FROM THE DIRECTOR

There is no doubt that 2020 was a challenging year. When the Library & Museum closed to the public in March, we had no idea when we would return or what the future would look like. However, our staff, Board of Directors, and supporters alike came together to support the NSLM in extraordinary ways.

The 2020 Annual Report shows how the NSLM not only survived but thrived. Programs that were traditionally in-person went virtual for the first time, such as our monthly Sunday Sketch and Coffee with the Curator series. Additionally, virtual tours of exhibitions like Phyllis Mills Wyeth: A Celebration and Leading the Field: Ellen Emmet Rand were made available. These efforts were immensely successful and led to the participation of more than 38,000 people. More people visited our blog, Drawing Covert, and website than ever before.

Our team continued to impress me with their creativity. We even turned the annual community Blessing of the Animals into a drive-thru and saw dozens of furry and feathered friends.

The Museum reopened in July with two pop-up exhibitions: In Bronze: Herbert Haseltine and Recent Acquisitions: Benson and Pleissner. The former featured the 12 Herbert Haseltine sculptures in the permanent collection, alongside a loan, to show the artist’s evolution and range, and the latter highlighted five angling paintings by Frank Weston Benson and Ogden Minton Pleissner donated that spring. The exhibition schedule had to be adjusted with Thrill of the ‘Chace: Steeplechase in Art postponed from the spring of 2020 to the fall. We are appreciative of the many exhibition lenders who were flexible, and all generously agreed to the schedule change. Thrill of the ‘Chace opened in October with virtual programs and tours available.

The Library hosted A Horse of Course: The Equine Image in Art, a traveling exhibition of reproduction photographs from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. VMFA Curator Jeffery Allison spoke in a virtual program about the history of horse imagery.

Our Polo Classic was able to move forward in a modified format with additional safety measures in place, including limited ticketing and socially-distanced tailgate tents. Despite the numerous changes, it was a successful event; the support shown to the NSLM was heartening and inspiring. To return the community spirit, portions of the proceeds were donated to Seven Loaves Services and the Fauquier County Food Bank.

We know and understand how difficult 2020 was for everyone, and we are grateful for our wonderful community. Thank you for your support and thoughtful contributions.

Elizabeth von Hassell, Executive Director
Founded in 1954, the National Sporting Library & Museum (NSLM) is located in Middleburg, the heart of Virginia’s beautiful hunt country. The inviting 6-acre campus, world-class research Library, and fine art Museum highlight the rich heritage and tradition of country pursuits and advocates for the conservation of landscape, open space, and waterways integral to these activities. Angling, wingshooting, horsemanship, shooting, steeplechasing, foxhunting, flat racing, polo, coaching, and wildlife are among the subjects one can explore in the institution’s general stacks, rare book holdings, archives, and art collection. The NSLM offers a wide variety of educational programs, exhibitions, and family activities throughout the year.

MISSION

Dedicated to preserving, promoting, and sharing the literature, art, and culture of equestrian, angling and field sports.
NSLM BY THE NUMBERS

38,721
Total Virtual and In-Person Attendance (Museum, Library, Education, and Events)

23,065
Drawing Covert Blog Views
Record High Viewers from 127 Countries

31,487
NSLM Website Views

203
Books donated

112
Reference Questions Answered

1,964
Online Catalog Searches* June–December 2020
Museum Collection

- **34** drawings
- **12** objects
- **112** paintings
- **46** sculptures
- **12** objects
- **5** porcelain prints
- **267** prints
- **13** weathervanes
- **1** poster
- **187** dog collars
- **156** Paul Brown works
  - Wright Collection
- **198** Paul Brown works
  - Searles Collection
- **166** photographs
  - Judith and Jo Tartt, Jr. Photography Collection
- **50** study collection
- **71** watercolors
- **25** trophies

Total: **1,343 objects**
**Pencil, Pen, and Brush: Paul Brown: An Illustrated Life**
September 25, 2019 – February 2, 2020

