

Structural Engineers of NH

May 2003 Newsletter



Serving New Hampshire

Next Meeting

Tuesday

May 20, 2003

Bracing of Pre-Engineered Wood Trusses

Fratello's Ristorante
Italiano
Manchester, NH

SENH PRESIDENT'S LETTER...



Year in Review

As my first year as President has come to a close, it seemed fitting to recap the year and see what has been accomplished. The year from May 2002 to May 2003 has been one of a great deal of activity within SENH. Many successful technical meetings and seminars were held including:

- ❖ September, 2002 - Timber Frame Joinery & Design
- ❖ October, 2002 - Masonry Design Seminar
- ❖ November, 2002 - Designing Ready Mixed Concrete Mixes
- ❖ January, 2003 - Aesthetic Bridge Design / HPS Update (Joint Meeting with ASCE-NH)
- ❖ March, 2003 - Business Practice Panel Discussion
- ❖ May, 2003 - Floor Vibrations Seminar
- ❖ May, 2003 - Bracing of Pre-Engineered Wood Trusses



Support our Troops

In addition, SENH has begun a relationship with the NH Office of Emergency Management (NH OEM) to organize engineering reservists for post-disaster structural evaluation. This relationship is expected to take shape this year and educational opportunities will be offered.

SENH's membership has remained steady at approximately 170 members and associate members. New ideas are always encouraged and to ensure SENH is available to all professionals practicing structural engineering in New Hampshire.

The hard work of SENH's Snow Load Mapping Committee came to fruition with the publication and distribution of "Ground Snow Loads for New Hampshire". In addition, an abbreviated version of the information in the report has been included in the commentary of ASCE 7-02. This was a major accomplishment and something that the committee and SENH can be proud of.

We hope the year ahead will be as positive for SENH as this past year.

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Many Thanks, Ben and Dave

Ben Tirey, P.E. and Dave Konieczny, P.E. each have served on the SENH Board of Directors for the past four (4) years. Ben has served as Secretary during his entire tenure, while Dave spent two (2) years as Director-at-Large and two (2) years as Vice President. The efforts of these gentlemen have been extraordinary. It is safe to say that Ben and Dave have planned and orchestrated approximately 75% of the meetings and seminars held by SENH during this time. Both men are sole practitioners, which only adds to the demand for their time. On behalf of the SENH membership and the Board of Directors, ***Thank you Ben and Dave for all of your hard work!***



Member of

Board of Directors Elections

The terms of Ben Tirey, P.E., Dave Konieczny, P.E. and Roger Gayer, P.E. will expire in May 2003. The SENH Board of Directors nominates the following individuals to fill these positions:

- Roger Gayer, P.E.
- Steve Johnson, P.E.
- Alex Azodi, P.E.

Board of Director positions will be voted on at the May 2003 Annual Meeting.

Thank You

The Board of Directors wishes to thank you for your response and timeliness during the Dues Renewal process this year. To date, we have only about 24 or so remaining members or associate members who have not renewed their dues in a timely fashion. We are pleased with this response (approximately 150 out of 170+/-) when compared to past years. The SENH Board of Directors have much better things to do than to chase down dues renewals, so we thank you for the response.

Obviously, without the financial support of the membership, the organization would not be able to function. As you are aware, SENH has historically kept dues reasonably low and has made great strides to keep them that way. We hope that you see the benefit / cost ratio as very high when compared to other organizations. In the past year, SENH has purchased software to allow emailing of newsletters, seminar announcements, etc. The cost of this software was very minor and it has already paid for itself with the reduction in photocopying, postage, envelopes etc. Reduction of administrative costs such as these allow us to offer greater subsidies towards seminars, meetings etc.

As you know, NCSEA's national dues increased last year, however, SENH's dues were able to remain the same. Each year, we will have to reevaluate our financial responsibilities in order to set the dues rate, however, be sure that the Board will be working diligently to that end.

