

Wagner Roofing Company • Roofing & Sheet Metal Contractors Since 1914 • 301/927/9030 • wagnerroofing.com

Wagner Slaters Restore 1803 Steeple

Every time Chuck Wagner visited the Downtown Baptist Church in Alexandria to check on the roof and steeple project, he ran into yet another church member who thanked him for his work.

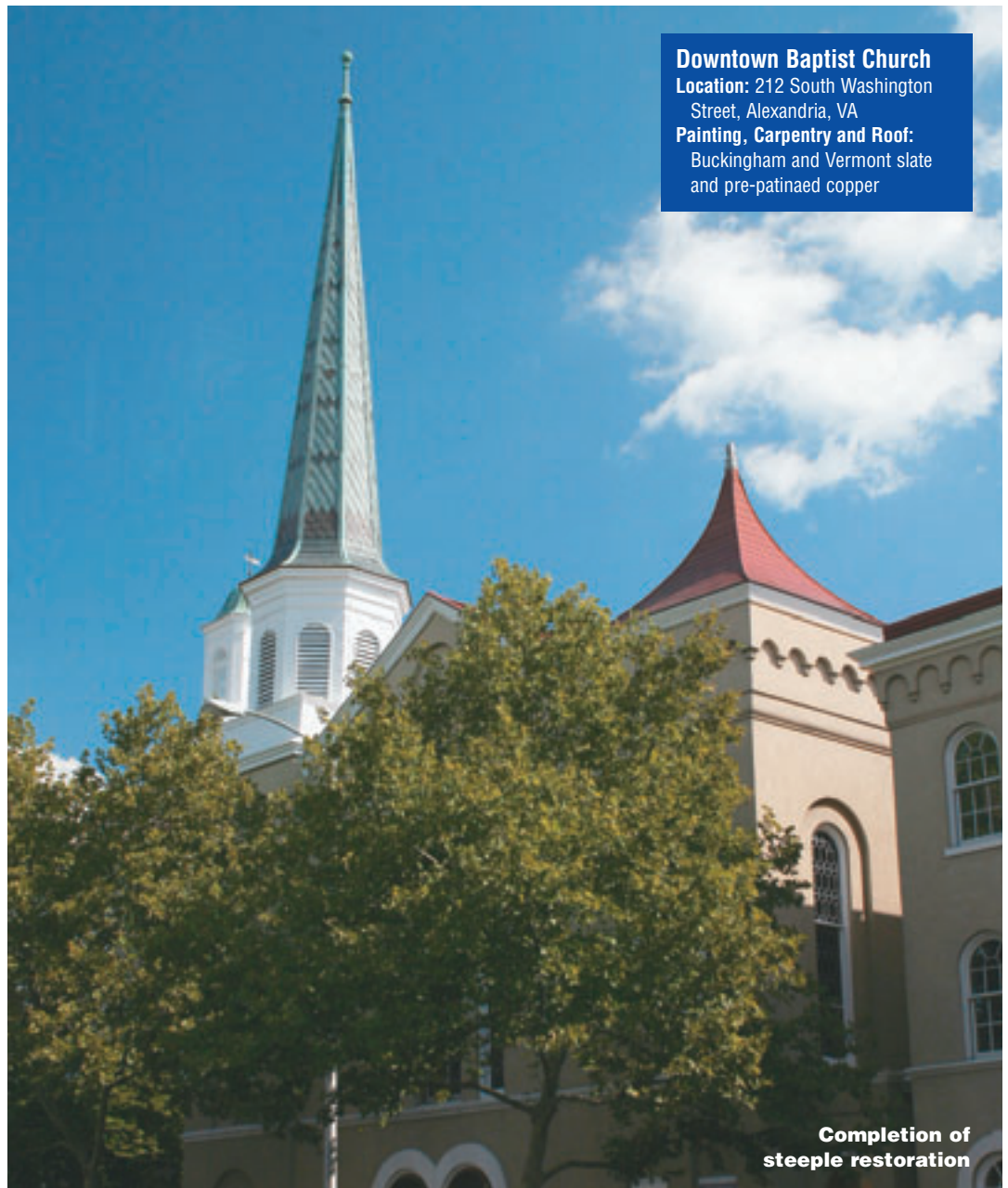
“The members were so appreciative of the work we were doing,” Wagner says. “They take a lot of pride in their church.”

