

BOAT News

a publication by the BUILDING OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Let me begin by expressing my appreciation to you all. Thank you for trusting me to lead the finest chapter of building officials in the nation. It is an honor to follow in the footsteps of our previous president, Scott McDonald, whose hard work and diligence have helped to make BOAT the outstanding organization that it is today. I would also like to congratulate Stephen Draper on his appointment to the Board, as well as welcome back our returning Board members.

As you well know, our mission is to enhance the professionalism of our members, to advance the standards of the building industry, and to be leaders in the resolution of public policy issues. We have had great success with this thus far, and with your help, we will continue to do so going forward. Please take time to visit our new Web site at www.boatx.org and feel free to provide feedback on how we can serve you better. While you're there, take a look at the "On Demand" section, where you can watch and listen to recorded sessions from the fall conference in Irving at no cost.

In the near future, we will roll out a strategic plan for the coming year. I encourage and appreciate any input you may have. Every member of this chapter has a unique skill set that will benefit our organization as a whole. Please share your talents with the rest of our group, as our success as a chapter will ultimately rely on our ability to collaborate effectively with one another.

On September 17, several of us had the pleasure of attending Dr. John Matthys' retirement party at the Walnut Creek Country Club. He is retiring after 30-plus years of service at The University of Texas at Arlington. Fortunately for us, he is not yet retiring from BPI. Please send him your personal congratulations, if you have an opportunity.

With regard to BPI, this year is shaping up to be a challenging one. Many of our municipalities have slashed, or drastically reduced, monies for travel and training. As a partner in this wonderful training institute, I know it is important that we begin to promote the Houston and Arlington BPIs now. While we can anticipate a drop in attendance from municipal employees, we can meanwhile seek to promote attendance from other entities, such as the private sector or groups in need of continuing education units. Let's remember to make BPI a priority now, as we begin preparing our upcoming budgets.

Again, I thank you for the opportunity to serve as president in the year ahead. I look forward to working with each of you to make 2011-2012 an outstanding year for our organization!

Lawrence Crow, BOAT President

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EXTERIOR WALL COVERINGS

Buildings must be provided with a **weather-resistant exterior wall envelope**. Water-resistant barriers have been required in the code for a number of years, both the International Residential Code (IRC) and the International Building Code (IBC). The code also requires flashings as described in section R703.8 and IBC 1405.4 accordingly. The exterior wall envelope shall be designed in constructed in such a manner as to prevent the accumulation of water within the wall assembly by providing a water-resistive barrier **behind the exterior veneer** and a means of draining accumulation to the exterior (most commonly by means of flashing). It is key to recognize a **weather-resistant exterior wall envelope** is required behind most all types of wall coverings to include; brick veneer, vinyl siding, stucco, cement board, wood siding. The specific requirements are indentified in the IRC Table R703.4

Both codes require No. 15 asphalt felt complying with ASTM D226 **or other approved water-resistive materials** over studs or sheathing of all exterior walls. Installed horizontally and lapped not less than 2 inches. There is an exception for detached accessory buildings in the IRC. Where other approved water-resistive barriers are installed those products must be approved by the building official in accordance with Section 104.11 as an approved alternative material. The information necessary for this type of approval is generally ICC-ES Reports, issued by the International Code Council Evaluation Services. The reports provide documentation that the product when installed in accordance with the manufacturers installation instructions and the conditions of the report, will achieve the necessary water-resistive barrier protection. The link to this example is: <http://www.icc-es.org/reports/index.cfm?search=search>

It is important to note the exterior water-resistive barrier must cover the entire exterior envelope including gabled ends and must be incorporated with building flashings to provide complete secondary moisture protection for the exterior wall system. In some installations like brick veneer, the water-resistive barrier is part of a system that, when properly constructed, provides a cavity for the drainage of moisture through weep holes installed above grade. Proper installation of a water-resistive barrier and brick veneer in residential construction in Texas is very important. The prescriptive requirements for the installation of brick veneer can be found in the 2009 IRC Section R703.7.

Submitted by
Scott A. McDonald, CBO

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SMALL CITIES' CORNER

Profile in Public Service: Hewitt Director of Planning and Community

Reprinted with permission from the August 2011 edition of Texas Town & City, the official publication of the Texas Municipal League

By Rachael Pitts, TML Director of Member Services

Hewitt Director of Planning and Community Development Bruce Braley is an example of the hundreds of hard-working, dedicated city officials serving small cities in Texas. We think it is important to profile these public servants from time to time.



More than 13,500 residents call the City of Hewitt home, and that number continues to grow. Bruce Braley's job is to make sure that growth happens the right way—in a safe and sustainable manner. Bruce serves as Hewitt's director of planning and community development.

Hewitt is the second largest city in McLennan County, located about eight miles south of its more populous neighbor, the City of Waco. Named after a director of the Katy Railroad back in the late 1800s, Hewitt became an official city after a successful 1960 incorporation election of 73 for to 4 against. Since then, the city has grown steadily, if not rapidly.

Bruce is a native of McLennan County, having grown up and worked most of his career in the county. Debbie, his better half of 21 years, works for the State of Texas as an administrative assistant II. Debbie and Bruce have lived the past 16 years on a 60-acre ranch dubbed Lonesome Pine Ranch. The ranch is located about 10 miles east of Waco near Axtell, a small farming and ranching community. The couple has three children—Andrew, Shawna, and Megan—and three grandchildren—six-year-old Chesnie, four-year-old Ava Kate, and fourteen-month-old Colt.

When not playing the role of Mam'ma and Pa'pa, Debbie and Bruce raise Longhorns, "dabble with a good-sized" vegetable garden, maintain lots of flowers and plants to attract wildlife, and enjoy hunting, fishing, camping, and riding four-wheelers.

Bruce holds an associate's degree in construction technology from Texas State Technical Institute, and several inspection certifications through the International Code Council, including building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, and property maintenance. Bruce is also licensed by the State of Texas as a plumbing inspector. And last, but certainly not least in his heart, Bruce is a proud Eagle Scout.

What makes Hewitt, Hewitt?

Our city has a unique geographic location. We are centrally located between the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and Austin, with access off of I-35—the most heavily traveled north/south highway in Texas—and Highway 84, a major east/west highway that directly connects to Hewitt Drive. This, along with the soon-to-be completed four-lane widening of the Hewitt Drive extension to south bound I-35, allows for quick access to our many established and newly developed residential subdivisions, as well as our developing commercial subdivision, Commerce Park. And I can't help but point out that Hewitt has twice in the last several years been named as one of the best places in America to live!

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SMALL CITIES' CORNER (continued)

What are the city's greatest challenges and opportunities?

One of the greatest challenges that we face is marketing our city to encourage both families and businesses to locate in our municipality. We have to be able to offer all the public services that not only our existing citizens and businesses require, but also continue to offer and improve upon these services to attract new citizens and businesses. As a small community, we can't allow ourselves to become stagnant. We are always searching for ways and avenues to maintain the level of living that our citizens have grown to expect.

The greatest opportunities that we have are meeting the challenges of preparing Hewitt to be ready for the future. With our current and projected growth rate, the city has had to take on several major improvements and new installations of our infrastructure. These include items such as the acquisition of land for the installation of new water and sewer plants. It also includes the planning of a new municipal complex that will not only meet the needs of our projected build-out population, but also will house the employees who will be required to provide protection and services for the future citizens of Hewitt.

