

The National Amateur

Vol. 141, No. 3



March 2019

Columbus, Ohio

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The National Amateur

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

Volume 141, Number 3

March 2019

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).

Visit Our Website
www.AmateurPress.org

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Convention Set for July 11 - 13 at the University Quality Inn, Lansing, Mich.



PACK YOUR BAGS! Well, not quite yet, but *do* plan on joining in for our 144th convention. What you *can* do now is make your reservation by calling the University Quality Inn, 3121 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing, Mich., 48912, at (517) 351-1440. (Mention “National Amateur Press Association” when you call.) Convention dates are July 11 - 13.

The cost of rooms will be \$80 per night, plus taxes, and the same rate will be available on Wednesday, July 10, for those who wish to arrive the evening before the convention opens. (And there will be a pre-convention dinner at a local restaurant, as we have often done in recent years.) The same rate will apply for Sunday night, July 14, if you would wish to stay over Sunday night.

Arie Koelewyn, our host, is planning some interesting side events. That may include the Michigan State University Libraries Special Collections, and he’s planning to approach the East Lansing Public Library to see if they’re interested in a program similar to one we did in Ashtabula last year. More on this to come.



←
*Ostrander-Seymour
iron hand press at the
Michigan State Uni-
versity Libraries
Special Collections,
one of the site visits
planned for the conven-
tion.*

Review and Comment on Journals Published in December through February

Lisa Brandstetter Holt, Chair, Bureau of Critics

December 2018 Bundle

First, here is the review promised in December's NATIONAL AMATEUR of *Aardvark Agog*, #3, which Lisa Brandstetter Holt asked for another to critique.

This critique is offered by new Trial Member Jessica Naples Grilli. (You will find her bio on p. 11 of this issue.)

— Ed. *pro tem*

Aardvark Agog, 2018, Issue #3 [October bundle]. Lisa Brandstetter Holt.

Aardvark Agog features five poems by Brett Walls and one poem by Lisa Brandstetter Holt. Walls' one-word titled poems "Done," "Depression," "Excuses," and "Brother" surround a fact about the stomach of an aardvark and its ability to metabolize food without the process of chewing. This makes me think about the phrase "gut feeling" and the intuition one can sometimes feel without rationale. Instinct is present in both writers' work: in "The Deer," Holt writes, "I feel a ping to my heart, the words come, trite but true, 'Poor Deer.'" In Wall's "After The Stroke," the speaker questions "Was it love or drugs that drew me from the brink, a little stoned, but spellbound with being alive and aware in this green world..." Both Walls and Holt grapple with the fragility of being – whether it's of being human or animal or one and the same. They write with grace and awareness about loss of loved ones, of consciousness, and of whatever spark keeps us alive.

Aardvark Agog, A Poetry Series, Issue #4, 2018. Lisa Brandstetter Holt.

[Review to appear in the June National Amateur. —Ed. *pro tem*.]

Impressions by Hal, Dec. 2018, No. 178. Harold L. Shive.

Of the several items in this issue of *Impressions*, my favorite is "Snow Globes." It tells of their invention and popularity. "Did You Know" captured my attention with Olga Kotelko's amazing list of athletic records, which she began at age 77. The printing is simple but well done.

Manuscript Monthly, Dec. 2018. Marc Brosey.

Manuscript Monthly first features imaginative poems by Kent Clair Chamberlain, and an excellent book review by Marc himself. The review summarizes much of *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*, offering some personal insight as well. Lastly is a handy alphabetic list of all the items in each bundle, which I use for both critiquing and the laureates. The printing is plain and clean and straight.

Marti's Mouser, No 156, Final Edition. [Guy Abell.]

Sadly, this is the last issue of the *Mouser*. The obituary is rich with Marti's accomplishments, interests and family, much like every issue of the *Mouser*. I will miss the *Mouser*, as Marti shared her life through her journal with all of us. The photo featured her contagious smile.

The National Amateur

My Old Home Places, No. 4, Dec. 2018. Bill Boys.

Each copy of *My Old Home Places* is more interesting to me, as issue after issue builds into a larger picture of Bill's life. I especially identified with the incident of distractedly bicycling into a parked car. (Does every child have a story like that?) I look forward to the continuing the story in the next issue. The hand written copy and printing is impressive.

