



**NORTHWEST BUILDING OFFICIALS
AND CODE ADMINISTRATORS**
<http://nwboaca35.org/>



March 18, 2023

From the President’s Desk

“Change is the only constant”
Adopted from a quote by Heraclitus

And change is inevitable. It is an interesting time to be a Code Official in Illinois. There are upcoming changes in Illinois Statewide codes which are currently being developed such as Illinois Energy Conservation Code 2021 (Base); Illinois Energy Conservation Code 2021(Stretch); Illinois Statewide codes for Buildings. There are also laws being developed around electrification measures such as Electric Vehicle charging stations. The main purpose of these changes is to make buildings in Illinois safer, stronger and energy efficient, in keeping with the global climate change initiatives. Northwest Building Officials and Code Administrators is a not for profit International Code Council Chapter organization comprised of local government members who are involved in building structures that are code compliant and safe. NWBOCA is making every effort to keep its members abreast of the upcoming changes to the Statewide Codes through its alliance with Illinois Council of Code Administrators and through our legislative liaison. Whether these changes concern you or interest you, please do participate in the process and provide feedback to us. Your voice and opinion is of prime importance to us. NWBOCA strives to be the medium between its members and those involved in the code development process. I encourage all members to discuss these developments within their departments and reach out to NWBOCA with your comments. Further details and links are provided at the bottom of this letter.

I am honored to be your NWBOCA president this year. I am proud of the dedicated effort and initiative by our Board members in providing excellent service to our members and furthering our mission to share knowledge. It gives me great pleasure to introduce the esteemed NWBOCA board for the year 2023:

President	Sanyokta Kapur	Building Official, Village of Hoffman Estates
Vice President	David Dodge	Plans Examiner, City of Crystal Lake
Secretary	Matthew Falco	Building and Development Manager, City of Elgin
Treasurer	Jeffery Jauch	Building Inspector, Village of Palatine
Past President	Mike Croak	Building Codes Supervisor, Village of Lake Bluff
Director-Programs	Jorge Torres	Director, Bldg & Life Safety, Village of Arlington Heights
Director- Membership	Connie Weber	Supervisor, Customer Service, Village of Wheeling
Director- Bylaws	Joseph Wallace	Building Official, Village of Lincolnwood
Director- Outreach & Comm	Ron Weber	Plans Examiner, Village of Schaumburg

Each board member works as a volunteer to further our cause to provide training, education and knowledge to as many code officials as possible. This year, NWBOCA has initiated the Outstanding Board Member of the Year Award. The first recipient of this award is Jorge Torres, Director of Programs. He has been chosen for this award for his dedication and service to NWBOCA members in developing training programs. NWBOCA believes that the development of our members is key to our own growth. In an effort to encourage professional development within our membership, we have formed five subcommittees. If you are interested in volunteering your time to virtually join in the discussions within these subcommittees or if you would like to benefit from them, please reach out to us.



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- Legislative subcommittee: Discuss bills and upcoming laws with legislative liaison and update Board/membership on upcoming bills.
- Education subcommittee: Develop information handouts about NWBOCA/ICC Building Safety and reach out to high schools and community colleges. Host a booth at a job fair.
- Scholarship subcommittee: Evaluate applications and award scholarships for one deserving candidate per year to help them achieve an ICC certificate. This applicant will have no prior certificates or code experience but shall be a local government employee.
- Outreach subcommittee: Spread the word about NWBOCA mission and membership advantages via social media, emails and letters.
- Library subcommittee: Maintain webpage database of important documents such as approved acts, Bills, Codes, contact numbers for Industry/Trade experts.

NWBOCA prides itself in being a Chapter dedicated to its members. If you are celebrating a milestone within your department such as conversion to e-permits or if you would like to acknowledge staff achievements such as ICC certification or honor lifelong dedication of an employee who is retiring, please reach out to us to acknowledge their accomplishments.

