

# AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

September 2024

## AZBO Annual Business Meeting





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## AZBO ABM

### B&A Hospitality Night



### GROOVY Costume Contest

AND THE  
WINNERS  
ARE...



### Corn Hole



Stay Groovy



September 2024

## A collage of six photographs showing a group of people, mostly men, seated at long tables in a large hall, engaged in a social gathering or meeting. The tables are covered with white cloths and green runners. The room has a patterned carpet and large windows in the background.

## Winners





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Member of the Year: Cherry Green  
Award of Excellence: Michael Grubbs  
Building Official of the Year: Shicheng Tao  
Building Inspector of the Year: Mark Arvayo  
Plan Reviewer of the Year: Luis Tamayo  
Permit Technician of the Year: Helaine Searle  
Achievement in Education: Brad Meecham  
Achievement in Code Development: Clayton Trevillyan  
Leadership Award: Jonathan Cornell  
Award of Meritorious Service: Tara Gallagher  
Award of Special Service: Tracie Wilgus  
Companion of the Year: Randy Mullis



Chairman's Awards: Barbara Rice, Randal Westacott, Mike Baxley



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## Lifetime Membership Awards



Don Brown, AZBO Chair, Presenting Lifetime Membership Awards to Mike Brown, Patti Schechter, Jack Judd (prior recipient), and Ray LaHaye. Other prior recipients: Alan Olsen and Dave Nichols



**AZBO Fall Institute: October 07-10, 2024**  
**Sheraton Mesa Hotel at Wrigleyville West**

**Contact [azboshelly@gmail.com](mailto:azboshelly@gmail.com) for additional information**



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## Arizona Permit Tech Committee

From **Tracie Wilgus**, AZPT Chair, Town of Cave Creek

The "Permit Techs at the Counter" class held on September 11<sup>th</sup> was a huge success! We would like to thank **Steve Burger** for teaching his half day class on Means of Egress, Basic Plan Review and Inspections, and to **Mary Dickson** for teaching her half day class on Over-the-Counter Plan Reviews. On behalf of the Arizona Permit Techs, we appreciate all you do and continue to do for our committee and AZBO!



**SHOUT OUT to Bureau Veritas** for sponsoring breakfast and lunch!



**THANK YOU Brown & Associates** for graciously donating gift cards to raffle off and for your continued support and kindness to the AZPT Committee!



Thank you to everyone that attended and don't forget to register for Steve and Mary's classes at the AZBO Fall Institute in Mesa next month. Their classes are not just educational, but a lot of fun! Don't miss out!

Congratulations to all our winners of the raffles!

Tumbler - Mayra Gonzalez with the City of El Mirage

Mini Bluetooth speaker - Belinda Gomez with the City of El Mirage

Chick-Fil-A - Monica Moreno with the Town of Gilbert

Target - Allison Lander with the Town of Marana



## Jurisdiction News

### **From Shicheng Tao, City of Chandler**

ICC certificates are crucial for our building safety professionals, and we are proud to share that they have collectively achieved over 200 ICC certifications. These credentials not only advance their careers but also enhance the quality of customer service we provide. We greatly appreciate the City of Chandler's continued support in helping our employees attain and maintain these valuable qualifications.

ICC certificates ensure that staff are well-versed in building codes, safety regulations, and industry best practices. This deep knowledge is crucial for performing tasks accurately and efficiently. Certifications demonstrate a staff member's commitment to their profession and their ability to apply complex concepts in real-world scenarios, which is essential for handling technical issues and ensuring compliance. The certification process often includes the latest updates and changes in building codes, helping staff stay current with evolving standards and practices.

Staff with ICC certifications can provide accurate and reliable information to customers, helping them understand regulatory requirements and ensuring that projects comply with the city adopted construction codes and legal standards. Certified professionals are better equipped to handle customer queries and resolve issues efficiently, leading to higher customer satisfaction. Having certified staff increases the credibility of the organization, reassuring customers that they are working with knowledgeable professionals who adhere to industry standards.

In summary, ICC certificates enhance staff skills and directly improve the quality of customer service by ensuring that employees are well-trained, informed, and capable of providing accurate and reliable support to our citizens and customers at large on a daily basis.

### **From Larry Taylor, Town of Gilbert**

I am retiring after serving for 30 years in the Town of Gilbert. My last day is October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Erik Zavala** is being promoted and will take my place when I leave.

### **From Gloria Bean, Pinal County**

**John "Aaron" McLaws** received his Residential Building Inspector AND Residential Plans Examiner certificates.

**Tiersa Johnson** for earning her ICC Residential Building Inspector certification.

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## **Carl Montgomery, City of Surprise**

We are thrilled to announce a major milestone in our team's journey towards excellence! Please join us in celebrating **Vio Margau**'s promotion to the newly created position of Building Inspector III! For over 25 years, Vio has been the bedrock of our building inspection team, serving with unwavering dedication and remarkable expertise as a Building Inspector II. His tireless commitment to exemplary customer service, top-notch problem-solving skills, and a deep passion for safety and code compliance have set the standard in our city. Vio's journey has been marked by a profound commitment to team leadership and operational efficiency. His hands-on approach and innovative solutions have not only improved our inspection processes but also elevated the safety and quality of our built environment. In his new role as Building Inspector III, Vio will continue to lead with the same exceptional skill and enthusiasm that have defined his career. His new responsibilities will include overseeing advanced inspection projects, mentoring the next generation of inspectors, and driving forward our mission to ensure the highest standards of safety and compliance across the city. Please join us in congratulating Vio on this well-deserved promotion! We are confident that his leadership and expertise will continue to be a driving force in making the City of Surprise a safer, more efficient, and more vibrant community. Here's to new beginnings and continued success for Vio Margau!

I am pleased to announce the promotion of **Emily Diver** to Development Review Supervisor, effective August 19. With nearly 20 years of experience in the construction and architectural field, Emily brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to this role. Her technical background and extensive experience in processes such as plan review, building inspections, and customer relations, have consistently demonstrated her capability and commitment to excellence. Emily also holds multiple ICC certifications, including Permit Technician, which further attests to her qualifications and dedication to her profession.

Emily's tenure with us as a Plans Examiner II has showcased her ability to provide high-quality customer service, interpret complex policies and procedures, and ensure compliance with regulations. In her new role, Emily will oversee the Development Services Division, further strengthening the customer service culture our department is known for. Please join me in congratulating Emily on this well-deserved promotion and wishing her continued success in her new role.

I am pleased to announce that **Ed Deussen** will be joining us as our new Plans Examiner I. Ed brings a wealth of experience to the role, including ICC Permit Technician and IRC Plan Review Certifications, over a year as a municipal plans examiner, and 17 years in the construction industry.

His background in plan review and home construction makes him an excellent fit for our team. Ed's expertise will be instrumental in ensuring compliance with building codes and safety standards, crucial to our growing community and the increasing number of projects we are handling.

Please join me in welcoming Ed to our team. We are excited about the skills and knowledge he will bring to our organization.



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