

The National Amateur

Vol. 141, No. 1



Sep. 2018

Columbus, Ohio

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The National Amateur

The official organ of the
National Amateur Press Association
Published quarterly.

Volume 141, Number 1 September 2018

Established July 4, 1876, the Association supports and promotes the hobby of amateur journalism. Members write, print, and publish amateur journals, exchanging them via the Mailing Bureau, which mails an envelope each month containing a copy of each journal supplied by members that month. THE NATIONAL AMATEUR is included in the bundle envelope in those months when it is published.

Membership is open to all.

Annual dues are \$30 in the United States, \$37.50 elsewhere.

Membership includes the monthly mailings and a subscription to this official quarterly magazine, plus the right to use the services of the Mailing Bureau and the Manuscript Bureau, participate in the annual convention, and to vote.

Family members sharing the same mailing address may join for \$2 and are entitled to all benefits of membership except for receiving the monthly mailings and this quarterly.

Trial Memberships Available

A one-time free three-month Trial Membership is offered to anyone curious about the hobby and the amateur publications produced and shared by members.

Application for any type of membership may be made to the Secretary-Treasurer (address and email listed in the column to the right).

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Minutes of the 143rd Annual Convention of the National Amateur Press Association

July 16-18, 2018, at The Lodge at Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio

THE CONVENTION WAS CALLED TO order at 9:00 a.m. on July 16th, 2018 in the Western Reserve Room at The Lodge at Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio. President Michelle Klosterman asked for a roll call. Members present were Arie Koelewyn, Bill Boys, Harold Shive, James Hedges, Gary Bossler, Lisa Brandstetter Holt, and Michelle Klosterman. (Austin and Jean Jones and Jon McGrew arrived later in the day.)

President Klosterman noted that no *pro tem* officers would be needed as all officers were present and accounted for.

Secretary-Treasurer Bill Boys reported that there were no new members or reinstatements lapsed twelve months or more needing approval for the year (noting there wasn't a quorum necessary to reject any new members).

President's Report

Michelle Klosterman gave the President's Report :

Performed the usual Presidential duties which include:

- Running Convention meetings

- Approving necessary reimbursements for required expenditures, i.e. The National Amateur quarterlies, mailing expenditures, etc.

- Handling any day to day issues.

- Providing a quarterly message for the NAs.

- Procuring judges for the Laureates and providing certificates for winner and honorable mention for each category.

- Assisted Gary Bossler, Historian, with a Presidential history for the NA.

- In addition to the usual duties:

I have done the Critics report for the 2018 NAs.

Acted as Editor for the September NA. (Though not nearly as well as Bill Boys, who has graciously acted as editor for the 2018 issues to date. Gary Bossler who kindly made sure the NAs were printed and mailed out)."

The report was approved by voice vote.

Vice-President's Report

Vice-President Jim Hedges provided an oral report to the effect that he had sent out a welcome packet to all new members and was running low on some of the materials he sends out.

The report was approved by a voice vote.

Secretary's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Bill Boys provided the Secretary's report:

Secretary's Annual Report

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

There were no new Regular or Family memberships, nor any Reinstatements over one year old, this past year, so there are no names for me to present to this Convention for action in accordance with Article V, Section 7, of our Constitution.

Three members died within the past year:

- Gussie Segal, Aug. 6, 2017.

- Jake Warner, Dec. 7, 2017.

- James L. Meyers, Apr. 29, 2018.

Eight Trial Members were received within the past year, three of whom have dropped out so far; two are expired but I have not yet dropped them; and three have not yet reached their expiration dates:

Marey Barthoff, joined in October, dropped in March.

Carol Beggy, joined in February.

John Cassidy, joined in December.

Keating Floyd, joined in January, dropped in May.

Don Lee, joined in June.

Colin McGregor, joined in October, dropped in March.

John O'Rourke, joined in May.

Lynn Scheurell, joined in May.

As of June 30 there are 84 members:

50 Regular Members.

18 Regular Members who are also Life Members, 14 of whom are Ex-Presidents.

11 Family Members.

5 Trial Members.

This is fewer than at this time last year.

These are the membership totals published in the June NATIONAL AMATEURS since 2003:

Note – I do not have June NAs for three of these years; I don't know if they're just missing from my files, or if they were never published.

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
175	164	—	172	166	152
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
154	153	146	124*	—	115
2015	2016	2017	2018		
100	100	90	84		

* The figure for 2012 was learned only after the convention, but is added here for completeness.

The same 15 libraries are on our mailing list as last year.

10 request only THE NATIONAL AMATEUR.

5 request both the bundles and THE NATIONAL AMATEUR.

An issue has been raised about whether to include members' phone numbers and email addresses in the published membership lists in the NA.

This has sometimes been done in the past, evidently without privacy problems, but I have not included them in recent years, for that very reason. Some members have specifically told me they do not wish their email addresses published, and obviously such direct requests would have to be respected. I have never inquired about publishing phone numbers. I recommend this be a subject for a proposed Resolution at this Convention.

The report was approved on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Boys provided the Treasurer's report, printed on the next page.

The report was referred to the Auditing Committee.

Recorder's Report

Arie Koelewyn gave an oral report as Recorder to the effect that Laureate entries were received, collated, organized and forwarded to the President.

The report was approved by voice vote.

Report about This Year's NATIONAL AMATEURS

Bill Boys provided a report on the final three issues of the past year's NATIONAL AMATEUR issues for which he'd acted as editor. The position of Official Editor has remained open for the past year, and remains open. Bill Boys has agreed to continue volunteering to do the task until an OE is named by the President.)

Official Editor *pro tem*'s Report

In the absence of an elected Official Editor this past year, Michelle Klosterman and I served as *pro tem* Official Editors, and we managed to get a complete quarterly set of Volume 140 issued.

