



Dear Readers,

We are coming into a beautiful spring season. All seasons represent change, but spring brings imagery of new life and growth. I can envision the new buds forming on dew-dropped branches.

It is very fitting that our first international issue comes out in the spring. We are quite honored that Japan was the first country to be featured in *The Flow*. The Japanese have long been known for patience, creativity, and an unparalleled attention to detail. We hope you enjoy the incredible florals and uncanny symmetry of their flamework. It was an honor to work with so many talented artisans. As you look at these unique works, please remember that the glass they use has some of the highest COEs in the world of glass art. Satake and Kinari range from 124 COE to 128 COE. I have never had glass fall off the mandrel so quickly.

Also, Jennifer and I have some exciting news to share. As you all know, the magazine has always been more than we could pull off in a timely manner. Last year Jen and I began a journey to find the proper partner for *The Flow* who could help us bring it to the next level. It had to be someone with an established publishing background who shared our love of the glass community, especially us flamers. A tall order, I know, but an order that was fulfilled nonetheless.

We are pleased to announce that we have partnered with Maureen and Steven James of *Glass Patterns Quarterly* and *Profitable Glass Quarterly* and have been working hand in hand with them to produce this Japanese issue. Over the past twenty-four years, Maureen has guided these titles to become leaders in the art glass industry while never missing a deadline. As our new publisher, Maureen brings with her an entire staff of magazine professionals dedicated to providing our community the quality and service that you deserve. Jennifer will remain as editor in charge of content and design. I will continue to run around in circles and track graphite into the house. This is a wonderful change that we hope will bring the following to our valued readers:

- A timely print schedule. As mentioned, Maureen has never missed a deadline in nearly twenty-five years.
- More efficient service. With nine more team members, we have a more complete infrastructure to quickly handle your requests.
- Faster mail service. We now qualify for special mail privileges, which will reduce our mail time by more than half.
- Increased print quality. *PGQ* and *GPQ* have set high standards for art glass publications.
- Easier phone communication. You will now have a toll-free number to call between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. (EST) Monday through Friday.

So when you all open this issue and think "Wow, didn't I just get the last one," you'll know why the Japanese issue was on time. We hope that you are as pleased as Jennifer and I. We want *The Flow* to be a reflection of our community and look forward to your feedback. Thank you for years of patience and support.

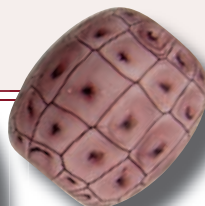
We anxiously await your response to this issue and look forward to your suggestions for next year's featured country. Please send your suggestions to editor@theflowmagazine.com.

Until next time . . . Keep your light shining and your torches lit!

Much love,

William "Boxfan" Menzies
Founding Editor

The Flow would like to thank Keith Bryan, Emiko Sawamoto, Akihiro Ohkama, Toshiki Akimoto, Yasuhiro Miyamoto, Naomi Murata, Masae Gomez and Craig Milliron. Without their help this issue would not have been possible.



Beads By Miki Yoshida

The Flow

Publisher ~ Maureen James

Editor ~ Jennifer Quaid

Founding Editor ~ Wil Menzies

Editorial Assistant ~ Cindy Williams

Accounting ~ Rhonda Sewell

Circulation Manager ~ Sherry Quaid

Circulation Assistants ~ Kathy Gentry,

Joyce Harp, Donna Gentry

Copy Editor ~ Darlene Welch

Advertising ~ Didi Dahlsud

Graphic Artists ~ Dave Burnett

Stefan Myers, Mark Waterbury

Contributing Writers

Brad Brandolino, Keith Bryan

Lauri Copeland, Deb Crowley

Bronwen Heilman, Jo Hoffacker

Jim Kervin, Mark Lammi

William Menzies, Akihiro Ohkama

Jennifer Quaid, Kienan Tiemeyer

Darlene Welch

The Flow

ISSN 74470-28780 is published quarterly

by Glass Patterns Quarterly, Inc.

POSTMASTER: Send address

changes to The Flow Magazine,

P.O. Box 69, Westport, KY 40077

Telephone: 800-719-0769

502-222-5631

Facsimile: 502-222-4527

Website: www.theflowmagazine.com

E-Mail: theflow@theflowmagazine.com

sales@theflowmagazine.com

editor@theflowmagazine.com

Subscriptions: \$28 for one year,

\$52 for two years,

Kentucky residents, add 6% state sales tax. Outside the U.S.A. add \$5 per year for international postage.

All subscriptions must be paid in U.S. dollars, with an international money order, or with a check

drawn on a U.S. bank.

Bulk Rate Postage Paid

at Westport, KY 40077

and additional mailing offices.

Sample issues U.S., \$9

International Rate \$48 per year (4 issues)

©2007 The Flow, editor, and staff

assume no responsibility

for the claims of advertisers or their services, nor do we endorse any particular business.

The articles reflect the views of the writer, not necessarily those of the magazine.

The Flow is not responsible for materials such as photographs and letters, and they will not

be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. All material will

be presumed to be for publishing and is subject to editing, unless otherwise

indicated in writing.

The Flow urges its readers to proceed cautiously in respect to technical information or step-by-step articles. Always take proper safety precautions when working with glass.