



The American Scientific Glassblowers Society

ASGS BOD Administrative Assistant June 2009 Report

May 18, 2009

Things are running quiet smoothly for the most part except that with the personal events that have taken place (first an ill father, then his passing, and then dealing with the loss of my father) over the past year. many of the things that I would have liked to accomplish have had to take a back burner. As life is slowly returning to normal I will spend some on getting the previously planned Committees website up and running and also spend some time posting some of the missing reports.

The Audit Committee website contains all the pertinent financial information that the Audit committee uses to audit the ASGS books and it is being updated as a data is received.

There no other issues to report at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Palme
ASGS BOD Administrative Assistant

First I would like to thank Patrick DeFlorio, Neal Korfhage, and Kevin Teaford for volunteering to work as instructors during this year's symposium. I would also like to thank our vendors: A G Scientific, Chemglass Life Sciences, Litton Engineering Labs, Schott Glass, Technical Glass, Wale Apparatus Co. Inc. and Yankee Glass Company. Especially this year, it would have been impossible to provide this type of quality program offered to our members without their generous support. After last years symposium it was decided to lower the rate charged to attend the "Observers Only" category for the Regular Member seminars to \$40 before May 1st and 50\$ after May 1st. The all day, hands-on seminar has remained at \$160 before May 1st and \$180 after May 1st., which is what asked during last years meeting. Hopefully everything will run smooth again this year. You do not realize how much you rely on others help until you in the process of putting something like this together. It is an honor to serve as the Allan Brown Symposium Chair and I am looking forward to this years meeting.

Gary Dobos
Allan Brown Symposium Chair

President and ASGS BOD,

The audit committee has reviewed all data to date that has been made available with no discrepancies found that are apparent..

Data was unavailable on the audit committee internet site for several months. After checking in to this it seems that at tax time this is the way the postings are made. Talking with Frank Meints, I was informed that the information would be updated after April 15th. The committee has reviewed all available data, the receipts and disbursement report, statement of funds balances and National Office report. This has led to the original conclusion of no discrepancies that are apparent to report. Reports are in order with the information given.

Respectfully Submitted,
Steven D. Moder

AV COMMITTEE REPORT – BOD Spring 2009

National Symposium 2009

Audio Visual committee chair Michael Morris will not be able to attend the symposium in 2009 due to a family high school graduation conflict. Additionally, Music By Coash will not be supporting the Exhibitor Grand Opening, a second night of exhibits, the Technical Demonstrations, the Charity Auction or the Banquet.

Working with the symposium chair, committee chairs and individuals, contacts have been made for all 2009 AV services, equipment needs and arrangements by the committee chair with assistance from James Hodgson for the technical papers.

James Hodgson will take responsibility for on-site set-up of two ASGS LCD projectors for use in the technical papers and seminars. Additionally Jim will be acting as the AV functionary for the technical papers. Joe Gregar will be bringing a Mini-DV Camera with AUR92 lens filtration for video recording of the technical demonstrations where he will be assisted by Jim. Overhead video projection will not be available for this year's technical demonstrations but videos will be made for the ASGS lending library. The AV committee is very grateful to Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Gregar and it is hoped that the BOD will thank them for their work in these stressful and highly visible functions.

Minimizing expenses throughout the society has been recognized as a crucial aspect of society continuity. The AV committee has worked long term to reduce costs and improve services over the last several years saving the ASGS many thousands of dollars.

The following should be noted for cost awareness typical of AV support on an annual basis:

- The 2009 labor rate for a Red Lion Hotel AV technician available through Event Technology Services is quoted at \$50.00 an hour with a four hour minimum.
- Over the last six years LCD rental projectors have been quoted for each unit per day/partial day progressing from \$850.00 through \$575.00 in 2008 to \$474.00 in 2009. This price includes a 15% - 20% "service charge" or "set up fee" common with rental equipment. That averages out at \$662.50 per unit rental over this time.
- Video recording of technical demonstrations has been quoted at a minimum of \$1,500.00 and an additional \$1,500.00 for editing five years ago and anticipated at a higher rate today.

In 2009 Projected costs for one day of no frills technical paper equipment rental for 2009 including microphone, mixer, podium, screen and chart package that includes a projection cart and power supply, a flipchart and pens, is estimated at a minimum of \$360.00.

(This does not include the \$475.00 saved by using an ASGS LCD projector or a laser pointer typically \$35.00 a day. Both are provided by the ASGS AV committee. LCD projector use for 2009 will be only 2 seminars and 1 day of tech papers for (3) uses - \$1,400.75.)

Actual costs have not been finalized at the time of this report and can quickly escalate as equipment is added. For example, a DVD/VHS package with a 27" video monitor, DVD player, 54" cart with cabling & power cord costs \$175.00 a day/partial day.

Cutting costs in half by renting AV equipment for one day of tech papers instead of two is self evident. It is suggested that Symposium Chairmen schedule both technical papers on one day and the technical demonstrations on another day rather than two half days each to minimize equipment costs and improve logistics for AV functions. One day of video recording if and when done by contracted parties will also save significant costs.