All of this is accomplished through strategy sessions where both short- and long-term goals are first envisioned and then prioritized. This can only be done through planning, development, and finally implementation. Of course, along with this is the ever-challenging goal to accomplish these improvements at no (or a minimal) increase in the tax burden to our citizens.

These have been, are, and will be again challenging times. My goal is to position the City of Hewitt to not only exist, but also to compete both now and in the future.

So what does a director of planning and community development do?

My job duties are to manage the day-to-day activities of the various divisions that make up my department. Our department is made up of building inspections, code enforcement, planning and zoning, and building maintenance, along with regulating flood plain management and health and environmental ordinances.

My professional occupation can be defined as a code administrator. This entails interpretation, application, and enforcement of the codes and ordinances adopted by the City of Hewitt in order to regulate and maintain a safe, orderly, and sustainable growth. I have been doing this for the past seven years for Hewitt and more than 20 years during my career.

One of the many benefits of this position is it allows me to associate with a wide variety of people, professions, and organizations. I currently sit on the Building Officials Association of Texas Board of Directors as a director at large; I am also the president of the Lone Star Chapter of the International Code Council, as well as a member of the International Code Council. Locally, through the city, I am a member of the local chapter of the National Association of Home Builders.

What is a typical, if there is such a thing, week like for you?

A typical work week for me never seems to end. It usually starts around 7:30 a.m. with a call from a contractor and ends around 6:00 or 6:30 p.m. with a call from my wife wanting to know when I'm coming home to tend to my other chores. Among the many things I've learned in working for a small but growing city is to have the ability to multi-task. You can be hit at any time and any place with a situation, and you have to be able to react—and then you have to be able to shift right back to where you were.

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SMALL CITIES' CORNER (continued)

What advice can you offer to a newbie?

If you're just starting off, my advice is to use the KISS system—Keep It Short and Simple. Too often, I've seen too many things getting done at once, and as a result, they are done poorly and have to be done again. Most of the time, you don't have time to do it twice. Very rarely are there "do-overs" in this line of business.

I also encourage those starting off to get to know their colleagues in other cities. I attend both TML and the Building Officials Association of Texas (BOAT) events for the training and also to be able to network with my fellow municipal employees. To not only be able to discuss the challenges of a small city, but also to know that there are others in the same boat and to learn from their experiences, is invaluable. For every Dallas, Fort Worth, and Houston, there are 100 cities the size of Hewitt, and they're represented at these functions.

MEET STEPHEN DRAPER

Meet Stephen Draper, Building Official, City of Corpus Christi

Please join me in welcoming our newest BOAT Board member, Mr. Stephen Draper. Stephen has been married to his beautiful wife Anita for 31 years. They have three children and one grandchild.

Stephen started his career as an insurance investigator. He was then hired as a superintendent for a development company. From there, he began his career with the City of Denver, where he spent 34 years as the director of development services and also served as director of maintenance and engineering at the Denver International Airport.

After retiring from the City of Denver in September 2009, he and his wife moved to Corpus Christi, where he serves as that city's building official. Stephen brings a wealth of experience and talent to the Building Officials Association of Texas.

Welcome aboard, Stephen.

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TEXAS DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM

Volunteers for the State Public Works Disaster Response Team, PWRT

This is a call for volunteers to assist in disaster damage assessments for building, plumbing, electrical, and mechanical systems for both residential and commercial structures.

The idea is to provide the state public works disaster response team with qualified inspectors to assess the damages for cities involved in a state or federal declared disaster and inspect any repairs and/or replacements in the build environment. The associate division director of the State Public Works Disaster Response Team, PWRT, was excited for us to provide him with a one-call helpline for him to request a disaster response team of inspectors, saving him much valuable time. BOAT is collecting names of volunteers for our disaster response team for times when a disaster is more local and will not reach the level of a state or federal declared disaster. We are asking when you submit your registration to TEEX, please send it to us as well at jbrown@westutx.org.

What is a "qualified Inspector"? This is an individual who possesses combination certifications; for example, Residential Combination Inspector, Commercial Combination Inspector, State licensed Plumbing Inspector, and Combination Building or Electrical or Plumbing or Mechanical Inspectors.

FAQs

Q: Do I need to have any special certifications or licenses?

A: The Disaster Inspector certification from ICC would always be good to have, but it's not required. The State Public Works Disaster Response Team, PWRT, wants each individual to take and pass the FEMA National Incident Management System (NIMS) online IS-100a, IS-200a, and IS-700A courses. (I have passed these; so can you.) These courses provide you with an overview of how the NIMS system works and the chain of command. These courses are free and may be found at http://training.fema.gov/nrfres_IS.asp.

Q: Who reimburses my city for my time away from work?

A: PWRT, FEMA, or the State will reimburse your city for declared disasters, as long as you are properly logged in and your time is accounted for.

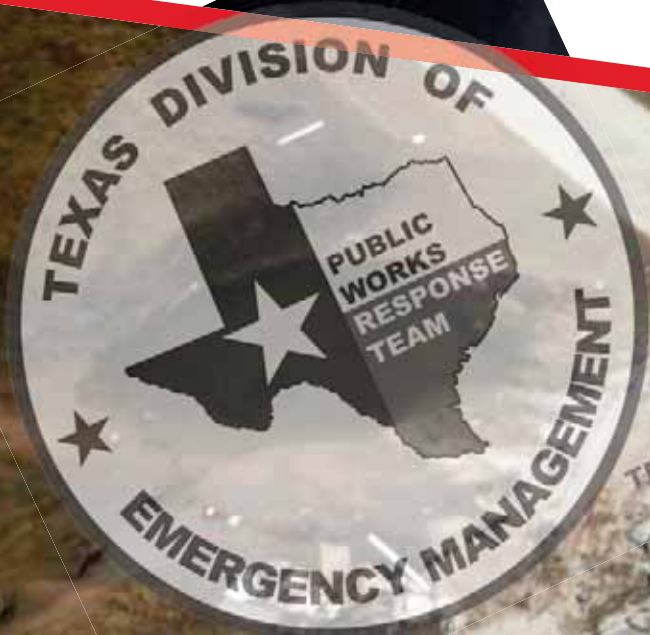
Q: Can I or my city be held liable for work performed while assigned to the PWRT?

A: No, as long as you are working as assigned by the site commander.

Q: What do I need to do to volunteer?

A: Fill out the attached application forms and submit them to itsi@teemail.tamu.edu.

*Submitted by
John Brown, BOAT Secretary*



800-SAFE-811 (800-723-3811) • www.teex.org/pwrt

PUBLIC WORKS

MISSION:

Support local jurisdictions in their response to a catastrophic event by providing public works technical assistance as needed to facilitate reentry.

PURPOSE:

When a catastrophic event occurs and the citizens of Texas have their daily lives and local economy disrupted, the Public Works Response Team provides immediate, integrated public works technical assistance for reentry through recovery of essential services and critical infrastructure.

WHO WE ARE:

The Texas Public Works Response Team (PWRT) is a state resource with multi-disciplined, multi-talented and highly qualified public works specialists who support local response by providing technical assistance and assessment as required to support reentry and recovery of critical infrastructure. The PWRT is composed of members who are highly skilled and knowledgeable in public works activities such as Utilities (Electrical, Gas, Water, Wastewater, Storm Water, Environmental Safety and Compliance, and Communications), Debris Clearance, Structural Safety, Transportation Systems, Traffic Engineering and Management, Fleet Services, and Parks and Recreation.

