

Building Safety News

Expecting the Best While Preparing for the Worst

By C. Kelly Pearce, *Administrator*



Recently, I had lunch with a building contractor in a local restaurant. I began our conversation by asking how things were going at his business. Expecting the usual response I get from most contractors today, I was surprised at his reply. "Great!" I asked what

had happened. He responded, "You probably didn't see it; there was a sign in the front window of the restaurant that said 'Help Wanted.' Now I know there's a place for me to go!"

I am sure this thought has crossed the mind of many of you in the various trades: "Will there ever be a return to prosperity in our industry?"

I appreciate the optimistic business attitude of Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter. On several occasions when I've expressed concern for the construction industry, he has reminded me that the economy goes both up *and* down. And, when it's down it has historically been but a relatively short time until recovery begins. With luck, the dramatic downturn we are experiencing nationally will turn in a positive direction in a matter of months rather than years.

This Division has experienced a dramatic revenue downturn. We had anticipated revenues in the range of our 2004 income – however, it is more closely aligned with the year 2000. Dr. Kelly K. Matthews, economist for Wells Fargo Bank, reports in his *Idaho Construction Report* of July 2008, that there has been "an overall drop of nearly 61 percent over the past two years" in new dwelling units.

Paper Newsletter to Continue, By Bill Hatch, *Editor*

In our May, 2008 edition of Building Safety News, it was announced that the DBS newsletter would be moving to an exclusively electronic format beginning in November. That decision has since been rescinded and "hard" copies of the newsletter will continue to be sent to agency licensees and stakeholders.

It has also been decided that in accordance with the original plan for the newsletter, Building Safety News will begin publishing on a quarterly basis in 2009. As in the past, an electronic version will also be posted on our web site at dbs.idaho.gov.

We continue to maintain an e-mail distribution list for those who prefer to receive the newsletter electronically. To have your name added to this list, simply send your request to bhatch@dbs.idaho.gov or call me at 208 332-7121.

As many of you know, over time the Division has squirreled away a "rainy day" fund in anticipation of times such as we are now experiencing. This "rainy day" fund will help us weather the current economic downturn. At the same time, we feel an obligation to each of you to manage the Division's revenue within the realities of our actual revenue picture.

Thus, we are implementing a number of cost reduction measures. This is in line with Governor Otter's recent order of a 1 percent spending holdback and his instructions to prepare for further reductions, if needed.

With judicious management, we anticipate our spending reduction in the current budget year will be 10 percent; this in a budget that was already reduced by 3.6 percent from the previous year.

Our efforts to pare back spending, along with the ability to draw from the "rainy day" fund, should give us the tools necessary to weather a mild recession for a couple of years. Only in the face of extremely dire economic circumstances would we need to implement more drastic measures. We view this as an opportunity to bring about a leaner and more efficient Division of Building Safety while still preserving essential services.

In the meantime, we can all look forward to the time when "It's morning again in America!"

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Challenging Economic Climate Leads to Increased DBS Efficiency

By Steve Keys, *Deputy Administrator*

As you ponder how you and your company are going to weather the significant downturn in construction, your mind drifts and you think wistfully, "If only I were a government employee! I wouldn't have to worry about anything."

Prior to going to work for the State of Idaho, I may have joined you in those thoughts; however, I'm here to tell you that DBS employees are affected by the slowdown. Fortunately, they have embraced the need to improve operations and have been constantly engaged in identifying and implementing more efficient processes and methodologies. With the rollout of the new CAS system, scheduled for this winter, the changes continue. We encourage you to participate in the rollout and associated user training that will be offered. Watch your mailbox and the DBS web site for further information in the next couple of months!

On balance the changes have been effective in allowing us to deliver quality service to our customers while reducing operational costs. That being said, no one foresaw the depth of the drop in construction activity that Idaho and the nation as a whole are currently experiencing. To this point, applications for permit and trade licenses have declined anywhere from 25 to 40 percent from 2006 – 2007, producing significant revenue decreases in the programs. Fortunately, the funds that support these operations were built up during the boom days, and we are able to weather short-term downturns without enacting drastic measures. Actions taken recently in an effort to cut expenses include deferring replacing employees who leave employment at DBS, minimizing travel expense, cutting communications costs, adopting a four-day work week for many inspectors, and expanding cross-training of our inspectors.