Oliver's Twist, "What's the Magic?" Dec. 2018. Jack Oliver.

Jack asks the question, "What's the Magic?" And every time I was in a printer's basement, I felt it. Jack notes the smells of ink and cleaner, the orderly little boxes of type, and ultimately, the enchantment of the workings and sounds of the printing press. I suppose there is a sort of grieving process that happens when one gives up a magical hobby. Fortunately our computer printers give us another outlet, though less magical, less enchanting. The printing on the inside was fine, and I very much enjoyed the outer cover!

Pennant Bravo, "Our Time in Africa; Part 3: Our Time in Obot Idim," No. 71, Dec. 2018. Bill & Ruth Boys.

This issue of *Pennant Bravo* was a real treat. It described where they stayed, included some travel information about Nigeria, how to shop locally, a recipe, a map, and even an item about a cat. I found intriguing the different numbers of "days" in a week: seven due to English influence, but some enjoyed an eight day week, others a four day week. The Ground-nut stew reminds me of paella. It seems many cultures have a basic form of it, starting with a layer of starch (often bread or rice), then proteins (meat, beans,

nuts), and topped with prepared fruits and vegetables, depending on the local ingredients, but yummy in all its creations. The layout, printing and trimming is kept to the publisher's high standard.

Postcards to John Winslow Snyder, No. 12, Dec. 2018. Bill Boys.

I like this series a lot; it is inventive and clever. But, I struggled with the fine print and font of the poem. The poet has a unique voice, and it was a fine choice. The reverse side was clearly legible. The printing was great on one side, but the poem needed to be a little larger to fully enjoy, or possibly changed to a different font.

The Tribby Tribune, No. 125, Dec. 2018. Dave Tribby.

The front page printing stands out, with the two red holly punctuating the green leaves. The handset journal is clean and impressive. Dave Tribby has been busy, going over many of the highlights of 2018.

January 2019 Bundle

Impressions by Hal, Jan. 2019, No. 179. Harold L. Shive.

Of the several items in Number 179, three in particular caught my eye. The first was the poem "Mouse in the House," by Susan Shive. I enjoyed the pleasant rhyme scheme and jolly message. The second item I found of interest was this month's "Did You Know?" It describes the lineage of the *Old Farmer's Almanac*. On the back cover, a humorous piece, really made me laugh out loud. Printed very nicely, it was a well rounded issue.

Journeys, Vol. 4, No. 1, January 2019. Nancy A. Heber.

Nancy Heber's experience to get a new, Compliant driver's license is a lesson to us all. Know where your important papers are. It can be difficult to get your license renewed, but in some places, it's even harder to vote. Nancy also mentions her four-month-long illnesses. To that I'm so glad she has recovered. I missed *Journeys*. Her take-away from the months-long ordeal was to be thankful for what you have in your life.

Manuscript Monthly, Jan. 2019. Marc Brosey.

Kent Clair Chamberlain's contribution in this issue was nine poems. His vision is aery and the loosely associated poems work well together. "Merle's Pearls" collection was comprised of twenty poems, mostly rhymed couplets. Merle's work is grounded in the rhyme and shared bits of wisdom and insight. Marc's son Elijah contributed with a short story, "My Trip to the Moon." In it, he has a brother that engages in fun activities on the moon! I loved how he described the basketball going "higher and higher" and on through the hoop, perhaps describing the reduced gravity on the moon. The Brosey book review featured two volumes, Gannett's *The Creative Curve* and *Living Translation: Their Stories*. According to Marc, *The Creative Curve* focused mostly on individual stories, rather than on hard science and scientific data, but was still able to construct a working theory about how creativity happens. *Living Translation: Their Stories* centered on missionaries making Bibles written in the native tongue of those they were teaching. Both reviews carefully summarized the gist of the books and was a pleasant read. Lastly for *MM*, Marc

included a handy, alphabetized listing of the items in the bundle.

My Old Home Places, No. 5, Jan. 2019. Bill Boys.