WHAT WE DO:

The PWRT's response effort is organized and functions in accordance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The PWRT is fully integrated into the state's four standing task forces. The PWRT is designed to support local jurisdictions in their initial response and recovery efforts at three levels:

1. Planning Support:

- Technical assistance and assessment
- Assist with identifying local capabilities and resource needs

2. Operational Support:

- Short-term technical assistance
- Public works response resources

3. Liaison Support:

- Point-of-contact for public works resources in support of the incident commander



RESPONSE TEAM

ADMINISTRATION:

The PWRT is a state asset deployed as required to support local jurisdictions in the event of a catastrophic incident by the State Operations Center (SOC) under the direction of the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). The operationally ready response teams are recruited from local jurisdictions and coordinated with other state agencies. The teams are composed of public works disciplines and function under memorandums of understanding and the Texas Statewide Mutual Aid System.

REQUIRED TRAINING:

As part of becoming a PWRT member, you have the opportunity to enhance your extensive experience and expertise by completing the following online training at: http://training.fema.gov/nrfres_IS.asp .

- **IS-800.b:** National Response Framework, An Introduction
- **IS-700.a:** National Incident Management System
- **IS-100:** Introduction to Incident Command System (NOTE: IS-100.PW or any of the other IS-100 variants is acceptable.)
- **IS-200:** ICS for the Single Resource and Initial Action Incidents

You are also encouraged to complete the classroom-based training required for leaders and district or state liaison positions (via TDEM, TEEEX, TFS, local fire department or private vendors). Those classes are:

- **ICS-300:** Intermediate ICS
- **ICS-400:** Advanced ICS

If you would like to join the PWRT, fill out this form and fax it to 979-458-1426 or download and fill out the electronic form at www.teex.org/pwrt and e-mail it to: itsi@teexmail.tamu.edu.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Q: By signing up, what am I volunteering for?

A: Nothing except to receive e-mail directed to the PWRT. Actual volunteering occurs at the point of an actual request, and only if you are available.

Q: Will I be reimbursed for my deployment expenses?

A: Yes. All salary, travel, and associated expenses are covered.



For more information, contact:
TEXAS ENGINEERING EXTENSION SERVICE
Infrastructure Training & Safety Institute
301 Tarrow
College Station, Texas 77840-7896
800-SAFE-811 (800-723-3811)
itsi@teexmail.tamu.edu
www.teex.org/pwrt
Ad Code: M10BB1





Texas Public Works Response Team Registration Form



Phone: 800-SAFE-811 (800-723-3811) Website: www.teex.org/pwrt Fax: 979-458-1426

E-mail: itsi@teexmail.tamu.edu Address: TEEX-ITSI, 301 Tarrow, College Station, TX 77840-7896

Instructions:

NOTE: Fill out this form and fax it to 979-458-1426 or download and fill out the electronic form at www.teex.org/pwrt and e-mail it to: itsi@teexmail.tamu.edu.

If you are a Resource Team Point of Contact, attach a broad-level list of resources you have available (e.g., number of backhoes, public works responder personnel, generators, etc.).

Organization: _____

Organization Contact Person: _____

Organization Phone Number: _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone Numbers:

Business: _____ Cell: _____

Fax: _____ Home: _____

Cell Phone Provider: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Current Employment Status: _____

Background: _____

Certifications: _____

NIMS: _____

Other: _____

Availability for Immediate Response:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approvals:

Manager/Supervisor Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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RESIDENTIAL STORM SHELTERS

As I contemplated for weeks and had denied a Homeowners permit for a storm shelter, I asked for input from around the state on how other cities were handling storm shelters and their installations and gathered some survey type info. I talked with the Professor at Texas Tech on storm shelters and tornado shelters. Some of you have talked with them also in the past. I also talked with the company doing the installation about the potential problems.

I reluctantly issued the permit and the work began in the home owner's garage, as I watched while they started cutting the slab and not even 5 minutes into the cut I watched as the saw jumped and the operator flinched and kept on cutting. As you all know what just happened they cut a tendon. They removed the concrete and actually cut three tendons, as they scrambled on trying to find and engineer for the necessary repairs and keep the homeowner calm and assured they would correct the problem.

I got with the city of Mansfield and they had a form they were requiring contractors to fill out, I used that form and changed an item on it and used it for our city. It has been attached for you to use in your city and apply your own city letterhead to it.

I came across this article and have attached it for your reading and maybe to pass along to your residents for their information and knowledge when looking for a shelter. Please enjoy it and we can keep a control on this issue state wide by requiring all contractors to answer the questions on this form when applying for a permit.

Many places in the continental US are at higher risk for potentially deadly storms such as tornadoes and hurricanes. One of the best things that you can do for the safety of your family—and your own piece of mind—is to install some kind of storm shelter to keep all your loved ones safe.

The point of a storm shelter is to put barriers between you and the storm. High wind is itself not lethal, but the objects that it picks up can injure or kill you; the shelter that you choose needs to be impervious to both small and large flying debris.

There are a variety of types of storm shelters that you can build or install on your property to keep your family safe. The classic storm shelter that most people think of is the storm cellar as per The Wizard of Oz but there are a lot more options available currently. It is best to be completely underground for storm protection but there has been some very good development in above ground shelters as well.

The classic storm cellar is an outdoor subterranean structure usually built near a house so that the residents can take cover in it in the case of a tornado or hurricane. Typically they are large enough for a single family with about 80 square feet inside and most often an arched roof. Storm cellars are also sometimes made from modified septic tanks that have doors and ventilation added to them. Some modern versions of the classic storm cellar can be purchased to install under your garage floor either at the time of building or aftermarket. They are usually steel with a sliding door on top that allows you to continue using your garage for parking in. They tend to be rather close quarters inside.

Storm rooms are usually made from either steel or Kevlar; steel storm rooms are heavier and somewhat cheaper but can be extremely heavy, while Kevlar—the material used in bulletproof vests—is lighter and flexible, allowing projectiles to bounce off the surface, even at the high winds encountered in a hurricane or tornado. Kevlar rooms do not interfere with cell reception and can be built into your home as any type of room or closet. These above ground storm rooms can also be

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RESIDENTIAL STORM SHELTERS (continued)

utilized as safe rooms in case of a home invasion.

All in all, there is no guarantee that even if you live in an area with a high incidence of tornadoes or hurricanes that you'll ever see one or have one occur near your home, but when the safety of your family is concerned, a little piece of mind goes a long way

Kurt Kasson, CBO
City of Euless

Residential Storm Shelter Application

Residential Storm Shelter Addition

Building permit must be obtained by the contractor or by the building contractor or the property owner if they themselves are installing the shelter. Separate plumbing, mechanical and electrical permits, if required.

Note:

1. Homeowners, with proof of homestead, may obtain a plumbing permit.
2. A licensed electrician and mechanical contractor registered with the City of Euless must obtain any necessary electrical and mechanical permits.

SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. **RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION:** The following information must be provided:
 - a. The address and legal description of the property.
 - b. The name, address, and contract number of the property owner.
 - c. The name, address, phone number, and fax number of the person doing the work, if other homeowner.
 - d. Square footage of the addition or remodel.
 - e. Valuation or construction cost.
2. **SET OF PLANS WHICH INCLUDES:**
 - a. Site plan if installed in ground outside the structure (also called plat survey or plot plan) that shows:
 1. Exact location and size of the storm shelter.
 2. Distance to property lines if located outside the structure footprint.
 3. Location of all existing detached structures and/or swimming pool, as applicable.
 - b. Overall floor plan if installed within the structure and shall include:
 1. Label all rooms (example: bedroom, kitchen, restroom, etc.)
 2. Location and size of all windows in or adjacent to storm shelter.
 3. Note location of walls to be removed or added, if any.
 - c. **In-ground storm shelter requires plans prepared by a Licensed Professional Engineer.**

Footnotes:

- a. The Building Permit Application is available on our Web site at www.eulesstx.gov or at Development Services.
- b. The proposed storm shelter may require the installation of smoke detectors in all bedrooms, outside each sleeping area, and on each additional story.



