

President's Message:

2015 — FULL STEAM AHEAD!



In my recent Holiday Greeting I said very optimistically:

“Then it’s on to a bright and new 2015, when fresh and relaxed we will reconvene, to take on new challenges every day, working on behalf of the SGAA.”

Welcome 2015! The Holiday Is Over – the Vacation Is Over – We’re Refreshed, Relaxed, and Ready to Take on the New Year With a Vengeance! It’s Monday, January 5th.

- 8:00 a.m.: The nurses were here to draw our blood for the annual blood-letting. (Hope lead levels will be as low or lower than last year.)
- 08:30 – 08:45 a.m.: Checked in with Katei (SGAA). Reminder that we will be working together all day Tuesday (it’s her lucky day!).
- 08:45 – 10:45 a.m.: Met with employees to discuss the week ahead, the month ahead, the year ahead. (By the end of the meeting, I’ve started to get a little overwhelmed — not too bad, though).
- 10:45 – 01:00 p.m.: Opened and sorted mail. No less than 50 bills. No more than two checks. A positive cashflow is out of the question for this month — guess there will be a little catching up to do in the next few months. (I’m getting more overwhelmed by the minute, and I forget to stop for lunch.)
- 01:00 – 02:00 p.m.: Dana reminds me that I need to order glass. I stop what I’m working on to get the glass ordered so that we’ll actually have buildable windows in the shop. The glass I need is out of stock. We’ll have it in 2-3 weeks. (Getting kinda stressed.)
- 02:00 – 03:00 p.m.: Met with Dana to re-think our decision making from this morning, so that we can accommodate delay in receiving glass.
- 03:00 – 04:00 p.m.: Met with Fred and Scott to discuss proposal that must go out today! (How’d I get mixed up in this? Thought I was Production, not Sales? *More Stress!*)
- 04:00 – 05:30 p.m.: Processed payroll. (Used to have someone who did this for me, but thanks to the bad economy, it’s become my job.) At least it’s an easy payroll; no time tracking since we’ve been on break the last two weeks. (Only a few more things to do, and I can get out of here... OH NO!, I forgot to pay the bills — BOY, AM I STRESSED!)
- 05:30 – 07:00 p.m.: Posted and paid bills. (*Phew!*, almost done.)
- 07:00 – 08:00 p.m.: Reflect on what I accomplished today. Make to-do list for tomorrow. (It’s already this late, might as well get organized for Tuesday — guess it’ll be a late dinner — not all that hungry anyway — MOSTLY STRESSED!)

Working with Katei tomorrow (all day) on behalf of the SGAA:

- Winter Board Meeting is at the end of January — loads to do to prepare!
- Hoping for lots of ads in Sourcebook this year — so far it’s looking promising.
- Only six more months serving as SGAA President — I need to get on the stick and get more done!!! (so much to do, so little time to do it)
- Summer Conference Planning will heat up! It’s going to be a great Conference, hope to see a good turnout. It’s definitely a “must-attend” — great classes, great speakers, great camaraderie. That’s it — I’ve decided — I’m definitely going! — Oh Yeah, I have to go.
- Come up with new ideas to attract new members.
- Winter Board Meeting — meet, plan, strategize

I’M PUMPED, I’M OPTIMISTIC, I’M READY TO FACE THE NEW YEAR!

(With a little stress, we can do anything we put our minds to!)

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan Shea".

Susan Shea



The President's Page Honoring the Past

"We may all be proud of our past, but we must never be content to rest on our laurels. While absolute perfection cannot by its very nature be attained, it is that same nature which makes the pursuit so sweet". Gary Helf, 1997

