

AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024

Message from the Chair

Mission To promote professional development through education, consistency, and diversity, while building relationships to foster safer communities.

Season's Greetings AZBO Friends and Members,

I want to take the opportunity to Thank all the AZBO Members, Sponsors and Friends for all the support and successes of the past year. Without your support, the organization and mission of AZBO would not exist.

As we plan the budget for 2025, AZBO is in sound financial shape and any potential increases in fees will be attributed to the rising cost of food and drink at the institutes or increases in instructor fees. We are looking forward to the Spring institute at the Casino Del Sol in Tucson and then for the Fall Institute we will be back to Wrigleyville West in Mesa, Arizona. I believe both venues are upgrades to previous venues in the geographical areas. The education committee is working on providing new class offerings as well as providing classes that were well attended in past institutes.

We are currently working on a venue for the AZBO Annual Business Meeting with tentative dates of July 15th, 16th, and 17th. It will be in Northern Arizona, so save the dates for a summer cool down.

I would like to provide a few reminders for members and sponsors to be aware of at the end of the year. The chapter memberships are calendar based so January 1, 2025, all memberships are due for renewal. This is the best time to adjust your membership lists for new and former employees to receive the membership rates. The spring institute comes quickly and that is when most organizations find out their membership has expired.

The AZBO Leveled Sponsorship drive is currently active, and we hope you will continue to support AZBO and our mission. New sponsors are always welcomed, and existing sponsors are considered part of the AZBO family.

In closing, I want to encourage each of you to 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. It only takes a few minutes, and it can have a lasting impact on those relationships.

Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!
Don Brown AZBO Executive Chairman



AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024



Arizona Delegates at the ICC Code Hearings in Long Beach, CA, October 2024

The **AZBO Spring Education Institute** will be at Casino Del Sol, Tucson Arizona, April 7 thru 10, 2025. Mark your calendar and watch for registration information to be distributed.



AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024



Once upon a time Don Brown predicted I'd announce my own retirement in the AZBO Newsletter. So here we are. Patti Schechter will be retiring from Brown & Associates the end of December. Mike Brown says I'll have company cell phone (aka hot line) which translates to:

🎵 You can check out any time you like 🎵

🎵 but you can never leave 🎵

I will still be involved with AZBO as a Lifetime Member. I will continue creating the AZBO Quarterly Newsletter and providing the annual update to the AZBO Directory. I will also be staying on as Chair of the Awards Committee (as voted by the AC). Don't be surprised if you see me at the B&A Vendor Booth at the AZBO Spring Institute at Casino Del Sol in April!

<Someone sent me this glimpse into the future enjoying wine on a beach in Spain! On the retirement agenda for June 2025

H U G E thanks to Mike and Malinda for 21 years with Brown & Associates. To my amazing Project Manager Mac McMillan, who has been my guiding light for over two decades. To my fantastic and dedicated co-workers (past and present). To AZBO for embracing my shenanigans for over a quarter of a century. Here are a few photos from my phenomenal retirement party hosted by the Browns.



AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024

AZBO Fall Education Institute, Mesa, October 2024



Thank you
Brad Mecham
and
Tara Gallager
for the photos!



AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024

In The News

From **Carl Montgomery**, Chief Building Official, City of Surprise

We are excited to announce **Aaron Ogden's** promotion to Building Inspector II. With over 30 years in the construction industry, including blueprint analysis and code compliance, Aaron has been a vital member of our team since joining as a Building Inspector I.

We are thrilled to share that **Bill Peckinpaugh** has been promoted to Plans Examiner II! Bill brings 17 years of construction experience, including 13 years as a building inspector—8 as a Building Inspector II. He holds four ICC certifications and is known for his positive attitude and commitment to customer service.

We are pleased to welcome **Tyler Thoms** as one of our new Building Inspectors. With over 15 years in the electrical trade, Tyler brings valuable expertise to our organization. Tyler holds ICC certifications for Commercial Electrical Inspector and Residential Building Inspector.

