

# TECH TALK NEWSLETTER

# CAPT



January 2009

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



### **MISSION STATEMENT**

***The Colorado Association of Permit Technicians (CAPT) is dedicated to the improvement of building safety in areas relating to education, administration, interpretation and enforcement of the permitting and code process.***

Where did those last few months go? It sure seems like a blur to me and I am sure that many of you feel that way too. Thank you to the City of Westminster for hosting our November 2008 Business meeting. It was a very informative meeting and it was a great opportunity to compare notes with all those in attendance.

Again I appreciate your confidence by electing me to the office of President for 2009. I truly enjoy this position and look forward to serving you in 2009. In keeping with our Mission Statement, we have scheduled four CAPT meetings in 2009 with wonderful educational opportunities. These meetings are in addition to the Colorado Chapter ICC Educational Institute in March. I know that everyone is truly busy in their positions – and I am no exception to that rule. Sometimes I find it very hard to get away for these meetings but am so glad when I do. They really help me in my position as a Permit Technician.

If you have not already done so, I would encourage you to obtain your Permit Technician Certification in 2009. In addition to professional recognition I found it to be personally rewarding to obtain this certification. It was certainly worth the effort I put into studying for it.

In closing, I am looking forward to 2009 and the programs/volunteer opportunities CAPT has to offer. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact me or one of the other officers or board members. We are truly here to serve you!!!

***Ann Freiberg***

# 2009 Colorado Chapter of the International Code Council Educational Institute

*Date: Monday, March 2, 2009—Friday, March 6, 2009*

*Location: Marriott Denver Technology Center  
Call 1-800-228-9290 for Hotel Reservations*



## *Technical Aspects Course Path*

### **Managing Emotions Under Pressure**

*Instructor Lynn Pollard, Pollard Consulting*

Turning RED? Learn how to stay calm and productive in any situation. Too many difficult citizens, developers and co-workers? The key to success—both personally and professionally—is to stay calm, cool and collected no matter what and to manage yourself in ways that “keep you from heating up.” In this program you can learn specific, practical techniques to staying “cool” no matter how “hot it gets”.

### **The Complete Permit Technician**

*Instructor Steve Burger, Bureau Veritas*

This 2-day course is intended to provide essential information in the areas of code history and code administration, legal aspects, customer service, basic construction, inspection process, zoning terms, permit fee calculations, basic occupancy, construction types, basic means of egress and dealing with difficult customers. Please bring a calculator, 2006 IBC, 2006 International Zoning Code, Legal Aspects of Code Administration and Basic Code Enforcement books.

### **Over the Counter Plan Review**

*Instructor Steve Thomas, Colorado Code Consulting LLC*

This fast paced, 2 day class is designed primarily for the building department employee who has an interest in learning more about the plan review aspects of working at the front counter. The course is intended to provide essential information that will assist in doing plan review as it relates to such items as patio covers, room additions, decks, garages, hot tubs and other items.

*For registration information and a list of additional courses go to the Colorado Chapter of the International Code Council web site*

<http://www.coloradochaptericc.org>

# TALK OF THE TRADE



## Tools for Communities

### 1 • Call Before you Dig



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

### 2 • Know what the Marks Mean

Colored markings on the ground correspond to specific types of facilities. The universal guide for markings is below.

Proposed Excavation
Temporary Survey
Electric Power Lines, Cable Conduit and Lighting Cables
Gas, Oil and Petroleum and Gaseous Materials
Communications, Alarm or Signal Lines and Cables or Conduit
Potable Water
Reclaimed Water, Irrigation, and Slurry
Sewer and Drain Lines

### 3 • National Pipeline Mapping System

NPMS can assist you with determining what transmission pipelines are in a particular county, their general location, the products transported and contact information for the pipeline operator. To access the NPMS, go to [www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov](http://www.npms.phmsa.dot.gov).

## Warnings out for carbon monoxide dangers

Recent incidents in the news have brought attention to the dangers of carbon monoxide. In the colder months the likelihood of carbon monoxide poisoning increases, here are some basic safety tips:

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless and toxic gas that can kill you. It is produced by gas-fired appliances, charcoal grills, wood-burning furnaces or fireplaces and motor vehicles. Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning can be mistaken for the flu. Symptoms to be cautious of are headaches, dizziness, disorientation, nausea and fatigue. If you experience symptoms, get to fresh air. If symptoms are severe, call 9-1-1.

Carbon monoxide detectors can be purchased at your local hardware or home improvement store. They should be installed in or near the sleeping areas of the home where carbon monoxide is the most dangerous. If your carbon monoxide detector alarm sounds, you should turn off all appliances and sources of combustion (furnaces, fireplaces, a car running in an attached garage). Ventilate the house with fresh air and call a qualified professional to investigate the source of the possible carbon monoxide.