The Division of Building Safety is funded by users in the form of permit and license fees, and while we do go through the same budget formulation and approval process as other state agencies, our spending is governed first and foremost by the revenues we generate. While some of our funds, notably the plumbing board fund, reflect significant fund balances, others do not contain the same balances relative to the operational cost of the activity they support. Should the economic downturn continue, more severe cuts in our operations will likely become unavoidable. You have our pledge that any and all cuts that become necessary will be made with an eye towards minimizing disruptions to customer service in both the short and long terms. On behalf of all DBS employees, thank you for working with us in this stressful time!

Notes from the Bureau Chief

By Carl Lohrengel, *Plumbing/HVAC Bureau Chief*

In recent years, a number of jurisdictions have taken upon themselves the responsibility of HVAC inspections. This trend has resulted in a number of interpretations regarding what the code says. One of biggest discrepancies is with the fuel gas pipe pressure test.

In 2005 the HVAC Board set forth the following guidelines for the duration and required pressure for adequate testing: "Test Pressure. Not less than twenty (20) psig (140kPa gauge) test pres-

sure shall be required for systems with a maximum working pressure up to ten (10) inches water column. For systems with a maximum working pressure between ten (10) inches water column and ten (10) psig (70kPa gauge); not less than sixty (60) psig (420kPa gauge) test pressure shall be required. For systems over ten (10) psig (70kPa gauge) working pressure, minimum test pressure shall be no less than six (6) times working pressure. Tests shall not be less than 20 min in duration." Please follow these guidelines in your future fuel gas pipe system testing.

The HVAC Bureau would like to thank all of you for your help in making the transition to our new fee schedule a smooth one. We understand there were many questions and we have tried to address them as they come to our attention. Our goal is to deliver top-notch, consistent service with the new permitting requirements. This is the first in a series of transitional steps for DBS as we all work to become more efficient and effective. Your comments are always welcome.

Green seems to be the key word these days in conversations about everything from construction to lifestyles. How can we decrease our carbon footprint on the world? We are seeing everything from solar energy to the re-use of building materials in efforts to lessen our impact on the environment. Here at DBS we are also committed to the Green way of doing things. We are embracing the challenges of these new energy solutions and constantly seeking ways to ensure the safety of the public through proper installation. We understand things are constantly changing and ask for your patience as together we learn about and come to understand these new technologies.

Stars and Stripes for DBS



DBS Administrator Kelly Pearce proudly accepts an American flag from Tracy Seganos. Tracy is part of DBS's Public Works Contractor Licensing team and a member of the Idaho Air National Guard's 124th Maintenance Group based at Gowen Field. She recently completed an 8-week deployment to Afghanistan.

The pictured flag was flown aboard an A-10 Warthog piloted by Capt. Kelley "Champ" Clark over the skies of Afghanistan. The flag was flown on behalf of the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing, U.S. Air Force, and the United States of America by the 190th Air Expeditionary Fighter Squadron on 6 July 2008.

It Was a Long Wait, But it Will Be Worth It

By Tina Smith, *Management Analyst, Sr. – CAS Project Manager*

The Division of Building Safety's Customer Access System (CAS) currently being programmed and tested will impact not only our employees, but citizens across the great State of Idaho. The new software system will allow contractors and customers who do business with DBS greater online accessibility to many of the services now available only by visiting our offices or through the mail.

As a homeowner you will be able to apply for a permit, calculate fees, make payments in a secure online environment, request inspections, and see inspection results for your home project. You will also be able to check general license information when employing a contractor to complete work on your home.

As a licensed Idaho contractor you will enjoy the same web-based permit application, fee calculation, secure payment and inspection request/results features available to homeowners. Additionally, you will have the online ability to securely perform functions on your individual or business license account; things like paying fees, updating your contact information, and renewing your license.

With CAS, project plans will also be accepted in an electronic format to smooth the review process and eliminate the cost of submitting multiple hard copies. The system will allow you to

monitor your review feedback and status of your plans. During 2009 the Division will implement an enhanced plan review component within the system offering editing, re-submission and other plan review functions via the web. More details on that exciting piece will follow in future newsletters.

