

# AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

March 2021

## Message from the Chair

Welcome to AZBO. I think we all want to forget about 2020 and move on with 2021.

We have some upcoming classes to keep everyone updated and informed with current trends and code updates for the 2018 adoptions.

With that the 2021 code development process is underway with the Group A codes, go to [iccsafe.org](http://iccsafe.org) to participate and stay up to date with the proposed changes.

We also hope to have some in person events this year, if possible, including the Annual Business Meeting that will be in July, stay tuned for future announcements.

In this current time of separation and isolation from everyone AZBO needs volunteers more than ever. If you have a desire, or know anyone with an interest to serve, please send a statement of interest to the AZBO Executive Secretary, Shannon Headington, at [azboexcsec@gmail.com](mailto:azboexcsec@gmail.com) for which committee you would like to serve.

I would also like to thank all of the AZBOs sponsors and partners over this last year.

I hope to see everyone in person soon.

Regards

*Brian Uthe*

AZBO Chair



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March 2021



## Sponsor Spotlight



Delivering more than power.™

SRP Marketplace is a great place to shop for discounts for SRP customer needs on Energy Efficient Products, including Electrical Vehicle Chargers. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/2pvde2e8> and hover over Shop Energy-Efficient Products for the dropdown menu for Thermostats, Lighting, Water Fixtures, Smart Home, etc.

There is focus on **ELECTRIC VEHICLES**. At the SRP Marketplace there are great discounts for Charging Stations, some up to 50% off.



MARKETPLACE



Delivering water and power®

**TREES FOR CHANGE** > Go to <https://tinyurl.com/w6hwz6um>

## Plant savings with free shade trees



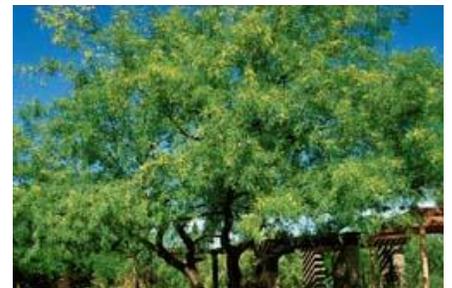
Attend a workshop and earn two trees

SRP's Shade Tree Program provides customers up to two free desert-adapted trees ([approximately 4-to-6 foot saplings](#)) to plant in energy-saving locations around your home. Shading your home helps reduce cooling costs, improve air quality and lower the Valley's heat effect without using a lot of water.\*

To receive free trees, **participants are required to attend a free workshop** to learn how to best plant and care for your trees. Space is limited. Reserve your spot by signing up online.

SPR continues to support AZBO at the Aqua Azul sponsorship level.

**Sharon A. Bonesteel, AiA, CBO**  
Energy Storage Collaboration Team Leader  
Building Codes Program Manager  
SRP | Product Development | PAB32W  
P.O. Box 52025, Phoenix, AZ 85072-2025  
M: (602) 814-7357



# AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

March 2021



## Sponsor Spotlight



Stantec has proudly supported AZBO for over 25 years. Our staff have worked on many AZBO committees including Education, Code, Permit Techs, etc. Our team has worked alongside many of you, talked at our sponsor booth, or golfed at the ABM. Stantec's dedication to the codes and clients matches our commitment to AZBO.



< *We-Ko-Pa Casino*  
*Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation*  
*Fort McDowell, Arizona*

*Freedom Rio Phases 1 and 2*  
*Tempe, Arizona* >



*Cliff Castle Casino Hotel,*  
*Inspections and Plan Review*  
*Camp Verde, Arizona*



*The Standard, Inspections*  
*Flagstaff, Arizona*



*Inspections and Plan Review*  
*Coolidge, Arizona*



**Kim Coyne**  
Principal  
480.687.6050  
[Kim.Coyne@Stantec.com](mailto:Kim.Coyne@Stantec.com)

**Debi Green**  
Project Manager  
480.687.6096  
[Debi.Green@Stantec.com](mailto:Debi.Green@Stantec.com)

**Our experienced and dedicated management team is available to discuss the codes, answer questions, and provide field and/or plan review assistance.**

