



SEAONews

Structural Engineers Association of Nebraska

March 2010

President's Message

Happy Spring everyone! It's been a long time coming, but I hope you've had a chance to enjoy the epic snow amounts reminiscent of my childhood in North Dakota. My kids were able to build their first snow caves (with myself acting as Contract Administrator), and I've come to consider my snowblower as part of the family.

Now, on to SEAON business; thank you to all of our members who responded to the Licensure Survey. As a Board, our utmost responsibility is to represent the will of our membership to those who have say over our professional endeavors.

The goal of the Licensure Survey was to verify that the Board's current focus on separate licensure for Structural Engineering is in line with the desire of the Membership and it seems to be just that. Please review the summary of the survey results prepared by our Licensure Chair, Pete Vaccaro, included in this issue.

Also, please be aware that the SEAON Board is scheduled to meet with the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects (NBEA) in April to present the results of the survey, and also to share with them the current state of Structural Engineering licensure across the country. Pete Vaccaro, as a member of the National Council of Structural Engineer Associations Licensure Committee, will make this presentation, and we thank him for all his hard work. We will keep you informed as to the

Continued on page 2, column 1

SEAON Licensure Committee

On behalf of the Structural Engineers Association of Nebraska (SEAON), I would like to extend our thanks to the membership for completing the Structural Licensing Survey that was sent out last December. Out of 86 active members surveyed, we received responses from 58 engineers expressing their opinions on Structural Licensing in Nebraska. This is a response rate of over 67% which is great!

The purpose of the survey was to get feed back from our membership on the future of licensing as it relates to Nebraska. Your input is important to us as we consider how SEAON will pursue licensing issues in our state.

The survey results indicated that 87% of the responses favored some type of practice act over the current title act in the State of Nebraska and the majority of responses favored a grandfathering clause. This is consistent with the national trend to "raise the bar" for structural engineering licensure. Nebraska has always been on the forefront of licensure changes, and rightfully so, when it relates to public safety, practicing in multiple states, and reciprocity with other states.

Where does SEAON go from here? Our plans are as follows:

SEAON is informing its membership of the results in this newsletter and it will be available on our website. The SEAON board has contacted the Nebraska State Board of Engineers and Architects.

Continued on page 2, column 2

results of this meeting.

If you haven't been to the website lately, I would like to point out two newer features we've added. Beginning with the March 11 dinner meeting, we are taking reservations and payments online through the SEAON website (www.seaon.org). We plan to allow membership renewals to be completed online, and over time will add more online payment features.

Additionally, take a minute to check out the "Links" section of the website. There are some really useful links coordinated by our Treasurer, Jeff Ehler. Jeff, along with our webmaster Sandi Davison, put a lot of time into improving our web presence, and I'd like to thank them for their efforts.

If you check the schedule, we've moved up our spring banquet up a few weeks to accommodate the student steel truss team from PKI. As you may know, part of the reason we started SEAON was to encourage students in structural engineering programs. We are sponsoring their steel bridge contest team again this year, and they will present the results of the competition at our banquet.

Finally, please remember that the SEAON board is here to represent and serve your interests. If you have a concern or comment that you'd like to share with us, please feel free to give any board member a call or email to share your thoughts.

*Ken Kilzer S.E.
SEAON President*

We are planning an April meeting with the NSBEA Board to discuss the results of the survey, how the new 16-hour exam will affect licensing in Nebraska, and we will give them a presentation on the National Licensing Trends.

After SEAON meets with the Nebraska Board, I will meet our SEAON Licensing Committee to discuss the Board's reactions to the results of the survey and discuss our next step towards some type of licensure in Nebraska.

*Pete Vaccaro, P.E.
SEAON Licensure Committee Chair*

Scheduled SEAON Meetings

March 11, 2010 Huey P. Long Bridge:

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

**April 9, 2010 SEAON Spring 1/2-Day Seminar –
Deep Foundations for SE's**

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

May 11, 2010 7th Annual SEAON Banquet

Location: Champions Country Club
13800 Eagle Run Drive, Omaha, NE

September 17, 2010 7th Annual SEAON Banquet

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

SEAON WEBSITE

www.SEAON.org

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.

Nebraska Structural Licensure Survey Results

Total Number of responses = 58

| <u>QUESTIONS</u> | <u>ANSWERS</u> | <u>Percent</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. I am currently a licensed: | EIT | 7% |
| | PE | 69% |
| | SE | 40% |
| | Not Licensed | 2% |
| 2. I have taken and passed the following exam: | Civil | 45% |
| | Architectural Eng. | 0% |
| | Structural I | 36% |
| | Structural II | 24% |
| | State run Str. III | 3% |
| | Prof. Eng. | 28% |
| 3. If you took and passed the Civil or Arch. Eng. Exam, did it have a structural module? | Yes | 47% |
| | No | 12% |
| | Not Applicable | 41% |
| 4. I have a: | Bachelors Degree | 45% |
| | Masters Degree | 50% |
| | Other | 3% |
| 5. Check level of professional experience | 0-4 Years | 9% |
| | 5-10 Years | 16% |
| | 11-15 Years | 12% |
| | 16-20 Years | 16% |
| | Over 21 Years | 48% |
| 6. I primarily design: | Bridges | 14% |
| | Buildings | 79% |
| | Other | 14% |
| 7. My primary industry is: | Consulting Eng. | 76% |
| | Design/build | 7% |
| | Construction | 2% |
| | Industrial | 3% |
| | Sales/Marketing | 0% |
| | Management | 3% |
| | Gov – state/local | 0% |
| | Gov – Fed | 2% |
| | Military | 0% |
| | Retired | 0% |
| | Other | 16% |
| 8. I have heard of the new 16 hr. Str. Exam | Yes | 100% |
| | No | 0% |
| 9. I understand the difference between a partial practice act & title act? | Yes | 97% |
| | No | 3% |
| 10. I am licensed in other states besides Nebraska? | Yes | 64% |
| | No | 34% |

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----|
| 11. I actively practice in other states besides Nebraska? | Yes | 69% |
| | No | 28% |
| 12. If you do practice in other states, do any of the states have a: | Title Act | 28% |
| | Partial Practice Act | 22% |
| | Full Practice Act | 19% |
| 13. I am currently licensed in states w/ partial practice acts | Yes | 24% |
| | No | 64% |
| 14. I would support the following in the state of Nebraska | | |
| | A Title Act only | 13% |
| | A Full Practice Act | 12% |
| | A Partial Practice Act | 16% |
| | A Full Practice Act w/ Grandfathering | 16% |
| | A Partial Practice Act w/ Grandfathering | 43% |



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

SEAON March Dinner Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 11th, 2010

Topic: Huey P. Long Bridge

Speaker: John Brestin, HNTB

Times: 5:30-6:30 - Social Hour (Cash Bar)

6:30-7:30 - Dinner

7:30-8:30 - Presentation and Q&A

Location: Misty's Steakhouse
6235 Havelock Avenue
Lincoln, NE 68507

Menu Choices:
Petite Sirloin Steak
Roasted Atlantic Salmon
Pasta Alfredo with 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 go to the website or contact Gary L. Krause (gkrause@mail.unomaha.edu) to make a reservation and a dinner selection.

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



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Check out our website at www.SEAON.org