



# THATCHERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA DEKKERSVERENIGING VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Newsletter 3/2007

## NEWSLETTER

22 March 2007

The first National Congress and Annual General Meeting of the 'new' TASA were held on 9 and 10 March 2007. We extend our appreciation to all members from all areas for attending the meetings and ensuring the success thereof

Apart from the workshops and meetings, time was also set aside for conviviality. Following the impact and success of the above gatherings, it is decided to institutionalize it as the event of the year. Brace yourself therefore and diarise the next events for March 2008.

### SELECTION OF THE NEW NATIONAL COMMITTEE

The National Committee comprise of the Chairmen from the different areas from which a National Chairman, National Vice Chairman and National Secretary are selected. It was decided to replace the position of National Secretary with that of National Treasurer.

#### The National Committee members are as follows:

National Chairman:	Mr Abrie Visagie	Lucas Quality Thatchers	
National Vice Chairman:	Mr Pat Wilson	Micon Coatings	Gauteng
National Treasurer	Mr Dawid Hoffman	Hoffman's Thatching Specialists	Mpumalanga

*The Executive Committee members dealing with the day to day affairs of TASA comprise of the above members inclusive of the Executive Officer*

Regional Chairman	Me Natasha Still	Dolphin Coast Thatching	Natal
Regional Chairman	Mr Richard Nel	Somerset Thatching	Western Cape
Acting Regional Chairman	Mr Garnet Sephton	Oranje Lapas	OFS & Northern Cape

*As a voting tie resulted in this Region, a new election will take place.*

An effort will be made to re-establish the Eastern Cape Region. No election took place in this Area.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 9 MARCH 2007

The Minutes of this meeting is available on the website.

#### Main aspects resulting from the AGM

- Members with more than one branch / office can obtain additional membership certificates from the TASA office at R50 each. These duplicates are copies of the original certificate. That implies that it is issued under the same company name and membership number for which the R3 000 membership fee was paid.
- In the event of an additional member is added on the website due to the additional branch, a fee of R400 is payable as it has advertisement value for that company.

The importance of the website is increasing as is evident from the numerous enquiries made by the local public as well as from overseas e.g. a request from Denmark for a working session in SA during their winter months.

- Members with outstanding fees will have to settle their outstanding account before continuation of membership is allowed. The password to the website “for members only” will be changed as from Monday 2 April 2007. Paid up members for 2007/8 will be advised of their password.

Membership is payable on the month of entry. New members who have joined later in the year will also be eligible to receive this new password.

- **Membership will be divided into three categories**

- 1. Full Membership** Compulsory for Thatch Contractors
  - Will have voting powers
  - Pay full membership fees
- 2. Associated Membership:** For Associated members.
  - Pay a reduced membership fee
  - Have no voting powers
  - Cannot serve on TASA Management
- 3. Honourable Membership:** On invitation and approval of the National Committee
  - Pay no membership fees
  - Have no voting powers

- Efforts will be made by the National Committee to retain the SANS 10407:2004 as a separate document in compliance with and reference made to it in the SANS 10400.
- After extensive explanation given by Mr. Abe Stears, it was decided to support the withdrawal of the Specification on spirality on Blue gum poles.

#### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE WORKSHOPS**

- The information will be shown on the website.

#### **National Health & Safety Bill**

- Mr. Johan Mulder of SHIP (Specialised Help for Industries & People) and SHE Vision Technology Support agreed to make available a monthly article / paper to TASA. This info will be for the “members only” section on the website. The first will appear on 26 March 2007 under the heading “OHS Act Explained.”
- The new Occupational Health & Safety Legislation relating also to Industry and Mining is now issued as the “National Health and Safety Bill.” The booklet displayed during the workshop is therefore outdated. The new addition which will comprise of the combined Bills will be issued when available.

- Some penalties are increased from R100 000 to R1 million for contravention of the Act. Seminars will be held in each area to enlighten all concerned regarding the impact of the new Act. Information on these workshops will be made available on Regional level.

**EXPOSURE FOR COMPETITION WINNERS**

An elaborate article will appear in the new addition of SA Timbers Homes & Projects magazine with photos of the winners. A section “Projects” is added to the name of the magazine to accommodate TASA. A free copy of this issue will be posted to those people who attended the AGM and National Conference.

SAWPA is busy developing a calendar for 2008 and will include some of the photos in the design.

A special word of thanks is extended to the sponsors that made the competition so worthwhile for our members.

We want to encourage members to take high resolution photos (more than 2Mb) of their projects that can be used for the future competition as well as for placement in the Magazine. It is better to send the photos on a CD to TASA to retain the size of the file.

*An article is also going to appear in the Centurion News. Members are strongly requested to place their own advertisement, which TASA gets at a very special tariff, together with this article.*

Costs: 45 mm high x 64 mm wide.....	R 400-00
93mm high x 64 mm wide.....	R 800-00
93 mm high x 128 mm wide.....	R 1 600-00
¼ page: 190 mm high x 128 mm wide ....	R 3 192-00
½ page: 190 mm high x160 mm wide .....	R 6 384-00
Full page: 385 mm high x 260 mm wide.....	R12 449-00

VAT included.

*Advertisements in full colour with the design cost included.*

*Your advertisement should not reach our office later than Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> April 2007.*

**YEAR PLANNING**

It is now the task of the National Committee to do the planning for 2007/2008. Renewal of membership is critical and ways and means must be found to involve more Thatch Contractors. More thought is also needed to make membership more attractive.

It is envisaged to continue with the Building Authority Seminars and also with one day seminars as was experienced at the Congress. The intention is to alert members to important information becoming available which affects the Trade directly.

We thank everyone for your loyal and invaluable support. With a very successful Congress and AGM behind us, we can move forward with confidence. TASA is now firmly placed on the map!

Kind regards

Abrie Visagie

**NATIONAL CHAIRMAN**

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