

President's Report

May 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, 2010, NCSG was awarded the Indiana Society of Association Executive's STAR Award for Excellence for the NCSG in recognition of our financial and environmental successes relative to our 2009 event.

In April 2009, 300+ Installation Manuals were posted to the Members-Only section of NCSG.org to assist members in serving existing appliances.

In April 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 were 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. The ballot proposed changes including: Fewer board seats, shorter terms for board members and new regions. By August, these bylaw amendments were approved by the membership and put into place at the August 2009 board of directors meeting.

Following the August meeting, the new convention site selection committee successfully negotiated a contract for the 2012 convention and tradeshow to be held in Orlando.

In February 2010, we had a very successful convention and trade show in Indianapolis. We budgeted conservatively and it paid off with a profit. This will counter potential shortcomings in the perceived income from the other membership boosters we have invested in this last year.

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 have not increased and value in membership has.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Brooks
NCSG President