



WACE CODEWORD

Washington Association of Code Enforcement Officers

AUGUST 2017

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Hello Fellow WACE Members!

I hope 2017 has been good to you so far professionally and personally. To date, it has been an exciting and fulfilling year for me as your WACE President. I was very happy with our Spring conference last April in Kirkland. We had great attendance and topics with very qualified speakers. The current WACE Board is dedicated in providing the best in education and knowledge based presenters for you. I know you will also be very pleased with what we are offering for the upcoming Fall conference in Leavenworth. You will not want to miss the 2017 Fall conference and I am hoping your jurisdiction will agree.



MICHELE FORKNER
CITY OF ISSAQUAH

As for me, my two year tenure as President will be coming to an end this December. Nominations and elections for Executive and Board positions are currently underway. I am not seeking to be on the ballot as my plan is to retire next April 1st. After over 26 years with the City of Issaquah, it is time to begin a new life, and experiences with my husband and family. I hope that I have served you well in this capacity of President. The current Board is a fabulous group of individuals who gel, and are so cohesive and transparent. I hope these characteristics continue with the new officers and Board.

Code enforcement is an interesting career and job choice, as you all well know. One thing it has taught me is that you need thick skin and the ability to shake things off. There are many different types of personalities out there and I've come across most of them. It has made me a stronger person but I am ready to have more positivity in my life. I have also made some very close and lasting friendships within our community and with my WACE family. It will be bittersweet to say good bye but those that will be installed as the new WACE Board will continue the great work that is needed to keep WACE prosperous. Please support all those who are giving of their time and energy to help this organization. I look forward to seeing you in September in Leavenworth and be ready to be amazed with the lineup of topics and presenters! Thank you so much for trusting me in this position as it has been very gratifying.

Sincerely,

Michele Forkner, WACE President

FALL CONFERENCE
SEPT 20, 21, & 22,
2017

WHERE:

Icicle Village
RESORT

505 HWY 2,
LEAVENWORTH, WA
WWW.ICICLEINN.COM

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS
PRIOR TO AUGUST 24TH TO
RECEIVE THE REDUCED RATE.
ROOMS FILL UP FAST.

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL
509-548-7000
(WACE MEMBERS ONLY WILL
RECEIVE SPECIAL ROOM
RATE OF \$95.00 PLUS TAX
PER NIGHT)

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OUTGOING MESSAGE FROM THE 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Dear WACE Family and Friends:



I wanted to take a moment to let you all know that I have left my position as Code Enforcement Officer with the City of Everett. I have relocated to Redmond Oregon to be closer to family and have started a new position as Permit Tech with the City of Redmond. I guess you really can teach an Old Dog new tricks!

I have truly enjoyed serving on the WACE Board and most recently as 1st VP. I appreciate and value the support you all have given me over the years and will forever cherish the memories and friendships made along the way.

Even though I will miss all of you and miss attending Fall Conference for the



first time in 22 years, I am

looking forward to this new challenge as I start a new phase of my life, surrounded by my grandchildren. How lucky am I to have so many great people in my life that make saying goodbye so hard!

Please keep in touch: I can be reached at my personal email address springlea6@gmail.com and on Facebook.

Thanks again for everything. I wish you all the best!

Spring Wathen

We wish Spring the very best and thank her for all her hard work with WACE in the last 22 years! We will miss her!





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Officers

AUGUST 2017

You decide: Fact or Fiction?

Shortly after 12:30 AM, Smalltown 911 Center received several calls reporting gun shots. Responding officers found two dead and one injured. Several hours into the investigation, detectives concluded a gang related drive by shooting had occurred. The main suspect was known to officers and lived in Smalltown.

The City of Smalltown is a typical Washington State city. They have all the normal city resources: Police, Fire, Building and Public Works departments. The City adopted the 2015 International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC), International Building Code (IBC), International Residential Code (IRC) and National Electrical Code (NEC).

At approximately 7:00 AM police searched the home of the main suspect which was well known as a local gang hangout. The suspect was not found. Officer Jones helped search the house and noticed electrical wires going from the main house to the garage were just above her head requiring she duck to get under them. She also noticed the garage had been converted into several bedrooms. Just as the officers were getting ready to leave, Officer Jones told her sergeant about assisting one of the code enforcement officers as he inspected a residence earlier in the week. She suggested they call him out to inspect the scene. The Code Enforcement Officer responded to the scene with an electrical inspector. The inspector determined the electrical line to the garage was not up to code and was a safety hazard (NEC). While inspecting the converted garage (with permission), it was noted the bedrooms did not have escape windows and exposed electrical wiring had a manufacture date of two years ago (IRC/NEC), though there were not any permits issued within the last two years for the house.

