

NAHB - International Builders Show 2010
National Associate Directors Report
By Dave Viall, National Associate Director
Jan 19–21, 2010

Hard to believe we had 155 South Dakota NAHB members and spouses that were able to attend the IBS show hosted for the second year in Las Vegas. The weather was poor and Las Vegas received more rain in three days than they did all of last year. (2" inches) Opening ceremonies were hosted by Dave Berry the comedian and although he didn't say much about the building industry, he's a very funny guy and lifted everyone's spirits.

I attended an Eco-Build seminar about future building trends and what changes we should be expecting to see in the building industry. Much to my surprise a Total Home Performance Disclosure Form was at the forefront. It would allow the home owner to see the total estimated energy costs and water usage before buying the home. They feel this would help educate the consumer and encourage the builders to build more efficient homes. For those of you that attended the presentation that Dusty Johnson (the South Dakota Public Utility Commissioner) presented at the Ramkota here in Rapid City in December, you already have a pretty good idea that South Dakota is well on its way in promoting this. If you ever go to the IBS show, please take the time to attend these incredible seminars. As many fascinating things there are to see at the show, there are over 200 seminars hosted by the top experts of the building industry in the nation which often get overlooked.

As far as the show highlights there was a lot of hope that we have seen the bottom and are looking at brighter days to come. We have not seen this low of percentage of new homes on the market for sale since 1971. The biggest issue for the NAHB organization is dealing with membership numbers being down, which has forced staff to be reduced and budgets to cut. At the same time the number of issues our building industry is being faced with seems to be greater than ever and still a low percentage of members donate to Build Pac. With fewer members, every dollar you give is so important and needed at both state and national level. Please give if you can!

My last words would be, thank you for the opportunity to attend this and represent the BHHBA as your National Associate Director. It has been a pleasure serving you these past three years and I hope to have the opportunity to do so again in the future.

Sincerely,
Dave Viall, Warren Window & Supply, Inc.