

*A Message from the President*



Steven B. Tipping, President 2002-03

### What's in it for me?

As I write my first article for the newsletter, I thought it an opportune time to share with you a telephone conversation I had recently. I called a member of the organization to encourage him to upgrade his membership status from Student to Member SE. This member joined SEAONC about ten years ago as a student, and has been paying student level dues ever since. I informed him that the bylaws require members to upgrade their status from Student, to Associate, to Member, to Member SE as their careers evolve.

He acknowledged that his current membership status was inappropriate but pointed out that an upgrade in membership status would result in an increase in dues. He didn't think upgrading to Member SE was worth the extra money. I reminded him of the monthly meetings he could attend, and he replied that he could attend those as a guest. I reminded him of our newsletter, and he replied that he could view it on line for free. I reminded him of the great seminars that SEAONC sponsors, and he replied that he could always attend those as a non-member or get a copy of the seminar notes from someone who did attend. At this point I gave up. Unfortunately, this individual chose to let his membership expire rather than incur the additional expense of upgrading his membership status. In a sense, he chose to drop out

*Continued on page 2*

## SEAONC RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AT AWARDS DINNER

The June 2<sup>nd</sup> SEAONC dinner meeting at the City Club, the Association's annual awards night, was a packed house. SEAONC Past Presidents, Life Members, Honorary Members, and Fellows were honored for their contributions to the organization. In addition, various awards were presented to deserving SEAONC members, students, and firms.

The Community Involvement Award recognizes a SEAONC member who is highly involved in the community. This involvement helps advance SEAONC's mission to "enhance life safety, environmental health, and economic well being of the public." Andrew Scott, Chair of the Public Affairs and Membership Committee, presented the 2002 Community Involvement Award to **Dave Hammond**.

Simin Naaseh presented the 2002 H.J. Brunner Lifetime Achievement Award to

**Eric Elsesser**, for his outstanding achievement in structural design.

The Edwin B. Zacher Award, for outstanding service and contribution to the profession of Structural Engineering, was presented to **Ron Gallagher**. Ted Zsutty made the presentation.

Frank L. Rollo presented a plaque to honor a new 2002 SEAONC Fellow, **Pat Buscovich**. According to the SEAONC bylaws, Section 8. "A FELLOW shall be a Member SE so designated by the Board of Directors in recognition of outstanding service to the Association or accomplishments in the field of structural engineering. S/he shall have been a member in good standing for 15 years."

Eric Elsesser presented a plaque to honor **Roland Sharp**, for achieving SEAONC Honorary Member status. According to the

*Continued on page 2*

*Election Results*

## SEAONC ELECTS 2002-2003 OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SEAONC Member Steven B. Tipping, SE, President of Tipping Mar + Associates, Berkeley, has been elected President of SEAONC for the 2002-2003 year. Tipping will be the Association's 73<sup>rd</sup> President.

David Bonneville, SE, Senior Principal at Degenkolb Engineers, San Francisco, has been elected Vice President.

The Association also elected three Directors to serve through 2004: Carrie Bischoff, SE, Project Engineer at Degenkolb Engineers, San Francisco; Rafael Sabelli, SE, Associate at DASSE Design, Inc., San Francisco; and Constantine Shuhaibar, PhD, PE, Principal at Shuhaibar Engineers, San Francisco.

They join the remainder of SEAONC's 2002-2003 Board of Directors: Past President, Jon Kiland, Principal, DASSE Design Inc.; and continuing directors: Alan Robinson, Principal, Tuan & Robinson Structural Engineers; Mehri Ansari, Principal, Ansari Structural Engineers, Inc.; and Doug Hohbach, Principal, Hohbach-Lewin, Inc.

Retiring Board members who deserve thanks for their hard work in office are: Past President Jim Malley, Degenkolb Engineers; and directors Simin Naaseh, Forell/Elsesser; and Alan Kren, Rutherford and Chekene.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

**No General Meeting in July!**

**The next monthly meeting will be held on August 6th at the City Club. Details in the August News!**

rather than to get involved.

The value of membership in SEAONC can't be measured only in terms of what it provides to an individual member. Without organizations like SEAONC and the countless volunteer hours put in by its members, the structural engineering profession wouldn't be what it is today. Who would write the building codes? Who would coordinate and evaluate research? Who would look after our interests as professionals and business-persons? Who would help us keep current with the latest technical developments?

The purpose of SEAONC is not to spoon feed individual engineers, but rather to offer them the opportunity to connect with their peers, develop their careers, and contribute to their profession.

As the above mentioned ex-member pointed out, one can actually benefit from SEAONC without even being a member. But those benefits are limited when compared to the benefits they could receive if they rolled up their sleeves and participated. And SEAONC would be that much stronger with the benefit of their input as we face the challenges and make the important decisions that will affect our profession (and the general public) for years to come. Rather than asking the question "What's in it for me?", we should be asking the question "How can I help?". Thanks to all of our active members who are doing just that!

*by Steve Tipping, 2002-2003 President*

Opinions expressed in the SEAONC NEWS are not necessarily those of the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California. Advertising rates and information sent upon request. Acceptance of advertising and informational brochures in the SEAONC NEWS does not constitute endorsement or approval by SEAONC of the products or services advertised. SEAONC reserves the right to refuse any advertising.

The SEAONC NEWS is published monthly by the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California, 74 New Montgomery Street, Suite 230, San Francisco, CA 94105-3411. It is distributed to members of SEAONC as a membership benefit. Reproduction for noncommercial purposes is allowed if the source is acknowledged.

## Public Affairs and Membership Committee Year-End Report

*by Andrew Scott, Chair*

The SEAONC Public Affairs & Membership Committee spent much of its time focussing on the future of the School Outreach Program, in addition to administering the ongoing committee programs, including Rebuilding Together and the Community Involvement Awards.

The goal of the School Outreach Program (SOP) is to use SEAONC resources to reach out to the younger generation, in hopes of improving the public perception of Structural Engineering and fostering career interest at the K-12 level. While the vision of the program is clear, the implementation is not. The committee spent a lot of time evaluating different programs to identify a realistic goal for the SEAONC program.

