



EQUILIBRIUM

Newsletter of the Seattle Chapter
Structural Engineers Association of Washington

April 2009

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www.seaw.org

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April Mini Seminar

William Gibb of
Steel Cast Connections
will present

The Kaiser Bolted Bracket :

Design, history, and applications for the KBB connection and how it reduces erection time and costs significantly in comparison to other methods.

5:15 PM preceding the
April Dinner meeting

Joint Seattle/Southwest Chapter Meeting: Fifth & Yesler Street Building

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE FROM TUESDAY, APRIL 28 TO MONDAY, APRIL 27.

The Fifthth & Yesler project is a seventeen story concrete and steel framed office building in Seattle. It has an unusual shape and is set several stories into the slide-prone "Goat Hill" just north of the Yesler St. overpass on Fifth Avenue. The site geography and geology had enormous influence on the design of this new structure. The lateral system had to not only resist the building loads but also hold up the hillside above. The project also involved constructing what may be the largest free-standing cantilever retaining wall in the city, where Terrace Street was extended into the hillside to access the building.

Our April dinner program will feature Greg Schindler, P.E., S.E. of KPFF and David Cotton of Kleinfelder with presentations on the structural and geotechnical aspects of the Fifth & Yesler project.

Greg Schindler, P.E., S.E., is an Associate with KPFF Consulting Engineers and has been practicing structural engineering on a wide variety of projects for over 35 years. He is a past president of both SEAW and NCSEA and was honored in 2001 as SEAW Structural Engineer of the Year. Currently, Greg is a member of the Editorial board of STRUCTURE magazine and serves on the NCSEA Code Advisory subcommittee on Quality Assurance and Special Inspection and is on the board of directors of the BSSC.

David M. Cotton, P.E., is an Associate and Principal Geotechnical Engineer with Kleinfelder, Inc. Over the last 35 years, David has done consulting and design for the foundations and shoring systems of over 30 buildings in the Seattle central business district, with excavations extending over 100 feet in depth. When David came to Seattle in 1974, one of his first jobs was the first expansion of the Seattle Opera House, monitoring auger cast-in-place piles going in under the new stage area. David is currently working on more than six buildings in different stages of design or construction in the Seattle central business district.



Meeting Information:

Date: MONDAY April 27, 2009

Place: McCormick & Schmick's Harborside
1200 Westlake Ave N, Seattle

Time:	5:15—6:00 PM	Mini-Seminar
	5:30—6:30 PM	Social
	6:30—7:45 PM	Dinner
	7:45—9:00 PM	Program

Menu: Choose between
Cashew Crusted Tilapia with Jamaican Rum Butter Sauce
~or~
Pasta Primavera with Olive Oil, Garlic, White Wine and Pine Nuts

Price:	SEAW Members	\$30.00
	Non-Members	\$35.00
	Students (with ID)	FREE
	Late Registration, add	\$5.00

Reservation Deadline: Wednesday, April 22

Register Online at www.seaw.org
(Members, be sure to log in to get member price.)

Or email seaw@seaw.org

Prepayment is Requested

FROM THE BOARD: Riding the Economic Roller Coaster

It seems like yesterday that I was writing a "From the Board" article on the topic of how to maintain quality and keep the focus on mentoring young engineers in the then-busy business climate. We have definitely been through some changes in the past year!

The business climate now seems bleak. The national unemployment rate is steadily climbing; as of March 6th, it rose to 8.1 percent, with the architecture and engineering sector shedding jobs at a record rate. As credit remains frozen and work dries up in the U.S. and abroad, firms large and small are cutting staff.

So what should we do to position ourselves both as firms and individuals to ride this economic roller coaster? With some foresight and ingenuity, you can beat the recession...and even turn it to your favor! I've collected a few thoughts from the many articles I've read over the past 6 months and am sharing these with you. Many of these ideas should be the basis of good business practices in both good and recessionary times.

First off, what can you do as an individual?

Make yourself indispensable at your firm - Don't pigeonhole yourself in one role...designer,

PM, etc. Get to know all sides of the profession. Just like your education, you need to be in the driver's seat. You should understand marketing and proposal writing as well as project management, design, and construction management. One of the biggest things is to have a good attitude. If there is a decision to be made to keep two equal employees with the same work experience but one has a negative attitude, which one do you think will be laid off first?