Lending Library

At the time of this report, all formats but Mini DV tape (Beta, 3/4" video, VHS etc.) have been transferred to DVD in two phases. The process has included transfer of tapes to hard drive with time base correction and digital noise reduction, creation of after effects of ASGS Logo and layering over 'jumpback background', addition of ASGS disclaimer at the front of the program, a burn to a master DVD, and labeling of all discs with storage in a clamshell case. In the first transfer, 20 reels of video were reviewed and analyzed to select the best for transfer to 15 DVD master discs and labels for on-disc printing. In the transfer of the VHS tapes a review of 45 supplied tapes was completed to select the best and create 18 individual master discs and labels for on-disc printing.

The first transfer phase cost \$2,500.00 after a discount of \$550.00. The second phase cost \$1,005.00. The third phase is underway where 5 copies of DVD's from both phases will be made. One copy will be sent to Salem Jr. College to update the ASGS library there, one copy will be sent to the Canadian Section for use in the Canadian Section Library, Two copies will be available for the ASGS Lending Library and one copy will be available for duplication of replacement discs or for sale as the BOD directs. At the time of this report an estimate is being prepared of the costs of this procedure.

Once received, the DVD discs will be packaged for the three Video Libraries in double DVD plastic cases and labeling created through the AV chairman with Sure Thing PC software for only the cost of the cases, materials and inks used. Following this procedure the AV committee will have a way to reproduce low cost labeling as needed that can be passed on to future AV committee personnel. The cases, inks and materials are already on hand but no chargeback has been made to the ASGS until the true costs are determined.

Phase 4 consists of the edit and transfer of the last five years of Mini DV tapes created by the AV chair to DVD and 5 copies made. This was originally expected to be done by the AV chair with a Mac G5 computer purchased for this process but is now being handled by ImageStream. It is the intention of the AV chair to pay a large share of this cost if not all of it and get the project done. Many hours of frustration have ensued in working with our editing software that doesn't have an easy method of reference over the four, one inch thick manuals that come with it. Suggested updates from Apple have been purchased at the expense of the AV chair and found not to work with the older version of Final Cut Pro software which itself cannot be updated to use with the current operating system software.

The project has dragged on much too long and at this point the AV chair has arranged for professional editing through ImageStream to complete this project ASAP. President Korfhage has been both supportive and result-oriented and approved funding to facilitate this process but it has not been completed at this time. The AV chair apologizes to president Korfhage and the BOD and proposes to offset the cost of getting this done by buying the Mac G5, monitor and software and buying the PA system at current prices determined by an eBay search and applying that money toward the expense that is not expected to exceed \$2,000.00. The PA system was funded at no cost to the ASGS treasury through the Great Lakes Section, the Midwest Section and the Exhibitors Section at the entreaty of the AV Chair. It has been supplemented with personal equipment owned or borrowed by the AV chair such as microphones, mixers, and cd players and preparation of typically 10+ hours of music for various themed events.

The PA system has been personally transported by the AV chair and used at three symposiums in multiple venues so it has paid for itself. It is unlikely that any other ASGS members will be willing or able to spend the time at symposia or contribute the resources to make this cost effective or worthwhile. Therefore it makes sense to redirect the value of these items to a current need. The PA equipment may yet be used to support ASGS functions in the future, but the ASGS will not own the equipment.

An eBay search has resulted in the following current valuations of the equipment listed below.

Macintosh G5 computer	\$399.00.
Mitsubishi 15" Diamond Monitor	\$25.00
Final Cut Pro editing software	\$162.50
Anchor PA System estimated offer of	<u>\$614.00</u>
(unavailable on eBay or Craigslist)	
TOTAL	\$1,200.00.

The president can approve this proposal or ask for BOD input and involvement.

General Information Relevant To This Report

As an organization the official position of the ASGS has been not to own any more equipment than necessary for the obvious reasons of maintenance and antiquity. The computer and editing software purchases were made shortly after finding that the ASGS coffer had been reduced by half and in an attempt to save significant money over having professional videographers capture the technical demonstrations with sometimes poor results. The AV chair has brought a good deal of personal equipment to supplement the core ASGS items and the savings goal has been achieved over the last several years. An important distinction that should be noted is that when the ASGS went to a 4 day symposium the result was to video record technical demonstrations in one take on the fly. Potential demonstrator or videographer mishap and the quality of the result are always a risk.

The greatest symposium AV equipment expense savings were recognized and addressed with the purchase and ownership of the 3 LCD video projectors.

Two have been used for the last four years and all are expected to be utilized for at least another 5+ symposiums. Music By Coash has rendered substantial savings in comparison with similar services while supporting almost every event of consequence at symposia over the last five+ years. The ASGS has been doing a relatively good job of staying current with the ever changing technologies to benefit our attendees and keep them feeling positive about symposia events. Streaming video over the internet for the Lending Library has been under investigation with a BOD report due in the fall. A proposal on the sale of copies of ASGS Lending Library DVD's will be raised by President Korfhage in this BOD meeting.

The AV chair apologizes for the length of this report but hopes that the importance of background awareness concerning the AV function will be recognized. Finally, the AV chair thanks President Korfhage, the BOD and Awards Chair Steven Anderson for their consideration and action in taking uncustomary measures to approve the Helmut Dreschel award recognition on his behalf.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael S. Morris – AV Chair

Awards Committee Report

June 2009

National Awards winners:

J. Allen Alexander Award:	James R. Hodgson
Helmut E. Drechsel Award:	Michael S. Morris
Memorial Award:	Arial Rom

The Awards Committee Guidelines require a fifty percent favorable vote by eligible voters. Out of 13 possible votes, eight took the time to vote and five chose not participate.

