



# NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS PERMIT TECH CHAPTER

## President's Corner

Wow! Where have the past couple of years gone? It seems that the past three years have passed so quickly that they now seem to have been a blur. I truly appreciate your confidence by electing me to the office of President for 2009. I look forward to serving you and would like to encourage each one of you to continue to participate in the chapter as much as possible.

Thank you to the City of Plano for hosting our first meeting in 2009. It was an informative meeting and a great opportunity to compare notes with all those in attendance. These meetings provide great opportunity to enhance our positions as Permit Technician's by education and networking.

If you have not already done so, I would like to encourage you to obtain your ICC Permit Technician Certification in 2009. I have found the professional recognition very rewarding and the effort put into studying for it sent be on a path not yet completed as I continue to learn new things.

In closing, I again say that I look forward to 2009 and all the opportunities that NCTPTC has to offer. If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions, or comments, please feel free to contact me or one of the other officers. We are truly here to serve you!

*Carey Frazier*

## By-Law Change

The By-Law Committee submitted a change.

- A) Dues shall be paid prior to December 31st for the upcoming calendar year.
- B) If dues become delinquent, the member shall be consid-

ered inactive.

- C) If an active member of a city leaves a city, their replacement can assume the balance of the remaining membership for the calendar year.



## BOAT Awards Banquet in San Marcos, TX

The awards banquet was held in San Marcos, TX on Thursday, February 26, 2009.

Congratulations to the NCTPTC. At the award banquet Ravi Shah, BOAT President awarded the chapter with the President's Award.

## 2009 Training

- April 16th—Preparation for Residential Energy Certification Exam—Grand Prairie
- May 18th—22nd BPI—Arlington
- June 18th—2006 IBC Means of Egress—Grand Prairie



- D) It is the responsibility of the city to contact the board regarding any changes or addition to active members.

On January 22, 2009 this action was voted on and passed (18-0).

**March 2009**

**Carey Frazier— President**  
**Edgar Ermis—Vice President**  
**Helen Mapplebeck—**  
**Treasurer**  
**Holly Blake—Recorder**

## Meeting Schedules

- May 20, 2009
- July 15, 2009
- September 16, 2009
- November 18, 2009

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**Visit the Chapter at**  
**[www.nctptc.org](http://www.nctptc.org)**

## What's new in your City?

### What's new in the City of Plano

#### Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Deposit Program

The City Of Plano's Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Deposit Program is an incentive program encouraging Plano builders to recycle on-site debris and divert it from local landfills.

The program will have deposits which are fully refundable with 60 percent diversion goal and prorated thereafter upon receipt of recycling documentation at the comple-

tion of the project.

It is the goal of the City of Plano to divert 40 percent of its total waste from our local landfills. Approximately 17.6 percent of our total waste stream is comprised of construction and demolitions (C&D) debris, of which as much as 91 percent can be recycled, reused or donated. <sup>1</sup> Check out the website for our Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Deposit Program: [www.planocommercialrecycling.com](http://www.planocommercialrecycling.com).

You can check out our website for additional information: [www.buildinginspections.org](http://www.buildinginspections.org).

<sup>1</sup>"Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Deposit Program Brochure".

Mary Stephens,  
Permit Technician



**What's new in your City? If you have a new procedure that you believe would be beneficial to other cities let us know.**

### Building A Better Southlake

#### New Stormwater Requirements

The City Council approved Ordinance No. 946 in October 2008 which adopted state and federal mandates in accordance with the Clean Water Act. As such, related permits issued since the adoption of the ordinance must comply. City inspectors and code enforcement officers will now verify the following items for compliance with the new Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance:



nance:

No Parking Signs—The ordinance requires that a separate sign be posted that states "off -street parking prohibited". The purpose is to notify all drivers that all vehicles shall remain on the street except for delivery of bulk material which is typically an hour or two.

Construction Entrance—This is required for any vehicle access point on the site and is constructed with a layer of felt and a minimum 6" thickness of rock. The aggregate should average 3" to 5" size for effectiveness in discharging soil from vehicle axles and wheels.

