

# INTERNATIONAL PRESERVATION TRADES WORKSHOPS

The seventh annual International Preservation Trades Workshops (IPTW) were held October 9-11, 2003, near Columbia, Maryland at historic Blandair Farm. Roofing workshops included slate roofing (chimney flashing using the folded corner method) conducted by Joe Jenkins, as well as traditional side-lap wood shingle roofing conducted by John Fugelso and James Houston. Other workshops at the conference included lime plaster, forging of metals, decorative plaster, timber framing, stone masonry, brick masonry, scagliola, and more. Clem Labine, publisher of Traditional Building and Period Homes magazines, was keynote speaker.

The workshops are sponsored by the Preservation Trades Network (PTN), on the web at ptn.org. IPTW registration cost for members was \$355 and for non-members, \$395. All TR readers and roof preservation contractors or mechanics are encouraged to join the PTN, PO Box 10236, Rockville, MD 20849-0236 (phone: 301-315-8345). The PTN membership fee is \$45.00 for individuals, \$25.00 for students and \$300.00 for corporations. Show your support for the preservation trades!

Put it on your calendar now! IPTW 2004 — Mobile, Alabama, October 21-23: For more information contact the Alabama Historical Commission, 468 South Perry Street, Montgomery, AL 36130-0900; phone: 334-242-3184; email: jhaynes@preserveala.org. ☐

For a DVD or Video of the 2002 IPTW held in Fairmont, WV, send \$30.00 plus \$2.50 s/h to Vandalia Heritage Foundation, c/o Patricia Bolton IPTW Video, 701 Benoni Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554.

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<p>ACRO Building Systems 2200 West Cornell Street Milwaukee, WI 53209-6320 Phone: 800-267-3807, 414-445-8787 Fax: 414-445-8792</p>	<p>For our full line of Products, please visit: <b>www.acrobuidingsystems.com</b></p>

<p><b>VERMONT STRUCTURAL SLATE COMPANY</b></p> <p>Box 98, 3 Prospect Street Fair Haven, VT 05743 USA Phone: 802-265 4933 800-343-1900 Fax: 802-265-3865</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarrier-All colors, sizes and thicknesses</li> <li>• Specializing in unfading colors</li> <li>• ACE award winner-highest quality slate</li> <li>• Competitive prices and lead times</li> <li>• Large inventory</li> </ul> <p>QUARRIERS AND FINISHERS OF NATURAL VERMONT SLATE SINCE 1859</p> <p>email: info@vermontstructuralslate.com web: <b>www.vermontstructuralslate.com</b></p>
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## READERS WRITE

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slate roof would have chronic leaking problems along the eaves because none of them have ice guard, yet, this problem does not exist. When a properly insulated, designed and installed slate roof leaks, there is probably a specific problem in the roof (faulty old repair, nail hole, cracked slate, etc.) where the water is penetrating. Better than putting ice guard under your eaves slates, in extreme circumstances you could remove the slates, then re-install them with greater headlap. You would need to add a row of slates in order to do this. You would only expect to have to do something like this if the roof had been installed incorrectly in the first place (slope too low, headlap insufficient, etc.), which is unlikely. A simpler method of fortifying a drip edge is to slide copper bib flashings (6" wide) under the slots along the eaves in order to artificially increase your headlap. Again, this remedy, although simple, cost effective, and long lasting, is rarely needed. I have only needed it when the roof was low slope, such as on a shed roof dormer eaves where the ice and snow could not get off quickly enough and no other faults were visible. A defective slate, invisible from above, could leak in the slot during ice damming, and the copper bib flashing remedy will cure it (which is most likely what is happening in your case). Ice guard has become the panacea of plywood roofers. A good slate roofer will never rely on temporary underlayment to keep the roof waterproof.

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**Reader:** I recently had installed a standing seam copper roof over my home. The contractor installed the copper in the traditional way. Now that it is winter, water condensation tends to collect under the copper in the attic (which is not heated). What is the best way to deal with this? Would a dehumidifier make sense?

**The Roof Savant:** Your best bet in dealing with attic condensation is keeping the warm air out of the attic. As long as warm air is coming in contact with the cold metal, you will have condensation. Try either better ventilating the attic space so it stays colder in the winter, insulate the attic floor so no warm air penetrates into the roof space, or insulate the roof itself under the metal. Always install a vapor barrier (heavy mill plastic) *interior* to the insulation. ☐

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