

# From the Editor's Desk:

## An Ice Age, Adventures, and Vision: An Exciting New Year

As early December becomes mid-December and there still hasn't been any sign of snow... or even more than a day or two during which the temperatures failed to make it to the 50-degree mark in Kansas City, I have to confess I am beginning to wonder: *Where is my new ice age?* I remember distinctly, as a schoolchild during the early 1970s, being promised an ice age, glaciation, and maybe even an occasional mastodon migration. Unfortunately — as with many of the promises of the '70s — the new ice age never panned out.

It's too bad, really. I think I would have genuinely enjoyed an ice age. I was so excited about the idea that I even read a book on how igloos are built... just in case. I think I was in the fourth grade then. You never know when information like that might come in handy.

But, if we can't have an entire ice age, then perhaps asking for some snow after the first of the year wouldn't be too much. The local weatherpeople say a white Christmas is out for this year, but I'm planning a mid-January camping trip, and maybe there's some hope for snow for that. Plus, the SGAA's Winter Business Meeting takes place here in February, and I know the folks who come in from Florida don't feel like they are getting the full experience if they can't complain about the abysmal weather in Kansas City. I have come to suspect that many people from Florida would not look forward to the possibility of an ice age with quite the same enthusiasm as I enjoy.

The Stained Glass Association of America's Winter Business Meeting is quite different than the Annual Summer Conference. While the Annual Summer Conference is a meeting designed to benefit the entire membership by providing educational seminars, networking opportunities, times for socializing with peers, chances to provide input on the future of the Association, and many other activities, the Winter Business Meeting is shorter and focused primarily on conducting the business of the Association.

Attended primarily by officers, directors, and committee members with active projects, the Winter Business Meeting is a time for planning and preparation. I'm sure there will be developments in the planning for the 2013 and 2014 Annual Summer Conferences. Next year's Conference will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, with one major Conference event held at Kokomo Opalescent Glass in nearby Kokomo, Indiana. It will



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be a very exciting Conference and one at which the SGAA Stained Glass School will be offering several very nice pre-Conference workshop opportunities.

The School itself will no doubt be another topic on which action is taken at the Winter Business Meeting. The school has been very active and is making great strides forward. Based on progress at the School, the city of Raytown has given a 75% tax abatement to the School on the land it owns.

Ongoing workshops and classes are key to the future development of the School, as is continued implementation of the SGAA's craftsperson certification programs that are being developed by the

Association's Certification Committee.

I know there was at least one Negative Nancy commenting that the SGAA Stained Glass School would be successful when a certain very warm place froze over. (Hint: *not* Florida.) Well, maybe that certain very warm place is where my new ice age ended up, because — thanks to the hard work and dedication of a number of skillful, enthusiastic people who are committed to the success of the School — the SGAA Stained Glass School is enjoying success after success.

Myself, I hope to spend part of January sitting in a snow-bank next to a tent and a campfire with a pot of hot coffee nearby and a copy of *Adventures in Light and Color* in my hands so that I can recharge and prepare for the coming year, because, like a snowball that gains size and speed as it rolls down a hill, the Stained Glass Association of America and the SGAA Stained Glass School are on the move. It promises to be an exciting new year!

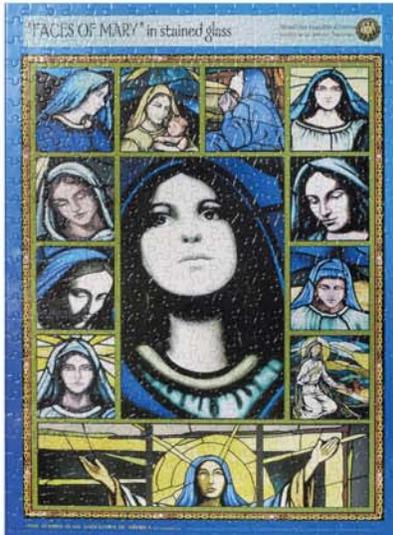
The SGAA Stained Glass School is a product of the vision of many members and affiliates of the Stained Glass Association of America. If you believe education is important and would like to be a part of the future of the SGAA Stained Glass School, I encourage you to contact the SGAA Headquarters at 800.438-9581 or via email at [headquarters@sgaaonline.com](mailto:headquarters@sgaaonline.com) and make your voice heard as the vision is built.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard H. Gross". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard H. Gross, MTS

# SGAA Puzzle Special

## Faces of Mary Puzzle Sale



**ONLY \$5 Each or  
\$3 Each by the Case**

(25 puzzles per case)

**The perfect gift item  
in your retail space!**

(normally retails for \$20—real profit for your store)

The perfect gift for clients, employees, family and friends. Available at this low price only as long as supplies last. **ORDER NOW!**

**Only a Few Cases Left!**



We are almost sold out of Faces of Christ and the Albinas Elskus Memorial Puzzle, with no plans to reorder. **ORDER NOW** before they are gone!

**ONLY \$8 each  
or \$5 each by the Case**



25 puzzles per case

*All puzzle sales are plus shipping.*

Single puzzles ship for \$7.50 via USPS. Cases ship via UPS for \$35 in the US. Call the SGAA Headquarters at 800.438.9581 to order at these special rates. Or visit our website at [www.stainedglass](http://www.stainedglass) to place US orders through PayPal.

**Canada and Overseas**, please email the SGAA Headquarters at [headquarters@sgaaonline.com](mailto:headquarters@sgaaonline.com) with your shipping address to determine your best shipping method and cost.