

# Colorado Chapter, Inc. of the International Code Council

*Post Office Box 961, Arvada Colorado 80001*

## President's Message Barbara Kuettel

**February 2006  
Newsletter**

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First and foremost, I would like to extend a heart-felt thank you to the membership for your confidence to elect me as President for 2006. It is a privilege and an incredible honor to preside over our extraordinary organization and I will work diligently at the responsibilities that you have bestowed upon me.

I always look forward to the Annual Banquet at the exquisite Broadmoor Hotel Resort in Colorado Springs with all its lavish amenities, talented young musicians, delicious food and Steve's famous slide show. Most important, it is our opportunity to meet and spend time with the spouses and significant others who make it possible for our membership to thrive and be successful. I would like to extend my gratitude and appreciation to all of you and I am delighted that you were able to share the wonderful evening with us. Congratulations to Glea Nickle who received the Sis Wallace Award for all her hard work and dedication on the Colorado Chapter's Education Committee, as well as to Steve Byer, the recipient of the President's Award for his exemplary and meritorious achievement in supporting the mission and principals of the Colorado Chapter. I cannot think of two more deserving individuals to receive these prestigious awards. Thank you for your admirable contributions to the Colorado Chapter. Every year our Chapter reaches out to new towns, cities and counties across the State of Colorado and our membership continues to grow. In my opinion, it is crucial for our building officials and their staff to participate on the Chapter committees and attend our meetings and educational programs whenever possible. This year the Chapter's meetings will be held in Denver, Aspen, Parker, Montrose, Lakewood and Colorado Springs. The 21<sup>st</sup> annual 2006 Educational Institute is March 6<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>. Our two Chapter give-a-days are on June 10<sup>th</sup> (Girl Scouts) and July 22 (Wilderness on Wheels) and the Chapter Golf Tournament is on July 31<sup>st</sup>. For specific meeting dates & agendas, building code links, building guides, job listings and other information please visit our webpage at [www.coloradochaptericc.org](http://www.coloradochaptericc.org).

I recently received a letter from Wally Bailey, Vice-President of ICC regarding the formation of a Governance Review Ad Hoc Committee. The board-based committee will review the governance of ICC and make recommendations to either amend or retain the current governance structure. The Colorado Chapter of ICC has received a request to identify an ICC member from our chapter to serve on the committee. The modifications to the Governance structure might lead to quotas by region. This could potentially penalize organizations like the CCICC that have worked very hard to mentor strong leaders. The ICC should be led by the best in the nation, not by quotas from each

**Colorado Chapter of  
ICC, Inc Officers:**

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Dave Vaughn  
Pueblo Regional Building Dept

Will Birchfield  
Town of Estes Park

Tim Pate  
City and County of Broomfield

Past President, JD Potter  
Pueblo Regional Building Dept

region. The potential ramifications of the governance issues will be discussed at the February business meeting.

In closing, I would like to thank Lance Smith, C.B.O. for the City of Englewood for providing countless opportunities for me to participate on several Chapter committees and the Chapter Board under his leadership. In addition, I would also like extend a special thank you to Steve Thomas for his encouragement and continued support to allow me to serve as the CCICC President for 2006. Unfortunately, there is not enough space to thank all the exceptional individuals in our organization who have been extremely supportive and instrumental in my success on the Board over the years. I am enormously appreciative with all of you and I am looking forward to another productive, challenging and invigorating year for the Colorado Chapter of ICC!

Respectfully,  
Barbara Kuettel  
President



## **COLORADO CHAPTER OF ICC WEBSITE**



If you have not visited the chapter website lately you are missing out on a very valuable resource! The website has been updated and is being maintained with the help of Mike Colucci of Pueblo. Take a look at the things you can now find at your fingertips:

- Meeting announcements, agendas and minutes.
- Training and Educational information, including the Colorado Chapter Education Institute coming in March.
- Building Guides based on both the 2000 and 2003 IRC; also 2003 available in Spanish.
- Calendar of events and meetings.
- Various news items.
- Job listings.
- Membership information.
- Links to other websites like ICC, CAPT and energycodes.gov where you can download the ResCheck and ComCheck software for free.
- Discussion Board: a place where you can ask a question and get answers from other chapter members or just start a discussion about a topic to see how others might handle the same thing.
- Coming soon: Standardization Resource Guide.

[www.coloradochaptericc.org](http://www.coloradochaptericc.org)

# Wind Study by Patrick Buckley

## **Colorado Chapter announces completion of the Front-range Wind Speed Study**

The Colorado Chapter is pleased to announce the recent completion and release of the Front Range Wind Speed Study. The study, which was kicked off in late summer 2004, was officially released at the Chapter's Annual Business Meeting in Colorado Springs on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The resulting work product including a project report and wind contour map is intended to supplement the gust wind map contained in A.S.C.E. 7-98 which became the wind load design standard in the IBC and IRC.

