

# ATTENDING THE SUMMER CONFERENCE *of the Stained Glass Association of America*

by Michael Corish

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*The edge-gluing demonstration was one of many demonstrations given at the open house held at the SGAA Headquarters at this Conference.*

**F**inally! After 11 years of working in the stained glass business, I decided to attend the 2012 Summer Conference held by the Stained Glass Association of America in Kansas City. It proved to be quite the experience. It was more than I expected. I got to meet very interesting people, and the exchange of ideas was very rewarding.

As an employee of Stained Glass Resources in Hampden, Massachusetts,

it was refreshing to see the passion in all the other people. It made me want to go back to work and try all the harder for perfection. I would definitely recommend that studios send employees to the SGAA conferences just to get another view on how to deal with every day issues in their own studios.

The bonus was getting to attend one of the pre-Conference classes presented by the Stained Glass School, Inc. I had



*Michael Corish practicing basic brush strokes at the Introduction to Painting for Stained Glass class taught by Victoria Millard that was held in conjunction with the Stained Glass Association of America's 2012 Annual Summer Conference last June.*

never painted glass before, and I learned so much from Vicky Millard in her *Introduction to Painting for Stained Glass* class. It is another skill that I have now tried.

Not only was this my first time attending a conference, but I was asked to give an edge-gluing demonstration. I am one of two employees at Stained Glass Resources that do edge gluing. It is not my job on a regular basis, so working with my employer, Sue Shea, we spent the month of May researching every aspect of the process using information from the studio and online, until I was confident I could pass along the knowledge that I had.

The demonstration was a success, due in part to the enthusiasm of the attendees there. It seems we all have the same issues regarding gluing. I know I learned a few things along the way, and, hopefully, I helped answer some of the questions that were asked.

Sharing information like this helps us all create work of which we can be proud. I will definitely come to another conference, not only to learn new things but to reconnect with the great people I have met, and I certainly look forward to meeting and sharing with even more new people.

In fact, I will be looking for you in Indianapolis next year. I have been invited to assist in teaching a pre-Conference class for the Stained Glass School, Inc. on leading and cementing complex configurations. Be sure to watch *The Stained Glass Quarterly* and your email for more information. See you at Indy 2013!

