

**Southwestern
Section Officers:**

Director: ___Adam Kennedy Alternate **Director:** ___Jack Korfhage

Chair: ___Michael Ronalter **Alternate Chair:** ___None _____

Secretary: ___Michael Ronalter **Treasurer:** ___Bob Singer_

Section Profile

Number of meeting planned for the year: ___1___

Number of meeting since last Board of director's meeting: ___1___

Average attendance at section meetings: ___11 Glassblowers, 3 Vendors (2 present)

Financial resources: Adequate ___X___ Inadequate _____

How would you describe your typical section meeting (check all that apply)

Educational ___X___ Social ___X___

Speaker _____ Workshop ___X___

Tour ___X___

Other (explain): The 2012 meeting was held on April 27 & 28. The first day was at LSU and the second day of the meeting was held at Technical Glass Products in Gonzales, LA.

Section Challenges:

Difficulty in finding a meeting location? Yes _____ No ___x___

Difficulty in organizing a meeting? Yes _____ No ___x___

Difficulty in finding workshop presenters? Yes _____ No ___x___

Poor attendance at section meetings? Yes ___X___ No _____

Difficulty in finding section officers? Yes ___X___ No _____

Other (explain): Member turnout was

Section Activities/Comments: This year's meeting was a combined event by the Southeast and Southwest Section. Jack Korfhage and Bob Singer were nice enough to host the entire group. We were also joined by our President, Patrick Deflorio. The meeting started on Friday, April 27 with coffee and pastries and then continued with a tour of the LSU Small Business Incubator. This was followed by a tour of the LSU campus chemistry department including the glass shop and the NMR lab and then a Louisiana Lunch at Chimes Restaurant.

On Saturday the group started the day again with coffee and pastries, but this time in Gonzales at Technical Glass Products. Around 11am both groups broke off and held their meetings. President Patrick Deflorio briefed us on what is happening on the national level and incentives to attract more national members. It was unanimously decided to hold our 2013 spring section in Austin, TX and to make it a 2 day event that merges science, art & BBQ. The date is still to be determined. Since it was an election year, we let the democratic process flow. The above listing shows the new administration.

Following our meeting we watched quartz demos, a ceramic seal, and a soft glass bead demo at Technical Glass Products. The evening was concluded with a crawfish boil complete with jambalaya and Bob singer's homemade Gumbo. Many thanks go to Bob and to all the employees of Technical Glass Product who are not only extremely talented but know how to throw a party. We are also thankful to all of our sponsors, Technical Glass Products, Chemglass, and Wale Apparatus.

As the new section director I have a lot to learn, but plan to strive to increase membership at both the sectional and national level. I thank Jim Cornell for helping me learn the ropes of being a section director.

Submitted by: Adam Kennedy

Date: May 23, 2012