



THATCHERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA DEKKERSVERENIGING VAN SUID-AFRIKA

Newsletter 1/2011



Abrie Visagie
NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

NEWSLETTER

We wish you a blessed and prosperous year. We meet this new year with great confidence and believe that business opportunities will improve.

1. **TASA'S FINANCES**

The end of our financial year is at hand and we can gratefully testify that TASA had enough funds to meet all our obligations. We have lost a few members during the years due to financial difficulties, but also gained new members. The TASA's membership stands at 47 bona fide Thatch Contractors and 23 Associate Members

2. **MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Members are requested to please settle their membership fees on or before the due date. If you experience problems with the settlement thereof, please make arrangements in advance with the TASA office. Unfortunately, the members' names whose membership fees are more than two (2) months in arrear are removed from TASA's membership list published on our website. This means that the link to the member's own website is cancelled and that the TASA logo may no longer be used on stationery and printing. All motor vehicle stickers / magnets, advertisements with the TASA's logo must also be removed.

3. **TASA & SATAS (SOUTH AFRICAN TECHNICAL AUDITING SERVICES (PTY) LTD) LOGOS**

Strict action will be taken against anyone for the illegal use of ANY registered trademark – that of the TASA as well as SATAS. This is fraud and SATAS report it immediately to the SA Police.

New applicants' applications for TASA membership are only accepted if fees are paid in full and they can only use the trademark of the TASA after the probation period of six (6) months, if no complaints were received by the TASA

4. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND NATIONAL CONGRESS**

The Annual General Meeting and National Congress will again take place during May and Regional elections for new Regional Managements will take place during March and April.

5. CERTIFICATION

Members are encouraged to apply for certification by SATAS. Biggarsberg Thatchers had already received their Certification Certificate and number and launch a campaign early in February 2011. An article that covers this launch together with information about SATAS and the certification process will be published on the TASA website.

The SATAS logo will be posted behind a registered member's contact information on our website. SATAS's application forms, conditions, etc. will be sent to members and it will also be available on the TASA website

6. SANS 10400 & SANS 10407 (Thatched Roof Construction) Specification

There are still some finer points that need to be sorted out during meetings convened by the SABS, but it is expected that the National Building Regulations (SANS 10400) will be published early in 2011 The SANS 10407 is not withdrawn, but will be updated and refined to put in place a workable Specification for the Thatching Industry.

Good luck for an exciting and challenging year ahead.

Kind regards

Abrie Visagie
NATIONAL CHAIRMAN



Participants in the TASA's first National Thatched Roof Construction Competition: 2008

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Why Don't People Achieve Their Goals?

By Justin Cohen

Submitted by Bertus Nieuwenhuis van Recon Thatchers

Whenever I ask my workshop delegates who has goals, most people put up their hands. Then I ask 'who has written, regularly reviewed goals that you've broken into sub goals with time-frames?' Usually less than 5% of the group can put up their hands to that. Yet research suggests that this less than 5% off the population tend to be wealthier and perform significantly better in fields as diverse as sport and business.

Yet most of us have had goals at one time or another that came to nothing. Why? There are six main reasons.

Number 1:

Most people don't achieve their goals because they don't have any. Or at least, they don't have clear, well-formulated goals. They've just got some vague notion of what would be nice. (I see people who don't know where they're going and are prepared to go through hell to get there!)

Number 2:

They had goals once, but they failed to achieve them, so they gave up. These people don't realise that success usually only happens after a string of setbacks. Failure is only terminal when you don't get up. Entrepreneurs fail on average 3.8 times before they finally succeed. Ironically, not achieving your goal is often the best lesson you can get for achieving it next time. That's if you're prepared to learn the lesson.

Number 3:

They set a goal that deep down they don't believe they can achieve. If you don't believe it's possible, you can do affirmations and visualisations until you're blue in the face, it's unlikely to happen. You've got to build your self-belief.

Number 4:

They set a goal that they don't really want or want enough. If it doesn't fire you with passion, you'll have no reason to put in the hard work necessary to achieve any great goal. Desire is the fuel that drives your follow-through. You've got to really want it.

Number 5:

They put their faith in their goal-setting plan rather than in themselves. Correct goal setting may just be the most powerful tool you have to get what you want, but it is just that, a tool. You are the real power, you are the success strategy you've been waiting for. The truth is goals don't work. You work. But working without goals is like sailing the high seas without a sail - wherever you think you're headed, you're going to land up somewhere else. When you set your goals, you set your sail. But you've still got to do the sailing.

Finally, the reason people don't achieve really big goals is because they have, really small thoughts. The size of your accomplishments is directly proportional to the size of your thoughts. The thing is big thoughts and little thoughts take up the same brain space, so why not go big?

In setting your goals don't underestimate what you're capable of. Maybe you think you don't have the intelligence, well both Einstein and Edison were kicked out of school because they were thought to have learning disabilities. Maybe you're concerned that you don't have enough formal education. Of the world's top ten richest people they have three degrees between them. Let's face it, the world is run by dropouts, Bill Gates of Microsoft, Larry Ellison of Oracle and Richard Branson of Virgin are just a few of the worlds' business leaders who never completed their formal education. Maybe you're concerned that you don't have enough experience. Neither do first presidents of great nations. Think

about it, when someone is first elected president of a country, they arrive with zero experience of leading a Nation, most of them manage, they draw on the expertise of the people around them and they learn as they go along.

Maybe your goals seem too ambitious, or perhaps even impossible. Well the impossible is only impossible until somebody makes it possible. Few people thought that a heavier than air flying machine was possible. In 1903 the New York Times implied that an attempt to create and fly such a machine would be a waste of time and money, that such an invention would most likely take the combined efforts of thousands of the world's top scientists and as many as quote: 'ten million years.' Yet months later Orville and Wilbur Wright – uneducated, unknown, and unfunded – flew their plane "Flyer 1" over the sand dunes of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, flying right through the smoke screen of impossibility.

How did they do it? They were clear about what they wanted and they developed a plan to achieve it. What do you want? What kind of body, bank account, business or relationship? On what great adventure do you want to embark? Get a clear objective and a plan and you can have it. The size of a building depends on the size of the foundation. A great life needs a great foundation. Your goal achievement plan is that foundation.

Goals are the vision around which great organisations rally. Sadly, one study shows that just 15% of people can identify their company's top goals. I do conference speaking and training for Edcon, I'm always amazed at how often I hear staff at grass root level talk about the share price. These guys have no doubt about what the goal is and it informs everything they do. It also increases their sense of purpose.

During the Middle Ages a traveler came upon a large building site. He asked a couple of workers: 'What are you doing?' The one grunted back: 'I'm cutting stone. It's hard, boring and my back is killing me.' The other responded, with shining eyes, as he pointed up to the heavens: 'I'm building a cathedral!'

What is your cathedral? What is your great, big hair-raising goal?

A group of people over the age of ninety were asked what they most regretted about their lives. The two most common responses were 'I didn't take enough risks' and 'I didn't reflect enough'. Why not take out three hours of your life to reflect on the calculated risks required to sow the seeds of your greatness?

Justin Cohen is an international speaker, trainer and author. For more personal development resources go to www.justinpresents.com.