



## Happy Holidays from MBCEA

Dear Sasha,

As always, I am bursting at the seams with so much great news to share. Writing this column is truly one of the highlights of my month.

**Chapters** Following the success of the Texas SouthEast and Rocky Mountain Chapter implementations, on December the 2nd, we kicked off a Chapter event in the NorthWest. Ben Ferguson of Pacific Insulation Products helped organize a fantastic day with a standing room only crowd. This event was so successful we decided to form two Chapters!

[Click here](#) for a map delineating the areas. The area is pretty large, geographically, but based on the low density of erectors in southern Oregon & southern Idaho it makes sense. The new names are **Northwest Coastal** and **Northwest Inland**. Thanks to Larry Hopkins of Therm-All, Joe Hanson and Steve Green of American Buildings for taking on the startup of the Inland Chapter.

**Conference** I am so excited about San Diego. The Bahia Resort is affordable, family-friendly, beautiful, etc., etc. It is a great spot for a Conference - there are water sports, golf clubs, Sea World and so much more. The agenda for next year's Conference is really beginning to take shape. On Thursday, April 30, we open with a friendly, maybe slightly competitive, game of Golf. We will be playing at the beautiful [Coronado Municipal Golf Course](#). Thursday evening, the Conference begins with a Meet and Greet Cocktail Party aboard a Paddlewheel Cruise Boat.

Friday's theme is Best Practice and Tips from our Member Experts. Tom Gilligan, President of Butler and incoming President of the MBMA will address our group on the state of the industry. Members of our Accreditation Technical Committee have been tapped to share some of the things that have made them successful *and* profitable. We will have a workshop on how to become Accredited; a workshop on Re-Roofing, Mobile Technology, etc. We have significantly lowered the price of the second and subsequent attendee so there is no excuse not to bring your key team. I guarantee it will be well-worth the investment.

Friday continues with our awards ceremony and dinner reception. Continuing the theme of "ask the experts" the Contractor Erector Round-Table is the focus on Saturday. We have plenty of time allocated and will have a great panel so bring your questions. For those members and potential members in Southern California, we will have a Chapter kick-off meeting after the Round Table on Saturday.

Important links: [Conference Registration Form](#)  
[Exhibitor Registration Form](#)  
[Bahia Resort Reservations](#)  
[Conference Schedule of Events](#)

**Accreditation** It is truly happening! We are already beginning to see specs that say things like "Erectors must have IAS Quality Certification as a Certified Steel Erector" which although headed in the right direction is unfortunately a hodge-podge of words and programs. We have some education to do, but the fact that the language is beginning to be written into spec's is a positive sign. Even more importantly, the IAS issued formal notice of the Public Hearing ([http://www.iasonline.org/Accreditation\\_Criteria/1502-pre/](http://www.iasonline.org/Accreditation_Criteria/1502-pre/))

The Hearing, scheduled for February 9th, has a stated purpose to establish or revise accreditation criteria pertaining to IAS accreditation programs and to inform the public on IAS principles and major policies. The open hearing process provides all interested parties with the opportunity to contribute ideas or voice their opinions on any item posted on the agenda. You can read more about our program by following this link: [http://www.iasonline.org/Accreditation\\_Criteria/1502-pre/AC478.pdf](http://www.iasonline.org/Accreditation_Criteria/1502-pre/AC478.pdf)

**Membership** Membership is growing by leaps and bounds, which is good for all of us. There is strength in numbers. The more members, the more programs and networking opportunities. If you are not a member or are on the fence about renewing, I urge you to commit. It is an investment in your future.

There is more to share but I will close for now. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors and staff members, Sasha and Jackie, best wishes for a happy holiday and prosperous New year.

**All the best to you and your family,**

Gary T. Smith  
President, MBCEA  
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PS Therm-All's Bill Beals, aka the Code Man, has written a second informative article in his series, "The Code Man's Top Tips for Understanding Commercial Energy Codes and Metal Buildings". Please [click here](#) to read or download to help you understand how to meet your state's latest energy code.

**FREE  
DVD's**

New Members receive a free set of DVD's, while supplies last. Offer extended to January 15! Call Sasha for details.

Offer Expires: January 15, 2015



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