1903-1906	Joseph E. Flanagan
1907-1908	Karl Steward
1909	E. W. Smith
1910	W. G. Speier
1911-1912	H. H. Jacoby
1913	Karl Steward
1914-1915	Charles Donaldson
1916	Frederick Lamb
1917-1918	Henry Hunt
1919	A. H. Roszbach
1920	A. J. Schuler
1921	D. H. Swinton
1922	W. E. Ford
1923	A. W. Klemme
1924-1925	George Mueller
1926	Henry Hunt
1927-1928	Fred Opplinger
1929-1930	Nicola D'Ascenzo
1931-1937	Charles Connick
1938-1941	Wilbur H. Burnham
1942-1943	Henry Lee Willet
1944-1945	Harold W. Cummings
1946-1947	Harold Rambusch
1948-1949	Orin Skinner
1950-1951	Rupert Schmitt
1952-1953	George Hunt
1954-1955	Karl B. Lamb
1956-1957	Wilbur H. Burnham, Jr.
1958-1959	John D. Weaver, Sr.
1960-1961	George D. Spiers
1962-1963	John A. Riordan
1964-1965	E. Crosby Willet
1966-1967	Otto C. Winterich
1968-1969	Stephen Bridges
1970-1971	Harold L. Hollman
1972-1973	A. W. Klemme, Jr.
1974-1975	James Helf
1976-1977	Patrick White
1978-1979	Helen Hickman
1980-1981	John Kebrle
1982-1983	Bill Laws
1984-1985	Gerhard Hiemer
1986-1987	Elizabeth Perry
1988-1989	Walter Judson
1990	Florence Welborn
1991-1992	Paul Pickel
1993-1994	Truett George
1995-1996	Gary Helf
1997-1998	Kirk Weaver
1999-2000	James Whitney
2001-2002	Dennis Harmon
2003-2004	Karen Hendrix
2005-2006	Andrew Young
2007-2008	B. Gunar Gruenke
2009-2010	Jack Whitworth
2011-2012	Jerome R. Durr
2013-	Susan Shea

Bill Laws (1982-1983) In 1952, Bill Laws settled on stained glass "just by chance," simply looking for a job and a way to make "an honest living" with his hands. His studio (or "plant") as he called it, Statesville Stained Glass grew to become one of the largest in the U.S. As SGAA President, he urged greater unity and corporate commitment to the organization's original and oft-stated purpose to promote the finest development of stained and decorative art glass.

Gerhard Hiemer (1984-1985) apprenticed by his father, 1947-1951; served in the US Army; 1951-1954; attended worldwide stained glass study tours; presided over Hiemer & Company Stained Glass Studio from 1968 to 1997; elected SGAA President for 2 terms; served the NJ State Apprenticeship Cm.; named an SGAA Fellow, 1989. During his SGAA Presidency, the Corning Museum of Glass in New York State, integrated SGAA archival material into their space.

Elizabeth Perry (1986-1987) Perry Stained Glass Studio began in 1971 as a "family" operation." All members of the Perry family have put in their time at the studio with son Jim continuing to be a major part. In her first President's Message, Elizabeth Perry cited the SGAA as the "cohesive factor that promotes business relationships, supports our continuing education, and provides a forum to deal with problems and questions that arise in the industry."

Walter Judson (1988-1989) Walter Judson took over the family-owned Judson Studios in 1975, envisioning the studio as providing an entire ecclesiastical environment. As SGAA President in his final Message to the members "my last chance to have this page of comment all to myself" -- he stated that "the SGAA exists as a vehicle for us to communicate our strengths and receive counsel for our weaknesses, not only with each other, but also with the world."

Florence Welborn (1990) As the newly elected SGAA President, Florence Welborn stated "...we must make a commitment to excellence and uniqueness... must set standards and offer guidance...must provide outlets for creations that serve to enhance the standing of both our members and this organization. Under the guidance of Florence Welborn and her brother William Davisson, the SGAA *Reference and Technical Manual* was published by the Stained Glass School.

Paul Pickel (1991-1992) Paul Pickel currently heads Conrad Pickel Studio, Inc., committed to maintaining the highest standards and traditions of the art assuring clients an uncompromising quality of workmanship. In his first SGAA President's Message, he stated "A major benefit being a member of the SGAA is that it affords one the opportunity to meet with, learn from, and interchange ideas with one's fellow designers and craftsmen. This alone is worth the price of admission."

Truett George (1993-1994) When Truett George became SGAA President, the Long Range Planning Committee's report recommended a re-evaluation and re-organization of membership categories. In Fall, 1994 he announced SGAA sweeping membership changes at it's annual summer meeting. He said "The changes are significant, long overdue, and intended to make membership more appealing to a broader spectrum of the craft."

Gary Helf (1995-1996) In 1971, Gary Helf began working for Franklin Art Glass. With the increasing popularity of hobbies in the late 1960s, Franklin Art Glass decided to capitalize on the trend and began to offer stained glass classes, eventually leading to the retail and wholesale business that exists today.