We are happy to introduce **Jeremy Wesson**, joining us as a Building Inspector! Jeremy has five years of experience in the plumbing trade and two years as a municipal building inspector. Jeremy holds an ICC Certification for Residential Plumbing Inspector.

I am delighted to announce that **Troy Alvord** will be joining us as our new Building Inspector II. With 13 ICC Certifications and over 22 years of municipal building inspection experience, Troy brings a wealth of expertise and knowledge to our department.

~~~~~  
From **Roxanne Jasman**, CBCO, Chief Building Official, Town of Campe Verde  
We have one promotion. **Rita Severson** has been promoted to a Permit Technician II.

~~~~~  
From **Shelly Franco-Westacott**, AZBO Executive Director.

The Central Chapter hosted 83 students for online training with ICC. It was a full day training for 2024 IRC significant changes.

AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024

Also from **Shelly** on behalf of the City of Phoenix



We Want Your Feedback

Dear Stakeholders and Development Partners,

The Planning and Development Department is currently reviewing the 2024 International Codes, the 2024 Uniform Plumbing Code, and the 2023 National Electrical Code for possible adoption in 2025. Staff committees will be proposing amendments to the model codes based on conditions specific to Phoenix. In addition, we are accepting feedback from our development partners on any proposed code amendments through **December 31, 2024**.

If you are interested in proposing an amendment to any of the model codes noted above, visit our website:

<https://www.phoenix.gov/pdd/devcode/buildingcode/2024-building-code>

From **Rick Bluntzer**, ICC

Support FEMA Increasing Recovery Funding for Resilient Code Adoption

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently released an interim policy that would increase the amount of the federal government's cost share in post-disaster repair and reconstruction for public facilities from 75 percent to 85 percent for communities that have already adopted and enforce one of the two most recent editions of the IBC and IECC (or ASHRAE 90.1). This means that the building safety work you do could bring significantly greater resources to your community during disaster recovery.

Why do updated codes matter? FEMA's Building Codes Save report noted the IBC helped avoid more than \$600 billion in losses, while the National Institute for Building Sciences Mitigation Saves study showed \$11 in mitigation savings for every \$1 invested. Three national labs found the IECC can reduce extreme heat deaths associated with disaster-induced power outages by 80 percent, or extreme cold deaths by 30 percent. FEMA already requires the use of these codes for repair and reconstruction efforts. Providing additional funding for jurisdictions that adopt updated codes recognizes the importance of their mitigation benefits and will incentivize smart planning before disaster strikes.

We need your help! Send a comment to FEMA to encourage them to recognize and support modern codes that promote resiliency.

AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024

From **Randal Westacott**, Chief Building Official, City of Goodyear

2024 Arizona Construction Career Days

AZBO Central Chapter represented the State Chapter for the 9th year at Arizona Construction Career days. This event is 23 years young and strives to introduce high school age children to the career opportunities available in the trades.

This year there were 4480 students, 99 Schools and 6 counties in attendance. 83 vendors were there to present their wares. AZBO, as always, promotes careers in code administration and the ICC's Technical Training Program - ICC (iccsafe.org). It is truly rewarding to represent AZBO and engage with the students about the possibilities of careers code administration, and we work alongside the trades throughout the construction process.

A huge shout out to our volunteers and their employers that supported their attendance and time.

- Aaron Sroufe – Goodyear
- Brigham Bennett – El Mirage
- Gilbert Peru – Casa Grande
- John Earhart – Tempe
- Ken Zehring – Gilbert
- Mark Blackwell – Tempe
- Michele Gilbreth – Peoria
- Mira Todorova – Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
- William Cabano – Gilbert
- Zachary Shawd - Chandler

This event is a great opportunity for reaching out to the next generation of permit technicians, building inspectors, plan reviewers, building officials, and even fire code officials. Seriously folks, if you are looking for a rewarding opportunity to volunteer be ready for next year's announcement in September.

Sponsorship Recognition from ACCD's Website>>>>>>

WE WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT
WITHOUT YOU, AZCCD WOULDN'T BE A SUCCESS!!

