



STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS OF COLORADO

NEWSLETTER

2020 SPRING SCHEDULE
SIGN UP FOR THESE EVENTS
AT
[HTTPS://
SEACOLORADO.ORG/](https://seacolorado.org/)

SEAC Breakfast Meeting

May 21, 2020
Webex
8:00am-9:00am

Business Management Committee Meeting

June 11, 2020
Webex
7:30am-9:00am

May General Meeting

SEAC May Breakfast Meeting

May 21, 2020
via Webex
8:00am-9:00am

PRESENTATION: Standard of Care...in Theory and in Practice

The standard of care is not a frequent topic of discussion among practicing structural engineers. Rather, it generally comes to the fore only when design and/or construction related disputes or problems occur. When such disputes lead to litigation, liability for a professional is triggered only if it is demonstrated that the services provided by the professional were in some way negligent, i.e. he or she failed to meet the standard of care, the benchmark by which the legal system judges an engineer's performance.

The legal definition of the standard of care may vary somewhat from state to state, but typically requires a professional to provide structural engineering services with the level of skill, care and learning ordinarily used by other practicing professionals performing similar services and practicing under similar circumstances, in the same locality, and during the same time frame. An engineer's work must be objectively evaluated with the standard of care criteria to fairly conclude conformance or non-conformance.

This presentation is intended to assist practicing structural engineers in understanding the nuances of the standard of care and how their services and work product will be judged; it is also intended to provide guidance for professionals who are retained as consulting experts in critiquing the work of other engineers. The presentation will explore the various aspects of the commonly used definition of standard of care, review some general rules of law pertaining to the definition, compare and contrast the standard of practice with the standard of care, discuss bad outcomes versus negligence, examine the continuum between mistakes and malpractice, and address construction that is not compliant with an engineer's plans and specifications.

SPEAKER

Jerry Maly, PE, is a Principal in the Denver, Colorado office of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. He began his career as a design engineer in the late 1970s, however his work over the past 25 years has focused on the investigation and repair of structural distress and failures, and construction-related disputes. Jerry has been a member of SEAC for over 30 years, is a past president and a Life Member of the association, and continues to serve on several SEAC committees.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Structural Engineers Association of Colorado

Many words can be used to describe the last month and a half. Unprecedented is the word that comes to my mind. With the word uncertain as a theme for the coming months. The COVID-19 epidemic has for certain been something none of us have seen in our lifetime.

Most of the firms in our community are currently in a work from home environment. With their children and pets now their co-workers. Fifteen years ago, this would not be possible. But with the technology available for video/teleconferencing and working off a shared network remotely, it is possible. We are continuing with our work, although not wearing pants at times.

As you know, we had to cancel our March General meeting due to COVID-19. We are proceeding with our May General meeting, but it will be a webinar rather than an in-person presentation. I look forward to the day we can meet again in person, but at this time it would not be prudent to meet this month.

We have been given obstacles, but we as structural engineers are problem solvers. This afternoon, due to travel restrictions, I am participating in a virtual site visit for a project in Utah with an Architect from Atlanta. After this crisis is over, we will be able to use what we have developed to deal with our current circumstances.

We are a community of structural engineers. And as a community, we should reach out to our peers who might need assistance in these uncertain times. Not just technical assistance, but mental health wise. The stresses of a work/life balance have always been an issue for our profession. Lately the dividing line between the two has become blurred. Homeschooling is running parallel with conference calls. The definition of a shared workspace is being stretch to the limit. This is all adding to the normal stresses of our profession.

Be there for each other. Even it is a quick zoom call to eat lunch together. You might be surprised at how much small interactions like this can mean right now, even for such an introverted group as engineers.

I wish you all good health over these trying times and look forward to being able to meet face to face soon.

Charles S. Mitchell



Welcome to our Newest Members

David Anderson
S.A. Miro, Inc.
Affiliate Member

Aleesha Busch
Student Member

Kaitlin Forke
Martin|Martin
Professional Member

Markoryos Ibrahim
Student Member

Lauren Kercheval
Student Member

Lexi Kimes
Affiliate Member

Joseph Zeller
PK Associates, LLC
Professional Member

Committee News

Structural Engineers Association of Colorado

The Business Management Committee has made available the 2019 Business Practice Survey to members who did not participate in the survey. You can receive a copy of the final results for \$450. Click [here](#) to order your copy.



The [NCSEA SE3 Committee](#) is requesting your participation in its third nationwide survey of structural engineering professionals, **now** through mid-June! This is the largest survey of structural engineering professionals in the United States and provides valuable comprehensive information about our profession regarding demographics, compensation, satisfaction, engagement, and retention.

By participating in this anonymous survey, you will be helping us understand which factors influence engagement and retention for structural engineers working in Colorado.

Please take the 10-15 minute survey and forward to as many colleagues in your area as you feel comfortable, especially ones that are not part of SEAC or those who have left for other careers, as they are the hardest to reach, but equally important! Getting feedback from as many structural engineers as possible will ensure our voice is heard at the national level when survey findings and paths forward are discussed.

