

# American Scientific Glassblowers Society

## Directors Report Fall 2006

### Section: Southeastern

#### Section Officers

Director: Curt Sexton  
Alt. Director: Don Woodward  
Chair: Don Woodyard  
Vice Chair: Brian Markowicz  
Secretary: Ricky Harrison  
Treasurer: Ricky Harrison

#### Section Profile

Number of section meetings planned for the year: 1  
Number of meetings since last Board of Directors meeting: 0  
Number of section members: 54  
Average attendance at section meetings: 20-30 (Business Meeting attendance)  
Financial resources:  Adequate  Inadequate  
How would you describe your typical section meeting (check all that apply)  
Educational  Social  Speaker  Tour  Workshop   
 Other

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#### Section Challenges

Difficulty in finding a meeting location  
 Difficulty in organizing a meeting  
 Difficulty in finding workshop presenters  
 Poor attendance at section meetings  
 Difficulty in finding section officers  
 Difficulty in collecting Dues

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#### Additional Comments (use additional sheet if necessary):

The Southeastern Section will hold its annual meeting on March 8-10, 2007, in Aiken, South Carolina. A tour of the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) is being scheduled for Friday morning. This facility is located on the Savannah River Site near Aiken and is operated for DOE by Washington Group International. On Saturday we will visit Southeastern Lab Apparatus for workshops and demos. All are invited.

Mister President (Jim) I do not think I am on any committee. If I am I have done nothing and have not been contacted by anyone. I am Chairman of the Technical Workshops for this years Symposium, would you like to do a demo?

Gary Dobos of our section is the National Membership Chair.

Respectfully Submitted,  
William C. Sexton  
Director Southeastern Section

## Additional, Additional Comments

Jim, please use my home address for all mailings: Curt Sexton, 829 Legare Rd. SW, Aiken, SC 29803.

- 1) I would like to rephrase your first question to which section meeting do you most remember. As I am learning, hosting a meeting, even a section meeting is not an easy task. We all have different ideas as what a meeting should consist of. As a dues collection society we have to conduct business to keep the society going, after that the meetings all differ. My personal feelings are that the meetings are for the members to improve their glassblowing skills and exchange ideals. Coming up with an agenda that will please everyone is not possible. Now to your question, the meeting that first comes to mind is one we had in Atlanta, GA in the late 80's. We visited the Heraeus Quartz Plant and AT&T'S fiber optic plant; however there have been many memorable meetings over the years. What makes a good meeting? The people make the meeting. You have to have your members attend. I personally value the time in the bar just discussing what we do and the different work environments. Being a large section geographically, the location of the meeting has an effect on attendance. When I was at The University of South Florida in Tampa, a meeting in Charlottesville, VA would be a major expense. I did not attend that meeting.
- 2) I feel the most valuable service our shop provides is the ability to do the work in house and deal directly with the customer. Next is the fact we can quickly make modifications. On occasions we do get involved in sensitive work that needs to stay in house. Most of our glassware is very job specific and not a catalogue item. One service I feel that is too common among glass shops is "get the glassblower to help; he's not doing anything anyway." I feel we also supply our customers with our general knowledge of glass, ceramics and glass apparatus.
- 3) As a section director I feel my duties are to convey my sections views at the BOD meetings; keep my section informed of what is going on at these BOD meetings and serve as the liaison between the section and the National Society. I'm really not sure where you are going with the last part of this question, but you must remember we "Southerners" believe in and will die for States Rights. All the planning in the world does not lead to a successful meeting. Case in

point, our meeting last year in Tuscaloosa, Alabama was as well planned, educational, and entertaining a meeting as you will find and yet there were section and national members who for whatever reason chose not to attend. Travel is expensive; some of us get employee support and some don't. Some members are looking for a week-end vacation while others are expecting an informative, educational meeting. I'm all for a cook book with a recipe for a successful meeting but as we all should know sometimes the best ingredients don't make a tasty stew.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Curt Sexton  
Director, Southeastern Section