STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF SAN DIEGO

February 2025 SEAOSD Newsletter

President's Report



For all of those not in attendance last month's SEAOSD meeting it was a blast. Having all of our committees there together in a carnival setting with games and social networking was a great way to meet fellow SEAOSD members. And hopefully a way for those in attendance to get involved. Not only did I learn more about all the great work we as an organization are doing, I also got to see some inspirational costumes as well. I hope next year we will see you all there.

As we fall back with the end of Daylight Savings Time, and one day of cooler weather to me it feels like summer is winding down. As my dad used to say here in San Diego we are now changing seasons from summer to late summer before we go into earl spring. To me this is a time of change and preparation for what comes next with the new year, or in this case the new building code. I have been involved with the ICC Code development for many years now and this is the time that SEAOC and NCSEA kick it into high gear as we prepare to submit code changes to for the 2027 IBC! This process is always frustrating here in California because we never have a chance to experience the new edition of the building code before we must update for the next one. I don't know of any engineer that is truly happy with the Building Codes, but they are a fact of life for our business. Over time the code development process, and the resulting codes, have gotten much more convoluted and complex which is not necessary a good thing. In the "old days" it was much simpler when everything was included in the building code, but now with the ever-growing list of Referenced Standards (IBC CH 35) meaningful changes involve multiple organizations with varying timelines and sometimes competing interests. Practicing structural engineers are only one small group involved within the process, we work with various groups, sometimes with competing interests, to make changes to the code. All this means that improving the building code is a time-consuming task, requiring a lot of volunteer hours for us as an organization. So if you have ever been frustrated with the building code I would encourage you to get involved with ICC, or a referenced standard (ASCE 7, ACI, AISC, NDS, TMS,…) to see how the process works and what we as practicing Structural Engineers can do to improve it. One thing being involved with code development has made me

more familiar with the codes, and while not necessarily agreeing with provisions, it has given me a healthy understanding of the document. So get involved.

This month's November meeting is a lunchtime meeting on November 19th. The topic is "Imposter Syndrome: What is it and what can be done about it?" I am looking forward to hearing from SDSU Psychology professor Lisa Kath on this important topic. Imposter syndrome is when that inner critic is yelling so loudly that you believe that you don't have the skills to be successful. This voice tells you that your past successes are flukes. This presentation will demystify that voice and talk about individual and systemic approaches to quieting that voice. If you have ever battled with your inner critic (like me) then I encourage you to come hear about this important topic.

Stephen Kerr
SEAOSD President 2024-2025

In Memoriam: Robert K. Burkett, S.E. (1936 – 2024), Founding Partner of BWE



SAN DIEGO, CA – It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Robert "Bob" Burkett, the founding member of Burkett Engineers (now BWE).

"Adequately describing Bob is challenging," reflects Mark Batten, Principal at BWE, who worked alongside Bob for decades. "The first words that come to mind are polymath and doyen." Bob's contributions spanned over five decades, shaping the future of engineering and inspiring countless individuals along the way.

After graduating from UC Berkeley, Bob began his career with CALTRANS before joining A.J. Blaylock & Associates in San Diego, CA. In 1971, he established Burkett Engineers, which later became Burkett & Wong Engineers in partnership with Frank Wong, and has since evolved into BWE. Bob certainly had an eye for engineering and business talent, and surrounded himself with first-rate partners including Timothy Yeun, Steve Wong, Keith Mountain, Poy Low, and others. His vision of establishing a company that would succeed in the long term included guiding principles that, at the time, were quite novel but have become standard practice in many firms, such that BWE is now operating on its fourth generation of ownership.

Bob was a respected Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC). He also served as President of the Structural Engineers Association of San Diego (SEAOSD) from 1979 to 1980, and of SEAOC from 1984 to 1985.

Engineering and business did not fully capture Bob's efforts and interests. Bob was actively committed to his three children and was not shy about bragging with regards to their accomplishments. His community involvement was equally enthusiastic, with over 20 years of service on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of San Diego, actively participating on their Endowment and Scholarship Committees, as well as serving as past President for the Clairemont Hills Kiwanis Club, and his involvement with the San Diego Automobile Museum, the San Diego Yacht Club, and Boy Scouts of America.

Known for his unique vigor and keen intellect, Bob engaged in discussions on a wide array of topics—from politics and economics to sports and theology. Being the force that he was, Bob's tenacious spirit and zest for life were evident in his passions for power boating and exotic cars. He was generous with his belief in the abilities of others and invested in their success and shared his blessings and experiences liberally.

"Bob was always there for me throughout my time at BWE, from my early days in the office to my transition to Presidency," said Charlie Colvin, President of BWE. "His conversations would take you through engineering and politics to environmental concerns and finally, cars! Bob lived life to the fullest, and he truly cared about BWE and the people who work here. I will never forget him."

As we reflect on Bob's remarkable life and legacy, we celebrate the values he championed—integrity, innovation, and community engagement. For BWE and many others, a significant page has been turned, but one that will always be worth remembering and honoring.

Bob Burkett's Celebration of Life | November 10th, 2024, 12:00 PM
San Diego Yacht Club (Frost Room), 1011 Anchorage Lane, San Diego, CA 92106

For further information, please contact Charlie Colvin, SE, President, at (619) 299-5550 or ccolvin@bwesd.com.

