The 23rd Structural Summit was held in Las Vegas, NV. The Summit was well attended with 39 of the 44 member organizations sending delegates. Five of the six New England states were represented by delegates (Rhode Island absent). Approximately 180 structural engineers and 46 vendors attended the summit with delegate spouses attending and participating in many social activities.

This year the summit technical sessions were again expanded to two full days, following the summit format that was started in 2012, with dual track technical programs provided. Sessions were organized around many of the key issues that structural engineers face in their daily practice.

SENH Delegate Bob Durfee attended the summit, and also attended the Advocacy Committee meeting as a Committee Member. SENH Alternate Delegate Alex Azodi attended the summit, and also attended the Code Advisory Committee meeting as a Committee Member. SENH members Peter Griem and Jeff Karam attended several Committee meetings at the summit.

Wednesday, September 17th

Numerous NCSEA committees met during the morning and afternoon sessions to work on their assigned topics.

- Advocacy Committee

Bob Durfee is a member of this Committee.

There are five Sub-Committees in Advocacy as follows:

- Clients & Prospects
- General Public & Media Subcommittee
- Code Officials & Government Agencies Subcommittee
- Students & Educators Subcommittee
- Videography Subcommittee

Most of the meeting focused on the Students & Educators Subcommittee and coordinating the work that was done with the Basic Education Committee on developing promotional PowerPoint presentations, tri-folds and videos to high school students on the structural engineering profession.

- Basic Education Committee
- Code Advisory Committee

There are six Sub-Committees in Code Advisory.
Seismic Provisions Sub-Committee

Peter Griem is a voting member of this Sub-Committee, representing northeast SEA’s, in general. Due to the fact that most seismic-related code changes take place in ASCE 7, this committee has now decided to serve more of an liaison and education role – i.e. collect feedback from NCSEA practitioners and relay information regarding code development activities through the local SEA’s. The committee’s primary goal for 2016 is to publish a seismic design manual for Seismic Design Categories B and C.

Existing Buildings Sub-Committee

Peter Griem is a corresponding member of this Sub-Committee, representing SENH. The committee’s major goal for the upcoming code cycle is to reconcile differences between the work area and prescriptive methods of the IEBC. In addition, the committee actively reviews and proposes editorial changes. A long term committee goal is to eliminate the prescriptive method in its entirety. In addition, the committee is seeking ways to correlate ASCE 41 with the IEBC.

IRC Sub-Committee (working group of General Engineering)

Jeff Karam is a voting member of this working group, representing SENH. This was the first meeting of the working group. Most group members are new to their roles so much time was spent discussing our intended role and the process through which a code change actually happens. To familiarize ourselves with the processes we intend to undertake a relatively simple issue before addressing some more complex ones. Much of our conversations were on the apparent differences between utilizing IRC versus IBC. Notably, we discussed the minimum reinforcement differences that result from following IRC versus IBC. Currently, we are considering IRC code language pertaining to the practice of ‘wet-sticking’ rebar. Perhaps at a later date we will consider the reinforcement issue and/or things such as snow drifting and sliding effects. If readers have any particular items of interest please feel free to contact Jeff at jeff@evergreenstructural.com.

General Engineering Subcommittee

Alex Azodi is a member of this Sub-Committee. The meeting mainly focused on the issues initiated by or brought to this subcommittee for consideration to submit as a Code Change Proposal to ICC by the January 2016 dead line.

Special Inspections/Quality Assurance Sub-Committee

Peter Griem is a corresponding member of this Sub-Committee, representing SENH. One major goal for the committee for the upcoming code cycle is to introduce expanded provisions for special wood inspections in the 2018 IBC.

Evaluation Services Advisory Sub-Committee

Wind Provisions Sub-Committee

- Continuing Education Committee
- Membership Committee
- Structural Engineer Licensure Committee
- Publications Committee
- Structural Engineers Emergency Response (SEER) Committee
- Young Member Group Support Committee

- Young Engineer Reception

A significant contingent of young engineers (approximately 20) attended this year's summit. Young member attendance was again bolstered this year by six (6) summit attendance scholarships awarded to young members by NCSEA. A reception was held from 5:30 to 6:30 pm for young members to meet, socialize and network with their colleagues and peers.

- Evening SECB Reception

The SECB (Structural Engineer Certification Board) reception was held from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. SECB Chairman Joseph Luke informed the attendees of the mission/goal of SECB and encouraged Structural Engineers to become certified.

