The Prez Sez . . . Summer is nearly over already and the kids are all ready for school again. At the same time BOCONEO is poised to begin a new chapter in its long and distinguished history. In September we will begin a tenure of monthly meetings at the City of Independence Civic Center just off of Brecksville Road in Independence. When our plans to use the Wickliffe facility hit a snag, member Tony Bontempo came through for us by interceding with Mayor Gregory Kurtz to arrange our meetings there. It is a very nice, modern facility with plenty of room for BOCONEO to grow again over the next few years, so when you see Tony give him a well-deserved pat on the back.

Our planning for the Joint Conference is going well. Many education classes are already arranged with many more in the middle of the process. By the time Education Chairman Jim McReynolds gets the dozens of classes for the Conference lined up he will be able to arrange the few BOCONEO monthly meeting classes in his sleep. We think that everyone will be pleased with the offerings. Classes for next year’s meetings are quickly filling up, so if you have any specific requests be sure to get hold of Jim right away with your ideas.

BOCONEO has never had much of a relationship with the Cleveland Homebuilders Association, but with your help that is about to change. I have met several times recently with newly appointed Executive Director Joe Race of the Cleveland HBA, and we both think that a BOCONEO committee would be very helpful in promoting educational opportunities with his member builders as well as disseminating new code information. It is no understatement that the builders around the State were upset with recent changes to the Electrical and Energy Codes, and we believe that closer ties to BOCONEO will help to keep his members better informed and educated. I would like the help and input of our membership in the formation of this new committee. If there are two or three members who might have an above-average interest in the Residential Code of Ohio, please let me know so that I can seat a committee with members that will be active and interested. One or two HBA member builders will also help to staff the committee.

Ray Sack and I will be absent from the September meeting, since we will both be attending the ICC Annual Conference in Minneapolis that week. There are usually free registrations for the conference available through BOCONEO, and there are even small reimbursements available through OBOA from time to time for active participation in the Code Hearings. I hope that in the future we can encourage others in our organization to travel to the hearings and take part. We have had good participation in the past, but recently, with tight budgets and the current depression in the home building industry, interest has seemed to taper off. Give participation in these hearings some thought. Next year’s Spring Code Hearings will be held in New Orleans, while the Fall Annual Conference will be held during the first week of November in Baltimore.

Last but not least, we are getting close to the time of the year when everyone will be expected to renew memberships. Dan Kaczor will have the revised membership application on the website during the month of October. Now that we have the room for expansion, let’s give some thought to those members of our staff who do not belong to BOCONEO, as well as those designers and industry reps that we have contact with that may benefit from membership in our organization. BOCONEO is one of the oldest - if not THE oldest - organization of its kind in Ohio, and we should continue to be the leader in our field. Invite those who are not already members to join, and let’s keep our Chapter strong.

Have a good meeting at the Independence Civic Center in September, and I will see everyone again in October. Enjoy the rest of the nice, summer weather and take care.

Kindest Regards,

Phil Seyboldt
How to get there:
From the North (I-480 and Cleveland):
Take the Rockside Road (I-77 South exit from I-480) exit.
East on Rockside Road to Brecksville Road (U.S. 21).
Turn right (South) on Brecksville Road to Selig Drive.
Turn right on Selig Drive to Kathy Lynn Lane.
Turn right into parking lot at rear of Civic Center.

From the South:
I-77 North to the Pleasant Valley Road exit.
East on Pleasant Valley Road to Brecksville Road (U.S. 21).
Turn left (North) on Brecksville Road to Selig Drive.
Turn left on Selig Drive to Kathy Lynn Lane.
Turn right into parking lot at rear of Civic Center.

Reservation for Lunch + Business Meeting + Education Seminar - September 17, 2008 @ 11:30 am
Grounding Electrode Systems presented by BOCONEO and Thomas E. Moore.
2 hours for BO, MPE, EPE, ESI, BI, RBI and RBO  BBS2007-425

Fill out the form and fax to:
(440) 338 - 1606
Or mail to:
BOCONEO
P.O. Box 1008
Chesterland, Ohio
44026

Or call Dave at
440-338-6700  ext 234
for other arrangements.

All reservations must be received by 5:00pm, Friday September 12, 2008.