**Leading the Field: Ellen Emmet Rand**
October 4, 2019 – June 30, 2020

**Phyllis Mills Wyeth: A Celebration**
traveling exhibition organized by the Brandywine Conservancy and Museum of Art
February 8, 2020 – March 13, 2021

**In Bronze: Herbert Haseltine**
July 17 – August 23, 2020

**Recent Acquisitions: Benson and Pleissner**
July 17, 2020 – May 1, 2021

**Thrill of the ‘Chace: Steeplechase in Art**
September 9, 2020 – March 21, 2021

**A Horse of Course: The Equine Image in Art**
Virginia Museum of Fine Art Statewide Partnership Program traveling exhibit
October 7, 2020 – March 28, 2021
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

Coffee with the Curator: Ellen Emmet Rand
February 15

Siegfried Sassoon: Hunting in the Trenches
with Professor Charles Caramello
February 20

Portraiture Workshop with Carol Buswell
February 27

Read Across America & Dr. Seuss Day
March 1

Virtual Panel Discussion: Ellen Emmet Rand: Portraitist & Equestrian
with Claudia Pfeiffer; Peter Rand, William Harris, and Dr. Alexis Boylan
March 21

Reining in the Beast with Katrin Boniface
June 18

[Virtual] Coffee with the Curator: Phyllis Mills Wyeth
June 20

[Virtual] Riding & Music in the Renaissance
with Dr. Robert Eisenstein
July 9

Middleburg Life Livestream Tour of
In Bronze: Herbert Haseltine
August 19

[Virtual] Master Class with Andre Pater
September 12
2020 Polo Classic presented by MARS EQUESTRIAN™
September 13

[Virtual] Coffee with the Curator: Thrill of the 'Chace
October 3

Drive-through & Virtual Interfaith Blessing of the Animals with Emmanuel Episcopal Church
October 4

[Virtual] The State of the Bear with Blair Smyth from The Nature Conservancy
October 8

Big Book Sale
October 16–18

[Virtual] Lunch with the Librarians: Cover Art from the Vault
November 7

[Virtual] A Horse of Course: The Equine Image in Art with VMFA’s Jeffery Allison
December 3

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.

VMFA
VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Sunday Sketch!

Sunday Sketch is a recurring program held the last Sunday of every month.

January & February Sunday Sketch were held in-person prior to Covid-19 restrictions.

Sunday Sketch resumed virtually in May.
ACQUISITIONS

PERMANENT COLLECTION

1. Joan Danziger (American, b. 1934)
   **Black Star**, 2016
   metal and glass, 32 x 48 x 17 inches
   Purchased with funds donated by an Anonymous Donor, 2020

2. Sir Alfred J. Munnings (British, 1878–1959)
   **A Winner at Epsom**, c. 1948
   oil on canvas, 39 x 47 1/2 inches
   Gift of Jacqueline B. Mars, 2020

3. Frank W. Benson (American, 1862–1951)
   **Lower Camp Pool**, 1928
   oil on canvas, 32 x 40 inches
   Gift from a Private Collection, 2020

4. Frank W. Benson (American, 1862–1951)
   **Setting Out**, 1926
   watercolor on paper, 18 3/4 x 28 3/4 inches
   Gift of Mrs. Frederic C. Hamilton, 2020

   **The Bridge Pool, Ballynahinch**, 20th century
   oil on canvas, 24 x 40 inches
   Gift from a Private Collection, 2020

   **Heavy Water, St. John**, 20th century
   watercolor, 19 x 30 inches
   Gift from a Private Collection, 2020

   **Fisherman on the George Pool**, 20th century
   watercolor on paper, 18 x 28 inches
   Gift from a Private Collection, 2020
Jules Moigniez (French, 1835–1894)
*Life size Pointer with Pheasant*, c. 1860
bronze, 35 x 53 x 28 inches
Estate of Ralph O’Connor, 2020