## Surviving Cold Weather

Here are some suggestions on how to keep warm and avoid frostbite and hypothermia:

- Dress properly by wearing several layers of loose-fitting clothing to insulate your body.
- Protect the head and neck, as they lose heat faster than any other part of the body.
- Avoid frostbite and hypothermia not only by wearing layered clothing but by eating a well-balanced diet and drinking warm (non-alcoholic, caffeine-free) liquids to maintain fluid levels.
- Avoid becoming wet, as wet clothing loses 90 percent of its insulating value.

*(From: NationalSafetyCouncil.org)*

**The biggest adventure you can ever take is to live the life of your dreams.**

**Oprah Winfrey**

CONGRATULATIONS

**CAPT 2009 Officers**

- Ann Freiberg—President
- Nicole Montgomery—1st Vice President
- Darla Brooks—2nd Vice President
- Kathy Dean—Treasurer

**Board of Directors**

- Monica Bordash
- Leslie Carpenter
- Kimberly Segura-Bates
- Kristy Shutto
- Carrie Vogt
- Cindy Linker—Past President



**Congratulations to “Melissa Mackey, City of Wheat Ridge” on passing your Permit Technician certification test.**

**If you have recently passed an exam or have a milestone you would like to share let us know. We would like to acknowledge your success. Contact: [lcarpent@jeffco.us](mailto:lcarpent@jeffco.us)**

**PERMIT TECH SPOTLIGHT**

The CAPT board would like to welcome and introduce the newest board member, Monica Bordash.

Monica comes to us from the City of Northglenn. She has worked for the City of Northglenn in the Building Department as a Permit Technician since June 1989.

Monica is single, has two children, three grandchildren and one in the oven.

Her hobbies include weight lifting, pilates and yoga, gardening, swimming, belly dancing (or at least attempting), visiting old cemeteries to look at headstones and traveling to far off places with her boyfriend.

The board welcomes Monica and thanks her for volunteering her services to CAPT in 2009.



We're on the Web  
[www.cocapt.com](http://www.cocapt.com)



# "got permit tech's?"

*This catchy theme drew curious delegates to the ICC Permit Technician Chapters booth at the expo during the 2008 ICC Annual Conference. The booth was provided by ICC and managed by members of Minnesota Building Permit Technicians Association (MBPTA), North Central Texas Permit Technicians Chapter (NCTPTC), Oregon Permit Technicians Association (OPTA) and Washington State Association of Permit Technicians (WSAPT).*



Each Permit Technician Chapter provided pens, mugs, chapter pins, and other fun little trinkets as give-away items during the expo. WSAPT provided T-shirts with the theme **"got permit tech's?"** imprinted on the front and "re-elect John Darnall" pins were handed out to encourage delegates to vote for John's re-election to the ICC Board of Directors and we are happy to say that John was re-elected. Chapters that were unable to have representatives present at the expo, mailed items to represent their chapter.

The revised ICC "Careers in Code Administration" brochure including Permit Technician's in the brochure and the new ICC "Career as a Permit Technician" brochure were also introduced at the booth. These two new brochures can be purchased from the ICC web site.

In addition to ICC providing the complementary booth, they also provided an 8-foot banner imprinted with the eight Permit Technician Chapters names along with the theme **"got permit tech's?"**

Networking with other code officials was a key to help raise the profile of Permit Technicians and elevate the level of awareness to recognize Permit Technician's as a part of the code official team.

A number of state's sparked interest in forming an ICC Permit Technician Chapter with the two most recent being, Central Ohio Permit Technician (COPT) and Atlanta Metro Permit Technician Association (AMPTA).

Over all, the conference was an inspiring experience and I would encourage everyone to attend at least once.

Bonnie Lanz  
OPTA , 1<sup>st</sup> Past President



# November 2008 Annual Meeting City of Westminster



A huge thank you to Nicole Montgomery for hosting the November CAPT meeting. A task done to perfection!

Highlights included:

Morning business meeting updates from CAPT President, Ann Freiberg, as well as

ICC news from Gerry George and Becky Baker. The outgoing board was presented with certificates of appreciation and the new slate announced and voted in by the membership after lunch.

Glenn Mathewson, inspector for the City of Westminster, presented an informative class on Residential Construction Vocabulary. Glenn's slide show matched with his expertise on the subject made for an energetic and knowledgeable learning experience. Glenn was very well received by all attendees and we hope to have him back next year for a series of presentations.

Thank you Nicole, Glenn and the City of Westminster for a wonderful meeting experience.



