



THE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC GLASSBLOWERS SOCIETY

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EDITOR'S REPORT

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

Once again, the November and February issues of *Fusion* were printed and mailed according to schedule. The staff of McCain Printing is meticulous in their work and the quality of the journal shows this. The efficiency of the current National Office is also a critical factor; this is even more so in the case of this February's issue. December marks the yearly renewal of all advertising contracts; these renewals are a time-consuming process for the National Office since the deadline falls very close to that of February's *Fusion*. In the recent past, the renewals generally delayed the submission of the February advertising sheet to me. This December, however, even though Amy and Stephanie were processing the renewals for the first time all the while still learning about the entire advertising procedure, the ad renewals were all completed exactly on time. This was not only exceptional but also very welcome since timeliness is so crucial to *Fusion's* publication schedule. I have found that this timeliness and efficiency are typical of Amy and Stephanie's work. They consistently respond very quickly and thoroughly to any questions I have and they can always be counted on to follow through. Moreover, they communicate well with each other and operate as a team: regardless of whom I talk to, both are equally capable of providing follow-up information. Their competency and organizational skills are highly commendable and have resulted in numerous benefits to the Society: they modified and improved the advertising sheet so that it is clearer; they uncovered and rectified advertising billing irregularities; they recruited new advertisers; and they have made and implemented numerous money-saving suggestions. In addition, Amy just sent me the most recent issues of *Verre*, a publication of the French Institut du Verre; I had requested these from the last two National Office Managers to no avail, but one week after I had brought it up with Amy, I had them in my hands. It is truly a pleasure to work with this highly professional and resourceful team.

It is important that the Board be aware that a change in location of the National Office entails a lot of extra work on the part of many but especially on the part of the editor. This does not mean to imply that a change should not be considered, only that it should be carefully weighed. With the transfer that occurred just ten months ago, I willingly helped out knowing that the Society had a shortfall of funds. I do not believe that it would be fair to expect me to do so again without remuneration. I have worked

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with three National Offices and two publishers and there is no question that the current National Office and the current publisher have been the best to work with. We have entered into an age of specialization and what was expected of the original National Office that did it all in 1953 is far different from what is expected today. Specialization now enables the Society to take advantage of the abilities of individuals who are experts in their specific fields and professions.

There has been quite a bit of discussion recently about copyright requirements. These are regulated by law and must be strictly adhered to. Any infringement of the requirements would affect the Society's professionalism.

Deadlines are vital to the timely publication of *Fusion*. Three to four weeks in advance of the published deadline, I send out reminders to all Board members and Committee Chairs. It is becoming increasingly apparent that few are paying attention to either the deadlines or my reminders. I am expected to meet a deadline but I can only do so if material is sent to me on time. It would be appreciated if Section and Committee Reports were submitted in a timely manner, otherwise I cannot guarantee that the journal will be mailed on time.

June generally signals a change of section directors. If you would like to ensure that the director of your section is correctly listed on page 4 of *Fusion*, please submit to me the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of any new director.

Respectfully submitted,



Marilyn C. Brown, Editor