Fortunately, early in the year the committee was approached by a local non-profit organization to help develop, market, and implement a fundraising endeavor that would support programs with similar goals to the SOP. The organization, LEAP... Imagination in Learning, is an established organization with close ties to the building industry and is already functioning throughout the Bay Area in a similar capacity to the SOP. The committee, therefore, accepted the challenge and began work on what was to become the Kite Building Challenge – a sister event to the famed Sandcastle Classic (SCC). Unfortunately, the program never got off the ground and LEAP, along with the PA&M, was forced to regroup.

As it became clear that an entirely new event was not practical, it was suggested that engineers should perhaps take a larger role in the existing Sandcastle Classic program. As many are not aware, the goal of the SCC is to raise money for local school outreach

projects. These projects typically consist of art and architecture curriculums closely tied with the resources of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). With the addition of engineering funding and manpower through SEAONC involvement, the LEAP organization can begin to broaden their programs to include Structural Engineering curriculums.

As a realistic first step, it was decided that SEAONC would sponsor a team in this year's Sandcastle Classic and that our members would begin to take part in the educational activities of the following year. **This year's SCC will be held at Ocean Beach in San Francisco on September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2002.** The team will be staffed and funded by SEAONC members along with industry resources and local school children. This event will be an exciting opportunity for SEAONC and its members to gain positive public exposure, network within our industry, and most importantly, foster interest and excitement within the next generation. Anyone interested in contributing to the team, either through funding, building, or teaching, is encouraged to contact **Andrew Scott c/o Degenkolb Engineers** for more information.

I would like to personally thank the committee members for their hard work and commitment to this years committee: Jennifer Lynn, Blake Hoskisson, Joyce Feng, Adrian Nacamuli, Regan Bramblett, Laurie Iida, Kirk Johnston, and our Board contact, Jim Malley.

As always, the committee is looking for new members with fresh ideas to join the committee. If you're interested, please contact the incoming chair, Derrick Roorda c/o Desimone Consulting Engineers. We have an exciting year ahead and look forward to continued success.

### *Awards, Continued from page 1*

SEAONC Bylaws, Section 9, "An HONORARY MEMBER shall be a person so designated by the Board of Directors in special recognition of the person's contribution to the excellence of the structural engineering profession."

Steve Tipping, the SEAONC Scholarship Chair for 2001-2002, presented three \$5,000 SEAONC scholarships to deserving students: **Natalie Tilds**, from San Jose State, who attended with her parents Marianne and Alex; **Timothy Lucido**, from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, who attended with his parents, Rog and Vincie; and **Giovanni Damato**, who was unable to attend.

Mehri Ansari, Chair of the Awards Commit-

tee, announced four Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards. Awards went to **Tipping Mar & Associates** for the Lou Harrison Residence High Performance Straw Bale (New projects submitted by firms with more than 10 full-time licensed engineers); **Mesiti-Miller, Inc.**, for the Walton Lighthouse (New projects submitted by firms with 10 or fewer full-time licensed engineers); **Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP** for 1AboveNet ISX-SF1 Internet Service Exchange Facility (Retrofit projects submitted by firms with more than 10 full-time licensed engineers); and **STRUCTUS, Inc.**, for the Viscous Shear Wall Damper System for Seismic Retrofit of Kagoshima Airport in Japan (Retrofit projects submitted by firms with 10 or fewer full-time licensed engineers). For more details, please see separate article in this newsletter.

# 2002 SEAONC Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards Announced

The Structural Engineers Association of Northern California was pleased to announce the winners of its seventh annual Excellence in Structural Engineering competition at its recent June 4th Awards Dinner. The purpose of this competition is to provide public acknowledgement of creative achievement and innovation in structural engineering design, and to educate the public as to the contribution of Structural Engineers to the building industry and to public safety. There were a total of 16 outstanding entries this year, and four winners were selected—one for each of four categories based on firm size (large firm defined as more than 10 licensed, full-time engineers, small firm defined as fewer than 10 licensed, full-time engineers) and whether the project was new or retrofit.

Projects were assessed by a panel of four judges, all past presidents of SEAONC, including Ron Gallagher, Ron Hamburger, Ephraim Hirsch, and Mark Saunders, and by SEAONC members at the April 2<sup>nd</sup> SEAONC dinner meeting. The judges based their assessments on the following criteria:

- Creativity or innovation in structural design or analytical procedures used
- Design efficiency, in terms of use of materials and labor
- Suitability of the material used for the environment
- How the design met the performance objectives of the project
- How the design met the unusual challenges of the project
- Reports, research, investigations, and plan review activities, which significantly contributed to the project

All 16 entries will be entered in the statewide SEAOC Excellence in Structural Engineering Competition that will take place at the SEAOC Convention in September.



**Tipping Mar & Associates for the Lou Harrison Residence High Performance Straw Bale** (New Projects: Large firm)

This project is unique and experimental in nature due to the feature of a vaulted roof over the main room of the house. The semi-circular vault is constructed entirely of straw bales, wire mesh and stucco shells. The vault and wall designs are based on models adapted from basic

reinforced concrete mechanisms. The straw replaces concrete as a compression-only material working compositely with wire mesh which substitutes for reinforcing steel in tension.

**Mesiti-Miller, Inc., for the Walton Lighthouse** (New Projects: Small firm)

The project challenge was to replace a utilitarian Coast Guard navigation beacon mounted on a steel pipe support at the end of a rock jetty with a classic lighthouse styled structure. The jetty was designed in 1962 by the US Army Corps of Engineers and never intended to support such a heavy structure. The primary performance objective was to design an aesthetically pleasing structure

able to safely withstand repeated attack by large magnitude ocean waves and debris impacts while minimizing impact on the jetty structure, all at minimum cost.



**Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP for 1AboveNet ISX-SF1 Internet Service Exchange Facility** (Retrofit Projects: Large firm)



The project presents an example in the application of seismic isolation technology to transform a 1940's non-ductile reinforced concrete warehouse and its conversion into a state-of-the-art Internet "co-location" facility with the goal of continued operation following a major earthquake. The completed Internet Service

Exchange (ISX) Facility includes 140,000 square feet of "co-location" spaces that house client computers for major companies with their Internet servers tied into AboveNet Communications, Inc. global optical fiber network.

