

## TWO STEEL SEMINARS

Speaker: Robert E. Shaw Jr.,  
P.E. - President of the Steel  
Structures Technology  
Center.

When: March 18 & 19

Location: Park Inn  
Denver Airport  
4411 Peoria Street  
I-70, Exit 281 (Peoria Street)  
(303) 373-5730

Registration Information

Mail: Steel Structures Tech-  
nology Center, Inc.

24110 Meadowbrook Road,  
Suite 104

Novi, MI 48375-3406

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**www.steelstructures.com**

## Scholarships Available For The 2002 North American Steel Construction Conference

The 2002 North American Steel Conference will be held April 24 –27 in Seattle Washington. The conference offers educational programs on four tracks for engineers, detailers, erectors and fabricators. AISC and the Rocky Mountain Steel Construction Association are offering free conference registration and a \$500 travel and lodging allowance for two consulting engineers. If you are interested, please send an email to Bill Zimmerman at **wgzimmerman@zimkor.com** or call 303-791-1333. Two members will be drawn from the entries received by March 18, 2002.

## Bring A Client To The Next General Membership Meeting

The May 9, 2002 general meeting program will be presented by the SEAC/RMSCA Steel Liaison Committee and will focus on Architecturally Exposed Structural Steel (AESS). The committee has been working for the last year developing model specifications, cost guides, and samples for AESS. AESS projects require close coordination between the Structural Engineer and the Architect. The steel committee has prepared tools to facilitate this coordination and help to prevent "surprises" when the project is constructed. *As this topic is very important to the Architectural community, we are encouraging all members to sponsor the Architect of your choice and bring them along to the meeting. Cost for guests will be \$10 at the door. **Line your date up now!!!***

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## SEAC Newsletter

Structural Engineers Association of Colorado

c/o Martin/Martin, Inc.

4251 Kipling, P.O. Box 4001

Wheat Ridge, CO 80034-4001

**Check  
This  
Out** 

## Mark Your Calendar (2002)

### **General Membership Meetings**

*(Breakfast 7:30 a.m.)*

January 17  
March 14  
May 9  
July 18  
September 12

### **Business Practice Committee Meetings**

*(Breakfast 7:30 a.m.)*

February 14  
April 11  
June 13  
August 8  
October 10

### **SEAC Board of Directors Meetings**

*(7:30 a.m.)*

January 3  
February 7  
April 4  
June 6  
August 1  
October 3

### **Annual Dinner Meeting**

November 7  
6 - 9 p.m.

## MARCH GENERAL MEETING

NCSEA is among several organizations across the country that has been actively promoting the philosophy of national Registration for structural engineers. Many hurdles have been encountered in their pursuit of that goal. For now, the organization has shifted gears somewhat, and is studying the benefits, as well as the drawbacks, of national Certification for professional structural engineers. This certification program would be implemented through NCSEA. This month's guest speaker, **Larry Meyers from WJE – Chicago**, is active on the NCSEA's Professional Certification Committee. Larry is an active member of SEAol (Illinois), which happens to be the only state that has a separate Board of Registration for Structural Engineers. Larry, who serves on the NCSEA Certification Committee, will present a program explaining the proposals being considered. NCSEA is promoting these presentations in order to keep the membership of the Member Organizations, such as SEAC, apprised of the developments from this committee. The committee's first public presentation of their work took place at the Annual NCSEA Convention last October, in Manchester, New Hampshire. Delegates from this committee have been presenting expanded programs at general SEA meetings around the country since the October meeting. These presentations have become dynamic, in that the information provided is changing and developing based upon responses from the different presentations. The Committee, as well as the entire structural engineering profession, needs to hear your questions, comments, and concerns regarding this important national issue. To prepare yourself for this presentation, we strongly request you dig out the September 2001 and December 2001/January 2002 copies of Structure Magazine. *Please review, and study, the articles on page 7 of each of these publications. Then come to the breakfast meeting, enjoy some coffee, and bring your questions, concerns, comments, and wide-open minds. Sorry if you hate homework, but it should be worthwhile. Thank you, Brent Norris.*



### **Don't Miss Out**

Upcoming General Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, March 14 @ 7:30 a.m.

**Speaker:** Larry Meyers

**Location:**

Renaissance Denver Hotel

3801 Qubec Street

(south of the I-70 and Qubec Street intersection)

**Reservations:** Call Greg Larson at 303-444-1951 by

**noon** on March 12!

## Officers & Board Members



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### Submit comments/articles to:

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*Information for inclusion in the newsletter  
must be received one month prior to the next  
general meeting.*

*Caryn L. Bauer*  
Newsletter Publisher



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ...

**W**ow! I am sitting here watching the opening ceremonies of the Winter Olympics. The flag from the WTC was just brought in. The tears of pride and sorrow are pouring. How on earth can the athletes compete with that? ... Simply put, they can't. In a few days, I take off on our annual trip to the Daytona 500. This year, it will include honoring a NASCAR racing legend. 2001 will not soon be forgotten! As the banner proclaimed, "We will never forget."

I now have an idea of what a computer network is. Mainly, it seems it is nothing more than a *GIANT PAIN IN THE POSTERIOR PORTION OF MY ANATOMY!* Would you agree?