Energize your career - Don't just worry about keeping your job—make it better. Lean times present an opportunity for employees to put other skills to work and rebuild their reputations as go-to multi-taskers. Employees should actively try to pick up the work of their departed peers. Also, volunteering to take on new responsibilities can pave the way for a negotiation down the road when the economy rebounds. If you can prove that your position has evolved and is now worth more on the market, you will be more valuable. A new outlook and approach like this will help you hold on to your current job, or pave the way to your new career.

So what about some business strategies our firms can embrace to weather the storm?

Avoid taking on bad business under the mistaken impression that any business is better than no business - Projects that cannot pay their way guarantee a trip to bankruptcy. You cannot pursue new business that can't begin to cover costs. If a new project or client can't produce a positive cash flow, don't accept it.

Staying in business is more important than the size of today's staff - Don't wait too long to tailor your staff size to the predicted workload. Many firms are making staff cuts and getting down to bare essentials. Unless you operate in a

"lean-and-mean" mode, you may find your firm in very rough waters. Keep your doors open at any cost, even if you must pare down to a much smaller staff. If you are careful and creative in managing your resources, you have a good chance of being prosperous again when business rebounds.

Aggressively pursue your accounts receivable - Today's accounts receivable have no reality until they're collected. Receivables require a vigorous effort: you must be aggressive in collections.

Today, some very good talent is out on the street looking for a new home - The current recession has forced many firms to release talented individuals. If you don't aggressively go after them now, your competitors will. And when the recovery is underway, you'll wonder why your competition has terrifically talented people while you're looking for an experienced team to run your expanded operations.

Keep marketing - Smart firms continue with strong marketing efforts even in difficult times. But don't expect instant gratification. Marketing in tough times paves the way for future profits. It's the best way to keep your name in front of



both clients and prospects.

Look to the future - Position yourself to come out strong when the economy rebounds. A recession can be the perfect time to determine core markets, strategies, cost-efficiency, and next-generation technologies that can help your business. These are no ordinary times, and your business model shouldn't be the same old ordinary routine you've been running throughout the first half of this decade. When all of this turmoil blows over, the rewards will go to the firms that figured out innovative ways to respond to the economic challenges.

-Shelley Clark,
Seattle Chapter Past President
sclark@mka.com

The SEAW Seattle Chapter *Equilibrium* is printed monthly from September through May and is available online at www.seaw.org. Circulation by mail: approximately 550 copies. Articles, letters, and announcements are accepted by e-mail to seaw@seaw.org.

Advertising rates (prepaid, please): Help Wanted/Job wanted, \$65 ; Display ads: Quarter page, \$115; Half Page, \$150; Full Page \$190; inserts, pre-printed 8 1/2 X 11 inch flat, \$190. 10% discount for ads running two or more months. Deadline is the fourth Friday of the month. Contact SEAW for an Advertising Order Form.

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Mark Your Calendar

APRIL, 2009

Friday	24th	May Newsletter Deadline
Monday	27th	Chapter Board Meeting Seattle/SW Chapter Joint meeting - announcement of election results

MAY, 2009

Tuesday	19th	Chapter New & Old Boards meet Annual Spring Social and Awards Event
Friday	30th	State Board meeting State Newsletter Deadline

Watch the SEAW website for Calendar updates!

Company Spotlight: DCI Engineers

DCI Engineers is a civil and structural engineering firm with more than 20 years of experience, 15 partners and 15 associates companywide. DCI is committed to providing quality, innovative services on new and remodel commercial, residential, medical, educational, governmental and industrial projects. In addition, DCI works with public agencies to provide transportation, traffic, water, sewer and stormwater solutions. Our staff members' experience and expertise enables the firm to produce economical designs—without compromising quality.

Founded in 1988, DCI now employs more than 160 engineering, technical and administrative staff in six offices. Headquartered in Bellevue, Washington, DCI also has offices in Spokane and Everett; Portland, Oregon; San Diego, California and Austin, Texas. DCI is licensed in all 50 states, as well as in British Columbia and Alberta, Canada.

DCI's fundamental philosophy is to operate as one body, exploring creative solutions while remaining abreast of industry advances in the execution of civil and structural engineering. The company pursues new and progressive methods to accomplish their client's goals. As a firm, DCI's philosophy demands that they: serve clients in a professional and timely manner; utilize innovative methods to best serve the needs of each customer and add exceptional value to their services through cost reductions and improvements in constructability.