The members have good reason to be proud. Their historic building has become the center of a warm and generous community in Alexandria, and the recent renovation of the building means a sturdy roof over the members’ heads for decades to come.

The original building was built in 1803 by the Alexandria Baptist Society, but after a fire, the church sanctuary was rebuilt in 1830. During the Civil War, the Union Troops interrupted a worship service to take over the church for use as a hospital. When the First Baptist Church moved to a new location, some members incorporated a new church called Downtown Baptist, in 1954, on South Washington Street.

The slate on the eight-sided steeple, which rises 45 feet

continued on page 3



Downtown Baptist Church

Location: 212 South Washington Street, Alexandria, VA

Painting, Carpentry and Roof:
Buckingham and Vermont slate
and pre-patinaed copper

Completion of
steeple restoration

Under the Roof at Wagner

Randy Herald

Age: 50

Title: Foreman

Wagner employee since: 1994

Lives in: Urbana, Md.

Years working in roofing: 31

Hobbies: gardening, playing with his grandchildren, watching football

Last DVD watched: "Casablanca"

Can't live without: His sheet metal tools

Favorite music for 90-minute commute home: Oldies from the '50s, '60s and '70s

Last vacation: Nags Head, N.C. with his wife, children and grandchildren

Last time he worked on his roof at home: "When I put it on, 10 years ago. If you do it right the first time, you shouldn't have to go back for repairs."

Advice to a roofing rookie: "The more you know, the more money you make. So learn as much as you possibly can. This is a tough business, but you can make a good living off it."



CHUCK WAGNER

Arlington Post Office Strikes Gold

With the Arlington Post Office project, Wagner Roofing moved into some new fields of work. The crew not only gold-leafed the copper dome, eagles and letters on the interior portion of the post office but restored and replaced the windows as well.

Built in 1937, the post office was the first Federal building constructed in Arlington County—which transformed from a handful of separate neighborhoods to a cohesive community in the first half of the 20th century. In 1939, Auriel Bessemer painted murals in the post office lobby. The murals—which remain intact today—depict scenes and vignettes about Arlington's history. In 2000, the post office was named in honor of Joseph L. Fisher, former U.S. representative from Virginia's

10th District. This building is a designated Arlington County Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The building itself is brick with limestone trim and a domed limestone entrance portico facing the intersection of Washington Boulevard and Hudson Street. The interior light fixtures are all original.

Arlington Post Office

Location: The Phoenix at Clarendon Metro Condos, 1020 North Highland Street, Arlington, VA

