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The Washington State Association of Fire Marshals is an organization comprised of seven divisions working on: National Codes, State Codes, Legislative Issues, Professional Development, Communications, Fire Prevention Institute, and Fire Investigation. Membership in the Washington State Association of Fire Marshals is open to individuals in four categories: Governmental, Associate, Educational and Retired. There are many benefits to membership for individuals in all categories.

## WSAFM Vision and Mission Statement

### Vision

To be a recognized leader and partner in fire prevention and community risk reduction.

### Mission Statement

To provide leadership and professional development opportunities for our members and associates through communication, education, legislation and code development.

## WSAFM President's Report – Dave Kokot

Membership. It is what makes an Association operate, maintain, and hopefully grow. For now, it appears that the Washington State Association of Fire Marshals is having a membership crisis. There has been a considerable drop in membership over the past 5 years. The biggest concern about this is Departments who regularly paid for their memberships have somehow not gotten invoices, lost invoices, decided not to pay the invoice, it was paid and not credited, or some other reason. It is honestly, a mess.

We know that it is a choice to participate as a member of an Association, and it could be one of those budget items that some Departments cut to meet their budget. It could also be a reduction in staffing. There are many reasons as to why this occurred.

In any case, it appears that the largest lack of renewing, is not knowing if you are a member or not. We obtained a listing of all of the paid memberships over the past 5 years, which is where we have seen the drop, and were quite surprised at what was learned. Based on the review of the list, it is entirely possible that you may think you are a member - and you are not. At the Fire Prevention Institute, I brought up this subject at one of the larger sessions, and some attendees insisted that they were members, and they were not on the list. One attendee does not show up as paid for the past five years. All of us are potentially exposed to this, including the Board. At one of our meetings a few years ago, it was determined that nearly half of the Board was actually not a paid member – including yours truly. That was pretty bad, as I was the President-Elect (and yes, that was correctly quickly!).

During the Board retreat early January, we decided to take action. A Membership Committee has been formed to look into the process of renewals, and work to develop a better way to let you know if you are a member or not. We also had a meeting with the Washington Fire Chiefs staff (we currently pay for their effort to provide us administration duties), and they offered some very helpful suggestions with membership renewal improvements. The Membership Committee will be tasked to putting all of this together and coming up with a plan. Already, we are looking to go back to the "member" and

“non-member” registration fees for classes; looking at how we can get confirmation to the members who have paid; developing a contact method to personally speak with those who did not renew or have not renewed for some time; reviewing the dues structure (maybe changing it to what the WFC uses); and providing a much clearer understanding as to what you gain being a WSAFM member.

This is still a work in progress but be aware that renewal notices for membership have been sent out. If you did not get one or know if an invoice was sent, I would suggest contacting the WFC Office. There will be some confirmation for those who have paid this year, and potentially a card (similar to WFC) next year.

We greatly appreciate our Association membership and work diligently to provide the best benefits that we can.

If you have any questions about membership (other than if you are a member or not), please make contact with one of our Board members.

Here is hoping for a great 2020!

## Community Risk Reduction – Traci Harvey, P.E., Spokane Valley Fire Department

Community Risk Reduction (CRR) is a data-driven process to identify and prioritize local risks, followed by the integrated and strategic investment of resources (emergency response and prevention) to reduce their occurrence and impact. The fire service is moving beyond just responding to emergencies and is moving into the future to prevent the emergency before it occurs. More than fire prevention it reaches into the heart of each community to address the specific risks identified, cooking fires, senior falls, bike safety, etc.

January 20<sup>th</sup> through 26<sup>th</sup> was National Community Risk Reduction week it is a week dedicated to the grass-root effort to raise awareness. Governor Inslee issued a proclamation declaring Washington’s CRR week; along with the Mayors of Spokane Valley, Pasco and Liberty Lake declaring CRR week for their respective communities. Communities and Fire Departments around the state and across the nation celebrated events related to the 5E’s, Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Economic Incentive & Emergency Response.

Education: Fire departments make use of many non-traditional means of education these days ranging from social media (Facebook & Twitter) to ‘Lunch & Learn’ opportunities to ‘Home Safety Visits’. Today’s audiences require flexibility to match the message to the audience and fire departments are rising to the challenge.