Symposium Awards:

Andrews Glass Award: (paper)

James R. Hodgson "More Useful Information for Glassblowers"

Wale Award: (poster)

Tracy Drier "GI Digester Construction"

William A. Wilt, Sr. Award: (Technical demonstration)

Dennis Briening "Micro Injector"

Regional Section Awards: when possible please forward names of award recipients for our records. It is the director's responsibility to supply this information to the National Office and Awards Committee.

Delaware Valley Award: Jesse Yager

Exhibitors Jr. Member Scholarship: Kaite Jones

North East – Karl F. Walther Award: ?

Southeast- Dana Sampson Award: ?

Midwest: Steven M. Anderson

Plaques Information:

Scott Bankroff has generously sandblast the wordage on our plaques for us.

Our entire inventory of plaques has been sent from Lachman & Company to Scott.

Inventory of plaques **after** this symposium: 1-Past President Gavel

0-J. A. Alexander

1-H. E. Drechsel

0-Memorial Certificate

0-Symposium Chair

Award \$\$\$ spent during 2008-2009 budget year:

06/05/08: Scott Bankroff - Postage on Plaques \$26.70

06/19/08: Richard Smith - J Allen Alexander Award \$300.00

06/19/08: Donald Lillie - Helmut E Dreschel Award \$200.00

07/09/08: Ikonics/Bookkeeping Plus - Award Plaque \$72.54

07/15/08: Jason Craig - Memorial Award \$1,396.47

07/21/08: Steve Anderson - Awards Committee Expenses \$250.30

Total \$2,246.01

Budget \$2,500.00

Variance \$253.99

Respectfully submitted

Steven M. Anderson



The American Scientific Glassblowers Society

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natl-office@asgs-glass.org

To: President Korfhage
From: Mike Souza
CC: Board of Directors
Date: 5/26/09
Re: Education Report

This committee has been working in partnership with Salem Community College and the Glass Technology Instructor, Dennis Briening. Last fall, they were still completing the last stages of construction of the new glass center before the students could take occupancy. Dennis took this opportunity to introduce students to several longtime members of the ASGS. Doug Nixon at University of Delaware gave a tour of his shop and the Chemistry Dept. Ed Powel gave a talk and I conducted a short course and slide presentation called: **Fundamentals of Glass: Materials, Properties & Design Aspects**

For those interested I have made the presentation available to members of the ASGS. The PDF version is on my web page at:

<http://www.princeton.edu/%7Echemdept/mike/GlassFundamentals.pdf>

If you contact me I will forward the presentation in its original Power Point application and users can format their own presentation or create their own Posters so long as the ASGS is acknowledged.

Finally the committee has worked well with the National Office as a contact for person's interested in Scientific Glassblowing; In two cases it was to help High School students in their homework. In most cases I am asked, "How do I get into the career of Scientific Glassblowing?" In these cases, I try to encourage individuals and direct them to the contact people of the Section they reside in.

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Elections Committee

Curt Sexton ran for the office of President-Elect this year unopposed so there was no need to send out ballots. He will be installed at the Symposium in June.

I will continue as Elections Committee Chair for the next administration.

Respectfully submitted,

Tommy Howe



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To: President Korfhage
From: Mike Souza
CC: Board of Directors
Date: 5/26/09
Re: Finance Committee

This committee is for all intents and purposes inactive at this time. A year ago the committee worked with the Treasurer and the Board as we consolidated and upgraded our investments after an extended search that included our review of an investment firm to oversee our investments. The consensus of the Board at that time was to work with our existing Fund Manager who gave what we considered to be our best proposal. Mostly due to the fact that we were able to re-allocate into more diverse funds without having to pay an approximate 8% load.

The last recommendation by this committee was to seek tax-exempt status with the IRS on the basis that the ASGS performs a public trust as a Non-profit Education Corp. I believe this is viable because our long-term mission statement has always been to: Share and disseminate information on the art of scientific glass.

The benefits of this change in status could save the ASGS thousands of dollars annually in form of recovering sales taxes and in further discounts in bulk mailings. This was brought to the attention of the Treasurer Frank Mients and he has done most of the footwork by contacting a lawyer with expertise in this area of tax law.



The American Scientific Glassblowers Society

ASGS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (Formerly) COMPUTER COMMITTEE June 2009 REPORT

May 18, 2009

The first thing to report is that the name of this committee has now formally been changed to the Information Technology Committee. The request for the name change came from President Jack Korfage. After some suggestions for a new name Jack and I decided that the name Information Technology Committee best reflected the services that this committee provides to the ASGS membership. The changes necessary to reflect this name change have been applied to the appropriate web pages on the ASGS website.

One of the projects that I to put on the backburner due to my a personal family situation (first an ill father, then his passing, and then dealing with the loss of my father) was credit card acceptance on our website and I will make that a goal for the coming year.

Since the last report I have created an "Awards" section on the ASGS website. This was done to let website visitors learn about the various awards that ASGS presents and also provide an easily accessible list of past and current award recipients. The ASGS Awards webpages are accessible by clicking on the Awards icon located in the left menu on the ASGS website main webpages. The webpages are current with all awards winners listed up to 2008.

