

Slate Roofers Converge in the Vermont Slate Valley

THE SLATE ROOFING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION of North America, Inc., held it's 2010 annual meetings and conference in the Slate Valley of Vermont on a sunny weekend in September. The entire Board of Directors gathered to discuss business while a general membership meeting ensued, all taking place at the Fair Haven Inn in Fair Haven, Vermont, noted for its fine food and service.

The conference began with two slate quarry tours. Shawn Camara of Camara Slate Products, Inc., in Fair Haven, gave the entire SRCA crew a guided tour of his family's slate quarry operation including the slate mill and finishing yard. A second quarry and mill tour followed in the afternoon at the Greenstone Slate Company in Poultney. Videos of these tours are available for viewing at SlateRoofers.org/conference_2010.html.

A lively evening reception was held at the Slate Valley Museum in Granville, NY, with delicious appetizers, wine, live music and a museum tour. This reception was sponsored by The Durable Slate Company of Columbus, OH. The band at the reception was sponsored by the Greenstone Slate Company.

The two-day conference included two open bars at the Fair Haven Inn, one sponsored by The Vintage Slate Company, Inc., of Wells, VT, and the other sponsored by Westone Natural Slate Co., Ltd. of China. Lunches were sponsored by both Greenstone Slate and Camara Slate. Our dinner finale was sponsored by Camara Slate with live music again sponsored by Greenstone. Appetizers were sponsored by Evergreen Slate Co., Inc., of Granville, NY. Refreshments during our meetings and presentations were sponsored by the Twelfth Century Slate Roofing Co., of Burlington, MA.

The group enjoyed an Historic Roof Tour, guided by Shawn Camara, in the afternoon after the meetings and presentations. The tour included old slate roofs in the slate valley, old slate-walled houses, an old abandoned slate mill and some newer slate roofs and buildings.

Presentations were provided by John Chan and Gary Howes of The Durable Slate Company, and Joe Jenkins of Joseph Jenkins, Inc. John showed a Powerpoint about the restoration of a copper cupola in Westerville, Ohio and a second presentation about a residential slate roof in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Gary's Powerpoint discussed the restoration of St. Peter's Catholic Cathedral in Jackson, Mississippi. Joe's presentation was about the International Federation of Roofing Trades Congress.

The SRCA became a member of the International Federation of Roofing Trades (IFD) in 2009 and sent a delegation to the IFD Congress in Belfast, Northern Ireland in November, 2010. The delegates included six Board members; seven additional Americans affiliated with the SRCA also attended.

The location for the 2011 SRCA annual meetings and conference has not yet been determined. Stay tuned at SlateRoofers.org.



Museum Reception



Open Bar



Member's Meeting



Historic Roof Tour

Conference Sponsors:

Twelfth Century Slate Roofing Co., 10 Spring Valley Rd., Burlington MA 01803; Ph: 617-666-3888

The Vintage Slate Company, Inc., 164 Vermont Rt. 30, Wells, VT 05774 (mail) and 122 Vermont Rt. 30 South, Poultney, VT 05764 (shop); Phone: 802-645-0274; Cell: 802-342-0915

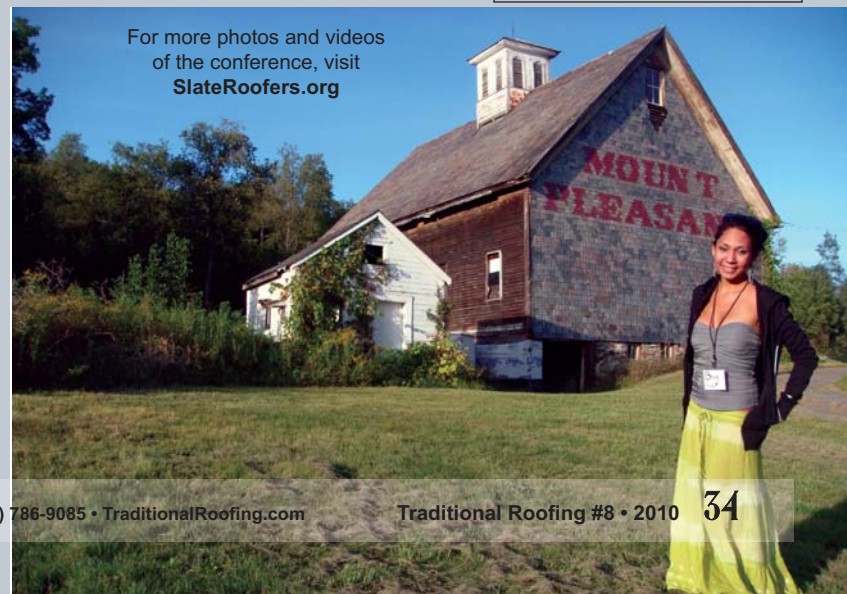
The Durable Slate Company, 1050 N. Fourth Street, Columbus, OH 43201; Ph: 800-666-7445; Fax: 614-299-7100; durablestone.com

Camara Slate Products, Inc., PO Box 8, 963 S. Main Street., Fair Haven, VT 05743; Ph: 802-265-3200; Fax: 802-265-2211

Evergreen Slate Co., Inc., 68 E. Potter Ave., PO Box 248, Granville, NY 12832-0248; Ph: 518-642-2530; Fax: 518-642-9313

Greenstone Slate Company, PO Box 134, Poultney, VT 05764; Ph: 802-287-4333; Fax: 802-287-5720

Westone Natural Slate Co., Ltd., Headquarters: 5B, Palmary Plaza, Tangyan Road, Hi-Tech Zone, Xian, Shaanxi, 710075, China, Phone: +86-29-88193888; Cell: +86-1389-2888958; Fax: +86-29-88193889



For more photos and videos of the conference, visit SlateRoofers.org