RESIDENTIAL STORM SHELTERS (continued)

Questionnaire:

1. Is the storm shelter:
 - Pre-manufactured
 - Site constructed
 - Above-ground
 - Below-ground
2. Has the storm shelter been verified by an independent, registered engineer that the shelter you offer complies in all respects to existing quality standards, currently the National Storm Shelter Association (NSSA) Standard available at www.nssa.cc ? This verification must include evidence of successful debris impact testing. If yes, provide sealed engineering report and/or sealed verification letter.
3. Plans shall be sealed by a professional engineer licensed in the State of Texas that addresses the following issues:

If In-Ground

- a. Has the structure been designed to handle hydrostatic pressures?
- b. Is the shelter ballasted to prevent uplift from buoyancy of saturated soils?
- c. Is the shelter able to resist deterioration from moisture and/or corrosive soils?
- d. Is the shelter adequately sealed to prevent water leakage?
- e. Is the shelter adequately vented to provide breathing air for maximum occupancy and to relieve atmospheric pressure changes accompanying tornadoes?
- f. Do the steps or ladders comply with NSSA or OSHA standards?

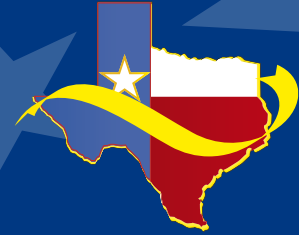
If Installed Within the Structure

- g. The engineer will also need to provide the City of Euless a letter that the existing house foundation will not be compromised. If the house has post tension slab that has been compromised then an engineer letter will also be required for repairs.

After installation, the engineer will provide a letter that the shelter was installed according to all requirements of the International Residential Code and to Manufacturer's specifications.

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THE ICC EVALUATION SERVICE, INC. (ICC-ES)

I served on the ICC Evaluation Service Committee from 2005-2009. The committee meetings last for 2-3 days, and the committee hears about 30 cases. This article will look at the history of ICC-ES and other related information.

The ICC Evaluation Service, Inc. (ICC-ES), is the United States' leader when it comes to evaluating building products for compliance with code.

Who They Are

ICC-ES is a nonprofit, public-benefit corporation that does technical evaluations of building products, components, methods, and materials. The evaluation process culminates with the issuance of reports on code compliance, which are made available free of charge, on the worldwide Web, to building regulators, contractors, specifiers, architects, engineers, and anyone else with an interest in the building industry and construction. These people look to ICC-ES evaluation reports for evidence that products and systems meet code requirements.

A New Organization, A Long History

ICC-ES came into being on February 1, 2003, when America's four building-product evaluation services officially combined their operations. The four "legacy" evaluation services that came together to form ICC-ES were the National Evaluation Service, Inc.; BOCAI Evaluation Services; ICBO Evaluation Service, Inc.; and SBCCI Public Service Testing and Evaluation Services, Inc. Through the legacy evaluation services, ICC-ES has a history that goes back more than seventy years.

ICC-ES provides assurance that building products and technology meet building code provisions. The activities of ICC-ES are undertaken in a way that supports the exercise of the code official's approval authority. This eliminates the time and effort associated with each state or local agency designing an evaluation independently. The ICC-ES evaluation report provides a benchmark for all parties throughout the U.S. to rely upon when considering new and alternative building technology.

The introduction of new construction technology does not usually coincide with the publication of new building safety codes and standards. Consequently, ICC-ES provides "alternative materials, design and methods of construction" as the basis for acceptance of new building technology that is not specifically covered in the codes and standards.

An ICC-ES evaluation report provides the supporting rationale for and a statement of compliance with the U.S. model building codes (200 or 2003 International, 1999 BOCA National, 1999 Standard and 1997 Uniform) along with any special conditions of use or limitations. An ICC-ES evaluation report provides documentation and assurance of the degree to which a product or building technology meets the model building codes. The report helps the code official consider approval of the technology in an informed and timely manner. As a result, it reduces the burden on the technology proponent and fosters the timely deployment of the technology.

ICC-ES has issued over 1500 evaluations of new building technologies and software with respect to code compliance. These evaluations have been performed for many companies and facilitate the acceptance of new products by the building design, construction and code communities throughout the U.S. To facilitate international cooperation, ICC-ES also participates as a member of the World Federation of Technical Assessment Organizations.

The Staff

ICC-ES employs highly experienced evaluation specialists, licensed architects, and professional engineers with expertise in such specialized fields as civil, structural, fire protection, and mechanical engineering. Collectively, the ICC-ES technical staff has literally *centuries* of experience in evaluating construction products and technology.

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THE ICC EVALUATION SERVICE, INC. (ICC-ES) (continued)

The Report Process

The report process begins when a company submits an application for an evaluation report. The application is normally submitted with supporting data such as product information and test reports, along with appropriate fees to cover the cost of the evaluation. ([Click here](#) for the fee schedule.) Once the application is received, ICC-ES assigns a member of its technical staff to evaluate the data and work with the applicant to make sure compliance is proven, before a report is issued, with either the building code or an ICC-ES acceptance criteria or evaluation guideline. (The latter documents are approved by an ICC-ES Evaluation Committee that is made up of building officials from across the United States.) Once the applicant has satisfactorily answered all questions raised by ICC-ES staff, and has fulfilled other applicable requirements, an evaluation report is issued and posted on the worldwide Web--where it may be referenced by thousands of building departments and other interested parties. The applicant is also provided with a printed copy of the report.

New reports are issued for one year, after which they are re-examined and may be reissued at one- or two-year intervals, depending on the applicant's preference.

What ICC-ES Can Do for You

- If you are a building regulator, ICC-ES can tell you about products, systems, materials and methods that are code-compliant.
- If you are a manufacturer, a report from ICC-ES will make it easier to market your building-related product, because you have solid evidence that your product meets code requirements. The report on your product is available for reference by thousands of building departments, as well as other construction-industry professionals, free of charge, through the worldwide Web. For a tiny unit cost, you reach huge numbers of regulators and end users.
- If you are a specifier, designer, architect or contractor, and you want evidence for the local building official that you are using code-complying materials--look for an ICC-ES report!
- If you are a member of the general public, you, too, benefit from the work of ICC-ES--because ICC-ES actively promotes public safety in the built environment. Additionally, you can use evaluation reports to help in selection of building products for your own home or other property.

Contact Us

To better serve our clients and the public, ICC-ES maintains three regional offices. You can contact them at any of these numbers or on the web:

Visit them on the World Wide Web at www.icc-es.org or (800) 423-6587.

- Los Angeles Business/Regional Office: Phone (562) 699-0543; Fax (562) 695-4694
- Chicago Regional Office: Phone (708) 799-2305; Fax (708) 799-0310
- Birmingham Regional Office: Phone (205) 599-9800; Fax (205) 599-9850

They may also be reached by email at es@icc-es.org.

ICC-ES is a very important tool that should be utilized by every code official.

