

WAGNER

Since 1914



ROOFLINES

SPRING 2013

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A Big Fix for a Dome on the Hill

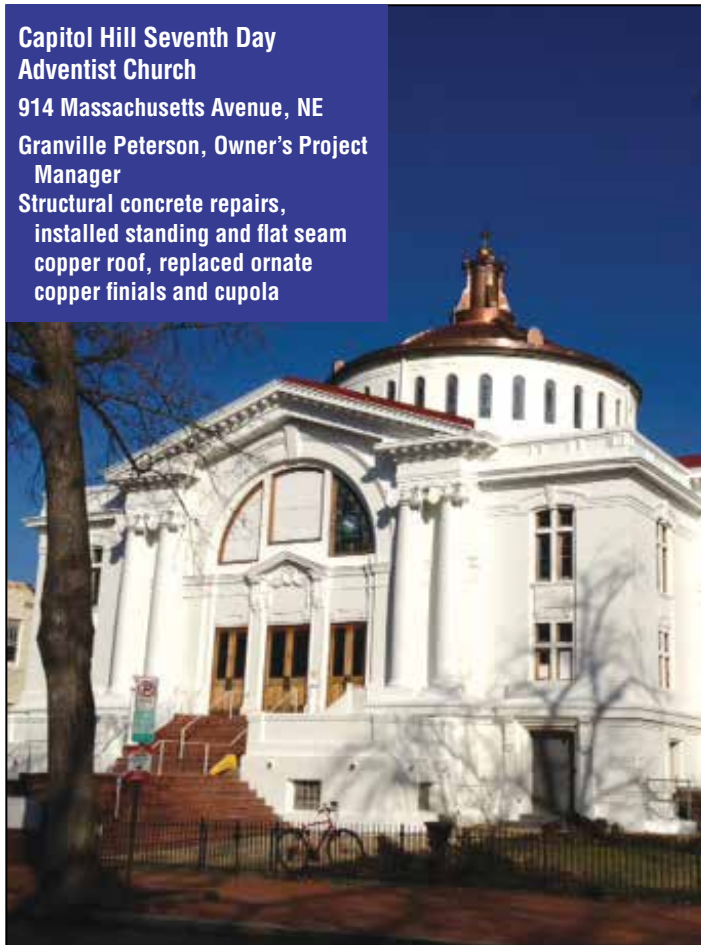
The Capitol Hill Seventh-Day Adventist Church's domed building on 9th Street and Massachusetts Avenue, Southeast, has been a landmark in the Hill neighborhood for more than a century. So when leaks began to interrupt services, the church congregants knew something had to be done to repair their faithful home.

Wagner Roofing detected 11 different leaks on the inside of the highest point of the dome, more than 60 feet above the church floor. There were loose and flapping pieces of copper and wind-damaged missing finials. But it was only after hiring an 80-foot manlift to do a water test that Wagner was certain about the source of the leaks—the copper roof on the cupola.

“There were leaks that penetrated into the dome,” project manager Grenville Peterson says. “We thought we’d just have to repair the copper to get rid of the leaks, and then we discovered the deterioration was much more extensive than we thought.” Wagner suggested the church replace the entire roof, including the cupola.

The roofers faced many challenges in this job. Scaffolding had to be set up on pitched

Capitol Hill Seventh Day Adventist Church
914 Massachusetts Avenue, NE
Granville Peterson, Owner's Project Manager
Structural concrete repairs, installed standing and flat seam copper roof, replaced ornate copper finials and cupola



KEVIN MORGAN

tin roofs so workers could reach the dome, and another scaffolding deck was constructed on top of the 23-degree dome roof to reach the cupola. Safety hooks were installed on the cupola to allow workers to inspect for leaks, and for maintenance

workers to use down the road for future access.

“Because safety hooks never were in place to begin with, the toughest part was getting up there to inspect the dome and cupola before we could start the job,” says Sergio Luise, estimator

and project manager for Wagner.

Built in 1909, the dome's cornerstone originally was set by President Taft. The existing 4,500 square feet of flatseam copper had been installed in 18-by-18-inch sections, in a diagonal pattern. Wagner proposed to the church and D.C. Historic Preservation that the roof system be replaced with typical standing-seam copper panels, which would save considerable money. D.C. Historic Preservation agreed because the panels cannot be seen from the ground.