Treasurer's Report, 2017-2018

Checking Acct. Balance July 1, 2017 \$ 2,629.85

INCOME

2018 Convention (banquet) 265.18
 Gifts Received, General 16.50
 Membership Dues
 Family, Renewals 22.00
 Regular, Reinstatements 90.00
 Regular, Renewals 1,627.50
 Total Membership Dues 1,739.50
 Weixelbaum Trust Fund 1,900.00
TOTAL INCOME \$ 3,921.18

EXPENSES

2017 Convention, Carson, Cal. 681.38
 2018 Convention, Geneva-o-t-L, Ohio
 (Convention Hotel Deposit) 200.00
 Gifts Given - International Printing
 Museum, Carson, Cal. 1,000.00
 Mailing Bureau 750.00
 Miscellaneous Expenses 35.00
 The National Amateur 925.53
 PayPal Transaction Fees 18.57
 Publicity & Recruiting 169.59
 Secretary-Treasurer 87.57
TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 3,867.64

Increase (Decrease) in Checking Account \$ 53.54
 Checking Account Balance, June 30, 2018 \$ 2,683.39

EQUITY

Certificates of Deposit / Savings Account
 Regions Banks CD ****9300
 Value on July 1, 2017 4,245.89
 Early Withdrawal Penalty (3.15)
 Redeemed Jan. 26, 2018 . (4,242.74)
 Value on Jan. 26, 2018 0
 Telhio Fed. Credit Union ****7191
 Opened Jan. 26, 2018 4,242.74
 Accrued Interest 5.63
 Value on June 30, 2018 4,248.37
 Telhio Fed. Credit Union ****8020
 Value on July 1, 2017 11,186.30
 Accrued Interest 39.44
 Value on June 30, 2018 11,225.74
 Telhio Fed. Cr. Union Savings Account
 Value on June 30, 2018 5.00
 WesBanco CD ****0820 (Life Members Fund)
 Value on July 1, 2017 8,412.00
 Accrued Interest 8.42
 Value on June 30, 2018 8,429.42
Total CDs, June 30, 2018 \$ 23,899.53

Checking Account Balance, June 30, 2018 2,683.39
TOTAL EQUITY, June 30, 2018 \$ 26,582.92

Total Equity, June 30, 2017 \$ 26,479.04
 Increase (Decrease) in Total Equity \$ 103.88

William E. Boys, Secretary-Treasurer

Michelle edited the Sep. issue, and I did the other three. (I'll let Michelle report if she wishes on the Sep. Issue.)

I was pleasantly surprised to find out how capably my favorite desktop publishing software, Serif's PagePlus program, handled the composition and editing functions. I even used some hitherto unused features, such as "Background Assets," to create the backgrounds on the front and back covers. I also learned that it's a hindrance to try composing a whole issue as one long string of linked text frames. Much better to use unlinked text frames to get a handle on where various articles would appear.

The printing of Nos. 2 and 3 was handled by Gary Bossler's printer friend, Bob Kring, the owner of M & K Printing, in Massillon, Ohio. The files for printing were converted from PagePlus into PDFs and emailed to Bob for printing.

No. 2, Dec. 2017, 16 pages, 2 in color, 14 in black and white, cost \$211.49 for 150 copies, or \$1.41 per copy. I should point out, though, that 50 of those copies were an overrun I ordered to use in my plan to speak to as many of the 43 writing groups in central Ohio that I could get invitations to, so part of that total cost was proportionately attributed to Publicity and Recruiting. This yields a figure of \$167.85 for *The National Amateur* budget line and \$43.64 chargeable to Publicity and Recruiting. Gary contributed his service to trim the issues down to their finished size of 7x10 inches.

No. 3, Mar. 2018, 28 pages, 8 in color, 20 in black and white, cost \$429.57 for 150 copies, or \$2.86 per copy. Again, 50 copies for publicity and recruiting were printed, yielding \$308.32 chargeable to *The National Amateur* and \$121.25 chargeable to Publicity and Recruiting. Gary again contributed his service of

trimming to finished size. Since this issue was the memorial issue in honor of the late Jake Warner, I intentionally requested more articles about him and intentionally used color more freely throughout. The greater use of color as well as the larger number of pages caused this to be the most expensive issue of Volume 140, but a worthy tribute to Jake, I felt.

About this time Gary informed me that Bob Kring had decided to sell his print shop, so we needed to find another printer. Gary again came to the rescue and located The Print Shop of Canton, Inc., to be our next printer.

No. 4, June. 2018, 16 pages, 7 in color, 19 in black and white, cost \$348.26 for 150 copies, or \$2.32 per copy. Once again 50 copies were printed for publicity and recruiting, yielding \$248.76 chargeable to The National Amateur and \$99.50 attributable to Publicity and Recruiting. Gary again contributed the final trimming. The printing cost by The Print Shop of Canton, Inc., is slightly higher than M & K Printing was, but not drastically so.

The printing cost of the **Sep. issue** was \$257.85, which included the cost of mailing envelopes as well. The cost of mailing the June NA was \$191.50, and \$4.70 to mail the 50 copies for Publicity and Recruiting to me.

So here's how the expenditures on the NA and on the publicity & recruiting spending from this perspective added up:

So the amount chargeable to THE NATIONAL AMATEUR adds up to \$1,174.28 [first two columns on the chart], or \$15.87 per page. The total spent was \$174.28 over the \$1,000 budget set by the last Convention. It would have been somewhat more if Gary had not contributed the service of trimming all the copies.

	NA	NA postage & envelopes	Publicity & Recruiting	Total
Sep. 16 pages, 2 in color	\$257.85	0	0	\$257.85
Dec. 16 pages, 2 in color	\$167.85	0	\$43.64	\$211.49
March 28 pages, 8 in color	\$308.32	0	\$121.25	429.57
June 16 pages, 6 in color	\$249.76	\$191.50	\$99.50	\$539.76
Total 74 pages, 18 in color	\$982.78	191.5	\$264.39	\$1438.67

With the necessary change in printers, I recommend that the budget allowance for The National Amateur be increased in next year's budget to at least \$1,200.