**STRUCTUS, Inc., for the Viscous Shear Wall Damper System for Seismic Retrofit of Kagoshima Airport in Japan** (Retrofit Projects: Small firm)

Kagoshima Air Terminal Building is a four level concrete moment frame structure with a total area of 17,200 s.m. or 185,000 s.f. Seismic work employing viscous "damper shear walls" designed by Structus was completed in June, 2001. The project has

been included in the recently published book titled "Architectural Renovations-33 Cases," by JARAC and NIKKE Architecture, as one of the 33 outstanding/retrofit projects in Japan.



---

## Younger Members Forum Year-End Report

*by Jason Towle, Chair*

Thank you to everyone who helped to support the Younger Members Forum (YMF) during the 2001-2002 year. The entire membership appreciates your dedication to this committee and applauds all the work that made this year an extremely successful one for YMF. Below are our major accomplishments over the last year.

The Younger Members Forum has continued our work to strengthen and support the needs of the younger and new members of SEAONC. We attempted our first event of the year with the new member orientation prior to the September 11<sup>th</sup> general membership meeting. However, given the tragic events of that day, the new member orientation was postponed until the December dinner meeting. The orientation welcomed both new and existing members of SEAONC and gave members an opportunity to meet and contribute to the many committees of our professional society.

Also in September, the YMF sponsored the first annual Baseball Game Social, treating approximately twenty young members to an exciting game between the San Francisco Giants and the Houston Astros. This event

was extremely popular and will hopefully be a continuing annual YMF event.

We continued our long history of hosting student nights for students from the University of California at Berkeley, Stanford University, Santa Clara University, San Jose State University, and San Francisco State University (for the first time this year) at monthly general meetings during the year. The students enjoyed their visit to actual "design offices" and the opportunity to meet the members of SEAONC. Thank you to the offices of Tipping, Mar and Associates, Rutherford and Chekene and Degenkolb Engineers for graciously hosting the students tours and Laura Yamaguchi for organizing these successful student nights.

YMF continued its tradition of hosting the Fall and Spring Socials. Both events were extremely successful allowing younger members to network, socialize and share the experiences of their early careers with each other. YMF also sponsored the P.E. Exam discussion at the March membership meeting and co-sponsored this year's Young Members Design Forum with the Continuing Education Committee. Thanks to Gina Sandoval, Josh Marrow and Laura Yamaguchi for their help with the P.E. Exam discussion and Darrick Hom for his presentation on "Computer Modelling Techniques" for the Young Members Design Forum.

During the past year, members of the YMF began developing SEAONC's relationship with the East Bay branch of Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is a community group that works, through tax-deductible donations of money, materials, and volunteer labor, to provide affordable ownership housing for low-income families by building and renovating existing homes. We look forward to continuing to develop this relationship and would like to thank Gene St. Onge of St. Onge and Associates for his efforts toward including YMF in the East Bay Habitat for Humanity.

Lastly, YMF had the opportunity to give a presentation to the students at California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly) as part of their "Structural Forum" weekend. The presentation was entitled "Continued Involvement in SEAOC after Graduation." YMF represented SEAONC at our booth during "Structural Forum," passing out membership applications and discussing the merits and benefits of professional engineering participation to the students.

These accomplishments could not have been completed without the help of the dedicated members of the YMF. I would like to especially thank Laura Yamaguchi, past YMF vice chair and incoming YMF committee chair and all the active YMF committee members for their assistance.

---

## Seismology and Structural Standards Committee Year-End Report

*by Rafael Sabelli, Chair*

The 2001-2002 term of committee chair was divided between David Bonowitz and myself. In the first half of the term, several of the projects initiated under Bonowitz's chairmanship were completed. These include SEAONC contributions to the SEAOC commentary on FEMA 350, and review of proposed IBC changes. The committee's work on design provisions for buckling-restrained braced frames, begun in 1999, is virtually complete and is being coordinated with BSSC for inclusion in the NEHRP Provisions.

Additionally, this year IBC code changes concerning the reliability/redundancy factor ( $\rho$ ) based on the committee's study were adopted. This marks a conclusion to a project initiated by a member's question, posed in 2000. The success of this project reflects both the committee's continued emphasis on answering member questions with unofficial committee opinions and locally published position statements, as well as its new alignment with the national code process.

Since taking the position of chair I have focused on making the committee more open and accessible to the membership. This goal is intended to increase the value of the committee to the Association. As a first step, the committee has begun posting its minutes and agenda on the SEAONC web-site, complete with dates of future meetings. We have recently been able to expand this to include subcommittee minutes and agenda. These can all be obtained from the Seismology and Structural Standards web-page (<http://www.seaonc.org/member/committees/seismology.html>).

I have also encouraged members to make our discussions public by presenting their positions in the Newsletter, so that, in addition to published committee consensus opinions, we will have member opinions presented to the Association. It is my hope that these published opinions will encourage discussion of technical issues facing our profession and bring more of the membership into the dialogue, either through published responses, committee participation, or, at the very least, awareness of the issues under discussion. In this way, the committee can make its work more relevant to the membership.

In addition to its ongoing tasks of reviewing proposed changes to the IBC, CBC, NFPA, and materials codes, the committee has included several finite tasks to its agenda recently. Included in these are a group of related issues concerning diaphragm and collector design, currently under study by the concrete subcommittee, about which a Newsletter article will soon be published. The steel subcommittee has a full agenda, including discussions of new systems such as Buckling-Restrained Braced Frames and Steel-Plate Shear Walls, proposed Ordinary Moment Frame provisions, and braced frame gusset-plate design and modeling issues. The full committee is discussing proposed changes to the NEHRP Recommended Seismic Provisions, as well as problems concerning the use of the overstrength factor ( $\omega$ ). At our next meeting, we will be discussing the Staggered-Truss system.

Meetings are scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Meetings take place at the San Francisco offices of Degenkolb Engineers, 225 Bush Street, 10<sup>th</sup> floor. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 25.

