

SEAI NEWSLETTER

May 2007



Structural Engineers Association of Idaho

P.O. Box 8733, Boise, ID 83707

www.seaidaho.org

SEAI Mission Statement:

"To promote and enhance the Structural Engineering profession in Idaho by educating the public about the activities of Structural Engineers and their benefit to society and by providing professional development and support to SEAI members that is relevant, reliable, and inspirational to modern engineering practices."

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Sarah McClendon – McMillen Engineering
sarah.mcclendon@mcm-eng.com 342-4214 x306

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cholladay@ahjengineers.com 323-0199

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bgarner@callengineering.com 321-2656

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Kent.soelberg@ch2m.com 383-6349

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ssoule@tveinc.com 333-9611

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Shawn Reeder – Performance Engineers
shawnr@idahotruss.com 888-5200

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Director

Greg Leishman – Stapley Engineering
Gregl@stapley.net 375-8240

Program/Seminar Chair

Wilson Antoniuk – Trus Joist
antoniw@trusjoist.com 395-2458

Membership Chair

Ash Hobbs
ashhobbs@hotmail.com 884-8560

Newsletter

David Sansotta – EHM Engineers
david.sansotta@ehmengineers.com 386-9170

Website Editor

Tyler Haney – Treasure Valley Engineers
thaney@tveinc.com 333-9611

Building Code Chair

Mike Brown – EHM Engineers
Mike.brown@ehmengineers.com 386-9170

SEAI MEETING — MAY 15TH



SEAI holds regular meetings every third Tuesday of the months September thru June.

Please RSVP with entrée selection to Wilson Antoniuk at antoniw@trusjoist.com or 395-2458 by noon the Friday before the meeting.

We will turn no one away at the door, but if we do not receive your RSVP on time we cannot guarantee that there will be any food for you to eat! Please note that, regardless of whether you eat or not, you will still need to pay meeting fees, so get those RSVP's in! **Also, if you RSVP and decided not to show, Murphy's will still charge SEAI for your lunch and SEAI will politely pass this charge on to you.**

HAVE A SUGGESTION FOR A MEETING?

If you have any suggestions for future speakers, items of discussion or anything else that you think would be beneficial to the structural engineers attending SEAI meetings, please send your comments/ideas to Wilson Antoniuk by email at antoniw@trusjoist.com or by phone at 395-2458.

Meeting Location:

Murphy's Seafood & Steakhouse
1555 Broadway Ave.
Boise, ID 83705

Food Entrées:

- 1) Chicken Caesar Salad
- 2) Whiskey Chicken
- 3) Beef Chop Burger

Meeting Focus:

Responsible Charge

Speaker:

Dave Curtis (see www.seaidaho.org for more info)

Schedule:

| | |
|----------|---------------------|
| Social: | 11:45 am – 12:00 pm |
| Lunch: | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm |
| Program: | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm |

Cost Per Person:

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Member: | \$15 |
| Non-Member: | \$20 |
| Full Time Student: | \$10 |

SEAI Congratulates Keith Jones as the Newest Member of the BSU Advisory Board for the College of Civil Engineering!

Keith brings over 30 years of structural engineering experience to the BSU Civil Engineering Advisory Committee. He graduated from Michigan Technological Institute in 1971 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering and began his career in the U.S. Army working for the Facility Engineer at Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks, Alaska. In 1979, Keith was hired as a project engineer for Atwood-Hinzman in Spokane, Washington. In 1985 Atwood-Hinzman moved Keith to Boise to open a branch office and in 1995 Keith acquired the business, which is now AHJ Engineers. AHJ provides structural engineering services for all building types and is licensed in 16 states and provinces.

Keith has engineered many structures throughout the Treasure Valley and across the country. Some of his most recognizable projects are the Albertson's Headquarters Expansion and Atrium, Washington Mutual Capital Plaza, and several historical restoration projects, most notably the Empire State Building. Recently Keith has been lending his engineering expertise to projects overseas. His first project was the Alcohol and Drug Rehabilitation Work Center in Ukraine and currently he is engineering a Conference Center in Pilar, Argentina.

