

From the Editor's Desk:

A Very Busy Second Quarter

Some issues of *The Stained Glass Quarterly* just fall into place. Everything just seems to fit. The articles are a perfect mix; the photos are excellent; pre-planning was flawless and everything flows together; during layout, the articles seem to jump onto the page; postwork is almost nonexistent; the PDFs run out without problems, and off it goes to press.

This issue was not such an issue.

The timing of this year's Conference was such that it forced moving the start date for working on this issue back by almost a month. But it was an *amazing* Conference. Everyone who worked on the Artists' Retreat should be very proud. It was, in my opinion, one of the best Conferences I have ever seen. It was a very different format from many Conferences, and I hope to see that format used again in the future.

We also rolled out a digital edition of *The Stained Glass Quarterly* beginning with this year's spring edition; that, too, pushed deadlines for this issue back. You can find out more about the new digital edition and how to subscribe to it by visiting www.stainedglassquarterly.com, but, briefly, it's something that we're doing both to help overseas subscribers and potential subscribers be able to have an edition of the magazine without the added expense of ever-rising postage costs and to meet a small but growing demand for publications in a digital format that can be read on computers, tablets, and smartphones. There is no plan to go to an entirely digital format; the print edition will continue to be produced just as it has been for more than 100 years.

Also, on a more personal note, I was ordained a permanent deacon of the Catholic Church on June 7, 2014. I would like to thank the SGAA board and officers, both current and of years past, for the support and encouragement they have given me over the past almost five years of formation before ordination. I would also very much like to thank the SGAA board and officers for the gift of a white dalmatic; it is absolutely beautiful and is the vestment I will be using when performing baptisms and witnessing marriages, both sacraments that a deacon is sometimes called to perform in the Catholic Church.



Deacon Richard H. Gross, MTS
The dalmatic I am wearing in this picture was an ordination gift from the SGAA Board.

It has been a very busy quarter since the last edition of this magazine. It makes me wonder what the next three months will be like. With any luck, they will be every bit as packed with more great things for the Stained Glass Association of America.

In October, the Stained Glass School will be offering a workshop that teaches how to use neon lights to backlight stained glass. I'm really looking forward to this class; I've wondered for years how neon signs are made, and, while this class is not *exactly* about that, it will still necessarily cover the basics — at least as far as I've wanted to know — of how it is done. It will also be very interesting to see the final product: the unit itself, and how it compares to other lightbox-construction methods in terms of cost and effectiveness. *Hey* — those LED units are great, but they aren't cheap, and fluorescent is cheap... but is often not all that great. It will be nice to see another possible solution to the problem of artificial light in stained glass.

Over the coming months, we will also see the initial implementation of sweeping changes to the membership categories in the SGAA. David Judson and the Membership Committee have been hard at work streamlining the categories and improving what the Association has to offer. Look for more information on these exciting changes at www.stainedglass.org over the coming months.

Fall will soon be upon us, and with its cooler weather will come also opportunities for even more new and innovative offerings from the Stained Glass Association of America. In many ways, what it means to be a stained glass practitioner is changing and evolving, and with those advancements, the SGAA will be working tirelessly to remain at the forefront of the craft of leaded, decorative, and stained glass in America... providing education, standards, and leadership intended to make the world of stained glass better for everyone involved.

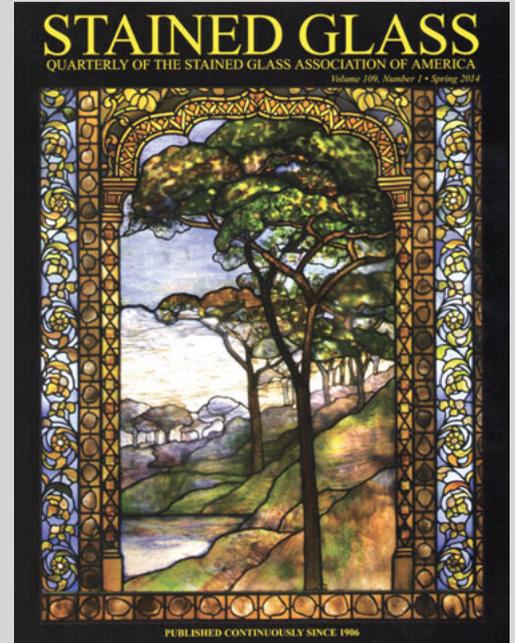
Dcn. Richard H. Gross, MTS

What does the SGAA have to offer?

For its Affiliate Members:



All Affiliate Members receive a subscription to The *Stained Glass Quarterly*, the Stained Glass Association of America's award-winning full-color, journal. They also receive *Kaleidoscope*, the member-only newsletter designed to keep members abreast of current industry trends, actions in Congress, and news about trade shows, conferences, and meetings. Members are eligible for special discounts on other SGAA publications, as well. The SGAA offers hands-on educational opportunities through its Stained Glass School and workshops at its annual Summer Conference.



For its Accredited Professional and Professional Members:

Our Accredited Professional Members and Professional Members receive the standard membership benefits and are eligible to take advantage of special SGAA programs to strengthen and promote their businesses through exclusive marketing and advertising opportunities. They are also able to network with other craftspeople and business owners to share ideas and gain new insights. Perhaps most important is the opportunity to serve on committees, seek an elected position, and to vote on issues that affect the stained glass industry. These members can take on a direct role in helping to protect and shape the future of the stained glass craft in America!



For architects and owners of stained glass:

The SGAA can assist in the search for highly qualified stained glass professionals to provide new stained glass or restore existing stained glass. Choosing from among our Accredited Professional Members and Professional Members is the best way to guarantee that you will be working with craftspeople dedicated to the highest standards for excellence in craftsmanship, integrity and business practices.

The SGAA's annual *Sourcebook*, published in both printed and digital editions, serves as a guide to our current membership and also contains informative articles, government standards, and sample specifications. *Sourcebook* is an important resource to those actively involved in commissioning new stained glass installations or in preserving their existing stained glass.

The newly revised SGAA *Standards and Guidelines for the Preservation of Stained (and Leaded) Glass* is an important publication created specifically for projects that require preservation of existing stained glass. It provides a solid understanding of the most up to date industry standard practices, as well as useful information about selecting a stained glass studio and what to expect during the bidding process.



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to become a member,
visit us on the web at
www.stainedglass.org**