

# President's Message:

## LOOKING TOWARD THE FUTURE

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In the last seven issues of *The Stained Glass Quarterly*, we published a *Past Presidents' Page*, in order to honor the past presidents of the Stained Glass Association of America. As I join the ranks of the Past Presidents, I now, more than ever, have grown to appreciate and respect the past leaders — officers, board members, and committee members — of this 112-year-old

Association, and the extreme efforts of our staff, Katei and Richard Gross, who have worked with us for more than twenty years.



I now wish to acknowledge and give thanks to all of the membership for allowing me to serve as President of this great Association. It has been an honor. I also wish to thank the Board Members and Committee Members for their hard work these past two years.

Before I became President, I had been a member of the SGAA for 25 years or so, and had served on the Board for many years; I thought that I pretty much knew everything I needed to know to be President. My biggest fear was worrying whether or not I would have the time and the ability to do what it takes to be an effective leader. Well, no matter how much I thought I knew, it was a real eye-opener. When you're the President, it's your job to keep all of the plates spinning and to put all of the fires out.... and sometimes you're the fire. You can imagine, there are a lot of plates to spin and a lot of fires to put out.

Well, I got by with a lot of help from my friends. Jack Whitworth and Jerome Durr, the two immediate past Presidents, were always there to run things by when I needed some advice, some counsel, or just someone to speak with about something that I wasn't quite sure how to handle. My husband and my co-workers picked up the slack at the studio and did all of my work. This allowed me to take the time that was required to be an effective President. Now, I think they're a little tired of that and would like me to get back to doing my own work and take some of the heavy lifting off of their shoulders.

So, on Tuesday, June 9th, (home from the Portland 2015 Summer Conference), I returned to my office to begin picking up the pieces and start life anew as a Past President of the SGAA. It is custom that the Past President serve on the Board for the two years following his/her presidency; I look forward to continuing to sit on the Board and to be a part of this great Association. I hope that the Stained Glass Association of America will continue to grow and flourish and become even greater in the future.

  
Susan Shea