

AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

September 2012

AZBO ABM
(Annual Business
Meeting)
Payson, Arizona,
July 17 thru 19,
2012



Recap by **Bob Lee**, AZBO Chair:

Over three days in July, AZBO held its Annual Business Meeting in Payson. For those of us living in the hot, hot valley it was great to get up in the cool pines and get to see some of our building safety friends. The Best Western Payson Inn was the host hotel. We felt very safe as there was a statewide K-9 Police conference at the same time.

Tuesday, July 17th, was check-in, golf and chapter meeting day.

Wednesday morning started the "Business" part of the ABM and was very well attended with representatives from around the state making the trek to Payson. This year's meeting was a little different format with but a single meeting for Board and members. Previous years had a Board meeting and then a Membership meeting with lots of duplication.

After approval of the budget and introductions, each of the committee chairs gave a report of their activities over the preceding twelve months. Derek Horn, from the City of Phoenix, has been interviewing some of the individuals that were involved in the creation of the Arizona Building Officials with the idea of writing a history of our organization.

Special recognition went out to several of our members. Steve Brown who has been integral in the success of our Education Institutes, Pat Clingman who single handedly has been running our awards committee and Dave Fizzell who is one of those founding AZBO members, all retired since the last ABM. We thanked them for their service and wished them well in their futures.



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Ray LaHaye was the person responsible for the success of the International Code Council's Annual Business Meeting in Phoenix last year. He rightly thanked all the volunteers that helped him achieve the rave reviews, but it was he alone that kept us on track and motivated. His was a herculean task that he managed with style.

Next year's ABM will be in Flagstaff.

One of the things that made the ICC ABM such a success was our sponsors. And they came through again in helping with the lunches at our ABM. We thank **Willdan, Brown & Associates, SRP, Simpson Strong-Tie** and **APS** for their continuing support of our organization and its activities.

The afternoon session on Wednesday was a membership participation program facilitated by Laura Alexander of Anderson/Carrillo consulting. Even though she had done such programs for any number of nonprofit organizations, she found that AZBO wasn't like any group she had ever dealt with. While that surprised her, we weren't.

So, after abandoning her script and her PowerPoint presentation twenty minutes into the afternoon, she led us through a severe self-analysis. After an interesting and enlightening session, she had an action plan that we could use to be a better organization and a better Board. We have started to work on some of those goals already.



The barbeque and awards ceremony are always the social highlight of the ABM. Ray LaHaye and the City of Payson did themselves proud this year. A good time was had by all.

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Thursday morning was filled with a round table discussion on energy issues and the codes. Bill Fay, the Executive Director of the Energy Efficient Codes Coalition, opened with a big picture presentation on why we needed to have an energy code and how we got to our present position. Lots of facts and figures made for a very interesting start to the day.

He was followed by CR Herro, Vice President for Environmental Affairs at Meritage Homes. Mr Herro spoke dynamically about the market for energy efficient homes in general and the Phoenix area in particular. While his company, 2011 Energy Star Builder of the Year, is known for their Net Zero Homes, his scope was much larger.

Brad Townsend, the National Building Science Manager for Masco Home Services, showed us what was happening with the "Above Code" energy programs available, like Energy Star and Environments for Living. He addressed the "where we are" and the "where we are going".

Brent Ursenbach is the Salt Lake County Energy Code Inspector. He finished up the roundtable discussion with some real world examples of what is facing the building inspector as we transition into the Energy Codes. His experiences in Utah aren't too different than what we will encounter here in Arizona.

After the roundtable discussion, Bruce Plenk, the Tucson Solar Energy Coordinator spoke to the membership about the Arizona Rooftop Challenge. It is trying to find ways to make the permitting process both simpler and faster for photovoltaic and solar water heating systems. Some of the obstacles are easy to overcome and some are more difficult.

After another lunch sponsored by Willdan, Brown & Associates, SRP, Simpson Strong-Tie and APS, we went out to witness a duct blaster test and a blower door arranged by Brad Townsend and Masco. A local thunderstorm had knocked out the power to the home where the test was to be conducted but they persevered with generators. Even though Payson currently doesn't have an energy code, the tests almost met the requirements of the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code. Craftsmanship is alive and well.



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GOLF TOURNAMENT



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AZBO ABM AWARDS DINNER



At the Awards Dinner the following
AZBO awards were presented:
Brent Snyder Memorial Award
Steve Brown
Building Official of The Year
Joe Mendoza
Permit Tech of The Year
Kristi Spaur
Building Inspector of The Year
Ken Olkowski
Plan Reviewer of The Year
Jack Sinclair
Award of Excellence
Bob Lee
Member of The Year
Bob Kauffman
Chairman's Award
Ray LaHaye
Companion of The Year
Althea Wise



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From Mary Dickson, City of El Mirage

Ella Ochoa has been named the Employee of the Quarter for the City of El Mirage! She was recognized at an August City Council meeting, received a plaque from the mayor and gets an assigned, up-front parking space for three months. **Paul Schechter** was hired as a full time employee after serving three years as a 'temporary' building inspector.

From Chuck King, Town of Oro Valley

William Vicens has moved on to other opportunities with the Town's Economic Development Department and **Jennifer Gray** has filled the 2nd Permit Tech position as his replacement.

