

THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEER

A PUBLICATION OF THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

President's Message

By William F. Kelm, P.E. - State President

This year's annual State Conference, which was held at the Crowne Plaza Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio in October, was a great success. The conference had an excellent slate of speakers and over 40 exhibitors. During the awards banquet on Friday evening, Mr. Stephen Campbell, P.E., was presented a plaque in recognition of his selection as this year's Schoeller Award recipient (see page 2). Mr. Campbell was one of the founding members of SEAoT back in 1983 and served as the first president of the organization. He has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the structural engineering profession and to SEAoT and is certainly a very deserving candidate for this prestigious award. Also, during the awards banquet two "pioneers" of structural engineering in Texas were inducted into the Hall of Honor (see page 8). A new twist to this year's banquet was music by the Klocks. They were a truly talented band who played a great mix of music from the 60's through the 90's. The dance floor was full until they stopped playing around midnight. I would like to congratulate John Schwab and the rest of the members of this year's state conference committee on the hard work they put into planning and organizing the conference. They really did a terrific job and their attention to detail is to be commended. Thanks for such an impressive event!

Please mark your calendars now for next year's state conference which will be held October 25-27 in El Paso. The conference committee in El Paso is already underway with its planning. The El Paso Chapter **always** puts on an excellent state conference and I'm sure next year's will be no exception. You won't want to miss it.

Given this is the final newsletter of the year and my last message as president, I think it's appropriate to reflect on the current state of the organization and some of the more notable accomplishments of the state board this past year.

- SEAoT's membership currently stands at 619 members, which represents a growth of 55% during the past three years.
- Processing of new member applications has been streamlined.

- The membership directory has been upgraded.
- Activity at the committee levels has increased. In particular, the Hall of Honor Committee chaired by Sam White; the Professional and Legislative Liaison Committee chaired by Dennis Paul; the Structural Engineering Emergency Response Plan Committee chaired by Matt Carlton; and the Technical and Code Committee chaired by Joe Kallaby are to be commended for their fine work.

- The board approved the formation of the Information Technology Committee to be chaired by Will Ikerd, from the North Central Texas Chapter. This new committee will be focusing on the use of technology in structural engineering. The committee will provide a non-biased view of analysis and design software, as well as the emerging use of Building Information Modeling (BIM) in building design.

- A year-end check list has been developed for use by the individual chapter treasurers to standardize accounting across the chapters and to ensure that the chapter and state returns are filed in a timely manner and comply with the requirements for IRS group exemption status.

It certainly has been an honor to serve on the state board this year. SEAoT has been very fortunate for the service of many dedicated members who are truly committed to the success of the organization. Liz Stansfeld, our executive director, continues to do a terrific job and is continuously improving our website, streamlining the processing of new member applications, expanding and improving the state directory and the state newsletter, as well as increasing the participation of more SEAoT sponsors.

Jon Jelinek, our state secretary, and Stan Agee, our state treasurer, work tirelessly behind the scenes.

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President: William F. Kelm, P.E.
President Elect: John Schwab, P.E.
Secretary: Jon D. Jelinek, P.E.
Treasurer: Stan Agee
Past President: Henry K. Ng, P.E.

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