22nd Annual Structural Steel Seminar

The Structural Steel Fabricators of New England (SSFNE) will host the 22nd Annual Structural Steel Seminar at WPI this year on Thursday, May 22, 2003. For a registration form, email Emile Troup, P.E. at steelstruk@aol.com or call (781) 828-9408.

Stop me if you've heard it.....

There was once an engineer who found a magic lamp. When he rubbed it, a genie jumped out and said to him, "You have three wishes. But there is a catch - this wish system of mine was designed by a lawyer, so whatever you wish for every lawyer in the world will get double of!"

The engineer replied, "That's no problem, I can live with that." He then said, "For my first wish, I wish I had a Ferrari."

"OK", said the genie, and a Ferrari appeared in front of the engineer. "But remember, every lawyer in the world now has 2 Ferraris," the genie told the engineer.

The engineer remained unperturbed and said, "For my second wish, I wish for a million bucks." So a million bucks appeared in front of the engineer and the genie said, "remember, every lawyer in the world now has 2 million bucks."

The engineer was non-committal and then said, "I always wished I could donate a kidney!"

Very Truly Yours

Structural Engineers of New Hampshire

Matthew J. Low

Matthew J. Low, P.E.
President



Structural Engineers of New Hampshire Meeting Attendance

DATE: March 20, 2003

PLACE: Courtyard Marriott, Graponne Conference Center, Concord NH

RE: Business Practice Panel Discussion
(2.0 PDH Assigned)

NAME	ORGANIZATION	NAME	ORGANIZATION
Dana Michael Adams, P.E.	Opechee Construction Corp.	Dave Konieczny, P.E.	Pyramid Engineering, Inc.
Gloria St. Onge-Andrews, P.E.	SEA Consultants	Dennis R. LaBombard	LaBombard Engineering, LLC
Alex Azodi, P.E.	Stahlman Engineering	Steve Long, P.E.	Opechee Construction Corp.
Paul M. Becht, P.E.	H.L. Turner Group	Josh Lund, P.E.	Vollmer Associates
Mark Beroney	Hexaport International Ltd.	David A. Macolini, P.E.	JSN Associates, Inc.
Jason Blais, P.E.	Opechee Construction Corp.	Kenneth G. Marshall, P.E.	Foley & Buhl Engineering, Inc.
Roland J. Boucher, P.E.	Boucher Engineering Consultant	Lisa M. Martin, P.E.	CLD, Inc.
Lou Cote	Steffensen Engineering Assoc.	Jeffrey Nawrocki, P.E.	JSN Associates, Inc.
Normand G. Cote, Jr., P.E.	NGC Structural, LLC	Linda McNair-Perry, P.E.	Hexaport International, Ltd.
Tony Coviello	JSN Associates, Inc.	Stephen Richard	Steffensen Engineering Assoc.
Cheryl W. Coviello, P.E.	Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.	Richard E. Roberts, P.E.	Foley & Buhl Engineering, Inc.
Kathy J. Dougherty, P.E.		Larry Rolwes	Parsons Transportation Group
Robert H. Durfee, P.E.	Hoyle, Tanner and Associates, Inc.	Richard M. Rooney, P.E.	CLD, Inc.
Fred Emanuel, P.E.	Emanuel Engineering, Inc	Richard A. Rouleau, P.E.	Consultant
Jason Gallant, P.E.	Jesseman, Gallant & Associates	Peter Steffensen, P.E.	Steffensen Engineering Assoc.
Roger Gayer, P.E.	Structures Unlimited, Inc.	Paul Swanson	Trus Joist Heavy Timber
Martin Gorham, P.E.	JSN Associates, Inc.	Jeffrey L. Tirey, P.E.	Tirey & Associates, PC.
Timothy L. Grant., P.E.	TL Grant Engineering Consulting	Benjamin E. Tirey, P.E.	Consultant
Steven B. Halloran, P.E.	Edwards & Kelcey	Jeffrey S. Trexler, P.E.	Trexler Engineering
Robert S. Hartford, P.E.	Kalwall Corporation	Emile Troup	
James Karmozyn, P.E.	H.E. Bergeron Engineering	Chris Turgeon	Jesseman, Gallant & Associates
Thomas T. Kendrick, P.E.	Parsons Transportation Group	Andrew D. White	Tirey & Associates, PC.
Stephen Kiss, P.E.	SAK Engineering		