General Contractor: Turner Construction Group

Architect: Oehrlein & Associates

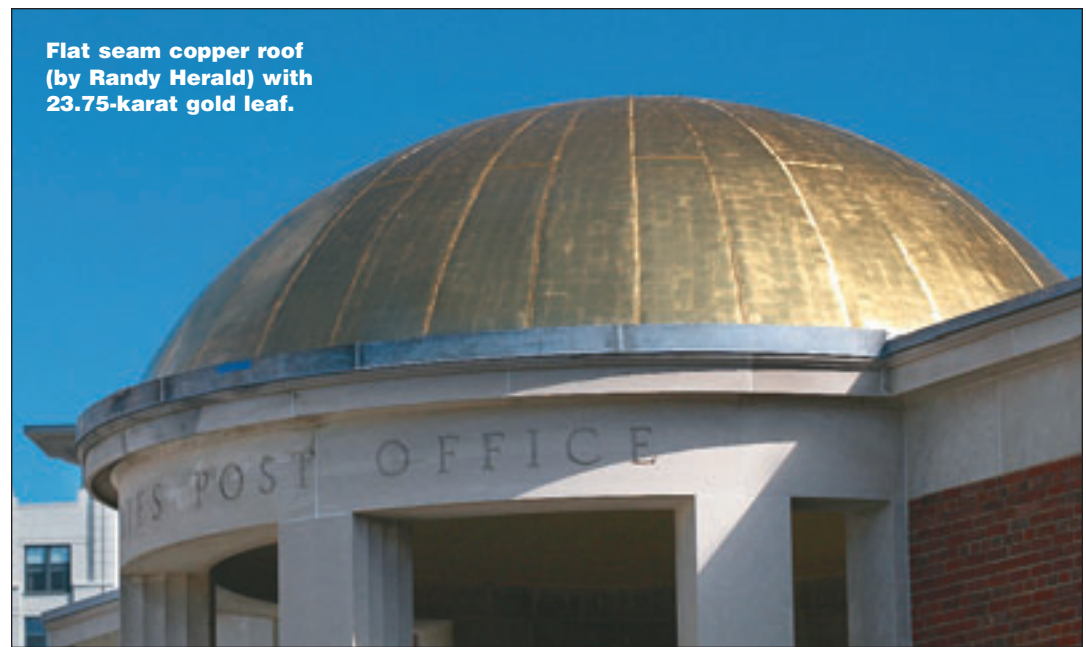
Windows: 50% restored and 50% replaced

Roof: Buckingham slate, copper and rubber roofing

Gold Leafing: Gold Leaf Guilders Studios

Wagner was hired to repair the slate and copper roof, clean and point the stone and repair and replace the doors and windows. The U.S. Postal Service is expanding the existing facility and constructing a four-story office addition and underground parking and mail-handling facilities. Also, an 11-story residential building will be built adjacent to the existing post office.

"We're keeping the historic lobby," explains Mary Oehrlein, the preservation architect. "Although there will be a new facility and a residential section, the post office will still operate." She says by far, the most visible part of the work is the replacement of the copper on the dome at the entrance of the post office, which was gold-leafed to match the original. ●



Flat seam copper roof (by Randy Herald) with 23.75-karat gold leaf.

STEWART BROTHERS

WAGNER
ROOFLINES

Publishers: Chuck Wagner, Sheila Wagner **Editor:** Melanie D.G. Kaplan **Design:** Chad Townsend
Project Management: Jerry Parks, The Magazine Group, 202/331/7700 **Wagner Roofing:** 301/927/9030,
fax 301/927/3505, email sheila.wagner@wagnerroofing.com, wagnerroofing.com

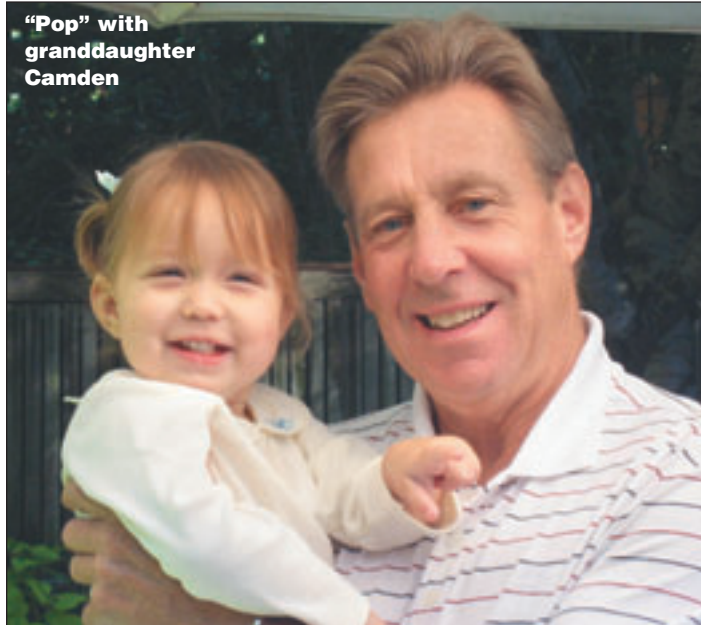
Letter From the President

Expansion in All the Right Places

I am pleased to report that the company continues to expand in the area of façade restoration, which is the type of work we enjoy doing the most. A customer's first call to our office is almost always about a leak. Whether it is the site manager, homeowner, architect or a general contractor, they all want the same result: Leave the building watertight and looking like it did when it was first built. Often, we go to check out the leak, and we find that much more work is required than everyone anticipated.

A good example of the above scenario is the Columbia Hospital for Women in Northwest D.C., which is being converted to condos. What started out as a tile repair has grown into a major restoration project.

Then there's the Old Post Office at 12th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. A job that began in 2003 is still underway with an anticipated completion in 2007. In this case, what began as a small



"Pop" with granddaughter Camden

SHEILA WAGNER

slate and flashing repair project also turned into a major renovation. All of the built-in gutter and water tables were replaced, as well as renovation of the slate and flashing at the dormers and re-pointing the masonry at the dormer and turrets.