One thing all of this does is make me remember Russ Paxton even more warmly, for all those National Amateurs in years past that he so faithfully produced by Linotype and printing press!

If an elected Official Editor is again lacking next year, as seems likely at the time of my writing this, I would be willing to take on the job on a pro tem basis if the President approves rather than see The National Amateur fail to be published. (This "*pro tem*" terminology would be a necessary ploy because I could not officially hold two elected offices.)

William E. Boys, editor *pro tem* for Vol. 140, Nos. 2, 3, and 4.

The report was approved by voice vote.

No report was received from the Executive Judges

Mailing Manager's Report

Harold Shive provided a report of the Mailer:

Mailer's Report for July 2017 – July 2018

At this time I would like to inform you that I am resigning my position as mailer. Your Secretary informed me a few months ago that I could not do this because the envelopes that Mark Barbour so graciously printed had my return address. So I agreed to stay on. Now there is only one month left with my return address on it and one month which are printed with no return address.

So I will agree to stay on for two more months, which should give the President ample time to find a replacement."

Month	Domestic Bundles	Foreign Bundles	Total Postage	Balance on Hand
July 2017	76	5	\$65.67	\$546.24
Aug.	80	5	\$64.25	\$481.99
Sep.	80	5	\$87.68	\$394.31
Oct.	80	5	\$63.90	\$330.41
Nov.	80	5	\$81.43	\$248.98
Dec.	80	4	\$80.13	\$168.85
Jan. 2018	78	4	\$62.14	\$106.71
Feb.	78	4	\$69.37	\$37.34
March	78	4	\$60.08	(\$22.74)
April	76	4	\$60.00	(\$82.74)
Received check from Secy-Treas. For \$800.00.				\$717.26
May	76	4	77.21	\$640.05
June	75	4	79.05	\$561.00
Mailed 4 past bundles to Carla Stephenson.			2.66	\$558.34
Mailed 14 past bundles to Wilford Brosey.			3.68	\$554.66
July	73	4	78.13	\$476.53

The report was approved by voice vote.

There was no report submitted from the Manuscript Bureau.

The Report of the Historian was deferred to the December NATIONAL AMATEUR.

There was no report submitted from Bureau of Critics.

There was no report submitted by the Librarian.

There was no report submitted by the Publicity & Recruiting Chair.

There was no report submitted from the Webmaster. (Jon McGrew, the webmaster arrived later and provided an update and again requested digital copies of The National Amateur to be posted on the website. This led to a brief discussion of making the membership list available on the website that was deferred to New Business.)

Appointments of Committees

President Klosterman named Jim Hedges, Bill Boys and Gary Bossler to the Absentee Ballots Committee.

Michelle Klosterman and Lisa Brandstetter Holt were named to the Audit Committee.

Arie Koelewyn was named to the Amendments Committee.

Harold Shive and Gary Bossler were named to the Budget Committee.

Bill Boys and Arie Koelewyn were named to the Resolutions and Memorials Committee.

The President called for a recess at 10:30.

Report of the Absentee Ballot Committee

The Convention reconvened at 11:00 and received the report of the Absentee Ballots Committee. Five absentee ballots were received and all were deemed valid.

Elections

Results of the election:

President – Michelle Klosterman

Vice President – Jim Hedges

Secy.-Treas. – Bill Boys

Recorder – Arie Koelewyn

Executive Judge (term 2018-2021) – George Hamilton

Official Editor – Jack Oliver (after being notified of his election, Jack declined the office); (Vacant)

2019 Convention – East Lansing, Mich.

2020 Convention – Burnsville, N.C.

The vote details (asterisks indicate winners)::

Office	Absentee Ballots	Convention Vote	Total
President	Michelle K., 4 Gary B., 1 (withdrew)	Michelle K., 6	10* 1
Vice-Pres.	Jim H., 4 Gary B., 1 (withdrew)	Jim H., 6	10* 1
Secy-Treas.	Bill B., 4 Blank, 1	Bill B., 6	10*
Recorder	Blank, 5	Arie K., 6 Jim H., 1	6* 1
Official Editor	Blank, 5	Jack Oliver, 6	6*
Exec. Judge 2018-2021	Blank, 5	George Hamilton, 4 Alice Brosey, 3	4* 3
2019 Convention Site	E. Lansing, 4 Blank, 1	E. Lansing, 6	10*
2020 Convention Site	Burnsville, 3 Blank, 2	Burnsville, 6	9*

The convention recessed until 9 a.m., July 17, 2018.

(In the evening a printing and amateur journalism demonstration was put on at the Ashtabula County District Library, in Ashtabula. See separate article., p. 13.)

President Klosterman called the Convention back into session and began a roll call at 9 a.m. on July 17, 2018.

Reports of Committees

The **Auditing Committee** reported that all was in order with the Treasurer's Report and that was approved by voice vote.

The **Budget Committee** reported a 2018-2019 budget, but the original report missed allocating funds for Publicity & Recruiting. During the discussion of the budget it was realized that no funds had

INCOME	AMOUNT
Dues	\$ 1,600
Weixelbaum Trust	\$ 1,900
Donations	\$ 400
Total	\$ 3,900
EXPENSES	
Convention	\$ 1,000
Mailing Bureau	\$ 1,250
THE NATIONAL AMATEUR	\$ 1,200
Recorder	\$ 25
Secy-Treasurer	\$ 250
President	\$ 100
Website	\$ 100
Publicity & Recruiting	\$ 500
Total	\$ 4,460

been allocated for that. It was decided to add \$500.00 to the expenses for that purpose. The total expenses changed to \$4,460.00 for a deficit of \$560.00.

The amended Budget was approved by voice vote.

