

2018 Board of Trustee Profiles

Napa Valley Museum

Profile of Radah Butler

Radah is a retired attorney who practiced law in the Bay Area for several years. Prior to her retirement she served for thirteen years as the president and CEO of a national corporation that specialized in acting as a qualified intermediary for tax-deferred exchanges and for twelve years as a San Francisco real estate broker. She earned a BS degree from the University of Southern California and a JD degree from Loyola University, Los Angeles.

Radah has lived in the Bay area since 1978 and moved to Napa in 2015. She enjoys exploring life in the Napa Valley and its many attractions. She joined the Board of Trustees of the Napa Valley Museum in early 2017 with the specific goal of achieving stable funding to support the museum's ongoing array of exhibits showcasing the evolving history of Napa Valley and our commitment to outstanding exhibitions, events, and activities.

Profile of Joseph Calise

Joe is a Napa native and first generation American. He attended Napa High and graduated from California State University Sacramento with a BS in Business Administration and Accountancy. He later became licensed as a CPA in 2005. Joe now works at Ganze & Company in Napa as the Senior Tax Manager.

Joe's appreciation of art came from visiting his parents' birth country of Italy as a teenager as well as subsequent visits to other European countries.

Joe is married with three children. He enjoys golf and home improvement projects.

Profile of Janet Gentile Herrero

Janet graduated from San Francisco State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing. She immediately started to work in San Francisco advertising agencies and stayed in that field for about 7 years. She then changed sides of the desk and began selling commercial printing to the advertising agencies. Feeling constrained by the printing equipment owned by her employer, Janet started her own printing brokerage firm enabling her to produce projects nationwide.

In 1980 she met Lowell Herrero, an advertising illustrator with art talent far beyond the commercial jobs he was illustrating. Janet and Lowell became partners, both in marriage and in business, and Janet became the business/marketing arm of Lowell's new fine art. The collaboration was wildly successful, allowing them to build a home and studio in Calistoga and move away from the hectic life of San Francisco.

Janet is now a widow, but she continues to market Lowell's art through reproductions and licensing.

Profile of Ronda Schaer

Ronda holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Design with minors in art history and business from San Jose State University. She is experienced in both working with artists and serving the public non-profit community.

In 1990 she left the corporate world, having begun her career as a three-dimensional designer for a Silicon Valley advertising agency and subsequently becoming VP of Sales and Marketing for a large California homebuilder. Her passion for American art glass led her to open her own art gallery in Yountville that thrived for nearly 25 years. While owning her gallery, she received many professional awards and was often recognized as an active art advocate by organizations and artists throughout the United States.

Frequently asked to work with various leadership groups, she served as Vice President of the Yountville Chamber of Commerce. She also served four years on the Steering Committee of the newly developing Yountville Arts Committee, which now has become the Town of Yountville Arts Commission. Most recently, she was recognized by the Yountville Council for her many years of serving the community and bringing a high level of art appreciation to the Napa Valley.

She is married, is an avid hiker and enjoys art and cultural activities throughout the Western United State.

Profile of Kasandra Weinerth

Since a young child Kasandra considered herself an artist. Her passion for art, tempered with the practicality of earning a living, led her to study graphic design at the State University of New York, rather than pursue a fine art career.

Kasandra moved to California and continued her design studies at Art Center College of Design in Los Angeles. She left her studies when she was offered her dream job with a professor at his award-winning design studio.

Kasandra's 35-year career as a graphic designer, specializing in logo design, was very fulfilling, allowing her to live all over the West Coast and Hawaii, while giving her the independence of having her own business. But the commitment to her business left her little time to pursue fine art.

It wasn't until 1993, when Kasandra and her husband Greg and daughter Brittany moved to Napa, that her desire to create art re-emerged. She immersed herself in the local art community, participating in Open Studios, exhibiting in solo and group shows, serving on the Board of the Arts Council of Napa Valley, and volunteering as co-chair of the Art Auction at the prestigious Napa Valley Wine Auction.

Retiring from her graphic design business has now given Kasandra the time to pursue art full-time and her paintings are in collections both nationally and internationally. Here in Napa Valley she has realized the fulfillment of a life-long dream.

Profile of Susan Wilkinson

Susan holds a BA in English from Creighton University and a JD from Golden Gate University School of Law. She practiced law for 10 years, in San Francisco and Napa, before closing her law office to join the staff of Assemblywoman Jackie Speier office in Sacramento, where she became

Senior Assistant. Susan staffed bills ranging from child support and domestic violence to private mortgage insurance to nutrition labeling.

Susan then worked for The Doctors Company for 10 years, first as Director, Government Relations, then as Assistant Vice President, Corporate Communications. In that role, in 1999, her department placed as Finalist, ARC Awards (excellence in annual reports) as well placement in Black Book AR100 Awards (honoring the 100 best-designed corporate annual reports).

Free-lance editing and a stint with Solano Land Trust followed. She is now gratefully retired.

Susan is married to Nicholas Van Male. They enjoy their extended family including Nick's two daughters, Susan's daughter, son-in-law, and two exceptional grandchildren. Susan is an avid reader, crossword puzzle solver, and often appreciates the practice of yoga.