The eighteen month effort led by Dr. Jon Peterka, PhD, P.E. and member of the A.S.C.E. Wind Speed Committee culminated in a joint presentation to the Chapter membership with the help of the Structural Engineer's Association of Colorado (S.E.A.C.) and included distribution of a study narrative and wind contour maps to the thirty three jurisdictions that helped finance the project. The study area encompassed a significant portion of Colorado's front-range currently defined in the IRC and IBC as a special wind region and included areas extending roughly from the Wyoming border south to the Palmer divide (located between Denver and Colorado Springs) and approached the continental divide to the west and is loosely bordered by Interstate 25 to the east. The study area is centered in an area experiencing significant, sustained growth in new residential and commercial construction; including several metropolitan cities and a population of nearly one million people spread across eight counties.

The wind study was made possible through the cooperative efforts of S.E.A.C. and practicing Colorado structural engineers with financial support organized by the Chapter with voluntary contributions in varying amounts collected from front-range jurisdictions situated in the special wind region. The project was a first time collaborative effort between the design professional community and front-range jurisdictions seeking a comprehensive understanding of Colorado's front-range designation as a special wind region.

The study was originally proposed to the Chapter by Dr. Jon Peterka, PhD, P.E. with Cermac, Peterka, Peterson, Inc. a consulting engineering firm located in Fort Collins, Colorado. As a member of the A.S.C.E. Wind Load Subcommittee, Dr. Peterka brought over thirty years of experience in wind engineering applications and research to this endeavor. During the eighteen month project wind data was gathered from a number of sources and with help from the Colorado State University College of Atmospheric Sciences the data was converted to a wind contour map based upon the three second gust methodology as defined in the IBC and IRC.

Design professionals and jurisdictions interested in obtaining copies of the study report and contour maps may obtain them through the Structural Engineers Association of Colorado, or from Dr. Peterka. Jurisdictions that may be considering formal adoption of the contour map as part of current or future code adoptions or those interested in technical applications and use of the contour map are encouraged to contact S.E.A.C. for local assistance. For more information, please contact Patrick Buckley, building official with the Town of Berthoud at 970.532.2643 or via email at [pbuckley@ci.berthoud.co.us](mailto:pbuckley@ci.berthoud.co.us)



# CODE TALK

## CHANGES IN THE UPCOMING IRC AND IBC (2006) by Tim Pate

1. Major change to Table 302.3.2 in the 2003 IBC. This table has been reformatted and now will have major changes to the hourly ratings for separations between various occupancies when designing as separated use building. It basically will become much less restrictive in a lot of cases. This table has also been moved into Chapter 5.
2. The incidental use table from Chapter 3 of the IBC has been moved to Chapter 5 and there will now be a definition for "incidental use."
3. The IFC will now require fire sprinklers when you have an A-2 occupancy (Nightclubs, bars, restaurants, etc.) and when the fire area has an occupant load of 100 or more – the 2003 had occupant load of 300 or more. IBC/IFC Sections 903.2.1.2.
4. The rough framed window sill for IRC and IBC houses will need to be a minimum 24" high off floor when the window is 6' or more above grade and if the window is operable. You could install an approved guard in front if you choose. IRC section 613.2 and IBC Section 1405.12.2.
5. Wood engineered roof truss designs for IRC buildings will now need to have bottom chord designed at 20 psf if the openings between chords meet certain minimum dimensions. IRC Table R301.5.
6. Moisture resistant drywall will not be allowed to be used behind tile on walls in bathtubs with showers and shower walls. IRC Section R702.4.2.
7. Approved weather barrier will be required behind all exterior wall finishes on IRC houses. IRC Table R703.4
8. Asphalt shingle packages will now need to be labeled with wind rating if wind design is adopted 110 mph or greater (package will need to say shingles are in compliance with ASTM D3161, Class F. IBC Section 1507.2.7 and IRC Section R905.2.6.
9. The IBC will require approved guards when there is roof hatch closer than 10' to roof edge. IBC Section 1009.12.2.
10. The IBC will now allow the stair between an attached garage and an R-2 unit to meet the dwelling unit requirements for rise and run. IBC Section 1009.3 exception #4. (You still need handrails when 2 or more risers).
11. The IBC will now have same allowances for openings at guards at open stairs in R-2 units as IRC – 4 3/8" sphere cannot fit through. IBC Section 1012.3 exception #5.
12. The IBC will now require at least 60% of public entrances into commercial buildings/tenant spaces to be accessible – the Code now requires 50% maximum. IBC Section 1105.1.
13. The minimum fire separation distance for an IRC house will now be 5' instead of 3'. This change will also allow a maximum 12" overhang encroaching into that 5' as long as underside has fire protection. This would mean no soffit vents. The requirement for no openings is still at 3'. If the exterior wall of house is less than 5' to property line it would need to be one hour fire rated but then would reduce the allowed overhang. IRC Section R302.1.
14. There is new section and table in IBC – section 1504.8 – that limits use of gravel or stone used on roofs in higher wind speed areas – especially when building is in exposure C.