Some other façade work that

is underway or recently completed: Downtown Baptist Church, a challenging slate steeple job with painting and carpentry; Arlington Post Office with copper roofing, EPDM roofing, window restoration and replacement, painting and gold leafing; and Woodlawn Plantation with

slate and copper roofs, masonry, scaffold for all trades, lead abatement, lighting rods, rebuilding porches and painting. All of these projects have one thing in common: restoration of the buildings to their original conditions based on drawings or old photographs.

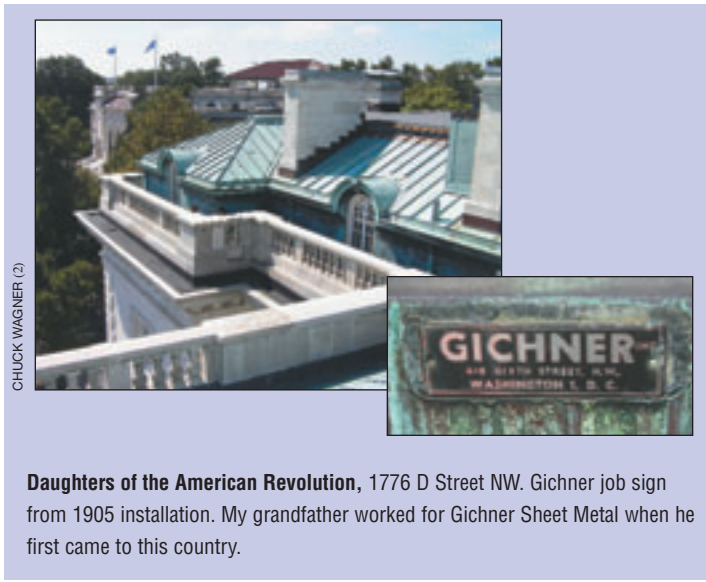
We continue to remodel additional floors at the Folger Building, located at 15th and New York Avenue, NW. Our daughter, Rachel, who recently graduated from Catholic University with a Master's in Architecture, provided Wagner Roofing with design assistance on this project. (See website for more info on Folger).

I am fortunate to have a partner and wife who continues to be the glue that keeps the family and the company together. I feel blessed and thank all of our customers and especially our employees for making our company successful.

All best for happiness and success in this new year.

Chuck Wagner

Chuck Wagner



CHUCK WAGNER (2)

Daughters of the American Revolution, 1776 D Street NW. Gichner job sign from 1905 installation. My grandfather worked for Gichner Sheet Metal when he first came to this country.

Downtown Baptist Church *continued from page 1*

above the top of the church and more than 100 feet off the ground, was original, so it was well overdue for a renovation. "Some of the slate had fallen off, and the nails were corroding, so we finally decided to redo the whole thing," says Daniel Nieboer, the project manager. Wagner's job was to replace all the slate and flashing. Originally, Buckingham slate quarried in Virginia covered the steeple, and a pattern was painted onto the slate. Wagner replaced it with

Vermont slate, and instead of recreating the pattern with paint, which wears off over time, they made the pattern out of a combination of Vermont green, grey and mottled purple slate.

The entire church is going through a major renovation, which includes restoring stained glass, replacing windows, adding storm windows and painting the base of the steeple. Working on the steeple posed quite a challenge for the Wagner crew and its scaffolding. "It's very high and challenging," Wagner says, "but it's a tremendous view of Alexandria." ●

1751 Stone House Will Get New Wood Roof

The Carlyle House in Alexandria stood out when it was built more than 250 years ago as one of the only stone houses in a period where brick and wood were king. And the house stands out today as a remarkable link to our nation's past and a stunning landmark from colonial Virginia.

Mary Ruth Coleman, director of the house, says during the last renovation, in the 70s, as part of statewide celebrations for the Bicentennial, they found some of the original shingles used during the colonial period. "We found shingles of two colors," she says. "One was grey, and one was red, and it turns out the grey one was from that period. We want to be as historically correct as we can."