The **Amendments Committee** received one suggestion for an amendment to the NAPA Constitution by Jim Hedges: to add an envelope to the absentee ballot for a signature and removing the signature from the ballot itself, thus assuring a secret ballot. The text was altered slightly by the Amendments Committee to ensure the affected section of the Constitution was altered properly. Jim was agreeable to the modification. The final text as modified was:

Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Make Absentee Ballots Secret

“Amend Article X, Sec. 1, (b) by the addition of the following sentences at the end: “The absentee ballot shall be enclosed in plain envelope; the plain envelope shall be enclosed in a larger envelope bearing the member’s name, address, and personal signature and mailed to the Custodian of Ballots” and remove the phrase “, sign it in his own handwriting”.

The proposed amendment, as modified, was approved to be put on next year’s ballot by voice vote.

By-Laws Change to Reduce Laureate Entry Requirements for letterpress-printed Journals.

A change to the By-Laws to reduce the number of copies of a journal for the Letterpress Laureate competition from two to one was proposed and discussed.

Modify Section D.6.1: change “For entries in categories (a) through (f) of” to “For entries in categories (a) through (f) and (i) of”

And:

Modify Section D.6.1: change “For entries in categories (g), (h) and (i) of” to “For entries in categories (g) and (h) of”

The change was approved by voice vote and goes into immediate effect.

Resolution on Combining the Mailing of The National Amateur with the Bundle for One Year

A resolution to utilize a larger envelope for the September, December, March and June bundles so that THE NATIONAL AMATEUR could be included in the bundle on a trial basis was recommended and discussed. The text of the resolution:

A resolution on combining the Mailing of the NA with the bundle.

1. As an experiment, we encourage the mailing of the bundles for Sep., Dec., Mar., and June to be done in envelopes large enough to accommodate the NA.

2. We encourage the OE [Official Editor] and MM [Mailing Manager] to coordinate their deadlines in those 4 months to assure that those 4 bundles do, in fact, meet the NA’s constitutionally required publication dates.

3. The S-T [Secretary-Treasurer] shall provide the MM [Mailing Manager] with specially identified mailing labels for the several Libraries that wish only to receive the NAs.

4. The 2019 Convention is requested to review this experiment for continuance or not.”

The Resolution was adopted by voice vote.

A Resolution to Include Email Addresses and Phone Numbers in NA Membership Lists, Both Print and Digital, Unless Opting Out.

A resolution to include the full membership list in both printed and digital versions of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR was proposed and discussed. After considerable discussion and debate the following Resolution was put to a vote:

“That the Official Editor post a notice in the September 2018 National Amateur stating that the Association intends to publish the membership list, with postal addresses, email addresses and phone numbers in both print and electronic versions (on the web site) unless a member notifies the Secretary-Treasurer to withhold that information. Any members’ prior notification to this effect will remain in place.”

By a show of hands this resolution was approved: 7 Yeas, 1 Nay.

The President called for a recess until the Banquet so that members could again present a public demonstration of Letterpress and Amateur Journalism, this time at the Geneva Public Library.

After the Banquet came the Report of the Resolutions and Memorials Committee and the presentation of the Laureate awards.

Resolutions and Memorials Committee Report

We want to express our thanks and appreciation to the following:

To Bill Boys and Arie Koelewyn, and their wives, Ruth Boys and Kate Corby, for special efforts in scouting out the Ashtabula area so thoroughly last August in order to locate a facility for this convention.

To The Lodge at Geneva-on-the-Lake for the excellent rooms and meeting facility, and the pleasant, cooperative and efficient staff that served us in various capacities during this convention. Especially we wish to underscore our appreciation to Shaylynn Skidmore, Sales Coordinator, for her assiduous attention to the many details of our needs in every category – guest rooms, meeting room, and banquet. She was a warm and competent partner in ushering us through the paperwork and registration details, and assisted us in handling the cancellation details above and beyond the call of duty in the case of the last-minute family accident that prevented Nancy Heber and her daughter, Karen Groff, from attending the convention.

To Lyn Glover and the staff at Ashtabula County District Library, for hosting and welcoming our demonstrators to the Monday evening demonstration of printing on a letterpress, handset typesetting, colorizing a printed image, and desktop publishing.

To Ryan Whelpley and the staff at the Geneva Public Library, for also hosting and welcoming our demonstrators on Tuesday afternoon.

To Arie Koelewyn, Austin & Jean Jones, and Bill Boys for their roles in presenting the aforementioned exhibits and demonstrations.

We also note the passing of three members this year:

Gussie Segal. Gussie joined NAPA in 1982, sponsored by Leah Warner. Her marriage to the late Harold Segal brought her to many NAPA conventions in the following years, where she was an active participant. She also served as Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, and in a variety of convention committees, but especially the Auditing Committee.

Jake Warner. Every one of us knows how monumental Jake's long participation in NAPA was. He joined in 1969, when he learned of amateur journalism and NAPA through a Kelsey Co. mailing. Starting at the 1971 Marietta, Ohio convention until just a few years ago, Jake attended every single convention and was an impressively active participant. Even more astounding, he published 546 issues of *The Boxwooder* without missing a single month! He served as President from 1973-74, and held many other posts, both elected and appointed. The breadth of his role in NAPA was aptly noted in the March 2018 issue of *The National Amateur*, in which nearly half the pages were tributes to Jake. He won 102 Laureates and Honorable Mentions during his 48 years of membership, and published numerous pieces by other members who won Laureate awards on their own.

James L. Meyers. Jim had been a member of NAPA since 1977, when he joined as a result of the ad in *Graphic Arts Monthly*, which produced an influx of new members at the time. We do not recall any amateur journal that he published, but he actively used his printing press to produce religious tracts for the Cumberland County, N.J., Evangelists Tract Ministry.

Finally, although he passed away the year before this past year, we should mention an honor that has just recently come to our attention, bestowed upon **Thomas B. Whitbread.** A Memorial Resolution in honor of Dr. Whitbread was adopted by the University of Texas at Austin General Faculty.

