

**PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF CODE OFFICIALS**  
**PACO**  
**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

February 2006

**SPRING FORUM**

The fifth annual Spring Forum has been scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> thru April 26<sup>th</sup>. Unlike in years past, three (3) days of seminars will be offered instead of two. Testing will not be provided as the ICC no longer provides this service. The event is being held at the Inn of Chester Springs, Route 100 & Gordon Drive, Lionville Chester County. Seminar selection is still in process. Additional information and registration will be forthcoming.

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**QUARTERLY MEETING DATES**

The quarterly meetings will be held March 16<sup>th</sup>, June 15<sup>th</sup>, September 14<sup>th</sup> and December 14<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend these informative meetings.

**FEES**

Since the inception of PACO in 1999 the membership fee has been \$25.00. The costs to conduct PACO in accordance with our mission statement of providing up to date information on changes in our industry has increased dramatically. There is our new and improved website, the addition of an administrative assistance and the joint membership with PABCO. To cover the increase in cost the executive board of PACO is anticipating increasing the membership fees next year. More information to follow.

**WEBSITE**

Hoff Communications has been hired by PACO to redesign and maintain the PACO website. We are very pleased with the new look and ease of use. The new design makes it easier to get current information on PACO as well as numerous links to other organizations. Please check it out. [www.paco-71.org](http://www.paco-71.org).

**REGION VII**

PACO members Lee Milligan, Bob Loeper and Jeff Gentile recently attended the ICC Region VII meeting in Hagerstown, MD. Many issues were discussed including By-Laws, Appointment of committee chairs and work plans. Updates on Region VII can be viewed on the ICC website bulletin board.

## PABCO

PACO members Kevin Pezzano, Lee Milligan and Bob Loeper attended the first PABCO conference in Harrisburg. Many issues were discussed with primary emphasis on legislative bills attempting to amend the UCC. PACO members should be receiving PABCO updates on their e-mail. These updates are very helpful in keeping us informed of legislative attacks on the UCC. Check out the PABCO website on our link.

## HB 881

The legislature has been presented with a bill that would allow permit applicants to use third party inspection agencies in lieu of dealing with local municipal building departments. This would seriously undermine a municipality's ability to enforce building codes within its own boundaries. All municipalities were given the option of opting in or out of building code enforcement when the UCC was put into place. This legislation takes that decision away from municipalities and puts it in the hands of the developer. Among other things, the bill would also place unrealistic time constraints on issuing building permits, occupancies and the holding of appeals to local UCC appeals boards. It also would not allow the charge of any fee for said appeals. PACO's stand is that this is just bad legislation and must be opposed. Our industry needs time to work out the kinks prior to making such a drastic change. Please write, call or e-mail your local, county and state representative immediately and request that they oppose this bill.

## UCC

The UCC is under constant attack in the legislature. PACO members must stay vigilante. Communicate with your legislatures.

The 2006 ICC codes are now available. According to the current wording in Act 45, the 2006 codes must be adopted by December 31, 2006. For information and updates concerning the UCC, check out the PA Labor & Industry website which is a link on PACO's website.

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

We are pleased to announce the addition of Maureen Kelley as the Administrative Assistant for PACO. In this capacity Maureen will handle all administrative aspects of membership, training and general office help.