The screenshot displays the eTRAKIT web application interface. At the top, it says "eGovernment Solutions Web & Online Access from CRW Systems, Inc." and "Logged In as: Anonymous". The main section is titled "Contractor Search" and includes a search form with fields for "Search Field and operator" (Company, Begins with) and "Search String" (cert). Below the search form is a table of search results:

Business No	Company	Issued	Exp
599508	CERTIFIED ELECTRIC		06/30
858-452	Certified Plumbing Pros	05/02/2007	05/07

Below the table is a "Details - St. Lic.# 858-452" section with tabs for "AEC Info", "Bus Lic.", "Lic Types", "Trust Accts", "Ins Info", "Contacts", and "Fees \$0.00". The "AEC Info" tab is active, showing:

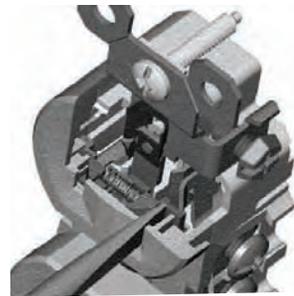
Registration#	858-452
Issue	5/12/2007
Expire	5/2/2007
Type	CONTRACTOR

On the right side of the interface, there is a "Login" button and a list of roles: "Public", "Contractor", and "Inspector". Below that is a "Search" button and a list of menu items: "PERMITS", "PROJECTS", "CONTRACTORS", "PARCEL", "CASE", "LICENSE", and "CRM".

The user-friendly graphic interface of DBS's Customer Access System.

The Why and How of Tamper-Resistant Receptacles

By Jeff Fitzloff, *Electrical Bureau Chief*



The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$700 billion annually. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard or can injure children.

Information gleaned by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission found that each year, approximately 2,400 children suffer severe shock and burns when they stick items into the slots of electrical receptacles. It is estimated that there are 6 to 12 child fatalities a year related to this. The search for a solution to limit these injuries pointed to tamper-resistant receptacles as the option of choice. They have been in use in pediatric wards of hospitals in the United States for many years now.

These receptacles have spring-loaded shutters that close off the contact openings, or slots, of the receptacles. When a plug is inserted, both springs are compressed and the shutters open,

allowing the metal prongs to make contact and create an electrical circuit. Because *both* springs must be compressed *at the same time*, the shutters do not open when a child attempts to insert an object into only one contact opening, and there is no contact with electricity.

Tamper-resistant receptacles are an important and logical next step in making the home a safer place for children. For more information please go to: www.childoutletsafety.org.

DBS's Inauguration Connection

Petty Officer 1st Class Allisandra (Sandi) Denson was recently dispatched to Washington, D.C. to become part of the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee (AFIC), which is preparing to support the 56th Presidential Inauguration on January 20, 2009. Denson is the daughter of DBS IT Systems Technician Jan Maupin and her husband, Jim.



*U.S. Navy Petty Officer
1st Class
Allisandra Denson at the
Navy Memorial in
Washington, D.C.*

Sandi's responsibilities with AFIC involve the management of administrative support, the supervision and welfare of assigned enlisted personnel and the proper dissemination of information. She is a reserve member of the United States Navy and has served for seven years. Her tour of duty in the nation's capital is scheduled to end in March, 2009.

An Update on DBS Personnel

The following individuals have either joined DBS since last April, have been promoted or have experienced a status change from temporary to permanent employee:

- **Bill Schurtz** – Human Resources Supervisor, Administration
- **Ron Crouch** – Program Supervisor, Office Services Group
- **Andrea “Andi” King** – Office Specialist 2, OSG
- **Caria Nakano-Jensen** – Office Specialist 2, OSG
- **Emily Rains** – Office Specialist 2, OSG
- **Joe Hemptmyer** – Customer Service Representative 2, OSG
- **Kyle Andrew** – Inspector/Advisor Region 4, Plumbing Bureau
- **Brandon Hunt** – IT Systems Technician, Administration
- **Jeff Schiuchetti** – Inspector/Advisor Reg. 1, Plumbing Bureau
- **Brad Ziel** – Inspector/Advisor Reg. 1, Industrial Safety

The following individuals have retired from DBS since last April. We thank them for their service.



Ron Gabbert – Inspector/Advisor, Electrical Bureau



Jim Veater – Inspector/Advisor, Plumbing Bureau

In Memoriam

DBS Mourns Loss of Respected Inspector



Paul Martinez
01/07/1945 - 09/08/2008

DBS employees were saddened to hear that Paul L. Martinez, an inspector in the Manufactured Homes Program, lost his three-year battle with cancer on September 8, 2008.