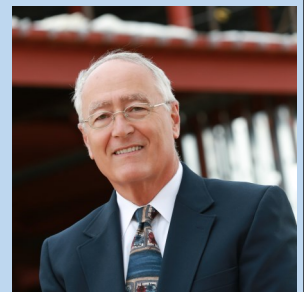
2020 Survey Link: <https://www.surveymzmo.com/s3/5536448/The-2020-SE3-Survey>

Please contact Alexander Lakocy (alakocy@gmail.com) if you experience any technical issues or have questions about SE3. Thank you for your time.

In Memoriam

SEAC had included the following in the April ENews, but felt it appropriate to also include in this issue.

Donald Berry, founder and former President of Peak Engineering, Inc., has passed away at the age of 76 at his residence in Michigan. Don founded Peak in 1987, served as President until 2009, and retired in 2015. He attended Purdue University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1971 and moved to Colorado shortly thereafter. Don was active in several professional organizations including the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Structural Engineers Association of Colorado, where he served as a Director for two years. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Parkinson's Foundation (Parkinson.org).



2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Structural Engineers Association of Colorado

SEAC Calendar

2020

Important Dates

BOD Meetings - 7:30am at S.A. Miro
Thursday January 9, 2020
Thursday February 6, 2020*
Volunteer Training with Leo Baran, NCSEA - Feb. 28, 2020
Thursday March 5, 2020
Thursday April 2, 2020*
Thursday May 7, 2020
Thursday June 4, 2020*
Thursday July 2, 2020
Thursday August 6, 2020*
Thursday September 3, 2020
Thursday October 1, 2020*
Thursday November 5, 2020
Thursday December 3, 2020*
* notes conference call only
Business Management - 7:30am at Martin Martin
Thursday February 13, 2020
Thursday April 9, 2020
Thursday June 11, 2020
Thursday August 13, 2020
Thursday October 8, 2020

General/Annual Meetings - 7:30am

Thursday January 16, 2020 at Lakewood Country Club
Thursday March 19, 2020 at Lakewood Country Club
Thursday May 21, 2020 at Lakewood Country Club
Thursday July 16, 2020 at Lakewood Country Club
Thursday September 17, 2020 at Lakewood Country Club
Fall Conference TBD
Annual Meeting November 5 at Space Gallery
SEAC Newsletter Deadlines
January issue - January 3rd
March issue - February 21st
May issue - April 24th
July issue - June 26th
September issue - August 21st
November issue - October 23rd
SEAC ENews Deadlines
February issue - January 31st
April issue - March 27th
June issue - May 29th
August issue - July 31st
October issue - September 25th
December issue - November 27th

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Upcoming Webinars:

May 14th

[Resiliency of Reinforced Hollow Structural Clay Unit Masonry Construction](#)

Learn about how Structural Clay Units (SCU) are produced, the physical properties that are generated in the process, and the use of structural brick to design resilient structures that resist fire, high winds, projectiles, ballistic attack, blast, and seismic forces. Resilient structures allow individuals, neighborhoods, and communities to be more resilient when disasters occur.

May 26th

[Resilience and What it Means to the Structural Engineer](#)

Resilience is a buzzword that is being erroneously applied to buildings. The public understands recovery from natural hazards is dependent on robust infrastructure, but structural engineers don't often recognize how the resilience discussion relates to what we've done every day for decades. Attendees will learn how a practitioner can contribute value to the resilience discussion, using tools already available. Much of what is needed from built structure is required in modern building codes, including consideration of each hazard at any location in the country.

June 18th

[Frequently Misunderstood Seismic Provisions](#)

This webinar will focus on ASCE 7/ IBC seismic provisions that are often misunderstood or incorrectly applied by the practicing structural engineer. Key topics will include: Redundancy (ρ), R , C_d and Ω_o , horizontal and vertical lateral force resisting system combinations, and irregularities. Each topic will include references to lessons learned from past earthquakes, code provisions, suggestions to simplify, and sample problems.

June 25th

[Seismic Assessment and Intervention for Historic Structures: An Exemplary Case Study](#)

Seismic assessment and improvement of historic buildings present multiple challenges that do not exist on more routine design projects. Historic projects require a radical re-prioritization of engineering focus to be successful. Sherith Israel a pre-1906 building in San Francisco epitomizes that re-prioritization; the project left the historic interior and exterior essentially undisturbed, incorporating both tradition and new technologies, engineering materials, and preservation-oriented engineering methodologies -- including nitinol tension-ties, rocking pilasters, and CFRP catenaries -- to do so.

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S.A. Miro, Inc.

720-407-1031

president@seacolorado.org



Lacey Goetz

VP/Treasurer

Integral Engineering

303-804-7003

vp@seacolorado.org



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secretary@seacolorado.org



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pastpresident@seacolorado.org



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director3@seacolorado.org



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director1@seacolorado.org



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Director

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720-354-4664

director2@seacolorado.org

We Want to Hear from YOU! The SEAC Board of Directors is interested in hearing your suggestions, comments, and ideas. Please feel free to contact a member of the BOD at any time.

Thank you to all of our members who continue to support SEAC!

NEWSLETTER ADS

Structural Engineers Association of Colorado



YOUR ADVERTISEMENT HERE

Consider placing an ad in the bi-monthly SEAC newsletter to reach over 300 members, including professional engineers, suppliers, and vendors.

Contact Kim Wyatt at administrator@seacolorado.org or go online to <https://seacolorado.org/seac-shop/>.

Full Page Employment Ad: \$250
Half Page Employment Ad: \$150
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