Please join me in congratulating Bryan Ackerslund, Director of Building and Code Enforcement at Hoffman Estates, for obtaining ICC Master Code Professional Certification. In his own words-

“Achieving MCP was truly an honor for me. When I set out on this path 4 years ago, I felt it was a necessary goal to advance my career but more importantly, it inspired me because of what it would mean for my staff and the community I serve. The entire process was humbling due to the magnitude of exams and codes you are required to learn but exciting with the thought of joining such an elite group of around only 900 other code officials. I credit the Village of Hoffman Estates for giving me the tools I needed to achieve ICC’s highest designation and I urge all my fellow code professionals to further their knowledge through additional certifications. Even if MCP isn’t your path, ICC has numerous avenues to pursue depending on your interests and will only strengthen your career and personal growth.”

NWBOCA congratulates Ray Norton for his dedicated service as a Building Official. Here is a message of thanks from Village of Hoffman Estates.

On March 1, 2023, Ray Norton retired after a 16 year career with the Village of Hoffman Estates. He began as a plan examiner as was promoted to Building Official to manage permitting activities within the department. Ray was very passionate about building codes and holding architects and contractors to a very high standard. His goal was to leave Hoffman Estates as a safer place to live and work than when we started, and there is no doubt he did just that.

2023 is off to a great start with informative and well received training sessions on relevant topics such as Residential frequently asked questions; Solar in your community and Firestop 101. We invite you review upcoming training seminars as detailed on our website calendar of events at <https://nwboaca35.org/> One lucky draw winner from each training session will get a free training voucher.

Last November, we held three successful fall school training sessions that offered valuable continuing education credits and detailed information on multiple topics. Our priorities this year include continuing to provide interesting, topical speakers for each monthly meeting and the fall school. We appreciate your feedback and input on the topics you would like to gain more knowledge about. Noted below is the schedule of 2023 meeting dates, so you can save the dates. We hope it helps you plan in advance to join us for these sessions.



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Tuesday, April 11 th	In person	Significant changes 2021 IRC deck construction
Tuesday, May 9 th	In person	Solar Panels
Tuesday, June 13 th	Virtual	Legislative Updates & Protect Swimmers Codes
Tuesday, July 11 th	Virtual	Illinois Stretch Energy Codes
Tuesday, August 8 th	Virtual	Illinois Accessibility Codes, TBD
Friday, September 22 nd	In person	NWBOCA Annual Golf Outing
Tuesday, October 10 th	In person	Local 17 Insulators -Mech Insulation, Asbestos, Firestop
Monday, November 6 th , 13 th , 20 th	In person	NWBOCA Fall School
Friday, December 10 th	In person	NWBOCA Annual General Meeting & Elections

We are announcing the popular certification contest again this year and hope that, by announcing it early in the year, more people will have time to participate. To do so, just email a copy of any new ICC certifications that you earn this year to nwboca.news@gmail.com. The person in First place with the most certifications will win \$250. Second place wins \$150, and third place will win \$75.

Just a friendly reminder about NWBOCA Linked In page. If you're on Linked In, you can connect with us here: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13830796/>. If you haven't renewed your membership yet this year, I encourage you to review the benefits noted below and sign up your jurisdiction via this link: <http://nwboaca35.org/membership>. NWBOCA board has voted to offer reduced membership fee to ex board members who are currently retired and are interested in attending the training events. If you have any employment opportunities you would like us to post on our website or inform our membership about, please email us at nwboca.news@gmail.com.

Last but not the least, NWBOCA is your chapter and your feedback is very important to us. Please do join us for our training sessions, as it is a rewarding experience and is also a great networking opportunity to broaden your contacts within the code compliance community. If you have any other thoughts or suggestions you would like to share, feel free to email me at sanyokta.kapur@hoffmanestates.org.

Have a safe and healthy year!

Sincerely,

Sanyokta Kapur

President,
Northwest Building Officials and Code
Administrators
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NWBOCA membership benefits:

- Job opening alerts
- Access to legislative updates
- Answer code related questions
- Membership surveys
- Training & Education
- Networking

