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Sherri Johnston, 1st Vice President



The AACE Steering (Conference) Committee met via teleconference call for the first time on November 19, 2009. Those in attendance were Sherri Johnston, Chairman, City of Mesquite, Texas; Lora Isaacs, AACE President, Town of Youngstown, Arizona; Gail Bosgieter, AACE Treasurer, City of Goodyear, Arizona; Patricia Guerra, City of Richardson, Texas; Sam McAllen, City of Glendale, Arizona; Catherine Toppel, City of South Bend, Indiana; Tamara Schenke, City of Belton, Missouri; and Alicia LeMasters with Able Management. Absent from the meeting were Anthony Kern, City of El

Mirage, Arizona; Mike Ritter, City of Scottsdale, Arizona; and Pam Altounian, City of Avondale, Arizona.

A status of the conference details to date was given by Gail Bosgieter and Lora Isaacs.

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They advised the committee that the Sedona/Grand Canyon tour scheduled for November 1, 2010 is shaping up nicely. The Code Enforcement League of Arizona (CELA) will be sponsoring this event in lieu giving up their fall conference for the annual AACE Conference. The committee was in agreement that this would be an excellent idea. CELA will also be providing volunteers to act as class proctors for the 2010 Conference.

Plans are underway to secure the color guard for the opening ceremonies. As you may recall in Addison, there was no color guard. It was my job to line one up, which was done, but the group backed out about a week before the conference and time did not permit to schedule anyone else. At the 2010 Conference we will be utilizing a city fire or police department color guard to ensure that the colors get presented properly.

If you attended the Addison, Texas conference you were probably a part of the Casino Night that was held at the completion of the banquet. This was such a huge success and everyone had so much fun that we've decided to do it again. Gail Bosgieter has already been in touch with the company that will be supplying this entertainment for us.

Other items that were discussed at the meeting were education, conference vendors, door prizes, registration and advertising.

We have ideas in mind for the educational classes that will be offered in Glendale. Some of the topics discussed were Verbal Judo, Animal Control, Code Enforcement on Indian Reservations, Mobile Home Inspections, Identity Theft and Protecting Personal Info, Homeland Security and Code Enforcement, Spanish in a Pinch, Litter Court and Officer Safety to name a few. We are also going to offer a class for those who are considering taking certification exams. Roy Fyffe, AACE 2nd VP, City of Burnet, Texas has graciously offered his time to meet with those who are interested and have questions concerning the International Code Council (ICC) and the actual exam.

Some of the new items that will be offered in 2010 will be a Reception/Ambassador Meeting for first time conference attendees to get them acclimated as to what will take place that week and a group session before classes start to announce any room changes, etc.

So there you have it!! For those of you who have served on conference committees in the past you know these things don't just happen overnight. Careful planning and thought go into these conferences to ensure that you are getting what you need to help you excel. I hope you're making your plans now to meet us in the Valley of the Sun. Conference dates are November 3-5, 2010. Don't forget the Sedona/Grand Canyon trip on Monday, November 1, 2010. Bring the family and make it a memorable vacation.

Certification Corner

Roy L. Fyffe, 2nd Vice President

Communication is ever important in the performance of our daily duties; whether it is the daily communication between staff members or communication in the form of instructions for those seeking certification in their chosen profession.

AACE has had, for a number of years, a service agreement with the International Code Council (ICC) that pertains to the AACE certification program. This agreement stipulates that ICC will be responsible to provide the requested exam to the requesting exam center and issue the requested certification upon successfully passing the exam. Additionally, ICC is responsible for the collection of all fees associated with the certification program.

As most of you know, there are two distinct certifications for the Property Maintenance/Housing and the Zoning certifications. ICC has their certification (Exam # 64 and 75 respectively) and AACE has Exam # 61 for the Property Maintenance/Housing and Exam #72 for Zoning. When scheduling to take an exam, if you want to obtain an AACE certification, please request either Exam # 61 or # 72.

You may, at some point in your code enforcement career, want to obtain the AACE Code Enforcement Officer or the Code Enforcement Administrator certification. It is important to note that the prerequisites for either of these certifications are to have successfully completed the AACE Property Maintenance/Housing (#61) and/or the AACE Zoning

(#72) exam. You can see that it is important to have the correct certification when requesting either of these advanced certifications. If you inadvertently received the ICC certification, you will be required to pay a reciprocal fee of \$50.00 to ICC to have the AACE certification issued.

The AACE Code Enforcement Officer certification will be issued upon successful completion of the AACE Property Maintenance/Housing Exam (#61) AND the AACE Zoning Enforcement Exam (#72), along with the submittal of the applicable fee associated with this certification. This certification is valid for a three year period and each of the prerequisite certifications must be renewed for the CCEO certification to be renewed.