Keith's role on the Advisory Committee is to assist the department with the promotion of the Civil Engineering Program, identify and study the needs and trends for employment of graduates, offer recommendations for the improvement of education courses, promote program funding, and serve as an avenue of communication between the Program and the industry. Keith is excited to have this opportunity and is looking forward to being able to promote and represent the structural engineering industry.

-By
Tiffany Jones
AHJ Engineers



ASK A CONSTRUCTION LAWYER

ATTORNEY FRANKLIN G. LEE

QUESTIONS WANTED

Frank Lee is an attorney and partner at the local law firm of Givens Pursley LLP who focuses his practice on real estate, construction and land use law.

NOTE: THIS COLUMN ADDRESSES GENERAL LEGAL ISSUES ONLY. IT WILL NOT BE LEGAL ADVICE TO YOU AND SHOULD NOT BE RELIED ON AS SUCH. IF YOU WANT LEGAL ADVICE, YOU WILL NEED TO HAVE A DIRECT CONSULTATION WITH A LAWYER. THE COLUMN IS NOT INTENDED TO CREATE, AND DOES NOT CREATE, A LAWYER-CLIENT RELATIONSHIP. YOU SHOULD NOT ACT UPON ANYTHING IN THIS COLUMN WITHOUT SEEKING PROFESSIONAL COUNSEL

DO YOU HAVE A LEGAL QUESTION THAT WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING COMMUNITY?

Submit it to sarah.mcclendon@mcm-eng.com with "Ask a Construction Lawyer (c/o Sarah McClendon)" in the subject line or by fax to (208) 342-4216. Although you will not receive a personal reply, your question may be addressed and published as part of this column. All questions will be anonymous, unless specifically directed otherwise.

A Message from Ed Huston: A national Good Samaritan law has been introduced into congress. If the law passes, it could eliminate the need to pass it in each state. Please consider this law and how you can mobilize your organization to be involved in its passage.

HR 2067

110th CONGRESS

1st Session

H. R. 2067

To provide construction, architectural, and engineering entities with qualified immunity from liability for negligence when providing services or equipment on a volunteer basis in response to a declared emergency or disaster.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 26, 2007

Mr. REICHERT (for himself, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Ms. VELAZQUEZ, Mr. SHAYS, and Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide construction, architectural, and engineering entities with qualified immunity from liability for negligence when providing services or equipment on a volunteer basis in response to a declared emergency or disaster.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Good Samaritan Protection for Construction, Architectural, and Engineering Volunteers Act'.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

- (1) The construction, architectural, and engineering industries provide a valuable service in times of disasters and emergencies.
- (2) The construction, architectural, and engineering industries answered the call on September 11, 2001, and the days afterwards to assist in the search, recovery, and clean-up efforts in New York City and Arlington, Virginia, as well as in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.
- (3) The expertise and equipment brought forth for the search, recovery, and other efforts greatly advanced and improved the efficiency of these efforts.
- (4) Such efforts by the construction, architectural, and engineering industries make it safer for police, firefighters, and other rescue workers to work on search and recovery efforts.
- (5) The services provided by the construction, architectural, and engineering industries improve the safety of the public by the assessment, containment, and mitigation of conditions that threaten life and property.
- (6) Construction companies and architectural and engineering entities were faced with lawsuits as a result of their voluntary efforts on behalf of their fellow citizens in New York City and the Gulf Coast.
- (7) Providing construction contractors and architectural and engineering entities qualified immunity from liability when providing services in this type of volunteer activity helps to ensure that such services will be available in the future in times of need.

SEC. 3. PROVISION OF QUALIFIED IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY FOR NEGLIGENCE TO CONSTRUCTION, ARCHITECTURAL, AND ENGINEERING ENTITIES WHEN PROVIDING SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT ON A VOLUNTEER BASIS IN RESPONSE TO A DECLARED EMERGENCY OR DISASTER.

(a) Liability Protection- When a construction entity provides emergency construction assistance, or an architectural or engineering entity provides emergency architectural or engineering assistance, on a voluntary basis, in good faith, and without expectation of compensation, and the entity or an employee of such entity negligently causes harm, the entity and the employee, if applicable, are not jointly, severally, or individually liable in damages for that harm. Nothing in this section shall be construed as providing immunity for gross negligence or willful misconduct.