*Submitted by,
Randall R. Childers, BOAT 2nd Past President*

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OPEN STAIRS IN THE 2009/2012 IBC

In the earlier versions of the IBC, provisions for open stairs as a means of egress were provided. Such provisions exist in the 2006 IBC as exceptions 8 and 9 of Section 1020.1 as follows:

AON

8. In other than H and I occupancies, a maximum of 50 percent of egress stairways serving one adjacent floor are not required to be enclosed, provided at least two means of egress are provided from both floors served by the unenclosed stairways. Any two such interconnected floors shall not be open to other floors. Unenclosed exit stairways shall be remotely located as required in Section 1015.2.

9. In other than H and I occupancies, interior egress stairways serving only the first and second stories of a building equipped throughout with an automatic sprinkler system in accordance with Section 903.3.1.1 are not required to be enclosed, provided at least two means of egress are provided from both floors served by the unenclosed stairways. Such interconnected stories shall not be open to other stories. Unenclosed exit stairways shall be remotely located as required in Section 1015.2.

The intent of the exceptions was to allow such open stairways to count as the required number of exit stairs from the floor. However, an open egress stair is not in compliance with the definition of "Exit," which is:

EXIT. That portion of a means of egress system which is separated from other interior spaces of a building or structure by fire-resistance-rated construction and opening protectives as required to provide a protected path of egress travel between the exit access and the exit discharge. Exits include exterior exit doors at the level of exit discharge, vertical exit enclosures, exit passageways, exterior exit stairways, exterior exit ramps and horizontal exits.

Once the stairs were no longer "protected" within an enclosure, they no longer met the definition of an exit. Take note that the same issue occurs when an exterior stair is exempted from the separation requirements in Section 1023.6 and it no longer complies with the definition.

It is reported that in some jurisdictions, once the stair was unenclosed, it was not considered an exit and did not count as an exit. Thus, another enclosed stair had to be installed to meet the required number of exits from a story.

In an attempt to clarify the issue, the 2009 IBC was amended to move exceptions 8 and 9 to the exit access section of Chapter 10. They were relocated to the travel distance Section 1016, Exceptions 3 and 4. But you have to reference Section 1021, Exception 3, to find permission to use them as the minimum number of exits as follows:

3. Exit access stairways and ramps that comply with Exceptions 3 or 4 of Section 1016.1 shall be permitted to provide the minimum number of approved independent exits required by Table 1021.1 on each story.

Open stairs are now referred to as "exit access stairs" and even though they are not in compliance with the definition of exits, they can be used to provide the minimum number of exits.

The 2012 IBC will again address the issue. Some highlights of the code changes are as follows:

The following definitions have been changed or added:



OPEN STAIRS IN THE 2009/2012 IBC (continued)

~~EXIT. That portion of a means of egress system which is separated from other interior spaces of a building or structure by fire-resistance-rated construction and opening protectives as required to provide a protected path of egress travel between the exit access and the exit discharge or public way. Exits components include exterior exit doors at the level of exit discharge, vertical exit enclosures interior exit stairways, interior exit ramps, exit passageways, exterior exit stairways, and exterior exit ramps and horizontal exits.~~

EXIT ACCESS STAIRWAY. An interior stairway that is not a required interior exit stairway.

~~EXIT ENCLOSURE. An exit component that is separated from other interior spaces of a building or structure by fire-rated construction and opening protectives and provides for a protected path of egress travel in a vertical or horizontal direction to the exit discharge or the public way.~~

INTERIOR EXIT STAIRWAY. An exit component that serves to meet one or more means of egress design requirements, such as required number of exits or exit access travel distance, and provides for a protected path of egress travel to the exit discharge or public way.

“Protection” from other areas is no longer a condition of the *exit* definition. As such, exterior stairs, whether separated from the interior or not, are still considered and specifically listed as an *exit*.

There are now two types of interior stairs—Exit Access Stairways and Interior Exit Stairways. Other sections of the code will identify that Interior Exit Stairways must be enclosed.

2012 IBC, Section 1009, Stairways, has been expanded to address Exit Access Stairways. All of those existing provisions that allowed interior stairs to be open have been moved to this new area. The provisions for 50% stairs and 100% stairs have been replaced with a new exception 1 that reads as follows:

1. In other than Group I-1 and I-3 occupancies, exit access stairways that serve, or atmospherically communicate between, only two stories are not required to be enclosed.

Section 1021.1 has been amended as well. The overall result is as follows:

1. Exit Access stairs can count as the required number of means of egress.
2. Stories above the second story must have at least 50% of their means of egress as an Interior Exit Stair or Exterior Exit Stair.

Also, under a separate code change, Section 1018.6 has been amended to add the following provision:

“Where the path of egress travel within a fire-resistance-rated *corridor* to the *exit* includes travel along unenclosed *exit access stairways* or *ramps*, the *fire-resistance-rating* shall be continuous for the length of the *stairway* or *ramp* and for the length of the connecting *corridor* on the adjacent floor leading to the *exit*.”

In summary, it appears that further clarification has been provided. Interior open stairs are now listed as *exit access stairs*, but such stairs are allowed to be counted as meeting the required number of means of egress from a floor. Since they are not an *exit*, travel distance continues to be measured down the stair to the next “protected” environment. Also, when higher

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OPEN STAIRS IN THE 2009/2012 IBC (continued)

than the second floor, their usage for meeting the required number of means of egress is limited to no more than 50%.

Keep in mind that the provisions in the Life Safety Code are different and must be addressed separately. Protection of vertical openings and exit access openings are limited and described in various sections throughout the Life Safety Code.

*Submitted by,
Al Godwin, CBO, CPM
Senior Consultant, Aon Fire Protection Engineering*

BUILDING ADVISORIES

Many homeowners do not know they need a permit or where to look for permitting information for home improvement projects. So they start without a permit and are caught completely unaware when an inspector issues a Stop Work Order. To alleviate this and help Corpus Christi homeowners understand the permitting process, Business Support Services created building advisories ranging in topics from adding a carport to replacing a water heater.

Before putting pen to paper, we were adamant that the advisories must be a dynamic resource for citizens. So we developed two success criteria: (1) easy to understand and follow; and (2) educate the public on the building code and permitting process. To make the advisories easy to understand and follow, we relied on numbered lists and bullet points. However, educating the public on the code proved more challenging, since we had to translate them into everyday language while maintaining their intent, meaning, and purpose. We convened focus groups to assist us.

The focus group reviewed the advisories for readability, comprehension, and compliance to the code. Their invaluable recommendations included adding Web site links and pictures to illustrate code violations. After incorporating the recommendations and a thorough editing, the advisories were ready for distribution and were uploaded to our Web site. To make the advisories readily available, we hope to place them in hardware and home improvement stores before the yearend.

Our goal is to assist the citizens of Corpus Christi create a stable economic base by helping our community develop in a safe and orderly manner. These advisories are the first in many steps we are implementing to achieve that goal!

*Submitted by,
Stephen Draper, BOAT Director at Large*

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ENERGY STAR AS AN ENERGY CODE COMPLIANCE ALTERNATIVE

By Cody McGhie
Energy Services Manager, Bureau Veritas

ENERGY STAR has been an acceptable alternative for Energy Code compliance over the years. As the codes improve upon efficiency, the EPA knew that the ENERGY STAR program needed to make changes to its latest ENERGY STAR Qualification Guidelines (version 2.0) due to the ever increasing IECC requirements. Most recently the 2009 IECC (Energy Code) incorporated many measures of the ENERGY STAR version 2.0 program, such as Thermal Bypass measures, Duct Leakage Testing and Envelope Infiltration Testing. Actually, the Thermal Bypass measures were initially introduced within the 2006 IECC, but the 2009 Energy Code has more defined measures that are very similar to the Thermal Bypass Checklist found in the ENERGY STAR guidelines.