In thoughtful remembrance and appreciation of these former fellow-members of ours, let us pause for a moment of silent reflection. . . . Thank you.

Laureate Awards

POETRY

Laureate: "Grandma's Broom," by Lisa Brandstetter Holt, *Aardvark Agog*, No. 1, [May] 2017.

Honorable Mention: "Play Ukulele Today," by Heath Row, *Karma Lapel*, Vol. 3, No. 12, Nov. 2016 (in Feb. 2017 bundle).

FICTION – (no entries).

HISTORY OF AMATEUR JOURNALISM

Laureate: "The Carson Convention," by David Tribby, *TRIBulations*, No. 6, Aug. 2017.

Honorable Mention: "My NAPA Incunabula," by Jack Visser, *The Vis-i-tor*, No. 26, Jan. 2017.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Laureate: "Potpourri," by Jack Oliver, *Oliver's Twist*, Feb. 2017.

Honorable Mention: "President's Message," by Michelle Klosterman, *THE NATIONAL AMATEUR*, Vol. 139, No. 3, March 2017.

MISCELLANEOUS PROSE

Laureate: "My Backyard: A Very Special Place," by Nancy Heber, *Journeys*, Vol. 2, No. 9, Aug. 2017.

Honorable Mention: "Our First-Ever Long-Distance Overnight Amtrak Trip," by Bill Boys, *Pennant Bravo*, No. 67, Sep. 2017.

ART

Laureate: "Photographing Nature's Beauty," by Nancy Heber, *Journeys*, Vol. 2, No. 6, May 2017.

Honorable Mention: *Postcards to John Winslow Snyder*, by Bill Boys, No. 1, Dec. 2017.

EDITING

Laureate: *Pennant Bravo*, Nos. 67-69, 2017, by Bill Boys.

Honorable Mention: *Impressions by Hal*, Nos. 159-167, 2017, by Harold Shive

PRINTING

Laureate: *Pennant Bravo*, Nos. 67-69, 2017, by Bill Boys.

Honorable Mention: *Journeys*, Vol. 2, Nos. 1-13, 2017, printed by Bill Boys.

LETTERPRESS PRINTING

Laureate: *The Tribby Tribune*, No. 123, Dec. 2017, by Dave Tribby.

Honorable Mention: *Ohkee-Doekee*, No. 88, Sometime in 2017, by Dave Schwartz.

Surprise Announcement of The Fossils' "Golden Composing Stick Award"

Before recessing the convention until tomorrow morning, Pres. Klosterman announced that she had been requested by the Board of The Fossils, Inc., to present their "Golden Composing Stick

Award". She and Fossils Board member Gary Bossler jointly presented the award, which reads: "Presented to William E. Boys for his years of devotion to amateur journalism – The Fossils 2018".

In his accompanying letter Pres. Ken Faig of The Fossils wrote: "The Gold Composing Stick Award is presented in recognition of a lifetime of contributions to the amateur journalism hobby. It has been presented by The Fossils only thirteen time since its inception in 1953."

On Wednesday, July 18 at 9 a.m. (or so) the convention gathered in the hospitality suite and was called to order by President Klosterman. There being no new business, a motion to adjourn *sine die* was made and approved.

— Arie Koelewyn, Recorder



The 2018 Convention, Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio. Front row L. to R. Bridget McGrew, Lisa Brandstetter Holt, Michelle Klosterman, Jean Jones, Ruth Boys. Back row L. to R. Jon McGrew, Harold Shive, Arie Koelewyn, Austin Jones, Jim Hedges, Bill Boys, Gary Bossler. Not pictured: Kate Corby.

Photo by Gary Bossler

Two Library Demonstrations, Ashtabula and Geneva – A First for Us; How Did They Go?

Summary of the Two Demonstrations

THE DEMONSTRATIONS AT ASHTABULA were viewed by 31 members of the public, and attended by 11 of our own group. Ashtabula is the larger of the two towns, pop. 19,000+, and their demonstration was held on Monday evening, 6 to 8 p.m.

The demonstrations at Geneva, pop. 6,000+, were viewed by 33 people (including our members present), many of them at the beginning by members of the Platt R. Spencer Historical Society who just happened to be here for a meeting of their Society. The demonstrations at Geneva were held on Tuesday afternoon, from 1 to 3 p.m.

So far the demonstrations have attracted one new Trial Member, Corinne Nye, of Geneva. (See p. 15.)

— *Bill Boys*

A Writing Demonstration Would Be a Nice Addition

Austin Jones proposed that in view of how successful these demonstrations and exhibits were, we might enrich them even more by enlisting the aid of some of our writer members to offer an additional exhibit. For example, having parallel examples of a piece of writing, a poem, etc., and the demonstrator would point out the differences between the two, showing how, in their opinion, one word choice, or cadence, or excision made one piece better than the other.

Another example would be to compare 19th century writing styles with modern ones; how they've changed.

News Pegs; Recruiting Tools

The public events (demonstrations) were a useful addition to the program. Events connected with the convention are news pegs and recruiting tools.

I would not stay behind the table when only one or two people at a time are watching – it gets too much like a classroom lecture. Keep it informal and personal. When I do my tourist spiel at Old Bedford Village, I watch what the people seem most interested in and discuss those things, rather than giving a pro forma lecture. If they're really into it, I have them, especially children, set their names in type and pull a personalized souvenir on one of the presses.

The desktop publishing might go better if you had a display showing the stages in the process and discussed the stages. Doing metal typesetting and layout with physical objects is engrossing and informative; pecking at a keyboard is (only) an exhibition of manual dexterity.

I don't know how anyone could demonstrate writing in less than one semester. Talk about the course outline, perhaps.

