



THE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC GLASSBLOWERS SOCIETY

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Dear Members of the Board,

It has been an interesting year so far, I wish Chinese proverbs were not so accurate...

Due to personal issues at home I have only been able to attend the San Francisco Section Meeting and the Midwest Section Meeting. Regrettably, my own Southern California Section was unable to have a meeting prior to this Board Meeting; it will be on Nov. 10. Meanwhile, both of the meetings I attended were excellent and should provide food for thought for all other sections.

Notably, the San Francisco Section meeting, not unlike the Southeastern meetings, are fantastic examples of full meetings with something for everyone and providing a rewarding opportunity for those who must travel and stay the night. With workshops, seminars, and many vendors, there was much to see and do.

The Midwest Section meeting provided not only an excellent meeting with multiple workshops and a paper (first presented at the past symposium), but an excellent example of fund raising that should be examined by all sections. Although I had heard of their "quarter auctions" prior to my seeing one in action, they almost have to be seen to be fully understood and appreciated. I hope for Steve Anderson to go into details during the Board meeting on how this is conducted. Suffice it to say, \$890 was collected over a period of just over an hour, and a good time was had by all.

I want to point out the actions of several committees for their outstanding work. This is not to ignore the work of other committees, but rather giving credit for the extra work that helps make our society the jewel that it is.

First off would be Gene Nelson and his Symposium Committee. We will be the first to see what he has in mind for the whole Society come May. I know he has worked hard to make this Board Meeting happen, and we should all be thankful for all he has done.

Next is the Audio Visual Committee under Mike Morris. Mike has shown drive and motivation where everyone wins. He has been "redoing" this committee and the society has been the better for it.

Jack Korfhage has just sent out many copies of the ASGS pamphlet to several of our exhibitors. These will be placed in mailings from these companies to broaden the recipients of our existence. This is a wonderful opportunity, and we should be thankful to our vendors to help pass our message along.

The Computer Committee is continuing to keep our presence on the web and provide (and maintain) the valuable links between our members. Regrettably, things started getting a bit out of hand after September 11 as emotions got a bit frazzled. Fortunately, actions were brought under control in a reasonable fashion. Lastly, the transition from Bill Curtis to Dave Daenzer has been wonderful, likewise, the transition from myself to Ricky Harrison for webmaster has also worked out superbly.

Lastly, I want to point out the Publications Committee. Fusion and the Proceedings are the written record of our society. Both are better now than they have ever been. We are very fortunate that Dave Smart and Marilyn Brown are where they are and doing what they are doing.

We have several important issues to deal with at this meeting, one is an interesting problem of our own creation:

During the June 2000 meeting, there had been a change in ASGS procedures was initiated for transferring the rein of the Treasurer during the November Board Meeting instead of the June Board Meeting. The reason for this transition was because it was observed that if the transition was done at June, the incoming Treasurer was going to be assaulted with the symposium finances and the potential for confusion and mistakes were higher. If the change in Treasurers were done in November, the main symposium financial "assault" would be over and an easier transition could be made. This was accepted by the Board, the current Treasurer, and the Assistant Treasurer.

Unfortunately, there was one oversight in this change and that had to do with the November Meeting. Our By-laws clearly state that financial remuneration was available for the Treasurer to attend the November meeting, but NOT the Assistant Treasurer. Even more technically, using the most critical reading of the By-laws, it was possible to send the current Treasurer to the Nov. meeting, but not send him or her home. Similarly, it was possible to not send the Assistant Treasurer to the meeting but there were moneys available to send them home. Clearly this was not the intent of the Board.

By guidance from our Executive Secretary, Gordy Smith, there is a clear path for me to resolve the problem on this occasion. However, to insure the problem does not reoccur, I will be submitting two suggested by-law changes to resolve the problem for the future.

The other pressing big issue will be the change to the Associate members status. This combined with the votes for changing both Dan Wilt and Vic Mathews from Associate member to Regular member promises this meeting should have several issues to talk about.

I do encourage anyone with motions they wish to present to please pre-present them on the BOD list to allow others to check for misspellings, typos, comments and/or suggestions. There is still time when you receive this for this to be done prior to the meeting.

See you in Alabama,

Gary Coyne

