

1
2
3 **Bylaws of the**
4 **American Scientific Glassblowers Society**
5 **November 2002**
6

7 **ARTICLE I - NAME**

8 This Corporation shall be named The American Scientific Glassblowers Society (hereinafter
9 referred to as the Society or the ASGS), a Corporation in the State of Delaware.

10 **ARTICLE II – OBJECTS**

11 The objects and purposes of this Society shall be the same as set out in the Certificate of
12 Incorporation thereof.

13 **ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP**

14 **Section 1 – Qualifications**

- 15 (a) Membership shall consist of Regular, Junior, Associate, Retired, Student, Lifetime and
16 International classes as the Board of Directors shall determine. (June '01)
- 17 (b) Regular membership may be granted to those persons who have for five Consecutive
18 years and currently gain the major portion of their income as a scientific glassblower.
19 (June '89)
- 20 (c) Junior membership may be granted to those persons who are actively engaged in the art
21 of scientific glassblowing with less than five years experience.
- 22 (d) Associate membership may be granted to those persons who have a close association
23 with, or interest in, the glassblowing field.
- 24 (e) Retired membership may be granted upon application from any member who is no
25 longer able to perform glassblowing duties due to accident, illness or retirement and has
26 been regular member in good standing for a period which is at least the difference
27 between the member's age and 70 years. (June '89)
- 28 (f) Lifetime membership: The Board of Directors may bestow Lifetime membership upon
29 that person who has been an active member of the Society and who has performed
30 outstanding service to the Society or has made significant contributions to the art of
31 scientific glassblowing. No more than three Lifetime memberships may be bestowed in
32 any one-year. All nominations for Lifetime membership should include a biographical
33 sketch outlining such service contributions.
- 34 (g) The Board of Directors may, in the best interest of the Society, elect persons other than
35 glassblowers to Regular membership in the Society. An appeal to elect a non-
36 glassblower to Regular membership must be made by a regular member to the Board of
37 Directors. To be a valid request, it must be accompanied with a vote of approval at two
38 (2) consecutive Board of Directors meetings separated by at least (4) months.
39 (November '87)

- 1 (h) International membership may be granted to those persons residing in areas not
2 represented by the Board of Directors and are outside the continental United States and
3 Canada. (November '99)
- 4 (i) Student membership may be granted to those who are actively enrolled in an accredited
5 Scientific Glassblowing curriculum such as the Salem Community College Program.
6 Only two years of eligibility is allowed. (June '01)
- 7 (j) The Board of Directors can add or subtract membership classes with a Bylaw change

8 **Section 2 – Requirements**

- 9 (a) An initiation fee, determined by the Board of Directors, plus dues for the current year
10 may accompany each application for membership. This money shall be returned if the
11 application is denied by the Membership Committee (payable in U.S. Dollars). (June
12 '01)
- 13 (b) No initiation fee will be required for Junior membership but, upon completion of five
14 years of glassblowing experience, Junior members who choose to continue their
15 membership with the ASGS must apply for Regular membership; such applications are
16 to be accompanied by required initiation fees. (June '01)

17 **Section 3 - Dues**

- 18 (a) Dues are due and payable on January 1. Membership shall be forfeited if dues are not paid
19 by January 1
- 20 (b) The dues notice may be mailed with the ballot for the election of national officers.
- 21 (c) The amounts paid for membership dues are voted on by members of the ASGS (who are
22 eligible to vote).

23 **Section 4 - Benefits**

- 24 (a) Each class of membership shall carry specified benefits:
 - 25 1 **Regular** membership carries benefits of being entitled to be a member of a chartered
26 Section, voting privileges in the Section and the National, right to hold elective or
27 appointive office, and receipt of all Society publications normally distributed to the
28 membership.
 - 29 2. **Junior** membership carries the benefit of being entitled to be a member of a chartered
30 Section, voting privileges in the Section and the National, and receipt of all Society
31 publications normally distributed to the membership.
 - 32 3. **Associate** membership carries the benefit of being entitled to be a member of a
33 chartered Section, right to hold appointed office, right to hold elected office in the
34 Section with the exception of Section Director, Alternate Director and other National
35 offices, and receipt of all Society publications normally distributed to the membership.
36 (June '89)
 - 37 4. **Lifetime** membership carries benefits of being entitled to be a member of a chartered
38 Section, voting privileges in the Section and the National, right to hold appointed
39 office, exempt from all dues, and receipt of all Society publications normally
40 distributed to the membership.