Generally speaking all is functioning well at this time and the website continues to receive timely updates.. If you have any suggestions for improvements to the ASGS website please forward them to the Committee Chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Palme

ASGS Information Technology Committee Chair



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International Liaison Committee

The International Liaison Committee reports that there will be no international visitors attending the Symposium in Vancouver this year.

Dave Daenzer
International Liaison Chair

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JUNIOR LIAISON REPORT

May 18, 2009
Committee Report
June BOD Meeting

Dear President Korfhage:

By the time of the BOD meeting all the preparations for 2009 junior member workshop seminar will be completed and almost ready for Vancouver, Washington. I feel we again have a fantastic program planned. Registration seems to be doing good with maybe two spots open. I would like to thank our gracious volunteer instructors for their enthusiasm and contributions. Each one brings a special talent to the program and our junior members benefit greatly from those talents. This year the instructors are: Steve Anderson, Joe Gregar, James Hodgson, Philip Legge and Robert Singer.

MEMBERSHIP

The junior membership currently stands at 23 juniors 7 student members. A year ago the numbers were at 32 Junior and 25 student members. I am not sure why the decline this year. Section directors should do all they can to recruit new glassblowers in their sections to join the ASGS and become junior members. They should also work hard to have junior members renew their memberships every year.

AWARDS

The 2009 ASGS Memorial Award winner is Ariel Rom. Ariel is a member of the Delaware Valley section and is employed at H. S. Martin, Vineland, NJ.

The 2007 Delaware Valley Award winner is Jessie Yeager from the Delaware Valley Section and Salem Community College.

The 2007 recipient of the Exhibitors Group Award is Katie Jones from the Delaware Valley Section and is employed at the Great Glass, Wilmington, De.

I would like to thank all members responsible for these awards, their interest, support and dedication to our junior and student members.

I have been contacted by President-Elect, Gene Nelson and agreed to continue as the Junior Liaison Committee Chair for his term. I have also spoke with Robert Singer and agreed to run the Junior Member Workshop Seminar for him in 2010 in San Antonio, Texas.

I have been very honored and pleased to conduct the junior program for the last 21 years. I feel there are times when change is good. I don't know if this is the time but I am willing to entertain and advise on a future successor for my position if requested. I have tried my hardest to set high standards for the program. Perhaps we should start looking toward the future and a new chair. This has been a very successful committee and program for the ASGS and I feel it is as strong as it has ever been. As long as there is an ASGS I feel there can be a junior program.

Submitted by:

Joseph S. Gregar, Chair, Junior Liaison Committee

First of all, I would like to welcome all new and returning members. For the new members and even the returning members, I would like to remind you to take advantage of the resources available through the ASGS website (<http://www.asgs-glass.org/>).

By time you receive this, the National Symposium will be over. We are expecting a good turn out and we also have a great line up of Classes, demos and activities. I would like to thank the many individuals that have contributed their time, efforts and talents for this years symposium.

Here are the membership totals for 2009 (2nd Qtr):

Total Membership 502

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin Teaford, Chair

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Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee reports that Curt Sexton was the only nominee for the office of President-Elect. He will be installed at the Symposium in Vancouver in June 2009.

Jack Korfhage
Nominations Committee Chair

**Outreach Committee
Rick Ponton, Chair**

Did not submit a report

Publications

Breakdown of Feb 2009 Fusion Expenses for 700:

Phase 3	\$4,152.04
M. Brown	1,650.00
Mailing	1,012.60
J. Hughes	1,361.00
Total	\$8,175.64

FYI-cost summary of prior Fusion issues for 750:

May 2008	\$10,869.76
Aug 2008	11,381.74
Nov 2008	11,251.05

Huge savings - good job!!!

2007 Proceedings:

Phase 3 (13)	\$ 206.36
J. Hughes	1,611.00
M. Brown	1,125.00
CD Experts (600)	585.00
Postage/Supplies	756.97
Total	\$ 4,284.33

FYI-2006 Proceedings cost \$9,890.21 a huge savings

Other FYI-

Your total expense budget for Fusion during 2008-2009 was \$45,300.00

You spent \$43,156.69.

You are under budget by \$2,143.31

Your projected income during the same time period was \$57,900.

Your actual income was \$42,895.77 (Accrual Basis).

Actual \$\$ received was \$42,110.67 (Cash Basis).

Either way, you came very close to breaking even. Note that these ### do not include funds billed and/or received in May...

There isn't a budget for Proceedings.

Your Publications Budget during 2008-2009 was \$3,800.

You spent \$777.23.

You are under budget by \$3,022.77.

Will you need the same budget for 2009-2010?

Respectfully submitted,
David Smart

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May 7, 2009

EDITOR'S REPORT

Dear President and Members of the Board of Directors of the ASGS:

Several changes have been undertaken these past several months by Publications Chair Dave Smart to reduce the costs of the Society's publications. Most notably, he sought out prices from other printing companies and ultimately decided to change to Phase 3 Communications. The February issue of *Fusion* was the first to be printed using this new company and I think all would agree that the printing quality of the journal is the same as it always has been. Overall this change occurred very smoothly and did not greatly affect the publication schedule. The main reason that this transition was fairly straightforward is that no change of graphic designer was made. From my standpoint, this is the most critical area of the production of our publications. I have now worked consistently with our current graphic designer for multiple years; not only is she a perfectionist, but she is also very familiar with the requirements of both *Fusion* and *Proceedings* which is crucial. In addition, during this change in printing companies, she worked closely with Phase 3 Communications to facilitate the switch. I have always known that Jane is extremely well-qualified and professional, but this proved it.