*Ram International*  
*Repeat Full Page Ad*

# Committees on Assignment

## BRBF Tests Offer Lessons for Braced Frame Design

by David Bonowitz and Kevin Moore, Steel Subcommittee Chair

Tests performed at U.C. Berkeley early this year confirmed the expected performance of an Unbonded Brace design. They also showed the need for careful detailing of brace connections. Unbonded Braces are principal components of one type of Buckling-Restrained Braced Frame (BRBF). (See sidebar.)

The Berkeley tests, based on a BRBF building currently in design, examined the influence on the brace of combined flexural and axial strains induced by frame distortion. The Unbonded Brace had previously been tested with only axial loading. The tests involved full-story subassemblies of beams, columns, and diagonal Unbonded Braces. Pseudo-static cyclic loads were applied to three specimens with different brace configurations. Different brace members were used for each test, but the same frame beams and columns were used for all three. Additional information can be found at [www.ce.berkeley.edu/~patxi/UnbondedBrace/](http://www.ce.berkeley.edu/~patxi/UnbondedBrace/).

The tested subassemblies met project-specific performance objectives, and the brace did not bind under expected frame distortions. However, the frame kinematics contributed to gusset plate buckling and to ultimate behavior modes involving tearing of gusset plate-to-column welds and fracture of the beam flange near the tip of the gusset plate (at a story drift of 2.25%).

In general, ultimate buckling and tearing of the gusset plate in a brace connection are not surprising. The substantial project-specific testing called for by SEAONC's proposed design criteria might not cover the full range of expected conditions related to gusset plate thickness, buckling length, and fracture resistance. For untested conditions, safety against failure must be checked by calculation.

The recent test results offer cautionary lessons for Eccentric, Ordinary Concentric, and Special Concentric Braced Frame connections as well. All connections must be

properly designed and detailed to provide acceptable performance.

The lessons may be more important for the BRBF, however, since it is gaining popularity as a new system suitable for enhanced performance objectives. The system's reputation is growing largely due to uniaxial brace tests that show exceptional energy dissipation capacity. Until the recent Berkeley tests, buckling-restrained braces had not been tested in the U.S. as part of a full-story frame subassembly.

According to *Structural Engineer* (April 2002), BRBFs are being used for "important" buildings that expect to remain "fully functional after a major earthquake." Weld or beam flange fracture at or below expected drift levels may be more of a concern for these performance objectives than for code-level designs of non-essential facilities.

The Unbonded Brace is a proprietary type of buckling-restrained brace. BRBFs are not yet standardized in U.S. building codes. Tentative design criteria for BRBFs, including testing requirements, have been developed by the SEAONC Steel Subcommittee with input by an AISC/SEAOC task group. The proposed criteria are available at the Seisology and Structural Standards page of the SEAONC web site, [www.seaonc.org/member/committees/seisology.html](http://www.seaonc.org/member/committees/seisology.html). Until the system is codified, building officials are expected to require peer-reviewed designs, project-specific testing, or both. Additional information on BRBFs, including the proposed design provisions, is available in the notes from SEAONC's 2000 Spring Seminar and 2001 Fall Seminar.

Reminder:  
August Newsletter Deadline:  
Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Submit your articles by  
e-mail:  
[SEAONC@ix.netcom.com](mailto:SEAONC@ix.netcom.com)

## Continuing Education Committee Year-End Report

by Reina Farah, Chair

The Continuing Education Committee had a very successful year, due in large part to the many active committee members. The committee put together two SEAONC seminars and assisted in the planning of a third seminar, all of which were well-attended. Here is a summary of the committee's major activities for the year:

**2001 FALL SEMINAR:** The "New Technologies" seminar took place on November 7th and 14th, 2001, at the PG&E Auditorium. Approximately 150 people attended the seminar. The speakers presented several of the latest developments in structural engineering. The seminar speakers were Abolhassan Astaneh, Mohammad Ehsani, and P.K. Mehta on the first evening and John Stanton, Robert Taylor, Rafael Sabelli and Ian Aiken on the second evening. Topics included Steel Plate Shear Walls, Retrofit Techniques with Fiber Composite Materials, Sustainable Concrete, Precast Concrete Shear Walls, New Technologies in Wood, and Buckling Restrained Braced Frames.

**2002 SPRING SEMINAR:** The "Practical Concrete Design and Construction" seminar took place on March 13th and 20th, 2002, at the PG&E Auditorium. Approximately 250 people attended the seminar. The speakers presented several practical aspects of concrete design and construction, including Concrete Moment Frame Design, Concrete Materials and Mix Design, Slabs on Grade, Prestressed Concrete Slab Design and Construction Issues and Diaphragm Design. The first evening's speakers included Jack Moehle, Robert Schwein, and Harvey Haynes. The second evening's speakers included Dirk Bondy and Joseph Maffei.

**2002 SUMMER SEMINAR:** The committee is currently planning the Summer Seminar, which will cover the topic of seismic upgrade of existing buildings. The seminar is scheduled for August 21st and 28th, 2002.

**YOUNG MEMBERS DESIGN FORUM SEMINARS:** The committee assisted with the planning and conducting of the Young Members Design Forum with YMF. Darrick Hom spoke about "Computer Modeling" at the seminar which was held prior to the SEAONC February Dinner meeting.

Continued on page 10

---

## Professional Practices Committee Year-End Report

by William Andrews, Chair

The Professional Practices Committee was essentially dormant this past year. The primary ongoing issue over which the committee has been meeting since 2001 is commentary on the 2000 edition of the AISC Code of Standard Practice. While the PPC developed a draft commentary for structural engineers, CASE was on a parallel effort and completed publication of their commentary on the structural engineer's use of the AISC Code of Standard Practice.

The CASE document appears to have addressed most of the concerns of the Professional Practice Committee, so we are shifting our effort to providing AISC with feedback and recommended revisions to the Code of Standard Practice during this next cycle. (This AISC committee has not met since early last year, and but is now scheduled to meet June 19). Individual requests for information related to the availability of professional liability insurance and license exam referrals were fielded and responded to by the Chair. The committee is prepared to meet again as the AISC CSP process resumes and to address other future professional practice issues of concern to our membership.