“It's a beautiful church,” says Kevin Morgan, superintendent for Wagner. “When we were working on the dome, we could see the U.S. Capitol's dome, Smithsonian and Washington Monument, and it gave us a sense of the history in the area. I love doing something historically correct and making it better.”

Demolition of the finials, cupola, cornice and ship's wheel was performed carefully so they could be used as templates for replications. Making patterns to match the ornamental sheet metal was a challenge.

During the demolition process, it was discovered the cupola had sounding holes indicating a bell sat atop it at one

continued on page 3

Under the Roof at Wagner

Sergio Luise

Job: Estimator/Project Manager

Roofing since: 1996, right out of high school

Time at Wagner: Ten years, with a seven-year break in the middle

During those 7 years: I was doing commercial roofing work—big boxes like Wal-Mart.

Commute: 50 miles, to/from Frederick, Md. I use that time to call customers back or listen to ESPN on satellite radio.

Challenges: Stopping leaks! It's not always easy. Sometimes it's a lot of guesswork.

Tools I can't live without: My computer, camera and phone, and iPad which is invaluable.

Hobbies: I have two boys, 13 and 8, so that's where my free time goes. The older has guitar lessons, and the younger has lacrosse practices and games.

Stress-relievers: Running, mountain biking, basketball

Favorite roof project: Capitol Hill Seventh-Day Adventist Church, although I take pride in all the projects.



CHUCK WAGNER

For the Love of Slate

When Mr. Chang decided to put a new roof on his Cape Cod-style house in Rockville, he knew the project would raise some eyebrows. The homeowner, who works as an architect, admits he is particular, but once he decided on his dream roof, there was no persuading him otherwise.

"This is my home – my dream house," he says. "So I splurged on it."

Chang moved into the house, in Rockville's historic district, seven years ago. He decided to take on a major renovation, and despite the fact that the existing asphalt shingle roof was fairly new and perfectly dependable, he'd included roof replacement in his plans. In Chang's mind, only a slate roof would do. "I've always admired the natural look of slate," he says. "It's an old house, and I thought slate suited the style. I thought it would put the finishing touches on the renovation I had done."

He hired Wagner Roofing and ordered Vermont Slate for the roof. Usually, a homeowner will replace a roof with a new roof of similar materials. Not only is it atypical to change the type of roof, but when slate is used today, it is more common to use synthetic slate. Chang was adamant about using the real thing. "Artificial slate kind of looks like slate when it's new, but the test is whether it gets better



Sergio Luise, Project Manager and Bob Wooldridge, Master Slater atop Mr. Chang's residence.

Chang Residence

406 Beall Avenue, Rockville MD
Installed new ridge beam and posts and concrete footers, installed Vermont slate roof and copper roofing

or worse with age. What I love about authentic slate is that it mellows and turns into different colors over time. Hopefully I will be in the house long enough to see that."

When the slate arrived, it was so thick that Chang got cold feet about the size and weight of it. He had to make sure the house could structurally support the new weight, which required installing a new ridge beam and posts, and concrete footers. But once the work began in November, and Chang could see how it looked on his house, he was reassured.

Chang had other requests that were unusual: He wanted the slate to be the main water barrier, rather than having a waterproof membrane underneath – which is a more common application. He also wanted top-grade lumber to be used for the

ridge beam and posts. Wagner ordered Southern yellow pine, an extraordinarily strong lumber, and Chang was satisfied.

"This slate was much thicker than standard," says project manager Sergio Luise. "He definitely didn't need a new roof. He just wanted that look. That Vermont Slate has pretty much transformed the house."

A Cape Cod house is an ideal candidate for showing off a lot of roof, and Chang understood this from the beginning. He doesn't particularly like standing out in the neighborhood, so he was glad that the color was similar to that of the previous roof. But the aesthetic has improved immeasurably, he says, and the job turned out even better than he expected. "I love the texture and thickness of the slate, and I love the shadows they make," he says. "It's beautiful."

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ROOFLINES

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Letter From the President

New Beginnings

As we prepare for our 100th year in business in 2014, I want to thank the loyal customers who have made it possible for our office staff, estimators, project managers and skilled workmen to reach this extraordinary milestone. I also want to share some



recent good news at Wagner, and some roofing inspiration from the other side of the Atlantic.