This issue featured found pictures of the Boys family. I enjoyed reading about Bill's boyhood adventures and memories at that age. The publication, handwritten, had a great layout and even the photographs copied well.

Oliver's Twist, Jan. 2019. Jack Oliver.

This publication of *Oliver's Twist* focused on Sandy, their beloved Golden Retriever. As an animal lover myself, I was touched by Sandy's story, gladdened when she accepted the companionship of Buddy, a younger golden, and saddened by her medical condition and passing. It was a touching story that moved me, and I am happy Sandy found such a loving home. The printing was fine, although the font effects for the title were a bit distracting.

Pennant Bravo, "Here Be Dragons," No. 72, Jan. 2019. Bill Boys.

What a great narration! Thom Pegan wrote of his time in the Navy in 1962 during the Cuban missile crisis. Some of the prose took on a dramatic and poetic tone, ratcheting up the tale's tension. The photos and map brought the reader right into the story. The printing and layout were great as well.

Postcards to John Winslow Snyder, No. 13, Jan. 2019. Bill Boys.

This month's postcard announces the season of nominating printed works for our annual laureate. The printing is very nice and the layout and arrangement look terrific.

February 2019 Bundle

Impressions by Hal, Feb. 2019, No. 180. Harold L. Shive.

The good news was very good, the bad news very bad. If you've kept up with Hal's printing issues, his Risograph (Model 3770) blew a circuit board and the serviceman said he would have to scrap it. Instead, Hal's daughter Susan found one online for \$2.00 (plus outrageous shipping), and now the old machine is being used for parts for the "new" machine, which has much less mileage. However, I am very sad to hear Hal's bad news. His cancer has returned and spread. He's on a new regime of treatment, but he's already getting nervous about it cutting into April's tee time. "Did You Know" was about the origins of Gator Ade, which turned out to make the University that invented it millions of dollars for research. The three humorous bits in the back were worth reading. The layout and printing was clean and suited the subject matter just fine.

Manuscript Monthly, February 2019. Marc Brosey.

The issue opened with a sweet acrostic Valentine's Day poem by Marc's son Elijah. The acrostic form spells out words, often holidays, very clever for Elijah's age! The poetic theme went on to a few related poems by Kent Clair Chamberlain, although his departure from that style, "Roasted Peanuts," was wily and humorous.

Merle's Pearls, 706 – 735, Feb. 2019. Merle Ray Beckwith.

This collection of "Merle's Pearls" differs somewhat from others I have read, as there is less rhyme and more religion. The layout of single spacing and alternat-

ing bold lines made it difficult to read. The printing looked fine though.

My Old Home Places, No. 6, Feb. 2019. Bill Boys.

This neatly hand-penned journal tells many slice of life stories per issue. Among the vignettes was going to White Castle and Bill's first date. He recalls taking Helen Butterfield to a local mobile amusement park. I envy Bill for having such a good memory! The layout and printing was fine, and there was a bonus map on the back page.

Ohio Views, Feb. 2019, No. 52. Gary Bossler.

In this issue of *Ohio Views*, Gary writes about his "23 and Me" experience, which was extraordinarily detailed. He states on this end of history, he wasn't very much surprised as his great aunt had told him he was of French and German descent. However, the research stretched back 150,000 years, tracking his mother's line from Africa. When he broke it down further to haplogroups, he lost me, but it was sure fun to read about the process. The layout and printing were well done, and I only found one minor typo.

Page Two Flag, "Old Ben's Anxieties Prove to be Prophetic," Jan. 2019. Rich Hopkins.

Reading about "Old Ben's Anxieties" began as a cross between "get off my lawn" and "words to live by." I enjoyed the story of Old Ben and his insightful anxieties, but then the piece took a bit of a darker turn. It's phrases like "long term decay of our American society" that led me to believe that Mr. Hopkins has missed the beat of an entire generation.

concluded on page 12

Death of Troy McQueen, President in 2005-06

EUNICE MCQUEEN notified us that her husband, Troy, died on Dec. 15. She wrote, “He died peacefully, asleep in his favorite chair. Troy really enjoyed NAPA and receiving your publications. He regretted that his health prevented him from being an active member and often talked about wishing he could attend the annual meeting.”



