This newsletter is a monthly publication of the Beehive Chapter of the International Code Council (ICC).

Articles or advertisements appearing herein may be submitted by anyone interested in expressing a viewpoint to the Beehive Chapter membership.

Articles may be submitted to:
Chris Kimball, Editor
chris@wc-3.com; (801) 547-8133

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SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Monthly Chapter Meeting
More information to come.
Spanish Fork City is coordinating this meeting.

Wednesday, September 21st
Time: 12:00 P.M.
Orem City Council Chambers
56 North State Street
Orem, UT 84057

October Meeting:
Full Day training on Solar PV Systems (see page 8 for more information)
October 12, 2016
Time: 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Jared Bringhurst
Chapter Secretary

Rather than share some thoughts from the board I thought I would share with you some useful information on firestops as provided on InterNACHI’s website:

Firestops:
A firestop is a passive fire-protection method designed to diminish the opportunity for fire to spread through unprotected openings in a rated firewall. Such openings are found around the perimeter of pipes and wiring that penetrate firewalls.

Where Required:
Firestops must seal all unprotected openings in firewalls.
In homes, firewalls are found in the following locations:

- Between the garage and the living space, including the overhead ceiling;
- Between the attic and the living space.
- Inspectors should be on the lookout for fireplace and wood stove flues that lack adequate fire-rated sheetrock or metal flashing firestopping;
- Firewalls that separate condominium units are often penetrated by utilities that serve multiple units. These utilities are sometimes contained inside chases that should be sealed where they pass through the firewall between units. Firewalls between units must be...

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)
...continuous, all the way to the roof. Inspectors should check in attics of multi-family dwellings to make sure that the firewall has not been violated in the attic space.

![Diagram of dwelling units A and B with fire- and sound-rated partition and typical fire-stop location.]

**Common Problems with Firestops:**
Inspectors should call out any instances where firestops are missing, damaged, or otherwise inadequate. Brief explanations of firestop deficiencies commonly encountered by inspectors are listed below:

- **Missing firestop:** Unsealed pipe penetrations will greatly reduce the ability for a firewall to contain a fire. This situation is more common in old buildings than in new buildings, due to changes in building code.

- **Cable or pipe replacement:** Electricians and plumbers may partially remove a firestop in order to install new cables and plumbing. A firewall’s fire-resistance rating will be compromised if the opening created by this removal is not filled.

- **Improper installation:** Firestops will be effective only if they are installed correctly. For instance, firestop mortars are sometimes smeared into place unevenly and lack the required thickness at certain points. Also, firestops that are installed only on one side of a penetration may not be sufficient to prevent the spread of fire through the opening.

**Common Firestop Materials:**

- **Firestop mortar:** Cements made from lightweight aggregates, such as vermiculite or perlite, can be used as firestopping. They are typically colored to distinguish them from other types of cement that lack firestopping characteristics. For example, firestopping mortar made by Nelson is colored red, and 3M Fire Barrier Mortar is colored bluish-gray.

- **Intumescent:** Any substance that expands as a result of heat exposure is considered an intumescent. Intumescents used as firestops can be made from a variety of flame-retardant materials, such as graphite, hydrates, and sodium silicates. They are especially useful firestopping materials for electrical cables, which can completely melt or burn away in a fire. The expanding intumescent will partially or completely cover the exposed opening created by a melted wire.

- **Firestop pillows:** These items contain various flame-retardant and intumescent substances, such as rock wool or graphite. They are filled loosely inside of a fiberglass fabric case that resembles a small pillow. Firestop pillows can be inserted into openings in firewalls and used in conjunction with other firestopping materials.

  - Sheet metal
  - Fire-rated sheetrock

In summary, firestops are designed to prevent the spread of fire through unprotected openings in rated firewalls. Inspectors should understand what they are and what purpose they serve.

Thank you to InterNACHI for this great information!

Sincerely,

**Jared Bringhurst**

Chapter Secretary
INSPECTOR PROFILE

Bryce Cook was born into a construction-minded family. Bryce followed his father from Utah-to-Idaho-to-Texas and California—first watching, then helping around the jobsite. Finally working right alongside his father, Bryce gained first-hand experience working on the projects his father was managing. This experience helped to build a commitment to family, a respect for hard work and a foundation for his position at the City of Orem today, working as a building inspector.

During high school Bryce enjoyed playing football. He married his high school sweetheart, Rachel and they have three children; one daughter and two sons. Bryce still enjoys football and lives his high school glory days through his boys as a spectator and a coach.

