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### **Ron Neinaber 2005 Al Kleinbeck Award Recipient**

**To: 10K Chapter Al Kleinbeck Nominating Committee  
Re: Ron Neinaber**

Dear Nominating committee,

I would like to nominate Ron Nienaber as the 10K Chapter nominee for the Al Kleinbeck award 2005 in recognition of his outstanding service to our profession and his uncompromising commitment to public safety in the built environment through effective code development and the advancement of professionalism among code officials.

Ron's record of service and awards are evidence of that commitment. Since 1977 he has served diligently in positions at the local chapter, within the state of MN, and at



the national level through ICBO and ICC. He has been very effective in advancing the cause of public safety and the advancement of the code official at every level of service.

Those who worked beside him at the state level experienced his commitment to bringing all interests together for public safety, as he was the first BO to serve on the Governor's

Construction Codes Advisory Council. His ability to draw government and business interests together earned him the Builders Association Regional Official's Award.

On the national level; as Chairman of ICBO, Ron wrote the chairman's messages in the "Building Standards" for 2001. Three of the articles have been attached as an example of his character in difficult times. These were difficult times not only for the ICC but also for the nation and Ron was the right man in the right place at the right time to help see us through as a profession.

The MN code officials can still recall the year that Ron was elected Chairman of the Board. That very night he invited all of us up to the Presidential suite to express his appreciation for our support. Ron has never forgotten the importance of keeping in touch with the membership in order to effectively lead.

Ron continues to serve MN code officials as an executive officer of the new statewide association and through his encouragement to his employees to get involved. He has and continues to give back to our profession and to public safety far beyond what is expected.

The exhibition of self-sacrifice, vision and the courage to move forward are the greatest evidence that he should be honored with the Al Kleinbeck Award. We know that Ron may humbly think otherwise as he is fond of keeping things in perspective with the words, "This isn't brain surgery!"

Respectfully  
Patrick Parsley

**Brief Resume: Ron Nienaber**

**Title: City of Maple Grove Building Official**

**Jurisdiction/Organization/Company: City of Maple Grove**

**Brief biography, previous awards, recognitions, etc.:**

***ICBO and ICC Activities***

- **ICBO Board of Directors 1994-2002**
- **ICBO Executive Committee 1998-2002**
- **ICBO Chairman of the Board 2000-2001**
- **IFCI Board of Directors 1998-1999**
- **IFCI Board of Directors, Chairman 1999**
- **ICC Board of Directors 1998-2002**
- **Resolutions Committee 1987**
- **Fire Risk Assessment Committee 1987-1993**
- **Chairman Fire Risk Assessment Committee 1990-1993**
- **Budget and Finance Committee 1995-1998**
- **Liaison to IBC Committee 1997**

***Local Chapter Activities:***

**Ron has been an active member of the North Star Chapter of Building Officials since 1977. He has served on the Board of Directors in all elected positions including Chapter President in 1987. Ron has also served on and chaired the North Star Chapter Public Relations Committee, the Legislative Committee, and the Code Change Committee .**

**Presently Ron is serving as the Chief Executive Officer for the newly founded Association of MN Building Officials. His volunteer service as executive officer is proving invaluable in the establishment of an effective statewide association that can**

**meet the needs of its members.**

**State Activities:**

***Ron worked with the Builders Association of Minnesota and was instrumental in the passage of residential contractor licensing legislation in Minnesota . He was subsequently appointed by the Governor of MN to the initial Contractor's Licensing Board and served in that capacity for five years, 1991-1995. In 1995 the Governor appointed Ron to the first Governor's Construction Codes Advisory Council. From 1996 through 1999 he served on the Advisory Council as Minnesota 's building official representative.***

Ron has testified effectively before the MN legislature on bills affecting the construction industry and code officials.

**Special Recognition:**

Ron received the Herb Meyer Award in 1997 from the North Star Chapter. This honor is given to the code official who is recognized for outstanding service to the organization.

**In 1992 the National Association of Home Builders recognized Ron as the "Local Official of the Year/Midwest Division". He received the award for the work he did within the state establishing effective relationships between the MN Builders Association and MN Building Officials. This relationship, which once was rocky and full of distrust, has developed into a strong and supportive alliance for the betterment of the construction industry.**

**Certifications:**

- **ICBO Certified Building Inspector since 1981**
- **ICBO Certified Plans Examiner since 1981**
- **CABO Certification as a Building Official since 1989**
- **State of MN Certification as a Building Official since 1977**

**Work Experience:**

Ron is presently the Building Official for the City Of Maple Grove, a rapidly growing suburb in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. The City of Maple Grove has been adding approximately 1,000 new homes per year and has annual construction valuations of nearly 220 million.

Prior to working for the City of Maple Grove he worked for the City of New Brighton , a more established suburb in the same metropolitan area. He started his career as a building official with the Town of White Bear where he was a one-man department.

His background prior to becoming a building official was six years in the construction industry and ten years as a management engineer.