



The B.F.E.*

* Base Flood Elevation

OKLAHOMA FLOODPLAIN MANAGERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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OFMA Targets May For Flood Management Training



During May, “Flood Awareness Month,” scores of Oklahoma insurance, real estate, and lending professionals and public officials attended one of many floodplain management educational and training opportunities.

Several agencies sponsored the training, including the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association (OFMA), the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB), the Oklahoma Department of Civil Emergency Management (ODCEM), FEMA and the NFIP and the City of Lawton. They cooperated in providing five excellent professional floodplain management courses conveniently located around the state. OFMA has placed added emphasis on training and professional development for members and floodplain administrators. Continuing Education Credits (CECs), were awarded to all participants who completed the training.

Oklahoma Flood Forum, the first training session targeted at all professionals involved in floodplain management—insurance, real estate, lenders, public officials and floodplain managers—was held in Lawton on May 24. (See *Flood Forum*, Page 2).

OWRB Floodplain Management Workshops were held in four convenient and easily accessible locations—Tulsa, Lawton, Woodward and Norman. (See *OWRB*, Page 3). Dignitaries attending the training included federal, state and local officials.

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Insurance Commissioner
Carroll Fisher Addresses
Oklahoma Flood Forum

ASFPM 2000 Annual Conference Austin, Texas

The 24th Annual Conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM), OFMA's national parent organization, will be held in Austin, Texas, June 18-23, 2000.

A New Beginning in a New Millennium, floodplain management 2000 and beyond, is the theme and focus of the conference.

The annual ASFPM conference is the Mecca for professional floodplain managers. The best flood management minds in the nation present papers, and affords an excellent opportunity to meet and network with other flood management professionals. (See ASFPM, Page 6).

Oklahoma Flood Forum Brings Insurance, Real Estate, Lenders, Public Officials Together

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), OFMA, the Oklahoma Department of Civil Emergency Management (ODCEM), and the City of Lawton hosted the first of the *Oklahoma Flood Forum* in Lawton on May 24th.

The conference focused on the latest flood insurance issues, and was designed for insurance agents, lending institutions, realtors, public officials and floodplain administrators. The morning plenary session featured presentations by experts and dignitaries. The session was moderated by Ron Flanagan, OFMA Chair, and included a welcoming address from Lawton Mayor Cecil Powell and City Manager Bill Baker. Presentations were made by Buddy Young, Director, FEMA Region VI, Albert Ashwood, Director, ODCEM, Frank Pagano, FEMA Region VI Mitigation Director, Dale Baze, Oklahoma Real



R.L. "Buddy" Young, FEMA Region VI Director, addresses Plenary Session



Dale Baze, Oklahoma Real Estate Commission Director of Education and Training, cites need for Flood Insurance Training and Education for

Estate Commission Educational Director, and Oklahoma Insurance Commissioner, Carroll Fisher.

The highlight of the conference was when both Dale Baze and Commissioner Fisher committed to making flood insurance an integral part of their required training for insurance and real estate agents.

The afternoon training was designed to focus on the information needed by those involved in those professions impacted by floodplain management. Individual breakout sessions were provided for Real Estate Agents, Lenders, Insurance Agents, and Public Officials and Floodplain Administrators. The classes were taught by Diana Herrera and Dorothy Martinez, NFIP, Region VI, Houston; Sonja Wood, NFIP, Region VII, Kansas City; Ken Morris and Hank Elling, OWRB; and Fred Liebe, ODCEM.

The Oklahoma Flood Forum was a pilot project to see if there was any advantage to getting all of the various players in floodplain management together to share information, and hear the ideas and concerns of others involved in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Due to the success of the training, and the positive response of the insurance, real estate, and lending professionals, and public officials and floodplain administrators, similar Flood Forums will likely be held in Tulsa and Oklahoma City.

