



# SEAC

## GENERAL NOTES

Structural Engineers Association of Colorado Newsletter

# SEAC ANNUAL DINNER - 2007

## Schedule

Mark Your Calendar  
(2008)

### General Membership Meetings

(Breakfast 7:30 a.m.)

January 17

March 20

May 15

July 17

September 18

### Business Practice Committee Meetings

(Breakfast 7:30 a.m.)

February 14

April 10

June 12

August 14

October 9

### SEAC Board of Directors Meetings

(7:30 a.m.)

January 10

February 7

April 3

June 5

August 7

October 2

### Annual Dinner Banquet

November 20

6 - 9 p.m.

The 2007 SEAC Annual Dinner was held at the Red Rocks Visitor Center in November. 46 members and 36 guests enjoyed drinks, socializing, and dinner, followed by special award presentations and entertainment. Outgoing President, **Stan Neujahr**, honored three past SEAC Presidents: **Ben Nelson** (1999) of Martin/Martin, **Dave Houdeshell** (2000) of JVA, and **Ed Buteyn** (2001) of Jirsa Hedrick. Stan provided the audience with the engineering background and experience of these three individuals, as well as some personal pieces of information. Stan also announced a new award to honor service on SEAC Committees. Awards were presented to **Jerry Maly**, Membership Committee, and **Wayne Muir**, Business Management Committee. Both of these individuals have served in these roles for many years (and also are past Presidents of SEAC!)

Our entertainer, Jolly Demis, then took over the program. Little did we know that while we were socializing and listening to the award presentations, Jolly was gathering material for his routine! So in addition to his standard fare, he had plenty of jokes about structural and civil engineers and about our three past presidents' personal lives. But the highlight of the evening was Stan Neujahr impersonating Elvis Presley with Jolly's guitar accompaniment!

This evening would not have been possible without the assistance of our sponsor, **Shaw Construction**, who was the contractor for the Visitor's Center. Thanks go to Stan Neujahr, also, for organizing this event.



Ben Nelson, Past-President



Dave Houdeshell, Past-President



Ed Buteyn, Past-President

## Officers & Board Members



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## Annual Dinner...Continued

### SEAC Committee Awards



Jerry Maly, Membership Committee



Wayne Muir, Business Management

### SEAC..... FUN



Stan Neujahr, Past-President (2007)  
& Jolly Demis, Entertainer



## QBS Colorado

Qualifications Based Selection Colorado has a goal to persuade public and private agencies to utilize QBS in selecting design consultants. SEAC became a member in 2007, joining ACEC, PC, AIA, and CAGE to help promote QBS in Colorado.

QBS offers to public and private agencies guidance in:

- Procuring architectural/engineering services
- Establishing evaluation criteria
- Soliciting qualifications statements
- Developing the short list
- Interviewing
- Defining the project
- Post selection process

Strategies include:

- Conducting educational programs promoting the merits of QBS
- Recognizing agencies/groups that exemplify QBS best practices
- Contact groups/agencies that are not using QBS to discuss QBS methods
- Conduct brown-bag seminars with organizations, agencies, and firms in A/E community
- Legislative action
- QBS Colorado is an organization that advocates the selection of design professionals based on qualification.

### ***(Opinion of Stanley L. Welton, P.E., S.E.)***

Why is this important to SEAC members? As professionals charged with public safety our designs cannot be compromised. We should be looking for best solutions for our clients rather than finding ways of shortcutting the design because we were selected based upon a low fee. Fair pricing of consultants can result in better service and a more economical solution to the owner. Best value in lieu of lowest fee.

What can we, as SEAC members do? First, if we are selecting sub consultants we should be using

QBS in our selection process. Second we need to find a way change the fee proposal practice used by many of our clients when selecting consultants. To facilitate this process we need to eliminate fee proposals and go to selection by qualifications and fee negotiations.

One last thought, would the SEAC member firms be willing to pledge not to 'bid' their services? The next time you receive a request for a fee, and you have not yet been selected for the project, submit the proposal, but omit the fee. Indicate a fee will be negotiated once you have been selected. I believe this process will be beneficial to our industry as well as to our clients.



Any Suggestions.....?  
SEAC wants to hear from you! Do you have ideas/suggestions for this year's Annual Dinner or for future General Meetings? Please contact Rodd Merchant at: [rodd.merchant@jedunn.com](mailto:rodd.merchant@jedunn.com) with any ideas or suggestions.