

President

I have focused my efforts on trying to bring content to the web site. The officers listed on the site were out of date. Mike Wheeler wanted a spread sheet with contact information so that this could be done once. This was easier said than done because many members do not list their e-mail address. I wanted the information listed to be current and correct. It is presently up to date and I request that directors to send me information if they have made any changes. In the springtime, I want to update everything once again for when Frank Meints assumes office. It is a time consuming process, but it is essential. If sections list officers that are not members, they are not covered by our liability insurance. Section chairs need to be listed so they can be contacted for details about upcoming section meetings. Directors should look at their webpage and customize it. For example, the Great Lakes section has had demonstrations on 50-L flasks. How many meetings do you have a year? Note that you do not need to be a member to attend section meetings. Please include photographs. Matthew McDonald has updated the national officers with photographs from Gary Coyne. The board of directors decided as a courtesy to contact authors of Fusion and Proceedings after the year 1990 to allow us to post their work on our password-protected site. There is a list of approximately 400 authors, and when I started Mike Wheeler had obtained permission from 75. My daughter Emily McDonald used the roster to locate another 40 names. So far neither Mike Wheeler nor I have been refused the right to reprint. Mr. Wheeler has developed an author permission form which can be located through the website. The preferred arrangement is to do this online as it goes directly to Mike Wheeler, and a copy will be sent the National office. As we contacted authors, I noted a lot of unfamiliar names. A closer look as we entered articles, authors, and issues in the database showed that many of these are c-authors. Steve Anderson has written several articles at Mayo. In many instances, he cannot locate the doctors that contributed to the article for permission. Tracking down all authors will be impossible. Can we vote to receive permission from the author that is an ASGS member? There are a couple of issues to remember regarding putting ASGS articles online. Members have not been submitting material for Fusion. Publication chair Dave Smart has scoured other publications to find material to reprint. In some instances, we pay several hundred dollars for the right of written publication only. We cannot receive permission to post from the American Chemical Society and they have been very aggressive in collecting damages for the use of their material without

permission.

We invested some time scanning past issues of Fusion. The original idea was to have a team scan Fusions for a good quality scan that we could post online. The scans would be in the format of a

searchable PDF. This would also be a smaller file than the present CDs. It turns out that “all-in-one”

scanners produce poor quality that cannot be searched. Gary Coyne sent me several pages of instructions which were very valuable. The first step was personally buying an Epson Perfection V500,

priced at approximately \$179. Most important, it came with Epson scanning software. Fusion articles

were scanned and saved as searchable PDFs and then searched as a measure of quality control. The

picture quality is as good as the original which in later issues of Fusion make the final product much

better in terms of understanding the articles. It can take a better part of an hour to scan several articles

from a single Fusion so we probably do not want to scan cover to cover.

Mike Wheeler has past Fusions loaded onto our server. The hold up now is to make some of the fields in our database consistent. There has been a change to the format for the issue number and this

results in articles not showing up in searched. I will use the CDs to try to correct errors in that field.

We have been struggling to update the ASGS-glass.org website. Sally Prasch and Mike Wheeler made a new site for the ISGE for 2012. It could not be linked to our home page. I contacted Christine

DeGaff of Web Sketching, the company that created our webpage. The response email reads as follows:

“I made the changes you requested. There is no charge for this as per the contract, I will make changes

to portions of the site that were not programmed into the CMS.

Regarding the user account, you should have access to upload pictures and link them, but only within

the middle area. The right side was set up to feature the various fusion covers and the next symposium,

and I was planning to update that as the info was sent to me. If you do have any problems uploading

pictures or linking them, make sure you are using Internet Explorer and have pop-up blocker disabled or

give me a call if you are still having a problem.

Regarding access to the menu, I had originally proposed our \$3995 package which included the ability to

generate unlimited pages; however, the society went with our \$2695 package, which is up to 15 with

additional pages created at a cost of \$100/each. There were actually about 15 pages BEFORE the find a

glassblower section was added in, which added about 8 more pages, but we decided to just overlook it

and did not bill anything additional.