In another effort to curtail costs, Chair Dave Smart decided that the drafts would no longer be sent to the Committee members using overnight mailings. While this will save a substantial amount of money, it has meant that each draft takes up to three days to reach the proof readers rather than one day; cumulatively, this process adds up to at least nine extra days. While this may seem trivial, it is not. If delays of any nature occur in the submission, the assembling or the reading processes, then the turn-around time for the proof readers is at a premium. It is not always possible for them to justify placing their volunteer responsibilities above those of their work. This cost-saving measure, while only a matter of nine or so days, may mean that it will not always be possible to adhere to the issuance deadlines as published in *Fusion* although every effort will certainly be made to do so.

Another cost-saving measure involved *Proceedings*. In February, the 2007 *Proceedings* was mailed in a CD format to all who were members in 2007. The final paper for the 2008

Proceedings was finally received in January; this publication is now in its final stages and will be mailed in a CD format to those who were members in 2008. A limited number of hard copies will be available for the Library of Congress among others. The guidelines for technical papers have been distributed once more to those presenting papers at the 2009 Symposium; these stress that papers should be submitted at the Symposium or in the week immediately following the meeting. It is hoped that the presenters will respect this request so that the *2009 Proceedings* can be completed in a timely fashion.

At the Symposium, every exhibitor will be contacted. The benefits of advertising in *Fusion* will be stressed which hopefully will result in more placements.

Thanks are due Chair Dave Smart, Rick Smith and Jim Hodgson for their committed work and for the time they take out of their busy schedules to proof read the multiple drafts of both *Fusion* and *Proceedings*. Their contributions are invaluable.

Respectfully submitted,

Marylin C. Brown

Marylin C. Brown, Ph.D.

May 18, 2009

The Technical Q&A committee is chaired by Tracy Drier. Members include Steven Sweat and Don Pavlak.

Our emphasis has been reviewing archived electronic ASGS Technical Q&A e-mail. Relevant and interesting posts are summarized for publication in Fusion. We are starting from the earliest posts and working towards the present day.

It is felt that having these questions in print will be useful for those without computer access, not on the Technical Q&A list, or unable/unwilling to access these archives.

Two long term goals that would be of benefit to members:

- Provide an opportunity at the symposium for members to request topics of inquiry from the Q&A committee.
- A keyword searchable database of past technical Q&A topics. This could be incorporated into the Roster/Cumulative Index CD, or as a *members only* feature of the ASGS website.

Best Regards,
Tracy

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Reference and Abstracts

Dear President Korfhage and members of the Board

Due to poor leadership on my part and a dearth of materials, the Refs & Abstracts Committee has nothing to report.

Late last year President Korfhage sent me an email to a member whom might be willing to assist me on this committee. Unfortunately it arrived at a very busy time for myself and I failed to act upon it immediately and then later I forgot about it. Like I said, poor leadership on my part.

In addition, I am still stymied by the lack of materials to report. As an example, consider two journals the "Journal of Vacuum Science and Technology" and "Glass Line." In the former, during the past year, there were two articles that potentially had limited (but potential) value to glassblowers while the later has not had an article that could be justified to be in Fusion in years. I found them all far too focused on purely on art as opposed to dynamics of glass.

At this years symposium I will try and contact those who might help me and I will also contact the individual whom President Korfhage led me through. Hopefully I will be able to obtain the support I need to continue this committee.

Respectively yours,

Gary Coyne
Chair, References & Abstracts Committee.

Safety & Hazards Committee Report

June 2009

An ASGS Member inquired about the need for ventilation of the glass shop while working with quartz. I faxed a copy of the 1990 Proceedings referenced below. I also supplied contact information for Rick Smith at the University of Georgia, he has a new ventilation system designed for glassblowing. We discussed the usefulness of the CD archives and the member plans on purchasing a set. I should have more information to share at the board of directors meeting about ventilation. My safety report from 2004 is below listing articles and recommendations.

“A recent question to the Safety committee was posed about the safety of working with quartz. The 1990 Proceedings of the The Thirty Fifth Symposium of the Art of Glassblowing has a good article by G.E. Myers and J.E. Gregar of the Argonne National Laboratories titled Health Hazards in the Glass Shop. They define the quartz was use as amorphous Silica as opposed to crystalline silica used in sand blasting. “The respiratory system has numerous built in defenses, most of which act to prevent particles in the inhaled air from reaching deep into the lungs. Large particles of more than a few micrometers in diameter are trapped in the upper airways and removed when one “clears his throat”. Particles smaller than a few micrometers are not trapped efficiently and can penetrate deep into the most vulnerable lung tissues. Small silica Particles thus can be deposited in the most sensitive parts of the lungs, and the result of repeated exposure can be silicosis.