A native of Emmett, Idaho, Paul had worked at DBS for more than 10 years. Prior to joining the agency, he served in a number of management positions at manufactured housing plants in Idaho and Utah.

Paul is survived by Helen, his wife of 47 years; two children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

His warm smile and pleasant demeanor are sorely missed by all who knew him.

DBS Inspections Allow Opening of Stueckle Sky Club at Boise State

By Ted Hogander, *Region II Plumbing/HVAC Inspector*

In August, Boise State University completed construction of the Stueckle Sky Club, just in time for the opening of the 2008 football season. The structure is built behind, and is attached to, the west grandstands of Bronco Stadium and is the most expensive project ever undertaken by Boise State's athletic department.



The Sky Club stands as tall as a 12 story building. From the ground entry level, elevators transport visitors and fans up 72 feet to three additional floors filled with 39 luxury suites, 48 loge boxes and 834 club seats. The additional 1,650 seats increase Bronco Stadium's capacity to near 32,000.

The Idaho Division of Building Safety reviewed and approved plans for the structure's code compliance and performed safety and compliance inspections for the HVAC, electrical and plumbing work as well as the elevators in the Sky Club.

A point of interest is the installation of a number of waterless urinals in the men's rest rooms. The Idaho Plumbing Board approved the water-free fixtures as a demonstration/test project. The installation was performed by DeBest Plumbing of Boise. The waterless fixtures, which have also been installed at a number of other test locations in Idaho, are odor-free when properly maintained and can result in significant water savings.



Modular Buildings – A Bright Spot on Idaho's Challenging Economic Horizon

By Bill Hatch – *Editor*

It's no secret that residential construction has been hard hit by what some have described as a “perfect storm” of less-than-desirable economic conditions. However, in the midst of these daunting circumstances, Idaho's modular building industry has managed to adapt, adjusting their business models in ways that keep product flowing and keep Idahoans employed.



Nashua Homes of Idaho
General Sales Manager
Don Kiehl and DBS
Administrator Kelly Pearce.

In Idaho, eight companies currently serve the modular market. Their products run the gamut from basic offices and classrooms to high-end homes, multi-story commercial buildings, hotel/motel units and other large residential structures. While most of the modular structures produced in Idaho are channeled into the domestic market, a number of

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Gem State manufacturers have discovered new customers just across the border in Canada.

An upsurge in energy development activity in the northern reaches of Canada has created an ongoing need for worker housing. This increased demand has taxed Canada's modular building industry to its limits, forcing energy development companies to look elsewhere in search of quality housing for their workers and their families. The answer was found in Idaho.



Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter (L) and DBS Administrator Kelly Pearce (R) listen as Idaho Modular Advisory Board member Rick Murdock highlights the features of a fully-assembled, Idaho-built modular home.

Rick Murdock, Sales Manager for Guerdon Enterprises of Boise and a member of the Idaho Modular Advisory Board, feels modular construction is the way of the future, internationally and here at home. "Today's modular construction techniques allow us to meet or exceed site-built quality with faster delivery and competitive costs," says Murdock.

Murdock's thoughts are echoed by Dave

Ochoa, President of Sawtooth Custom Homes of Star. His company also sends product north to Canada from its plant in Pocatello. Ochoa says "Favorable exchange rates make it possible for us to be very competitive in terms of labor and production costs."

Both Murdock and Ochoa expect to be serving the international market for at least the next several years. In the meantime, Ochoa says he sees signs the domestic market may be on the rebound as well. He says there is an increased need for quality, affordable housing in the energy development and mineral extraction regions of Wyoming and Nevada.

DBS Goes On The Road

Encouraged by Governor C. L. "Butch" Otter, DBS Administrator Kelly Pearce recently launched a local government outreach initiative with the goal of improving communication and providing targeted assistance for local economic development construction, especially in the more rural areas of Idaho.

The initiative involves face-to-face meetings with county commissioners, city officials and building officials in counties throughout the state. The purpose of these meetings is to gather information from representatives of local governments and to describe to them the range of "fast track" services DBS has to offer whenever economic development opportunities present themselves. Two of the Division's four operational regions have been covered to date, with the remainder to be visited in early 2009.