Calendar of Events

June 18-23, 2000: Twenty-Fourth Annual Conference of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM), Austin, Texas. Information, Contact: ASFPM, (608) 274-0123; <http://www.floods.org/conf-aus.htm>

Sept. 13-15, 2000: Oklahoma Municipal League Conference and Exposition, Tulsa Convention Center, Tulsa, OK. Information, Contact: OML, (405) 528-7515

Sept. 24-27, 2000: Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association (OFMA), Annual Fall Conference, Lake Texoma State Lodge. Contact: OFMA, PO Box 8101, Tulsa, OK 74101-8101; <http://www.okflood.org>

OWRB's Floodplain Management Training Covers the State

The annual May training for Floodplain Administrators conducted by the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, ODCEM, FEMA and OFMA, were held in Norman, May 2, Tulsa, May 4, Woodward, May 16, and Lawton, May 18, 2000. The sessions were attended by 77 Floodplain Managers and public officials from throughout the state.

Speakers and presenters for the sessions included Ken Morris, CFM, OWRB; Hank Elling, CFM, OWRB; Lonnie Ward, CFM, FEMA; Fred Liebe and Putnam Reiter, ODCEM; and Sonja Wood, NFIP, K.C., MO.

Norman Training was attended by: Byron Benham, Blackwell; Marsha Blair, Slaughterville; Donald Box, Lexington; Jason Brinley, Enid; Steve Finnell, Washita Co.; Max Gerber, Kingfisher Co.; Jack Graham, Kingfisher; Barbara Hall, OKC; Sue Henderson, Bethany; David Heringer, OKC; Rhonda Kouba, OWRB; C.M. Lin, SWODA; EathelMoring, McClain Co.; Jennifer Nett, Del City; Caarl Richey, Canadian Co.; Butch Scheirer, Del City; Peter Seikel, McLoud; Sandi Smith, Ada; Lynne Stevenson, Canadian Co.; Dale Thompson, Grady Co.; and Troy Timmin, Purcell.

Tulsa Training was attended by: Kurt Baker, Sand Springs; Loyd Bell, Jenks; Gavin Brady, OWRB Tulsa; Janet Brock, Tulsa; Billie Joe Collins, Claremore & Rogers Co.; T.J. Davis, Sand Springs; Jeremy Dempster, Grand Gateway EDA; John Everett, US Infrastructure, Inc.; Ron Flanagan, R.D. Flanagan & Associates; John Harrington, ACOG; Annette Henderson, Dewey; Alvin Hong, National Weather Service; Greg Kirby, Broken Arrow; Pat Lynam, Delaware Co.;

Gary McCormick, Tulsa; JohnMcElhenney, INCOG; Garrett Miller, Broken Arrow; Mike Pattison, Osage Co.; Bob Patton, FEMA DAE; Linda Reed, Grand Gateway EDA; Greg Sharp, Muldrow; Janeen Stuart, Osage Co.; George Truitt, Hulbert; Nancy Wade, Bartlesville; Terry West, Tulsa Co.; and Tim White, Tulsa.

Woodward participants included: Richard Adams, Cheyenne; J.M. Dowell, Woodward Co. Conservation Dist.; Peggy Dunlap, Beckham Co.; Darrell Dupree, Custer Co.; Raymond Ford, Custer Co.; Mayor Chris Hooley, Lahoma; Tracy Jividen, Taylor & Assoc.; J.M. Kelley, Custer Co.; David Large, Garfield Co.; Gary Leonard, Cheyenne; Alfred Miller, Washita Co.; Keith Nixon, Lahoma; Bob Pratt, Weatherford; Mary Schiffner, Lahoma; Jason Shiever, OWRB; Marvin Stewart, Beckham Co.; Norman Taylor, Watonga; and Anna Lee Waggoner, Woodward;

Lawton Training was attended by: Don Bell, Goldsby; Linda Delamare, FEMA; Debbie Dollarhite, Robert Eastman, El Reno; David Kuntz, Comanche Co.; Robert McCoin, Anadarko; Benito Ramirez, Cache; Maurice Spann, El Reno; JoAnn Stranahan, Walters; Bill Teter, Drumright; and Harvey Thomason, Snyder;

Continuing Education Credits were awarded to all participants

completing the OWRB Workshops. OFMA maintains a data base of all Continuing Education Credits (CECs) earned by Certified Floodplain Managers and by all those attending OFMA sponsored training. Certified Floodplain Managers must have at least 16 Continuing Education Credits every two years.