---

## Website Committee Year-End Report

by Darrick Hom, Chair

The Website Committee had a successful year with the launch of the new website in October 2001 at [www.seaonc.org](http://www.seaonc.org). With the new website, we are able to provide a wealth of online information to the general public and media regarding our profession. At the same time, we also keep the SEAONC membership informed about events and issues within our organization.

In addition to launching the website, we also developed website revision guidelines and procedures and provided training so the

---

## Scholarship Committee Year-End Report

by Steven Tipping, Chair

Scholarship Program Announcements were sent to six universities this year including UC Berkeley, Stanford, San Jose State, Santa Clara, San Francisco State, and Cal Poly. A total of seven applicants applied for a scholarship: Three from Cal Poly, Two from Stanford, and Two from San Jose State. Unfortunately, there were no applicants from UC Berkeley, Santa Clara, or San Francisco State.

The Scholarship Committee, comprised of Steven Tipping, Alan Kren, Peter Lee, Mike Kaszpirenko, and Laura Yamaguchi, reviewed the application packets and sent their recommendations on to the Board of Directors. It is the board's charge to determine how many scholarships to award and to whom.

This year the board awarded three scholarships, each in the amount of \$5,000. The following individuals received scholarships: Giovanni Damato, a civil engineering major from Cal Poly; Natalie Tilds, a civil engineering major from San Jose State; Timothy Lucido, an architectural engineering major from Cal Poly.

website could be updated on a regular basis by the SEAONC staff. As a result, the latest information is always available online, including upcoming meetings, seminars and updates from all SEAONC committees.

Our major charge for the upcoming year will be the implementation of Phase II of the SEAONC Website. Plans include the development of an online roster and firm database as well as the addition of the DES Phone Tree. The SEAONC website is a living entity that requires constant attention in order to remain current and useful. As such, the committee is always open to new members and committee liaisons. If you see a need or have a request, come on over and make it happen — we're here to serve you!

---

## EVENT CALENDAR

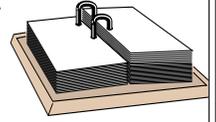
July--No Dinner Meeting

July 9th--Committee Chair/Board Meeting, The City Club

August 21 and 28--SEAONC

Summer Seminar:

Seismic Upgrade  
of Existing  
Buildings



---

## Public Relations Committee Year-End Report

by David Bonneville, Chair

### 2001-2002 Accomplishments:

- Media coverage for the Student Impact Project: Through our PR consultant, and in close collaboration with the Engineering Alliance for the Arts (EAA), who organize the project, we developed and implemented a media program intended to bring positive exposure to the structural engineering profession. Through our efforts the project received both television and newspaper coverage.
- Update of SEAONC media contact list: Working with the SEAONC Board, updated the list of experts in various specialty areas for SEAONC to provide as contacts for the media when the need arises.
- Lego Project: Working with the Public Affairs and Membership Committee, initiated a Lego contest intended to promote interest in structural engineering at San Francisco middle schools.
- LEAP Sand Castle Event: Working again with the Public Affairs and Membership Committee, provided funding for SEAONC volunteers to participate in the upcoming Sand Castle contest for the purpose of bringing positive exposure to structural engineers.

---

## NCSEA Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards Call for Entries

It's time once again for firms to start thinking about entering the NCSEA Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards program. Each year NCSEA invites entries of outstanding projects in two general groupings, one for bridges and one for buildings and

other structures. The bridge group is divided into two categories, single span bridges up to 150 ft span, and over 150 ft. spans and multi-span bridges. The building group is divided into three project cost categories, under \$5M, \$5M to \$25M, and over \$25M. A Jury of

Awards, made up of distinguished engineers in the profession to judge the projects entered, is convened in July. Entries are due by July 15, 2002. The entry form is available from the NCSEA web site at [www.ncsea.com](http://www.ncsea.com).

**Forell/Elssesser Engineers**, an award-winning structural/civil engineering firm, offers outstanding career opportunities to engineers and CAD drafters with all levels of experience who seek a dynamic, challenging and rewarding work environment ([www.forell.com](http://www.forell.com)). Work on exciting projects and collaborate with innovative design engineers. We offer an unparalleled salary & benefits package, including employer matched 401(k), pension and incentive compensation plans. Contact: Jim Guthrie, 160 Pine St. #600, San Francisco, CA 94111; fax 415/837-0800 or [jim@forell.com](mailto:jim@forell.com).

**G.A. Graebe & Assoc., Inc.** in Salinas, CA, is seeking an Associate Civil Engineer with at least 10 years experience in Structural Design of Wood, Concrete, Masonry and Steel Structures. Familiar with 1997 UBC and skilled in Computer Programming, Engineering Software and Autocad. CA PE is a plus. Salary is negotiable, depending on experience. Call 831/422-6409 and/or e-mail/ fax résumé to: [structdraw@redshift.com](mailto:structdraw@redshift.com), Fax#831/422-3275.

**Interactive Resources Architects & Engineers** ([www.intres.com](http://www.intres.com)) offers competitive compensation & benefits, ongoing career development, interesting projects, and a unique firm culture in a great historic coastal town in the East Bay. We also offer ownership potential. Registered PE minimum, SE preferred. CA/West Coast experience necessary. See our website for more information. Send résumé to 117 Park Place, Point Richmond, CA 94801. Fax: 510/232-5325.

Structural designer position available with a Modesto based structural consulting office. 3 years experience in designing concrete, CMU, steel, and wood structures. Must have good communication skills and be conversant in AutoCad, SAP 2000, ETABS. Send résumé to **Lawder Engineering**, PO Box 3206, Modesto, CA, or fax to 209/521-1166.

**RPSE** is a 30+ employee Palo Alto firm currently seeking talented EIT's, PE's, & SE's. If you are a dynamic individual with great communication skills and enjoy diverse and challenging projects, we want to talk to you! RPSE offers growth opportunity, competitive salary, great benefits, and a superb working environment. Please fax cover letter & résumé to HR, Attn: Sharon at 650/ 428-2861 or email to [sharonberman@rpse.com](mailto:sharonberman@rpse.com). For more details please visit [www.rpse.com](http://www.rpse.com).

