

OrigamiUSA  
Annual General Meeting  
June 25, 2005

**Board Members Present:**

Ravi Apte, Tony Cheng, V' Ann Cornelius, deg farrelly, Tom Hull, Marc Kirschenbaum, Robert Lang, Jan Polish, June Sakamoto, Maria Velazquez, Wendy Zeichner

**Also Present:**

Attending Members of OrigamiUSA

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**Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Tony Cheng (President) opened the meeting at 5:38 p.m., welcomed the attending Members of OrigamiUSA and introduced the Members of the Board.

An announcement was made proclaiming October 24, 2005 as International Folding Day honouring Lillian Oppenheimer's birthday and her role as founder of the Origami Center for America and co-founder of the British Origami Society, as well as, her role in building relations with Japan. On that day, individuals should put some time aside to fold and/or organize a community event.

**Election of Directors**

Jean Baden-Gillette informed the meeting that the proxy ballots had been tabulated by Michael Naughton.

Members who had not yet voted were given the opportunity to cast their vote at the meeting, where ballots were collected. The results would be reported at the end of the meeting.

**Introduction of Administrator**

Tony Cheng introduced the Administrator, Joy Low.

**Directors' Reports**

*Financial Report / Convention:*

Jan Polish reported that the financials for 2004 were draft financials from OrigamiUSA's auditors. The auditors have assured that the final reports will only have a few immaterial differences.

In summary:

- Deferred memberships were substantially down in 2004 because of the two year membership renewal that was offered in 2003
- Income was down due to the fact that there was no PCOC in 2004
- Expenses were down; convention income remained the same but expenses were substantially lower
- Development income was down but related expenses were also down
- The Source; some concern in 2003 due to currency changes which led to a review of margins. In 2004, the Source was up by approximately \$25,000

Convention 2005:

- We reached record numbers for Saturday, one day only registrations (80%)
- It is a successful convention in terms of registration numbers with approximately 620 paid attendees, 100 guardians, 100 guests and 100 visitors during public access hours

Jan offered her thank yous to the group for volunteering for convention.

### *The Paper / Introduction of Editor:*

Wendy Zeichner reported that OrigamiUSA had successfully delivered five issues of the The Paper with one of the issues as a double issue. An exciting change for 2004 was the addition of color in the publication. As we go forward, The Paper will be a standard 32 page issue with eight pages of color and the double issue will have sixty-four pages.

Wendy Zeichner introduced the Editor, Michele Hollow who informed the group that there will be a new "Letters to the Editor" column forthcoming.

### *PCOC*

V'Ann Cornelius advised that the Pacific Coast Origami Convention will be held this year in Phoenix, Arizona from September 30 to October 2, 2005; registration forms will be out later in July. There will be a "toy challenge" competition as part of PCOC. Members of the committee include: V'Ann Cornelius, Vicky Mihara Avery, Jan Polish, Boaz Shuval, deg farrelly, Doris Asano, Lori Gregory and Ronald Levy.

### *The Source:*

Maria Velazquez reported that Phyliss Meth manages the Source which is an important source of income for OrigamiUSA. Members are encouraged to communicate their suggestions about paper and books that are interested in seeing carried by the Source.

### *Lending Library:*

deg farrelly reported that the lending library, which carries out of print publications, went live last August. There have been approximately thirteen loans with some repeat customers. The lending library will be featured in an upcoming issue of The Paper. The on-line interface will be revised later in the year.

### *Publications / OrigamiUSA Website:*

Marc Kirschenbaum reported that the Publications Committee is comprised of Michele Chang, Ken Shih, Daniel Scher and Nathan Zeichner who designed this year's Origami Collection. A special second book was produced for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, *Best Of Annual Collections 1981- 1995*, which was spearheaded by Bob Stack.

The website's secure server is working successfully and its interface is continually being revamped. Convention registrations and sales has increased on-line.

### *Archives / 4OSME / Copyright:*

Robert Lang reported that there has been a complete sort of diagrams undertaken at the Home Office spearheaded by Kathryn Wagner who has scanned one hundred diagrams, to-date, of historic value to create a database that will be available sometime in the future to our members.

Robert is also involved in the Fourth international Origami in Science, Mathematics and Education conference which will take place in October, 2006 in Pasadena, California.

Thirdly, the Copyright Committee is continuing to review and revise the rights and responsibilities of the individual in relation to origami. These new revisions will be made available to the membership in the next several months.

*Exhibition / OBC / Annual Gift:*

June Sakamoto advised that this year's holiday tree at the Museum of Natural History will be headed by herself with assistance from Sok Song and Delrosa Marshall and help from the membership. The theme for this year is "origami in flight".

The Annual Gift competition winner is Gay Merrill Gross with her Kasahara dove variation.

June also encouraged youngsters to participate in the Origami By Children competition which has entries from around the world.

The collating party which prepares the survival kits for convention was a successful half day (four hours) event due to the help of forty-two volunteers.

June then introduced two individuals who made special presentations to OrigamiUSA:

- A presentation of a plaque to OrigamiUSA commemorating our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary was made by Yamaguchi on behalf of the Japan Origami Academic Society.

- A second presentation by Jose Tomas Buitrago was made gifting OrigamiUSA (via June Sakamoto) with a bound copy of The Origamian.

**Presentation of Awards:**

*Ranana Benjamin Award*

Rachel Katz introduced Penny Sing as a representative for the Ranana Benjamin family to speak about the award. The award is in recognition of individuals that have outstandingly contributed to origami through education.

Two individuals were honored: Martha Landy and Kathleen Hong-Casimir.

Two additional individuals were also recognized: Sandy Toivonen and Loredana Tara.

*Florence Temko Award*

Rachel Katz announced that Meenakshi Mukerji is this year's recipient which will be presented at PCOC.

*Michael Shall Award:*

Jan Polish presented the award to this year's recipient: Delrosa Marshall.

**Election Results:**

Michael Naughton assured members that the receipt of ballots were completely secret and private; no one else sees the votes that are cast.

Voting Results for Class A – Local (3 seats up for election and 3 candidates):

Tony Cheng	321 votes
Jan Polish	307 votes
Maria Velazquez	304 votes

It was announced that all three candidates were elected to the board in Class A – Local category.

Voting Results for Class B- Remote (2 seats up for election with 3 candidates):

V'Ann Cornelius	230 votes
Robert Lang	283 votes
Janet Yelle	120 votes

It was announced that V'Ann Cornelius and Robert Lang were re-elected to the board in Class B – Remote category.

Jean Baden-Gillette encouraged members to come forward to run for the board.

**Questions & Answers:**

Tony Cheng called for any questions or comments.

Question: Do the by-laws state any term limits for board members?

Answer: No, there are no term limits.

Raffle prizes were drawn.

The Annual General Meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully prepared and submitted by:  
Joy Low, Administrator