Troy was among those visiting the King Library Press at the 2004 Lexington, Ky., Convention.

Troy joined NAPA in March, 2002, and served as President for the year 2005-2006. He was also the host for the 2006 convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, the year after Hurricane Katrina.

This obituary is from the online Thompson Funeral Homes:

Troy Marshall McQueen, age 85, died peacefully in his sleep on December 15, 2018. He was born in Slidell, Louisiana to the late Van McQueen and Mamie Polk McQueen. He had three older siblings, William, James, and Harold, now deceased.

After earning a degree from Louisiana State University in architectural engineering, Troy served in the Signal Corps of the U.S. Army, stationed in Italy. He returned to LSU and earned a degree in civil engineering, then attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, where he earned a master's degree in Urban-Environmental Studies. He later completed all necessary course work for a Ph.D.

Though his career goal was to become an architect, through a strange set of circumstances, he began teaching at LSU and found it fulfilling. He relished the year he served as a visiting professor at Harvard. After retiring from LSU, he accepted a position at Tuskegee University. In 2006, he relocated to Columbia and returned to teaching but this time taught math to elementary students at Jubilee Academy.

The first thing Troy would tell a person he just met was that he was from Louisiana. He loved all things about his native state. He was a voracious reader and amassed a huge library and was fascinated with antique printing presses and wood type. He served briefly as president of the National Amateur Printing Association. His favorite activities were attending church at Shandon Baptist, enjoying and teaching classes at Shepherd's Center of Columbia, and swapping tales with his coffee-drinking buddies.

Troy is survived by his wife, Eunice Sabo; son, Troy M. McQueen, Jr. (Amanda); and grandsons, Lincoln and Bennett of Wetumpka, Alabama; and two step daughters, Melony Bradley of Hilton Head Island, South Carolina and Tracy Sabo of Anchorage, Alaska.

Remembering Wilfred Brosey

Marc Brosey

ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, I got the call at work that I knew one day would come, but never really ever expected. My dad called my cell phone so I knew it was urgent. He said that my grandpa, Wilfred Brosey, had been found unconscious slumped over on his sofa and had been raced to the hospital. They were doing tests on him to see what had happened. My dad said he would call back with an update as soon as he heard one.

I sat at my desk a little shocked, not sure what to do. It took me a few minutes to resolve to pack my things up and tell my boss I would be heading out for the day and the remainder of the week. I told him the situation and he wished me well. I then began the long walk down West Jackson Avenue in Knoxville toward my car.

On my way I felt my phone buzz another time. It was my dad calling again. He told me the doctors discovered that Grandpa had an inoperable brain bleed and would not wake up. My mom and he were packing up, getting ready to travel to Maryland to the hospice center where Grandpa was being kept. I told him Alice, Elijah, and I would be on our way as well.

Over the next 24 hours every one of my grandpa's six sons and daughters, nearly all of his 22 living grandchildren, and all of his eight great grandchildren were present to say their goodbyes before he fully passed on. We all gathered together in that small hospice room. We hugged and cried on each other, and shared our fondest memories.

My grandfather loved children. More than that he loved life, and loved to share life with as many people as he could. He was incredibly generous and extremely active in his church. And he loved to love. Demonstration of that reality was on full display there at the hospice center. His wife and my grandmother, Valaire Brosey, was there by his side. They had been married for 64 years.

Grandpa hung on for hour after hour as more of his family showed up and took part there together at the hospice center. Finally his youngest great granddaughter Mariya was brought in by her mother, my cousin Sarah. My grandmother's face lit up with great joy when she saw her and she beckoned for Sarah to bring Mariya over to her so she could hold her. It was at that moment while Grandma was so content with holding and playing with Mariya that the hospice nurses said Grandpa was fading and it was time.

We all gathered around Grandpa's bedside, holding him close as he breathed his last breath. My grandmother gave such a stirring speech that I wish someone had recorded. More than likely we were probably all too caught up in the emotions of the moment to have done so.

She told us that it was so good and that she was so thankful that we were all able to be there together with them when he passed on. My grandmother said they had both agreed early on in their relationship that they wanted to have lots of children and to spread lots of love. She shared her contentment and pride with

the apparent legacy before her there in that room.