Career opportunities in the structural design of prestigious projects await you at **Rutherford & Chekene**, a recognized leader in structural design and seismic engineering. We have a large current workload and a significant backlog. Projects include museums, libraries, research laboratories, and hospitals. Opportunities are available in our San Francisco and Oakland offices for engineers with 3+ years of experience who have enthusiasm for participating in the design of some of the most exciting engineering projects in the Bay Area. CE/SE license and prior building design/detailing experience are a plus. If you wish to learn more, please contact Peter Revelli by phone at 510/740-3200 or e-mail at [prevelli@ruthchek.com](mailto:prevelli@ruthchek.com). Also visit our web site at [www.ruthchek.com](http://www.ruthchek.com).

**Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc. (SGH)**, founded in 1956 by three M.I.T. professors, is a growing and dynamic consulting engineering firm with \$20M in gross revenues, a staff of 180, and offices in Boston, MA, San Francisco, CA, and Washington, DC. SGH has an international reputation in design, investigation, research and development of structural and building envelope systems, mechanical components, and materials. The variety of our expertise enables the firm to undertake investigative, research, and design projects of a complex and unusual nature. Our San Francisco office has several openings for senior level structural and seismic engineers. Positions could lead to shareholding in the firm. Requirements: MS or PhD in Structural Engineering with 15 – 25 years of experience in structural and seismic engineering. Must be a registered Structural Engineer (SE) in CA, and must be capable of obtaining and executing complex structural and seismic engineering projects. We offer an excellent compensation and benefits package in a corporate culture based on learning and growth. At SGH you'll gain the strength of our reputation and the creativity of diverse and complex projects. To learn more about SGH, please visit our web site at [www.sgh.com](http://www.sgh.com). We are an equal opportunity employer and value the diversity of our workforce. Please forward your résumé and letter of interest to HR Dept., SGH, 297 Broadway, Arlington, MA 02474; FAX 781/643-2009; e-mail [jobs@sgh.com](mailto:jobs@sgh.com)

**Structural Design Group of Santa Rosa**, is looking for a highly motivated, technically skilled engineer looking for a leadership position in an exciting young firm. Associate position available for a bright, creative individual with 2 years minimum

design experience in educational facilities, low rise commercial, or residential structures. We offer unlimited opportunities for career advancement and an excellent salary/bonus/benefit package. Please fax résumé to 707/284-3646 or e-mail: [RichB@s-d-g.net](mailto:RichB@s-d-g.net)

**Watry Design, Inc.** which is located in the San Francisco Bay Area, is in search of highly motivated engineers to join our rapidly growing team. Watry is a full service Architectural/Engineering Firm specializing in the design of large concrete structures, including high-rise hotels and apartments as well as award-winning parking structures. This position offers the right individual an opportunity to play an integral role in the design of multi-million dollar projects with a firm that fosters a cohesive family like environment. The applicant must possess a B.S. in Structural Engineering (or equivalent) with a P.E. or S.E. license being highly desirable. A background in the design of concrete and post-tensioned structures, strong computer skills, and excellent communication skills are beneficial. If you would like further information regarding Watry Design, Inc., please visit our web site at [www.watrydesign.com](http://www.watrydesign.com). Submit all résumés to: Watry Design Inc., 815 Hamilton Street, Redwood City, CA 94063 attn: Lisa Blanton or you can send electronically to [lblanton@watrydesign.com](mailto:lblanton@watrydesign.com)

**Adamo & Associates Structural Engineers:** Our services are in high demand, & so are yours. Do you have exp. working w/ commercial, retail, residential, & institutional projects, utilizing steel, concrete, masonry & wood design? If so, then we are looking for you. We have openings for Jr. & Sr. level designers. Exp. w/ structural analysis programs, BS Civil/ Arch Engineering, 2-4 yrs rel. exp. (training provided). E-mail résumé to: [mspindler@adamoassociates.com](mailto:mspindler@adamoassociates.com), 650/938-0144 - fax, 1685 Plymouth St. #150, Mountain View, CA 94043.

Engineer with two or more years of building design experience for career-track position with well-respected Sacramento Structural Engineering consulting firm. This is a great opportunity for professional development in a region of California that offers reasonable housing costs and outstanding cultural and recreational activities. Submit résumé to **Anderson & Doig Structural Engineers**, 10308 Placer Lane, Sacramento, CA 95827, [adse@pacbell.net](mailto:adse@pacbell.net).

## Job Forum, continued

**CH2M HILL DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION.** CH2M HILL is seeking a Senior Structural Engineer with experience leading and designing water and wastewater projects for the Oakland, CA location. Requires 15+ years of design experience from concept through developing bid packages. Must be able to interact effectively with clients and understand project needs. Will be part of a team in developing new and repeat business opportunities. B.S., or M.S. degree in structural engineering. Requires California professional registration (PE). If you're ready to make a move and join the nation's leading water and waste water group, please send your résumé listing Job #1992HS to CH2M HILL, P.O. Box 549260, Waltham, MA 02454-9260; E-mail: [careers@ch2m.com](mailto:careers@ch2m.com); EEO/AA.

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER. DES Architects + Engineers,** a full service A/E firm located in Redwood City seeks SE licensed engineer, 5-10 years experience with strong interest in seismic engineering, retrofit and new building design. Projects include corporate campus, schools, hospitals, etc. DES offers a competitive salary, benefits package and employee programs. Visit [www.des-ae.com](http://www.des-ae.com) and send résumés to Brandi Reyes at [jobs@des-ae.com](mailto:jobs@des-ae.com) or fax to 650/364-2618

**GBDH Design Group,** an established A/E firm located in Sacramento, offers a career opportunity for an engineer with 3 to 5 years experience. We also offer a great work environment with an excellent salary and benefit package. We have ongoing projects nationwide which range from million square foot industrial buildings to cold storage facilities. Send résumé attn: Roy Hunt, fax: 916/854-9840 or e-mail: [hr@gbdhdesign.com](mailto:hr@gbdhdesign.com)