Due to life safety and fire hazards, the electrical inspector cut power to the property (NEC). The code enforcement officer notified the residents the house could not be occupied until it was safe to turn the power back on and the garage could not be used as a bedroom until proper permits were issued for converting the garage into livable space (IPMC, IRC). The residents were given a reasonable amount of time to gather their belongings and leave the house. After the house was vacated, the public works department boarded up the house and a "Do Not Occupy" notice was posted (IPMC/IRC).

By 3:00 PM, the house was vacant. The next day the shooter was arrested and is now serving time in prison. Shortly after this incident, the City of Smalltown formed a joint task force involving the police, fire and code enforcement officers to work together on problem situations.

Questions to answer using your City/County codes and policies:

1. Did the City of Smalltown violate any constitutional rights?
2. Can you do this in your jurisdiction?
3. What would you do differently?



Greg Vause
City of Bainbridge Island



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SPRING CONFERENCE 2017



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS



This year's conference was held at the Woodmark Hotel, 1200 Carillon Point Kirkland, Washington 98033. We had a spectacular view of Lake Washington and enjoyed the great speakers with topics on the landlord tenant act, curb-stoning and legal access.



We had a total of 89 attendees at the Spring Conference this year. The Board thanks you for coming!





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SCOOP FROM THE SARG!

If you haven't voted for the Executive Officers yet, please don't forget to cast your vote! Please make sure your membership is up to date.

We plan to have the By Law Amendments out to our general membership out before the Fall Conference for your review and you can vote at the conference or email me your votes. If you cannot attend the conference, you can also email me your votes. The only requirement is that your membership is updated. We will have copies of the amendments at the conference for those who forget. Since I am retiring you will need to send emails to me at: Wmschultz55@msn.com

It has been my pleasure to serve you!

Bill Schultz, Sergeant At Arms

WACE Officers on the move!

Spring Wathan, formerly with the City of Everett has moved! She now works at the City of Redmond, Oregon as a Permit Tech.

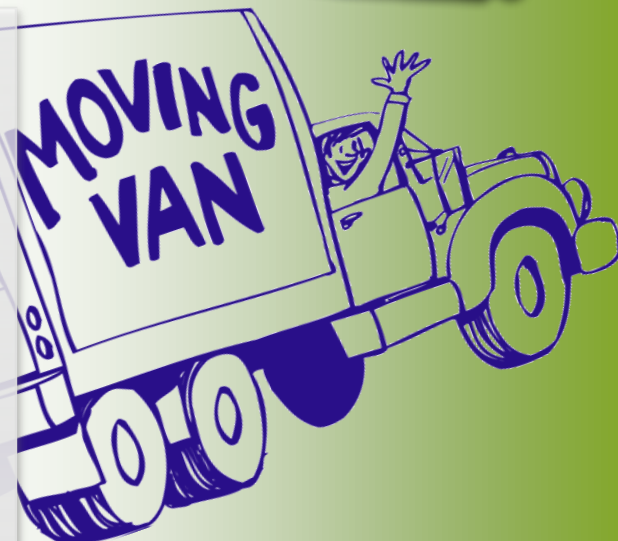
Hoa Mai has left City of Tukwila Code Enforcement and now works for the City of Seattle as a Housing/Zoning Inspector.

Michele Forkner, with the City of Issaquah is retiring in April 2018.

Bill Schultz, with the City of Spokane Valley is retiring in September 2017.

Has anyone else moved?? Let us know.

Email us at: wacestory@outlook.com.



DAVID NELLIS — CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER SPOTLIGHT

Code Enforcement Officer (Badge #007-that's right) with Tulalip Tribes.



Tulalip Bay, the largest community within the reservation of the federally recognized Tulalip Tribes of Washington.

Professional Background: I am currently in the best position I have ever held as a Code Enforcement Officer with the Tulalip Tribes. As a professional, have worked for a surface and storm water/WQ monitoring entity; Co. Public Works in a surface water watershed and nonpoint pollution program; WSDOT in environmental compliance inspections, County CAO/GMA/Long-range planning and inspection; Tribal Storm water, as well as other health and resource protection entities.

Typical work day: Yesterday we held an outreach training event where our Stormwater Planner and I spoke to Contractors. Then we performed H2O sampling at a surface mine. Later I worked with our Data Dept. on an automated system of CE, I then investigated an automotive towing/storage facility and spoke to several operators about the dangers of petrochemicals to surface waters, human health and salmon and shellfish.