SENH March 20th Meeting Minutes

I. BUSINESS MEETING: The meeting began at 7:05 pm, after the social time and dinner, and ended at 7:25 pm.

1. Dave Konieczny introduced Committee members to give reports.
2. Norm Cote, QBS Committee, described QBS, selection of professional designers based on qualifications. He welcomed SENH volunteers to be on the QBS Committee. He said it would be better for larger firms to be represented based on involvement in RFP's and bidding.
3. Bob Durfee, NCSEA Delegate, described Structure magazine and that NCSEA is responsible for one third of its content. Bob solicited articles for the magazine from the SENH membership, articles to be 300 to 500 words in length. Bob described the 2003, 6th annual, NCSEA Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards Program that was announced in the SENH newsletter. The program includes 3 building categories and 2 bridge categories. SENH will pay for up to two applications. SENH has consistently submitted applications. Applications are due to SENH by May 31, 2003. Bob described a debate amongst SENH delegates about roof collapses under snow load. A volunteer is needed with experience in pre-engineered metal buildings, wood and/or cold formed steel prefabricated roof trusses and with experience in New England investigating roof collapses. E-mail is the format of the debate. A SENH representative is needed in the NCSEA debate. Tim Grant asked Bob if NCSEA supports ASCE recommendations for a masters degree prerequisite for a P.E. license. Bob indicated that NCSEA does not support the ASCE position that a masters degree is needed for a P.E. license. NCSEA recommends minimum educational requirements based on course requirements. Jason Gallant, NHASCE, spoke to the issue saying that ASCE is backing away from the masters degree requirement and is looking at a credits requirement.
4. Emile Troup reported on the NCSEA Winter Institute in Florida. Beyond the board members, etc., 20 registrants attended, a disappointment to NCSEA. NCSEA needs ideas from members on getting more participation and will solicit input via an email survey. Emile addressed the roof collapse issue. It started with an inquiry to the NCSEA Board regarding New England roof collapses. Emile announced the May 8 seminar on Floor Vibrations by Prof. Tom Murray at the Highlander Inn.
5. Dave Konieczny announced one new member: Roderick Bard, P.E., Stahlman Engineering Corp., and five new associate members: Daniel Bjorkman, Rist-Frost-Shumway Engineering; Sean Fennessey; Kristopher Kretsch, P.E., Vanesse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.; Lawrence Rolwes, E.I.T., Parsons; and Jason Ross, E.I.T., H.E. Bergeron Engineers, P.A.
6. Dave Konieczny announced three nominations to the SENH Board of Directors: Alex Azodi, P.E., Roger Gayer, P.E. and Steve Johnson, P.E.
7. Dave Konieczny recommended that members update their mailing addresses for Structure magazine at www.structuremag.org.
8. Dave Konieczny announced the May 20 SENH dinner meeting at Fratello's, Manchester, at which Josh Bartlett will give a presentation on prefabricated wood truss bracing. He announced the SENH May 8 seminar with Prof. Tom Murray speaking about floor vibrations, at the Highlander Inn, Manchester, 8 am to 12 pm. Dave solicited the membership for more ideas for meeting and seminar topics.

II. TECHNICAL PRESENTATION

An open Panel "round table" Discussion was introduced by Dave Konieczny with Fred Emanuel, Jeff Nawrocki and Jeff Tirey as panel members. Dave said that Ray Cowan is on the NH Building Code Review Board as the structural engineer representative and that the state has adopted IBC as the state building code. Ray is seeking input from anyone having difficulties with municipalities using old codes. The state recognizes only one code.