In July, meetings were held with officials in eight eastern and southeastern Idaho counties and in October visits were made to counties in northern Idaho. The level of development activity in Idaho varies from county to county. In areas where development

has slowed significantly, officials have been assured by DBS management that the agency intends to continue the same high level of inspection and advisory service as has been delivered in the past. In areas where significant economic development activity is either underway or anticipated, officials have been made aware of DBS's "Rapid Response" capabilities and have been told that these services are available to them upon request.



DBS Administrator Kelly Pearce (3rd from R) and Outreach Advisor Chris Jensen (2nd from R) meet with Rexburg Mayor Shawn Larsen, members of the Madison County Board of Commissioners and their building/inspection staff members.

The Division of Building Safety's "Rapid Response" teams came into being as a result of the disastrous fire that nearly destroyed Middleton High School in February of 2007. DBS assembled a team of inspectors and plan review experts who worked closely with

the school district, its architectural firm and other local officials to quickly approve plans for a replacement building, allowing construction to begin much sooner than would otherwise have been possible.

Applied to future economic development construction in Idaho, this "Rapid Response" capability assures that whatever plan review and/or inspection work falls within DBS's purview will be handled in an enhanced, thorough and accelerated manner. The concept has already been employed at a new modular building facility under construction in Bear Lake County and the agency intends to apply the same practices to the Eagle Rock uranium enrichment facility slated for construction in Bonneville County.

DBS Inspectors Assist in Iowa Disaster Recovery

DBS building inspectors Lori Tinsley and Russ Owen spent a week in southern Iowa in early July; helping officials there assess building habitability and identify life safety issues in the wake of devastating floodwaters along the Cedar River.



Building inspectors Lori Tinsley and Russ Owen.

Owen and Tinsley agreed to be dispatched to Iowa under terms of the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), an agreement among all 50 states to provide short-term specialized help when requested to do so.

Russ works as a plans examiner in DBS's Plan Review Unit. Lori is an inspector in the Industrial Safety Program. Both are building inspectors certified by the International Code Council.

In recognition of their efforts, which involved working through the 4th of July holiday, Russ and Lori were honored with the Division of Building Safety's 3rd quarter "Spirit of DBS" award.

Celebrating the Results of Teamwork and



Inter-governmental Cooperation

In August of 2008, DBS Administrator Kelly Pearce (L) joined Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter (R), Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna and other officials as Superintendent Richard Bauscher performed the official ribbon-cutting for Middleton's newly rebuilt Middle/High School. When Middleton High School was nearly destroyed by fire in February of 2007, the Division of Building Safety conducted early on-site assessment work and expedited the plan review process, allowing reconstruction to get underway in record time.

Elevator Safety in Idaho

By Al Caine, *Industrial Safety Program Manager*

Man's use of vertical lifting contraptions dates back to the third century BC and such devices have been in use from that time forward. However, the modern passenger elevator didn't come into being until Elisha Graves Otis invented a spring safety device that prevented the car from falling if the cable or rope failed. In 1853, Otis rode his elevator above the heads of spectators at the Crystal Palace Exposition in New York City and called for the cables to be cut. Everyone expected him to plunge to the ground but the elevator stood fast. He called to the spectators, "All safe, gentlemen."

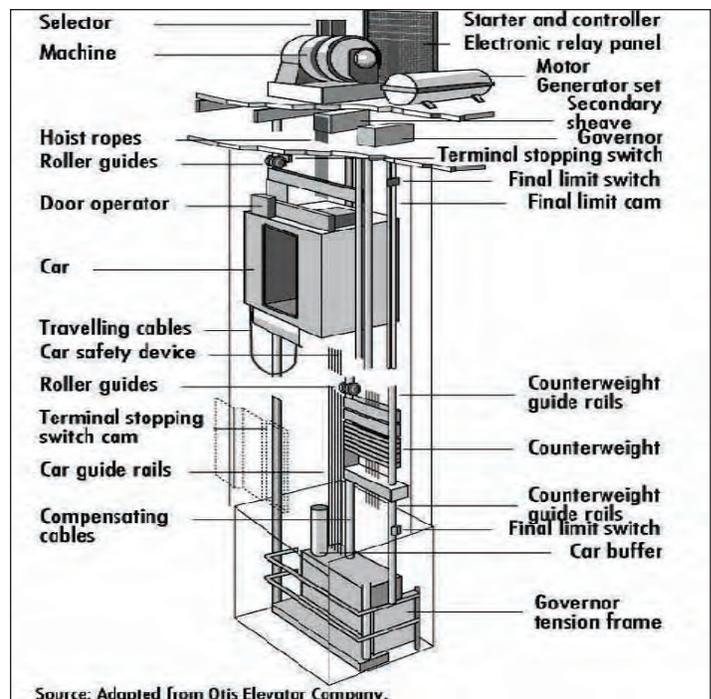
Whether you ride elevators frequently, or just once in a while, you have the right to feel safe when riding in an elevator in Idaho. Our elected officials agree and have established the minimum requirements for the installation and maintenance of elevators in law. The Elevator Safety Act was enacted and became effective July 1, 2004. It covers elevators, escalators, moving walks, platform lifts, material lifts, and dumbwaiters. Prior to the Elevator Safety Act, there were installation requirements in administrative rule, but no effective means of ensuring that those requirements were being followed.

