American Scientific Glassblowers Society

Directors Report

Section: ___Northeast_____

Section Officers

Director: _____Patrick J DeFlorio_____
Alt. Director: _____Sally Prasch_____
Chair: _____Daryl Smith_____
Vice Chair: _____
Secretary: _____Michael Souza_____
Treasurer: _____Wayne Martin_____

Section Profile

Number of section meetings planned for the year: ____2_____
Number of meetings since last Board of Directors meeting: ____1_____
Number of section members: _____60_____
Average attendance at section meetings: ___30_____
Financial resources: (x) Adequate ( ) Inadequate
How would you describe your typical section meeting (check all that apply)
(x) Educational (x) Social (x) Speaker (x) Tour (x) Workshop
( ) Other _____

Section Challenges

( ) Difficulty in finding a meeting location
( ) Difficulty in organizing a meeting
( ) Difficulty in finding workshop presenters
(x) Poor attendance at section meetings
( ) difficulty in finding section officers
( ) Other (explain) _____

Additional Comments

I have placed calls to Northeast members that did not renew. It has been a discouraging experience. One of the junior members renewed but most of the members did not pick up the phone or return repeated calls. Both a regular member and a retired member commented that they did not attend symposiums and felt they received little value from their memberships. They did not think they received mailings about section meetings. I will send the regular member a copy a well written Fusion article to show what he is missing. I have emphasized in my phone messages that we have lost 20 % of the members and we will loose our critical mass to have symposiums and publications. I requested a mailing list from the National Office of Northeast members and mailed our fall meeting notice to them. Mike Souza our secretary was in England at the time when we made the mailing. As I called non renewals I found most of them were not on our mailing list. Like most sections the list has been handed down over the years and names have not been omitted or added.

We had our Fall meeting 10/10/2009 in Ballston Spa New York at the National Bottle Museum. We were pleased to be visited by Kurt Sexton president elect. Mike Souza and Sally arranged the facilities; Daryl lined up sponsors but was unable to attend because of scheduling conflicts. Demonstrations were done by Sally Prasch, Mike Souza and Anatoly Kishinevski and his younger brother. There was a discussion about the request of section funds for finishing the videos. There is concern that our revenue is falling and we may not be able to recapture the expense.

I will be moving on to the president elect position, Dan Wilt will take my place if another member is not interested.Submitted by: ____Patrick DeFlorio_____
Date: _____10-25-2009_____