What I like best about working for the Tribes and Code Enforcement:

I have a wide variety of daily duties that include working with the public and other agencies in outreach and education; investigation of small and large CE concerns. I'm encouraged to work to improve existing methods, and particularly satisfying I get to hopefully stop people from causing harm to our world and biota (plants & animals), and most importantly our children. I love my work and we have a great team of experts who collaborate in excellence.



Average day in the field



Hidden talents: I play guitar and sing and have at over 100 events. Yes I do covers, but I also have original music that is soulful, asks for a better world and noble intentions of man and myself. My children's album "The Miracle of Life" features science-based songs that teach stewardship,.. I am also an excellent natural/organic/fresh foods cook, and am working on an idea for a super-hero comic book. Yes I know that last line rhymes.

(continued on next page)

DAVID NELLIS — COMPLIANCE OFFICER SPOTLIGHT (Continued – Part 2)

Tulalip Creek estuarine wetland area



People would be surprised to know:

I have a BSc degree in Environmental Science with subject work in water quality, toxicology, chemistry, environmental regulatory law, ecology, human impacts and fish sciences. In my studies, I have learned terrible acronyms such as **PBT, COC, LD50, EC50, LSHWG**, etc.

IF we do our jobs well, maybe kids won't grow up deformed, or have to suffer with lymphoma, or carcinoma, learning disabilities or other **UNKNOWN** effects-and wildlife can exist and we can enjoy it..... I'm just saying.

Weekend activities:

In my free time I enjoy mountain biking through forested areas and parks. I cherish natural beauty and wildlife and that includes tasty stuff like salmon and crab on my plate. To see eagles, osprey, orca, beavers, and other wild creatures sharing our world brings me joy.

Best advice received: Some of the best advice I have been given are: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you".

And the words of Chief Seattle "Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect."

And finally Abraham Lincoln: "Laws without enforcement, are just good advice".



Dave Nellis is an award winning vocalist Songwriter, singer and guitar player (Skagit County Talent Contest "Best Male Vocalist" winner 2006). He plays at local venues in Whatcom County and is available for hire for your event. You can listen to his album, The **MIRACLE** of LIFE on his website at: <https://dave-nellis.bandcamp.com/> or visit his Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/DynastyDaveNellisMusic/>.



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Hello Members!

Certification Committee Update:

On August 2, 2017 WACE received notification from the International Code Council that the Washington Association of Code Enforcement is now included in the Preferred Provider Network!

Anyone who has an ICC certification knows this is an important accomplishment. With ICC-PPN designation, WACE can now apply for and receive consideration for CEUs awarded at our training conferences to be weighted at 100% for renewal of ICC certification.

The certification committee will be working to bring you future training courses that will be approved by ICC and potentially, awarded the maximum CEU values.

IF you have questions regarding the certification process or the benefits of ICC Certification, please don't hesitate to contact the following current and past board members of WACE, who hold multiple ICC certifications.

Jeri Breazeal, King County Code Enforcement, Jeri.Breazeal@kingcounty.gov

Orlando Howell, CBO, City of Hoquiam, ohowell@cityofhoquiam.com

Liz Krzyminski, CCEO, City of Seattle, Elizabeth.Krzyminski@Seattle.gov

Bill Sidor, CBI, City of Aberdeen, bsidor@aberdeenwa.gov

Cindy Keirse, CCEO, City of Kirkland, CKeirse@kirklandwa.gov



Download from Dreamstime.com

MISSION STATEMENT

WACE represents and supports its members by:

- Provide mutual support for those involved in Code Enforcement
- Share procedures and information in order to provide alternatives to enforcement procedures
- Provide education to its membership through periodic general membership meetings, seminars and conferences
- To discuss matters of mutual concern
- Share training information and employment opportunities
- Identify with other professionals in your field
- Provide opportunities for networking



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The Importance of Professional Certifications.

“What makes you qualified to testify as an expert witness? I have been asked this question on multiple occasions.

Attorneys and appellants present this question frequently. My response is that I have received certification in four areas. A Code Enforcement Officer, a Zoning Inspector, Property Maintenance Inspector, and a Code Enforcement Administrator. The response I usually receive is “Oh”.

These certifications deliver an increased air of authority and knowledgeability to my testimony and community interactions. The certifications are provided by an independent 3rd party, indicating I have been tested, evaluated, have vast experience in these subject matters.