In order to provide admin level access, I respectfully request that the board agree to pay Websketching the difference (\$3995-\$2695=\$1300) and we will include adding the right column to the RTE so you can edit that as well. I believe that would give you access to everything except the rotating photos at the top, which I am not able to program into my CMS and had to do in the code. As an added incentive, I will throw in a 3 page mobile site that you will be able to update via the CMS as well. (I am working on building our portfolio.)

Please let me know if you have any other changes before your meeting and I will get them completed immediately.

Thanks,

Christine DeGraff

partner/websketching web design

www.websketching.com

cdegraff@websketching.com

o: 856.769.5600

c: 856.237.9860

f: 856.769.5677"

Mike Wheeler's e-mails to her were misdirected to her Spam folder so there was some loss of time. I

contacted her father Larry Warwick at lwarwick@websketching.com and he had Christine contact me.

Christine was able to make the changes Mike Wheeler wanted without upgrading but I have included

this information in case we want to make changes in the future. Additional contact information for the

company is:

Websketching

PO Box 2665

Ventnor City, NJ 08406

Toll Free: (888) 469-6071

Ventnor Office: (609) 487-1700

Woodstown Office: (856) 769-5600

Fax: (856) 769-5677

Website: www.Websketching.com

Larry Warwick, Partner

lwarwick@websketching.com

Christine DeGraff, Partner

cdegraff@websketching.com

I attended the Delaware Section meeting on September 21, 2011 held at Carlisle Machine. The turnout was good with a lot of Salem students. There is a misunderstanding between being a sectional

and a national member, despite the best efforts of Instructor Dennis Briening and Director

Katherine

Cheetam. The Delaware section sponsors a Junior member to the Symposium and part of the requirement is to submit documentation and give a report at the section meeting. Jordon Smith, a

student at Salem Community College, was the winner of the 2011 award. Jordan gave an excellent

presentation to the students emphasizing the fact that he would not be eligible were he not an ASGS

member. I sat at the annual banquet with Jordan and found him to be a very articulate young man with

great glassblowing skills. Dennis Briening will work on a poster to put on the wall at Salem telling students the requirements and deadlines for the award.

The Northeast Section meeting was held September 24 at Josh Simpson's studio in Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts. It was quite a treat with the scenic location and the ability to see Josh and his

team work close-up. Sally Prasch is a personal friend of Josh's and she arranged for access that is not

usually available. We had members from the Delaware Section along with the National office.

Mike

Souza gave a presentation about the ISGE followed by me showing off features of the Society's website.

It was a special meeting for me with family members, including my new grandson, Samuel, and my aunt

who is a volunteer at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. She was thrilled to have a chance to watch

Josh and talk to him after the meeting. We did have Salem students at the meeting along with Instructor Dennis Briening. Northeast Section member Adolph Gunther suggested that we total up the

amount of charitable funds raised by the ASGS Artistic Auction. Turn out at the meeting may have been

over 40 people.

The Southern California Section meeting was held October 8 at QB Instruments in Monrovia, CA. Gary Coyne provided transportation for me and my sister Kathleen along with a wonderful meal later

that day. There was a great turnout and some excellent demonstrations. Gary Coyne demonstrated

flame annealing. There were many attendees who were not ASGS members. We encouraged them to

join and showed the advantages through a recent copy of Fusion and CDs. The date turned out to

conflict with several local section members but everyone that attended had a great time.

The Midwest Section meeting was held October 15 at the Mayo Clinic Engineering department. It was a full day of demonstrations and lectures, including the manager of the Engineering department

showing how glass advances medical care. Arturo Ramirez and Tracy Drier gave lectures on avoiding

hand injuries and glassblowing in Belgium respectively. Don Lilly gave a lecture on the crystal palace.

Kyle Meyer gave a demonstration of fabrication of a penny head stopper. Steve Anderson demonstrated the making of a jacketed column. During the tour, Brad Guth showed his fixtures for a

Sun and Planet chuck. The turnout was over 20 people. After the meeting we were invited to Gordon

Smith's house for refreshments. Gordon and Linda were generous hosts and we had a wonderful time.

I have not updated the budget, but I will get to it when possible.

With best wishes

Patrick DeFlorio

President

American Scientific Glassblowers Society