**See you at the next AZBO event!**



**Joel Svoboda, RA**  
Senior Associate, PM  
520.545.7415  
[Joel.Svoboda@Stantec.com](mailto:Joel.Svoboda@Stantec.com)

**Todd Probasco**  
Lead Plans Examiner, Inspector  
480.687.6202  
[Todd.Probasco@Stantec.com](mailto:Todd.Probasco@Stantec.com)

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Arizona Building Officials

March 2021



## Willdan: A Partner You Can Count On

Our experts have hands-on experience delivering turnkey solutions & serving public agencies like yours. We've done it for more than 55 years & are proud of our long-standing relationships.

**Willdan has the quality you want in a long-term partner:**

- ✓ Knowledgeable & experienced
- ✓ Dedicated to client satisfaction
- ✓ Responsive & approachable
- ✓ Large, multidisciplinary firm with resources & flexibility
- ✓ Everywhere you need us to be: regional and satellite offices

We work with municipalities, university systems, healthcare facilities, and tribal entities. We provide building departments with staff augmentation for everything from building officials to permit technicians. Our staff includes ICC certified plans examiners and inspectors, licensed architects, and registered engineers.

Staffing	Plan Review	Specialized Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Building Officials</li><li>• Plans Examiners</li><li>• Inspectors</li><li>• Permit Technicians</li><li>• Counter Support</li><li>• Fire Code Officials</li><li>• Code Enforcement</li><li>• Fire / Life Safety</li><li>• Plumbing, Mechanical, &amp; Electrical</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fire / Life Safety</li><li>• Plumbing, Mechanical, &amp; Electrical</li><li>• Structural</li><li>• Fire Protection</li><li>• Accessibility</li><li>• Expedited Review</li><li>• Electronic Review</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Virtual Inspections</li></ul>

For more information contact Autumn Wollmann, Deputy Director 480.404.8069

# AZBO News

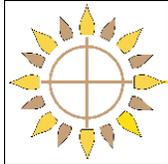


Arizona Building Officials

March 2021



## Sponsor Spotlight



## SHUMS CODA ASSOCIATES

Shums Coda Associates has been in business for 15 years (as of this month), providing municipal building and life-safety consulting services throughout Arizona, from our Goodyear office. Our licensed

engineers, architects, and ICC certified plans examiners, inspectors and permit technicians currently provide services to 22 jurisdictions in Arizona, encompassing all three Arizona Chapters. Over the years SCA has also been heavily involved with the AZBO Education Weeks, providing sponsorship, instructors and hosting various hospitality events (where you might have run into Terry Knox, or our owner, David Basinger). As of last December, SCA acquired Colorado Code Consulting (CCC), to expand our code expertise and training with Steve Thomas, and his talented staff of fellow code instructors. We believe that with this merger, Shums Coda Associates will be able to expand our teaching efforts in Arizona to provide more virtual classes until time that in-person meetings can be resumed. However, with all this additional code knowledge and experience under a single roof, we would encourage any of the membership to reach-out and contact us with any code interpretations that may currently be causing confusion to clients in your respective cities, counties and Tribal Nations. We will always respond to any email or phone call, as we enjoy discussing code language and history. Our contact information is provided here, and we encourage you all to follow SCA on LinkedIn or Instagram for more code information and company news!

### Our Services

- Plan Review & Inspection
- Permit Tech/Staff Augmentation
- Professional Education
- Elevator Inspections
- Fire Review & Inspection
- Engineering Review and Inspection

### Contact Us!

844.674.5179  
info@shumscoda.com  
[www.shumscoda.com](http://www.shumscoda.com)  
1616 North Litchfield Road, Suite A-210  
Goodyear, AZ 85395

Follow Us Online!



# AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

March 2021



## Sponsor Spotlight



Brown & Associates is a second-generation, family owned and operated building safety consulting firm providing building and life-safety plan review and inspection services.

For the past 18-years, we have made it our goal at Brown & Associates to be an elite Building Safety Code Consulting firm and to give back to the communities we serve. We support many of our client's communities with our time, talents and funds for special events or programs. We also want to support our industry and profession, both community development services as well as professional local government management. B&A is delighted to be an Agua Azul AZBO Sponsor.



We missed doing B&A Hospitality Night in 2020 due to the ABM being a virtual meeting. We look forward to resuming B&A Hospitality Night as soon as it's safe to do so. Hoping for Fiesta Night in Sedona July 2021 complete with Sarape face mask and individual hand sanitizer for all who attend!



WE'RE SOCIAL  
check out more throwback photos on



480 991-3751



# AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

March 2021

## Southern Chapter News

From **Barbara Rice**, Town of Sahuarita  
Elections were held in December and this year's Board for the Southern Arizona Chapter is:

- David Spurlock, President;
- Mike Seal, VP and acting Treasurer;
- Barbara Rice, Secretary;
- John Farmer, Past President;
- Brian Uthe, Matt Hazelton, Rick Hollander, Ryan Greene, Brian Snow, Ramon Gallegos, Members-at-Large.



## Arizona Permit Tech Committee News

Wednesday, March 17, 2021  
**Sharon Bonesteel**, SRP, will be presenting **Battery Storage 101**, discussing national standards. This will be a virtual meeting via ZOOM.

Since this meeting is on St. Patrick's Day, attendees were asked to "Think Green". There will be a prize for the best representation of the theme. ~AZPT Swag~



The Permit Tech Committee is looking for suggestions for future meetings to be held in June, September, and December. We are hopeful these can be in person meetings or a mix of virtual and in person. If you have any suggestions of what you would like to see presented or if you are interested in donating your time as a presenter, please contact an AZPT Board Member:

Tabitha Villaverde,

[tabitha.villaverde@gilbertaz.gov](mailto:tabitha.villaverde@gilbertaz.gov)

Patti Schechter,

[patti@brownandassociates.net](mailto:patti@brownandassociates.net)

Stephanie Johnson,

[Stephanie.Johnson@yavapai.us](mailto:Stephanie.Johnson@yavapai.us)

Jill Austin, [Jill.Austin@peoriaaz.gov](mailto:Jill.Austin@peoriaaz.gov)

Ella Ochoa, [mochoa@elmirageaz.gov](mailto:mochoa@elmirageaz.gov)

Eilise Fisher, [eilise.fisher@flagstaffaz.gov](mailto:eilise.fisher@flagstaffaz.gov)



## Contribution from City of Phoenix

From **David Amira**, Fire Protection Engineer

***“I don’t always put water near electrical,  
but when I do, I prefer fire separation.”***

As mentioned during February’s newsletter, the City of Phoenix Planning and Development Department (PDD) experienced a 49% increase in single family dwelling permits and a 90% increase in Photovoltaic (PV) solar system permits. As the number of PV solar systems have increased, the number of Energy Storage Systems (ESS) installations have trailed behind the technology. As the industry has reflected, the PV systems can be better utilized when installed in conjunction with an Energy Storage System. This in turn poses unique challenges to assure a development friendly code approach, a safe installation for the residence and the needed infrastructure for emergency responders.

In combination with the 2018 Phoenix Fire Code (PFC) Section 1206 amendments, Planning and Development is taking the approach in applying the 2018 Building Code Table 509 incidental use for stationary storage battery systems having an aggregate energy capacity greater than the thresholds specified in PFC Table 1206.2. The fire separation requirement is only applied when the Energy Storage System is installed adjacent to or below a living space such as a laundry room, pantry, hallway, bedroom, etc. This means a 2-hour fire separation in a single-family residence. The majority of ESS systems are installed on an exterior wall, either inside the garage or outdoors adjacent to the garage near the main electrical service panel (SES). Therefore, this code application does not impact most projects. However, some installations pose an exposure to a living space.

