



SEAONews

Structural Engineers Association of Nebraska

November 2009

President's Message

On October 16-18, I had the privilege of representing SEAON as a delegate to the annual conference of the National Council of Structural Engineers Associations (NCSEA) in Scottsdale, AZ. I would like to take this opportunity to report to you the current activities of NCSEA and of other Member Organizations (MO's).

During the business meeting, each MO gave a brief oral report on their current activities. I found that there is a wide variation among MOs, typically depending on how long they've been around. Some MO's have been around for 40-plus years, and have robust scholarship and awards programs and literally hundreds of members. Others are just starting out. Some states have several chapters, each at a different geographical location.

For my oral report, I gave a brief history of our Association, and listed the major issues that our Association is working on. Specifically, I discussed how we actively petition the Nebraska State Board of Architects and Engineers on behalf of our membership, how we sponsor local engineering students for the steel bridge competition, how we are working on a major upgrade to our website, and how we are beginning a Student's Committee with the engineering students at the Peter Kiewit Institute.

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SEAON Programs Committee

The SEAON programs committee has finalized the dinner meeting dates through May of 2010. We are working on lining up topics and speakers for these events, and have discussed several ideas. As a committee, we are always looking for ideas to research for meetings. If you have ideas that we should consider, please contact one of the programs committee members listed below. We are always interested in new ideas!! In the past, we have based the presentation topics on items such as different material choices (steel, concrete, masonry, etc.), vendor technical topics, and topics that draw on different sectors of the structural community (i.e. buildings vs. bridges). To list a few, within the past few years, we have had presentations on the following:

Engineered Wood Trusses and Wall Panels, Building Information Modeling, wall tie-backs and helical piers, metal buildings for consultants, professional licensing, geotechnical and special inspection requirements, ultra high performance concrete, cold-formed steel truss design, and updates to the ACI building code.

We try to vary the topics throughout the year and from year to year to avoid too many presentations on similar topics. Also, the topic for the annual dinner in May is typically a less technical topic regarding a local high profile project. We encourage members to bring their spouse to the May dinner.

Members of the Programs Committee:

Chairpersons Gary Krause and Rob Whorley - Email: programs@seaon.org

Dan Hahn, Brandon Kyle, and Mike LaViolette

President's Message: (Continued from page 1, column 1)

After the MO reports, each of the national committee chairs gave reports. There are twelve national committees, and since I don't have the space here to summarize each committee's report, I will provide a summary of what I found to be the most influential reports to our members.

Licensing Committee: (Chaired by Susan Jorgensen)

It is the stated goal of NCSEA to promote and work towards separate licensure and uniform SE practice acts. NCSEA's Licensing Committee is working with NCEES to establish appropriate model laws, exam content, education and experience requirements. The Licensing Committee is assisting MO's in educating their legislative bodies concerning the need for separate licensure in the form of a practice act – not a title act (as we have in Nebraska). Utah has recently joined the list of states that have enacted separate structural licensing. The Committee has been very active this year working toward separate licensing and uniform continuing education requirements in all states.

Ethics Committee:

NCSEA has finalized a model Code of Ethics for MOs that the SEAON Board will soon bring up for consideration. If you'd like to review this Code, please go to the NCSEA website (<http://www.ncsea.com/Ethics.aspx>). The SEAON board would be interested in any comments you may have regarding the adoption of this Code. Please contact any board member.

Basic Education Committee:

This committee has developed 9 core Structural Engineering courses that NCSEA believes should be included in the basic education of a graduate

structural engineer entering the work force. The committee members work with colleges and universities to promote this core curriculum, and to provide college survey results to high school guidance counselors. Please visit the NCSEA website for the results of the latest survey.

Finally, NCSEA is always looking for additional members for its 12 national committees. If you are interested in serving on a national committee, please contact the chairperson of the committee. Addresses of all chairpersons are available on the NCSEA website.

*Ken Kilzer S.E.
SEAON President*

Scheduled SEAON Meetings

November 12, 2009 Fiber Reinforcement of Structural Concrete

Location: McKenna's Blues Hall
7425 Pacific St., Omaha, NE

March 1, 2010 Huey P. Long Bridge:

Location: Misty's Steakhouse
6235 Havelock Ave., Lincoln, NE

April 9, 2010 SEAON Spring 1/2-Day Seminar – Topic TBA

Location: Scott Conference Cent
6450 Pine Street, Omaha, NE

SEAON WEBSITE

www.SEAON.org

The new and improved website is now LIVE and we are continuing the upgrade effort. Soon you'll be able to sign up for dinner meetings and renew your membership online!

Please be sure to visit the website regularly. Announcements and upcoming events are posted on the HOME page. You can find the current newsletter along with an archive of all past newsletters on the NEWSLETTER page. Encourage potential members to visit the MEMBERSHIP page for information about SEAON as well as a membership application.



**STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION
OF NEBRASKA (SEAON)**

SEAON November Dinner Meeting

- Date:** Thursday, November 12th, 2009
- Topic:** Fiber reinforcement in Structural Concrete
- Speaker:** Clifford MacDonald, Forta Corporation
- Times:** 5:30-6:30 - Social Hour (Cash Bar)
6:30-7:30 - Dinner
7:30-8:30 - Presentation and Q&A
- Location:** McKenna's Blues Hall
7425 Pacific St
Omaha, NE 68114
- Menu Choices:**
Smoked Brisket
Smoked Pork Loin
Roaster Chicken
- Price:** \$20 per person (SEAON Members)
\$25 per person (Non-Members)
\$10 per person (Students)
All money (cash or check) will be collected at the door
- Reservations:** Please contact Gary L. Krause (gkrause@mail.unomaha.edu) to make a reservation and a dinner selection no later than noon on Tuesday November 10th.

0.1 CEU/1.0 PDH WILL BE AWARDED FOR ATTENDING THE MEETING

Save the Date!

ANNUAL E-WEEK BANQUET THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2010

Sponsored by the Engineer's Roundtable
0.1 Continuing Education Units (CEU) or
1.0 Professional Development Hours (PDH) available

Banquet Location:
Strategic Air and Space Museum
28210 West Park Highway
Ashland, NE 68003

6:00 PM – Social Hour (Cash Bar)
7:00 PM – Banquet & Speaker

**LOOK FOR THE SIGN-UP FLYER WITH
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOON!**

Engineers Roundtable website:
<http://www.eroundtable.unomaha.edu>



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Check out our website at www.SEAON.org