Where the new ENERGY STAR program begins to vary from the Code is the increased efficiency level of Heating, Cooling and Water Heating equipment. This is due to ENERGY STAR's stringent conservation measures laid out in the new guidelines. A home must be designed against the ENERGY STAR Referenced Design, which incorporates a 14.5 SEER A/C unit, radiant barrier roof sheathing, improved framing techniques, tighter envelope and duct systems and many other elements that help improve the home's indoor environment. An ENERGY STAR Qualified home helps to improve the comfort of the indoor environment and reduce heating and cooling loads.

Other components (due to possible trade-offs) may vary from code, including window efficiencies, insulation values and framing practices. Each element within the ENERGY STAR program must still meet, or exceed, the minimum code requirements defined in the 2009 Energy Code. In comparing the Code and ENERGY STAR version 3.0, it is found that there are additional similarities in the inspection processes. The Duct System, Insulation Quality and Thermal Bypass are all elements of both the Energy Code and ENERGY STAR and require a strict verification process.

ENERGY STAR qualified homes are also built with "Green" practices in mind using improved techniques reducing waste and improved ventilation strategies. Materials may often be overused in the construction industry mainly in the framing of the home. The new Guidelines incorporate an approach that not only reduces the amount of wood in the building, but ensures that the structure is still sound. This technique also improves the walls overall insulation value as well. Wood has an insulation value of R-1 per inch and a standard insulation batt installed within the wall cavities is generally R-13. When you add up the wood framing members in a wall, you will find that up to 23% of that wall is wood framing. Reducing this lumber safely is possible using the advanced framing techniques which helps improve the overall walls effectiveness of preventing unwanted heat transfer.

Utilizing the ENERGY STAR program as a qualifying compliance pathway helps exceed the Energy Code requirements while also improving the quality of construction. Builders are willing to have their homes built using the ENERGY STAR qualification for marketing purposes, as it is a nationally recognized brand for efficiency. More consumers are looking to find a quality built, energy conserving home to purchase and they can find just that in an ENERGY STAR Qualified home.

Submitted by,
Van Tran, BOAT Associate Director at Large

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TEAM BUILDING

People in every workplace talk about building the team, working as a team, and my team, but few understand how to create the experience of teamwork or how to develop an effective team. Belonging to a team, in the broadest sense, is a result of feeling part of something larger than yourself. It has a lot to do with your understanding of the mission or objective of your organization.

In a team-oriented environment, you contribute to the overall success of the organization. You work with fellow members of the organization to produce these results. Even though you have a specific job function and you belong to a specific department, you are unified with other organization members to accomplish the overall objectives. The bigger picture drives your actions; your function exists to serve the bigger picture.

You need to differentiate this overall sense of teamwork from the task of developing an effective intact team that is formed to accomplish a specific goal. People confuse the two team-building objectives. This is why so many team-building seminars, meetings, retreats, and activities are deemed failures by their participants. Leaders failed to define the team they wanted to build. Developing an overall sense of teamwork is different from building an effective, focused work team when you consider team-building approaches.

Efficient teams are critical for any city. Wasted energy is spent when a team doesn't work effectively. To make a team work well together, here are seven techniques to keep in mind:

1. *What are your team goals?* Without direction, how can a team function? Goals give the team a focus. Everything your team does needs to be about accomplishing those team goals. A dysfunctional team is one that lacks goal focus.
2. *How can your team develop or grow?* What needs to take place for your team to be more effective? Maybe better communication, understanding differences, or a better understanding of the product/service could improve the team development. Find specific ways for your team to be more effective.
3. *Are the roles of your team established?* Many members are dissatisfied because they don't know exactly what they're to do. This could cause in-fighting among the members. Plus, time might not be used to its maximum if team members don't have a clear idea of what's expected of them.
4. *Communication must be clear.* If team members are afraid to tell other members how they feel or what they think, problems can escalate. Train your team to communicate effectively. These skills will help members speak what's on their minds instead of holding back information or back-stabbing other team members.
5. *Your team needs to have a balance to it.* No matter where you work, there will be people who do more than others. What happens if you're always asking those team members to do more than other team players? They could become burned out or hold a grudge for doing most of the work. You don't want that to happen to your best team members. Plus the other members don't have the opportunity to develop.
6. *When your team does an outstanding job, acknowledge the members' work.* So often I hear, "Our team is not appreciated for what we do." Take time out once a month for a celebration dinner, a fun team activity, or pictures of the team put in strategic places around your building so others know what your team accomplished. Present

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TEAM BUILDING (continued)

a handwritten note to all team members, thanking them for their hard work. It's always the little things in life that count so much. Acknowledgment is a sure way to get your team working even harder.

7. *Empower your team members to do what they think is right. It's hard to do, especially if you are a micro-manager, but the more independent the members are, the more they'll accomplish as a team.* Empowerment means "to be in power." If only you are the power source of the team, the members will lack ambition and not much will be accomplished. One of the hardest things to do, but one of the best things you can do for your team members, is give them their own power.

When you create a winning team, your city will stay more focused. Also, the team members will contribute more ideas and have a lot more fun at what they are trying to achieve. And please don't forget about the fun part. No one ever said work can't be fun. Fun makes life a lot more pleasant.

Submitted by,
Chris Haver, BOAT Director at Large

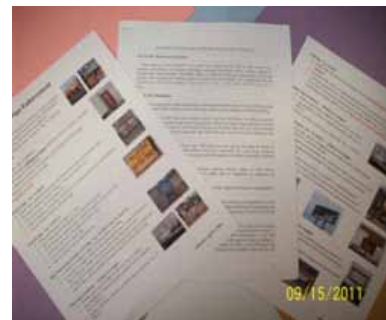
EXCESS SIGNAGE



Excessive signage—every city has it, and some have it more than others. What I call "excessive" is the small stuff that goes unpermitted, like streamers, banners, pennants, vice signs (beer, cigarettes, etc.), signs on fences, signs on light poles, gas pumps, and so on. When in excess, such signage can be considered sign pollution, having the same effect as litter along your public streets.

The City of Killeen, where I work, has had its fair share of excessive signage, and it did not get that way overnight. Through time, you kind of get used to it, especially in older parts of town. A while back, there was an article in the news about the City of Killeen being a scruffy little town plagued with a list of negative comments that included too much signage. Because of this, one of our councilmembers made it his goal to try to do something to improve the appearance of our city.

Therefore, starting in February 2010, the city council created a Sign Committee made up of three council members, a planning and zoning member, and members of the private sector. They were charged with working with building



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EXCESS SIGNAGE (continued)

and planning staff to review and develop a better sign ordinance, with the goal of protecting future new street corridors and somehow reduce excess signage.

We reviewed Round Rock, Georgetown, and other area sign ordinances to compare what may be best for Killeen. However, it did not take long to realize that trying to blend other sign ordinances into your own (cut and paste) was like mixing apples and oranges. So instead of totally rewriting our sign ordinance, we just took a few desirable sections, terms, and better definitions from the other city's ordinances. With the starting baseline of limiting a business to one wall sign and one monument ground sign out by the road, we began slowly adding back more signage and options as different situations were considered.