The best commercial cave tour I ever took consisted of a hole with some ice in the bottom (in mid-summer). But the guide blabbered so non-stop about the science and history of the area that I didn't have time to think about how trivial the exhibit really was. Don't give the people time to get bored; rattle away mercilessly.

— *Jim Hedges*

President's Message



Michelle Klosterman

IT WAS GREAT TO SEE my NAPA friends and family at the Convention. I hope the trial mailing the NATIONAL AMATEUR with the bundle will work out well. I am pleased that the Convention voted that the Letterpress Laureate category will only require a single submission instead of two to be eligible for Laureate nomination. This was done due to the few letterpress journals submitted and since letterpress requires much more work than a typical electronic printed journal.

The demonstrations at the local libraries were highlights. I enjoyed them and I learned a few new things about letterpress printing. Each had a nice number of people in attendance. One of the attendees has begun a trial membership. Hopefully, this number will increase. We are considering more of this type of activity at next year's convention.

I would like to thank the Reception Committee, Bill and Ruth Boys, and Arie Koelewyn and Kate Corby, for a well-planned convention; and our demonstrators, Arie Koelewyn, Austin and Jean Jones, and Bill Boys. I would also like to thank Gary Bossler for taking our Convention photo prior to the banquet and for assisting me in presenting Bill Boys with the Golden Composing Stick Award given by the Fossils. I would like to thank Harold Shive for doing a great job as mailer for the past few years.

I'm sure you'll read more about all of the activities and awards so I will close for now.

— Michelle Klosterman, President

Journals Published June through August

Gary Bossler, Historian

June 2018 Bundle 9 items

- 2018 Convention Registration Form, 5½x8½, 1p. Bill Boys.
- 2018 Absentee Ballot with envelope, 3½x5½, 1p. Bill Boys.
- Impressions by Hal*, June 2018, #172, 5x7, 4pp. Harold Shive.
- Journeys*, Vol. 3, No. 6, June 2018, 5½x8½, 12pp. Nancy A. Heber.
- My Old Home Places*, No. 2, June 2018, 5½x8½, 4pp., with Supplement, 2pp. Bill Boys.
- Ohio Views*, June 2018, No. [51], 4¼x7, 4pp. Gary Bossler.
- Ohio Views*, Oct 2013* (June 2018), 4¼x7, 4pp. Gary Bossler.
- Oregoner, The*, June 2018, 4¼x5½, 10pp. Kent Clair Chamberlain.
- Vis-i-tor, The*, Visit No. 33, June 2018, 5½x8½, 2pp. Jack Visser.

July 2018 Bundle 8 items

- Curvatus in Se*, No. 5, July 2018, 7x8½, 8pp., with two enclosure cards, *Amateur Journalism*, no No. or date, 2x3½, 4pp. Bill Boys.
- Impressions by Hal*, No. 173, Jul 2018, 5x7, 4pp. Harold Shive.
- Journeys*, Vol. 3, No. 7, July 2018, 5½x8½, 8pp. Nancy A. Heber.
- Merle's Pearls*, July 2018, 653-703, 5x7, 4pp. Merle Ray Beckwith.
- Obkee-Doekee*, No. 90, Sometime in 2018, 4¼x5½, 4pp. Dave Schwartz.
- Postcards to John Winslow Snyder*, No. 7, July 2018, 4¼x5½, 2pp. Bill Boys.
- Sale Bill*, No. 2, Spring 2018, 5½x8½, 4pp. James Hedges.
- Sale Bill*, #3, Summer 2018, 5½x8½, 4pp. James Hedges.

August 2018 Bundle 7 items

- Curvatus In Se*, #6, Aug. 2018, 7x8½, 8pp. Bill Boys.
- Impressions by Hal*, No. 174, Aug. 2018, 5x7, 4pp. Harold Shive.
- JOURNEYS*, Vol 3, #8, Aug 2018, 5½x8½, 8pp. Nancy A. Heber.
- Membership List Alert*, July 29, 2018, 5½x8½, 1pp. Bill Boys.
- Publishing with My Own Computer*, July 16 & 17, 2018, 5½x8½, 4pp. Bill Boys.
- Page Two Flag*, July 2018, 4¼x7½, 4pp. plus 2x4 omsert. 1p. Richard L. Hopkins.
- Postcards to John Winslow Snyder*, No. 8, Aug 2018, 4¼x5½, 2pp. Bill Boys.

“What Sort of Stove Is That?” Two Responses

The original article and painting to which these responses refer is on p. 7 of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR, Vol. 140, No. 4, June 2018.

Rich Hopkins wrote: “Bill, I even went to the link to view the painting better and the stove & venting just don’t make a whole lot of sense. The kettle (orange color) integrated right in the middle of the venting would either need to have the bottom cut out of it (rendering it useless for its original purpose) or the artist put the pipe above the kettle instead of to its rear.

“After just having come back from Scotland I can make the observation that people in “foreign lands” were confronted with the same problems we had here in the wild & woolly USA and we both managed to find solutions to the problems. Both worked, but often their solutions were significantly different than ours. That large pipe at the top was, perhaps, to radiate more heat than would be possible with small one like up along the ceiling. But let’s just say the Dutch did it successfully, albeit differently.”

And Jim Hedges wrote, too: “Your painting with a stove – I’d say that’s a “laundry stove.” They are made to heat tubs of water, not to cook on or for space-heating, and have small tops. That looks like a copper kettle sitting on it (there may be a second handle hiding on the back, out of view). It would heat wash water, a primitive “water heater” when there is no indoor plumbing. The flat ledge on the stove pipe could be intended to set a bowl of food on, for a hot lunch. I dunno, really, but that’s my best guess.

“They wouldn’t be heating type metal in a copper pot. The pot would melt at about the same temperature that the type metal melted. Terra cotta is too brittle to use for melting type. Unsafe.

“Oh, and that press is a cylinder press, not at all similar to a Hoe hand press. (Hoe did make very large newspaper presses, but I don’t think this is one of them.)”