At one time it was believed that only crystalline silica was significantly hazardous, and that amorphous, or glassy silica was far less harmful. We now know that crystalline silica is indeed more strongly fibrotic, but we have learned that amorphous silica is more hazardous than once believed. Almost by definition, glassblowers work with amorphous silica. The TLV for crystalline silica is 0.1 milligrams (100 micrograms) of silica per cubic meter of air, and the TLV for amorphous silica is twice that, or 0.2 milligrams per cubic meter”

The Center for Disease Control has great information on their website www.cdc.gov, type in Silica in the search box. “Silica it’s not just dust” has some very good information. There are some articles about amorphous silica but they usually are in reference to a soil product. Most references are about silica dust from sandblasting and construction. Glassblowing is such a small specialty that it is difficult to find article directly relating to us. There are some listings for manufacturing of fiberglass and glass but the amount of exposure is much different than we experience. We should read and adopt some of the safe practices listed in the articles.

The most cautious approach may include some of the following approaches listed.

- 1) Do not smoke!!! It limits your lungs ability to clear it of particles.
- 2) A HEPA air filtering system will help improve air quality.
- 3) Silica dust should be removed with a mop and not stirred up with a broom. An example is the area around a wet saw.
- 4) In dusty conditions use an NIOSH approved respirator.
- 5) Talk to your physician, one report recommended x-rays to try to quantify any changes in the lung before the damage is terminal. Damage is not reversible. We each start with different lung and other body functions that can limit our ability to fight silica dust.
- 6) Use excellent ventilation when heating quartz to remove dust and vapor.
- 7) A sandblaster is a very dangerous piece of equipment, it must be properly vented. It is now recommended that silica should not be used. Your lungs avoiding Silicosis can actually break down alternatives such as iron oxide.

If you have any government or industry publications please forward them to me so they may be shared.”

Patrick DeFlorio

Steering/Bylaws

Robert Singer, Chair

Will bring report to meeting.



The AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC GLASSBLOWERS SOCIETY

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May 19, 2009

RE: 501(c)(3) status

Dear President Korfhage:

At the November BOD meeting a proposal was made to consider changing the tax status of the ASGS from a 501(c)(6) to a 501(c)(3). I believe there are two main questions to be answered. (1) Can we be reclassified as a 501(c)(3)? and (2) Should we be reclassified as a 501(c)(3)?

From my research I believe the answer to (1) is “possibly”, and the answer to (2) should be “probably not”.

There are many considerations, including; possible cost savings to be gained, increased record keeping requirements, offsetting costs of maintaining 501(c)(3) status, costs to change status, chances of receiving grants, etc.

In an effort to keep a complex and lengthy subject as brief as possible, I will respond to the points raised in the original proposal. My responses will be in italics. Material taken essentially verbatim from the references listed at the end will be in quotes.

November 25, 2008

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE ASGS FROM 501C6 TO 501C3 CLASSIFICATION.

The ASGS was and is classified as a 501C6 organization. This is an Internal Revenue Service classification for tax purposes for non profit organizations. This rating is used for fraternal organizations and service clubs.

“IRC 501(c)(6) provides for exemption of business leagues, chambers of commerce, real estate boards, boards of trade, and professional football leagues (whether or not administering a pension fund for football players), which are not organized for profit and no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual.”

“Trade associations and professional associations are business leagues.”

“A section 501(c)(6) organization is a membership organization characteristically supported by dues.”

“The mission of a (c)(6) essentially benefits the special interests of their membership, rather than the broader interests of the public at large.”

The above support our continued classification as a 501(c)(6).

This rating fit the ASGS in the early years. We have grown and progressed from some glassblowers having a beer together, to a society that has introduced the seminar program, junior and regular member seminars, mentor program, publications containing how to and scientific information, symposiums containing demonstrations and posters, educational section meetings and collaboration with Salem Community College.

Yes, this classification did fit in the early years and it still does today. We still exist for the benefit of our members and not the general public.

The classification 501C3 is for organizations that are among other things, scientific and educational.

“The exempt purposes set forth in section 501(c)(3) are charitable, religious, educational, scientific, literary, testing for public safety, fostering national or international amateur sports competition, and preventing cruelty to children or animals. The term charitable is used in its generally accepted legal sense and includes relief of the poor, the distressed, or the underprivileged; advancement of religion; advancement of education or science; ...”

“Educational Organizations – the term educational relates to:

- 1. The instruction or training of individuals for the purpose of improving or developing their capabilities, or*
- 2. The instruction of the public on subjects useful to individuals and beneficial to the community.”*

“Scientific Organizations – You must show that your organization’s research will be carried on in the public interest. Scientific research will be considered to be in the public interest if the results of the research (including any patents, copyrights, processes, or formulas) are made available to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis; if the research is performed for the United States or a state, county, or municipal government; or if the research is carried on for one of the following purposes.

- 1. Aiding in the scientific education of college or university purposes.*
- 2. Obtaining scientific information that is published in a treatise, thesis, trade publication, or in any other form that is available to the interested public.”*

In a conversation with an IRS agent, we definitely meet that criteria.

Although on the surface we may meet the criteria, we do not meet an important ideal. That is, charitable organizations generally operate their educational or scientific purposes for the benefit and instruction of the public. We operate for the benefit of our membership, scientific glassblowers.

This classification is under the general heading of charities. We do not have to be a charity to meet the requirements.

