

# AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2023

## Message from the Chair

Greetings AZBO Friends and members,

As we close out the year, I'd like to reflect on our accomplishments over the past 12 months and share the plans for the next year.

We had a very successful Fall Institute with over 1,000 attendees. The increase in students is allowing us to expand to a larger venue next fall. I am very pleased to announce that we have partnered with the Sheraton brand of hotels to host the 2024 Fall Institute at Wrigleyville West in Mesa, Arizona. Wrigleyville is the spring training home to the fans of the Chicago Cubs and is next door to the Cubs Spring Training Facility. This hotel is Mesa's only four-star hotel and opened in 2015. There are numerous dining and entertainment spots in or near the hotel. We look forward to seeing you there.

The AZBO Board approved the 2024 budget, and we are well prepared as we go into the new year. I would like to thank the budget committee for their diligence and expertise as we presented the budget to the board and membership at the Fall Institute meeting. The budget allows for some one-time capital improvements to the infrastructure of AZBO and continues to fund the numerous scholarships, training opportunities and day to day expenses that AZBO has in place.

As we look towards the new year, planning has already started on the Spring 2024 Institute in Prescott, Arizona on April 29<sup>th</sup> thru May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. The education committee has already met, and the core classes are being identified with a few new offerings. The intent for the spring session is to focus on technical code training that will benefit new staff preparing for certification exams and learning new code changes. I am excited to see what the committee comes up with and plan to attend some of the new courses.

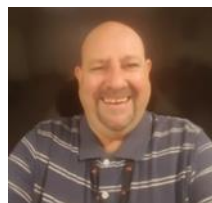
The 2024 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) will be July 23<sup>rd</sup> to July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in Payson, Arizona at the Mazatzal Hotel & Casino. For those that have not attended an AZBO ABM, I recommend you plan on attending and increasing your professional network. The training day at the ABM is always engaging and insightful.

AZBO is also a member of the ICC Region XI chapter, which is made up of Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah. Arizona is hosting the 2024 Annual Meeting in the Tucson area. Please keep an eye out for this event and trainings.

In closing, I want to encourage each of you spend time over the holidays with friends and family. If they are not local, reach out and let them know you are thinking of them. Let your co-workers, friends and family know how they enhance your life and happiness. I will start by letting you know how fulfilling my relationship with each of you and this organization is to me. I truly believe the services we provide are vital to our communities and the opportunity to come together as a united group for the betterment of ourselves and our vocation is priceless.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Don Brown  
AZBO Executive Chairman



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## ICC Annual Business Meeting

October 8 through 11, 2023, St. Louis, MO



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## AZBO Fall Education Institute

October 23 through 26, 2023, Phoenix/Mesa AZ



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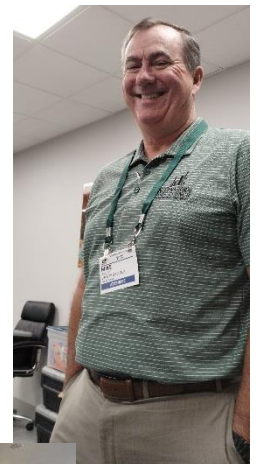


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## Wednesday Night Chapter Event

Casino Night -- Hosted by Central Arizona Chapter



Fun times with co-workers and former co-workers



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## Arizona Construction in Career Days

November 1 and 2, 2023,



## Arizona Permit Tech Committee

With Tabitha Villaverde (Town of Gilbert) stepping off the Permit Tech Committee, Tracie Wilgus (Town of Cave Creek) has offered to step into the roll of AZPT Chair, pending AZBO Board approval.

Special thanks to Tabby for filling the Chair position for the past several years.

This Newsletter creator and longtime member of the Permit Tech Committee is confident that Tracy and the AZPT Board Members will work together for this Committee and I look forward to seeing what they have in store for the future.



## AZBO Awards



*Nominate your peers* who you believe have gone above and beyond in one of 13 categories. Awards flyer is on AZBO's website at the bottom of the "Newsletter" page.

<https://www.azbo.us/newsletters.html>

Send completed nomination forms to [info@azbo.us](mailto:info@azbo.us) no later than June 13, 2024.

