

From the Editor's Desk:

Going to Portland



Photo courtesy of Travel Portland by photographer Jamie Francis

Let me share something with you: I am *really* looking forward to going to Portland for the Stained Glass Association of America's Annual Summer Conference in June. I haven't missed a Conference in more than 20 years now, and I have enjoyed every single one of them; they are all educational, motivational, and fun. But I think Portland is going to be something special because it is *Portland*.

I have long been impressed with the city: its attention to sustainability; its encouragement of using bicycles as a serious means of personal transportation — that alone makes me think I could live there quite happily; its easy-to-use and effective public transit system, and so much more.

There is also a vibrant scene in Portland. Of course, there are galleries for the glass art enthusiast, and Portland is home to

both Uroboros and Bullseye... and I do love visiting glass manufacturers. There are also plenty of things to see outside of the world of glass, including a very interesting puppetry theater.

On previous trips to Portland, I have always been very impressed with the local dining. There is really no need to visit one of the big chains when in Portland; there are plenty of locally owned and even locally sourced dining options. On my last trip there, Eric Lovell of Uroboros took the SGAA group I was with to a then-newly-opened local pub that had amazing food and an excellent soup. I would love to visit there again.

And on that same topic, I am hoping to indulge one of my culinary passions this summer: sushi. While I enjoy most Asian food, and especially Japanese food, I do

love sushi the best of all... and I expect Portland is a good place to find great sushi. I've already started my online research, but if anyone has recommendations for great places for great sushi in Portland, I would sure like to know about them.

I am hoping I can figure out a way to spend a day or two extra in Portland after the Conference for a mini-vacation. It would be a great way to unwind, see a few more of the sights, and have a whole lot of fun. After all, the MAX is inexpensive and easy to use, even for an out-of-towner. Plus, I should probably take my bike. There is so much to see.

Richard Gross

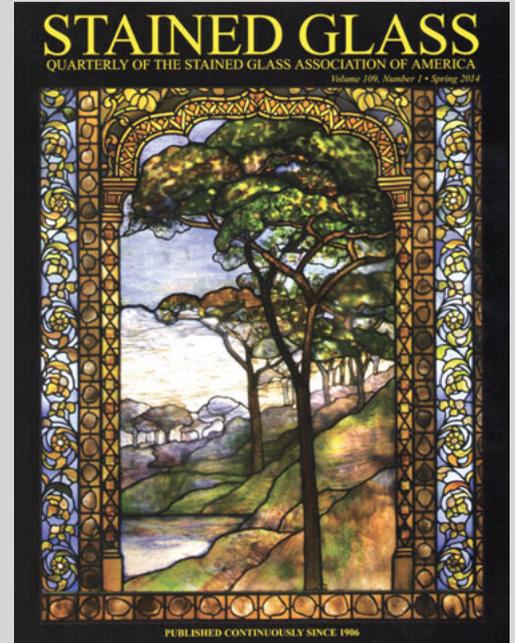
Dcn. Richard H. Gross, MTS

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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