After about eight months of reviewing draft ordinances, comments, and ideas—and trying to identify best signage types, uses, and descriptions—the group settled on an ordinance that would allow basic wall and ground type signage to continue at a rate about half in number and size compared to the current sign ordinance. This may seem like a lot, but Killeen used to allow ground signs to be as tall and large as a full-size billboard and had almost no limits on wall signage. The committee settled on allowing some limited banners and flags like you would see on car lots, but did prohibit pennants, streamers, staked signs, and signs on fences. For temporary announcement signage for seasonal events, grand openings, or even an inflatable-type sign, the new ordinance allows a business to permit and pay a small fee to have up to three 30-day, temporary signs per year.

So, in December 2010, a joint workshop/public hearing with the Sign Committee and Planning and Zoning Commission worked out final last minute issues and minor changes, and the final draft of the sign ordinance went to the full council for its approval—all in this same month. The ordinance was passed and became effective on January 9, 2011. Now came the hard part: one, learning to permit signage under a new ordinance; and two, marching out with code enforcement to communicate and educate business owners about prohibited types of signage.

With no increase in staff, the building and code enforcement staff got together and decided to identify and close any loopholes in our current sign permitting and inspecting process. All new signs were given sign stickers to be placed either on the store window or on the sign itself, and the inspector took a final photo to be scanned into our database. We picked a congested roadway in an older part of town to practice, with one code officer to identify best

Code Officer talking with Owners



Building Inspectors check placement of signs and stickers



Before and After
Signs no permit, Temporary



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EXCESS SIGNAGE (continued)

practices. The officer went door to door with a script to educate the business owners on the new ordinance and try to identify non-permitted signs. The officer covered both sides of the road for a two-block range, and we would revisit his progress.

The first run took about a month to canvas. The most time consuming was trying to identify which signs had permits and which ones did not. It was surprising to see the number of stores/businesses that would have four to ten signs out front, with only one or none we could identify permits for. Some business locations had changed businesses numerous times, and a lot of signage structures were left behind and reused by just painting over them. Even so, most businesses did work with us and were given adequate time to arrange for contractors to remove some of the larger or more elevated sign pieces. Some signage was able to be made right, some just needed some maintenance and paint, and some were best removed, due to the cost of compliance.

We discovered that to be 90-100% compliant, we would never finish the town. We knew we had to pick our priorities and move out. Therefore, it was decided to let the two code officer supervisors (one for the north and one for the south side of town) to handle all abandoned, lack of maintenance, and non-permitted issues, and let the five code officers hit their areas with the more visible sign violations, such as streamers, banners, staked signs, etc. We created a color handout with pictures and basic rules about typical sign violations and trained the code officers to go door to door. The business owners were given the handout with verbal instructions, followed by a 7-day re-inspection and, if needed, a 30-day written notice to comply. Some managers wanted the written notice to motivate their business to comply.

In the last five months, we canvassed the main roadways, and by using good communication skills—face to face where possible—our code officers have contacted about 70% of the major frontage businesses and have created a true, discernable difference in our town. Even though we have had a few bumps in the road, I am proud of our field staff and community working together to clean up our scruffy little town. In October, we will revisit and review the ordinance with the planning and zoning commission to polish out minor issues.

Submitted by,
Earl Abbott, BOAT Director at Large

Before and after

Temporary Sign/ Banners/Portable



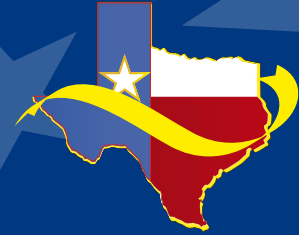
Before and After

Flags/ Banners/Streamers



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NEW MEMBER CORNER!

Michael King

North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)

Mr. King is the Environment and Development Planner for the North Central Texas Council of Governments. He has been with the NCTCOG for some four plus years. Mike has a diverse experience in the governmental and building communities performing remodeling work. Mike has over 12 years of experience working for the federal government both serving and for a defense contractor, with a part of that time as a helicopter test pilot. Mike is challenged by the

bureaucratic processes of government, but loves knowing at the end of the day he is providing a great service to the citizens he serves. Mike commented on how he enjoys working with building officials and contractors alike, "What I like best is the amount of contact with the building community and knowing we are doing a good thing" Mr. King has recently began researching and working on the 2012 I-Codes with a target date of September 2012 to have the proposed amendments completed for NCTCOG approval. Mike enjoys educating municipalities on the significance of updating codes and promoting greater knowledge of changes in state law with communities. There are still a number of Texas utilizing outdated codes and Mike offers support to municipalities, often presenting to city councils promoting updates to their city ordinance. Mike is quite passionate about helping those communities and persons interested making improvements in built environment. His belief in updating codes and allowing for greater use of proven technologies is the correct path to the future.



Mike discussed some of his person passions and in particular would be that of Australian Rules football "and no it is not Rugby, (smiling) I believe it is the best sport once you try it!" the rules are simple and it is a fast paced game. The rule book is merely 40 pages and the rules haven't changed much in hundred years.

Mr. King hopes to gain new relationships in our association and is looking forward to learning all he can from the association. I am pleased to have had an opportunity to visit with him and I am personally excited to have such a passionate and energetic person in the membership. I look forward to having him help us, as TOGETHER we build a stronger Texas.

Submitted by,

Scott A. McDonald, CBO

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NEW MEMBER CORNER!

Jim Powell, Code Enforcement Officer, City of Luling - Population 5,000+

Jim was born and raised in Luling, which is located 45 miles south of Austin along Interstate 10. Jim is 59 years old and has been with the city for 10 years. For the last 7 years, Jim has been the code enforcement officer. Jim runs a one-man show—he's also the oil well inspector and the fire marshal. Jim says time management is a very important part of his job. Jim has many years of construction experience. He says one of his biggest challenges is scheduling cases and working with the Board of Adjustments.

Jim says one of his strengths is dealing with the public, especially listening to what they have to say and realizing that not everything is black and white. There are shades of gray. He most admires people who don't have to have it their way but are willing to talk about the issue(s) and compromise.

Jim would have liked to have had dinner with Benjamin Franklin. He says that would have been an eye opener. Jim loves old cars. In fact, Jim has a 1928 Model A. I didn't even know they made cars in 1928.

Jim says he appreciates the good and valuable information BOAT is providing to the membership. Jim hopes to attend the next meeting in San Antonio in August 2012. He enjoyed the Webinars and would ask that BOAT stream all tracks so members can pick and choose what they want to watch.

Please join me in welcoming Jim Powell to the BOAT family.

***Submitted by,
Randall R. Childers, BOAT 2nd Past President***

Fernando Garcia, Building Official, City of Cuero - Population 6,841

Fernando has been in the build environment, code enforcement, for eight-and-one-half years. He worked for the cities of Victoria and Rosenberg prior to the City of Cuero, where he has been since January 2011.

When asked what he likes most about his profession, he replies his ability to assist citizens and contractors resolve code related issues in a cost effective manner. Fernando is an easygoing person willing to help where he can. He feels one of his greatest strengths is the ability to put himself in the other person's shoes when dealing with construction, junk vehicles, high weeds and grass, or substandard structures. If he could have dinner with anyone, he would choose Jesus Christ, because he always put others before self. He admires the sharing of ideas and how the build environment people always want to help. Fernando looks forward to his association with BOAT and having many future opportunities to learn and share experiences.

Fernando has been married to Noemi for 17 years and they have two children. His hobbies are fishing and watching movies.

Welcome, Fernando Garcia to the BOAT family. Let's grow together.

***Submitted by,
John R. Brown, BOAT Director at Large***

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NEW MEMBER CORNER!