From Sharon Bonesteel, SRP

On September 6, 2012 SRP hosted a class to train Building Officials, Inspectors and Plans Examiners on the use of Manual's J, S and D in the correct sizing of mechanical systems for energy efficiency and comfort. Dr. Clyde Perry from Gateway Community College taught the class to over 28 people representing over 12 jurisdictions, the Governor's Office of Energy Policy, the Registrar of Contractors and private plans examiners. Manual J-AE was provided to all attendees, and each Jurisdiction went home with a set of Manuals J, S and D for the AHJ office. Considerable discussion on the methodology for enforcement and review was evident during the class and the APS hosted lunch. Antoine Coffey from ACCA was in attendance to answer any questions the attendees had regarding the educational and experience requirements for the contractors that are ACCA members. More training in Manual J, S and D, will be offered again at the 2012 AZBO Fall Institute in Tucson.

From Bob Lee, AZBO Chair: Southwest Leadership Candidates

Each year AZBO supports the Southwest Leadership Program at the Eller College of Management at the University of Arizona. The program addresses many of the complexities, challenges and rewards of leadership as a public servant. (<http://executive.eller.arizona.edu/southwestleadership/>) In exchange we get to send some of members for the training so that they can become effective leaders later in their careers. It is a wonderful week of learning and growing.

This year we are sending seven candidates. The Grand Canyon Chapter is sponsoring Michael Dorman from Mohave County. The Central Chapter is sponsoring four candidates this year. They are Bill King from Goodyear, Dwight Williams and Martin Encinas from Casa Grande and Donald Brown from Phoenix. The Southern Chapter is sponsoring George Gleeson from Marana and Tim McGuire from Oro Valley. If you would like to attend the program next year let your chapter officer know of your desire. It is an experience that will help you both professionally and personally.

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From Cristina Polsgrove, City of Tucson Team Up to Clean Up!

This month, the City of Tucson's Neighborhood Clean-up Program will be expanded and will be available to incorporated homeowners' associations and small, organized groups of neighbors in addition to City of Tucson registered neighborhood associations. This program provides roll-off containers (dumpsters) to assist residents who want to work together to clean-up their neighborhood and is offered through the Environmental Services fees paid by residential customers. There is no additional charge for roll-offs or hauling and disposal. The program is coordinated by the City's Environmental Services (ES) and Housing and Community Development (HCD) departments.

"I am proud of how the City of Tucson Environmental Services Department continues to find ways to improve and add value to services we receive in our community. Team Up to Clean Up provides a great, convenient, and completely affordable opportunity as an included part of our ES service for all of us to take action together to beautify our yards, block, or neighborhood. I will be encouraging all of my Ward 4 constituents to take advantage of it" said Shirley Scott, Ward 4 Council Member.

Nancy Petersen, Environmental Services Interim Director said, "The program has been used for many years by the City's Neighborhood Associations, but there are many other residents who would like to pitch in to clean up their neighborhoods, too. We hope that by providing roll-offs and the hauling and disposal, we'll make it easier for them."

More information about the program is available online. Residents can visit the ES web page at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/es/neighborhoodclean-ups> or call ES Customer Services at (520) 791-3171. Information for neighborhood associations is available on the HCD website at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/neighborhood-clean-ups>.



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Committee Updates

Code Review and Development Committee (by Chair: Forrest Fielder)

The AZBO Board has unanimously approved three proposed amendments to the 2012 I-codes, as recommended by the CR&D Committee, relating to water closet clearances, kitchen exhaust transition fittings, and swimming pool covers and pumps. For a full text of the amendments, see the AZBO website. The committee is continuing to review other proposals for 2012 amendments, and member jurisdictions are encouraged to forward draft adoption packages to the committee for review - others may benefit from your insights!

Bruce Demmig is looking forward to getting back in action. His efforts on behalf of the CR&D Committee are sorely missed.

Permit Tech Committee, (Chair: Ella Ochoa)

From Tony Bennett: The next Permit Tech Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 25th, 9am – 12noon. Location is: City of Scottsdale Wrangler Room at 9191 E San Salvador Rd, 85258. The topics will include: Building, Planning, Zoning and Addressing. Will cover Who, What, Where, When and Why regarding plans, permits, inspections, code enforcement and addressing.

State Energy Code Committee (Chair Forrest Fielder):

See next page for the letter sent from AZBO to the Governor regarding the Energy Codes:



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Arizona Building Officials
6401 E Lincoln Dr
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

June 26, 2012

The Honorable Janice K Brewer
Arizona Governor
Executive Tower
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Energy Codes

Dear Governor Brewer;

The Arizona Building Officials (AZBO) is a nonpartisan, professional organization that represents the building code professionals of the towns, cities and counties around Arizona. We primarily are a training organization that promotes professionalism by providing education in building code matters to our members and to others in the construction industry.

Through our classes and our meetings we encourage consistency and practicality in matters of health, safety and welfare in the built environment.

Currently our member organizations are actively involved in training their employees and planning to adopt the latest energy codes. These codes foster a significant improvement in energy savings when compared to older codes.

Due to our knowledge base and to our dedication to the citizens of our state, I would like to let you know that we are available to participate in any forum dealing with the energy codes in our state.

Sincerely,
Robert D. Lee
Chairman
Arizona Building Officials
480 348-3631

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