## You don't still use a screen saver, do you?

By Don Willmott , Forecast Earth Correspondent

I'm happy that at this stage in my career I often find myself writing articles about energy-efficient ways to use computers, peripherals, gadgets, and consumer electronics. It makes me feel so, you know, virtuous. Whenever I crank out a list of helpful hints, one of the first items I include is this obvious but often overlooked gem of advice: Kill your stupid screen saver. In the good old days of tube monitors, screen savers such as those unforgettable flying toasters were invented to prevent burn-in, a permanent shadow branded into the phosphors of your monitor by a static image of, say, a spreadsheet that you left on your screen all weekend.

Well, flat-screen LCD monitors don't burn in, so if you still have flying toasters or an endlessly looping slide show of your adorable niece and nephew, you're behind the times. When you're not sitting in front of your monitor it should be off off off.

It warmed my heart to read at Green Daily that Telstra, the biggest phone company in Australia, has removed all the corporate screen savers from the 36,000 computers in its offices. What will happen? The change will cut tons of CO<sub>2</sub>, which they claim will be the equivalent of taking 140 cars off the road for a year. Good on ya, mate. Follow Telstra's example. Let your flying toasters crash and burn.



### Colorado Chapter of the International Code Council Meeting Announcement

Date: February 20, 2009  
Location: Town of Parker

Visit: [www.coloradochaptericc.org](http://www.coloradochaptericc.org) for meeting agenda, map and information.



### ICC CONTACTS

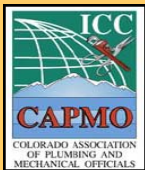
1-888-ICC-SAFE (422-7233)

Web address: [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org)

International Code Campus:

[www.icccampus.org](http://www.icccampus.org)

**eNews** - The International Code Council's award winning electronic newsletter, distributed monthly, keeps members and interested parties up to date with International Code Council programs and relevant industry activities. Read the current issue at [www.iccsafe.org/news](http://www.iccsafe.org/news)



### Colorado Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials

Sam Dardano  
President  
(303) 441-4283

[dardanos@ci.boulder.co.us](mailto:dardanos@ci.boulder.co.us)

Next meeting Thursday, January 15, 2009  
Jefferson County



### Fire Marshal's Association of Colorado

Rob Geislinger  
President  
720-274-3704









[rgeislinger@parkerfire.org](mailto:rgeislinger@parkerfire.org)

[www.co-fmac.org](http://www.co-fmac.org)



# CAPT LIBRARY



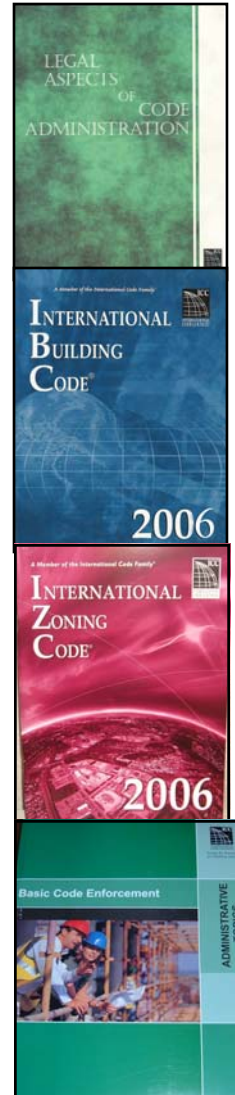
-  2006 International Building Code
-  2006 International Zoning Code
-  2002 Legal Aspects of Code Administration
-  2002 Legal Aspects Workbook
-  Basic Code Enforcement
-  VHS Video/World Trade Center: A Modern Marvel (1973-2001)
-  VHS Video/The Quiet Heroes
-  DVD People Helping People

**Study Materials available for checkout to CAPT members.**

**Contact:**

Leslie Carpenter at [lcarpent@jeffco.us](mailto:lcarpent@jeffco.us) or 303-271-8287 if you would like to check out materials from the library.

**Change your thoughts,  
and you change your world!**



## How to Become a Certified Permit Technician

### Books needed for the test

- 2006 IBC (chapters 1-3, 6, 12 and 34)
- 2006 IZC
- 2002 Legal Aspects
- Basic Code Enforcement 8th printing

### Additional Study Material

- 2006 Permit Technician Study Companion
- ICC Campus Online Course

## Exam Details and Fees

- \$180.00 computerized
- 60 multiple-choice questions—
- Open Book—2 hour limit
- General Administration 39%
- Legal Aspects 22%
- Plans and Documents 25%
- Zoning and Site Development 14%

Number to call to schedule an exam  
1-800-275-8301

<http://www.iccsafe.org/certification>