I mentioned membership in the last newsletter. The Board and I would like to ask you to help promote our organization to your colleagues that have not yet joined SEAC. I am assuming that many of you work in offices where you are among the few in your office that are members. Why is that? I am sure there are some valid reasons, and maybe some not so valid reasons. I can think of a few valid reasons for joining. Members enjoy and benefit from an exposure to other engineers with genuine interests in the field of structural engineering. Bimonthly programs include topics oriented towards both technical, and business related concerns of our profession. Through various opportunities within our organization, prospects of networking (and I am not talking computers here) with others that may be able to help you or your firm in the future are always looming. As a SEAC member, you receive a monthly subscription to Structure Magazine, which is usually full of articles that are of interest to us all. SEAC members also have the chance to participate with committees that benefit structural engineers and our prospective clients. These are a few of the reasons I joined. I imagine you have other reasons as well. Share them!

There are many opportunities for existing members, as well as the new recruits to participate in committee activities of our organization. The Education Committee put on a great seminar last year. We are looking forward to another one this year. The Wind Loads Committee needs a new committee chair along with some additional members. It is rumored that they are preparing to take on a study to develop updated wind load maps for the state. The Computer Committee needs a chair, as well. The Denver Building Department Liaison Committee recently completed a review process with the City and County of Denver in an effort to assist them in their evaluation and adoption of the new IBC 2000 code. The Steel Liaison Committee is nearing completion on their work with specifications and details for architecturally exposed structural steel. They will present their work at the upcoming general meeting in May. The Standards of Practice committee has just begun an update to SEAC's Guide to Standard Practice. They have told me they would like to solicit comments and suggestions regarding the update through our SEAC website. We will need to complete some work on the website first, but we will soon be asking you to take some time to review the information that will be posted. Your comments will be valuable and appreciated. These are just a few examples of some fun and educating activities you could become involved with. Yes, it can be work, but it is different from the normal day-to-day stuff. If you are interested in participating on a committee, contact the chair listed in the SEAC Manual or contact a Board member for information. Give it a try. It just might be worth your time! Hope to see you at the March meeting!

*A. Brent Norris*

# YOU'VE GOT MAIL

Beginning with this issue, members should receive the SEAC Newsletter via the trusty USPS as well as email (if you have forwarded your current email address to SEAC). Please notify Brent Norris via phone, fax or email if you wish to receive your Newsletter via email only, or if your email address has changed. Our intent is to issue future newsletter issues via email as the default method and reduce our printing and mailing costs.

## PUBLICATIONS FOR PURCHASE

**GUIDE: RECOMMENDED STANDARD OF PRACTICE**  
price: \$15 (members) and \$20 (non-members)  
Contact: Bruce Wolfe,  
Structural Consultants, Inc. 303-399-5154

**1997 SURVEY OF COLORADO BUILDING DEPARTMENTS**  
price: \$25 (CD)  
Contact: Henry Lopez  
303-447-2813

**1971 COLORADO SNOW LOAD REPORT**  
price: \$10  
Contact: Henry Lopez  
303-447-2813

1999 Seminar Proceedings:  
**SUGGESTED LOCAL STANDARD OF PRACTICE IN THE  
PRECAST AND STEEL INDUSTRIES**  
price: \$15  
Contact: Bruce Wolfe,  
Structural Consultants, Inc. 303-399-5154

2001 Seminar Proceedings:  
**PRE-ENGINEERED TRUSSES: WHAT THE DESIGNER  
NEEDS TO KNOW AND SHOW**  
Price \$15  
Contact: Bruce Wolfe,  
Structural Consultants, Inc. 303-399-5154



## CERTIFICATION MODEL FOR STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

The genesis of the Certification Model has been previously described in an article published in the December/January 2002 STRUCTURE.

**Recent Activities:** Comments and feedback have been received from the NCSEA Delegates and from the profession, in response to the Certification "town hall meeting" in NH, the articles published in STRUCTURE, and the presentations to several Member Organizations (MO). As of this writing, presentations on the Certification Model/Program have been made at MO meetings in FL, GA, CT, IL, ME, MA, NH, KS/MO, NY and VT. Presentations are in the works for other MOs and states such as TN, VA, PA, MN, MI, OK, KY, WA, OR, CA. Please contact the author if you are interested in scheduling a presentation to your membership.

When the NCSEA Certification Committee met on January 18-19, 2002, in Tempe, AZ, just prior to the Third NCSEA Winter Institute, a proposed Certification Model was approved. The model was developed with due consideration given to the feedback received from NCSEA Delegates and the profession. The Certification Committee amended the Certification Model, to address the persuasive comments received from the profession. The Certification Committee tabled certain aspects of the Model for further discussion and consideration.

**Next Steps:** The Certification Model has already been submitted to the NCSEA Certification Business Plan Committee. The Certification Business Plan Committee was charged by NCSEA to identify and evaluate financing, feasibility, legal, administrative and similar issues related to implementing the Certification Program (see article following).

Certification is a voluntary effort, intended to raise the qualifications and standard of practice of the structural engineering profession at a national level (see December/January 2002 STRUCTURE). Certification will not replace or affect licensing laws that are in place today. Structural engineers privileged to live and practice in the handful of states that recognize the SE profession through separate SE licensure may feel that Certification will provide little benefit to them. In response, Certification may not help or hinder their practice, but it is expected to provide a significant benefit to the profession and the public in the states that do not have separate SE licensure. Certification will provide the first national yardstick to measure the qualifications of structural engineers and can be the first step towards SE licensure. As such, it is important that structural engineers in the states with SE licensure consider their position on certification globally instead of locally.

Stay tuned to STRUCTURE and your Member Organizations meeting notices to learn more about the Certification Model and please voice your comments and suggestions, as well as your criticisms (preferably of the constructive nature), for the Certification Committee and the Business Plan Committee to consider. Please contact NCSEA at [www.ncsea.com](http://www.ncsea.com) or e-mail the author at [SNShah@LeaElliott.com](mailto:SNShah@LeaElliott.com).