

## Section III

# The SVC Foundation

James W. Seeser, *OCLI and JDS Uniphase, Santa Rosa, California (retired)*

---

### SVC FOUNDATION MISSION STATEMENT

*The SVC Foundation's mission is to support parishioners and attract new talent to the vacuum coating industry, primarily through the awarding of scholarships and fellowships.*

The SVC Foundation came into legal existence on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2002, to be the charitable arm of an extended SVC mission. The Foundation's founding Board was comprised of the Executive Committee of the SVC Board of Directors (Tony Broomfield, John Felts, John B. Fenn, Jr., Elizabeth Josephson, Leon McCrary, and Don McClure).

It became obvious after a few years that the mission of the Foundation required more time and attention from its board members than was fair to ask of the already busy SVC Executive Committee. In 2006, the charter was revised to create a Foundation Board of Directors separate from the SVC Executive Committee, yet appointed by the SVC Board. The reconstituted board includes several SVC Past Presidents and other individuals who have demonstrated a long-term commitment to the mission of the Society. The 2007 Foundation Board includes Wolfgang Decker, VAST Films, Ltd.; John Felts, Nano Scale Surface Systems, Inc.; John B. Fenn, Jr., Fennagain; John Marcantonio, Singulus Technologies, Inc., (retired); Paolo Raugei, Galileo Vacuum Systems, Inc.; and Jim Sesser, OCLI and JDS Uniphase (retired).

The Bylaws of the Foundation state that it exists "...for the charitable and educational purposes have supporting the charitable, educational, and scientific activities of the Society of Vacuum Coaters." This general purpose is translated into a primary focus of strengthening the vacuum coating industry by attracting new talent and providing additional education to practitioners. Scholarships are given to deserving applicants at all academic levels, with emphasis on those already involved in vacuum coating technology. Travel grants are made to many recipients so they can attend the TechCon and become more involved with the Society. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded \$33,000 in Scholarship grants to seven individuals from several countries to attend universities in the USA and Canada. In the near future, we anticipate that we will provide grants to students and practitioners to attend SVC Short

Courses, both to sharpen their skills and to introduce them to the SVC. In the longer term, other efforts will be considered, possibly including research grants and web-based educational programs for students.

Although it has a separate board, the SVC is closely affiliated with the Foundation, appointing the members of the board, providing administrative support, and significant funding. In 2006 the SVC provided matching funds of \$30,000, for a total of \$66,000 since the Foundation's inception. Yet the largest source of funds comes from more than 160 companies and individuals, whose contributions approached \$140,000 as of January 1, 2007. Notable among these donations are endowments of \$50,000 each from the Jane & Frank Warchol Foundation and The Community Foundation Grant from John B. Fenn Fund. John B. Fenn is a Nobel Laureate who was impressed with the Society; he gave the Plenary Keynote talk at the 2005 Technical Conference. Frank Warchol of VacuCoat Technologies has been involved with the Society since its start.

Frank said "*Jane and I want to give back to the Society, and the vacuum coating industry that it serves – some of that which it has given to us over the past 50 years.*"

Additional funds have been donated by individuals in memory of Past President Michael Hansen and in honor of Vivienne Harwood Mattox and Don Mattox. We think donations such as these are a meaningful way to honor individuals, and we hope to receive many more such donations in the future.

In addition to allowing SVC members to donate to the Foundation on the SVC's membership renewal form (which has been successful in raising funds), the Foundation also sponsors and organizes the 5K Fun Run and Walk held at the SVC TechCon. Originally proposed and established by Wolfgang Decker in 2006, the first 5K Run raised \$6,000 in Washington DC. The 5K Run will be held again in 2007 in Louisville, and has already surpassed last year's donations from sponsor companies. The Foundation will continue this activity going forward and expects this to be an important ongoing method of growing the endowment. The year 2006 ended with an endowment of \$130,000, and the Foundation has budgeted to significantly increase this figure in 2007. Donors are recognized at the TechCon in the Exhibit area and on the SVC Foundation Web Site.

---

The Foundation Board is committed to operating as cost effectively as possible to maximize the payout to students. The donation of large amounts of time and resources from Board members and other volunteers is critical to achieving this goal, as well as the support of the SVC Board, Vivienne Harwood Mattox, and the MPI team.

The Foundation acknowledges SVC members for their support and invites not only donations, but people interested in contributing their time and effort toward helping the Foundation grow its programs. Participants can help the Foundation become more effective at achieving its goals by working on committees or joining the Board.

---

## **2007 FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Chair**

James W. Seeser, Chair  
*OCLI and JDS Uniphase (retired)*

### **Vice Chair and Treasurer**

John Felts  
*Nano Scale Surface Systems, Inc.*

### **Secretary**

John Marcantonio  
*Singulus Technologies, Inc. (retired)*

### **SVC Board Representative**

Paolo Raugei  
*Galileo Vacuum Systems, Inc.*

John B. Fenn, Jr.  
*Fennagain*

Wolfgang Decker  
*VAST Films, Ltd.*