



SEAW SW Chapter, P.O. Box 111480, Tacoma, WA 98411  
www.seaw.org seawswchapter@comcast.net 253.382.2936

## Concrete Block Plant Tour and Construction Demonstration

### Tom Young, NWCMA and Steve Borman, Keystone Masonry

Wednesday, October 15, 2008

Our October meeting will be a tour of the Basalite Concrete Block Manufacturing Plant and their Bag Plant. There will also be a bricklaying demonstration by professional masons including a hands-on opportunity for anyone who wants to try laying a few blocks.

Masonry Industry Representatives will include: Tom Young, Northwest Concrete Masonry Association and Steve Borman, Keystone Masonry.

Safety equipment will be available (hard hat, vest, gloves, glasses, earplugs) but attendees are welcome to bring your own.

Basalite, acquired by [Pacific Coast Building Products](#) in 1979, has become one of the largest suppliers of concrete masonry products in the Western United States. Product lines include structural block, interlocking paving stones, wall systems, retaining walls, ornamental and garden products, and a full range of sack goods.

The use of Basalite Concrete Masonry Units, or CMU, has grown rapidly in demand over the past couple of decades. This has been due to not only the building boom in northern California, but also as result of advances in building design and changes in architectural preference. Today, Basalite Concrete Products manufactures hundreds of types and styles of concrete structural block.

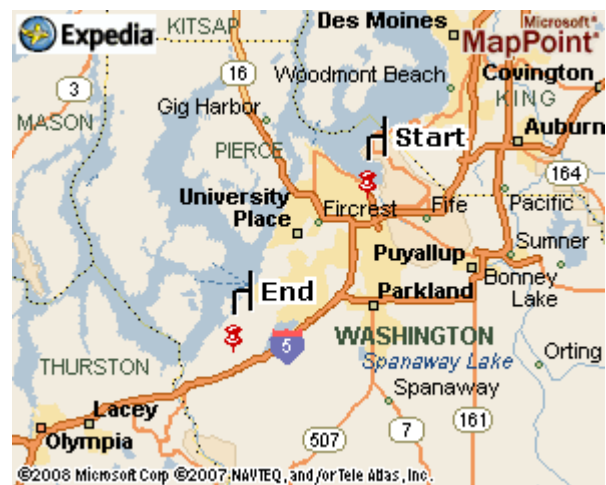
Basalite presents a complete offering of custom colors, shapes, and sizes in most product lines and often works with architects to create effects that showcase the building's design. The full line and custom options are available to builders and developers.

#### JOINT SEAW – ASCE MEETING

Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2008  
Location: Basalite Concrete Products  
3299 International Place  
Dupont, WA  
Time: 12 noon to 1:30 pm  
Lunch Provided  
Reservations: Reservations deadline  
**Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>**  
Email: seawswchapter@comcast.net  
Phone: 253-382-2936

Carpooling is encouraged if possible. Parking will be available in the cul-de-sac.

See page 2 of this newsletter for driving directions.



## From the President

By Mark Anderson

As Structural Engineers we tend to spend more time in our offices than in the field. Hands on experience is critical to the learning process of our specialty. Generally, we sit for hours in technical sessions when sometimes we should be spending time in the field watching the laborers ply their trade.

This month's meeting will give you the chance to "get your hands a little dirty". The Northwest Concrete Masonry Association is providing hands on opportunity for you to help build part of a CMU wall. We will tour the concrete block plant in DuPont which is owned by Basalite Concrete Products, have lunch and have an opportunity to watch or help a mason construct part of a demonstration wall. Questions will be encouraged so come prepared to learn a little more about masonry.

The SEAW State board met on September 26, 2008. Our Southwest Chapter past president, Drew McEachern is the current State Board President. The subject of greatest interest to everyday engineering was news about the Simplified Wind Method. This document was written by the combined SEA Wind Committees of Washington, Oregon and California. Ed Huston, SE, was the chair under the auspices of NCSEA. The method is a conservative method along the lines of the SEAW Rapid Solution Methodology. The new Simplified Wind Method has been approved for inclusion into the 2009 IBC and will be published early in 2009 by the IBC.

Continuing on a current topic for our Chapter is the 2009 Northwest Conference. The dates to hold are the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2009. The location will be the newly remodeled Murano Hotel in downtown Tacoma. Prepare your schedule! We will be looking to all of you for support in preparation of this conference. Committee work is in process and if you would like to help, please give me a call or send an email.