Elevators in Idaho are required to have a current Certificate to Operate. In order to receive and maintain this certificate, plans must be reviewed and approved, the conveyance must pass an initial acceptance inspection, have a "check-up" exam annually and pass an extensive inspection and load test every 5 years.

There are exceptions; elevators in private residences, federally-owned facilities and conveyances erected temporarily for use only during construction are not covered by the Elevator Safety Act.

The A-17 series of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) codes have been adopted as the standards for elevators in Idaho. Any elevator installed and placed in service prior to July 1, 2004, is required to meet the standards for existing elevators found in A 17.3. This standard was specifically developed *to establish minimum requirements that will provide a reasonable degree of safety for the general public.* This allows for the continued use of existing elevators while providing for their safety.

The Division of Building Safety is hosting a stakeholder's meeting on November 5, 2008, to update the industry and building owners on the elevator safety program. During this meeting there will be an open forum to discuss any issues related to the elevator program such as the scope of exemptions, licensing requirements, fees, inspections, legislative changes, etc. Please plan on attending



to give your input. More information will be available soon on our web site at dbs.idaho.gov.

The next time you step on an elevator in Idaho, know that the Division of Building Safety is working to ensure that every conveyance in the State meets the safety requirements and has been issued a current Certificate to Operate. Please visit our web site or call (208) 332-7138 if you have any questions.



Kelly Pearce presents Chris Critser his 5 year Service Award.

Notes from the Field

Trees Shed Leaves as N. Idaho Prepares for Winter, By Jeri Groth

Region 1 Office Specialist

The nights are nippy in north Idaho, the leaves are falling and the 2008 building season is winding down.

This year has seen the beginnings of several exciting new projects and the continuation and completion of others. Both the University of Idaho in Moscow and Lewis Clark State College in Lewiston have major construction projects in progress.

U of I is remodeling the Kibbie Dome, a \$52 million upgrade slated for completion in December 2010. LCSC is in the process of constructing a new facility for the nursing college, budgeted at \$16 million.

Kootenai Medical Center is building a new cancer care center in Post Falls and is in the midst of a major addition to the hospital in Coeur d'Alene. The work continues on the large Post Falls Life Care facility, with the rough plumbing and electrical work ready to begin. The Riverstone area in Coeur d'Alene continues to build out, with a mix of residential and commercial development and numerous projects. A variety of zoning uses have been approved by Post Falls, Rathdrum and Hayden officials.

In the Silver Valley, Smelterville is installing new sewer mains and requiring replacement of any connector lines that are clogged, broken or have any other problems. The completion of a new hotel/water park in Kellogg and many new housing starts valley wide are revitalizing this once depressed area.

Moving further north, we find Bonner County busy with commercial growth. A new hotel, new banks, new restaurants and expansions at the Litehouse Salad Dressing facility are leading the way. The infrastructure work is starting for a number of residential subdivisions that will be built over the next several years. The Schweitzer Mountain area is also growing, with several multi-living units and a 50-lot subdivision underway.

While we may never again see the building explosion we experienced in 2004 – 2006, we are still growing, still building, still living and enjoying the north Idaho lifestyle.

Southwest Idaho Going Green, By Pete Peterson

Region Two Plumbing/HVAC Supervisor

Green is gaining ground of late here in the southwest region of the state. We have had a couple of grey water systems installed and a solar system for heating water. Inspectors are working closely with the contractors to ensure that the systems are installed in accordance with code and that these pioneering installations set the standard for future systems.