Wagner Roofing was hired to work on the home's restoration, including installing the historically correct wood shingles. The wood shingles will be 18-inch scallop cut cedar and will receive two coats of paint before they are installed. Wagner has worked on other historically significant buildings in Old Town Alexandria,



Carlyle House

Location: 121 North Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA

Owner: Northern Regional Park Authority

Architect: C. Richard Bierce, AIA
Historical Architect

Roof: Painted and scalloped fire retardant wood shingles

(Above): The Carlyle House, before restoration of the roof. (Below): The gardens at Carlyle House.

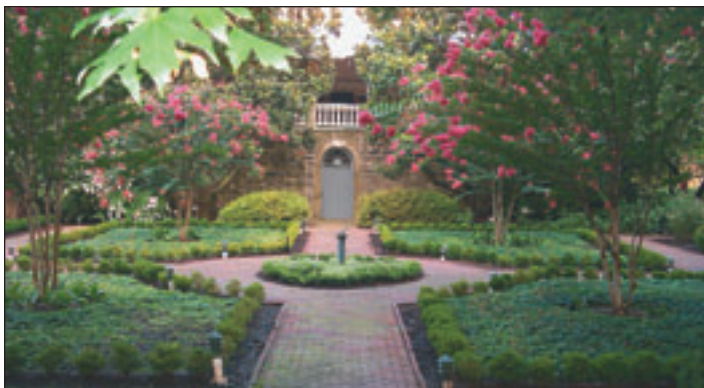
such as Gatsby's Tavern and Robert E. Lee's boyhood home.

John Carlyle, a successful merchant from Scotland and one of the first landowners in Alexandria, built his home in 1751 and moved in two years later with his wife, Sarah Fairfax (who came from one of the most prestigious families of colonial Virginia). The house was built on two lots of land between the Potomac River and Market Square. Built in the Georgian Palladian style, Carlyle's home impressed visitors with its expensive paint colors,

architectural detail and beautiful furnishings.

In 1755, the home hosted the legendary conference of five colonial governors called together by General Edward Braddock, Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America, who had been sent to the colonies to oversee the escalating French and Indian War. The general lived in the home for three weeks, and thereafter it was referred to by some as the Braddock House.

The home, now owned and operated by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, has been open to the public as a museum since 1976. It also is rented in the evenings for private functions and weddings. ●





CHUCK WAGNER



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FILE PHOTO (2)

Fort Washington, MD, New Buckingham slate on Officer's Quarters. Historic photos from *Images of America: Fort Washington*. **(Top)** The structure was completed in 1824 and is one of the few surviving seacoast fortifications. The U.S. Army has used the fort for an officer candidate school and a hospital, and it is now a park under the management of the National Park Service. **(Below)** Between 1896 and 1921, many buildings were erected as living quarters on the grounds of Fort Washington. This non-commissioned officers' duplex was built in 1909.



CAROL HIGHSMITH

Woodlawn Plantation, 9000 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, VA. Buckingham slate, copper roofing and gutters and downspouts.



BOB COBERLY

Gallaudet University, "Ole Jim" Piehoff Alumni House, 800 Florida Avenue NE. Slate Restoration. Patner Construction, Inc.

In
the
Works

Other Wagner jobs in progress or recently completed. To discuss or visit any of our projects, call Chuck or Sheila Wagner at 301/927/9030.

Alcohol, Fire & Tobacco, 99 New York Avenue NE. Moshe Safdie, Architect. Sheet metal work.

Bauman Foundation, 2040 S Street NW. Relay French tile roof, replace copper roofs and built-in gutters.

President Lincoln & Soldier Home Education Center, 3700 N. Capitol Street NW. Cornice & gutter restoration and flat roof replacement.

Back When...



MOVIE SHOTS

Evelyn Wagner Murray (Chuck's mother), on the left, shopping with girlfriend on F Street NW in 1938.

Who We Are

**Chuck Wagner,
Sheila Wagner**
Owners

Kim Loos
Accounting Department

**Bob Coberly, Larry Myers,
John Ray, Lee Simon,**
Estimators

Barbara Demarest
Project Manager

**Colleen Kennedy
Marie Flannery**
Administrative Assistants

Dan Williams
Sheet Metal Superintendent

Tom Riser
Commercial Roof Superintendent

John Sweeney
Operations

Melissa Stokes
Receptionist

wagnerroofing.com