

OrigamiUSA
Annual General Meeting
June 24, 2006

Board Members Present:

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

Board Member Absent: N/A

Also Present:

Attending Members of OrigamiUSA

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Tony Cheng (President) opened the meeting at 5:42 p.m. and welcomed the attending Members of OrigamiUSA. Tony reflected that the art of origami has come a long way; the level of origami has developed higher and the possibilities seem limitless.

Election of Directors

Jean Baden-Gillette described the election process and thanked those individuals who voted by proxy; it was noted that those who cast votes support the Board and the organization.

Distribution of ballots took place and were collected by Michael Naughton. The vote was officially closed. The results to be reported at the end of the meeting

Michael Shall Award

Jean announced that the Michael Shall Award's 2006 recipient was Tony Cheng. Wendy Zeichner presented the award to Tony.

Presentation of Award to deg farrelly

Tony introduced each board member and then presented deg farrelly with an award in thanks for his service on the board and for his work on the Lending Library.

Introduction of Administrator

The Administrator, Joy Low was introduced by Tony.

Directors' Reports

Financial Report/Convention:

Jan Polish summarized the preliminary auditor's financial reports. It was clearly noted that the report did not reflect a full audit or final allocations. Copies of full financials will be available by written request.

Membership – numbers have decreased and membership revenue have decreased even more. Members are not signing up for higher level categories.

Source – currently showing a loss which is overstated. There are some allocation issues such as credit card fees. Source related costs will be reviewed.

Alternate revenue streams through PCOC, 4OSME and commercial activities are critical for the organization as fulfilling membership is costly.

Financial figures will be printed in a coming issue of The Paper.

Jan also reported on this year's convention and noted that there were approximately 600 attendees; 247 classes (a record); 135 teachers; 8 countries and 37 states represented. The convention happens because of our volunteers.

Presentation of Awards to Mike Hamilton and Mike Montebello

Mike Hamilton and Mike Montebello were presented with special awards in recognition of their long service as non-folding volunteers and logistical involvement with convention.

Continuation of Directors' Reports

The Paper / Introduction of Editor:

Wendy Zeichner reported that it was a mixed year for The Paper. In January, the Editor resigned and then several months later our long time graphics person left due to other obligations. A new Editor/Graphics Designer, Mark Wilson, has been hired. Sok Song has also been added to the committee.

There are three issues in the works and the next issue will be out to members soon.

Local Groups/PCOC

V'Ann Cornelius reported that there are currently 66 local origami groups coordinated by Lori Gregory.

PCOC was held in Phoenix, Arizona from September 29 to October 2. There were 240 attendees; workshops and classes took place and the production of the publication PCOC Play.

V'Ann thanked the Arizona people for their enthusiastic support.

It was noted that PCOC 2007 would be in Vancouver, Canada from November 8 to 11 at the Fairmount Hotel. The Vancouver group will be organizing this event. Joseph Wu announced that he had flyers for those interested and that they would also be available at the Information Desk.

The Source:

Maria Velazquez thanked Phyliss Meth for all the hard work she does to run The Source.

Maria reported that the current deficit numbers for the Source will be reviewed.

More origami items and books are being supplied. She encouraged individuals to advise OrigamiUSA of any papers or books that they think would be of interest to others.

Lending Library:

deg farrelly confirmed that although he is stepping down as a Board member, he will still continue with the responsibility of the Lending Library. The Lending Library undertaking has been successful with approximately 45 loaned books over a two year period. The homepage has been redesigned and has a new URL (www.west.asu.edu/ousalibrary) that will be linked to the OrigamiUSA home page. The Lending Library system has moved to a dynamically generated contents page.

The collection size has doubled and there are over one hundred available titles. Priority mail is an available option for an extra fee.

Publications / OrigamiUSA Website:

Marc Kirschenbaum reported that the OrigamiUSA website has been running smoothly with minor upgrades. Three individuals are responsible for maintaining the website: Mark Saliers, John Cornelius and V'Ann Cornelius.

Publications had another great year producing yet again another great collection. Committee members include Michele Chang, Daniel Scher, Omer Shalev, Ken Shih and Nathan Zeichner. Model submissions are greatly appreciated and now can be sent to a specific url address.

Archives/Copyright:

Robert Lang reported that in the past year he has been working on copyright issues. His current focus is on the Fourth International Conference on Origami in Science, Math and Education (4OSME) that will be taking place in Pasadena, California in September 8 – 10, 2006. Plenary speakers are Erik Demaine and Miri Golan. Seventy abstracts for the conference have been received thus far.

Exhibition / OBC:

June Sakamoto announced that the American Museum of Natural History 2006 Holiday tree will be designed by Delrosa Marshall and Sok Song. Delrosa was invited to comment on the tree. Delrosa announced that the theme this year is Origami Safari.

Origami By Children competition is unique and raises people's awareness of the level of folding that can be achieved by children. Photographs of winning models are available on OrigamiUSA's website. June encouraged everyone to promote the competition to others as submissions have been fewer recently.

Membership Survey:

Tom Hull articulated his concerns about membership numbers decreasing. In an attempt to understand what is happening, he reported that he will be working with a committee to create a survey to capture information on why individuals are not members of OrigamiUSA, why individuals did not renew their membership and what can OrigamiUSA do to interest individuals to become members. The plan is to work with local origami groups and target non-renewing members.

World Origami Day:

Ravi Apte recapped World Origami Day that was held on October 24, 2005, Lillian Oppenheimer's birthday. World Origami Day was created to celebrate and recognized Lillian Oppenheimer's

contribution to furthering and sharing the art of origami. Lillian was the co-founder for both OrigamiUSA and the British Origami Society.

World Origami Day had a good beginning in 2005, some of the activities that took place were: individuals taught origami classes in their local schools, peace doves folded to give to patients and origami was introduced to troubled youths. We hope to build on last year, please mark your calendars for this special day.

Presentation of Awards by Rachel Katz:

Ranana Benjamin Award

Yami Yamauchi was the recipient of the Ranana Benjamin Award honoring his contributions as a teacher.

Florence Temko Award

In recognition of an origami lone folder, Joel Cooper, was presented with the Florence Temko Award.

Election Results:

Michael Naughton assured members that the receipt of ballots were completely secret and that no one else sees the votes that are cast. Michael noted there were 1,371 active voting members and 25% of those members had voted. 304 votes were by proxy and 40 votes were received during the general meeting.

Voting Results for Class A – Local (4 seats up for election and 5 candidates):

Ravi Apte	- 267
Marc Kirschenbaum	- 283
June Sakamoto	- 289
Margaret Van Sicklen	- 212
Wendy Zeichner	- 276

It was announced that four candidates were elected to the Board in Class A – Local category:

Ravi Apte, Marc Kirschenbaum, June Sakamoto and Wendy Zeichner.

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

Rob Hudson	- 130
Tom Hull	- 269
Janet Yelle	- 265

It was announced that two candidates were elected to the Board Class A – Remote category:

Tom Hull and Janet Yelle

Questions & Answers:

Tony Cheng called for any questions or comments.

Question 1: Why are there no revenues offsetting Publication expenses?

Answer: Individual sales of the Origami Collection are not tracked separately but instead are included in Source sales.

Question 2: Did OrigamiUSA receive any compensation/donation with our involvement of the Extreme Makeover Home Edition episode?

Answer: Monetary compensation/donation was not received. However, OrigamiUSA will be getting a lot of publicity and will be linked to the Extreme Makeover website.

Door prizes were distributed.

The Annual General Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully prepared and submitted by:
Joy Low, Administrator