Posting of SWPPP's and ESC's—These erosion control plans may be required for certain projects and if so, must be available in a timely manner for review by the city, state, or federal officials. Inspectors will also be monitoring contractors or their designee to ensure inspectors are being entered into the City's database (PermiTrack).

Final Stabilization—Some construction sites

will require sod or established hydromulch be in place to meet the ordinance requirements for permanent vegetation. Weather-related events that conflict with this requirement are taken into consideration and can affect the issuance of a permanent certificate of occupancy or final inspection approval.

Susie Hernandez, Plans Examiner

Eddie Wilson, Chief Building Inspector



## THE DAY I TOOK MY TEST

Everyone has test jitters. Well, I am no different. However, this morning, I was slightly calm and somewhat confident. That would be the first omen. I had all my books in the front seat and I left the house ahead of schedule. With three kids that is a miracle unto itself and the second omen. On my way I had the radio off. I wanted to stay focused on the test and the questions. Traffic is good and I roll into the parking lot 20 minutes ahead of schedule. This is the third and final omen. I walk upstairs. My steps are sure and my confidence was beaming. I know this material; I know where to find the answers. I CAN do this. I get to the door and start to open it. Huh, the door is locked. There is a note on the window of the door. "THE NEW ADDRESS OF THE TESTING CENTER IS LOCATED IN HURST ON BLAH, BLAH, and BLAH. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL BLAH, BLAH, and BLAH....."

Can anyone say PANIC ATTACK? I am not kidding; I could feel my heart beating out of my chest, somewhere in my throat. You know, where my breakfast was now. It took me about 10 minutes to get it together. Within those 10 minutes, I didn't know how to use a cell phone let enough take a test. Ok, enough



drama. I called the number on the sign. A very nice lady answered and I explained my dilemma. She could tell I was on the verge of tears and had managed to panic and recollect in a short amount of time. She gave me directions, told me to drive the speed limit and to try to remain calm. I asked about the test. Back in the day, you know last week, if you were late, you couldn't enter the test site or take the test. She explained that I would make it in plenty of time and I would understand better when I got there. I walked downstairs to my car and got in. I programmed my GPS with the address and started on my merry way. The whole time, I am talking to myself. I don't even remember the conversation. Something to the affect of it will be ok. Finally, I arrive.

I walked upstairs and am greeted with the friendly face that spoke to me on the phone. She took one look at me and knew I was the one who had called her. My hair looked like I ran my hand through it many times, my face was pale, and you could tell I had even cried a little. She was very kind and very supportive. Once I checked in with her, she told me to go to the bathroom and to take a few moments to get completely calm. I returned to the counter and she took my picture for the test and then she checked my books for foreign material. She also collected my purse, cell phone and watch. Once I got through

security, I was escorted into the test area and seated. With a deep breath, I began.

When I was done with the test, I raised my hand and I was escorted out of the test area. The friendly lady was there with a huge smile on her face. She handed me my results. I PASSED. On my way to work, I stopped and had a banana split. Wouldn't you?

Holly Blake , Permit Technician



Future submittals - Holly Blake

[hblake@nctptc.org](mailto:hblake@nctptc.org)

**"This above all: to thine own self be true,  
And it must follow, as the night the day,  
Thou canst not then be false to any man."**

**Shakespeare—Hamlet**

**Act I, scene 3**

## Thought's from the Editor — Why I Attend BPI

We hear the term over and over "Knowledge is Power" but exactly what does it mean and where does it really come from? Throughout history, man has used their experiences to build bigger and better structures; therefore man has gained knowledge and power through their experiences. We see all the books on the shelves how to build this or that and many of us read them to assist in acquiring the ability to do particular projects. We owe a lot to all those fine authors that write these books because I would venture to say they have the experiences to be able to write these

books.