- 1 5. **Retired** members are entitled to all benefits of the class of membership to which they
2 belonged at the time that they retired. ('86)
- 3 6. The Board of Directors has the right to add, subtract, or alter member benefits as it
4 determines necessary.
- 5 7. **International** membership carries the benefit of being entitled the right to hold an
6 appointive office and receipt of all Society publications normally distributed to the
7 membership, and to hold elected office in Associate Sections. (11/2/96)
- 8 8. **Student** membership carries the benefit to be a member of a chartered Section and a
9 member of the National. The dues shall be at a rate determined by the Board of
10 Directors. Student Members will receive a one-year subscription to Fusion. Time
11 enrolled as a Student Member is reduced from the 5 years eligibility as a Junior
12 Member. (June '01)

13 **Section 5 – Resignations**

- 14 (a) Any member, upon relinquishing membership in the Society, either voluntarily or
15 involuntarily, immediately forfeits all rights and claims to any interests or assets of the
16 Society.
- 17 (b) Any person whose membership has lapsed or has resigned from the Society may rejoin
18 by paying the current dues and verifying with the National Office that their membership
19 classification hasn't changed. Otherwise, the initiation fee will be charged as with any
20 new Membership.

21 **ARTICLE IV - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- 22 (a) There shall be a Board of Directors composed of the President, President-elect,
23 Treasurer, one Director from each Section of the Society and one Director at Large.
24 (June '02)
- 25 (b) The Board of Directors shall constitute the governing body of the Society and shall be
26 vested with the full power and authority to put into effect the laws, resolutions and
27 decisions of the Society. Upon a review from its Bylaw Committee and with a three
28 Fourth (3/4) majority vote at two consecutive Board of Directors meetings, (separated
29 by at least 4 months) the Board of Directors may make alter or amend Bylaws not in
30 conflict with the law for its own governance or that of the Society: delegate to any
31 Executive Committee the full powers of the Board of Directors when the board is not in
32 session: fill all offices for the unexpired term thereof, exercise general supervision over
33 receipts and expenditures of the Society: appoint employees and other agents of the
34 Society, define their duties, and define the duties of officers other than defined herein;
35 fix compensation of employees and agents of the Society and do all other acts which it
36 may deem to be in the best interest of the Society. (June '02)
- 37 (c) The presence in person or by proxy of the majority of the Directors shall constitute a
38 quorum at Board of Directors meetings and, except as otherwise provided, actions taken
39 by the Board of Directors duly assembled shall be by majority vote of the Directors
40 present in person or by proxy shall be valid for that one meeting.
- 41 (d) A special meeting of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or by
42 agreement of a majority of the Board members.

1 being elected. The Treasurer shall be elected yearly. By a majority vote, the Board of
2 Directors shall have the right to remove the Treasurer at anytime.

