

New York State Building Officials Conference Central Chapter

2011 March Newsletter

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2011 NYSBOC Central Chapter
6th Annual Educational Conference
Holiday Inn, Liverpool, New York
Tuesday - Friday, April 5-8, 2011
Holiday Inn, Liverpool, New York
24 hours of In-Service Training
provided(with attendance of
3-1/2 days)
Cost \$350.00 or
individual days: Tue, Wed, Thu,
\$150 each; Fri \$100
Covering all aspect of codes:
View the Conference details
and register online here:

<http://www.nysboc.com>

Call Bill Reagan at 315-727-1646
with any questions or for
more information.

President's Column-March 2011

Controversy over the role, scope and efficiency of government in general is nothing new. Recently, however, with many states in fiscal crisis, debate has intensified with the public wondering if they are “getting what they pay for”.

New York certainly has been among the most controversial with its “home rule” structure that consists of hundreds of towns and villages, each of which has a so-called “local” government. Detractors insist that many government agencies in this system are redundant and overlap with neighboring municipalities. Moreover, they say, home rule further exacerbates the inherent inefficiencies that are common to the public sector by decentralizing government control thereby driving up expenses.

Occasionally I receive calls from people asking for assistance who do not live in my jurisdiction. Not only do they not live in my jurisdiction, many times they have a question that has nothing to do whatever with code enforcement or if they do live in my jurisdiction, they have a question that nothing to do with code enforcement.

It would be simple to dismiss these calls as “wrong numbers” or by thinking “it’s not my job”. Considering that a key component of effective municipal government is responsiveness to citizen complaints and concerns, “passing the buck” should be avoided whenever possible, especially in light of the questions being asked regarding the cost of government.

Each of us has a responsibility to serve our communities to the best of our abilities, which may mean thinking outside of our “bureaucratic box”. Helping citizens, even those with questions or problems over which we have no authority, is a good policy, even by simply directing them to another department or co-worker or even to a code official in another jurisdiction.

Chances are they will be happy with your response and will remember the professional and courteous treatment they received when their elected officials begin discussing consolidation with neighboring municipalities. In fact, cultivating good will whenever possible in your communities should be an integral part of your daily activities. It’s just the right thing to do.

Respectfully submitted,

Neal J. Smith, President

2011 Membership Dues NOW due –

Please send in yours as soon as possible.

For information on our TWO Scholarships, go to

www.nysboc.com

For the State Chapter Scholarship, go to

www.nysboc.net

2011 Bi-Monthly Meeting Schedule

Microsoft Office Outlook 2003.lnk

April 5th – 8th, 6th Annual Educational Conference –
24 hours

June 16th – Commercial Energy Code – 2 hours

August 18th – Annual Picnic –
Training – TBD

October 20th – Training – TBD

December 15th – Annual Holiday Business Meeting

New York State Building Officials Conference Inc.

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