

Associated Glass and Pottery Manufacturers Association

Date: November 10, 2003
TO: Associated Glass and Pottery Manufacturers members
FROM: Bob Gonze
RE: Project Committee

At our Board meeting that was held on October 31, 2003 the Board was updated on the following matters from this past year:

*2003 Internships – draft report summaries from the students and the host companies are being collected and reviewed. Our goal is to have a written record of the success/failure of the program for all our members to review. The final report summaries will be provided to all members prior to, or at our annual meeting in June, 2003. The initial response of the program is that it was a success for both students and host companies. The students appreciated the specific projects and on the job work experience and the host companies each had a valuable project accomplished that may not have happened without the students' complete ability to focus on just their projects. There is no doubt that the combination of Alfred University's effort to select the appropriate students and the host companies efforts to locate housing, select and introduce good projects, and provide ongoing support to the students were key items to the success that appears to have been accomplished. In further discussion, the Board approved one team of two students to be selected again from Alfred University for a 2004 internship at a non-Association member's facility. For 2005, the Board directed that an alternative source of students be utilized as well as alternate host companies. Issues such as ownership of work developed by students, liability to the Association and Worker's Compensation for the host company in case of accidents, confidentiality of work developed, and the requirement for student health insurance coverage prior to program participation will be investigated. A press release will be developed and submitted to various industry publications to summarize the internship program results for the Association's positive exposure. Any member who has any ideas, thoughts, comments or any other support or criticism of the internships should comment as soon as possible. Thank you. *

*the exposure of the ceramic and glass industries processes and products to high school students for potential future employment that was undertaken by the University of Missouri – Rolla is still being tweaked. The first response to the program that was shown at this past annual meeting was less user friendly and not quite as exciting as we had initially expected. Therefore, at their cost, the University is revamping the program to be more user friendly and more WOW for students. New ideas are expected to be in hand for the annual meeting in June.

For new projects, the Board asked that we investigate and update the Association flyer that was completed and circulated several years ago. Information such as member and non-member factories in the tri-state area, tours, gift shops and museums or other points of interest to glass and ceramic aficionados would be included in the new brochure. This would be a project targeted for completion in 2005, but any ideas or information from members now would be most helpful. Please don't be bashful with information in this regard that you are aware of – even if you think it might be redundant. Thank you.