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## Jurisdiction News

From **Carl Montgomery**, City of Surprise

I'm very excited to announce that we have a new Building inspector, Aaron Ogden! To the position, Aaron will bring over 30 years of construction experience and two years of municipal Building Inspection experience. The combination of construction experience and Building Inspection experience make him uniquely qualified for this position. We are very excited for the knowledge base that he will bring and believe it will help significantly to support and round out the Building Inspection Team.

We are pleased to announce that one of our valued employees, Chris Knight, has recently obtained ICC Certification for Residential Plans Examiner! This certification is a significant achievement and demonstrates Chris's dedication to professional development and commitment to his job.

Chris has put in a lot of hard work, time, and effort to earn this certification, and we are proud to have him on our team! Chris's accomplishment not only benefits him personally but also adds value to our department, enhancing our expertise and improving our overall performance.

We are pleased to announce that we have decided to promote one of our own employees, Mitch Stanley, to the position of plans examiner I within our department! Mitch has been an exceptional employee and has consistently demonstrated outstanding performance and dedication to our organization. Mitch's hard work, commitment, and expertise have made a significant contribution to the success of our department, and we believe that he is ready to take on new responsibilities.

We are thrilled to announce the newest addition to our Building Inspection Team – Taylor Buttes! With a passion for quality construction and a wealth of experience in the mechanical trade, Taylor is set to enhance our commitment to excellence and building safety. To the position, Taylor brings over 15 years of construction experience in the mechanical trade and two years of municipal code enforcement experience.

The combination of construction experience and code enforcement experience make him uniquely qualified for this position and bring a knowledge base that will help significantly develop, support and round out the Building Inspection Team.



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From **Jeremy Dye**, Yavapai County

Yavapai County Chief Building Official, Carrie Holmes, will be retiring in February of 2024. She has been with the County nearly 19 years and has served as Chief Building Official since July of 2019. During her time with Yavapai County, she has worked through four different Building Code cycles. She also served on the AZBO Education Committee for a time. Under Carrie's watch as Chief Building Official, her Building Safety team has completed 149,465 building inspections, and 17,710 plan reviews! Carrie most recently oversaw the County's most recent adoption of the 2018 Building Codes, and also helped create the successful "Home of My Own" program. Congratulations to Carrie, and best wishes on your retirement!

With the retirement of Carrie Holmes, Yavapai County Development Services appointed Warren Colvin to be the next Chief Building Official. Warren has over 30 years of experience in the construction industry and been a Yavapai County Development Services employee for five years. Over his many years of experience, he has worked through nine Building Code cycles! Congratulations to Warren!

Finally, just to note how much work our Building Safety team has done in the last year, from September of 2022 to September of 2023, our Building Safety Inspectors drove a combined total of 300,809 miles over the County to conduct their building inspections. That is further than a trip to the moon, which is 238,855 miles from Earth!



From **Roxann Jasman**, Town of Camp Verde

Josh Presmyk received his Residential Inspector Certification and Chris Biggs received his Residential Plans Examiner Certification. Jon Rivero hit his 10-year mark with the Town of Camp Verde this month.



## Consultant's News



Shums  
Coda  
Associates

**Shums Coda Associates** would like to Welcome Pat Headington to the SCA Family.



**Bureau Veritas** has welcomed Brian Tardif to BV.



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## In Memory Of

It is with a heavy heart that we would like to let everyone know that two of our own, **Randy and Shelly Westacott**, recently lost their oldest son Connor to a tragic accident. We want to express our deepest condolences to the Westacott family.

Randy has served in multiple roles within AZBO including Chairman. Shelly currently is AZBO's Executive Secretary. Connor's death leaves a big hole in the Westacott family and he will be deeply missed.



Connor Westacott lost his life November 17, 2023.

~Sediments by Mike Baxley

It is with deep sadness and heavy hearts that we share the news of the passing of one of **Brown & Associates** employees, Jeff Lill, over Thanksgiving weekend.

Jeff was not just an employee, but a valued member of our team and his sudden departure has left us all in shock and sadness.

Jeff was known for his dedication, kindness, knowledge, support and mentorship for B&A as well as throughout building safety.

We have lost not only a colleague but also a friend who touched the lives of many within our work community.



Jeff Lill lost a short battle with illness November 23, 2023.



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## AZBO 2023 Annual Sponsors

VISIT AZBO'S WEBSITE FOR RECOGNITION  
OF CURRENT ANNUAL SPONSORS

<https://www.azbo.us/>