

AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

March 2012

Arizona Hoarding Task Force,

by Mary Dickson,
City of El Mirage

Hoarding has been a hot topic lately with the news coverage, TV shows and documentaries sensationalizing the often disgusting conditions of a hoarding household. But these articles rarely highlight the problems faced by first responders when faced with houses in these conditions.

Two Tempe firefighters were injured last year responding to a fire at a house that was packed floor to ceiling, including the attic, with cardboard boxes and plastic crates. The firefighters, completely unaware of the conditions inside were injured when the house literally exploded as they were preparing to enter the house. El Mirage Police have 'lost' a suspect inside a home with similar conditions. The house had small pathways that wound throughout the home both upstairs and down. These conditions prevent first responders from providing first aid or help in an emergency.



Building Safety Departments are concerned with the safety and health conditions inside these homes. Often hoarding conditions contribute to structural problems as well. Code Enforcement agencies deal with the exterior as hoarding conditions usually spill outside the home, affecting the whole neighborhood. Rats, mice and insects, not to mention the blight, are a real problem in all hoarding cases. Frustration arises when the house returns to a hoarding condition time and time again after much effort to clean up. Frustrations in dealing with hoarding cases, along with the lack of mental health or counseling available to help led the small City of El Mirage to go outside the state to find ways others have dealt with hoarding issues. They discovered the Orange City Hoarding Task Force and visited with the founder who guided them in creating

the Arizona Hoarding Task Force in March of 2010. There were 12 people from about 5 agencies at that first meeting. The meetings have since grown to upwards of 70 attendees with representatives from various mental health agencies, professional organizers, law firms, State and County agencies, Fire, Police, Animal Control and the Az Humane Society. Several cities are represented by Building and Code Enforcement staff. The meetings are held every other month on the second Thursday from 2-4PM at the Scottsdale Senior Center. The Southern Chapter of the Az Hoarding Task Force had their first meeting last month with over 50 people in attendance. Additional counties, (Yavapai, Pinal and Yuma) are looking at forming chapters. For more information check out the website at www.azhoarding.com.



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News from Gila Bend

(by Eric Fetzer, Director Planning & Economic Development, Town of Gila Bend)

The Town of Gila Bend has been in the spot light this past year due to the two solar projects that have located within the Town's jurisdiction. The Town of Gila Bend, known as the "Cross-Roads of the Southwest" is now known as the "Solar Heart of Arizona" This has been accomplished through the adoption of the Solar Field Overlay Zone (SFOZ) which was approved and implemented by the Town Council of the Town of Gila Bend. The SFOZ has fast tracked the Zoning and site planning process, which normally takes years, to a matter of weeks. But this, as all of us know, is not the end of the regulating/permitting process. With the coordination efforts by AZBO's Permit Tech of the Year, Teresa Smith, and through our strategic relationship with Brown & Associates, the Town has gained the tag of a regulatory friendly environment for which to promote business, commerce and jobs. We would like to thank our great employees for all of their hard work, and we would we would especially like to thank the staff at Brown & Associates for their dedication to these projects. Everyone there has been amazing and has worked very hard with us to make sure plan review, inspections and administrative services were provided with the utmost efficiency.

We have been featured in The West Wing Week:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2011/11/15/could-arizona-town-become-solar-capital-world-0>

as well as Energy.gov:

<http://energy.gov/articles/could-gila-bend-arizona-become-solar-capital-world>.

Also, take a peek at our website and view our Profiles with Terry Bradshaw video! www.gilabendaz.org

Pay it Forward (from Ray LaHaye)

With considerable involvement by the Arizona ABM Planning Committee, a modification to the ABM Host Committee "Pay it Forward" program has been implemented in an attempt to soften the financial impact on future host chapters selected to be site hosts for the ICC ABM annual event. This change includes a request from the previous hosting committee to all ICC Chapters to forward \$1 per member each year to the PIF program (or to whatever level the chapter can afford) to offset the cost of hosting the event.