My grandmother courageously and surprisingly matter-of-factly stated that my grandfather's end of life moment was the obvious result of the well executed plan they had shared together for so long. The plan to have a large, loving family; the plan to give and love generously. And now, she told us, they want us to continue to love and live richly, loving life as my grandfather did.

I gifted my grandparents an annual subscription to the NAPA thinking they might enjoy conversing with the great membership we have in our organization. I thought my grandmother would get the most out of an NAPA membership since she read more than my grandpa did at the time. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, College Park and really enjoyed reading.

My grandfather, an engineer by trade for over thirty years, liked to read things he was interested in, usually to learn about something new he wanted to do. Whenever he wasn't interested in whatever I or someone else was trying to get him to read, he'd say he wasn't much of a reader. Such was the case with the journals in the NAPA bundle, or so I thought.

I left the hospice center in the first group to head back to Grandpa's house. My grandpa and I worked closely on all sorts of technical projects together. I was the one who knew where all of his important computer hardware and software was located and how to access his files. It was my job for the next several days to help organize, inventory, and backup electronic items of family historical significance quickly enough that we knew about them before family members began working through dividing things up.

I entered through the backdoor into the laundry room. There, right on the island, were a couple NAPA journals sitting out as though Grandpa had planned to take them to share with someone. One was *The Pearl*, Number 16: *Interlocking Stories* by Peter Schaub. The other was *Impressions* by Hal, Number 175 by Harold Shive. They were both from the September 2018 bundle.

As I and others were going through his files we found he had meticulously filed away all of the bundle items he had found interesting in the bundles that had been sent to him. I was hoping to get him to publish and contribute one day, but it was heartwarming to know he had read and enjoyed many of the amateur journals he received. I made it a point to read the journals that seemed the most important to him, especially the ones I have just mentioned.

It was powerfully meaningful to read "Dr. Brackett, Office Upstairs" in *Impressions* by Hal. It is about a doctor who took care of all the sick he could in his town, rich or poor. Then one day he slumped over on the sofa in his office and died. A poor family whose child had been saved by his medicine wanted him to have a worthy grave marker. They pulled the sign from his practice and placed it over his grave. It read: "Dr. Brackett, Office Upstairs." And a quote from Damon Runyon was listed at the end of the story that said, "All that is good lives on."



Jessica Naples Grilli

New Trial Member, Columbus, Ohio



I'm particularly pleased to welcome Jessica as a new Trial Member. You'll see why when you read her bio below, which she kindly provided, along with her photo, for this issue of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR.

—Ed. *pro tem*

"Jessica Naples Grilli is an artist, designer, writer and photographer living in Columbus, Ohio. She was born in Fremont, California and raised in the rust belt town of Youngstown, Ohio. She studied photography and writing at Kent State University and studio art at The Ohio State University. Her work explores the space between image and language, specifically that of photography and poetry. She recently acquired a 1904 Old Style C&P, formerly owned by neighbor and now friend, Bill Boys. In her free time, she enjoys camping, cooking and looking at books.

"For more information, please visit her website: www.jessicanaples.com."

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Cody Maxwell

New Trial Member, Dunlap, Tennessee



When Cody emailed me with his request for a Trial Membership he wrote: "I am very interested in acquiring a membership to the Amateur Press Association, and would like to try the 3 month trial that's offered. I am a writer and have published traditionally but would like to find a small press to work with and this association looks like the perfect place for that. I'm also very interested in reading what is being put out through the smaller presses."

When I responded, one of the questions I asked was how he happened to find out about NAPA. Would you believe it – it was through reading the colophon of a *Pennant Bravo* at the Chattanooga Public Library zine collection!

Cody added a bit more about himself in that reply, too: "...published two books in the past few years. One is called *Chattanooga Chronicles*, which is a collection of historical stories about the city. The other is called *16 Cantos*, and is a more literary, prose work. I'd very much like to find a place to publish things outside the traditional publishing world and this is the primary reason I'm interested in this association. The other reason is that I just

enjoy reading things that are published by small presses. There seems to be a lot more passion and truth put into things like that, not to mention some very good writing. I also write regularly for a local paper called Chattanooga *Pulse*, an alternative weekly.”

