

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

It seems impossible that we are well on our way into 2007. Things have been very busy for the WACE board.

Fall Conference 2006 was a great success. We had wonderful speakers and a lot of good entertainment on our down time.

My trip to AACE fall conference in Colorado was very nice (and COLD). We had some weather cancellations, and flights delayed, but the conference was really good. The location was beautiful, and we had some very inspiring speakers.

When I was elected as President, I determined that working committees headed by the elected board members was the only way to teach the functions and operation of the Association. We were fortunate to have a great board. The board members incorporated the Board of Directors into the workings of each committee. They in turn reached out to members who were interested in getting involved in the future of our great association. I am very proud of the legislative committee, and all of the working members who have kept us before the elected members in Olympia. We are being recognized as an association, with members who vote at elections. I urge all of you to keep in touch with the bill Craig Salzman is pushing through. Be heard; voice your opinion by sending in your personal letter to your elected officials.

The board has been working through the winter on goals for this year. The board has reviewed the survey of interest from the members. Majority liked Leavenworth, and we will continue with Spring Conference moving. The subject matter was discussed. Orlando Howell has been hard at work on membership, with direct mail outs and a lot of contacts. We received a great review on the retirement notice for our officers to call in in support of the new bill re: early retirement. We are working on 2 other items in Olympia. Martin Nordby, WACE member, has teamed up with WACE VP Craig Salzman and Chris Grabowski, Board of Directors member, on a bill working on search warrants. We are a busy group and we welcome you to participate.

Spring Conference is nearly upon us. I hope to see everyone there. A last minute speaker problem has held us up. If you have seen or heard a great speaker, please e-mail the information to me. The speaker contact information is critical.

Fall Conference is set for September 19, 20 and 21 in Leavenworth. Most speakers have confirmed. If you want a guaranteed room, make your reservations now by contacting the Icicle Inn (509-548-7000) and be sure to let them know you are with WACE.

As we endeavor to keep our jurisdictions safe, I caution all of you to be safe out there.

Brenda Wood, President

Proclamation for National Code Compliance Month

WHEREAS, Code Enforcement Officers provide for the safety, health, and welfare of citizens living in communities throughout the United States through the enforcement of building, zoning, housing, animal control, fire safety, environmental and other codes and ordinances; and

WHEREAS, Code Enforcement Officers who are members of the American Association of Code Enforcement are dedicated, well trained and highly responsible individuals who take their jobs seriously, are proud of their departments and local governments within which they serve and are committed to saving lives and improving neighborhoods in the course of their daily jobs; and

WHEREAS, the American Association of Code Enforcement, acting on behalf of its more than 1,200 members, requests that October be set aside to honor and recognize our Code Enforcement Officers as an opportunity to highlight the contributions these individuals have made to the quality of our communities, to celebrate American accomplishments in making collective decisions concerning our cities and regions that bring quality and meaning to our lives and to recognize the participation and dedication of code enforcement officers who have contributed their time and expertise to the improvement of communities throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the many valuable contributions made by the code enforcement officers throughout the nation and extend our heartfelt thanks for their continued commitment to public service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

October is hereby designated as **CODE COMPLIANCE MONTH** in conjunction with the American Association of Code Enforcement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OFFICER KATHY STETSON!

One of our fellow code enforcement officers was recently recognized for outstanding service.

Kathy Stetson, Code Enforcement Officer, City of Tukwila, was presented with the City's "Excellence in Action" award.

The award was presented by Rhonda Berry, City Administrator, at Tukwila's Employee Appreciation Banquet on January 26, 2007 at the Museum of

Flight, attended by 350 City employees, spouses, and administrators.

The award reads..."City of Tukwila Excellence in Action Award, 2006, presented to Kathy Stetson, for exemplifying the Excellence in Action motto through dedicated and professional service to the citizens of Tukwila."



On behalf of all of your fellow officers at AACE and WACE,

CONGRATULATIONS Kathy!

JON IS MOVING UP TO SUPERVISOR

Hoping I had a few good years left, Snohomish County is taking me back as their Code Enforcement Supervisor. By the time this article is read, I will probably already be asking myself, "Why did I do this"? But it does feel like coming home. I worked for Snohomish County back in the early 80's in code enforcement and really loved the people and the organization.

The County Executive, Aaron Reardon, has made his intentions clear that he wants to get tough on

enforcement issues in Snohomish County. This is backed up by his 2007 budget which includes 3 new CEO positions. Soon there will be a total of 8 CEO's and 2 administrative staff geared up to make an impact on chronic violators in the County.

Hang-on King County, we're sending all the violators your way....

Jon Schmidt

NEW WACE TREASURER

Our association treasurer, Donna Locher, has resigned due to personal time constraints. (The Treasurer position is time consuming!) We very much appreciate Donna and all of her hard work. It's good to know we will still see her around WACE. In the interim, Orlando Howell has been appointed as Treasurer. Many thanks to both of these WACE members.