So, why the fire separation? According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency- United States Fire Administration, the leading cause of fire for residential in the year 2018 is cooking, at an estimated 50.7%. This is followed with Heating (9.4%), Unintentional, carelessness (7.5%) and Electrical malfunction (6.8%). With that in mind, ESS is not the primary hazard in a home, it’s the residents themselves. The added fire separation creates a barrier between the ESS system and the remainder of the occupied space in which fire can originate. This provides time for an on-scene response to control a fire before it reaches the ESS system and creates a Thermal Runaway hazard; sequentially effecting the safety of firefighters, search and rescue, egress, etc.

# AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

March 2021

## Contribution from City of Chandler

From **Tao Shicheng**, Building Official

The City of Chandler has launched the Employee Development Academy. Beth Chepelsky, Organizational Development Coordinator, was invited to introduce the programs at the building inspector and building examiner monthly meeting in the Building Safety Division, Development Services Department on March 4. The purpose of the workshop is to raise awareness about the importance of leadership and soft skills. The outcome of the workshop is wonderful, and staffers in the Building Safety Division appreciated this learning opportunity in perspectives of customer service skills and professional career development.

## Contribution from International Code Council

From **Kelly Sadler**, Government Relations, Senior Regional Manger

**Prevent, Prepare, Protect:** Building Safety Month proclamations are available for you to use.

Each May, [Building Safety Month](#) is the code official's opportunity to raise the profile of their professions and to educate consumers, decision makers and other stake holders about their value to America's economic growth and safety. This year's observance theme is "Prevent, Prepare, Protect. Building Codes Save." One of the best grassroots opportunities to amplify the value of code officials and building codes is the Building Safety Month proclamations. The [2021 proclamation draft is available here](#) with a guide which can be downloaded. Do not overlook this opportunity to have your ICC Chapter President to sign a proclamation on behalf of your chapter. And don't miss the opportunity to have 2021 BSM proclamations signed by mayors, county commission chairs, state legislators, Governors and associations and businesses who support a safe and resilient built environment. More can be found at [www.buildingsafetymonth.org](http://www.buildingsafetymonth.org). To view and download this year's campaign poster, click [here](#). Follow along on social media using the hashtag #BuildingSafety365. [Read more here](#).

**SAVE THE DATES:** Code Council will open registration soon for second ICC Learn Live April 19-22

After the success of last November's [ICC Learn Live](#) event, the Code Council will offer another virtual training series this spring where you can join your fellow professionals, earn valuable CEUs, and learn more about the most pressing issues and priorities for building safety professionals. This year's event will take place April 19-22 and [registration will open in mid-March](#). Watch your emails for more.

# AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

March 2021

## AZBO Directory

The AZBO Directory was last distributed in 2018. We are long overdue for an update.

If you have had changes over the past three years...



please email [patti@brownandassociates.net](mailto:patti@brownandassociates.net) in the following format:

Jurisdiction or Business Name

Address

Phone

Open (Monday through Friday *\*or\** Monday through Thursday)

Building Official or Main Contact: name, email address, phone #

Additional primary contacts: Plan Review Manager, Inspection Supervisor, Permitting, etc. Maximum of four please.

Adopted Codes: XXXX I Codes, XXXX NEC, etc.

Removing “accepting electronic plan review” as it is not as relevant as it was in 2018 when it was less common.

Removing Design Criteria as it is inconsistent (not all provided the data; can be found on most jurisdiction’s websites).

If you are unsure of your listing, the 2018 Directory is on AZBO’s website, or email [patti@brownandassociates.net](mailto:patti@brownandassociates.net) and she will send you a snip of what was listed.



AZBO is also in the process of adding direct links to jurisdiction’s websites.

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

Under the Permits tab, scroll down. Several are already listed. Others will be added soon to complete the links for all municipalities in Arizona.

# AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

March 2021

## May is Building Safety Month



WEEK 1

ENERGY AND INNOVATION



WEEK 2

TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION



WEEK 3

WATER SAFETY



WEEK 4

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS



**Educate Your Community**  
Use the Code Council's campaign toolkit to connect with your local community and to run your own social media campaign.



**Issue a Proclamation**  
Show your support of Building Safety Month by asking your city official to sign a proclamation.

See Proclamations from AZBO, Grand Canyon Chapter, Central Chapter, Southern Chapter, Region XI on next five pages.



**Safety Tips**  
Our free safety tips for the backyard, pool, electrical appliances and disasters are available here.



**Kids Corner**  
Download fun and educational materials for elementary school-aged children.



**Promotional Materials**  
For print copies of brochures, pencils and more, visit the ICC store.

What is your department doing? Send update and photos to [patti@brownandassociates.net](mailto:patti@brownandassociates.net) to be featured in the June Newsletter!

Images from [iccsafe.org](http://iccsafe.org)



# *Proclamation*

**Building Safety Month — May, 2021**

Whereas, AZBO is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster, and;

Whereas, our confidence in the structural integrity of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

Whereas, these guardians are dedicated members of the International Code Council, a nonprofit that brings together local, state and federal officials that are experts in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work, play, and;

Whereas, our nation benefits economically and technologically from using the International Codes that are developed by a national, voluntary consensus codes and standards developing organization, our government is able to avoid the high cost and complexity of developing and maintaining these codes, which are the most widely adopted building safety and fire prevention codes in the world;

Whereas, these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquakes, and;

Whereas, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown protectors of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, efficient and livable buildings that are essential to America's prosperity, and;

Whereas, "Prevent, Prepare, Protect. Building Codes Save," the theme for Building Safety Month 2021, encourages all Americans to raise awareness about the importance of safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, and new technologies in the construction industry.

Whereas, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, people all over the world are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brian Uthe, Chair of the Arizona Building Officials, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2021 as Building Safety Month.

Signature



# *Proclamation*

**Building Safety Month — May, 2021**

Whereas, ICC Grand Canyon Chapter of Arizona Building Officials (AZBO) is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of disaster, and;

Whereas, our confidence in the resilience of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

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Whereas, "Prevent, Prepare, Protect. Building Codes Save," the theme for Building Safety Month 2021, encourages all Americans to raise awareness about the importance of safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, energy conservation; water safety; training the next generation; and new technologies in the construction industry.

Whereas, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, people all over the world are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety, resilience and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Amy Palmer, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2021 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



# *Proclamation*

**Building Safety Month — May, 2021**

Whereas, Central Chapter ICC of the Arizona Building Officials (AZBO) is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster, and;

Whereas, our confidence in the structural integrity of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

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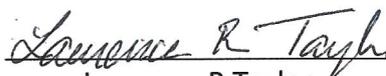
Whereas, these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquakes, and;

Whereas, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown protectors of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, efficient and livable buildings that are essential to America's prosperity, and;

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laurence R Taylor, Central Chapter President of the Local ICC Chapter of Arizona Building Officials (AZBO) – Central Arizona Chapter, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2021 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

  
Laurence R Taylor



# *Proclamation*

**Building Safety Month — May, 2021**

Whereas, the ICC Southern Chapter of the Arizona Building Officials is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of disaster, and;

Whereas, our confidence in the resilience of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, David Spurlock, President of the ICC Southern Chapter of the Arizona Building Officials do hereby proclaim the month of May 2021 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

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Signature



# *Proclamation*

**Building Safety Month — May, 2021**

Whereas, Region XI of the International Code Council, also known as the Four Corners Chapter; is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of disaster, and;

Whereas, our confidence in the resilience of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

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NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stephen Rinaldi, Chairman of Region XI of the International Code Council, also known as the Four Corners Chapter; do hereby proclaim the month of May 2021 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

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Signature