DCI currently employs 41 active members of SEAW at its Bellevue office; including: Scott Douglas, current SEAW Seattle Chapter president, Mark D'Amato, former SEAW Seattle Chapter president and current liaison to the joint SEAW/WABO Committee and Mark Moorleghen, a member of the SEAW Seattle Chapter Board of Directors.

DCI Engineers, Inc
10900 NE 4th St Ste 1200
Bellevue WA 98004
www.dci-engineers.com

Cale Ash, SEAW Member since 2005, is our Company Spotlight Coordinator. If you would like to see your company in the spotlight, e-mail him at cash@degenkolb.com.

PROJECTS

Northwest University Health and Sciences Center

Kirkland, Washington

DCI Engineers provided structural design for the Northwest University Health and Sciences Center. The 45,000 square foot building houses the university's nursing and science department and contains multiple classrooms and offices, wet and dry research lab space and computer lab space. The two-story structural frame consists of one level of post-tensioned concrete slab and a post-tensioned concrete roof. The structure utilizes concrete shear walls for lateral force resistance and conventional spread footings for foundation support. The structure also includes several one-story tall reinforced concrete walls at the base of the building to retain soil across the site's steep slope.



-Image Property of DCI Engineers



-Image Property of Bowen Studios

The Bravern is a 3 million square foot mixed-use project containing office, residential, retail and parking space. Located in Bellevue, Washington, The Bravern consists of four high-rise towers over a four and a half acre podium. The two 33-story residential towers offer high-end condominiums priced at up to \$5 million. The 300,000 square feet of retail is anchored by the first Neiman Marcus in the Pacific Northwest. The two office towers are 14 and 24-stories and contain 750,000 square feet of office space which is occupied entirely by the Microsoft Corporation.

Brix Condominiums

Seattle, Washington

This 190,000 square foot mixed-use development is comprised of 140 condominium units and street level retail. The design features two, five-story wood-framed buildings and a six-story cold-formed-steel building over two levels of below-grade parking constructed of post-tensioned concrete. An extensive brick veneer façade is included over the majority of the project. A unique feature is a two-story sky-bridge that connects the wood-framed buildings. A horizontal seismic joint integrated into the bridge attachment to the main structure is utilized to support the bridge and allow movement during a seismic event.



-Image Property of DCI Engineers

Member Online Services

SEAW Website Log-in Instructions:

If you haven't visited the members-only portion of the site, your **login name** is your email address and your **password** is your first name.

Since the inception of SEAW's Online Membership Database, many members are logging in to the website to pay their dues (see back page for dues payment instructions) or register for meetings and seminars.

Here are some other features of the SEAW website that you may not have discovered:

"My Profile"

Once you've logged in, click on "My Membership", then this sub-menu item to review your

membership information and personalize your login name and password.

Currently, you can change only your personal information. If there are changes to be made to your Company information, please email them to the SEAW office.

Event Log

Can't remember what meetings/seminars you've attended recently? A record of SEAW events you've attended through the website registration can be found by clicking on the sub-menu item "Event History" under the "My Membership" tab.

Online Membership Roster

You can search for a particular

member in the database or look at the entire roster. Once you've logged in, click on the "Directory" tab. To search for a particular member, enter all or part of their name and click "Search". To view the entire membership, leave the name blank and enter "Search." You can narrow your search to a particular chapter by entering the Chapter name and leaving the member name area blank.

Job Postings

In better times, this page has featured 8-10 job openings each month. Click on "Job Board" to keep an eye out for any positions that become available. Have an opening to post? Contact SEAW for information.

Useful Public Areas:

There's lots of information you can find without even logging in:

Visit the **Resources** pages to find Newsletters, the Residential Engineers list, Publications (Products), and White Papers.

Go to **Links** to find contact information for related organizations. (a couple of my favorites are the Daily Journal of Commerce online firms directory, and StructuraE). Visit them and see for yourself!

If you have suggestions for links or features you'd like to see included, let us know.

-Lynnell Brunswig
SEAW Administrator

YMF Corner

YMF Happenings

By Melissa White

Spring is a time of changes, new faces and new opportunities. This season, the YMF is introducing opportunities for you to get involved in your professional organization and your community.