To apply for this classification, the ASGS needs to amend its charter and fill out an IRS Form 1023 and send in an application fee of \$750.00

The charter of the ASGS is simple and specific. Under Article III

“Section 1. The gathering and dissemination of knowledge concerning scientific glassblowing, apparatus, equipment and materials by:

- (a) Holding regular meetings for members.*
- (b) Discussing problems and methods of construction.*
- (c) Gathering and dispersing information concerning apparatus, equipment and materials.*
- (d) Testing in a cooperative manner new apparatus, equipment and materials.*

Section 2. To engender a feeling of unity and fellowship among all persons interested in the scientific glassware field.”

Conversation with our Delaware Agent, CSC, provided the following information.

- 1. We would have to restate the corporate charter. The restated charter would have to include specific language concerning our original name and the original date (3/17/54) of our charter. CSC is quite familiar with the specific language and procedure.*
- 2. We would have to file a restated certificate of incorporation with the necessary 501(c)(3) language included.*
- 3. The cost to restate the corporate charter is around \$135 plus an \$18 charge for the first page and \$9 charge for each additional page. CSC would charge \$159 to file this for us. The total cost for refiling the charter would be around \$325.
(I spoke with Brian at CSC. 1-800-927-9801 ext 3437)*

The application fee is \$750.00 and is non-refundable, regardless of outcome.

Form 1023 is 12 page form, an additional 14 pages of schedules, a 1 page checklist and a 38 page instruction book. Although Form 1023 could be filled out by the ASGS, the complexity and the amount of online resources indicate that professional help would be preferable. One cut-rate firm charges \$499 for filing. I believe that the attorney Frank Meints consulted charges \$190/hour for his services.

I am not sure what the procedure is to amend our charter or the cost at this writing.

Our present charter is lacking two items that are now required for all 501 charters.

A full copy of the requirements will be distributed at the BOD. You may also log on to irs.gov/charities

1. In short, we need to state that earning will not be distributed to members except for reasonable compensation for services rendered and that we will not engage in political activities.
2. Upon dissolution of the corporation, assets will be distributed to one or more exempt purposes -- another non profit or to the government.

This is correct but there may be additional language required.

Benefits of 501C3

We can be exempt from state sales tax. State tax on one issue of FUSION is over \$600.00, A state will issue a tax exempt I. D. upon getting a federal determination letter.

Due to changes in publishing and the way distribution is handled, the sales tax on a single issue of Fusion is now around \$265 or a potential savings of \$1060 per year.

Charitable donations by individuals can be tax deductible.

The amount paid for glass items at the annual charity auction would not be a charitable donation.

We can also save 33 to 50 percent on mailing costs.

After speaking with Accurate Mailing it appears we could only save around \$.10 per copy on Fusion mailing. At 600 copies this is only \$60 per issue for a total savings of \$240 per year. The annual budget for postage is \$1500. If we received the possible savings of 40% on this total amount we would save \$600 per year.

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We will be eligible to receive grants. Grants can be for programs, equipment and operations.

Yes, we would be eligible to receive grants. However I believe there are sufficient drawbacks that this shouldn't factor in to the decision.

1. *Most granting agencies require audited books. That is, an audit by a CPA. In my local area the arts center pays over \$3000 a year to have their books audited.*

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2. *Grant writing takes time. To use an old phrase, “..but who is to bell the cat” I am skeptical that in our volunteer society where many members are already overcommitted that there will be someone who has the necessary time and endurance.*
3. *Changing the charter changes the purpose of our society. If it doesn't, then why would anyone donate for things we should pay for ourselves?*

(Mike Souza is going to take a class in grant writing. There may be others out there already experienced.

Grant reporting takes time and usually administrative costs are included in the grant.

This is an outline for discussion. Jack has suggested that we form a committee to look at all the details and procedures.

I think this is worth the effort to not only save money on taxes but to have another avenue to enhance our educational programs.

Frank Meints
Treasurer ASGS

All my research indicates to me that our current classification of 501(c)(6) is the correct classification.

Although we appear to qualify for a 501(c)(3) under the educational or scientific category, I am continually reminded that the word “public” plays a large part. Reference 4 gives some examples of groups that do, or do not, qualify for the 501(c)(3) classification. One of the examples given as a group that does qualify is as follows,

“...an engineering society formed to engage in scientific research in the areas of heating, ventilating, and air conditioning for the benefit of the general public qualifies for exemption under IRC 501(c)(3).”

The ASGS exists for the benefit and education of its members, not for the benefit of the general public.

We already enjoy one of the benefits of a 501(c)(3) with our current classification of 501(c)(6), that is, we are exempt from federal income tax.

Our current tax preparer (and also our National Office provider) has indicated that they would be reluctant to prepare our tax returns as a 501(c)(3) without additional guidance. The increased record keeping and accountability should not be considered as part of our current contract with the National Office.

Although some costs of a 501(c)(3) classification change are known, the actual costs of record keeping, tax preparation and maintaining 501(c)(3) status are not known at this time and our actual financial benefits are questionable.

In my opinion it would be necessary for our sections to be included in a group exemption as subordinate organizations. This would require increased record keeping, reporting and accountability on the section level, especially for the section treasurer.

While the idea of grant money is alluring, in order to be eligible for the grants I believe we would have to change our charter and the basic purpose of our society.

The board of directors will have to decide if pursuing 501(c)(3) status is in the best interests of the ASGS.