Every year, the National Roofing Contractors Association seeks submissions for its annual awards (imagine the

Academy Awards for the roofing industry). This year, we entered our Naval Academy/Mahan Hall project for the categories of Workmanship and Innovative Solutions. Not only was the job challenging from a craftsmanship perspective, but it required the utmost care and attention to detail when it came to safety and security. Time and time again, our project manager Kevin Morgan made sure we came through with flying colors. Our entry was one of 42; we won in both categories. As we sat at the awards ceremony in February, savoring our two awards, we were surprised once again: Wagner was awarded the Gold Circle Platinum Award for overall quality, workmanship and safety for

Mahan Hall. This marks the first time one company has won all three awards.

As a board member of the Slate Roofing Contractors Association of North America, I traveled to Lucerne, Switzerland in November with Sheila to attend the Young Roofers Competition. The event was hosted by the International Federation for the Roofing Trade (IFD), a European trade association. The competition is held every two years and – among other things – helps educate the public about the apprenticeship program in the roofing trade. The two-man teams, 18 to 25 years old, compete in tile, sheet metal and commercial membrane roof systems over a three-day period (now imagine the Olympic Games for roofers). The experience for me was not only educational, but inspiring. In Europe, training and classroom instruction begins

in high school, and I was reminded how that early training pays off down the road. At Wagner, we are fortunate to have two employees who trained using IFD methods in Poland and Germany.

As I returned from Switzerland, I couldn't help remember my trip there 35 years ago – for my honeymoon with Sheila--my wife, my business partner and the real brains behind this operation.

Although next year is a landmark, this year – our 99th – is equally special and deserving of our highest-level work. I look forward to seeing what this year has in store for us and continuing to work with all the wonderful people under Washington's roofs.

Chuck Wagner
President

Serving the Community

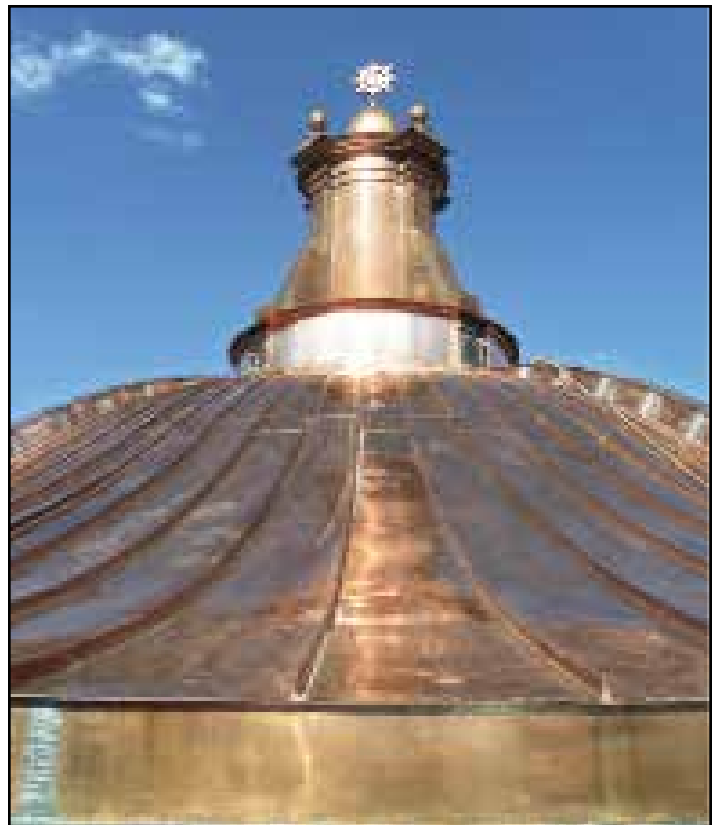
- American Heart Association
- Catholic Charities
- Children's National Lukemia Foundation
- DC Preservation League
- Downtown Cluster of Churches
- National Building Museum
- National Rehabilitation Hospital
- Poor Robert Charities
- Tudor Place
- Yellow Ribbon Fund

7th Day Adventist

continued from page 1

time. Wagner Roofing diligently recreated the pieces to restore the bell tower—the copper bell, cladding and base—and flashed them into the copper dome. “The bell tower was really cool,” Morgan says. “It’s clear the holes were bell-sounding holes because they are shaped like a horn, and it was neat finding that out. It’s something you don’t find every day.”

