THE TALE OF TWO QUAKES

Here’s wishing everyone a happy summer. Here’s to getting blisters on the sole of your feet when you fell asleep on the beach at Bear Lake. Here’s to catching a baseball with your face, and bee stings and mosquito bites. And let’s not forget the backyard cookouts. I can’t spell it, but I can say it: salmon-ella. Fireworks are great too. Hey, don’t worry your eyebrows will grow back. The best part about summer though are family vacations. This past month my family and I all went to Disneyland. I must say that Disneyland with older kids really is the happiest place on earth. We maximized the ‘Fastpass’ for all the cool rides a bunch of times and took advantage of single rider lines too. For the most part we avoided the sea of strollers that is Fantasyland, and we left the Disney character autograph books at home. That brings me to the gist of this article. During my family vacation, we got to experience both of the earthquakes that shook Southern California in July. This was my first ever experience with an earthquake, and the first one hit while I was in line for the Guardians of the Galaxy ride at Disney California Adventure. We were waiting in line just outside the building when we were told over the loudspeaker to please exit the line, the ride was closed, and it was unknown when the ride would reopen. A couple of minutes later social media let us know that the area just had an earthquake. What a jip, not for wasting time in another ride line mind you, but I had just experienced my first ever earthquake up close and I did not feel a thing. It was like the first time I tried my coke back in high school. Despite my lack of seismic perception, it turns out Disneyland has procedures in place for when a seismic event occurs. Their protocol was to have everyone exit any ride that was deemed “at risk for a seismic event”, perform an inspection to determine when the ride should or could be returned to safe operation. Not all of the rides closed, and it was only for about a half hour, so Mickey Mouse was back to taking my money pretty quickly. The second earthquake happened while my family and I were visiting Universal Studios Hollywood, and that one I did feel.

I had just gotten off a ride and was a bit woozy (I am not as young as I once was you know). I was standing in the ‘Zonkos Joke Shop’ in Harry Potter World, when I found myself unable to stand on my own. Wow, I thought to myself, this place has gone all out. Even the gift shops are rigged to entertain you. I couldn’t stand still and the light fixtures were gently swaying above me. My wife commented to the nearby cashier, who said No, this is just an earthquake. Just like two days earlier social media confirmed a seismic event, but unlike Disneyland, I did not see one thing out of the ordinary for procedures or emergency protocols. It was business as usual for workers and park visitors alike. Fellow building officials, I don’t know what your jurisdiction has in the way of emergency procedures. Hopefully it’s more along the lines of Disneyland and not Universal Studios. It is impossible to predict the type of disaster we will someday be asked to respond to. Whatever your emergency response procedures and protocols are, big or small, complex or simple. Keep in mind that the best thing you can do is not to ‘prepare for a specific disaster’, but instead do your best to ‘prepare your response’ to any disaster. May we all have a fun and enjoyable summer and let’s all be safe out there too. Cheers.

Carey Maedgen
Past President - Utah Chapter

CHAPTER MEMBER

UTAH CHAPTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE TALKS BEGIN!

We had a recent Board meeting in which we had a representative of the board attend COLA meetings and is involved on other levels with government affairs. The talks have already started about the plan review bill that we have seen the last two years in the legislature. The talks are moving from the cap of time that we currently see to the total elimination of reviews needed for residential projects if the plans are prepared by a design professional. This has been the rumblings all along that I had been hearing for a couple of years now. I participate with my local HBA office and contractors have voiced this concern when this all started two years ago. They feel the review they get is not of value and is only slowing them up in starting construction. Add in there that most items are called out during inspection anyways that are not part of the plans in information or details. In the end they are the responsible party when it comes to issues that occur not the city. This has become the rational that we are facing in todays times. As jurisdictions continue to fall behind on reviews mostly due to lack of workforce and the increase of demands, we find that the time frames on review turn around gets out of control. This has a tendency now for residential to be reviewed first all awhile the non-residential sector takes the hit. The reason I am writing this article is to prepare you for the worst. What would happen if you lost the ability to review the plans and you are now forced to issue permits? My city attorney has asked that question of me. Do you have a stamp or write-up ready to attach to the plans that covers us? I for one never thought my jurisdiction would be up against the time frame crunches but after losing a couple of team members and having to hire 3 people in the last couple of months, we find ourselves in this very boat. We also have had a large amount of development occur in my jurisdiction and not having the adequate staff before hand does not help. I know as most of you read this you can relate. So lets go back to the question, if you lost the ability to review plans what comes next? I personally foresee my inspections at certain stages substantially increasing in time and managing the difference between the ones that had a review vs. no review, a nightmare. We usually plan on around 45 minutes to an hour and a half for a 4-way rough inspection for example. With no review I would suspect that would increase now to 3 hours while the in-field review occurs, the inspection on possible faulty plans and the following write-up that could now be several pages long and the discomfort of the inspector in the field as he/she is now delivering bad news for substantial changes that need to be made. We find that a large percent of our Manual D and J’s are incorrect at the review stage. This will now be an in-field correction with the equipment needing to be changed out and possible serious corrections on the ducting. The other aspect I have not
mentioned to this point is the loss of plan review revenues that I am sure help buffer your general fund. Is your administration ready to give these up? Can you still maintain your current staffing if this money is now gone? Will the legislature stifle the ability to charge fees to cover the costs now realized during the inspection stage as we now shift those fees to the permit amounts? Are the designers now willing to take on the responsibility and endorse all submitted documents for approval like the ResCheck or energy envelope, architectural aspects, soils reports, electrical system design, Manual J and D, site plan and the truss package? These are all questions that we need to start asking and being prepared for as the current year approaches. If you value the review on residential plans we need to represent this in the legislative sessions and start talking to legislators now. Not when the bill is sitting at the capital and its too late.

