



## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DAN CORNWELL The National Slate Association, Looking Back and Going Forward

It has been three years since I assumed the helm as President of the NSA and although it has gone by quickly, with the end of my third term this month, I look forward to handing the gavel over to Senior Vice President, Jeff Levine, to carry on with the goals as set forth for the Association by myself and my predecessors.

Goals set for my term in office were to establish the NSA as the official voice of the slate roofing industry, increase membership, and to finish the new multipurpose manual "Slate Roofs". I am pleased to report that we are well on our way to accomplishing these goals.

With the start up of our new web site, and benefits such as the ability of the general public to locate member contractors, and ability to showcase their jobs in the photo gallery has increased awareness of our Association and provided valuable benefits to our members. If you haven't visited the site, please check it out at [www.slateassociation.org](http://www.slateassociation.org). Improved communication to our membership with the NSA Update has helped to make the roofing and construction industry more aware of the NSA and our goal of promoting slate roofing.

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### **ORIGINAL 1926 SLATE ROOF MANUAL**

Reprints of the 1926 Slate Roofs publication are now available with a new foreword written by the NSA. The order form is on the NSA website [www.slateassociation.org](http://www.slateassociation.org) under 'Educational Resources' on the left-hand side of the screen.

### **POST OFFICE BOX ADVENTURE**

Yes, we had a brief adventure with the Post Office. It has been corrected and now accepting mail. Thank you for your responses and patience.

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***NSA Members. Please plan on attending the Annual NSA Members meeting. See page 6.***

### **WHATS INSIDE**

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A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT DAN CORNWELL (*continued from page 1*)

The Manual Committee has been very busy with weekly web meetings and several face to face meetings in various locations across the country. The Manual, although not yet published and still requiring editing and final touches, is for the most part complete. It comprises a wealth of information on the various types and colors of slate with installation details from eave to ridge and pretty much everything in between. Some highlights of the Manual Committee have been a face to face meeting in Granville, NY and Fairhaven, VT to tour the Slate Valley, visit several slate quarries, and host the first Slate Industry Night with the quarries and local slate community. A seminar entitled "Slate Roofing 101" held at the 2009 International Roofing Expo highlighted the new Manual.

Our Standards Committee, on the tail of great success in updating the ASTM Standards for slate roofing, is moving forward with hail testing of slate roofing that involves a cannon that shoots ice balls. We are, also looking into generic fire testing in compliance with new code requirements. We will keep you posted as this information becomes available.

These are tough times for everyone and the slate roofing trade is no exception. Some attrition always occurs during an economic crisis such as we are currently experiencing. Membership renewals are still coming in and for that, I wish to thank you, our members, for the ongoing support of your Association. Please stick with us as we strive on to educate the public, promote slate roofing and make this a better and more profitable industry for all involved.

It has been an honor to serve as your President these past three years, I feel that the Association is in good shape and that the future is bright. Kind Regards *Dan Cornwell.*



Dan Cornwell splitting slate during trip to Vermont