President’s Message

Our next meeting and class will be Wednesday, March 20, 2019!

The registration link is active, and the Plan Examiner, Electrical and Plumbing roundtables will be held at 10:30 am. Lunch will be served at noon. This month we will have an Ethics class presented by Susan Willeke. Susan makes an interesting presentation of the Ethics subject. We look forward to her class.

Everyone should have received an email from the BBS announcing that the new certification rules would be taking effect on April 1, 2019. Check the memo for all of the specific changes. One of the new rules is for renewals submitted on or after January 1, 2020, all certification holders are now required to take 3 hours of code administration instruction, 3 hours of existing buildings instruction, and 1 hour in ethics every renewal period. The Board will work to identify courses meeting these requirements, and to ensure that opportunities are provided for all certified personnel to obtain the required continuing education. BOCONEO is looking into providing these required classes for the membership.

The 2019 OBOA/SWOBOA Joint Conference took place March 3-5, 2019 in Cincinnati, Ohio. This year’s conference offered some interesting speakers and offer OCILB continuing education hours also. We are looking forward to a full report from Past President Jim Decker when he returns from the conference.

Continued….
March, 2019


B.O.C.O.N.E.O. Officers

President
Michael Gero
Independence

First Vice President
Daniel Spada
Geauga County

Second Vice President
Russell Rodic
Twinsburg

Secretary/Webmaster
Monica Ferrante
South Euclid

Treasurer
Laura Heilman
South Euclid

Education Chairmen
David Faciana
Olmsted Township

Cooperating Member
Mike Girbino
Mayfield Village Fire Dept.

Past President
James Decker
Mentor

Dues are due! The application for renewal and new membership can be found at the BOCONEO website. An application need to be submitted each year for all types of membership, including retired. Dues are due January 1st and considered late on March 1st. Please get your dues submitted as soon as possible.

Please remember, if you did not receive your class certificate within 10 days of the meeting, you must let me know right away. The most common reason that you did not receive one is that you were not scanned into the class roster list. Please be sure to scan in at each meeting. If you are not on the list, we will not be able to supply you with the certificate.

The planning and scheduling of the continuing education classes for 2019 continues. If you have any ideas or thoughts of subjects you may like to see please send them to Dave Faciana, Education Chairman, at dfaciana@olmstedtownship.org.

Remember that we all make up the organization, and we all can participate to make the organization better whether it is by serving on a committee or by assisting in the clean up after a meeting. If you have any comments or ideas, please don’t hesitate to let me or one of the officers know.

See you at the meeting,

Michael Gero
President
First Vice President’s Report

Happy Spring.

I just returned from the OBOA Conference in Cincinnati along with some other faces I recognized from BOCONEO. Glad to see we had a good showing at the event.

Our own BOCONEO member John Cheatham was sworn in as the OBOA president in a nice ceremony on Monday night. Congratulations to John! At the OBOA Board of Directors meeting on Sunday, there was discussion to encourage the involvement of Permit Techs in the local chapters and OBOA.

After attending the conference, it is a good reminder to all of us that there is a need for us to be involved to keep our organizations going and to have a voice in many important issues. If you have any interest at all, please stop by and say hi to any of the BOCONEO directors.

Daniel Spada
First Vice President
Thank you to all who have renewed your Boconeo memberships for 2019. If you have not renewed, please do so as soon as possible. Boconeo sends $20 of your dues to OBOA each year for your state membership; these are due by March 1st, so it is very helpful to our organization to have dues paid prior to this deadline.

Please remember that your plastic Boconeo membership/swipe card is a permanent card. We do not issue new cards every year.

Welcome to all new members. Please let me know at sign in if you have not received a membership card.

Hope to see you at the meeting on the 20th.
# From Your Treasurer

February, 2019

Checking account beginning balance $ 8,935.91

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<td>Less:</td>
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| Ending Balance | $ 10,202.68 |

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| Ending Balance | $47,677.06 |

| TOTAL ASSETS: | $65,753.67 |

Laura Heilman
Treasurer
Elections were held for Officers and Directors of the Ohio Building Officials Association at the Conference held this week in Cincinnati.

Past President – Mr. Jene Gaver of Springfield;
President – Mr. John Cheatham of Parma;
Vice President Mr. Bob Eifert of Hamilton County;
Secretary – Mr. Nicholas Montan of New Philadelphia;
Treasurer – Mr. Jeff Rettberg of Massillon.

For two year terms as Directors, Mr. James Stocksdale of Columbus; Mr. Walt Moeller of Cincinnati; and Mr. Martin Van Gundy of North Canton.

Continuing in the halfway point of two year Directors terms are Don Phillips of Worthington; Tim Golden of Elyria; and Jim Decker of Mentor.

Mr. Jim Smith of the American Wood Council was selected as an Associate Director.
In commissioning new fire alarm systems for final acceptance, there are a few issues I encounter regularly. One such issue involves the one of the many functions of the systems control, specifically; manual deactivation of occupant notification devices.

The occupant notification manual deactivation function exists primarily for use by responding firefighting crews. It is intended to provide first responders a means to deactivate the occupant notification in order to improve emergency communications and assist crews with assessing conditions within the occupancy in order to facilitate incident management during an emergency. Emergency responders typically will ensure the building is secure and occupants have evacuated prior to enabling this feature.

The 2016 edition of NFPA 72 as referenced in the 2017 Ohio building and fire codes in section 10.12.1 states: “A means for turning off activated alarm notification appliance(s) shall be permitted.” This means includes keypads, switches or touch screens. Section 10.12.2 then requires “When an occupant notification alarm signal deactivation means is actuated, both audible and visible notification appliances shall be simultaneously deactivated”. The Annex underscores the intent of 10.12.2 to require the function to shut off both audible and visible alarms together and references ADA, further explaining the reason is to not provide conflicting signals for the hearing or visually impaired. In addition, the annex recommends where it is desired to deactivate the notification appliances for fire ground operations but let occupants know that an alarm condition is still present, a separate non-silenceable notification zone could be provided on the exterior perimeter of the building. Audible and visual notification devices located at the building entrances could then serve as a warning to prevent occupant re-entry while other occupant notification devices remain off.

On many fire alarm control units, deactivation of occupant notification without completing a full restoral of the system is accomplished by activating the silence feature. During commissioning and acceptance I have found that many systems will disable only the audible alarm notification when silence mode is activated, keeping the visual devices operating which seems contrary to the requirements of NFPA 72. In working with fire alarm technicians from multiple providers, I have found that in most cases this function is easily changed through programming.

While NFPA 72 does not specifically require this feature, it does require the feature when installed to function in a specific manner.

While the programming change can usually be performed in the field easily by qualified personnel, it would be valuable and save time to note it during the plan review and design phase if possible, then verify the operation during the acceptance and final inspection process.