New Trial Member Corinne Nye

We welcome Corinne, one of the persons who visited our library demonstration in Geneva, Ohio, during the Convention.

Corinne Nye, 691 W. Main St. # 1,
Geneva OH 44041-1214
AetherealEmpress@gmail.com

She kindly provided the following about herself by way of introduction:

“My main passion lies in the realm of parapsychology and metaphysics. I’m a Reiki master, a Viking reenactor, and I study astrobiology & futurism. I also love cooking, baking, and painting (although I’m much better at the first two than the latter).

“I’ve been interested in scripts and fonts since I was in my teens and used to write frequently. Life and family took over, and writing took a back seat. I’m just now feeling the desire to get back into it. I tend to write in an abstract fashion and lean toward light sci-fi/fantasy and the paranormal.

“Pencil and notebook paper are my main go-to, but I use Open Office when I’m on my laptop. . . . Amateur publishing sounds like I can meld many of my hobbies into one and I’m looking forward to learning more and giving it a try.”

Well, we hope Corinne’s Trial Membership does yields fruitful learning about amateur journalism and that she may like what she learns!

— *Bill Boys*, Secretary-Treasurer

Review and Comment on Journals Published in June, July and August

by Lisa Brandstetter Holt, Chair, Bureau of Critics

June 2018 Bundle

Impressions by Hal, June 2018, Number 172. Harold Shive.

Of the four items in this issue of Hal's *Impressions*, I enjoyed the piece about fried pickles the most. While the first item, an article about how taxes are divvied up, was an interesting read, I had to wonder when this was initially written. There were typos in the article as well. "Merle's Pearls" rhymed irregularly in the third item. The last item, a humorous piece, deserved a chuckle.

Journeys, Volume 3, No. 6, June 2018. Nancy A. Heber.

"Weddings" featured three weddings that occurred over a span of 62 years in Columbus, Ohio. The article compared and contrasted the three events, evidencing differing styles and traditions, from black and white and color photos, to pictures taken in and out of the church. Interestingly, the cakes differed the least!

My Old Home Places, No. 2, June 2018. Bill Boys.

Impressive handwriting skills made a huge impression, though the subject matter also held my interest. It is enjoyable to share memories, and Bill does so exceedingly well, as he provides details about his former home places, this time about his residence in the grandparents' house. The half page insert provided

some handy hints about making such a publication.

Ohio Views, October 2013* [June 2018]. Gary Bossler.

Gary Bossler makes some fine points about the aging organizations and their aging populations in this issue of *Ohio Views*. The article pleasantly meandered a bit, giving us details about The Fossils and software packages that Gary was using. In summation, he suggests that "change" is coming, some we will like and some that we will not. That much is obvious, but I like the way he put it. Gary's article is followed by an intriguing poem by Kent Clair Chamberlain, "Winterrise Past Dawn." The author's unique voice is evident, as it directs the reader to "Endure turbulence with Grace!" I'm not sure what it means, and I'm an avid poetry reader. It does, however, easily convey avid enthusiasm.

Ohio Views, June 2018, Massillon, Ohio, No. [omitted]. Gary Bossler.

There is no number listed for this edition of *Ohio Views*. In it, Gary provides a private auction listing, giving a sneak peek at the materials that were available at the Ashtabula convention. All funds go toward NAPA. He also notes he will be traveling with Harold Shive.

The Oregoner, June 2018. Mr. Kent Clair Chamberlain.

Eight quarter pages of poems from Mr. Chamberlain, including my favorite of the issue entitled “Summer Tanka.” The package is nearly as impressive as the contents, as the quarter page booklet seems perfect for Chamberlain’s short poetry.

The Vis-i-tor, Visit No. 33, June 2018. Jack Visser.

This “Collapsed Bridges” issue of *The Vis-i-tor*, follows a “Covered Bridges” issue, this time detailing a horrific event, the Ashtabula bridge disaster of 1876. A survivor of the disaster, Philip Bliss, became a well known hymn writer. *The Vis-i-tor* is notably well apportioned, as the borders are nicely uniform and the text, very well centered.

July 2018 Bundle

Curvatus in Se, No. 5, July 2018. Bill Boys.

This was a luscious issue of *Curvatus in Se* with four articles, the longest of which, about finding or making other amateur journalists, really captured my imagination, as well as my attention. Bill examines the way most people were brought into NAPA, and tries to find new ways of introducing members to amateur journalism. Contacting writers’ groups is a good idea, but maybe I think so because that is how I was introduced to NAPA. The business card sized inserts are more than a novelty. I left one in my file and put one in my wallet, in case I come across anyone interested.

Impressions by Hal, Number 173, July 2018. Harold Shive.

Hal’s impressions featured five items in this issue. The first, a humorous piece, is about The European Commission changing the official language of the union. By the end, I was laughing out loud! The

second item of the issue, about a ghost ship, was eerie. The issue was well printed, and I found a single typo.

Journeys, Volume 3, No. 7, July, 2018. Nancy A. Heber.

Journeys shared Nancy’s experience with her 64th High School Reunion. It looks like they all had a delightful time, and I enjoyed reading about it. I hope Nancy sends a copy of this to all the “students” who missed the reunion. They’ll be sure to come to the 65th!

Ohkee-Doekee, No 90, Sometime in 2018, Dave Schwartz.

Very heavy on graphics, the issue really gave the eyes a lot to look at. “Some Important Questions” drew giggles as I read. The printing was much lighter in some areas than others, and on the back sheet, it was so light I had trouble reading the type.

Merle’s Pearls, 653-703, July 2018. Merle Ray Beckwith.

Merle shared many “pearls” in this issue, some inspirational and some filled with rhyme. This folded page format nicely displays the poet’s work.

Postcards from John Winslow Snyder, No. 7, July 2018. Bill Boys.

