

# New York State Building Officials Conference Central Chapter

Jan./Feb. 2010 Newsletter

## 2010 Officers:

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## Presidents Column

As recent events in Haiti attest, how a building is constructed does matter especially when it experiences a seismic event such as a large earthquake.

Haiti's unfortunate experience illustrates design/build problems found in many parts of what is commonly known as the "Third World". Multiple story un-reinforced concrete structures such as those that collapsed in the capital city of Port- au- Prince do not handle significant seismic disturbances well. Sadly, buildings of this type are found around the world. Lacking construction standards or the will to enforce them or both is a recipe for disaster in earthquake prone regions.

The United States is not immune to earthquakes but has attempted to over the years to implement construction standards to resist their effects. Led by California whose experience with quakes has been significant for decades, building codes have been adopted that identify earthquake prone regions. Though California's codes predate the incorporation of the International Code Council (ICC), the ICC through its highly regarded Building Code has provided comprehensive seismic standards for every state in the union.

Although New York's experience with earthquakes is minimal, the code divides the state into seismic regions and imposes construction standards accordingly. Design professionals, builders and code officials generally appreciate the importance of these standards. By working together, these groups assure that new buildings meet or exceed minimum seismic standards.

One can only hope that the ICC provides outreach and support services to Haiti during their reconstruction phase. This is a perfect opportunity for the organization to truly prove its commitment to being an "International" organization while providing much needed humanitarian need to a country hard hit by a major disaster.

Respectfully submitted by,  
*Neal J. Smith* -President

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Mark your calendar for our 2010 Meetings- 2/18,4/20-23,6/17,8/19,10/21, and 12/16.

**Our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Conference will be held on April 20-23.** Visit our website [www.nysboc.com](http://www.nysboc.com) for complete details along with easy on line registration! For registration

inquiries contact Bill Reagan at [codes@marcellusny.com](mailto:codes@marcellusny.com) or 315-673-3269 ext. 4.

**We our please to announce that we now offer TWO**

**NYSBOC Central Chapter Scholarships**

**Daniel Keeler Scholarship**

**Jerry St.Hilaire Scholarship**

Information for these two scholarships are available on our website at [www.nysboc.com](http://www.nysboc.com) or contact Jim Conlon, [jconlon@townofdewitt.com](mailto:jconlon@townofdewitt.com).

Also available - NYSBOC State Chapter Scholarship- [www.nysboc.org](http://www.nysboc.org)

If anyone has a change in address, email or any questions regarding membership please contact the Central Chapter Secretary, Cindy Beckhusen [cheid@townofclay.org](mailto:cheid@townofclay.org) 315-720-8102.

*Reminder to send in your 2010 membership dues*

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*NYSBOC Central Chapter Meeting*

*February 18,2010*

*Topic-Green Building Construction*

*2 hours-In-Service credit*

*Speaker-Kevin Stack*

*Location-Barbagallo's-Diamond Room*

*6344 East Molloy Road East Syracuse,N.Y.*

*Time-12:00-3:00*

Registration 12:00 Lunch at 12:30

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Daytime phone number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Training #NY** \_\_\_\_\_ **Agency Code-** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**2010 Central Chapter Member -Cost \$20.00** \_\_\_\_\_ **Non-Member Cost \$65.00** \_\_\_\_\_

**Send registration and payment to NYSBOC Central Chapter Inc.**

**P.O. Box 5065 Syracuse, New York 13220**

Or fax to Larry Kinne @315-633-8274 [ljkinne@twcny.rr.com](mailto:ljkinne@twcny.rr.com)