Mark Anderson, P.E., S.E.  
Anderson-Peyton Structural Engineering  
Consultants

## Membership Applications

### Received

Southwest Chapter

#### **Michael Niehl**

PCS Structural *Solutions*  
B.S. Civil Engineering, WSU  
Class: Associate Membership

#### **Nels Peterson**

PCS Structural *Solutions*  
B.S. Architectural Engineering, WSU  
M.S. Architectural Engineering, WSU  
M.S. Civil Engineering, WSU  
Class: Associate Membership

#### **Loren Ross**

PCS Structural *Solutions*  
M.S. Civil Engineering, WSU  
Class: Associate Membership

## SEAW Fall Seminar

Practical Approaches to the Rehabilitation of Existing Buildings

Friday, November 7, 2008

Moss Bay Event Center on Lake Union

Are you finding that all the new and updated codes and standards for existing building are making your practice easier or more confusing? Having a hard time determining appropriate approaches and criteria for seismic rehabilitation?

The SEAW Fall Seminar will cover the rehabilitation of existing buildings, focusing on both the process and technical aspects. Topics include:

- A summary and comparison of the provisions of IBC Chapter 34 and the IEBC.
- Suggested approaches to dealing with unique aspects of the evaluation and rehabilitation processes from the initial meeting with the building owner through permitting.
- Suggested technical provisions to use with various common building types.
- Example problems featuring unreinforced masonry and concrete buildings and illustrating various aspects of the rehabilitation process and technical provisions (including the IEBC, ASCE 31, and ASCE 41).
- A preview of upcoming changes for the Chapter 34 of the 2009 IBC and the 2009 IEBC.

To register for this seminar please check the SEAW website at [www.seaw.org](http://www.seaw.org).

## Driving Directions

Take Ramp (LEFT) onto I-5 (I-5 / Portland)

At exit 119, turn RIGHT onto Ramp (Steilacoom-Dupont Rd.)

Bear RIGHT (West) onto Local road(s)

Keep STRAIGHT onto Barksdale Ave

Turn RIGHT (North) onto Dupont-Steilacoom Rd

Turn LEFT (West) onto Center Dr

Turn RIGHT (North) onto International Pl



You can help uphold the integrity of SEAW

Volunteer to be a SW Chapter Board Member. Positions are currently available.

Contact Mark Anderson at 253.941-9929 or [manderson@anderson-peyton.com](mailto:manderson@anderson-peyton.com) or

Drew McEachern at 253-383-2422 or [dmceachern@ahbl.com](mailto:dmceachern@ahbl.com)

## Opportunities

### SEAW SW Chapter Administrative Secretary

The Structural Engineers Association of Washington is an organization of 850 + individuals engaged in the design and construction professions, over half of whom are registered as structural engineers in Washington State. Today the statewide organization is divided into four chapters; Seattle, Southwest, Spokane, and South Central – each of which operates independently under its own board of directors. Representatives from each board serve on the Statewide Board of Trustees.

The SEAW Southwest Chapter is looking for an experienced Administrative Secretary. This position is part-time (approximately 4–6 hours a month) and is paid hourly. The Administrative Secretary is responsible for preparing the monthly newsletter, making arrangements for the meetings (including two joint meetings a year), maintaining the membership roster (approximately 150 members), processing Annual dues statements, and various other duties that may arise during the year including the Southwest Chapter Annual Tradeshow and Northwest Conference.

Please send resumes to Mark Anderson at [manderson@anderson-peyton.com](mailto:manderson@anderson-peyton.com) or Drew McEachern at [dmceachern@ahbl.com](mailto:dmceachern@ahbl.com).

Please share this position with others you know that may be interested in working for the Southwest Chapter.

#### SEAW SW CHAPTER

##### 2008-2009 Board of Directors

###### President

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[manderson@anderson-peyton.com](mailto:manderson@anderson-peyton.com)

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[dmceachern@ahbl.com](mailto:dmceachern@ahbl.com)

###### Administrative Secretary

Sarah Middleton  
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The SEAW Southwest Chapter newsletter is printed monthly from September through May. Circulation is approximately 150 members & related organizations. Articles, letters and announcements are accepted through the SW Chapter office at PO Box 111480, Tacoma WA 98411. Advertising Rates: Help wanted \$25; Goods/Services and inserts \$50. Items received by the 30<sup>th</sup> of the month will be considered for publication in the following month's issue. For information, contact the SW Chapter at 253-382-2936 or email [seawswchapter@comcast.net](mailto:seawswchapter@comcast.net)