The job began in April 2012, and it was finished in November, ahead of schedule. “We bought the building in 1986, and we finally got enough money to do extensive repairs,” Peterson says. “When it came time to work on the roof, we did a lot of research before we picked Wagner. The church and administration couldn’t be more pleased.”



Capitol Hill Seventh Day Adventist Church

KEVIN MORGAN

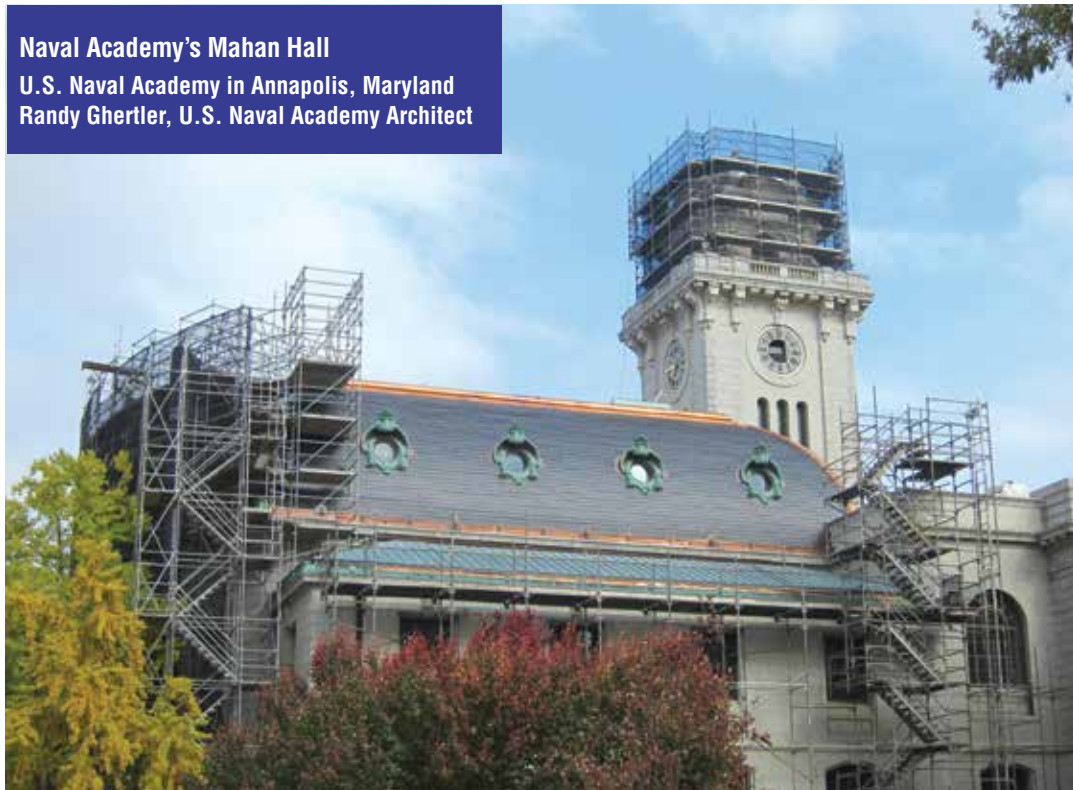
Unprecedented awards for one of Washington's oldest roofing contractors

Nationally recognized restorer Wagner Roofing was honored today by the National Roofing Contractors Association with two Gold Circle Awards, the industry's highest honor, as well as the Gold Circle Platinum Award for the most superior overall project. The Gold Circle Awards are a national competition to recognize NRCA members for their outstanding contributions to the roofing industry. There were a total of 9 Gold Circle Awards given out this year and Wagner Roofing took 3 of them, more than any roofer in NRCA history. Wagner Roofing's Gold Circle Awards came in the categories of workmanship and innovative solutions for the company's work on Mahan Hall and its distinctive clock tower at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

It took Wagner Roofing 3,500 man hours of sheet metal fabrication in its shop and 14,000 on-site man hours to complete the restoration of Mahan Hall. "We are so excited that the NRCA recognized the painstaking effort that went into this project," said Wagner Roofing President Chuck Wagner. "Restoring the thirteen 6x8 foot copper dormers - as well as ensuring that everything we did adhered to historical standards - made this perhaps the most challenging job I've worked on in my 47 years of roofing. Winning an unprecedented 3 Gold Circle Awards makes it all worthwhile."