**CODE CHANGES FOR THE FIRST CYCLE FOR UPCOMING 2009 I-CODES ARE DUE MARCH 24, 2006. IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS PLEASE CONTACT TIM PATE OR TOM MEYERS AND THE CHAPTER CODE CHANGE COMMITTEE WILL BE ABLE TO HELP YOU OUT WITH YOUR IDEAS AND PROPOSALS.**



## SHOP TALK

Each newsletter will take a code section and show the different versions of that particular section through the code cycles, beginning with the 2000 International codes and finishing with the proposed 2006. This edition focuses on the IRC and the changes that have taken place in the requirements for landings.

### 2000 IRC

*Originally, landings had their own little place in the 2000 IRC, Section 312.*

**R312.1.1 Landings for stairways.** There shall be a floor or landing at the top and bottom of each stairway.

**Exception:** At the top of an interior flight of stairs, provided a door does not swing over the stairs.

**R312.1.2 Landings at doors.** There shall be a floor or landing on each side of each exterior door.

**Exception:** At the exterior side of sliding doors.

The floor or landing at a door shall not be more than 1.5 inches (38mm) lower than the top of the threshold.

**Exception:** The landing at an exterior doorway shall not be more than 8 inches (197 mm) below the top of the threshold, provided that the door, other than an exterior storm or screen door, does not swing over the landing.

**R312.2 Size.** The width of each landing shall not be less than the stairway or door served. Every landing shall have a minimum dimension of 36 inches (914mm) measured in the direction of travel.

*In the 2003 IRC there is no longer a separate section just for landings. You will find the requirements in Section R311, Means of Egress, under the individual sections dealing with either doors or stairways.*

**R311.4.3 Landings at doors.** There shall be a floor or landing on each side of each exterior door.

**Exception:** Where a stairway of two or fewer risers is located on the exterior side of a door, other than the required exit door, a landing is not required for the exterior side of the door.

The floor or landing at the exit door required by section R311.4.1 shall not be more than 1.5 inches (38mm) lower than the top of the threshold. The floor or landing at exterior doors other than the exit door required by Section R311.4.1 shall not be required to comply with this requirement but shall have a rise no greater than that permitted in Section R311.5.3

**Exception:** The landing at an exterior doorway shall not be more than 7 3/4 inches (196mm) below the top of the threshold, provided the door, other than an exterior storm or screen door does not swing over the landing.

The width of each landing shall not be less than the door served. Every landing shall have a minimum dimension of 36 inches (914mm) measured in the direction of travel.

**R311.5.4 Landings at stairways.** There shall be a floor or landing at the top and bottom of each stairway.

**Exception:** A floor or landing is not required at the top of an interior flight of stairs, provided a door does not swing over the stairs.

A flight of stairs shall not have a vertical rise greater than 12 feet (3658 mm) between floor levels or landings. (Continued next page)

The width of each landing shall not be less than the stairways served. Every landing shall have a minimum dimension of 36 inches (914mm) measured in the direction of travel.

The proposed [2006 IRC](#) should read as follows:

**R311.4.3 Landings at doors.** There shall be a floor or landing on each side of each exterior door. The floor or landing at the exterior door shall not be more than 1.5 inches (38mm) lower than the top of the threshold. The landing shall be permitted to have a slope not to exceed 0.25 unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (2-percent)

**Exceptions:**

1. Where a stairway of two or few risers is located on the exterior side of a door, other than the required exit door, a landing is not required for the exterior side of the door provide the door, other than an exterior storm or screen door does not swing over the stairway.
2. The exterior landing at an exterior doorway shall not be more than 7 ¾ inches (196mm) below the top of the threshold, provided the door, other than an exterior storm or screen door does not swing over the landing.
3. The height of floors at exterior doors other than the exit door required by Section R411.4.1 shall not be more than 7 ¾ inches lower than the top of the threshold.

The width of each landing shall not be less than the door served. Every landing shall have a minimum dimension of 36 inches (914mm) measured in the direction of travel.

**R311.5.4 Landings at stairways.** Should read the same as 2003.

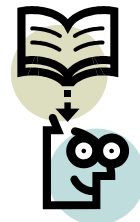


First observed in 1980, Building Safety Week is an annual event to help recognize the importance of making homes and buildings safe places to live, work and play. This year it will be held May 7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>.