WACE BOARD

Legislative Update

As the State Legislature prepares for a new short session, the Enhanced Penalties for Assault on Code Enforcement Officers legislation is ready to move forward and become law.

The bill has been assigned a number, HB 1495, an act relating to increasing the penalty for certain assaults against Code Enforcement Officers. It is now important for the members to write a letter to your legislators to encourage support and adoption of this law. A model letter was sent to all members with current e-mail addresses. If you need an electronic version of the letter, please contact Craig Salzman, 1st Vice President at csalzman@ci.kirkland.wa.us. Please remember that these letters are from you as a Code Enforcement Officer, not representing your jurisdiction.

When there are hearings, we will need to schedule testimony in order to validate the need for this law, again, please contact Craig to volunteer, or to submit stories for inclusion into the record.

Thank you to all of the committee members that helped with this project; including Chris Grabowski, Martin Nordby, Jim Gough and everyone else that suggested edits and additions to the proposal.

Following is the model of the letter that we urge you to send to your district legislators

requesting their support of our bill. Please personalize the letter and forward it as soon as possible to your legislators. (To find names and addresses of your legislators, go to:

<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/Default.aspx>

Please forward any response received to csalzman@ci.kirkland.wa.us for tracking purposes.

UPDATE ON HB 1495

Some bad news on our enhanced protection bill, HB 1495. The Committee Chair, Al O'Brien decided that the cost of the bill would be too much and did not allow a hearing on the bill. Therefore, the bill sat in committee until the deadline for bills to be sent out. I have asked for a Financial Note to demonstrate that there is no significant cost to this bill. In the mean time, the bill will still come up next year and in the summer; we will be lobbying Rep. O'Brien to encourage him to allow a hearing on our bill. If any members are in Dist. 1 they should contact me to let me know, we will coordinate a campaign for late in the summer to get this bill voted on. We will discuss this at Spring Conference, and will need to get a real good plan in place to try again.

MODEL LETTER

(Your Legislators Name)

Address

City, State and Zip

Re: House Bill 1495.

Code Enforcement Officer Enhanced Penalties Bill

To the Honorable _____:

As a Code Enforcement Officer and a member of WACE, Washington Association of Code Enforcement, I would like to voice my support for HB 1495 that adds Code Enforcement Officers to the list of professionals that are protected from violence while performing their official duties.

I would like to make you aware that as Code Enforcement Officers we face threats daily. Code Enforcement Officers have been assaulted in Washington State and killed in the line of duty in other states. We are asking to be included in the same legislation that mandates enhanced criminal penalties for specific civil servants assaulted, injured or killed while performing their official duties.

WACE members work to enhance and protect the livability and environment within our jurisdictions. We routinely assist Law Enforcement in dealing with threats to the communities in addressing illegal junk yards, hazardous materials and sites, and substandard properties. We also are frequently involved with the detection and clean up of clandestine drug labs. In performing these duties, we often encounter citizens hostile to us in our professional capacity. It is not uncommon for the people we encounter in the performance of our duties to be the same people as those dealt with by police officers.

The enhanced criminal penalties for assaulting Code Enforcement Officers may not prevent violence by the most hardened and severe criminals, however, we hope that with additional enhanced penalties the risk in fulfilling our official duties will be reduced.

Your help in passing this bill is appreciated.

Sincerely;