Now, we who have chosen to work in the building profession have come into the field for whatever reason, perhaps the enjoyment of the trade and perhaps for the money. How does this fit into the Building Professional Institute (BPI)? BPI was created and designed to take advantage of many, many years of experience of professionals in the business of construction. It also uses those years of experience to assist contractors and homeowners alike in construction of safer and more energy efficient homes and buildings. These men and

women who give their time as instructors and the vendors who display a variety of products that can be used in this field, gives BPI participants' the opportunity of years of knowledge and that is where the power plays a part. This is why I attend BPI.

Dianna Brawer,  
Permit Technician





## 17th Annual Building Professional Institute

It is time to enroll for the May BPI. **Samantha Morrow** and **Jill Gray** have put together a track that will help prepare Permit Techs for the certification exam. In some cases BPI is the only instruction Permit Techs may get in preparation of the exam.

Steve Burger will be returning this year for the **Fundamentals of I-Codes for the Permit Technician** Monday and Tuesday. He is an excellent ICC instructor as your evaluations from last year confirmed.

The one brand new class is on Friday. Robert Whitley from the City of Plano will be teaching **Basic Plan Review**. This subject is more for the Permit Tech that either has plan review duties or is interested in promoting to a residential plans examiner position.

### PERMIT TECHNICIAN

#### MODERATORS:

Jill Gray

Samantha Morrow

**Note:** Attendees are required to bring 2009 IBC & IRC to 1605AP, and 2605AP.

**1605AP Fundamentals of I-Codes for the Permit Technician (Day 1)** – Pro-

vided the permit technician with the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to perform in code administration: legal aspects, code language, and code enforcement, reading construction documents, reviewing submitted documents and the permitting and inspection process. Familiarizes users with the IBC and IRC and sharpens customer relations skills. Instructor: **Steve Burger**.

**2605AP Fundamentals of I-Codes for the Permit Technician (Day 2)** – Provided the permit technician with the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to perform in code administration: legal aspects, code language, and code enforcement, reading construction documents, reviewing submitted documents and the permitting and inspection process. Familiarizes users with the IBC and IRC and sharpens customer relations skills. Instructor: **Steve Burger**.

**3605AP Record Retention** - Overview of Record Retention practices for the Building Inspection Department. Instructor: TBA

**4605AP Legal Aspects of Code Admini-**

**stration** – Overview of the Legal Aspects of Code Administration and current legislative updates. Legal Aspects Suggested but not required. Instructor: **Linda Frank**.

**5305A Basic Plan Review** - Course covers several aspects of new residential plan review while encompassing both local zoning code and the 1006 IRC. Topics to be discussed include local zoning code requirements, obtaining required documentation, basic review of plat maps, site plans and floor plans and the proper utilization of various 2006 IRC criteria. Instructor: **Robert Whitley**

Now, I know some of you have attended these classes before and would like something new. There are 17 tracks to choose from with the **Planning Track** being the newest. In the past, we have had Planners teach in our track about subdivisions and platting. This year they have a **Land Development class** that will take this subject and others quiet a bit further.

In the past years we have had field inspectors come to our track and discuss field inspections and show slides. In the **Residential track** you can actually go on a field inspection with the inspectors.

Some of you may be doing double duty in code enforcement activities. The **Code Enforcement Track** offers a variety of classes with some granting CEUs for your Code Enforcement Officer Certification.

Everyone is talking Green this year. What is it all about? Attend the **Green Building Track** and find out.

I think you have lots of other choices outside of our track to explore. Attend a class in the **Permit Tech Track**, but if you don't see one you like or one that you have already attended, explore the other tracks at BPI.

**See you at BPI in May!**

### Master the New 2009 I-Codes and Keep Ahead of the Curve with ICC Training

#### Available Now!

- 2009 Update Seminars provide an overview of major changes between 2009 and 2009 editions of a specific I-Code.

#### Available Spring 2009

- 2009 Fundamentals Seminars provide groups a basic understanding of the general provisions of a specific 2009 I-Code.

#### Coming Soon!

- 2009 IBC Significant Changes Seminar
- 2009 IRC Significant Changes Seminar

[www.iccsafe.org/training](http://www.iccsafe.org/training) 1-888-ICC-SAFE, x 33818