Peace out and good luck!

Jason Van Ausdal
President - Utah Chapter
cycle that I am having to learn even with that I am having trouble remembering the changes to the code. The only way that we are going to learn changes is to study the codes. In September the Utah Chapter is offering 2018 IBC an IEBC significant changes training where they will be going over those changes. For the new inspectors and some of you older ones as well, the chapter is offering FREE (yes, I said FREE) 2 hour discussion on the first Tuesday of every month, where we sit down together and teach one another the code. I have been the facilitator for southern Utah and I can’t believe how much of the code that I have forgotten that comes back to me when I am studying for the discussions. There is opportunity for all of us to get the training that we need. You can get with your region coordinator and set up a regional training and uniformity meeting so you can meet with and get to know the building officials in your area. Don’t make it into a who knows more about the code meeting but talk about issues you are having in your area. If you are having issues, so are your neighbors! Learn from one another. If you don’t know who your regional coordinator is, contact Jason Nelson and he can let you know. Take the opportunity and go to the training or get involved with the discussions. The more that we meet together the better jobs we will do and it will get easier because we will have the knowledge that we need to do our jobs. For all we know, we could be that neighbor that is not following the code and making it harder for the others. If you can’t attend a training at least send someone from your department and have them report back on what they have learned. I know that we are all busy and we can’t shut down our departments and go to classes. I would like to thank all of you for your hard work and the hours that you spend to make our community safer and the time you take even on your own time to get the training that you do.

Keep up the Good Work!

Lester Ross
Utah Chapter - Board Member

For team photos, please email pfail@msd.utah.gov
Number of inspectors isn’t keeping up with home construction in Utah
Deal-Breakers

TOP 10 POTENTIAL Deal-Breakers TO CONSIDER

- Salary
- No overhead
- Retirement
- Bankers hours everyday
- Vacation accrual
- Seeking contracts or employment will no longer apply for the remainder of your existence
- Healthcare options for you and your family
- Supplies and materials to do your job are provided by the jurisdiction
- Physical requirements; bending, crouching, pointing, writing/typing and driving
- If no one shows up for work today, it does NOT affect your progress
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING INSPECTOR CURRICULUM

THANK GOODNESS YOU ARE HERE!
WE NEED YOU AND THE BUILDING INDUSTRY NEEDS YOU!

THE CURRICULUM BELOW WILL HELP PREPARE YOU TO BECOME THE BEST RESIDENTIAL BUILDING INSPECTOR YOU CAN BE!

COMMERCIAL BUILDING INSPECTOR CURRICULUM

SO YOU WANT TO BE A COMMERCIAL BUILDING INSPECTOR WHEN YOU GROW UP!
WONDERFUL!

HERE ARE THE COURSES WE RECOMMEND TO HELP YOU GET TO YOUR GOAL!

CLICK ON EITHER CURRICULUM TO GO TO THE ICC’S STUDY GUIDE CATALOG
Fire Assembly and Penetrations

This Training will provide an understanding of the intent and purpose behind fire resistive construction as well as the code requirements, testing procedures, plan review requirements and inspection practices relating to fire resistive construction. This training will also provide an understanding of how to navigate UL's fire resistance directory and UL's new online certification database ProductIQ in order to identify listed products and assemblies with demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the 2018 IBC.

Tuesday 15th
Webinar is offered Tuesday, 16th or
Wednesday 16th
SANDY CITY HALL
10000 Centennial Parkway Sandy, UT
(Multi-purpose room 3rd floor)
Sign in: 7:30 am - 8:00 am

Breaks are provided
**Lunch is on your own**
Material: 2018 IBC
Seminar Fee:
Before October 1st $50.00
After October 1st $60.00

REGISTER ONLINE AT  www.utahicc.org; click on the TRAINING tab

Please register 4 weeks prior to class
Due to changes in the State's funding, if there are not enough attendees registered by October 1st, the class may be cancelled.

If registering by mail, send checks to:
Utah ICC Treasurer, C/O Duchesne County, P.O. Box 317, Duchesne, Utah 84021-0317
(Make Checks Payable to UTAH CHAPTER ICC)
Registration Form:  if registering by mail.
Date Attending: □ Tuesday, October 15th □ Wednesday, October 16th

Name:
Jurisdiction/Company:
Mailing Address:
City, ST, Zip: ____________________________
Phone #: ________________________________
Email: __________________________________
Webinar Location: □ Vernal City □ St George □ Moab □ Park City

Contact Jason Nelson
Education Coordinator with any questions.

Jason Nelson
jnelson@summitcounty.org
(435) 289-0357

This seminar is partially funded by the 15% surcharge on all building permits.

Instructor Profile:
Chris Johnson was introduced to the electrical trade at an early age. He was in his early teens when he would work summers at his grandfather’s electrical contracting company hauling material, digging trenches and performing general labor. In August of 1984 he received his Journeyman electrician license and in June of 2004 he received his Master electrician’s license. From 1986 to 2005 he worked as an electrician, until May of 2005 when he changed hats and became a combination inspector for North Logan City. In January of 2014 he became a Building Official for North Logan City. In August of 2017 Chris went to work for UL as a Lead Regulatory Engineer where he remains currently employed. He has taught the electrical apprenticeship program for Brigham Applied Technology College, and is an active member of the Utah Chapter of the IEEE and holds a position on the board. Chris has held the position of Chairman of the Electrical Advisory Committee for the State of Utah and participated on the Technical Advisory Committee for the State of Washington. Chris is a past Principal on Code Making Panel 16 for the NEC and was involved with the development of the 2014 and 2017 NEC.