For resources like printable handouts, proclamations, and Various other information regarding Building Safety Week, go to ICC’s website at [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org), click on “Public Safety” and first scroll to the bottom of the page where you will find information on ICC’s coverage of events such as the visit to Capital Hill. There you will also find an interesting news release entitled, “Building Safety Week Survey Identifies Likely Code Violations”.

At the top of the Public Safety Page there is an Icon just for Building Safety Week. Here is where you will find downloadable resources that may help your jurisdiction in their participation of the events.

The Colorado Chapter of ICC would like to extend their heartfelt condolences to Brice Miller and his family in the loss of their son Joshua Miller.



**21<sup>st</sup> Annual**  
**CCICC Education Institute**  
**March 6-10, 2006**

Several new classes have been added! **Registration Deadline is February 13<sup>th</sup>!** For more information go to: [www.coloradochaptericc.org](http://www.coloradochaptericc.org)



### 2005 Colorado Chapter Annual Business Meeting, Colorado Springs

**Top Row:** 2005 Chapter President, JD Potter presents Steve Byer with the President's award; 2005 Education Chairman, Dan Nickle, thanks ICC's Laura Scott for teaching "Communication for Code Administration" for the Chapter's education portion of the ABM; ICC's COO, Rick Weiland gives an ICC update on changes affecting Region 11; Gerry George gives the ICC Liaison report for the business meeting.

**Row 2:** 2005 ICC President, Frank Hodge, and Jeffco's Becky Baker watch as the 2006 CCICC officers are sworn into office; ICC Chapter Liaison, Jason VonWeller sits in on a Board Meeting; Steve Thomas and his trusty camera in the middle of the action; Tom Thompson and Buster all dressed up for the night out.

**Row 3:** CAPT board members attend the ABM; Barbara Kuettel steps gracefully into her new office as 2006 Colorado Chapter President; The new 2006 Board of Directors for CCICC.

**Row 4:** Mike Stensland, Becky Baker and Greg Wheeler pose for the camera; Tom Thompson presents Glea Nickle with the Sis Wallace Award; ICC President, Frank Hodge presents the Past President Pin to JD Potter and President's pin to Barbara Kuettel.

## AND, THERE WILL BE DANCING!



- 1) Laura Scott and chapter members doing the "Electric Slide" line dance.
- 2) Dave and Dawn Horras enjoying the evening's entertainment
- 3) Wally and Lona Prebis show us all how it's done.
- 4) Tim Pate "busts a move"

## Historical Files/Storage Room

The Storage/Historical Committee will be cleaning out the Chapter storage room and organizing our archives and memorabilia early this year.

We have determined that there is some surplus equipment (2-25" color televisions, some overhead projectors, a few slide projectors, and some other miscellaneous a/v equipment). In order to determine salvage value and the best method to discard the surplus, we would appreciate hearing from Chapter members who may have an interest in same. Depending upon the response, we will come up with an equitable method to recover some of the original cost to the Chapter.

As part of our effort, we will also be organizing our archives. If you have any old Chapter records, magazines, newsletters, or similar material that you would like for us to include in our project, please let us know. We will make arrangements for you to deliver or to have the material picked up.

Please contact [Tom Thompson \(303-422-7808, t54thompson@comcast.net\)](mailto:t54thompson@comcast.net) or [Gerry George \(720-564-2610, ggeorge@co.boulder.co.us\)](mailto:ggeorge@co.boulder.co.us) to make arrangements regarding either subject. Your response by **March 1<sup>st</sup>** would be appreciated.

### Colorado Chapter of the International Code Council

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**Special thanks to:**  
**Patrick Buckley, JD Potter,**  
**Barb Kuettel, Tom Meyers!**

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



This Member Spotlight shines on Colorado Chapter of ICC's Immediate Past President, J.D. Potter. JD comes to us from Pueblo, Colorado where he works for Pueblo Regional Building Department as the Chief Building Inspector. He and Stacey, his wife of 18 years, have 4 children; 1 boy 8 years of age and 3 girls ages 12, 13 and 23.

JD still lives in the house that he was raised in and is the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation to live there. His favorite pastimes are hunting and fishing.

He began working on a neighbor's farm at age 14 and at age 18 began working at the local steel mill. During slow times at the mill he would take up side jobs as a building contractor and when the steel mill went belly-up JD began contracting full time.

Fortunately for Pueblo Regional, JD began working for them about 19 years ago and attended his first Educational Institute then. Eventually he began attending chapter meetings and has become more involved with the chapter in the past 10 years. JD served on the Board of Directors for the Colorado Chapter and worked his way up to President in 2005.

When asked what he would do with his spare time now that the gavel has been passed on, JD says that he will devote more time to the Chapter's web page and to being more involved in various chapter committees.