printing process demonstrated by Rebecca Chamlee at Standards last October. It was a huge hit (we gained a great appreciation of how neat and well-organized Rebecca was on stage), and very well attended. Members arrived with all sorts of leaves to use; and we had pots and pans and string and plastic tubes. We made some pretty fine prints. In between sessions, we were able to discuss the future of the Potomac Chapter. All agreed that we'd like to reach out to more out-of-town members, to be more inclusive, and to encourage more diversity within our Chapter. Everyone brought food to share and books to show off. It was a great afternoon.

Former Events chair Shannon Kerner, has stepped down, having revamped and renewed our energies in this area: we are making use of the facilities at a local arts park at Glen Echo, Maryland, to hold workshops. Our two days learning from the Art of the Fold with Hedi and Ulla Kyle was a terrific experience. Shannon's ideas and advice have helped us look in new directions. Jeanne Drewes has stepped down as V.P.; newly retired, she had a very active speaking schedule and was considering re-locating out of the DC area. Tawn O'Connor will continue to

write and produce the Potomac Chapter newsletter; Paige Billin-Frye will keep track of the membership and budget; Nora Lockshin will work her magic with the web and act as secretary for the chapter.

While we were unable to entice other local members to take on board positions, we were reassured by their commitment that they will be available to help out with upcoming events.

Last year's successful postcard swap encouraged us to develop a new cooperative exchange for 2020: the theme was the solstice. Nineteen members participated and were the lucky recipients of beautiful and imaginative interpretations that arrived in the mail and delighted us all. Paige Billin-Frye organized a Zoom meeting in late June and that allowed most of the participants to hear the genesis of one another's work. Everyone outdid themselves; all of us felt the impact of the pandemic and quarantine and found joy in creating these elaborate postcards for one another.

Shannon Kerner taught, via Zoom, a very successful afternoon workshop on Criss-Cross Binding in July, talking us through the steps while enlightening us on the history of this technique. It's a wonderful binding and we all had a blast.

Having discussed the merits of these online meetings, we hope to continue to be engaged and productive in the future.

The Potomac Chapter had a large presence at the Standards Conference in Philadelphia. To honor our ties to the DVC, and led by Paige Billin-Frye, many of our members worked to create small keepsakes, made with hand-made paper from locally sourced mulberry trees, that were included in all of the attendees' folders. Standards was spectacular and everyone appreciated the efforts that went into making it such a wonderful event. Our late fall workshop on the Art of the Fold with Hedi and Ulla Kyle was a roaring success. The annual members meeting

in January was attended by over twenty people. Potomac member Jane Griffith's fine bindings won spots in the exhibit in early March at the Grolier Club in NYC.

In mid-January, one of our most active members, Erik Delfino, died suddenly and unexpectedly at his home in Rockville, MD. He had been interviewed in December by Tawn O'Connor and was featured in our first 2020 newsletter. He was one of the nicest people we've ever worked with, and his death leaves such a hole in the fabric of our book community.

The Covid-19 pandemic affects all of us and we are scrambling to find new ways to connect and share our love of book making. Potomac Chapter will meet virtually in September to discuss our options for the remainder of 2020.

Membership: 78
Account Balance: \$7780

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Nicole Cotten and Emiline Twitchell

No report.

SOUTHEAST - Jillian Sico

Board Members/Officers

Chapter Chair: Jillian Sico

Treasurer: Piper Head

Communications Chairs: Jim Stovall and

Christina Lilly

Workshops and Events: Kerri Harding

General

In December and January we held elections for the Communications Chair position to replace Kyle Clark, who had moved out of the Southeast region. We are delighted to welcome new co-chairs Jim Stovall and Christina Lilly. In July, we voted to remove the Secretary position

previously held by Jackie Radford and absorb all duties into the Communications co-chair positions.

Membership

Our current membership is 63 members.

Financial

Our balance as of 7/20/20 is \$4,241.82

Events and Workshops

The Southeast chapter was deep into plans to have our first Annual Meeting in Atlanta, April 24-26, hosted by Big River Bindery. The proposed schedule included an official chapter meeting, tour, show-and-tell, half-day workshop with Anna Embree, dinner, and a buy/sell/swap. However, due to Covid-19, we decided to postpone this event until next Spring. We are going forward with plans to host a similar meeting next April.

Collaborations/Exhibitions

The Southeast Chapter completed a collaborative project, Cause:Effect. Eight participants from the Southeast editioned two single sheets inspired by the concept of cause & effect, which were then collated and bound. The project is currently being exhibited virtually at Tulane University’s Howard-Tilton Memorial Library. We hope to have a live exhibition later whenever it is safe to do so.

Newsletter

Our Communications co-chairs are currently working on an updated template to produce a regular Chapter newsletter, which will be sent by email to our membership twice a year.

Approved on: _____

President

Secretary

GBW Annual Report – 2019-2020

Operating & Cash Statement for the 12-month period: 7/1/19-6/30/20

6/30/2019		6/30/2020
Fund Balances:		Fund Balances:
Operating Fund	125,147	106,283
Cash Reserve	95,646	95,646
Chapter Funds	92,359	89,907
TOTAL:	313,152	291,836

19-20 Income		19-20 Expenses:	
Dues	59,388	Admin	12,061
Contributions	656	Board	4,838
Exhibitions	7,605	Comm/PR	8,097
Interest	4,414	Exhibitions	6,129
Library	1,409	Library	368
Membership	1,071	Membership	-
Publications	12,157	Publications	14,809
Standards	77,246	Special Proj	285
		Standards	76,297
TOTAL:	163,946		122,883

Regional Chapter Balances

Chapter	6/30/2019	Income	Expense	6/30/2020
California	17,654	2,587	3,741	16,499
Delaware Valley	9,200	839	2,583	7,457
Lone Star	5,833	530	995	5,368
Midwest	11,969	960	-	12,929
New England	13,260	8,501	5,899	15,861
New York	4,162	670	300	4,532
Northwest	7,022	400	365	7,057
Potomac	7,331	2,056	3,769	5,618
Rocky Mtn	11,802	1,212	2,830	10,184
Southeast	4,127	865	590	4,402
	92,360	18,619	21,072	89,907