The AACE Code Enforcement Administrator certification will be issued upon successful completion of the AACE Property Maintenance/Housing Exam (#61) OR the AACE Zoning Enforcement Exam (#72) AND the successful completion of the ICC Legal/Management exam (ID # 01), along with the submittal of the applicable fee associated with this certification. This certification is also valid for a three year period and each of the prerequisite certifications must be renewed for the CCEA certification to be renewed. Sound confusing??? All of this information and more can be found in the AACE Candidate Bulletin under the "Examination Information and Certification Categories" section. If you really are confused, need assistance or have questions please contact me at your convenience and I will try to assist you through the process. My contact information is on the AACE website for your convenience.

Remember, attention to detail at the beginning of the certification process may very well save you \$50.00 later for the reciprocal certification. Don't accept the ICC exam at the test center if it is an AACE certification you are seeking.

Illegal dumping is trashing community's image, code enforcers say

by James Muñoz / KENS 5, San Antonio, TX
Posted on February 15, 2010

The Code Enforcement Association of Texas is holding its annual conference in San Antonio. Every year a group of members take time to clean up an illegal dumping site.

The area behind a strip mall in the 2100 block of East Houston is littered with trash. Residents say the trash in several dumpsters is collected twice a week, but that makes no difference.

Association members said illegal dumping is a problem in every major city. It costs thousands of dollars to clean up and can lead to health and safety concerns. If an illegal dumper is caught, he or she could face misdemeanor charges, and repeat offenders can face a state jail felony.

Members said Monday's cleanup was all about scrubbing clean the negative image left behind by illegal dumpers.

AACE Survey - Please Participate!

AACE is taking a look at software usage in the Code Enforcement Industry, and we'd like your input. Please take a moment and provide the following information:

1. Your city and state.
2. Approximate population of your municipality
3. Does your department use pre-packaged enforcement software?
4. Does your department use custom or proprietary code enforcement software?
5. What is the approximate cost of the software package currently in use in your department (if you know. "NA" if you don't)
6. What two features of the software you use do you find most useful?
7. What do you find least useful?

When you have completed the survey, please email your answers to Tony Casker at CaskerT@Keizer.org. Responses should be received no later than March 15, 2010 to ensure the inclusion of your data in the final result.

Thank you for your assistance!

Chandler worker helps colleague get new artificial leg

by Edythe Jensen - Oct. 6, 2009 08:57 AM
The Arizona Republic



Gregory Lewis is a retail maintenance worker who spends most of the work day on his feet. Until a couple of weeks ago, he dragged an ill-fitting artificial leg that fell off when he had to lift the foot off the ground to get into his car.

Pain from the limb's poor attachment would overwhelm him, and Lewis said he had to rest on a bench outside the Mesa Fiesta Mall Dillard's store where he worked before starting the hour-long drive home to Glendale. Daniel Anderson, a Chandler code enforcement officer who moonlights as a Dillard's security guard, witnessed his co-worker's struggles and became determined to do something about it. Thanks to a fund-raising campaign spearheaded by Anderson with help from Dillard's and a Chandler prosthetic company, Lewis got a new leg and special shoes two weeks ago.

"He has been walking on what looked like a stick and a brick for close to 30 years. It was starting to crack and part of it was held together with electrical tape," Anderson said.

When doctors found cancer 30 years ago, Lewis, 48, had his left leg amputated below the knee. He has walked since then with the same prosthetic device. He said he has no health insurance and didn't have the money for a new prosthesis, which can cost \$10,000 or more, Lewis said.

"At the end of the day I was really tired and walking bad and I would tell Dan about it," Lewis said. The new leg has restored a spring to his step "and is much lighter." A few months ago Anderson found Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics in Chandler and a sympathetic employee, Tyler Ritchey. "When I met the guy, I knew we had to do something," said Ritchey, who also is an amputee. "I don't know how he (Lewis) did it for so long. When he walked he dragged it (the artificial limb) on the floor to keep it from coming off."

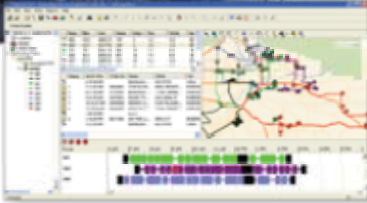
After Anderson raised a \$1,000 down payment from friends and family members, Ritchey arranged a partial donation by the company and manufacturer. David Hyatt, manager of the Fiesta Mall Dillard's, spearheaded fundraising at the store, which included employee donations and proceeds from the sale of surplus store fixtures. One worker contacted Ecco Shoes, which donated a pair to Lewis.

"When Dan met with me about this idea, I told him, 'tell me how much you need and we'll get it done'," Ritchey said.

While all this was happening, Dillard's announced the Fiesta Mall store where Lewis had worked for nearly 10 years would be closing and converting to a discount outlet. That was worrisome at first but has worked out well. Lewis, who lives in Glendale, was transferred this week to the Arrowhead Towne Center Dillard's close to his home. His last day at Fiesta Mall was Friday, and co-workers who helped him buy a new leg sent him off with a party and cake.

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AACE is seeking volunteers

Do you have a little spare time? We are looking for Certification Committee volunteers & members to assist in the development of training programs for AACE.

Contact: Roy Fyffe, AACE 2nd VP rfyffe@cityofburnet.com