

Photographic Alliance of America (PAA)

By Joanne Stolte, HonPSA, MPSA, EFIAP, ESFIAP

President, Photographic Alliance of America • FIAP Liaison Officer for the United States of America

The 2021 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Photographic Alliance of America (PAA) was held on Saturday, October 9, 2021, at 8:00 am, at the Ramkota Inn Best Western, in Rapid City, South Dakota, during the annual Photo Festival of the Photographic Society of America Worldwide (PSA). The meeting was called to order by PAA President, **Joanne Stolte, HonPSA, MPSA, EFIAP, ESFIAP**, who welcomed those in the meeting room and those attending the live meeting via Zoom. All 2020 and 2021 PAA FIAP Distinction recipients who stated that they would not be able to attend the PAA AGM in South Dakota, were sent the Zoom link so they could see their FIAP Distinction presentation. Additionally, all those who had indicated an interest in applying for a FIAP Distinction in 2022, were sent the Zoom link so that they could see the previous recipients' images and receive the hints and suggestions provided for those applying in 2022.

Joanne presented a PowerPoint program describing the PAA and the PAA services available for PSA-member clubs and the members of those clubs who are individual PSA members in the United States of America. The PAA Executive Committee members were introduced, including the two new members: **Sharon Prislipsky, APSA, PPSA**, Secretary; and **JR Schnelzer, FPSA, MPSA2, EFIAP**, Ex-Officio Member. Plans to develop a Board of Directors during 2022, consisting of the Directors of the various PAA services, was announced.

Since there was no PAA AGM in 2020, the activity of the PAA during 2020 and 2021 was reviewed. This review

featured a description of the two free FIAP Contests that were held in 2021 and the showing of the images by the USA photographers who received acceptances; and a report regarding the participation in the FIAP Photo Academy development and programs by USA photographers.

The presentation of the 2020 and 2021 PAA FIAP Distinctions was next. Before each Distinction, e.g., AFIAP, EFIAP, the requirements for applying for that Distinction were delineated. Following the requirements, each recipient was introduced with their name, city and state, and headshot; followed by each of the

images they included with their application; and ending with their introductory slide that now included their FIAP Distinction certificate. Those attending the meeting were handed their certificate to hold while their photo was taken.

Next on the agenda was a review of the 2022 FIAP Distinction registration and application process, followed by several suggestions for completing the FIAP spreadsheet and selecting the images to submit with an application. The meeting concluded with a Question & Answer session that included questions submitted via Zoom Chat.



Susan Cowles, FPSA, GMPSA
2020 EFIAP



Guo Jiang Ou, APSA, MPSA
2020 EFIAP



John Andrew Hughes,
APSA, MPSA, 2021 AFIAP



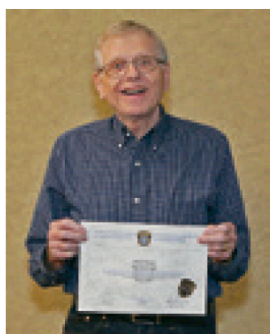
Barbara Kuebler, FPSA, MPSA
2021 AFIAP



John Livoti, APSA, EPSA
2021 AFIAP



Jingru Luo, MPSA
2021 AFIAP



Gene Schwoppe, HonPSA, PPSA
2021 AFIAP



Xin Xin (Cecilia) Liang
APSA, MPSA, 2021 EFIAP



Ken Murphy, APSA, MPSA
2020 AFIAP, 2021 EFIAP



JR Schnelzer, FPSA, MPSA2
2021 EFIAP



Larry Cowles, HonPSA, GMPSA/P
2020 EFIAPd1, 2021 EFIAPd2