As we in Arizona are very aware, the costs of hosting an ICC ABM can be significant and with the help of the 300+ chapters of ICC, a small donation by each chapter can go a long way to assist at offsetting the financial impact to the host organization. This year, AZBO has already forwarded \$500 to the Oregon Chapters for this purpose; however, any additional Arizona support would be appreciated. Any forwarded funds will go directly to the host chapter(s) and each chapter that supports the program will be recognized at the upcoming ABM. Please do all that you can, to make this an annual commitment.

SRP

(From Bob Lee and Sharon Bonesteel)

Salt River Project recently hired AZBO member **Sharon Bonesteel**, RA, CBO, as their newest Senior Policy Analyst. Ms. Bonesteel will be responsible for coordinating with AZBO members on all aspects of SRP's Building Energy Codes initiative. This initiative is one of the most important components of SRP's Energy Efficiency Portfolio.

Please contact Sharon directly at 602 236-4498

or Sharon.bonesteel@srpnet.com

for additional information regarding energy saving codes and programs.

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Chapter Updates



Grand Canyon Chapter

Chapter Chair
John Farnol

Next Meeting: March 15, 2012

Location: Coconino County

New officers were elected at the January meeting as follows:

President – John Farnol, Coconino County

1st Vice President – Ron Durgin, Mohave County

2nd Vice President – Roger Brooks, Willdan

Secretary – Ray LaHaye, Town of Payson

Treasurer – Randy Pluimer, City of Prescott

Board of Directors: Joe Mendoza (Gila County), Jack Judd (Yavapai County), Glen Wistse (Bullhead City), Philbert Tso (Kayenta Township) and Adam Sessions (Bureau Veritas)



Central Arizona Chapter

Chapter Chair
Bob Lee

Next Meeting: April 3, 2011

Location: League of Arizona Cities & Towns

The Central Chapter has changed its meeting days to the first Tuesday of the month. Please join us at the League of Cities and Towns Building at 1820 W. Washington St, just west of the State Capitol. And, if you are not a chapter member, please join one. Send your email address to Bob Lee at rlee@paradisevalleyaz.gov to get on the distribution list for agendas.

At the February meeting Mr. Kelly Reynolds gave an interesting and timely presentation on the changes to the 2012 I Codes. Focused on the International Building Code, it was chalked full for examples and was very well received. He covered most of the other codes too. The March meeting had representatives from APS and SRP talk about their Energy Star Program.

The Central Chapter is looking at developing some standard plans that could be used for some basic structures. The first will be for a free standing ramada or gazebo. If your jurisdiction has such a program currently please contact Bob Lee at rlee@paradisevalleyaz.gov.

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Southern Arizona Chapter

Chapter Chair
Joe Romero

Next Meeting: May 8th
Location: To be announced

Luis Garcia Jr., Building Official/Zoning Administrator for the City of Benson will be serving the Southern Chapter as the Member at Large for the AZBO Board.

* * * * *



Permit Tech Committee

Scarves made by
Laura Barwidi for
2012 Special Olympics
USA Scarf Project



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AZBO Update



AZBO Chair
Bob Lee

On Pages 6 & 7 of this Newsletter are the results of a survey Bob Lee compiled regarding the adoption of the 2012 Codes.

Building Safety Month is coming in May. The month is divided up with a different emphasis for each week. The first week is Energy and Green Building. The second week is Disaster Safety and Mitigation. The third is Fire Safety and Awareness and the last week is Backyard Safety. The ICC Foundation has lots of good ideas on their web site at <http://www2.icc-foundation.org/bsm>. They are asking that people show their support by clicking on an "I support" link. AZBO has filed the request to have Governor Brewer declare May as Building Safety Month in Arizona. If you are planning something please submit what your jurisdiction is doing to Bob Lee at rlee@paradisevalleyaz.gov. If you are not planning something, please do. And join AZBO and El Mirage in the food drive when it is announced.