The Gold Circle Awards are not the only honor Wagner

Naval Academy's Mahan Hall
U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland
Randy Gherlter, U.S. Naval Academy Architect



Roofing has received recently. The company's restoration of the 100-year-old copper roof of the historic Capitol Hill 7th Day Adventist Church, just blocks from the Capitol Building, was featured in the most recent edition of Professional Roofing magazine. The magazine pointed out how diligently Wagner Roofing went about the restoration, including taking exacting measurements of the finials and cornice so they could be reproduced to their original design.

"These two jobs, on buildings that have so much history behind them, are exactly the kind of specialized work we pride ourselves on here. While the roofing industry may finally be noticing our accomplishments, our customers

have been telling us we are the best in the business for a long time," said Chuck Wagner. "The craftsmen, superintendents, and project managers on these two projects showed remarkable teamwork to achieve this success."

Wagner Roofing is the leading roof restorer in the Washington, DC area and will celebrate its 100th anniversary next year. It specializes in historic restorations, churches, government buildings, and residential work. Founded by Otto Wagner in 1914, the company is currently run by his grandson, Chuck Wagner. Wagner Roofing employs 50 craftsmen and has its own extensive metal shop. The company can customize its slate, copper, tile and architectural metal work for any size job.

Announcements

Wagner Roofing is pleased to announce our new website is launching soon. Our new site has been redesigned with a fresh new look and has been updated with information about our latest projects. Additionally, our new site will provide support and information for our customers.

No matter what device you are carrying **wagnerroofing.com** will look great on your phone, tablet, or PC. Please visit our site and enjoy.



KEVIN MORGAN

Residence

2616 29th Place, NW
Carl Petty and Associates, General Contractor
Slate Roofing



CHUCK WAGNER

German Historical Institute

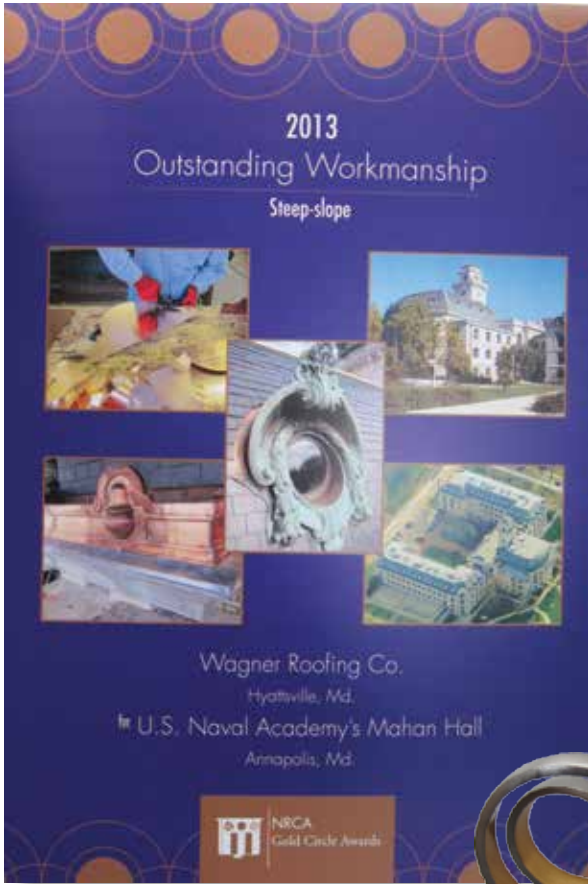
1607 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Total Management, General Contractor
New lead-coated copper roof, railing and ballusters



KEVIN MORGAN

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

16825 S Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, MD
Wycliffe Enterprises, General Contractor
Slate and copper gutters



Poster made by NRCA Awards Committee for Gold Circle Nominees



Above: NRCA President Bruce McCrory, Chuck Wagner, Kevin Morgan, & Former NRCA President Allen Lancaster

Below: Gold Circle Awards for Outstanding Workmanship and Innovative Solutions; and Platinum Award for best overall job



Who We Are

Chuck Wagner and Sheila Wagner
Owners

Kevin Morgan
Operations/Project Manager

Sergio Luise, Patrick Alley, & Dean Jagusch
Estimators/Project Managers

Tom Sause
Superintendent

Jeremy Lee
Purchasing Manager

Sarah Reynolds
Accounting Manager

Leesa Wheaton
Service Manager

Amanda DiPietro, Erin Greene
Administrative Assistants

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Between Washington & the Weather Since 1914*

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