Since I became a code enforcement officer in 1998, I have worked toward improving my professional knowledge and part of that has been obtaining professional certifications. I started with the Zoning Inspector Certification and have added others as time went on.

Each year in order to retain my professional certifications it requires a commitment to continue training related to these fields. This continuation of training has kept me updated to changes in the codes and practices related to Code Enforcement.

Renewal of certifications now has evolved into the need of a certain percentage of the required CEU's to be from a “preferred provider”. Now that WACE has become a preferred provider it will make retaining my certifications easier and I can get the required CEU's by attending WACE conferences that are specific to my field.

I am always happy to assist anyone that is interested in getting ready to take the test or understand the requirements to retain a certification.

I believe this is an important part of being a professional Code Enforcement Officer.

Jeri Breazeal

King County Code Enforcement.





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MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY:

During the summer, our work in Code Enforcement increases just like the hours of daylight! With neighbors out and about, making reports of what needs attention, summer becomes the busiest season of all. Those “lazy, hazy days of summer” don’t seem to exist in the world of code enforcement. As your In Box fills up, please don’t forget you have a valuable resource in the WACE membership network.



Over the four plus years I have served as the WACE Secretary, I have distributed hundreds of emails from members, including “EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY” announcements and “QUESTION FOR MEMBERSHIP” requests.

In the last 15 months, I have posted over sixty “QUESTION FOR MEMBERSHIP” inquiries. These requests are quite varied. Questions regarding every conceivable code enforcement topic, such as how to address a sinking rental property, collection of fines and penalties, warrants of abatement and my personal favorite, spite flower pots. These questions have afforded me the opportunity to get to know WACE members. The questions that are asked by WACE members illustrate your dedication to our chosen profession.

I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to help you in your efforts to serve the communities where we work. WACE is an all-volunteer organization, it has been my extreme pleasure to act as your secretary for the past four years. I look forward to continue assisting code enforcement officers across the state, in any possible way that I can. As the summer continues, keep your emails coming! I will continue to facilitate your access to the wealth of code enforcement knowledge our WACE members have to offer.

Liz Krzyminski, City of Seattle

WACE Secretary





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MEET THE BOARD!



PRESIDENT

Michele Forkner
Code Compliance Officer
City of Issaquah
michelef@Issaquahwa.gov



1st Vice President

Vacant Position



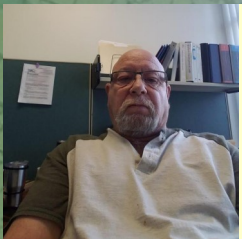
2nd Vice President

Debbie Blessington
Building/Code Inspection
City of Kenmore
DBlessington@Kenmorewa.gov



3rd Vice President

Bill Sidor
Assistant Community
Development Director
City of Aberdeen
bsidor@aberdeenwa.gov



Sargent at Arms

Bill Schultiz
Code Enforcement Officer
City of Spokane Valley
bschultz@spokanevalley.org



Secretary

Elizabeth Krzyminski, CCEO
Senior Housing/Zoning Inspector
City of Seattle
Elizabeth.Krzyminski@Seattle.gov



Treasurer

Orlando Howell
Building Official
City of Hoquiam
ohowell@cityofhoquiam.com



Board Member

Betty Cruz
Code Enforcement Officer
City of Bellevue
bcruz@bellevuewa.gov



Board Member

Tammy Engle
Code Enforcement Officer
Pacific County
tengel@co.pacific.wa.us



Board Member

Ladonna Whalen
Code Enforcement Officer
King County
Ladonna.whalen@kingcounty.gov



Board Member

Chris Grabowski
Code Enforcement Officer
City of Olympia
cgrabows@ci.olympia.wa.us



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HELP WANTED

Tell us your story!

Be our guest writer and share your story. Have you started a new job? Going to retire? Worked an unbelievable case? Reached compliance using unique resources? We want to hear from you! Contact the WACE Publishers at: wacestory@outlook.com

Let everyone know about your part of the state!

There will be a drawing at the end of the conference

for gift baskets donated by jurisdictions.

Please consider donating items or a basket from your area for the drawing.



MEET THE PRESS



LA DONNA WHALEN
EDITOR

BETTY CRUZ
PUBLISHER
AND DESIGNER



Time to Network!

WACE has a lot of members that would love to spend time with other CEO's to find out how things are done in other places.

Come share in this networking time!

**Would you be willing to send electronic copies of your forms, codes, documents and policies to share with others? We will put them on the thumb drives ready for your arrival!



WWW.WACE1.ORG