- 3 (f) The Assistant Treasurer shall be selected by the Treasurer. The Board of Directors must
4 approve the selection with a majority vote. The Assistant Treasurer shall have no vote
5 on the Board of Directors and shall be provided no financial reimbursement to the Board
6 of Directors meetings unless the Assistant Treasurer is representing the Treasurer. The
7 Assistant Treasurer shall have been a Regular member in good standing for three (3)
8 years. The Assistant Treasurer shall be selected (or reselected annually) by the Treasurer
9 and the selection shall be approved by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors
10 shall have the right to remove the Assistant Treasurer by a majority vote at anytime.
- 11 (g) The term of office of Sectional Directors shall be a maximum of four consecutive years,
12 (A two-year term for two consecutive terms or one-year terms for four consecutive
13 terms, etc.) They shall not, following four consecutive years, be eligible for election to
14 the same office for a period of two years without the consent of the President.
- 15 (h) Each Officer and Sectional Director shall serve a full term of office or shall serve until a
16 successor has been installed.
- 17 (i) The title of Emeritus may be granted to an officer for long and distinguished service to
18 the Society. This title shall be assigned for life and shall be granted to only one officer at
19 a time in each of the authorized Emeritus positions. The position may be filled only
20 upon a resolution of the Board of Directors and ratified by the members present at the
21 Annual Business Meeting of the Society. The Board of Directors will determine the
22 minimum requirements of eligibility and privileges of each Emeritus position.
- 23 (j) In the event of an Officers death, resignation or the Board of Directors' determination by
24 2/3 vote that an officer's ability to perform the duties of that office have been adversely
25 effected, the following succession shall take place:
- 26 1. Treasurer or Secretary – The President shall immediately appoint a successor. The
27 President will mail a notice of same to each member of the Board of Directors asking
28 for approval. The receipt of a majority of the Board members' favorable responses
29 confirms the appointee as Treasurer or Secretary for the time remaining in the term of
30 office. If confirmation of the President's appointee is unsuccessful, the President must
31 select another person and submit that appointee for confirmation.
 - 32 2. President – The President-elect shall automatically assume the office of President,
33 serving that which remains of the uncompleted term of the previous President, and the
34 term to which the President-elect would have succeeded as well.
 - 35 3. President-elect – The President shall, upon completion of a term, remain in office until
36 a successor is elected through the regular election process.
 - 37 4. The Executive Secretary, by parliamentary law, is an appointive position.
38 Appointment is made by the President with concurrence of the President-elect and
39 approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. The position is of non-voting
40 status and shall be for two (2) years with the right of the Board of Directors to ask for
41 a resignation with a two-thirds vote. Duties are as to be described under Duties of the
42 Executive Secretary.

1 **ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES**

- 2 (a) The Executive Committee shall be a permanent standing committee of the Society and
3 shall be composed of the President, President-elect, Secretary and Treasurer; and the
4 Executive Secretary is an ex-officio member, without vote. This committee shall not
5 have the power to overturn Board of Directors' intentions.
- 6 (b) The Bylaws Committee shall be a permanent standing committee of the Society and
7 shall be composed of no fewer than five (5) persons. When possible, this committee
8 shall be composed of the immediate past President as Chair, the President and no more
9 than seven (7) and no less than five (5) of all able Past Presidents. The President-elect
10 will serve as Secretary of the Committee without vote.
- 11 (c) The Nominating Committee shall be a permanent standing committee of the Society
12 composed of the President acting as Chair, the President-elect, and the Sectional
13 Directors.
- 14 (d) The President may appoint any other committees at any time.
- 15 (e) The Membership Committee shall process the membership applications of potential
16 members, verify the accuracy of the application, and advise the Board of Directors on
17 issues of member classes, fees, dues, and other aspects of memberships

18
19 **ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS**

- 20 (a) The Nominating Committee is charged with the responsibility of nominating only
21 qualified members of experience and integrity who have actively participated in the
22 work of the Society and are willing to work for its purposes.
- 23 (b) The Nominating Committee will proceed with its duties in such a manner and at such a
24 time that it is able to present a slate of one or more eligible nominees for each office on
25 the ballot on or before the first day of January immediately preceding the date set for the
26 elections. The Nominating Committee will deliver to the Secretary the names of the
27 nominees and written agreements to serve if elected for communication to the
28 membership.
- 29 (c) Nomination for election may also be made by petition. Nominating positions must be
30 signed by no fewer than fifteen voting members in good standing and must be
31 accompanied by the name of the nominee and written agreement to serve if elected.
32 These documents must be in the hands of the Secretary no later than the first day of
33 February immediately preceding the date set for elections. (June '89)
- 34 (d) The Secretary will submit the names of the nominees to the Elections Committee in
35 good and sufficient time for the Elections Committee to perform its duties. The
36 Secretary will retain for the Society record the written agreement to serve if elected of
37 each nominee.
- 38 (e) The Elections Committee, upon receipt of the nominations from the Secretary, shall
39 form and mail a ballot to each member who is eligible to vote.
- 40 (f) The Elections Committee shall provide each voter with one ballot and two envelopes.
41 The smaller envelope shall be printed with the instructions for the balloting procedure