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*Bureau of Critics' Report,
continued from page 7*

Is it not obvious that poor education and poorer opportunity is the founder of “decay” in our society? What begins as a charming to alarming story becomes a rant. Now, I love a good rant, but this one rambles and cannot be logically followed. Sure, people are angry and not getting service like they used to, but this is due to corporate greed, not the misuse of technology by the people. The printing and design was beautiful, although I found a few typos.

Postcards to John Winslow Snyder,
No. 14, Feb. 2019. Bill Boys.

The corners of my mouth just turned upward upon seeing this postcard about the convention. Bill reminds us that hotel rooms for \$6 a night could be had many years ago. I wonder what Mr. John Winslow Snyder would think of that! The postcard is neatly hand-penned and the type is clean and legible despite the small size.



**Journals Published
Dec. 2018 through Feb. 2019**

Gary Bossler, Historian

December 2018 Bundle 10 items
Aardvark Agog, #4, [Dec.] 2018, 3-2/3x8 1/2, 6pp, Lisa Brandstetter Holt.
Impressions by Hal, #178, Dec. 2018, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive.
Manuscript Monthly, Dec. 2018, 5x7 1/2, 12 pp+cov, Marc Brosey.
Marti's Mouser, #156, Dec. 2018, 8 1/2x11, 2pp, [via Guy Abell] for Martha Babcock Abell.
My Old Home Places, #4, Dec. 2018, 5 1/2x8 1/2, 4pp, Bill Boys.
Oliver's Twist, Dec. 2018, 5 1/2x8 1/2, 4pp, Jack Oliver.
Pennant Bravo, #71, Dec. 2018, 4 1/4x7, 32 pp+cov, Bill Boys.
Postcards to John Winslow Snyder, #12, Dec. 2018, 4 1/4x5 1/2, 2pp, Bill Boys.
Tribby Tribune, The, #125, Dec. 2018, 4 1/4x5 1/2, 4pp, Dave Tribby.
National Amateur, The, Vol. 141, No. 2, Dec. 2018, 7x10, 20pp, Bill Boys, Editor *pro tem*.

January 2019 Bundle 7 items
Impressions by Hal, #179, Dec. 2019, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive.
Journeys, Vol. 4, #1, Jan. 2019, 5 1/2x8 1/2, 4pp, Nancy A. Heber (printed by Bill Boys).
Manuscript Monthly, Jan. 2019, 5x7 1/2, 24 pp+cov, Marc Brosey.
My Old Home Places, #5, Jan. 2019, 5 1/2x8 1/2, 4pp, Bill Boys.
Oliver's Twist, Jan. 2019, 5 1/2x8 1/2, 8pp, Jack Oliver.
Postcards to John Winslow Snyder, No. 13, Jan. 2019, 4 1/4x5 1/2, 2pp, Bill Boys.
Pennant Bravo, No. 71, Jan. 2019, 4 1/4x7, 32 pp+cov, Bill Boys.

February 2019 Bundle 7 items
Impressions by Hal, #180, Feb. 2019, 5x7, 4pp, Harold Shive.
Manuscript Monthly, Feb. 2019, 5x7 1/2, 4 pp+cov, Marc Brosey.
Merle's Pearls, 706-735, Feb. 2019, 5x7, 2pp, Merle Ray Beckwith, [printed by Harold Shive].
My Old Home Places, No. 6, Feb. 2019, 5 1/2x8 1/2, 4pp, Bill Boys.
Ohio Views, #52, Feb. 2019, 4 1/4x7, 4pp, Gary Bossler.
Page Two Flag, Feb. 2019, 5 3/8x5 1/2, 12pp+cov, Rich Hopkins.
Postcards to John Winslow Snyder, No.14, Feb. 2019, 4 1/4x5 1/2, 2pp, Bill Boys.