**NORMAN SCHEEL STRUCTURAL ENGINEER (NSSE)** This established, 20 person Sacramento firm, has openings for Design Engineers with a minimum of 2 years experience. Excellent pay and benefits. To apply, call, fax or email your résumé in confidence to: NSSE, 5022 Sunrise Blvd., Fair Oaks, CA 95628, 916/536-9585, 916/536-0260 (fax), [norm@nsse.com](mailto:norm@nsse.com)

**STRUCTURAL ENGINEER. Winzler & Kelly Consulting Engineers** is a dynamic, growing 51 year old international engineering firm seeking structural engineers for our Santa Rosa office. We are dedicated to our

clients and the communities that we serve. Our Santa Rosa office is located in the heart of Sonoma County's wine county, approximately 60 miles north of San Francisco. Known for its wide variety of outdoor activities, the rugged pacific coast, and a multitude of wineries, Sonoma County is one of the most desirable areas to live in both in California and the United States. Santa Rosa is the hub of Sonoma County and enjoys fine living without the pressures of a large metropolitan area. The ideal candidate will possess a California registration or the ability to obtain registration at the earliest opportunity. Good written and oral skills a must. Send résumé to [bonnieburrell@w-and-k.com](mailto:bonnieburrell@w-and-k.com) or fax résumé to 707/527-8679. (EOE)

*Job Forum insertion fee:  
\$150 up to 450 characters/spaces  
\$15 for each 45 characters/spaces thereafter  
All job forum ads will be posted on  
the SEAONC web site.*

### **2002 Structural Engineering Review Manual & Workshop** [www.structuralsolutions.com](http://www.structuralsolutions.com)

The best structural review manual, edited by **Ben Yousefi, SE, James Son, SE and Rafael Sabelli, SE** just got better. The 660 page SERM, 2002 edition, now includes **LRFD solutions** to many of the steel Problems. The manual contains complete problem statements and solutions for the California SE exams 1990-1995 (6years). All solutions are per **1997 UBC** and problems have been upgraded to reflect the newer provisions in the code and in particular the seismic design requirements. A Supplement containing several additional problems is also going to be available by mid July.

In addition, **Review Workshops** are being offered in Bay area and Los Angeles to provide an interactive learning environment for the users of the manuals. The workshops are instructed by some of the most reputable experts in the field of structural engineering, whom have been extensively involved in research and/or code development processes. For more information about the manuals and workshops please check our web site at the address above, email us at [structuralreview@aol.com](mailto:structuralreview@aol.com) or call 800-566-2906.

## Posting for Membership

### **Member**

Fariborz Barzegar  
Struct-Tech Group, Inc.  
I-Hong Chen  
Kerry MacDonald, Project Engineer  
Monte Stott & Associates  
Vesselin Tritchkov, Structural Designer  
Structural Engineers, Inc.

### **Associate**

Brian DiBarnaba, Designer  
Degenkolb Engineers

### **Student**

Dean Sedlachek,  
Graduate Student, San Francisco  
State University

## New Members

### **Member**

Emma Aquino, Engineer  
URS  
Berkowitz, Russell, P.E.  
Forell/Elsesser Engineers, Inc.  
Mahmoud Hachem, Ph.D. Candidate  
Wiss Janney, Elstner Associates  
Ryan Hornback  
Nishkian Menninger  
Scott Kahl, Project Engineer  
DASSE Design, Inc.  
David Kirschenbaum, Design Engineer  
DASSE Design, Inc.  
Emory Montague, Professional Engr.  
Biggs Cardosa Associates, Inc.  
Troy Morgan, Engineer  
Forell/Elsesser Engineers, Inc.  
Nicholas Oberts, P.E.  
Skidmore Owings & Merrill, LLP  
Francisco Parisi, Project Engineer  
Rutherford & Chekene

### **Associate**

Lucie Fougner, Assistant Designer  
Degenkolb Engineers  
Robert Herm, Chief Engineer  
Strocal, Inc.  
Sam Jamison, Senior Staff Engineer  
Kennedy/Jenks Consultants  
Erik Kneer, Assistant Engineer EIT  
Biggs Cardosa Associates, Inc.  
Calvin Tsao, Staff Engineer  
Hohbach-Lewin, Inc.

### **Student**

Jason Stone, Graduate Student  
Stanford University  
Christian Zambrana-Rojas, Grad. Stud.  
UC Berkeley

---

## Disaster Emergency Services Committee Year-End Report

by Michael Fretz, Chair

This year we have seen horrific acts of terrorism. Like many other things in our lives, such dramatic events have changed the way we view our role in the world.

The Disaster Emergency Services committee was originally organized to coordinate SEAONC's post-earthquake response activities. Increasingly though, we are being asked as a profession to respond to emergencies caused by these and other hazards. This expanding view has had an impact on this committee both in terms of its role and in the interest of SEAONC members.

Since September, committee members through the two Bay Area Urban Search and Rescue teams have responded to help in New York City, presented observations and findings for the SFFD and SEAONC at two SEAONC-sponsored seminars, recruited new volunteers, and continued training for future events. I am proud of the way these engineers have responded. In some small ways, the DES Committee has helped facilitate USaR activities, both financially and logistically.

Thanks to a successful ATC-20 training in June 2002, there are now about 100 more SEAONC members who may volunteer their services to help "tag" buildings (green, yellow, or red) if requested by the Office of Emergency Services (OES). These new

volunteers have been added to the SEAONC/OES directory that is maintained by the DES Committee. New directories were sent out to all volunteers this year.

The committee has also been working with OES to implement state-sponsored changes to the Volunteer Safety Assessment Engineers program. The state needs to make changes to the program that result in more restrictive requirements for all volunteers. The DES Committee is working to minimize the impact of these changes on the volunteer pool. Current volunteers were surveyed by the committee in April and the responses to the survey were shared with OES at that time. The effect of the input made by SEAONC has not yet been determined. We will continue to work with OES on these issues.

The next ATC-20 training will be held at Santa Clara University on October 5, 2002. This daylong seminar covers the post-earthquake safety assessment of buildings. A sign-up for the seminar is included in this newsletter. We have done the initial planning for the seminar and will complete the items over the next few months. If you are interested in helping us with these activities, please attend a future committee meeting. As we get closer to the event, the more help we will need.