As we did last year, we will elect new leaders this spring. The open positions are Chair, Vice-Chair, Outreach Representative, and Social Representative. The responsibilities of these positions change with the development of this forum, but the typical activities for each are as follows.

The YMF Chair develops and leads YMF activities, serves as a liaison between the YMF and the SEAW Board of Directors, contributes to YMF Corner in the newsletter, and serves as treasurer.

The Vice-Chair assists with Chair activities, prepares minutes of YMF meetings, and serves as a liaison to other professional societies (ASCE, EERI, etc.).

The Outreach Representative develops programs to encourage young engineers to join and participate in SEAW and serves as a university liaison.

The Social Representative develops programs to encourage sustained involvement in SEAW among young members and encourages sustained YMF membership involvement in SEAW through social activities.

The election will be held in early May, and the new leaders will be announced at the May Social Dinner Meeting. If you are interested in increasing your involvement in SEAW and the YMF through leadership, contact me, Melissa White (absumel@gmail.com), or sign up at the upcoming YMF Social Hours.

This spring we would also like to introduce the first YMF volunteering event. We are teaming with the local ASCE YMF to contribute to Rebuilding Together Seattle (<http://www.rtseattle.org/>), an organization that provides do-

Created in 2007, the Younger Member Forum provides networking and social opportunities to SEAW members 35 and under, as well as new non-member engineers and students. All SEAW members are welcome to participate in YMF functions.

nated repair services to homeowners in need so they can continue to live independently in warmth and safety. This volunteer event will take place on April 25, from 8am to 5pm. We are looking for five to 10 SEAW YMF volunteers for each the morning shift, afternoon, or both. The volunteers will be asked to:

- Replace the linoleum floors in the kitchen and bathroom
- Remove and replace the rotted flooring from another bathroom
- Install a handrail and small ramp in the backyard
- Minor plumbing repairs (sink drain pipe leaks)
- Painting the living and dining rooms
- Repair or replace an old dresser

- Run errands and help with other miscellaneous activities
- Help with punch list tasks (Sunday)

We are also looking for someone (or a couple people) with a full size pick-up truck who would be willing to help transport materials (preferably the day before the event). In addition, we are looking for a dresser donation for the homeowner, meeting the following specifications: six drawer dresser, approximately 62" wide by 16" deep by 30" tall.

Please respond to Jessica Jenness, SEAW YMF Vice-Chair, (jjenness@dc-engineers.com) if you are interested in volunteering (as well as what time shift you are available and what tasks you would prefer to help with), helping haul materials, or have a dresser to donate.

Meetings, Seminars

Ninth US National & 10th Canadian Conference on Earthquake Engineering

July 25-29, 2010 Toronto
<http://2010eqconf.org/>

The 9th U.S. National and 10th Canadian Conference on Earthquake Engineering, with the theme of "Reaching Beyond Borders," will be held in Toronto, Canada, July 25-29, 2010, co-convened jointly by the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) and the Canadian Association for Earthquake Engineering (CAEE). Deadline for abstracts has been extended to April 15th.

Judges needed for NCSEA Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards

The Call for Entries for the 2009 NCSEA Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards has been made. Last year, the Structural Engineers Association of Texas, SEAoT, volunteered to provide the five judges needed. It

worked out very well and NCSEA would like to continue the tradition if another Member Organization would like to volunteer. The MO would need to find five members willing to meet for a 6-7 hour judging session with NCSEA Awards Chair Carrie Johnson, who will bring all entry materials to the panel's chosen site. The award submittals are due on July 17 and the judging would need to happen within three weeks of that date. If you are interested, please email the SEAW office at seaw@seaw.org.

ASCE Short Course and Spring Seminar May 15 & 16

The ASCE Seattle Section Geotechnical Group is pleased to announce the 26th annual spring seminar. The seminar will be held on Saturday, May 16, 2009 at the University of Washington campus in the Husky Union Building Auditorium. The focus of the seminar this year will be on

"Recent Developments and Case Histories in Deep Foundations". We invite you to join us and learn about that status of current research on deep foundations, including the findings of recent field testing.

A variety of types of deep foundations will be presented. Current design methodologies and uncertainties will be discussed along with a series of case histories. This topic will be relevant now and in the coming years as more projects are constructed in areas with poor soil conditions. For more information visit www.seattlegeotech.org.