The post card is lovely, although you can’t see the lake behind the lodge. Bill’s fine hand-penned writing, on the reverse side of the post card, is neat and precise.

Sale Bill, No. 2, Spring 2018. James Hedges.

The main item selected for the issue, “Inadvertently, a Printer,” was both interesting and a tad humorous. Scaled down from a longer work, it flowed well. The second piece, “Music Man,”

was a fine tribute to R. L. Moehlmann, a teacher, mentor and friend.

Sale Bill, No. 3, Summer 2018. James Hedges.

The five items in this issue are as diverse as the author's interests. The only things they have in common are the fine quality of writing and a few unique and clever turns of phrase. Though the writing was crisp and clear, the printing was uneven and faded. It was especially difficult to read the inside article, "Religion-In-Life Week," because the print was so light.

August 2018 bundle

Curvatus in Se, No. 6, Aug. 2018. Bill Boys.

An excellent record of the goings on of the convention in Geneva-on-the-Lake, where Bill succinctly, yet inclusively, covered the business meetings, and then some. The six pictures in the publication were well done and well printed, and looking at them, it is easy to conjure up the excitement of the con. A short item on the back cover was about the term of the Critic. My point to Bill was that the Critic's term should be January to December. Bill affirmed that it *is* January to December in the Constitution. (So why, I ask, is the Critic's term implemented convention to convention? I guess that's a comment for future article.) *Curvatus in Se* was very well presented and printed.

Impressions by Hal, August 2018, Number 174. Harold Shive.

This issue of *Impressions* leads with "The Magic Bank Account," an insightful article with no known author. The second item. "School Daze," tells about the destiny of a young man who wasn't very

good in school. The article didn't really bring the idea all the way around in my opinion. "Did you know," featured information about the creator of the ATM, and was a pleasant piece, save for its brevity. Of the three remaining items, my favorite is the shortest, a Q and A about banjo players. Impressions is well printed and I found no errors.

Journeys, Volume 3, No. 8, August 2018. Nancy A. Heber.

Journeys was all about garden decorations this month. Several photos greatly contributed to the remarks in the article. It is a practical and artful way to approach garden decoration. Even if you are not an avid gardener, this is of interest.

Page Two Flag, July 2018. Richard L. Hopkins.

Richard Hopkins shares memories of his early time in AAPA and NAPA and of those who he met in his time in New York. As someone who missed the booming era of hobby printing, I am especially fond of origin stories. The card insert, on neon card stock, explained that he ran extra copies of the AAPA piece for inclusion in the NAPA bundle. (It's nice that he thought of us.) The printing and layout were well done, and I didn't find any typos. Not one.

Postcards to John Winslow Snyder, No. 8, August 2018. Bill Boys.

This month's postcard condensed the high points of the convention on one side, and held our group picture of convention attendees on the reverse side. Nice layout and design, very neat handwriting, too!

Publishing With My Own Computer!: Ashtabula and Lake Geneva Libraries, July 16 & 17, 2018,. Bill Boys.

Bill easily describes making a publication on the home computer in the beginning paragraphs. When he suggests that one can print others' work, he gives an example, my poem "Why Can't She Live Forever?" In the next item, "Flat Platt" (1800-1864), was about the Platt R. Spencer Historical Society, and the founder of Spencerian writing. Bill shares in the next piece how his computer was "Almost Undone by an 8-year-old girl?" then a recommendation of a writing demonstration for future conventions. The publication closes with a "Summary of the Two Demonstrations." The layout was fine, and I enjoyed hearing about his experiences at the library demonstrations.

Membership List Alert, July 29, 2018. Bill Boys.

This item brings those who were not in attendance at the convention up-to-date about a Resolution that was made. It was decided to publish members' phone numbers and email addresses in the NA, except for those who opt out. If you choose to opt out, please get in touch with Bill Boys.



COLOPHON

The typefaces used in this issue are digital Garamond Pro and Garamond Condensed, except for the cover title, which is Excalibur SF.

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!!! **Membership List Alert** !!!

A significant change will occur in the Dec. issue of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR.

The Resolution on p. 10 goes into effect with that issue – your listing will include your email address(es) and your phone number(s) that are on record with the Secretary-Treasurer.

This may be important to you because printed issues of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR go on to be posted on our website, and that means anyone on the internet who visits our website can potentially see and copy your email address and your phone number.

You have the choice of opting out if you do not wish them to appear there, but you must notify the Secretary-Treasurer of that. Seventeen members had previously stated they did not wish their email addresses to be published, and their requests will continue to be honored. All others must send in a notice.

The Secretary-Treasurer plans, in the next months, to send every member a copy of what their listing would look like, so you can decide whether or not to prevent your email and phone data from being published in this way (or to add it, if not previously on record).

THE BACKGROUND ART ON THE COVERS

"Child's Garden" is the name of this Arts & Crafts-style wallpaper design, one of four which Bradbury & Bradbury Art Wallpapers have kindly given us permission to use as background images for the covers of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR this year. You can view the entire image and all their other designs at:
www.Bradbury.com.

Frequently Requested Information

Monthly Bundles

Deadline: 10th of the month.

Mailing date: about the 15th of the month.

Quantity Required: 95 copies at present.

Mailing Envelope Size (varies):

Sep., Dec., March & June: [size TBA]

Other months: 6 x 9"

Send Your Copies to:

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405 E. 2nd Ave.

Lenoir City TN 37771-2513

Mailer@AmateurPress.org

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(Publication is hoped for but not guaranteed.

Do not send your only manuscript copy!)

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405 E. 2nd Ave.

Lenoir City TN 37771-2513

Manuscripts@AmateurPress.org

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The 2019 Convention

East Lansing, Michigan, will be the Convention city. **Reception Committee Chair:** Arie Koelewyn, 1382 Red Leaf Lane, East Lansing MI 48823-1340. Email: koelewyn@msu.edu.