Dave invited Emile Troup to comment on the Rhode Island nightclub fire and on roof collapses due to snow. Emile indicated that the fire is not really a structural issue. On roof collapses, there are bracing problems, inadequate details, and installation deficiencies. There is a disconnect between pre-engineered metal building systems/prefabricated building systems and the Structural Engineer of Record.

Changes anticipated to result from the Rhode Island night club fire: building inspectors need improved competency in materials and fire protection. Sprinkler systems will be more likely in buildings large and small. There will be more emphasis on enforcement.

Snow load roof collapses: the development of snow loads and the investigation of collapses are critical issues. SENH surveyed roof failures under snow load finding that most failures were pre-engineered metal buildings and prefabricated roof trusses. Failures included buildings of any age and all materials. Bracing is typically a problem as well as unbalanced snow. In pre-engineered buildings there are often no anti-roll clips on purlins at the supports. Failures result from inadequate erection procedures and inadequate connection installation. Structural Engineer of Record involvement with prefabricated truss bracing installation can be a critical variable. Contractors often ignore HB-91. Compression web bracing is critical.

Clerk of the Works on public projects is not a substitute for Structural Engineer of Record Construction Administration services. Special inspections are critical. Emile Troup said that pre-engineered buildings and prefabricated trusses need to be addressed in the building code. The issue of NFPA Chapter 40 was discussed. Special inspections have been followed in southern New England since 1993 but not in northern New England. This is a function of the permitting process.

Retention of documents was discussed. The topic centered on how long to hold onto calculations and drawings for a design project. The Statutes of Repose and Limitations were discussed relative to this issue.

Last years panel discussion of standards of practice was revisited. Each firm decides what services it wants to offer.

The issues relating to electronic documents, also discussed at last years March panel presentation, were reviewed. Discussion focused on electronic deliverables, electronic transfer of files, and professional perspectives on electronic engineering services.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Minutes Approved: 4/17/03 Respectfully submitted, Benjamin E. Tirey, P.E., Secretary, SENH

MAY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

- NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, May 20, 2003
- SUBJECT:** Josh Bartlett, of Wood Structures, Inc. will present a program on bracing of pre-engineered wood trusses. He will present the WTCA (Wood Truss Council of America) literature and film on permanent, temporary and web bracing as well as the "Standard Responsibilities" (ANSI/TPI/WTCA 4-2002) documents. A discussion will follow addressing the techniques, responsibilities, and liabilities of this important issue.
- PLACE:** Fratello's Ristorante Italiano, 155 Dow Street, Manchester
- DIRECTIONS:** I-293 South: Exit 6, cross Merrimack River, exit onto Canal Street, right at first light onto commercial street, left onto Dow street and left into parking area.
- I-293 North: Exit 5, right at end of ramp onto Granite Street, left at first light onto Commercial Street, North to Dow Street, right onto Dow and first left into parking area.
- AGENDA:**
- 5:00 Social Hour
 - 6:00 Dinner
 - 6:45 Business Meeting
 - 7:00 Presentation and Discussion
 - 9:00 Adjourn
- DINNER:** Buffet-having salad, Chicken Parmesan, Broiled Haddock, pasta, fresh vegetables and dessert
- COST:** Member: \$32.00 Non-Member: \$35.00 Full Time Student: \$25.00
- RSVP:** May 14th (all reservations must be honored, no shows will be invoiced)
- Please send check payable to "Structural Engineers of New Hampshire" with list of attendees to:
- SENH
P.O. Box 226
Manchester, NH 03105-0226
Contact: Deb Coon, Administrative Assistant- (603) 669-5555
- NOTE:** 2.0 PDH's have been assigned for attendance to this program. Attendees are responsible for ensuring their check-in on the attendance list upon arrival at the dinner meeting.
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