- Stop the Bleed classes for the community
- High school CPR
- High/Middle School Fire Science programs
- Junior Fire Marshal (2-ways out)
- ISAAC Foundation (education is a 2-way street)

Engineering: My forte and a personal favorite – Fire departments have engineers to not only conduct plan reviews but to get involved in the processes that help develop the future codes that will be enforced. But this is a large picture effort that involves not only fire departments but building departments, contractors and engineers across all disciplines. Engineering is the future creating the systems and devices that help keep us safe; CO & smoke detectors for our homes and bunkers & SCBA’s for line personnel.

Enforcement: Fire department prevention divisions are often the first and most well-known aspect of

enforcement. They review plans for compliance with applicable codes and standards. They conduct construction inspections to ensure compliance with the approved plans. Business inspections help keep the ongoing activities in line with the safety goals of the original codes for future occupants.

Economic Incentive: Fire departments are forming partnerships within the community; Red Cross, Starbucks, Novelis, Honeywell among others. They provide for the ability to purchase and distribute smoke detectors, CO detectors, bike helmets, pet masks and weighted blankets and much more.

Emergency Response: Emergency response has moved beyond just the big red trucks and firefighters with a hose. There are now specially trained crews able to respond to specific types of incidents, Drone Teams, HazMat, Tech Rescue, Swift Water, Extrication, Trench Rescue and many others. Firefighters are highly trained individuals and their gear reflects this new level of training. Apparatus and crews are provided with MDC's, Lifepaks, tablets, and smartphones, along with laptops and desktops.

While CRR Week 2020 is in the past CRR itself is the future of the fire service. Reach out. Get involved. Find the programs that fit the needs of your communities and move forward. A big part of what we do each and everyday fits within one of the 5E's. We are the front line of Community Risk Reduction.

## Code Corner – Traci Harvey, P.E., Spokane Valley Fire Department – SBCC Fire Service Representative

Both the National and the State code processes are winding down to the final published documents. To get everyone ready (excited) Update classes are starting to be offered; be sure to watch for future WSAFM emails regarding upcoming IFC Update Classes.

Here is a summary of the current code cycle wrap-up:

### ***Washington State Codes***

*Group 1 Codes* (IBC, IEBC, IFC & WSEC) Schedule:

- Jan. 2, 2020 – CR103 was submitted as a Consent Agenda Item for the regular Legislative Session (runs from Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> through March 14<sup>th</sup>)
- If no action is taken, and historically none occurs, the official adoption date is April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- The codes will take effect July 1, 2020

*Group 2 Codes* (IRC, IMC IFGC, UPC & WSEC-R) schedule:

- Jan. 2, 2020 – CR103 was submitted as a Consent Agenda Item for the regular Legislative Session (runs from Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> through March 14<sup>th</sup>)
- IRC CR102 will open for written public comment on Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> and close March 6<sup>th</sup> with oral testimony at the Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> council meeting
- If no action is taken, and historically none occurs, the official adoption date is April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020
- The codes will take effect July 1, 2020

## **ICC Codes**

Group B Codes:

- Online Governmental Consensus Vote has been completed and preliminary results are available
- Final action results will be posted following certification by the Validation Committee

The 2021 I-Codes will be available soon.

With completion of one code cycle the next is ready to begin.

## ***Washington State Codes***

*Group 1 Codes* (IBC, IEBC, IFC, WUI & WSEC)

- Once the I-Codes are available the code cycle officially begins – date to be determined
  - The TAG's start to meet in order to review the new code for significant changes and the applicability of current WAC
- 60 days after the cycle starts the Council will review and approve the TAG's report
  - The Council will set the end date for proposal submittals
- The proposal submittal process will be open for at least 60days

The Group 2 Code process will not commence until the Group 1 Code process is complete.

2020 Council meeting schedule:

- January 10 - SBCC
- February 7 - SBCC
- Pending

MVE = Mechanical; Ventilation & Energy Code

BFP = Building; Fire & Plumbing

SBCC = State Building Code Council

## **ICC Codes**

The 2024 I-Code cycle will be starting soon. A list of current Fire Code Action Committee (FCAC) topics is available through the following link: <https://cdn-web.iccsafe.org/wp-content/uploads/fcac/December-9-Topic-List-Updated.pdf>

Interested parties are encouraged to sign up and get involved.

