

Consent Agenda

DIRECTORS' REPORTS:

- Region 2 *submitted by J. Walker*
- Region 4 *submitted by D. Dobbs*
- Region 5 *submitted by M. Maynard*
- Region 6 *submitted by J. Biswell*
- Region 8 *submitted by R. Brooks*
- Supplier Director *submitted by R. Dimmitt*

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Governance Committee Report *submitted by H. Rowell*
- Bylaws Committee *submitted by R. Priesing*
- Long Term Planning *submitted by R. Priesing*
- Vice President Report *submitted by R. Priesing*
- TAC Report *submitted by R. Priesing*
- Government Affairs *submitted by D. Pilger*
- Convention Site Selection *submitted by D. Pilger*
- Membership Committee Report *submitted by R. Dimmitt*
- Ethics Committee Report *submitted by J. Biswell*

NCSG Region 2 Report

I hope this finds everyone well and prosperous. This region has encountered a more constant winter this year – keeping everyone busy and making up for the previous slower spring and summer months of 2009. I've had no inquires from the membership about any issues since my last report (other than a few technical questions to NCSG TAC).

I look forward toward serving again as Region 3 Director and addressing our action plans to our list of priorities we set last May.

Safe travels to and from Indianapolis!

Regards,

Jay K. Walker
NCSG Region 2 Director

NCSG Region 4 Report

Most conversations with sweeps in the south have had to do with the amount of rain we are having which has put a “damper” on their businesses. They have high hopes that the waterproofing and repair jobs they have scheduled for spring will be a profitable benefit. Fellow sweep Ken Craig was on his local television station as they accompanied him to a customer’s home. During the interview he represented the industry well and talked about the need to hire a CSIA certified sweep. I’m still getting comments about The Fireplace Doctor from Florida and his tactics; he’s caused quite a stir.

Dennis Dobbs
Region 4 Director

Region 5 Report

The region has experienced a good fall busy season. Those that I had talked to were very much so impressed with the rebounding after the beating they took in the first quarter. The first quarter of 2010 however is taking a similar start as what it did in 2009. I attended the WGCSS winter meeting in WI Dells in January. There was great participation and I got to meet several new members. We held a simplified Region 5 meeting during the WI guild meeting. There were no concerns over present activities associated with region 5 or national. For the most part there has been a mixed review for the 2010 business season. Looking forward to the new region 5 makeup and getting in touch with the new region 5 members.

Respectfully submitted –

Mark Maynard
Region 5

Region 6 Report

Hello members,

Hope everyone had a great holiday season. Business appears to be good for most that I have spoken with.

The Midwest chimney safety council is hosting an event in Oklahoma. Visit www.mcsc-net.org for more info.

In the mean time, if you have questions, concerns, comments, or just want to “vent” feel free to contact me:

Jeremy Biswell, Region 6 director
Office: 913-236-7141
fluesbrothers@yahoo.com

Region 8 Report

Fellow members of region eight,

This will be the last region eight report as we are now all members of the new region six. I welcome our members from the several new states and look forward to serving you all as your representative this next year.

This last year has been a rough one for members from the region. The state guilds have noticed a marked reduction in membership and participation in events as has the NCSG.

As the economy devours member after member, we that remain must diversify our businesses as many have. Being resilient in these times is one of the only things that will see us through.

I encourage everyone to get involved, take advantage of the many resources available to you as an NCSG member and strive to stay ahead of the curve by advancing your knowledge through the many opportunities available throughout the industry.

I make myself available to everyone and will continue to keep the health and well being of all members in my thoughts and prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Brooks

NCSG President
Region 8 director

Supplier Director Report

To be submitted

NCSG Governance Committee Report

The membership election results for Regions 1, 2, 3, and 4, NCSG Directors will be in later this week and the new directors will be seated at the upcoming board meeting in Indianapolis. After convention new directors will begin Online Director orientation and introduction to the Dashboard working area for directors. This will help bring them up to speed sooner with the two-year director term in place and help them be more productive during the spring Long Range Planning session.

The Governance Committee is recommending to the board two at large seats to be filled by Jeremy Biswell and Dennis Dobbs. The GC feels their contributions will be beneficial and make for a well rounded board.

At the LRP board session there will be formal training for all board members on how to better work as a team to achieve maximum results for the membership. The spring board meeting is held by many directors as the most interesting and rewarding. It is where visions take place and goals are set to achieve both short and long term objectives.

The GC has already started to acquire a list of potential future board members from the last election cycle. Some of these candidates have indicated a willingness to serve on the board at some point in the near future. It is the goal of the GC to have multiple candidates on the ballot to give members a choice in upcoming elections of whom they feel will be a good leader for NCSG and their future.

The GC is confident with recommendations from board members and committee chairs that we will achieve these nomination goals and will be a resource for those not ready for board service looking to serve on a committee or task force.

Respectfully Submitted,

Howard Rowell
Governance Committee Chairman

Bylaws Committee

No report

Long Range Planning

No report

Vice President's Report

No report

Technical Advisory Council (TAC) Report

Since stepping up as acting chair of this committee on May 7, 2009 I have logged a total of 60 or less calls reported being received by various TAC members.

The current system of receiving calls is unwieldy at best. It is extremely difficult to accurately track the number of calls received by individual TAC members. It is even more difficult to track the responses given by them.

In October I offered these recommendations regarding the TAC. I submit them again:

- Technical assistance to members should be converted to a Frequently Asked Questions page in the Members section of the website. An e-mail address should be provided for additional assistance.
 - Since most, perhaps all, manufacturers and/or distributors offer technical assistance for their products a full time, on call technical assistance service not needed. Call volume supports this position.
 - The current structure of the TAC, and the lack of consistent recording and reporting of calls, may leave the Guild open to potential liability. A web/e-mail based system would offer the benefit of recording all web page visits, e-mail requests, and replies.
- The TAC may need to be reduced in size. An SOP should be published, and should require that members actively fulfill obligations of membership, or they will be dropped.
- Were any NCSG resources and references in Royal's custody at the time of his departure? Are they available to the TAC now?
- A system should be established to cover phone expenses for TAC members returning calls.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Priesing
NCSG VP
At-Large Director

Government Affairs

LegAlerts were quiet near the end of 2009. However, the beginning of 2010 has been quite busy. I post all State Legislation relevant to our industry on the NCSG discussion list to drive members to the Government Affairs webpage, so they may check out bills that can or may affect their livelihood. The LegAlert system is being phase out in 2010, so we will begin using a new system this year.

I will be doing a seminar called: Government Affairs: Communicating with Your Legislator, at the upcoming convention in Indianapolis.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Pilger
NCSG Government Affairs - Chairman

Site Selection

The Site Selection committee has chosen Orlando, Florida as our Convention Venue for 2012. It will be held at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa. The convention center is located on site and this site is a Disney property.

We will begin our selection for the 2013 venue upon the close of the Indianapolis convention.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Pilger,
NCSG Site Selection Chairperson

Membership Committee Report

To be submitted

Ethics Committee Report

Currently there are 2 NCSG ethics cases on the dashboard.

It has still been pretty quiet since convention. Very few cases have come in.

Thanks to all,

Jeremy Biswell
Ethic committee chair