The Building Occupancy Resumption Program (BORP) experienced increased interest this year both in terms of building owners who have submitted for application and those inquiring about the program. If you are not aware of BORP and what it does, I highly recommend that you look at the DES Committee's page on the SEAONC website. This program has been a successful partnership between SEAONC and the San Francisco Department of Building Inspection.

Given the activities this year, we have been pleased by an increased interest in the committee. The number of committee members, both active and corresponding, has increased significantly. There are now more than 60 committee members, about 20 of whom are actively involved.

We will continue to support these emergency response programs next year. We hope to increase our contacts with other organizations, both within SEAOC as well as outside, to promote these activities and encourage other professionals to get more involved in the planning efforts.

Joe Zsutty has been acting vice-chair this year. As the lead Structures Specialist with Menlo Park's Urban Search and Rescue team, I know that Joe will do well as the DES Committee chair in 2002-2003.

---

### CEC, Continued from page 6

**MEMBERSHIP:** In addition to the above events, monthly committee meetings were held. With 14 active members, this is still the largest active Continuing Education Committee ever. Active committee members for the year included Reina Farah (chair), Julia Hunting (vice-chair), Jackie Bassett (past chair), Scot Listavich, Constantine Shuhaibar, Howard Zee, Troy Morgan, Taryn Williams, Angela Weng, Marci Uihlein, C.S. Hwang, Berta Rodriguez, Clara Lau, and Nancy Aiello. Thanks a million to all of the committee members for your volunteer time and effort! You made the committee a success and made my job as chair a lot easier! I have no doubt that next year's chair, Julia Hunting, will do a great job, and that next year's committee will continue to plan and orchestrate successful seminars.

---

## Program Committee Year-End Report

by Jamison Curry, Chair

The following list outlines activities of the Program Committee during the past year. It should be noted that the president and others were primarily responsible for the June 4 Awards Meeting. The Program Committee began holding meetings in the South Bay this year, as noted below. These appeared to be very successful, one engineer's opinion: JULY No meeting  
AUG 7 Structural Vibrations, Hal Amick of Colin Gordon Associates  
SEPT 11 CANCELED  
OCT 9 South Bay Meeting (No North Bay Meeting), Structural Vibrations, Hal Amick of Colin Gordon Associates  
NOV 13 East Bay Meeting, UCB Student Night, High Volume Fly Ash in Concrete, P.K. Mehta

DEC 4 Tokyo Base-isolated structure, Andrew Mole & Mitsuhiro Kanada of Ove Arup  
JAN 8 ACI Joint Session, Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles, Nabih Youssef  
FEB 5 Report on the Pentagon, James Harris  
FEB 12 South Bay Meeting, San Jose Main Library, Jim Guthrie of F&E  
MAR 5 Joint w/AIASF, Transbay Terminal, Evan Rose of SMWM  
APR 2 Degenkolb Forum: Evolution of Structural Engineering, Eric Elsesser  
MAY 7 Moscone Center, Raj Sahai, Jack Laws, Hamid Fatehi  
MAY 14 South Bay Meeting, Channing House, Rinne & Peterson  
JUNE 4 SEAONC Annual Awards

*Repeat Ad for  
Computers and Structures*

**JULY**

9 Board Meeting with 2002-2003 Committee Chairs

**AUG**

6 Dinner Meeting, The City Club

21, 28 SEAONC Summer Seminar:  
Seismic Upgrade of Existing Buildings

**THANK YOU 2001-2002 COMMITTEE CHAIRS!**

*Awards*

Mehri Ansari

*Business Forum*

Lisa Blanton

*Bylaws*

J. E. Goudie

*Computer Applications*

Satinder Singh

*Construction Quality Assurance*

Derek Westphal

*Continuing Education*

Reina Farah

*Disaster Emergency Services*

Michael Fretz

*Existing Buildings*

David McCormick

*Legislative*

Reinhard Ludke

*Professional Practices*

William Andrews

*Program*

Jamison Curry

*Public Affairs & Membership*

Andrew Scott

*Public Relations*

David Bonneville

*Scholarship*

Steven Tipping

*Seismology & Structural Standards*

Rafael Sabelli

David Bonowitz

*Website*

Darrick Hom

*Young Members Forum*

Jason Towle

**THANK YOU 2001-2002 SCHOLARSHIP DONORS!**

**\$1,000 and Above**

Degenkolb Engineers  
Forell/Elsesser Engineers Inc.  
Rutherford & Chekene

**\$500-\$999**

Liftech Consultants Inc.  
Tipping Mar + Associates

**\$100-\$499**

Pegasus Engineering, Inc.  
Patrick Buscovich  
Lowney Associates  
McLean Steel, Inc.  
Kenneth D. Smetts  
Johnson, De Bois & Forrest  
Virgilio Sarmiento  
Adamo & Associates  
Bello & Associates  
Dominic Chu  
ABS Consulting  
Loren Hinkelman  
KL&A of California, Inc.  
A. J. Miller & Associates  
James Murray  
E2C Inc.  
John Paquette  
Quilici Engineers Inc.  
Rivera Consulting Group, Inc.  
Kee Wong Engineering, Inc.

**\$50-\$99**

Sol Cooper  
Vitelmo Bertero  
Samuel Fletcher  
E. G. Hirsch & Associates

William Kaplan

Arnold Kohnert

Joe Maffei

Meece Engineering

Yogesh Mehta

Lowell Napper

Harry Okino

Rinne & Peterson

F. Robert Preece

Constantine Shkapsky

Gregory Shriver

Applied Materials & Engineering, Inc.

Homer Wong

Anoush Zebarjadian

**Under \$50**

Lundgren Engineering Consultants  
Stephen De Jesse  
Frank Valavanis  
Mark Viesselman  
Lawrence Chan  
Toma Goncerenco  
Darell Lawver  
I.M. Idriss  
John D. Sittel  
Robert Vandenbosch  
Pedro Bello  
Charles Kircher & Associates  
Russell Nygaard  
William Price  
Efen Abarado  
Matthew Engle  
Harold Engle, Jr.  
Gordon Hart  
John Miller  
Ron Vogel, SE, Inc