Craig Salzman, CCEO

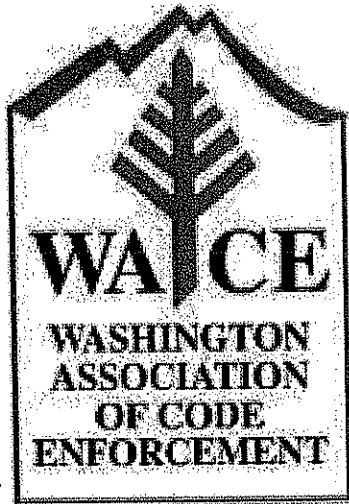
Code Enforcement Officer

14704 122nd PINE

Kirkland, WA 98034

WACE EXECUTIVE BOARD 2006-2007

Name - Address	Position	Email address and Phone Numbers
Brenda Wood King County Code Enforcement Officer II PO Box 2797 Redmond, WA 98052	President	Brenda.Wood@Metrokc.gov or codebwood@hotmail.com Cell: (425) 387-9074 Fax: (206) 296-6604
Craig Salzman Code Enforcement Officer City of Kirkland 123 5 th Avenue Kirkland, WA 98033	1st Vice President	csalzman@ci.kirkland.wa.us Phone: (425) 587-3289 Fax: (425) 587-3232
Cynthia Keirsey Code Compliance Officer City of Puyallup 1100 39 th Ave SE Puyallup, WA 98374	2nd Vice President	Cynthia@ci.puyallup.wa.us Phone: (253) 770-3327 Cell: (253) 377-7987 Fax: (253) 840-6678
Robin Blair Code Enforcement Officer City of Burlington 311 Cedar Ave, Ste B Burlington, WA 98233	3rd Vice President	robinb@ci.burlington.wa.us Phone: (360) 755-2307 Cell: (360) 661-6357 Fax: (360) 755-2393
Nancy Uhrich Code Enforcement Officer City of Des Moines 21630 11 th Avenue S., Suite D PO Box 90012 Des Moines, WA 98198	Secretary	nuhrich@desmoineswa.gov Phone: (206) 870-6558 Fax: (206) 870-6544
Orlando Howell Code Compliance Officer City of Hoquiam 609 8 th Street Hoquiam, WA 98550	Treasurer	ohowell@cityofhoquiam.com Phone: (360) 532-5700 ext 251 Cell: (360) 581-1262 Fax: (360) 538-0938
Betty Cruz Code Compliance Officer City of Bellevue 450 110 th Ave NE PO Box 90012 Bellevue, WA 98012	Sergeant-at-Arms	bcruz@bellevuewa.gov Phone: (425) 452-7818 Cell: (425) 241-0298 Fax: (425) 452-7930
Spring Wathen Code Compliance Officer City of Everett 2930 Wetmore Ave, Ste 8A Everett, WA 98201-4044	Board Member	swathen@ci.everett.wa.us Phone: (425) 257-7193 Cell: (425) 210-1245 Fax: (425) 257-8742
Brent Baldwin Code Enforcement Officer City of Walla Walla 15 N 3 rd PO Box 458 Walla Walla, WA 99362	Board Member	bbaldwin@ci.walla-walla.wa.us Phone: (509) 524-4476 Cell: (509) 956-6214 Fax: (509) 525-5057
Chris Grabowski Code Enforcement Officer City of Olympia 837 7 th Ave SE Olympia, WA 98507-1967	Board Member	cgrabows@ci.olympi.wa.us Phone: (360) 753-8168 Fax: (360) 753-8087
Vacant	Board Member	



SPRING CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

**APRIL 27, 2007
8:30 am—3:30 pm**

SNOQUALMIE SUMMIT LODGE

603 State Route 906

Snoqualmie Pass

1-800-557-7829

(I-90 to the top of the Summit)

Member Name: _____
Title: _____
Department: _____
Mailing address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Fax No: _____
E Mail: _____

Conference Cost \$70 (lunch included)

Method of Payment:

Check, Money Order, Cashier Check, Purchase Order

(sorry, not set up for credit card payments at this time)

Return Completed Form & Payment Information by **April 20, 2007**

MAIL TO:



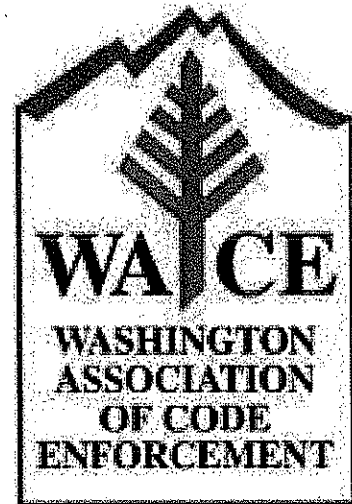
WACE
Attention: Orlando Howell, Treasurer
P.O. Box 2787
Redmond, WA 98025
Fax Number: (425) 861-4249

ANNUAL WACE SPRING CONFERENCE

(When you say?)

**April 27, 2007
8:30 am to 3:30 pm**

(Where you say?)



HOW ABOUT..... ON TOP OF SNOQUALMIE PASS

SNOQUALMIE SUMMIT LODGE

**603 SR 906
SNOQUALMIE PASS
1-800-557-7829**

Room Rates Range From \$79 - \$105
Space is limited so call ASAP if you want to stay

CONFERENCE COST: \$70 (lunch included)

TOPICS:

◆ **UNDERSTANDING THE NEW STATE LAW ON
RCW 59.18.085 SUBSTANDARD HOUSING**

- RELOCATION ASSISTANCE
- RENTAL OF SUBSTANDARD DWELLINGS UNFIT FOR HUMAN OCCUPANCY
- ADOPTION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE NEW LAW

SPEAKER: Lacey Madche, Attorney (and/or Associate)

◆ **HAZARDOUS TREES**

- THE MYTH AND TRUTH ABOUT HAZARDOUS TREES
- STORM DANGERS

SPEAKER: Greg Sutton, King County Site Development Specialist

The Great WACE FOOT RACE!