President's Message

Michelle Klosterman



I SEE THAT LAST YEAR I had written that the predicting Groundhog saw his shadow last year. This year it did not, which has only happened three times since they have kept track. I forget what year that began. Regardless Ohio can't seem to make up its mind of what the weather should be. It's been flipping back and forth between winter and spring often in the same day. We have had snow several times but here in Southwest Ohio we've had much more rain than snow. Central Ohio, the home of Bill Boys has not been as lucky. They have had very much snow already this year. I hope your location has begun to thaw and heading toward spring.

It's time to get your Laureate nominations into the Recorder, Arie Koelewyn. Hopefully everyone will make a few nominations this year. It's wonderful when we get enough nominations for all of our categories.

I'm going to be using the same judges as last year. Poetry will be Bill Reyer, Professor of English; Instructor of Creative Writing and Advanced Poetry Writing at Heidelberg University; Fiction and Editorial Comment will be Dena Morris, Masters in Literacy, University of Cincinnati; Editorial Comment and Miscellaneous Prose will be Amie Waits-Sexton, Masters in English, Northern Kentucky University; Art by Amy Cunningham, Graphics Instructor at Southern Hills CTC, Bowling Green State University BLS, Cunningham Photography & Design, Owner 2000-2010; Printing and Letterpress by Angela Shaw Allen, Commercial Art Graduate from Scarlet Oaks. Composi-

tion, camera room and press work with the Clermont Courier and Sun Group Publishing; Editing and the History of Amateur Journalism (since I have an article that was nominated) by our own Lisa Holt. In light of not judging the History of AJ this year I will probably judge either Editorial Comment or Miscellaneous Prose because I do enjoy judging. I'm going to let Amie decide which she prefers to judge.

Our 2019 convention is coming up July 11-13, 2019 in Lansing, Michigan. Arie Koelewyn is our host this year. He indicates that the lodging should be much more affordable than the last few years, I'm sure Bill Boys will include the specific information here in this issue as well as in NAPA Email News and hopefully soon it will be posted on our website.

I'm looking forward to the convention. It's always great to meet up with my NAPA friends and a pleasure to present the Laureate awards. I haven't spent much time in Michigan. So I'm looking forward to experiencing it.

It's also time for the Nominating Committee to work on potential officers for the coming year. No one has volunteered for, nor have I managed to appoint a Nomination Chairman. If you are willing to commit to assist NAPA in any capacity for the next year, please contact me as soon as possible.

In conclusion, your action plan should be: (1) To get your Laureate nominations in the mail, if you haven't already. (2) To let me know if you would be willing to run for NAPA office for the coming year or know someone you feel would make a good candidate. (3) To make your reservations for convention when they are available.



A Medley of Miscellany

Arie Koelewyn has plans to write an article for the *NA* about "... how to build my version of J. Ben Lieberman's **Liberty Press** (from his book *Printing as a Hobby*). That was a simple wooden frame screwed together and a rolling pin. My version still uses a rolling pin, but additionally uses a 9x13 galley as a bed and aluminum square tubing as side rails that the rolling pin rolls on. Both can be adjusted to accommodate cuts/rubber stamps, etc. about a 1/4" over or under type height. It uses a compact 3-hole punch (the kind designed to be held in a 3-hole binder) as a pin registration system. It's all held together by a couple of 16" long 3/8" carriage bolts and wing nuts for easy disassembly.

I already have an illustrated assembly manual, but have wanted to put together one on how to create/buy all the parts. Maybe print these in two issues of *NA*? Maybe even a third article on how to use? A number of extra copies might be a good recruiting tool?"

I think it's a great idea!

Gary Bossler has been working on a **comprehensive index of bundle contents**, a fact I didn't know about until he sent me a link to it:

https://ohioamateurs.org/napa_bundle_lists.htm

But he's not updating that list because it's in an old program. Now, he writes, "I have been using a Google spreadsheet to keep track of the bundles. I've also been trying to back-fill the list from old historian's reports. I may in the near future send an article about this list and offer members who request it by sending them a link. I will give them the opportunity to make changes or corrections and even add to the list if they are so inclined."

This would be an extremely useful resource for Official Editors, Historians, and, I would think, for the Library of Amateur Journalism.

Go to it, Gary!