(attributed to) Edwin Landseer (English, 1802–1873)
*Study of a Fox*, n.d.
watercolor, 9 3/4 x 11 1/4 x 1 inches
Gift of Bruce McCashin, 2020

Mildred Sands Kratz (American, 1923–2013)
*End of the Line*, 1970
watercolor, 30 1/4 x 37 inches
Gift of Patricia Cox Panzarella and Thomas Panzarella, 2020

George Goodwin Kilburne, Sr. (British, 1839–1924)
*Coach and Four*, n.d.
oil on panel, 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 inches
Gift of Katrina Hickox Becker, 2020

Leesa Sandys-Lumsdaine (British, 1936–1985)
*Reclining Fox with Rat*, n.d.
oil on panel, 8 x 10 1/4 inches
Gift of Katrina Hickox Becker, 2020

Raoul H. Millais (British, 1901–1999)
*Mr. Jorrocks*, n.d.
oil on canvas, 9 1/2 x 7 1/2 inches
Gift of Katrina Hickox Becker, 2020

Fay Mowery Moore (American, 1936–1985)
*Interplay of Colors*, late 20th century
pastel and mixed media on canvas, 7 1/2 x 9 1/4 inches
Gift of Katrina Hickox Becker, 2020

Sir Alfred J. Munnings (British, 1879–1959)
*In the Stalls*, n.d.
oil on canvas, 12 3/4 x 16 inches
Gift of Katrina Hickox Becker, 2020

Henry Stull (American, 1851–1913)
*unidentified jockey and racehorse*, n.d.
oil on canvas, 10 x 14 inches
Gift of Katrina Hickox Becker, 2020

*Annual Meeting, Winner of Virginia Gold Cup, 1969 and 1971*
photographs, jockey silks, and gold trophy, 36 x 42 1/2 inches
Gift of John W. Warner and family, 2020
Digital Archive Collection

Charles Rumph
Sporting Photo Collection of Charles Rumph
(135 photos, 195 transparencies and slides, and artist archives)
Gift of Shirley Z. Johnson, 2020

Study Collection

unknown artist
**Cheval de Chasse**, n.d.
print, 7 3/4 x 9 3/4 inches
Gift of Lynne Kindersley Dole, 2020

Paul Desmond Brown
(American, 1893–1958)
**Polo Player**, 1938
ink on paper, 11 3/4 x 8 3/4 inches
Gift of Lynne Kindersley Dole, 2020

Alfred de Dreux (French, 1810–1860)
**Groom with horses**, 19th century
print, 11 1/8 x 15 inches
Gift of Lynne Kindersley Dole, 2020

Lionel Edwards (British, 1878–1966)
**The Quorn**, set of four
lithographs, various sizes
Gift of the daughters of Ginvera M. Hunter, 2020

Henry N. Woolman, III
(American, 1932–2019)
**Fishing rod**, 20th century
cork, metal, and bamboo,
each 45 1/2 inches long
Gift of Mrs. Jacqueline B. Mars, 2019

The Orvis Company
**Reels and cases**, 20th century
suede, metal
Gift of Mrs. Jacqueline B. Mars, 2019
2020 John H. Daniels Fellows

Michael Cronin
Professor, Boston College (resides in Ireland)
*James Brendan Connolly—The First Olympian (triple jump opening day of revived Olympic Games in Athens, 1896)*

The following fellows were deferred to 2021 due to the pandemic

Adélaïde de Savray
Independent Researcher
*Women’s equestrian portraits, 16th–20th century*

David Gerleman
Professor of History, George Mason University
*My Companion in All Places: Horses and Horsemanship in the Civil War Era, 1850–1865*

Elizabeth McCague
Ph.D. Candidate, University of Maryland
*The Evolution of Equestrian Culture in Central Virginia*