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Thank You Sponsors

t is time to renew the SEAOSD membership for many of our current members. Be sure to check your emails for renewal information. You can also login to the SEAOSD website and renew today. Log in to Member area select Member Dues Renewal. If your renewal link does not work, please log in and renew that way.

Small Project Referral List

Did you know you can sign up to be a part of our Small Project listing?

List of Engineers for Small Projects 2024-2025

Engineers desiring to be added to this list click here to Sign up and pay $50 for the year!

Future Meetings

SEAOSD November 19, 2024 Imposter Syndrome: What is it and what can be done about it? Luncheon

November 19, 2024
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM
Stone Brewery Point Loma

SEAOSD December 3, 2024 Trivia Night

December 3, 2024

5:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Stone Brewery Point Loma





Job Ads

- SEA News charges $100 ($150 for non-members) for “Job Posting” ads for 3 months in SEAOSD Newsletter.

- In addition, the advertisement will be posted at www.seaosd.org under “Job Forum” for 3 months.
- Please limit ads to 100 words.
- Advertisements may be renewed or extended for $50 ($75 for non-members) per each additional month.

Classified Job Listing

Project Engineer

AARK Engineering Inc.
Job Posting
Oct. 3, 2024


CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF INNOVATION
50
COMPUTERS & STRUCTURES, INC.
CSi
TECHNOLOGY FOR A BETTER WORLD
1975 - 2025
© 2024 Computers and Structures, Inc. | csiamerica.com

Small Project Referral List

Did you know you can sign up to be a part of our Small Project listing?

List of Engineers for Small Projects 2024-2025

Engineers desiring to be added to this list click here to Sign up and pay $50 for the year!

Note: We get about 10 calls a week for this list!

New PE License Holders

Have you recently passed PE OR SE Exam? Let us know.

Email Heather Caya at seaosd@cox.net

Newly Added SE Firm Sponsorship Opportunities

SE FIRM GOLD - $2,000

SPONSOR RECEIVES:

- 3 job postings (value $300) Admin will be in contact
- Ad in 6 issues of SEA-News (value $1,500) (Please select months you want ad ins)
- Two Dinner/Lunch member meeting sponsorship package (value $1000) (Please select Month Jan-May, September -December we typically meet on the third Thursday of month lunch and dinner alternate)
- Website sponsor for one year (value $750) will be posted after approval

Total value: $2,800

SE FIRM SILVER - $1,000

SPONSOR RECEIVES:

- 2 job postings (value $200) Admin will be in contact
- Ad in 2 issues of SEA-News (value $500) (Please select months you want ad ins)
- One Dinner/Lunch member meeting sponsorship package (value $500) (Please select Month Jan-May, September -December we typically meet on the third Thursday of month lunch and dinner alternate)
- Website sponsor for one year (value $750) will be posted after approval

Total value: $1,950

SE FIRM BRONZER- $500

SPONSOR RECEIVES:

- 2 job postings (value $200) Admin will be in contact
- Website sponsor for one year (value $750) will be posted after approval

Total value: $950

Annual Sponsorship Program:

ANCHOR - $7,500

SPONSOR RECEIVES:

- Four individual memberships (value $1000)
- Full Page ad in 11 issues of SEA-News (value $3,000)
- Two-member meeting sponsorship package (value $1,000)
- Website sponsor for one year (value $750)
- Student Night Main Sponsor (value $4,250)

Total value: $10,000

PLATINUM - $4,000

SPONSOR RECEIVES:

- Four individual memberships (value $920)
- Half-page ad in 11 issues of SEA-News (value $2750)
- One member meeting sponsorship package (value $500)
- Website sponsor for one year (value $750)

Total value: $4,920

GOLD - $2,500

SPONSOR RECEIVES:

- Two individual memberships (value $460)
- Half-page ad in 6 issues of SEA-News (value $1,500)
- One member meeting sponsorship package (value $500)
- Website sponsor for one year (value $750)

Total value: $3,210

SILVER - $1,000

SPONSOR RECEIVES:

- Half-page ad in 2 issues of SEA-News (value $500)
- One member meeting sponsorship package (value $500)
- Business Logo on website for one year (value $400)

Total value: $1,400

NOTES:

- The Annual Sponsorship Program extends from SEAOSD's fiscal year beginning July 1st through June 30th.
- Sponsorship dues may also be paid on a quarterly basis if
- Member meeting sponsorship package includes an exhibit table, logo on the newsletter and recognition in announcements, 5 minute presentation during meal time.
- Benefits are for noted fiscal year only and unutilized benefits do not carry
- For further information, please refer to SEAOSD Advertisement Policy or contact the Executive Director (contact information below).

Annual Events:

Student Night (Annually in February or March)

- Dinner for 1 & Logo in event announcements, website, and poster at event - $200 – $450.
- Includes items above plus an exhibit table - $500+

Golf Tournament (Annually in May)

- Varying Sponsorships (hole, closet to pin, lunch, dinner, etc…) - $200 – $2000.

Contact Heather Caya at 619-733-2734 or info@seaosd.org if you are interested!

Heather Caya, Executive Director
SEAOSD
P.O. Box 712922
Santee, CA 92072
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Email: info@seaosd.org

MEET *your* NEW SEA SAN DIEGO BOARD



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