Speaking of online resources, I should perhaps mention that I (**Bill Boys**) have an **online PDF catalog of *Pennant Bravo***, with short descriptions of what's in each issue and photos of the covers. This list is on my Dropbox page, but since the URL for that is almost wider than this entire page, I've gotten a Bitly shortcut URL for it:

<http://bit.ly/28KbrrK>

Garth Spencer (not a member) wrote to me in February for updating a **listing of all APAs** he knew about. There were 22 on it. NAPA's entry needed serious updating, and the list didn't even have the AAPA so I clued him in about that and gave him the email address of the new AAPA president. Many of the ones he knew about were zine groups. He knew he had a long way to go to get a complete list, but if and when he does, I trust he'll send me that URL.

Amateur journalism – how many forms!

Dave Tribby, Official Editor of *The Fossil* (and NAPA member) announced:

The latest issue of *The Fossil* has been published and is now available online at <http://www.thefossils.org/fossil/fos378.pdf>

Four of the articles have a NAPA angle:

- Fossil Barry Schrader describes his lifelong love of printing and journalism.
- President Faig investigates Jud Russell, voted out of NAPA in 1884.
- A look at fiscal year finances for The Fossils, AAPA, and NAPA.
- Editor Tribby looks at NAPA Shenanigans back in 1883-84.

From the Editor *pro tem*

We're looking forward to our Lansing convention, so much so that we have already booked our room. One of the pleasures of the convention is seeing old friends again, and meeting new ones for the first time. We hope you'll be there!

Arie always has interesting and lively events planned on the side, too. I'm especially looking forward to the Special Collections at the Michigan State University Library. University libraries are without fail places of eager interest to me.

As I write this, I've just completed my first day's re-check after cataract surgery, and am happy to report that the composition of this edition of THE NATIONAL AMATEUR continues unabated and will soon be in the competent hands of The Print Shop of Canton.

—Bill Boys, Ed *pro tem*



THE BACKGROUND ART ON THE COVERS

“Lilies of the Field” 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.

Treasurer's Report, 2nd Quarter (Oct., Nov. and Dec., 2018)

Checking Acct. Balance Oct. 1, 2018 \$ 2,358.82

INCOME

Membership Dues
Family, Renewals 8.00
Regular, Renewals 210.00
Total Membership Dues 218.00
Weixelbaum Trust Fund 975.00 *
TOTAL INCOME \$ 1,193.00

EXPENSES

The National Amateur (Dec.) 279.23
PayPal Transaction Fees 1.59
Publicity & Recruiting 106.37
TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 387.19

Increase (Decrease) in Checking Acct. \$ 805.81
Checking Account Balance, Dec. 31, 2018 .. \$ 3,164.63

EQUITY

Certificates of Deposit / Savings Account
Telhio Fed. Credit Union ****7191
Value on Oct. 1, 2018 4,254.20
Accrued Interest 5.90
Value on Dec. 31, 2018 4,260.10
Telhio Fed. Credit Union ****6945
Value on Oct. 1, 2018 .. 11,232.89
Accrued Interest 15.74
Value on Dec. 31, 2018 11,248.63
Telhio Fed. Cr. Union Savings Account
Value on Dec. 31, 2018 5.00
WesBanco CD ****0820 (Life Members Fund)
Value on Oct. 1, 2018 8,422.52
Accrued Interest 2.12
Value on Dec. 31, 2018 8,424.64
Total CDs, Dec. 31, 2018 \$ 23,938.37
Checking Account Balance, Dec. 31, 2018 3,164.63
TOTAL EQUITY, Dec. 31, 2018 \$ 27,103.00

* An additional receipt of \$500 came from the Weixelbaum Trust Fund this quarter due to Required Minimum Distributions from the Trust's investments.

William E. Boys, Secretary-Treasurer

COLOPHON

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Deadline: 10th of the month.

Mailing date: about the 15th of the month.

Quantity Required: 95 copies at present.

Mailing Envelope Size (varies):

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Other months: 6 x 9"

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Lenoir City TN 37771-2513

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The 2019 Convention

July 11-13, University Quality Inn, Lansing, Michigan.

Reception Committee Chair: Arie Koelewyn

1382 Red Leaf Lane, East Lansing MI 48823-1340. Email: koelewyn@msu.edu.

See the article on page 3 in this issue.