Green was also the topic of discussion at the quarterly meeting of plumbing inspectors from all of the local jurisdictions in the valley. Most of these green systems are being installed in the cities in new construction. Everyone attending the meeting agreed that as these systems are installed, inspectors from other jurisdictions will be welcome to examine plans and tour the buildings in every phase.

At the most recent IAPMO meeting, Ron Lord spoke about

the Green Technical Committee and how the uniform codes are changing to promote sustainable systems. Having these codes in place and maintaining good communication with other jurisdictions will keep the inspectors ahead of the game and ultimately make Idaho more green-friendly.

Southern Idaho Update, By Rick Brown

Region Three Plumbing/HVAC Supervisor

Residential construction has slowed down quite a lot in Region Three but commercial work is still going strong.

Two new schools are under construction in the Mini-Cassia area; one is in Heyburn, the other in Acequia. The High Desert milk plant and the Dot Foods facility in Burley are both nearing completion. Numerous other projects will be starting up soon, including a new chicken hatchery in Burley. We are told that the plumbing and mechanical contract is for \$1.2 million.

In Albion, work is ongoing at the old Albion Normal School, which is being converted into a reunion center for family gatherings.

In the Jerome and Gooding area, work continues on the new milk plant in Jerome and construction of a large addition to Rite Foods is proceeding. A new hospital in Gooding will be starting any time and plans are in the works for a new Gooding County jail facility. Bids are also being taken for a new Holiday Inn Express in Jerome.

A new school is being built in Twin Falls and there is also school construction underway in Kimberly. A new Kimberly High School is being built and an addition is being made to the Kimberly Middle School.

In the Ketchum area, there are a few large homes under construction, one of them nearly 30,000 square feet in size. There are a few commercial jobs going on in Ketchum and more activity is expected as buildings damaged and/or destroyed in September's unfortunate fire are rebuilt.

Eastern Idaho Report, By Chris Critser

Region 4 Plumbing/HVAC Supervisor

While Region 4 is no longer seeing the explosive growth experienced during the "boom" of 2005-2006, a certain level of activity continues. With the beginning of several new developments near Pocatello, a new modular plant in Montpelier and a number of new residential developments around Bear Lake the work is still coming. There are several new commercial projects in and around Rigby with a large residential project slated to begin soon. Island Park has also seen a fair amount of building this year with several residential and commercial projects occupying the inspectors' time.

We have had to say good bye to our long time inspector and friend Jim Veater as he has decided to retire and enjoy time with his family. We extended an invitation to Kyle Andrew to join us and fill the void left by Jim, an offer Kyle accepted. We are certain he will acclimate quickly be a productive member of the team.



Kelly Pearce & Jim Veater

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BSU Offers Construction Management Certificate Program

By Bill Hatch, *Editor*

Idahoans working in the various construction trades may be interested to know that the Center for Professional Development and Construction Management Departments at Boise State University have teamed up to offer an intense program which allows participants to earn a Construction Management Certificate by March of 2009. The comprehensive program covers the construction process from pre-planning through project closeout.

The non-credit certificate program compliments BSU's existing degree program but is designed for professionals who want focused training in construction management yet do not intend to get a degree. The program was created in large part in response to requests from the construction industry.

In order to deliver 96 hours of intensive training to an industry already strapped for time, the course is being offered during the winter slowdown, with one Friday and one Saturday session each month.

Although the course officially started in October, Lyn Moore with BSU's Center for Professional Development says people will be permitted to join the program as late as November 14th. "The October session materials will be shared with individuals starting

in November and a makeup session will be scheduled if needed." Moore added that late-registration students would be allowed to schedule additional time with instructors to make up the October session if a makeup session is not possible.

Interested persons may get more information online at: http://cpd.boisestate.edu/courses/construction_management.html or by contacting Lyn Moore at the Center for Professional Development at (208) 426-3485 or via e-mail at lynmoore@boisestate.edu.



Ray Coon was presented a plaque commemorating his service on the plumbing board, along with a "golden plunger" as a memento of his tenure as chairman. The presentation was made at the September 2008 meeting of the Treasure Valley Master Plumbers Association. DBS Administrator Kelly Pearce (L), Plumbing Bureau Chief Carl Lohrengel and DBS Deputy Administrator Steve Keys (R) pictured with retired Idaho Plumbing Board Chairman Ray Coon.