The Responsible Energy Codes Alliance has a one page IECC Compliance Guide that very succinctly summarizes the energy codes requirements by state.

It is available on line at <http://www.reca-codes.org/>. Also Energy Code related is an Air Leakage Guide available from the Department of Energy at <http://www.energycodes.gov/publications/resourceguides/airLeakage.stm>.



The AZBO ABM will be July 17th thru July 19th in Payson. The Agenda will be distributed and posted on AZBO's website when available.

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Survey results

Cathy Rohrback, Permit Supervisor for the Town of Buckeye initiated a survey regarding **Swimming Pool Permits**, wanting to know *how other municipalities process swimming pool permits when the application includes a fence, gas line, fire pit, and PE wall. Are these other items permitted separately or on the same permit with the swimming pool?* Of those jurisdiction who responded only one required separate permits. The majority of municipalities kept the critical pool components together on one permit (i.e. pool, gas line, and fence). The other items such as a ramada, fire pit or bbq pit would require separate permits as they are not critical to the pool.

Steve Brown, Building Official for Pinal County conducted a **Permit Fee Survey** December 2011. 21 Municipalities responded. Averages were as follows:
Single Family Residence \$87.00 per square foot;
Detached Garage \$31.60 per square foot;
Commercial Retail \$55.00 per square foot.
Residential Photo Voltaic Permit Fees ranged from \$54.00 to \$500.00.
Please contact me at patti@brown-and-associates.net
if you would like a copy of Steve's report.

Bob Lee's Code Adoption Survey Results

Jurisdiction	Adopt 2012 I Codes?		Effective Date
	Yes	No	
Apache County	No Response		
Apache Junction		No	
Avondale		No	
Buckeye	Yes		TBD
Bullhead City	Yes		2013
Camp Verde	Yes		Early 2013
Carefree		No	
Casa Grande	Yes		January 1, 2013
Cave Creek		No	
Chandler	Yes		July 1, 2013
Chino Valley	No Response		
Clarkdale		No	
Cochise County		No	
El Mirage	Yes		January 1, 2013
Eloy	No Response		
Flagstaff	Yes		Winter of 2013
Florence		No	
Fountain Hills		No	
Gila Bend	No Response		



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Gila County	Yes	January 1, 2013
Gila River	No Response	
Gilbert	Yes	January 1, 2013
Glendale	Yes	Fall 2012
Goodyear	Yes	January 1, 2013
Holbrook	No Response	
Kingman	Yes	TBD
La Paz County	Yes	January 1, 2013
Litchfield Park	No Response	
Marana	Yes	after 2nd edition
Maricopa County	Yes	January 1, 2013
Mesa	Yes	Early 2013
Mohave County	No Response	
Navajo County	No	
Oro Valley	Yes	January 1, 2013
Paradise Valley	Yes	July 1, 2012
Parker	No Response	
Payson	Yes	January 1, 2013
Peoria	No Response	
Phoenix	Yes	TBD
Pima County	Yes	January 1, 2013
Pinal County	Yes	July 1, 2012
Prescott	Yes	January 1, 2013
Prescott Valley	Yes	July 1, 2013
Queen Creek	No	
Sahuarita	Yes	January 1, 2013
Salt River	No Response	
Santa Cruz County	No Response	Undecided
Scottsdale	Yes	August 1, 2012
Sedona	Yes	July 1, 2012
Show Low	No Response	
Sierra Vista	No Response	
Surprise	Yes	Summer 2013
Tempe	Yes	January 1, 2013
Tolleson	No Response	
Tucson	Yes	January 1, 2013
Wickenburg	Yes	TBD
Williams	No	
Yavapai County	Yes	January 1, 2013
Youngtown	Yes	Fall 2013
Yuma	Yes	Fall 2012
Yuma County	Yes	TBD



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