(b) Definitions- In this section:

(1) The term `construction entity' means a person, sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation in the regular business of providing construction assistance.

(2) The term `architectural or engineering entity' means a person, sole proprietorship, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation in the regular business of providing architectural or engineering assistance.

(3) The term `construction assistance' means materials, labor, equipment, or services for construction-related activities, including construction, demolition, repair, clean-up, alteration, and remediation.

(4) The term `architectural or engineering assistance' means professional services of an architectural or engineering nature, as defined by State law, if applicable, that are required to be performed or approved by a licensed professional architect or engineer.

(5) The terms `emergency construction assistance' and `emergency architectural or engineering assistance' mean construction assistance and architectural or engineering assistance, respectively, provided--

(A) at the direction of a public official acting in an official capacity; and

(B) in response to or arising out of a declared Federal, State, or local emergency or disaster, whether the assistance is provided before or after the

formal declaration of emergency or disaster.

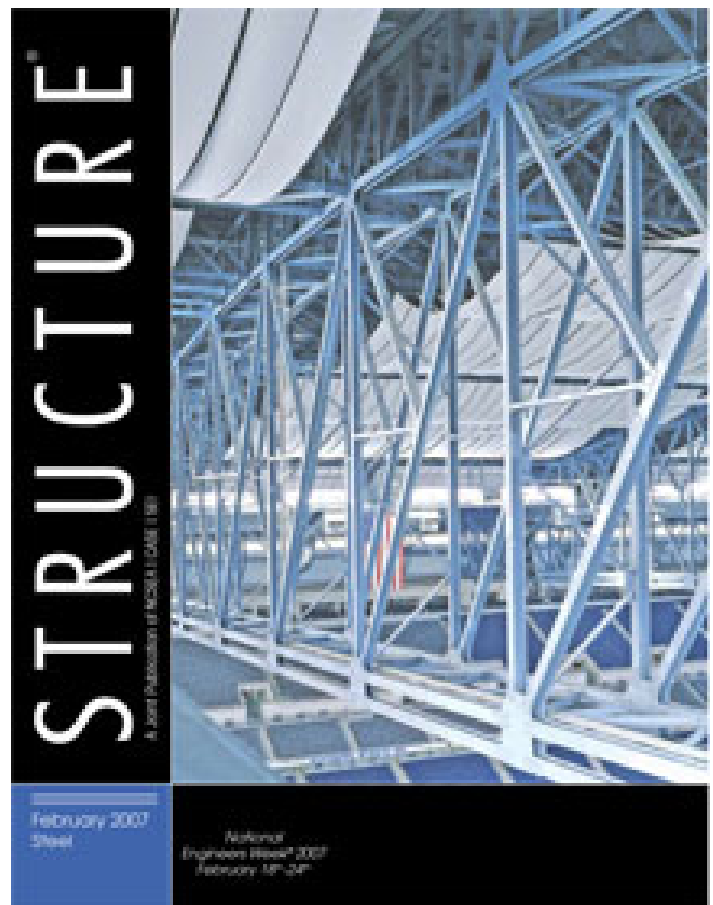
(c) Relationship to State Law-

(1) PREEMPTION- This section preempts the laws of any State to the extent that such laws are inconsistent with this section, except that it does not preclude a State from providing a higher amount of protection from liability, or from providing reimbursement for costs or expenses as authorized by State or local law.

(2) WORKERS COMPENSATION- This section does not apply to liability under workers compensation laws.

STRUCTURES MAGAZINE!

As part of your SEAI membership you should be receiving **STRUCTURE® magazine** in the mail every month. If you are not, please verify that you have paid your SEAI dues this year and then send your name and mailing address to Sarah McClendon at sarah.mcclendon@mcm-eng.com



Announcements:

2006 IBC ADOPTION

The 2006 IBC has been adopted by the State of Idaho, and is effective immediately. However, it seems that local jurisdictions will have the ability to do what is in their best interests as far as code adoption/enforcement goes for the time being. The recommendation given by Mike Brown, our SEAI building code chair, is to contact the local jurisdictions to determine which code they will be using for new projects.