A. Martin Mullins III, LC, MIES, RAS, LEED AP
Principal, TexasAbility, LLC

I started in the mechanical/electrical/plumbing engineering business in 1973 and worked for several architectural and engineering firms in the DFW area. In 2006, I sold my portion of a Dallas based MEP firm and went into business providing plan reviews and inspections for compliance with the Texas Accessibility Standards (the state construction law). Because of my many years in the design field, I still provide some electrical, energy, lighting, and code consulting to various architects, engineers, contractors, and cities.

I'm active in several professional associations and sit on the Board of the Fort Worth Chapter of the Illuminating Engineering Society (member since 1975) and the Board of the Texas Chapter of the International Association of Electrical Inspectors (member since 1984). I'm also on the Technical Standards Committee of the Texas Registered Accessibility Specialist Association/Accessibility Professional Association (member since 2003).

I'm hoping to learn new things from being a member of BOAT. Whether it's at an IAEL meeting or BPI, I learn something new each time.

Submitted by,
Van Tran, BOAT Associate Director at Large

Randall Cantwell, Code Enforcement, City of Weimar – Population 2,151

Randall (Randy) has been in code enforcement for six years, and he has worked for the City of Weimar since 1996. Prior to working for Weimar, Randy worked for the City of Alvin.

When asked what he likes most about his work, he replies, "It is seeing the results of my work keeping the city clean and safe." He also feels his greatest strength is being a good listener and willing to work with citizens in order to bring about code compliance. Who would he have dinner with if he could? He said his father, and he must have been a good one. Randy admires people who show compassion toward others, even when they don't deserve it. Randy looks forward to his association with BOAT and having many future opportunities to learn and share experiences. Most people might not know Randy is an avid golfer. His words: "Not good, but avid."

Randy has been married to his wife Marie for 40 years (what a patient woman). They have three children and six Grand Children (notice how I capitalized the Grand Children part). He enjoys hunting and, as stated above, golf.

Welcome, Randall (Randy) Cantwell, to the BOAT family. Let's grow together.

Submitted by,
John R. Brown, BOAT Director at Large

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 11 – 14, 2011

TML Annual Conference and Exhibition, Houston

October 30 – November 6, 2011

2011 ICC Annual Conference and Final Action Hearings, Phoenix, AZ

November 7 - 9, 2011

Clean Air Through Energy Efficiency (CATEE) Conference
Sheraton Dallas North Hotel, Dallas, TX

CATEE is a premiere educational conference and energy-related business expo aimed at local government, business and civic leaders. The conference provides immediately useful information on energy efficiency-and-the-built-environment policies, practices and local successes to help communities reduce emissions, save energy and money, and build for the future. CATEE 2011 is hosted by Texas A&M's Energy Systems Laboratory in cooperation with the EPA/DOT/HUD Partnership for Sustainable Communities and the North Central Texas Council of Governments.

Monday, Nov. 7, 1-5pm, preconference workshops

Tuesday, Nov. 8, 8:30 am-5:00 pm, Conference & Exhibits; 5-7 pm Reception

Wednesday, Nov. 9, 8:30 am-5:00 pm, Conference & Exhibits

For more information: <http://catee.tamu.edu>

December 2, 2011

SUBMISSION DEADLINE for
Building Inspector / Building Official Award

January 20-February 2, 2012

Building Professional Institute (BPI), Houston

May 21-25, 2012

Building Professional Institute (BPI), Arlington

August 7-10, 2012

BOAT Annual Fall Conference, San Antonio



CONSTRUCTION RESEARCH CENTER

October 2011

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Construction Research Center (CRC) at The University of Texas at Arlington is a nonprofit organization within the Department of Civil Engineering. It was established in 1972 as a vehicle for the development of construction technology and dissemination of newly developed technology to the professional community. The CRC, advised by member industry representatives (the Construction Research Advisory Committee - CRAC), is establishing a dynamic record of university/industry cooperation toward the realization of mutual objectives. Participation in CRC through membership in CRAC is open to anyone in industry having an interest in the construction industry.

In 1990 the Construction Research Center established the Building Official/Building Inspector of the Year Award. The 1990 through 2011 award recipients are: W. O. Allen of Garland, James Stallcup of Ft. Worth, Bob Fowler of Abilene, Lon Fairless of Carrollton, Gail Graves of Richardson, Danny Moss of Bedford, Mike Brewer of Mesquite, Clint Stanford of Grand Prairie, March Coover of DeSoto, L. Keith Lofland of Garland, Ravi Shah of Carrollton, Paul Garvin of Sachse, Selso Mata of Plano, George Patterson of Arlington, Lawrence Crow of Irving, Paul Ward City of Southlake, Bill McGovern of Plano, Clyde Lackey of Ft. Worth, Ed Dryden of Arlington, Les Folse of Allen, Gary Miller of Irving and Eddie Wilson City of Southlake respectfully. The award has been established to recognize the often overlooked contribution of building officials and building inspectors in our building environment. It is intended to promote a more effective partnership among the construction industry, research, and academic community, and the local governments.

The criterion of the award includes:

1. Professionalism (reliability, commitment, integrity)
2. Code knowledge
3. Communication skills
4. Participation in community activities
5. Certifications

The 2012 solicitation is for the nomination of a Building Official. The first step in selecting the 2012 Building Official award recipient is the nomination of appropriate individuals by knowledgeable people such as you. Please use the enclosed nomination form for your nominee. If you are unable to nominate someone at this time, please forward this information to other appropriate individuals for their use.

Please note that the due date for the nomination to be turned into the CRC is December 2, 2011. Thank you for helping the CRC recognize those individuals that plays such an important role in our built environment.

Sincerely,

John H. Matthys, Ph.D., P. E.
Director

JHM/trm
Enclosure

Construction Research Center



BUILDING OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR 2012

Award Application

Deadline:

Friday, December 2, 2011

Submit applications and resume to:

**The University of Texas at Arlington
Construction Research Center**

Box 19347

Arlington, Texas 76019-0347

(817) 272-3701 Fax: (817) 272-7575



Construction Research Center BUILDING OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR 2012

Introduction

Construction Research Center (CRC) wants to recognize individuals throughout Texas that achieve a high degree of professionalism and commitment to the professions they serve.

Please provide a brief explanation in the spaces provided in this form (use additional sheets as necessary) of why you believe this nominee should receive this honor. Specific examples are welcome.

Criteria for Building Officials should include:

1. Professionalism (reliability, commitment, integrity)
2. Code knowledge
3. Communication skills
4. Participation in community activities
5. Certifications



Construction Research Center
BUILDING OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR 2012

Part I. General Information for Award Nominee/ Nominator

A. Award Nominee

Nominee Name:		
Title:		
City:		
Years in service to the city		
Years in service as a building official		
Address:		
City/ State/ Zip:		
Phone/ extension:		Fax:
E-mail:		

B. Nominator

Name:		
Title:		
Company:		
Address:		
City/ State/ Zip:		
Phone/ extension:		Fax:
E-mail:		
Website:		



Construction Research Center
BUILDING OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR 2012

Part II. Background and Experience

Please complete the following:

Organization served	Years of service	Position held
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		

1. Professionalism (reliability, commitment, integrity):

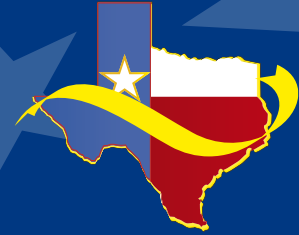
2. Code knowledge:

3. Communication skills:

4. Participation in community activities:

BOAT News

a publication by the BUILDING OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS



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