Jane Desmond
Professor of Anthropology, University of Illinois
*Animals and the Imaginative Ethnography of Poetry*
Exhibitions

The Library’s Forrest E. Mars, Sr. Exhibit Hall featured two exhibitions, which are also available online:

Angling in Special Collections

A Horse of Course: The Equine Image in Art, traveling exhibit from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Pablo Picasso (Spanish, 1881-1973) Jester on Horseback, 1905, oil on composition board, 50 ½ x 38 ¾ inches, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 84.2.
Reproduction on view in A Horse of Course

The gift of John H. and Martha Daniels. Featured in Angling in Special Collections.
Restoration of books through the Book Adoption Program allows the NSLM to save fantastic treasures in need of care before returning to use. All of them contain noteworthy historical information on equestrian, angling, and field sports. In 2020, 22 books were adopted through charitable giving and the Book Adoption Program.

*Cours d’hippiatrique*, published in Paris in 1772 by Philippe–Etienne Lafosse, is an oversized book that was in need of serious repairs. The restoration for this prized collection item was generously adopted by Mrs. Frances M. Dulaney.

The National Sporting Library & Museum wishes to thank and recognize all those who supported us from **January 1—December 31, 2020**: contributors to annual giving, the Polo Classic, and special projects; in-kind donors to the Library & Museum; lenders of artwork to Museum exhibitions; organizational partners; and volunteers. Your support is vital to the success of NSLM. We are grateful for gifts at all levels and appreciate our many donors and friends.

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FINANCIAL SUMMARY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
December 31, 2020

Assets

Current Assets
Cash ................................................................. $ 1,801,572
Pledges receivable .................................................. 210,000
Inventory .............................................................. 38,366
Prepaid expenses ................................................... 760
Total current assets .......................................... 2,050,668

Pledges Receivable, Noncurrent.......................... 142,000

Long-Term Investments ........................................ 5,993,806

Property Held for Sale ........................................ 475,000

Property, Plant and Equipment, at cost
net of accumulated depreciation .......................... 8,658,520

Leased Property, at cost, net of
accumulated depreciation .................................. 688,208

Land ............................................................... 3,162,000

Collections .................................................... 1,416,409

Total Assets ................................................... 22,586,611
The NSLM donated a portion of the proceeds from the 2020 NSLM Polo Classic to local food banks, including Fauquier County Food Bank and Seven Loaves.
Page header credits:

P. 5, Clockwise from top right: Ellen Emmet Rand, (American, 1875-1941) Fletcher Harper, Esq (1874-1963), MFH The Orange County, 1931, oil on canvas, 43 1/2 x 34 inches, Masters of Foxhounds Association Foundation; Phyllis Mills Wyeth: A Celebration exhibition entrance; Ogden Minton Pleissner, The Bridge Pool, Ballynahinch; George Stubbs (British, 1724–1806) Shark with His Trainer Price, 1775, oil on canvas, Virginia Museum of Fine Art, reproduction on view in A Horse of Course; John Sturgess (British, op. 1869–1903) Before the Start (detail), 1882, oil on canvas, 26 x 17 1/2 inches, Private Collection, on view in Thrill of the ’Chace; Herbert Haseltine (American, 1877–1962) Percheron Mare: Messaline and Foal, modeled c. 1922-24, cast in 1925, bronze with greenish-brown patina and stone, 21 1/2 inches high, purchased with funds by a private donor, 2019 and Percheron Stallion: Rhum, modeled c. 1922-24, cast in 1925, Parcel-gilt bronze with greenish-brown patina and stone, 28 inches high, purchased with funds by a private donor, 2019, on view in In Bronze: Herbert Haseltine; Jamie Wyeth (American, b. 1946) And Then into the Deep Gorge, 1975, on view in Phyllis Mills Wyeth: A Celebration; Pencil, Pen, and Brush: Paul Brown: An Illustrated Life exhibition.