22 Year Anniversary

OUR PARTNER

DIAMOND SPONSORSHIP

PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP

GOLD SPONSORSHIP

SILVER SPONSORSHIP

BRONZE SPONSORSHIP

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024

~~~~~  
From **Shicheng Tao**, Chief Building Official, City of Chandler

It's a great pleasure to share that the City of Chandler Council unanimously approved the adoption of the 2024 I-Codes and the 2023 NEC, which will take effect on July 1, 2025. It's truly a rewarding feeling to see the hard work and collaboration come to fruition. The approval for the adoption of the I-Codes and the NEC is a significant milestone, and it's a testament to the dedication and teamwork from all involved. The solid support of the stakeholders and the great efforts of the City of Chandler Fire, Legal, City Clerk's Office, and Development Services along with the strong support from the Chandler City Council and the Board of Appeals were vital in ensuring that everything moved smoothly, even though the inevitable challenges.

It's also been a pleasure to navigate through the journey alongside such a talented group in the City of Chandler, from the initial presentations to the final approval. This collective success is something we can all be proud of. It's clear that the joint efforts have made a real difference. While Thanksgiving has passed, I echo the City of Chandler staff members' sentiments in saying "Thank You" for the dedication and spirit of teamwork that made this project a success. I would like to give special kudos to the ICC Arizona Representative Rick Bluntzer for his help in facilitating the shipment of the 2024 IECC hard copy to our Board of Appeals right before their business meetings this fall.

I look forward to continuing this momentum as we move toward the 2025 implementation date and wish the best to the AZBO Family!

~~~~~  
From **Angela Nelson**, Town of Marana

Congratulations to **Allison Lander**, Town of Marana Permit Technician, for passing the permit tech exam!



Looking for **employment opportunities**?
Be sure to check out AZBO's website for job postings:

<https://www.azbo.us/jobs.html?iLimit=10&limitstart=0>

AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024

From **Terry Knox**, Shums Coda

I know of a few people in AZ that knew Marvin and may want to know about this



On October 31, 2024, this world lost a great mentor to all, Marvin Root, who Some of us may have had a mediocre career in construction all beat up.

I have known Marvin since 1969, when I was a builder in Paradise, CA. I would go to him to provide plans for projects I was doing. Marvin was a unique, soft-spoken man who always had a smile on his face and was willing to talk about anything with an open mind.

During these early days of our working relationship, I thought I had suffered a career-ending injury. Marvin Root heard about it and told me he was getting ready to teach a class under the California Conservation Core (CCC) at Butte College in Chico, CA. He said the program would be on Building Inspection and that I should investigate it.

I took him up on this crazy idea, knowing nothing about Building Inspections except when I had to deal with the inspectors on my jobs.

I remember my first day in his class. Looking to the front where he stood, with that smile and twinkle in his eyes, he said, "Hi, I am Marvin Root. I have been involved in building ever since I could carry a hammer." From there, he said we would spend the next couple of months going through the Uniform Building Code by ICBO.

And then he started lecturing, flipping pages of this UBC in front of him and the eight of us in this class with our books, trying to stay up with him. As he read through these code chapters, he would toss out questions, always smiling, and challenge us to see if he was right or wrong; he was always right!

This program became a full associate degree program and was better known as the BIT (Building Inspection Tech) program. He taught this program for the next 40 years.

I cannot tell you what this man meant to me as he shared with me how to mentor others. I was the first person out of his program to graduate and get an inspection position in Menden, NV. This was the start of my 50+ years in the inspection field. Marvin would often reach out to me as I would him to talk about different things, how I was doing, and what he thought about the code adoption process.

Marvin, my friend and mentor, you have touched the lives of so many of us in this field. You opened doors to so many who otherwise may not have had the opportunities you provided them with.

My last words to you in 2023 when we last talked was thank you.

Thank you, Marvin Root, for being there for so many! When God asks you a code question, please do not attempt to trick him into thinking he really understands.

Love and will miss you, my friend!

Terry Knox

AZBO News



Arizona Building Officials

December 2024

AZBO 2024 Annual Sponsors

VISIT AZBO'S WEBSITE FOR RECOGNITION
OF CURRENT 2024 ANNUAL SPONSORS

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