

## **Presidents Report**

**February 2010**

Fellow members of the National chimney sweep Guild, we have much to be proud of in the way of accomplishments this past year.

Beginning with our Innovation 2009 convention and tradeshow in Winston-Salem, NC. This past February, NCSG was awarded the Indiana Society of Association Executive's STAR Award for Excellence for the NCSG.

In April 300+ Installation Manuals were posted to the Members-Only section of NCSG.org to assist members in serving existing appliances.

In May at the planning meeting in Indianapolis, the board created the strategic plan to guide the organization through the next five years. This living document is then referenced and updated as progress is made through the years. This achievement alone is critical to the success of the association and the industry moving ahead and has been a long time coming. In addition to this, Health insurance options are offered as the newest NCSG member benefit.

In June, NCSG announced a partnership with Real Estate PrepPro to provide service referrals on foreclosed homes.

In July during a special meeting, the board approved a bylaws amendment ballot to be sent to membership. Ballot proposed changes including: Fewer board seats, shorter terms for board members and new regions. By August, these bylaws amendments are approved by the membership and are put into place at the August 2009 board of directors meeting.

Following the August meeting, the new convention site selection committee successfully negotiates a contract for the 2011 convention and tradeshow to be held in Orlando. And NCSG announces new Worker's Comp Insurance member benefit.

Progress in moving the members through these difficult economic times has been dealt with through tough cuts in our operating budget. First with the finance committee and then the rest of board and staff, everyone looked at the budget with an eye on saving the members money and growing the membership. I am proud of the fact that membership dues were not increased this past year, yet value in membership has continued to increase.

Respectfully submitted,  
Randy Brooks  
NCSG President