To keep up to date on both the State & National codes be sure to check out their respective websites:

- <https://apps.des.wa.gov/sbcc/default.aspx>
- <https://www.iccsafe.org>

## Upcoming Trainings:

### 2018 IFC Code Update Classes

**EVENT FEE\*: Members \$125 / Non Members \$175\* (includes lunch)**

*\*includes Membership*

#### DETAILS:

Stay up to date with the latest changes to the Fire Code! Attend WSAFM's Fire Code Update class! As most of you are aware, the 2018 International Fire Code goes into effect July 1st, 2020 in the State of Washington. This one-day course will cover code changes from the 2015 to the 2018 edition of the International Fire Code. In addition, a review of the latest Washington State amendments to the Fire Code will be covered.

This course is being offered in multiple locations throughout the State starting in April and running until June (or earlier). 0.65 ICC Preferred Provider CEU's will be awarded to those attending! Lunch and some snacks will be provided. The classes will normally run from 9am thru 4pm.

Tony Doan, Washington Code Academy, will be the primary instructor. For select locations the instructors will be one or more of the Board of Directors. As we get more information, we will be passing it on, including the registration site when it is in operation. Here are the planned locations for the classes (some dates and class locations are being developed):

Bremerton – April 9, 2020	Olympia – April 14, 2020
Tri-Cities – Date To Be Determined	Spokane – April 15, 2020
Marysville – May 13, 2020	Vancouver / Clark County –May 20, 2020
Renton – May 27, 2020	

## 2019 Fire Prevention Institute Wrap-Up

The 2019 Fire Prevention Institute held at Campbells Resort in Chelan; Washington set a new standard for this annual week of training. It started with a presentation by Tripp Gibson, a Major League Baseball umpire. His wit and candor about dealing with difficult situations set the tone for the remainder of the week. Attendance was up again from last year, with a vendor show even bigger that caused it to expand out to the entry way. Yes, there was syrup.

The annual banquet was held at the Tsillian Winery, that has a great location (but poor acoustics) as the Association recognized three recipients for awards. The WSAFM Member of the Year was presented to Traci Harvey of the Spokane Valley Fire Department for her continued efforts for State codes (representing the Fire Service on the State Building Code Council) and her efforts at the National codes level. The Fire Marshal of the Year was awarded to Ken Carlson of the Bellevue Fire Department. A past Board member, Ken has been a strong supporter of prevention and has been a solid mentor to his staff and others in the State. For the Life Member Award, Wayne Senter (Executive Director for the Washington State Chiefs) was recognized for his efforts in support of fire prevention from being a Fire Marshal thru to the position he holds now.

We look forward to the 2020 Fire Prevention Institute, which will be held October 19-23, at the Campbells Resort in Chelan. Look for more information about the offerings and registration in future newsletters and emails from the Association. Be sure to book early!

## Resources

There are many resources available at little to no cost to AHJs as well as to the public. ICC has the current (and some historical) codes available online. There are limitations to what you can do with the codes, but they serve as a suitable location for reference. These are located at:

<https://codes.iccsafe.org/public/collections/I-Codes>

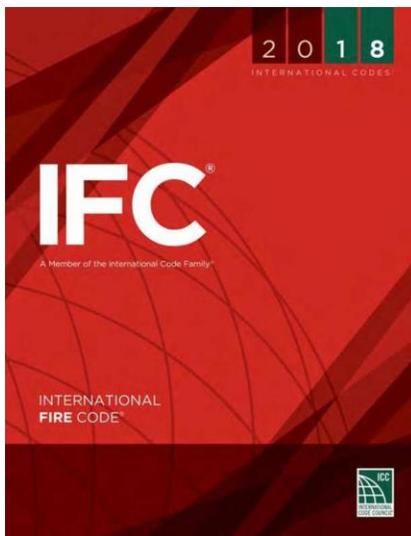
In addition, the State Building Code Council provides printable insert pages for the ICC Codes of the Washington State Amendments. These can be located at:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ga/apps/sbcc/Page.aspx?nid=14>

Do you have a question on the code, or just want to be sure you have a consistent interpretation? We will be providing contacts of several members who participate in the National and State development of the Codes who can provide the information you need to make an informed code decision.

## Member Opportunities

WSAFM is always looking for volunteers to assist in the operations of the Association. When we have openings on Committees, Board Positions, or other opportunities, we will include that information in the newsletter.



***Be sure to download and print the ICC published errata on a regular basis***