



# THE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC GLASSBLOWERS SOCIETY

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## EDITOR'S REPORT

Dear Ms President and Members of the B.O.D. of the ASGS:

The new publisher, McCain Printing, has been assembling the drafts of *Fusion* well and promptly. There have, however, been problems with both their stripping department and the mailings. The stripping department has taken exceptionally long to set up and print our blue line as well as the final version. This has resulted in late mailings even though they had the material for several weeks each time. The mailing itself is out-sourced by McCain Printing. Initially, even though the labels provided by the National Office were separated into different categories, the mailing instructions for these categories were not followed. In August, Dave Smart initiated a conference call between himself, the owner of McCain Printing, and myself. At that time, we voiced our concerns about the problems we were encountering. The owner informed us that the company was in the process of making a transition from a negative-type printing of pictures to a digital type format; this explained some of the problems we had experienced. He has assured us that he will personally oversee the final printing of the next issue of *Fusion* in order to ensure that our problems are resolved. In addition, all advertisers have been contacted about this switch to a digital format and almost all have now submitted their material in that form. This too should help streamline the process. With the August *Fusion*, the mailing issue also appears to have been rectified. Notwithstanding these difficulties, the quality of McCain Printing's work has been excellent.

This year, in my opinion, the Symposium pictures are of inferior quality in comparison to those of past years. The Exhibitor's pictures are the only ones that are consistently good; it is fortunate that these are the best pictures. In addition, I normally lay all the pictures out to determine how and where they will be placed in the journal; in order to do this, I need to have all pictures in a printed version. More importantly, I need a hard copy so that when drafts and final proofs are returned to me, I can ensure that the proper photo was used. This year, the pictures came from various sources. Some of them were on a zip disc with no photo captions. Not only do I not possess a zip drive, but the files on this zip disk were neither compacted and saved in a small size nor were they all linked in one master file. As a result, each photo had a tremendous memory associated with it. When I took the disc to the local Kinko's to view the 57 prints, it took fifteen minutes to print each of the pictures that I had selected; there were twenty-four that I needed to print. I realize that digital pictures are the future, but if I am to receive large numbers of pictures for upcoming symposia this way, I must receive a printed version in black and white as well even if it is of a poor quality. It is also helpful if photo captions are provided as I am not able to identify everyone in the Society.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn C. Brown, Editor