1 that is to be followed. The larger envelope shall be pre-addressed to the Elections
2 Committee. (June '86)

- 3 (g) The Chair of the Election Committee, together with at least two of the other members of
4 this Committee, shall open, validate and count all the ballots that are properly
5 completed.
- 6 (h) The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared the winner. If
7 said candidate cannot ascend to the office then that candidate receiving the second
8 highest number of votes shall succeed to that office by approval of a 2/3 vote of the
9 Board of Directors.
- 10 (i) All duly elected officers shall be installed during the next Annual Business Meeting.

11
12 **ARTICLE VIII - SECTIONS**

- 13 (a) For the purpose of furthering the better interest of the Society and its Members, the
14 Board of Directors may, upon receiving formal application from at least twenty Regular
15 members, create a Section of the Society.
- 16 (b) Each Section shall be self-governing to the extent that it does not conflict with the
17 Charter and Bylaws of the Society.
- 18 (c) Each Section shall be represented in the Society by having one Sectional Director seated
19 on the Board of Directors. Said Sectional Directors shall have been elected by eligible
20 voting members of the Section represented at some time prior to the first day of June. It
21 is recommended that a Director be elected by a mail ballot, but whatever method is
22 chosen, must be elected by a majority of all members in good standing. If only one
23 candidate is running for an office, the Secretary of the Section can be instructed to cast
24 one vote for said candidate.
- 25 (d) In special instances, the Board of Directors of the Society may waive the minimum
26 requirements for the formation of a Section. (11/1/91)
- 27 (e) The dues of any Section may not exceed the dues of the Society for the same period or
28 part thereof without approval of the Board of Directors of the Society.
- 29 (f) The Sections will exercise all necessary precautions that any person not having voting
30 privileges within the Society shall not have a vote within the Section elections that will
31 have a direct or indirect bearing on the election of the members to sit on the Society
32 Board of Directors, or to have a voice on Section or Society matters that will directly or
33 indirectly bear upon Society policy. A member may, as a matter of choice, choose to pay
34 dues in more than one section; however, that member must declare only one Section as
35 the "Section of Record" for all voting purposes pertaining to National policy.
- 36 (g) A Director or Alternate Director will be eligible for reimbursement as long as the
37 Section represented holds a valid charter that is recognized by the Board of Directors. A
38 Director must be elected by a mail ballot (ballot sent to all members in good standing).
39 Results from the Election Committee must be presented to the President.
- 40 (h) The Sections shall exercise all necessary precautions that any person who is not a
41 member of the Society shall not be a member of the Sections.

- 1 (i) Associate Sections: Sections may be formed outside the United States and Canada.
2 They will be known as Associate Sections without vote or travel reimbursement.
3 (November '96)

4 **ARTICLE IX - MEETINGS**

- 5 (a) There shall be such general meetings of the Society as the Board of Directors shall
6 determine is necessary for the fulfillment of the purposes of the Society. At least two
7 weeks written notice shall be given for such meetings.
- 8 (b) The Society shall hold an Annual Meeting for the purpose of receiving reports of the
9 officers of the Board of Directors and the Committees of the Society; for the installation
10 of Officers and Sectional Directors: for setting of dues and for any other business that
11 may arise.
- 12 (c) A quorum of any general business meeting of the Society shall consist of fifty (50)
13 Regular members in good standing. No proxies will be stipulated or accepted in lieu of
14 attendance except that proxies may be stipulated in the case of members of the Board of
15 Directors.

16 **ARTICLE X - FINANCE**

- 17 (a) For business purposes, the fiscal year shall begin on June 1 of each year.
- 18 (b) An audit of the books of the Society shall be made at least once yearly and a report made
19 at the Annual Meeting.

20 **ARTICLE XI - PUBLICATIONS**

21 FUSION shall be the name of the official Society publication.

22 **ARTICLE XII - CONSTITUTIONAL**

23 The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern the Society in all cases to
24 which they are applicable and in which they are consistent with the Charter, Bylaws, Rules of
25 Order or Standing Rules of the Society.

26