- Northeast Coalition of Structural Engineer Associations (NECSEA) Meeting

The Delegates and attendees from the Northeast States met from 8:30 pm to 11:00 pm at the Mercadito Restaurant within the resort for beverages and food, and to discuss issues common to the Northeast region. Representatives from NY, NH, MA, RI, VT and CT were present. Bob Durfee, Alex Azodi and Peter Griem attended this meeting representing SENH. In all eighteen (18) structural engineers from the northeast attended and participated in this meeting.

The success of coordinating and sharing technical speakers (Ed Huston Seminars) last year was reviewed.

The coalition agreed to share technical speakers in the plan will be to tap speakers from the participating MO's and go on the lecture circuit to all the Mo's.

The coalition meeting schedule was discussed. There will be four meetings this year, two face to face meetings (NCSEA Summit and one regional meeting) and two via teleconference meetings. The next teleconference meeting is set for November 12th at 1:00 pm. A new chair and secretary was established. For the coming year, SEAoNY will be responsible for chairing the meetings (Erik Madsen) and recording and issuing meeting minutes.

Thursday, September 18th

Thursday started with a new session named Delegate Interaction Meeting. The objective was to provide more person to person interactions and activities between the delegates.

- Technical Presentations
Numerous technical presentations were made throughout the day regarding structural engineering. Technical notes, outlines or Power Point files for all presentations are posted on the NCSEA website.

- **Evening Exhibitor Reception**

An evening reception was held from 6:30 to 8:30 pm with the exhibitors. Forty-two (42) exhibitor companies were present. Exhibitor booths covered numerous structural products and services including software, bolts & fasteners, steel products, concrete anchoring systems, concrete repairs, building codes and building retrofit. Summit attendees had access to exhibitors throughout the duration of the summit, exposing them to the latest products, software and tools for structural engineering practice. Attendees were encouraged to visit all exhibitors during breaks and at the Thursday evening reception, making them eligible to win raffle prizes at the end of the summit.

- **Rock n’ Bowl**

Attendees were treated to a social event to bowl at the Resort VIP Bowling Lounge from 8:30 to 11:30 pm. Many attendees attended this event and developed contacts with engineers from different states.

**Friday, September 19th**

The first part of the Friday was dedicated to another new session called Delegate Collaboration session. Several important issues affecting the practice of structural engineering were discussed and debated through a work shop style event. Conclusions were reported to the full membership during the Saturday business meeting.

- **Technical Presentations**

Numerous technical presentations were made throughout the day regarding structural engineering. Technical notes, outlines or Power Point files for all presentations are posted on the NCSEA website.

- **Awards Banquet**

Evening activities included a cocktail hour social and dinner/awards banquet. The dinner celebrated the best and brightest of our profession. The NCSEA Service Award was presented to Craig Barnes for his longstanding contribution to the organization. James Donald Scott was presented the James M. Delahay Award in recognition of his years of service to the profession. The Susan M. Frey Educator Award was awarded to Emily Guglielmo, and the Robert Cornforth Award was presented to Carl Josephson for his longstanding contributions to SEAOC.

The Awards Committee received project applications for awards. The Committee presented sixteen (16) awards for outstanding projects in eight (8) categories as follows:

- New Buildings Under $10 Million
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- New Buildings $10 Million to $30 Million
- New Building $30 Million to $100 Million
- New Buildings Over $100 Million
- New Bridges and Transportation Structures
- International Structures over $100 Million
- Forensic / Renovation / Retrofit / Rehabilitation Structures
- Other Structures

These awards highlighted the amazing depth, breadth, creativity and technical skill demonstrated by firms of all sizes from across the country. (Details of all the winners can be found at the NCSEA website and in Structure magazine).

The banquet concluded with the changing of the guard of the NCSEA Board of Directors. Outgoing President Barry Arnold summarized the numerous accomplishments made by the organization during the past year, followed by incoming President Brian Dekker who discussed goals for the coming year. Brian then introduced the 2014-2015 NCSEA Board of Directors.

Saturday, September 20th

- Committee Reports

The summit agenda on Saturday morning consisted of NCSEA Committee Reports and the NCSEA Business Meeting. All committee reports are posted on the NCSEA website.

Each of the NCSEA Committee Chairs briefly summarized their activities during the year (presentations of each are posted on the committee pages on the NCSEA website).

- 24th Annual NCSEA Structural Engineering Summit

Orlando, FL and Disney’s Contemporary Resort has been identified as the location of the 24th Annual Structural Summit which will be held on September 14-17, 2016.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank SENH for supporting registration, hotel and travel expensed for me to attend this summit as your delegate from New Hampshire. This year Alex Azodi again joined me in attending the summit as your Alternate Delegate and participated in many of the concurrent activities that were available. Peter Griem and Jeff Karam attended to participate in several Committee meetings. I wish to thank Alex, Peter and Jeff for their participation.

Respectfully Submitted,

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