WACE officers and board members put together their first scavenger hunt, held last fall conference at the Best Western Icicle Inn, in Leavenworth Washington. Our goal was to try and gather our WACE members together with a fun team-oriented event. We wanted our members to mix and mingle and work together so you could begin to know your fellow Code Enforcement Officers. We thought to split up members into even numbered teams and had the idea to send them off for a fun filled adventure of finding clues in the little town of Leavenworth before reaching the end point. We planted clues and WACE officers at various places, leading the teams to each next clue. We offered to purchase the winning team dinner at what was thought to be, a great Italian restaurant.

Betty Cruz, WACE Sergeant at Arms and Code Compliance Officer with the City of Bellevue, together with Spring Wathen, WACE board member and Code Compliance Officer with City of Everett, kicked off the hunt by providing the first clue to each team member. Teams were asked to introduce themselves to each other and in the blink of an eye, they all vanished, searching fearlessly for their next clues.

Well, we certainly underestimated our sharp WACE Code Enforcement members! By the time Spring and I walked to the end station (AKA Visconti's), thinking that these officers had at least 5 places to visit before making it to their end point, we discovered that two teams had already made it to the end point and were valiantly debating upon who made it first! What a surprise we had! In the end, we sorted the debate and all joined together for a huge party of 50 or more that night! We laughed about the hunt and learned much about the highly competitive nature of our fellow Code Enforcers! We had a few problems with the wait staff at the end, but all in all, we knew, at the very least, our goals were met! WACE officers mixed and mingled and got to know another fellow Enforcer or two! Some people even had fun!

As we plan for our next hunt for fall of 2007, we will be using this experience to make the clues much harder to find and we will try to think of an ingenious way to make this happen where it's not so much competitive, but more geared toward making sure you have fun doing this... Perhaps, taking your time to get those clues could be a rule or perhaps finding a clue only to realize you might need to stop and have to get to know something more about your team members? Whatever it may be, watch out WACE members, this game is far from being over! We are just getting started and it will only get better! So, if you joined the hunt and got left out in the cold, or if you joined the hunt and didn't have fun because we were unorganized, or if you just plain missed the hunt, watch out members, we got bigger and better plans ahead!

Thanks to the many people who came along and had fun, thanks to the many members for understanding this was our first time and as a result, there were some bumps on your road. Most importantly thanks to everyone for joining in the fun and giving it a shot with us!



Betty Cruz, WACE Sergeant at Arms and
Spring Wathen, WACE Board member

Salary Information Will Be Available Soon

I wanted to take a minute to thank those who voted for me during the fall conference WACE board elections. My last year as a board member was very interesting. I was amazed by the amount of work that goes into planning our spring and fall conferences. Things I took for granted in the past, such as the location for the fall conference became very apparent when we started pricing lodging, and food.

The folks at the Icicle Inn give our organization a great price on rooms and food. This keeps the cost of conference down for the members, hopefully enabling you to attend training at a price affordable to your jurisdiction.

One of the things brought to our attention was a request for a salary survey. This sounds like a simple task, but I have found it to be quite complicated. There are so many different jurisdictions represented in our organization. Along with the different cities come a variety of job descriptions and duties. After some research, I'm beginning to think that none of us do the exact same thing!!

I was told that there is a book put out by the AWC that has all of the different cities and the salary information for each job within that city. With this being said, keep in mind that one of the draw backs of the book is that the information listed in this book changes yearly with COLA increases and new positions. But, I have found that it is difficult to get information from so many different areas without going through everyone's HR department and I must say, people aren't always happy to share that information.

At our last board meeting, I requested that we (the association) purchase this book. The cost was \$150. The board approved the request, and I will be ordering it soon. I will be the custodian of the book and will take on the responsibility of providing requested information to our members. What I would like to suggest is; if you want to do a salary survey, please forward a list of cities that are compared to the jurisdiction that you work for, and I will copy the information and send it to you. It will be up to you to get a job description from the other jurisdictions. Since board work is done on my time, please send your information to my home e-mail address: robincarlson@earthlink.net or you can mail it to Robin Blair c/o Burlington Police Department – 311 Cedar Ave; Suite B – Burlington, WA 98233.

I look forward to serving on the board for another year and hope that you will contact me if you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns. I will try to get an answer to you as soon as possible.

Robin Blair, Code Enforcement Officer
City of Burlington
(360)755-2307



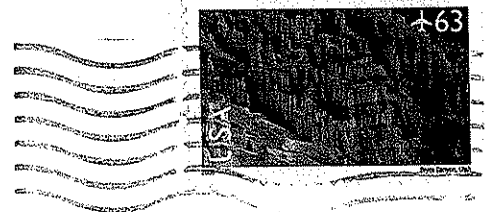
Check out our website!

www.wacel.com

Employment Opportunities

Membership Listing

and other useful information



CODEWORD

Brent Baldwin
City of Walla Walla
PO Box 458
Walla Walla, WA 99362