2007 SEA NORTHWEST CONFERENCE

The Seattle Chapter of SEAW will be hosting the 2007 NW Regional Conference on September 13 & 14 at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Seattle, WA. The steering committee is busily planning the offerings of the conference to include valuable technical sessions and various vendors of building products to ensure maximum benefit for this year's attendees and participants. Some of the technical topics being considered are ASCE 7 Seismic Design, Design Consideration for Non-structural Elements, Foundation Design and more. Since we can't have all work and no play, social activities during the conference are being planned as well. We are looking forward to a very successful and beneficial conference with increased participation and attendance. So mark you calendars now for September 13 & 14, 2007 and look for more information to come.

SEA NORTHWEST CONFERENCE & WCSEA MEETING — SUMMER 2008

The 2008 Northwest Structural Engineers Association Conference will be held in beautiful Sun Valley, Idaho. Thank you to all of those who have volunteered, and if you are interested in volunteering please contact Chris Holladay at cholladay@ahjengineers.com to see which committees are in need of some extra assistance.

The Structural Engineers Association Northwest Conference and Western States Roundup are to be hosted by the Idaho Chapter during the summer of 2008. This event will be a three day conference combining SEA Board Meetings, technical programs, vendor exhibits, social events, and recreational events all hosted by SEAI. This is a well attended event that brings in structural engineers from Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia. Keep checking the Newsletter each month for updated information.

LET YOUR MEMBERSHIP WORK FOR YOU!

Please feel free to contact our board members with ideas or suggestions for program/speaker topics or how SEAI can better represent the Structural Engineers of Idaho.

GET INVOLVED WITH YOUR NEWSLETTER!

The SEAI Newsletter is a monthly publication. Newsletter submissions are encouraged from the SEAI community. If you have a suggestion, feature, link, product review or anything else that may be of interest to the newsletter readers, please email them to our newsletter editor, David Sansotta, at david.sansotta@ehmengineers.com

**WISH TO PLACE AN AD
IN THE NEWSLETTER?**

If so, please contact our Treasurer, Brian Garner, at bgarner@callengineering.com or at 321-2656.

Monthly Rates for Advertising

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Standard Business Card..... | \$50 |
| Quarter Page..... | \$90 |
| Half Page..... | \$120 |
| Full Page..... | \$150 |

10% discount for ads running multiple months

EVENT CALENDAR

May 15: Dave Curtis -
Responsible Charge
June/July/August No Meetings

Engineering problems are under-defined; there are many solutions, good, bad and indifferent. The art is to arrive at a good solution. This is a creative activity, involving imagination, intuition and deliberate choice.
- Ove Arup



Check out this interesting link:

<http://www.engineeringsights.org/>

This site has a record of engineering sites located throughout the country. If you are going to be traveling and want to see what is along the way, take a look and maybe even take a picture to send into your newsletter.

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING LINKS

FEATURED LINK: *“Structures are held up by both luck and skill”* By Ken Carper
<http://www.djc.com/special/const97/10023874.htm>

Applied Technology Council - <http://www.atcouncil.org>

Idaho Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors - <http://www2.state.id.us/ipels/>

City of Boise Sp. Insp. Checklist – http://www.cityofboise.org/pds/applications/Building/Special_Inspections.pdf

Design Build Magazine (McGraw-Hill) - <http://www.designbuildmag.com/>

Engineering & (Bi-Weekly Newsletter) - <http://www.engineeringand.com>

Engineering Forum - <http://www.eng-tips.com/>

Structural Engineers Association International - <http://www.seaint.org/>

Structural Engineers Association of Utah - <http://www.seau.org/>

Structural Engineers Association of Washington - <http://www.seaw.org/>

Structural Engineers of Oregon - <http://www.seao.org/main.htm>

Structural Engineers of Idaho - <http://www.seao.org/main.htm>

National Council of Structural Engineers Association - <http://www.ncsea.com>

