

## Membership Report

Overall Membership has been fairly consistent compared to last year's numbers. We have taken some positive steps in streamlining the process for members who are applying for new membership, reapplying as previous members and reclassifications. This has been accomplished by turning over more of this responsibility to the National Office. Two things have changed in this arena: the applications are currently sent to the Membership Chair for approval as an e-mail attachment instead of a fax copy. This has made the process much faster and less costly for everyone concerned. Next, the National Office is printing and mailing the certificates directly to the recipient, once the application has the approval of the Membership Chair. This change not only saves time, but avoids having two mailings to the member requesting either new, renewal or a change in membership status. There is still some work to be done with the on-line application in making certain fields such as: the requestor starting date of employment and years of experience, where they are employed or the location and time spent training as a student should be mandatory fields. The starting date for student and junior members are very important to determine where to begin their starting date of formal glassblowing training. I would also like to see an alternate place, maybe the "Members Only", where reapplying for membership status could be accomplished with a simpler version of the application for membership form. For previous members who are rejoining and their information has not change, the long form is a hindrance. In the coming year I would like to see more information loaded on the "Members Only" website, especially where you are able to search articles and publications by the person's name, article name... etc. I know all of this takes a lot of time, but it would be great to have and I believe is in direct correlation with our society being able to keep and attract new members .

### **Here is a comparison of member totals from the end of each calendar year.**

|               | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | 2009 | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Regular       | 280  | 292  | 239  | 313  | 325  | 330  | 342  |
| Junior        | 30   | 32   | 31   | 29   | 35   | 35   | 31   |
| Life          | 6    | 7    | 8    | 8    | 8    | 8    | 8    |
| Assoc.        | 84   | 77   | 72   | 86   | 91   | 92   | 95   |
| Student       | 21   | 17   | 15   | 8    | 15   | 4    | 6    |
| Retired       | 50   | 55   | 58   | 61   | 70   | 72   | 81   |
| International | 40   | 41   | 36   | 44   | 42   | 49   | 42   |
| Art           | 6    | 5    | 5    | 2    | 1    | 1    | 0    |
| Total         | 517  | 526  | 464  | 551  | 587  | 591  | 605  |

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary Dobos, Membership Chair