FEMA's Frank Pagano, and Director Buddy Young, State NFIP Coordinator Ken Morris, and ODCEM Director Albert Ashwood discuss need for floodplain management training.

In Loving Memory of

Ben Frizzell

Ben Frizzell was the Best!

Ben Frizzell, 47, public information officer for the Oklahoma Department of Civil Emergency Management (ODCEM), and one of the nicest men you'll ever know, died of an apparent heart attack Monday, May 15, at his home in Norman.

Ben was a true friend, and was deeply committed to floodplain management. He would gladly help anyone prepare press releases or

develop public information and education programs about flooding. Ben was never too busy to help.

Prior to joining ODCEM he served with FEMA, taught at EMI in Emmitsburg, and was awarded the Meritorious Service Award. Ben worked for many years in radio and television, including NBC, ABC, CBS, and Fox. His like will not soon pass this way again. God Bless You, Ben.



FEMA's New Elevation Certificate

The Elevation Certificate is a basic and important tool in the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The NFIP requires participating communities to adopt a floodplain management ordinance to reduce future flood losses.

One of the requirements is that the community "obtain the elevation of the lowest floor (including basement) of all new and substantially improved structures, and maintain a record of all such information." The Elevation Certificate is used to provide the necessary information to ensure compliance with the local community floodplain management ordinance, to determine the proper flood insurance premium rate, and to support a request for a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) or Revision (LOMR).

New Elevation Certificate- The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has promulgated a new Elevation Certificate (FEMA Form 81-31) to replace the one that has been in use since 1990.

For more than a year, FEMA has been compiling comments on the proposed Elevation Certificate.

Mandatory use of the new Elevation Certificate by insurance agents for flood insurance policies and by Community Rating System (CRS) communities will be required after October 1, 2000. The date of mandatory use was delayed from January 1, 2000, to allow additional time for training of insurance agents, surveyors, engineers, and floodplain managers.

OFMA has made a special

on eight different building diagrams.

More on the New Elevation Certificate will be provided in the next issue of the *B.F.E.*

Ordering the Form- A copy of the new Elevation Certificate can be downloaded from FEMA's website at www.fema.gov/nfip/forms.htm or www.fema.gov/library/elvinst.htm or ordered from FEMA publications Warehouse at 1-800-480-2520.

Software Available- FEMA has Elevation Certificate software programs available. Copies may be obtained by calling (317) 848-2898, sending an e-mail to wtrakimas@iso.com or faxing a request to (317) 848-3578. The software is free.

The FEMA Elevation Certificate is one of the basic and important tools of floodplain management

effort to include instruction in the use of the new Elevation Certificate in all training.

Easier to Use- The new Elevation Certificate has several features that will make it easier for surveyors or engineers to certify the elevation information without having to be familiar with the rules and regulations of the National Flood Insurance Program.

Building Diagrams

Required- The new format will require surveyors or engineers to provide the building elevations based

Helpful Web Sites

OFMA www.okflood.org
ASFPM www.floods.org
OWRB www.state.ok.us/~owrb
FEMA www.fema.gov
Corps of Engineers
www.swt.usace.army.mil
EMI Independent Study
www.fema.gov/home/emi/ishome.htm
Advanced Study Institute
<http://web.uccs.edu/geogenvs/natoasi>

Oklahoma's Flood Disaster Aid Rejected

President Clinton turned down Gov. Frank Keating's request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration for those suffering flood damages from the May 5-8 flooding in Creek, Tulsa and Wagoner Counties.