Short Course Friday May 15, 2009: "Basic Design of Deep Foundations"

This one-day short course will provide participants with an overview of the behavior of drilled and driven deep foundations in soil and rock. The short course will cover axial

behavior of drilled foundations in soil, design of single piles and pile groups, evaluation of rock sockets, and the performance and interpretation of static loading and dynamic tests on instrumented piles. The short course will include case histories and practical applications.

Professor Bengt H. Fellenius and Professor Fred H. Kulhawy will present this short course the day prior to the ASCE Geotechnical Group's Spring Seminar on Deep Foundations. The short course is intended for geotechnical engineers, structural engineers, and site civil engineers with an understanding of the fundamentals of pile design and installation.

Course attendees will be eligible to receive 0.7 Continuing Education Units (CEU) or 7 Professional Development Hours (PDH).



Routinely recognized as one of the best places to work, Degenkolb Engineers is actively recruiting structural engineers looking for a long-term career with a clear path to leadership and ownership. We encourage lifelong learning and support professional and community-based activities. Degenkolb engineers have the opportunity to follow their interests and develop their own book of work. And when we're not doing that, we are playing...sometimes in one of four company cabins in Tahoe, Big Bear, Monterey, and Sunriver. As renowned leaders in seismic and structural engineering, we offer a diverse, challenging mix of projects on both new and existing structures. Minimum requirements are an MS in Structural Engineering, excellent communication skills, and a desire to work in a challenging, collaborative environment. We have offices in San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles, San Diego, Portland and Seattle and are seeking engineers with all levels of experience. EOE

If you're interested in joining our award-winning firm, please apply through our website:
www.degenkolb.com/careers/openings

For questions, please email Russell Kaltschmidt at rkaltschmidt@degenkolb.com

kpff Consulting Engineers

KPFF SEATTLE is hiring

Structural, Bridge/Waterfront Engineers

KPFF is known for diverse projects, a flexible work environment, and minimal organizational restriction. We are seeking an engineer who has strong technical, communication, and organizational skills.

Competitive Benefits:

- Regence Blue Shield medical plans
- 401(k)
- Transportation program
- Medical/dental reimbursement
- Flexible working hours
- Social events, company parties, ski trip, etc.

Requirements:

- BS Civil Engineering
- Knowledge of SAP 2000, SAFE, PC Column
- 5+ years experience
- PE required, SE preferred

Send Seattle resumes to hrseattle@kpff.com, or visit us as www.kpff.com!



STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION of WASHINGTON • Seattle Chapter

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Committees & Chairs

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Membership

Membership Applications

Chris Hasse
DCI Engineers
BS 1995, Seattle University
Licensed S.E., WA
Class: MEMBER

Richard Hawksworth
BTL Engineering
BSCE 2007, Seattle University
Class: Associate

William W. Watson
Arup
BSCE 07 U of Florida
MSSE 08 UC Berkeley
Class: Associate

Accepted Applications

Barry Chan, Associate
Julie Chappel, Associate
Nicholas Redmond, Associate
Luke Ruggeri, Associate
James Shannon, Student
Luke A. Showalter, Associate
Samuel S. Sideras, Student
Rachel Vranizan, Student

Equilibrium to go Paperless in May 2009

Beginning next month, the Seattle Chapter *Equilibrium* will be produced in electronic form only. Each month, members will receive the already familiar email announcing the presence of the latest issue on the SEAW website, along with a link to the document. This will not only save resources, but will be considerably less expensive for the chapter, enabling us to keep member dues low and benefits high..

Members with no email address on file will receive a mailed copy.

SEAW Membership Dues

It's Dues collection time!

Seattle Chapter members were emailed their dues invoices on January 23rd, and reminders went out on March 2nd and April 1st. According to the SEAW Bylaws, annual dues are payable in advance. This is a great time to review your membership listing and notify the SEAW office of any changes to your address, company, or membership classification.

Online Dues Payment Instructions

1. Go to www.seaw.org
2. Log in to the member area (Default login name is your email address; password is your first name.)
3. Click on "My Membership" in the menu bar
4. Select "Membership Renewal" in the gray menu bar
5. Follow the prompts to pay your dues online using your VISA or Mastercard.
6. When your payment has been made, you will receive an emailed receipt.

Forgot your Login Information? Simply click on "Forgot Password" under the Member sign in area and enter your email address. Your information will be emailed to you.