



THE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC GLASSBLOWERS SOCIETY

302 Redbud Lane • Thomasville, NC 27360 • (336) 882-0174 • Fax: (336) 882-0172

President Report November 2000

To: Board of Directors

Southwest Section Treasurer: The On May 31, the Board of Directors was presented with a problem concerning the Southwest section treasurers' misuse of funds left in his trust. The executive committee worked diligently with Jack Korfhage and Robert Singer to retrieve their section member's money. After several weeks of phone calls, unofficial legal advice and letters the money was repaid and the issue has been resolved.

This issue was handled quietly but could have been much worse. This prompted a need for sections to safe guard their money properly. By implementing a system of **two signatures for checks over \$100** this could have been prevented. Another suggestion is to bond the treasurer but can be quite costly. Please let your officers know they need to protect their membership from this happening by making some changes as mentioned above.

AGSA show in Chicago: In July, the Offinger Management Group invited the ASGS to visit the Art Glass Suppliers Show (AGSA) in Chicago, Illinois at the Rosemont Convention Center. Offinger manages several associations and offer the ASGS to partner with Offinger and the AGSA to share convention programs. The objective would be to increase attendance, strengthen our program and expose the Society to other groups.

Dan Edwards, Mid-West Director and I attended a breakfast discussion with Offinger Management, the president of AGSA, the president of the Craft & Creative Market place (ACCI), the top representatives to the Stain Glass Association (SGA) and Retailers of Art Glass & Suppliers (RAGS). We spoke about the uniqueness and the overlap of educational programs and exhibitors.

At this time there are conflicts with the ASGS Symposium calendar—our next conference is scheduled the same exact five days of their next meeting in Orlando, Florida. It would be worth pursuing but our advance contract commitments with hotels makes it difficult to make plans for the future. There would be a need to review this closely to evaluate the benefits. The ASGS can consider exhibiting at the next AGSA to determine if there is a good response to warrant attending. Benefits can include event planning—that would allow our members to attend the conference without other responsibilities, increased attendance at exhibitor's hall and more educational format.

Section Meeting Coordination: In August efforts to communicate to regional directors to encourage fall meeting planning and coordinate dates. This was to prevent all meetings

being scheduled on the same day but also advance notice to members makes for successful attendance.

Finance: In August, the executive and finance committee removed the funds in the Vanguard account before it lost any more money. We will be presenting to the board of directors recommendations to reinvest the money in several funds to reduce risk of losing money in one fund.

As I viewed the August 30 statement it is evident that the ASGS is spending more than we are bringing in. I stressed this information at all the section meetings. It is unfortunate that membership is down 150 people. I'm trying to evaluate all the finances to find out where are the problems. It is not just one factor but several that have led to the decrease in our funds. That is why it was so important to have help from the sections to support their director to attend the fall Board of Directors meeting. I was very pleased to see overwhelming support from many sections. With the hopes this is a temporary request and will be evaluated on a yearly basis. People don't understand we are in serious financial trouble. We have to change many ways we are conducting business until there is more money either from increased membership or reducing overhead.

As I reviewed our activities there are several things that are not being done by our organization: marketing and publicity of the ASGS & soliciting for grants for our programs. This is a standard practice in most non-profit organization. We have a start with Ken Owens representing the ASGS at a regional American Chemical Society (ACS) meeting in St. Louis October 25, 26, 27. Many individuals are assisting Ken at the booth, and many people volunteered supporting information, scientific glassware, photographs and posters to publicize the ASGS and its benefits to science. Thank you goes to those who donated their time and materials. *But* soliciting for grants is an area we are not familiar with. With some research we hope to have more information on this subject in the future.

Section Meetings: In September and October, I attended four section meetings; the Northeast, the Southern California, the Midwest and Ohio Valley/Great Lakes section meetings. All programs offered educational meetings with many demonstrations and lunch. They are all very well attended and I'm proud of all the efforts these sections have put forth to continue the sharing and dissemination of information.

Salem Community College Visit: On September 15, President-Elect, Gary Coyne, Dennis Briening, Education Chair and I visited Salem Community College (SCC). We met with Daryl Smith, the Scientific Glassblowing Instructional Chair and SCC President Peter Contini. We discussed the benefits of the ASGS working the students and look forward to offering workshops from ASGS members. The goal is to expose the students to the ASGS and hope they will become members someday. With the new student membership being offered soon we hope this will be perfect timing with Daryl Smith, the new instructor, being very receptive to the benefits of the ASGS.

October Reports: Besides soliciting for reports from section directors and committees I had to follow up with many that didn't meet the deadline. I also realized that a considerable amount of information discussed during the year is left out of the reports. These reports are the only record this governing body can judge and evaluate what is going on in the whole ASGS community. I know everyone means well in their activities with strong effort to fulfill committee goals but it needs to be documented. The National Office needs to be informed of any changes that affect them. Many times Dawn is not informed of committee activities and this affects her role and responsibilities in handling ASGS duties. Please keep her informed of new developments that she should be aware of.

Thank you

Your President,


Doni J. Hatz