Albert Ashwood, state emergency management director, said the flooding represented a marginal case. Declarations are based on the amount of assistance needs.

Ashwood indicated that flood insurance on many structures reduced the level of need for federal relief. About half of the 138 damaged buildings in Sapulpa had flood insurance. Of those, eight were destroyed, and 51 suffered major damage. The lack of disaster assistance placed small communities, like Sapulpa, in a financial bind. Again, this reinforces the need to have state funding for HB 1841. Hazard Mitigation.

Membership Directory Changes

Donnie Blanlot

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 e-mail: dpblanlot@aol.com

Stuart Chai, P.E. CFM

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 Traffic Management Division
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 Oklahoma City, OK 73102
 (405) 297-2003 E-mail:
stuart.chai@ci.okc.ok.us
 PW_URL:<http://www.ci.okc.ok.us/pw/index.html>

New OFMA Members

OFMA congratulates and welcomes its newest member:

Arthur (Art) Kruger

Owner, Kruger Properties
 3808 NW Ferris Ave.
 Lawton, OK 73505-8288
 (580) 355-8288

2000/2001 Membership and Certification Renewal

OFMA Memberships expire on September 30, 2000. New memberships for 2000/2001 are valid from October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2001. The cost of a year's membership is still \$20.00.

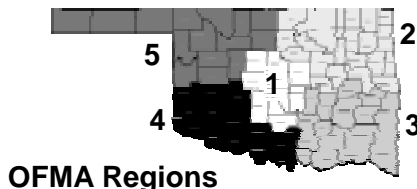
You are encouraged to renew your OFMA membership early. Our goal is to have 300 members this year. If you are a Floodplain Administrator, or a floodplain management professional, you are encouraged to join OFMA, your professional association.

Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) renewals are also due by September 30, 2000. Annual renewal fee is \$15.00. Applications and renewal instructions and required documentation can be obtained from the OFMA Web Site at: www.okfloods.org

All CFMs must be a member of OFMA. If a CFM fails to submit a renewal application, he/she will be required to complete a new application, pay the fees, and retake the test. **Renew now!**

An Invitation to Join OFMA

The Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association is a non-profit organization primarily dedicated to providing information and education to the public about reduction of loss of life and property due to flooding.



OFMA Regions

The best investment that \$20.00 can buy in the future of your state is a membership in the Oklahoma Floodplain Managers Association.

OFMA Membership Application

Name: _____ Company/Organization: _____

Title: _____ Address: _____

Work Phone: _____ City/Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Detach and Mail To:

OFMA
 P.O. Box 8101
 Tulsa, OK 74101-8101

Category Affiliation(s): _____

New Member: Renewal:

Region (see map): 1 2 3 4 5

Categories:

- A. Mitigation
- B. Floodplain Regulations
- C. Flood Insurance
- D. Mapping & Engineering
- E. Flood Proofing
- F. Stormwater Management
- G. Research

Dues Schedule

First-Year dues are prorated depending on the quarter during which you join. Fiscal year is October 1 – September 30.

	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep
Full Membership	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00
Student Membership	10.00	7.50	5.00	2.50
Associate Membership	15.00	11.25	7.50	3.75
Agency Membership	50.00	37.50	25.00	12.50
(Plus \$10.00 per employee designated by the Agency)				
Corporate Sponsor	100.00	75.00	50.00	25.00



OFMA's Partners

Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM)

The **Association of State Floodplain Managers, Inc. (ASFPM)**, is OFMA's parent national organization and is the most important and influential organization advocating wise use of the nation's floodplains.

The ASFPM is an organization of over 3,000 professionals involved in floodplain management, flood hazard mitigation, the National Flood Insurance Program, and flood preparedness, warning and recovery.

The ASFPM has become a respected voice in floodplain management practice and policy in the United States because it represents the flood hazard specialists of local, state, and federal government, the research community, the insurance industry, and the fields of engineering, hydrologic forecasting, emergency response, and water resources.

