

Structural Engineers of New Hampshire (SENH)



Submitted by: Robert H. Durfee, P.E., SECB Delegate
August 2008

Board of Directors:

President Alex Azodi, P.E., SECB
Vice President Tony Coviello, P.E.
Secretary Robert S. Busby, P.E.
Treasurer Kyle Roy, P.E.
Director-at-Large Steve W. Johnson, P.E.

Administrative Assistant: Deb Coon

Year of Formation: 1995

Total Number of Members: 167

Annual Dues: \$ Member \$50.00 Assoc. Member \$50.00 Student \$15.00

Meeting Schedule: Five (5) regular meetings held throughout the year in September, November, January, March and May. One (1) technical seminar held in October or March

Delegate: Robert H. Durfee, P.E., SECB

Alternate Delegate: Alex Azodi, P.E., SECB

List of Active Committees:

Legislative Liaison Special Inspections Committee
Professional Development (PD) Committee N.H. Quality Based Selection (QBS) Coalition
Joint Committee of N.H. Engineering Societies NCSEA Communications Committee
Bureau of Emergency Management (BEM) Committee
Public Relations (PR) Committee

SENH is currently represented on the NH Department of Safety Building Code Review Board by member Joel Fisher, P.E. and the NH Department of Safety Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board by member Fred Emanuel, P.E.

Previous Year's Activities: (Details can be found in SENH Newsletters on www.senh.org)

The September 2007 meeting was a presentation on "Overview of Soil Retention and Improvement Techniques". The presenter was Bob Tanning, Terra Drilling Company, Inc.

SENH sent three (3) representatives to the Annual Conference in Philadelphia in October. They were:

- Bob Durfee, P.E., SECB Delegate
- Alex Azodi, P.E. Alternate Delegate
- Tom French, P.E. Chair, Emergency Response Committee

SENH participated in the First Annual NH Joint Society Conference that was held in October 2007 in Manchester, NH. The program was "Dropping the Borders of Engineering". This event, geared to providing a strong informational and educational series of sessions for all disciplines of

engineering, included such presentations as “Team Building”, “Knowledge Management” and “Disaster Preparedness and Response.”

The November 2007 meeting included an afternoon tour of a local steel fabrication plant (Novel Iron Works) and an evening dinner presentation on “Prequalified Seismic Moment Connections”. The presenter was Jason Erickson, S.E., AISC Steel Solutions Center.

The January 2008 meeting included a presentation on the “Contech Bridge Solutions – Short and Medium Span”. The presenters were Tom Hennessey and Phil Colfish, P.E.

In January 2008, the Board appointed a By-Law Review Committee to review the current bylaws and make recommendations for revisions. Several revisions and clarifications were recommended by the Committee. Bylaw revisions were proposed and approved by the Membership at the Annual meeting in May 2008.

The March 2008 meeting featured a presentation on “Disproportionate Collapse” by NCSEA President Ed Huston, P.E., SE.

In March, 2008 SENH held a Seminar on the topics of “Updates on the 2006 IBC & ASCE 7-05 seismic provisions” and “Updates on the 2006 IBC & ASCE 7-05 wind provisions with introduction of a Rapid Solutions Methodology for wind developed by SEAW”, which was presented by Ed Huston, PE, SE

The May 2008 meeting was the annual meeting with new officers elected. A presentation included “Load Bearing Masonry – A Proven Structural System”. The presenter was David Biggs, P.E., Ryan-Biggs Associates.

SENH placed forty (40) NSCEA Structural Engineering Posters in local high schools in the winter/spring.

SENH Member Robert H. Durfee, P.E., SECB, was given the prestigious award of Engineer of the Year for New Hampshire. This award was presented at the annual Engineer’s Week Banquet in February attended by all New Hampshire Engineering Societies.

For seven years now the New Hampshire Union Leader (largest circulation newspaper in the state) honors 40 up-and-coming people, all under the age of 40, “who are making a difference in our state”. This year SENH Member Sean T. James, P.E., SECB was nominated and recognized for his work on preserving historic covered bridges throughout New England. Congratulations Sean! SENH Member Matt Low, P.E. was recognized in 2006 for his work with SENH and NSPE.

The SENH PR Committee awarded its second round of scholarships to two University of New Hampshire (UNH) Juniors who, through their course selection, have designated structural engineering to be the focus of their education. Mr. Seth R. Lizotte and Mr. Ryan L. Kline will each receive a \$500 scholarship to assist with the financial burdens of pursuing their degrees. They were extended SENH student membership and acknowledged at the annual Engineer’s Week Banquet in February 2008 for their scholastic and extra-curricular achievements.

In April 2008, six (6) SENH members volunteered their Saturday to be judges at the all day regional ASCE/AISC Student Steel Bridge Competition held at UNH. Two more members volunteered to judge the ASCE New England Paper Presentation Competition on the Friday night before the bridge competition. Around a dozen New England and Canadian universities competed at the regional competition.

Before his death this past spring, SENH Member and retired University of New Hampshire Professor Louis M. Klotz graciously offered to donate his personal engineering library collection

(36 boxes in all) to the SENH Library collection housed at the NHTI Library in Concord, NH. Dr. Koltz's collection consisted of many undergraduate and graduate texts and many code editions - some going back to 1950.

SENH Board members attended the University of New Hampshire (UNH) Engineering, Science and Technology Career and Internship Fairs in the spring of 2008 to share our experience as structural engineers with the students and discuss what SENH had to offer.

The SENH Board found that there were no significant bills on the legislative agenda in the last year that warranted the attention of the structural engineering community in NH.

Through the newsletter SENH kept the members informed of changes to the NHDOT 10-year plan at the hand of Interim Commissioner O'Leary. He called for shrinking the state's 10-year plan to a six-year program, with money firmly committed for the first four years of each cycle.

In the coming year, SENH is planning the following meetings:

- The NH Joint Engineering Societies, which includes SENH, is planning the Second Annual Joint Society Conference in October 2008 in Manchester, NH. The program is titled "A Symposium on Green Energy Applications".
- November 2008 – Insurance presentation roundtable. This would be a brief presentation on insurance requirements/terms/etc. that engineers should be familiar with. It would be followed by a roundtable discussion with senior structural engineers.
- January 2009 – This is a bridge topic meeting that would include an NHDOT update of State bridge activity, followed by a presentation on a bridge project of interest.
- March 2009 – Non-Destructive Testing. This presentation would focus on the use of ground penetrating radar and ultrasonic testing for structural and geotechnical applications.
- May 2009 – This is our Annual Meeting. New Board members are elected. A presentation will include Slab on grade design. This presentation will focus on special considerations for point loads on slabs on grade as well as design criteria.
- A day long seminar is being considered for Spring, 2009 time frame. Possible topics include: AASHTO Bridge, Glue Laminated Timber Connections or LRFD Timber Design.