After working in construction for many years at Comtrol, Bryce decided to try out his hand in the trucking industry driving long-haul for Aimco. This developed into a growing business for himself, but the downturn in the economy hit his family hard. After a lot of consideration Bryce decided to change his career path and went back to school. He studied at Utah Valley University and obtained a degree in Building Inspection Technologies. During that time, he worked construction with Comtrol and Jacobsen Construction and drove a truck for Trimac, SJ Louis Construction and Westroc.

Bryce loves the outdoors. Motorcycling, hiking, camping and 4-wheeling are his favorite pastimes. One trip is barely completed before another is being planned whether it be on his own, in a church capacity or with extended family. Utah County has always been called “home.” He has lived in Orem, Provo, Alpine and recently moved his family to Payson, Utah.
Jim Yeoman thought that everyone would enjoy the depiction of inspectors below. You should all be aware that Jim has been in our industry for 30 years, so…
Fire Safety Awareness

It’s a Good time to remember simple but affective things to do to keep our homes, and families safe from the dangers of “FIRE”. Also things to keep in mind on all the new home construction in our Jurisdictions!!

1. Put a smoke alarm on every level of your home and outside each sleeping area.
2. Put a smoke alarm inside every bedroom.
3. Make sure your smoke alarms work. Test your smoke alarms. Push the test button. You will hear a loud noise. If you don’t hear the noise, you need a new battery or a new alarm.
4. Make sure the smoke alarm always has a good battery.
5. Put a new battery in the alarm every year.
6. Smoke alarms with long-life batteries will work for up to 10 years. You do not change the battery.
7. Smoke alarms do not last forever. Get new smoke alarms every 10 years.
8. Tell your family what to do if they hear the smoke alarm. Make an escape plan so everyone knows how to get out fast. Pick a meeting place outside the home where everyone will meet. Some children and older adults cannot hear the smoke alarm when they are sleeping. Make a plan for how to wake them up. Practice your escape plan with everyone in your family two times each year.
9. Install home fire sprinklers in your home. Home fire sprinklers and working smoke alarms greatly increase your chance of surviving a fire. Sprinklers are affordable and they can increase your property value and lower your insurance rates.
10. Portable heaters need their space. Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away.

If you live in an area where homes are located in or close to forest or vegetation areas, you should think about the following safety tips.

9. Install ½ inch or smaller mesh screening that cannot burn on attic/soffit vents and around wood decks to keep out embers. Install spark arrestors on fire place chimneys or wood stove vents.
10. Keep all items that can burn away from your home. Clean leaves from your gutters. Clear dead leaves and branches from shrubs and trees.

For more information on fire safety and prevention, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/fire.
For more information about wildland fire safety, visit wildlandfire.org.
### CALENDAR ITEMS

#### SEPTEMBER 2016

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Thanks to everyone who attended our 2016 Annual Barbecue at the Lindon City Park. A huge thanks to Gary Hoglund for coordinating the venue and to all of the board members for coordinating the event. We had outstanding barbecue catered by the Smoking Apple and each attendee received a Fandango gift card. As usual we had a corn hole tournament and this year the top two teams won an actual corn hole set!
COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to help provide the essentials for a better understanding of how and where the codes address solar photovoltaic (PV) systems. This course will cover the fundamental code requirements of both residential and commercial PV systems. It is designed to start with the basics of photovoltaic requirements and lead the attendees step by step into more difficult concepts while simplifying the requirements. Hands on example components will be presented to help explain some of the code requirements concerning PV systems. This class is designed to aid inspectors, electricians, and design professionals in the plan review and inspection requirements for PV systems.

Instructor: Doug Smith, MCP, CBO

Doug has worked in the building safety and construction industries for more than 17 years. He is an ICC Master Code Professional, Certified Building Official, Combination Commercial Plans Examiner, Combination Inspector, Residential Plans Examiner, Accessibility Inspector/Plans Examiner, Fire I and II Inspector, Fire Plans Examiner, and Energy Plans Examiner.

Doug is considered an expert on photovoltaic (PV) code requirements and has taught many classes on the subject. He has also developed a variety of template checklists to help the enforcement community better review and inspect PV systems.

WEDNESDAY

October 12, 2016

Orem City Council Chambers
56 North State Street
Orem, Utah 84057

TIME: 8:00am – 5:00pm

COST: $39.00 / Attendee
(Includes Lunch & Breaks)

REGISTRATION LINK:
https://form.jotform.com/62306987058162

For questions please email Paul Ashton at beehivechaptertreasurer@gmail.com

Partial Funding By:

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Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing