

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

KATHY BARNARD, SGAA PRESIDENT



PHOTO: HOLLIS OFFICER

### Made by Heart and by Hand

This summer's SGAA Conference in Evanston, Illinois has been titled "Lighting the Way for the Next Generation." Since its founding in 1903, the SGAA has seen more than four generations of glass artists and crafts people come and go. Their knowledge, experience, and leadership have been passed from one generation to another, but beyond this, we also pass on our love and passion for the art of creating and preserving stained glass.

Just as those who went before us, we are today the leaders in our craft industry and we strive to pass the mantle of knowledge down to future generations. We all take pride in what we design, create, and fabricate just as those who began the organization did 113 years ago.

I have always been curious about the history and tradition of the President's Badge of Office, so I took the time to research it and here is what I found (from page 37 of the 1988 SGAA *Technical Manual*):

*History: Stained Glass Association of America:*

*The President's Badge of Office is a "collar" somewhat similar to a wine steward's neck chain. Henry Hunt,<sup>1</sup> Otto Heinigke,<sup>2</sup> and Sydney Brown<sup>3</sup> designed it in 1928 and it has a large replica of the Association seal at its base made in silver and enameled in red and blue. The enamels were fired in the kilns at the Rambusch Studio.<sup>4</sup> Smaller medallions with glass workers' tools embellish the chain that hangs around the President's neck.*

These three men who designed and handcrafted the President's Badge, along with Rambusch Studio were all a part of the first generation of the SGAA. The Badge is a symbol of the Association and its traditions and also represents the passion of and for the things that we make—touched by our hands, created from our minds and hearts. The Badge, to me, is not so much a badge or collar, but is much more that of a mantle, which symbolizes the passing on of the traditions of our craft and art to new generations through history and education. It represents the challenge for new and older designers and craftspeople to push the limits of our craft and ideas to become the standards for the future generations.



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Just as the President's Badge of Office was made by hand to serve as a symbol of leadership, we all collectively are the leaders of our industry, art, and craft. We all endeavor to teach, educate, and lead. This magazine, as well as, conferences, classes, and publications are our way to pass on our knowledge and our traditions of excellence.

A handwritten signature of Kathy Barnard in black ink.

Kathy Barnard  
Kathy Barnard Studio

#### Notes

1. Henry Hunt (1867–1943) founder of Hunt Stained Glass Studio, 1906, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

2. Otto Heinigke (1850–1915) painter and artist. He joined the firm of Roger Riordan in the 1880s to paint and design stained glass windows in a traditional style. In 1890 he formed his own stained glass studio with Owen Bowen from the studios of Tiffany and LaFarge.

3. Sydney Brown (1828–1931), editor of the magazine, *The Bulletin of the Stained Glass Association of America*.

4. Rambusch Studio, founded in 1898 in New York, NY, by Frode Rambusch, now the Rambusch Decorating Company, located in Jersey City, NJ.