Respectfully submitted,

James R. Hodgson

References:

1. <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p557.pdf>

Publication from the IRS on the qualifications and application procedures for 501(c) tax exempt status for organizations.

2. <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p4573.pdf>

Group exemptions for subordinate groups within a central organization.

3. http://law.richmond.edu/nonprofit/HowToFormANonprofit_1st_ed-Chapter3.pdf

Starting A Nonprofit: What You Need To Know, 1st Ed. – Chapter 3 ©2006 Ann Hodges et al. This guide is intended to assist small, start-up organizations in the formation and maintenance of a nonprofit entity. While accurate, information in this document is not intended to be comprehensive, so it is important to consult with a legal or tax professional if questions arise. (See [disclaimer](#)). This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 2.5 License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.5/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, 543 Howard Street, 5th Floor, San Francisco, California, 94105, USA.

4. <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-tege/eotopick03.pdf>

IRS publication: Exempt Organizations Continuing Professional Education Technical Instruction Program for FY 2003

A discussion of issues relating to the tax-exempt status under IRC 501(c)(6) of business leagues, chambers of commerce, boards of trade, and similar organizations.

5. <http://www.pgdc.com/pgdc/news-story/2003/10/31/irs-issues-eo-cpe-text-fiscal-2004-organizational-test-irc-501-c-3>

The IRS has issued its Exempt Organizations Continuing Professional Education text for 2004: Organizational Test for IRC 501(c)(3) Organizations. The organizational test requires the articles of organization of exempt organizations to contain explicit statements and dissolution provisions. Further, private foundations must satisfy additional tests. This article addresses specific issues that have arisen in determining whether the organizational test is satisfied. Full Text: By Elizabeth Ardoin

This article contains the following topics: Overview, Exempt Purposes and Dedication of Assets, Exempt Purposes: Q & A's and Examples, Dissolution Provision: Q & A's, Private Foundations, Conclusion

6. <http://www.stayexempt.org/>

Online Educational Resources for Tax Exempt Organizations from the Exempt Organizations Office of the Internal Revenue Service. EO web based mini-courses.

7. http://www.aorn.org/docs_assets/55B250E0-9779-5C0D-1DDC8177C9B4C8EB/4E2E2021-1871-EBA3-88FFC31A6E7975E0/Difference%20between%20501c3%20and%20501c6.pdf

Chart comparing 501(c)(3) to 501(c)(6)

8. <http://www.form1023help.com/>

This website, posted as a public service by Sandy Deja, author of "[Prepare Your Own 501\(c\)\(3\) Application](#)", is designed to help new non-profit organizations complete the Application for Exempt Status Under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

9. <http://members4.boardhost.com/PNDtalk/msg/archive/38759.html>

Re: 501(c) 3 VS 501(C)6 Posted by [Linda Procopio](#) on 3/18/2005, 5:01 pm, in reply to "[501\(c\) 3 VS 501\(C\)6](#)"

The mission of a (c)(6) essentially benefits the special interests of their membership, rather than the broader interests of the public at large. Because the primary mission of a Chamber of Commerce (or similar association) is to improve the business environment and therefore increase profitability of their member's businesses, they usually do not qualify as a (c)(3). It's not having a MEMBERSHIP that makes you a (c)(6). Many (c)(3)s also have Members. I've known many business groups that qualified as (c)(3)s because their mission included the removal of blight, and they had educational components in their mission that qualified as charitable in nature. A (c)(3) designation allows you to apply for grants and give charitable deductions to contributors. If you have a charitable mission and do not plan to work to influence legislation or benefit your members directly, that's the designation you probably want to strive for.

10. <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1023.pdf>

Application for Recognition of Exemption. This is the application form with schedules and instructions.

11. <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p4220.pdf>

Pamphlet on applying for 501(c)(3) status. 15 pages

TO: Mr. Jack Korfhage, President, The ASGS

SUBJECT: Symposium Coordinator Report

FROM: Jerry A. Cloninger

The 2009 National meeting in Vancouver, Washington is progressing. Most of the planning is complete with only a few things remaining to be completed. Symposium registration has started and is coming in slow. Hopefully this will pick up. Due to the economy, this may be a small meeting. We should do OK because of the great contract Vic Matthews negotiated with the Red Lion Hotel.

The 2010 Symposium contract is ready for signature and will be completed by the 20th of May, 2009. Bob Singer has done a wonderful job of selecting an excellent hotel. The meeting will be held at the Omni San Antonio Hotel at The Colonnade. The dates will be July 5th thru July 10th, 2010. This is a very nice hotel and has ample free parking. There is a charge for valet parking. Room rates have been set at \$112.00 single/double and are good three days pre/post official meeting dates.

Don Woodyard of the Southeastern Section is looking into hosting a meeting for 2011 in the Washington, DC area. Plans are still very tentative. Hope to have an update at the BOD meeting.

Please remember, Exhibitor packets for the 2010 symposium, should be presented at the June, 2009 meeting. Hopefully, these rates were established at the November, 2008 BOD meeting.

If anyone is interested in hosting a Symposium, please contact me at: jerry.cloninger@att.net or by phone at 770-827-7147.

Respectfully,
Jerry A. Cloninger

Symposium 2010

Robert Singer, Chair

Will bring report to meeting.