Major programs and accomplishments of the ASFPM include:

Partnerships with other national organizations, such as the National Wildlife Federation, the Association of State Wetland Managers, U.S Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Geological Survey, etc., to promote mutual goals to improve floodplain

managers. Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arkansas have accreditation programs, and Texas is in the process of developing theirs.

Bimonthly newsletters *News & Views* and *Insider*, keep members abreast of floodplain

management issues and happenings around the nation.

National Directory of Floodplain Managers contains contact information for those involved in floodplain management nationally and abroad.

Committees include 32 areas of professional interest, such as National Mitigation Policy, Multi-Hazards Mitigation, Floodplain Regulations, etc.

For more information, contact:

ASFPM, Inc.
2809 Fish Hatchery Rd., Suite 204
Madison, WI 53713
(608) 274-0123

Website: www.floods.org
Email: asfpm@floods.org

It is the mission of the Association of State Floodplain Managers to mitigate the losses, costs, and human suffering caused by flooding; and to protect the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains.

management in the nation.

Annual National Floodplain Management Conference- The 24th Annual Conference is to be held in Austin, Texas, June 18-23, 2000. The annual conference provides an opportunity to keep abreast of the latest thinking in the field..

Certified Floodplain Manager Program offers national certification of floodplain

Annual Floodplain Notification

One of the most important elements of a successful floodplain management program is public information and education.

Public identification and awareness of the floodplains and their location in the community is critical if lives and property are to be protected from flooding.

Oklahoma has two excellent examples of successful floodplain notification programs. The **City of Tulsa** and the **City of Lawton** have instituted annual floodplain notification programs. An official notice is mailed to all floodplain residents, informing the public of the flood hazard,

availability of Flood Insurance, flood safety actions to be taken before, during and after a flood, and helpful phone numbers to call for more information. The brochures also include a generalized floodplain map.

Tulsa's floodplain resident flood insurance participation rate is twice the state and national average.

Profile: OFMA Chairman

Ron Flanagan, CFM

Planning Consultant R.D. Flanagan & Associates

Ron Flanagan, CFM, is OFMA's 1999-2000 Chairman, B.F.E. Editor, and member of the Professional Development and Certification Committee.

Ronald D. Flanagan, CFM, is a planning consultant with over 30 years experience in all aspects of land-use and water resources management planning for Federal, State and local governments, private development and non-profit clients. Since 1974 he has specialized in floodplain management.

Ron has served as a flood management consultant to the City of Tulsa since 1976, has worked on numerous basin-wide master drainage plans, planned and designed several award-winning multi-use stormwater detention facilities, and was consultant on the 1984 and 1986 flood recoveries.

Mr. Flanagan's current assignments include consultant on Tulsa's Community Rating System (CRS), Floodplain Notification, Capital Improvements Programming, Repetitive Loss Planning Program, Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning, and Hazard Mitigation and Acquisition Program. He is also planning consultant on the Mooser Creek Greenway Corridor Study, a multi-disciplinary approach to the preservation of a pristine stream floodplain corridor.

Ron's latest emphasis is the use of floodplains and stream corridors for trail, park, recreation and open-space use. His work on the Arlington, Texas Johnson Creek Corridor won the *Comprehensive Planning Award* from the American Planning Association, and the *Award of Excellence* from the American Society of Landscape Architects. He is also a recipient of FEMA's *Outstanding Public Service Award* for work on Tulsa's floodplain management program. He is a member of the Associ-



OFMA Chair Ron Flanagan, CFM

ation of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM), and the American Planning Association (APA). He has authored numerous professional papers on multi-objective floodplain management, and is an often invited speaker at professional conferences.

Ron attended the University of Maryland, and graduated from the University of Tulsa. He resides in Tulsa, where he is Principal Planner with his land-use planning firm.



OFMA'S CORPORATE PARTNERS



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The HNTB Companies

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FAX (918) 464-4664

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E-mail: n/a

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