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# SEAoAL Dynamic Columns

Quarterly Newsletter: February 2018

## President's Letter



Goodbye 2017. Hello 2018. As President of SEAoAL for 2018, I get to write these little snippets for the newsletter. And this one? Well, it is about telling you there is a new President and reminding you to renew your membership dues. So, now that we have that out of the way, let's talk about everyone's favorite subject. CHANGE.

It wasn't that long ago I was writing this snippet for the newsletter as the incoming 2013 President of SEAoAL. And now just five short years later, I have the privilege of serving a second term. While some may not see the changes, SEAoAL has changed in a number of ways during that time. On August 28, 2018, we will host our 8th Annual Conference and Expo. The first event in 2011, my first year on the board, was an effort to start an event members could count on each year as an opportunity for quality education and meeting area representatives who provide guidance on products used in the construction of modern buildings. I remember days of picking a range of dates and then working with speakers to coordinate calendars for our event. For 2018, we have already set the date. We have established a reputation with our event that makes people want to take part. Having been to two different NCSEA conferences and talking with reps from other states, I can tell you that our conference and expo is a bigger event than what most states can support, even those with larger

memberships. I hope all of our members have an opportunity to attend our event and see how special it is.

The success of the annual conference and expo helped SEAoAL move forward financially and begin to make an impact on the future of our profession. From scholarships (\$17,500 over the last four years) and sponsorships (such as the Steel Bridge Competition) to on campus presentations, SEAoAL has had an impact at universities across the state. Further down the line into those future generations, SEAoAL has impacted younger students through E-Week volunteering at the McWane Science Center in Birmingham. February 23<sup>rd</sup> will mark our 6th year volunteering at McWane, which has been led by our Young Member Group (which also did not exist during my first year on the Board).

It was also my first year on the Board that Bill Wilson and I interviewed Rhea Williams for the SEAoAL Executive Director position. Rhea has had a tremendous impact on SEAoAL and, with an eye to what we could become, has been a driving force in making these, and many other, changes become a reality.

So let's get back to 2018 and take a moment to look ahead. In five years, where do you hope to see change in SEAoAL? What about personally and professionally for yourself? What do you hope to look back on in 2023 and see that has changed? What are the changes you have been putting off for the last five years? I hope everyone finds a way to ignite the change they want to see in their own 2018 and beyond.

As a parting note, I ask that you please take a few moments, if you haven't already, to renew your SEAoAL membership and help us continue moving forward in the support of structural engineering in Alabama.

Sincerely,

Jason Partain, P.E. 2018 SEAoAL President

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## SEAoAL 2018

Have you noticed those two unassuming words in the upper right-hand corner of the NCSEA's web site? **Member Login. That's YOU.** If you are a member of **SEAoAL**, then you have an *additional* tangible benefit – access to NCSEA's Member Portal, a members-only section of the web site – at no extra cost.

### [Log in Here](#)

It is simple to use. If you haven't logged in in a long time, a lot has changed...in a good way! If you have recently logged in, nothing has changed. If you have never logged in, click on those two words in the corner of the main web page, and use the same e-mail address you used when joining or renewing your **SEAoAL** membership and your password. First time users will be asked to create a new password – and you are in!

Once in, take advantage of the benefits such as:

- **STRUCTURE e-Magazine** - Don't wait for the magazine to reach your mailbox each month, access it directly from the member portal!
- **ICC Publication Discounts** – Staying technically “current” is expensive. Visit this page to save on the materials you need!

- **Young Member Group Resources** - How do you start a new YMG? Find tools will help you succeed!
- **NCSEA Committee Minutes** - An inside look at what NCSEA Committees are doing.

Finally, you can keep your NCSEA record up-to-date to ensure delivery of NCSEA and other membership-related materials.

Start 2018 off right! Carve out 10 minutes in your busy day to login to NCSEA's Member Portal and take a look around. Save money on seminars and conferences. Get invited to all the cool events with other organizations too. And thanks for being a member of **SEAOAL**. We love having you in the SEAOAL family!!!

## Tim Mays Seminar

Save the date for our Spring Seminar on April 26th, 2018 at the Pelham Civic Center. Tim will present his latest book on Alternate means and methods in accordance with the IBC and toss in some practical structural dynamics. the most interesting parts of the structural dynamics book presented as well. \$195 price will include binder of presentation. Non licensed engineers can attend for \$100. Books will be an additional charge of \$64. More info coming soon!!!

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## Committee Updates

### Code Advisory

[NCSEA Link to Code Advisory Committee](#)

### 2018 Scholarships

The SEAOAL 2018 scholarship application is ready for applicants. If you know of someone who is a resident of Alabama and majoring in structural engineering, please share the [SEAOAL scholarship link](#)

## Larry Novak Lecture

**Feb. 27th, 2018**  
**Huntsville, AL**  
**Campus 805**  
**1 PDH (AL & FL)**  
**11:30-1:00 pm**

North Alabama engineers, we are bringing Larry Novak to you! No driving to Birmingham. Lawrence Novak is the Director of Structural Engineering for the Portland Cement Association. Prior to joining PCA, he was an Associate Partner with Skidmore, Owings & Merrill where he served as the **lead structural engineer for the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building**. Novak serves on several technical committees, including the ACI 318 Code committee and the ACI 130 committee on Sustainability of Concrete. He has served as Director on the governing board for organizations including SEAIOI, TCA and the Illinois Engineering Hall of Fame. He has co-authored numerous papers on engineering and is a recipient of SEAIOI's "Meritorious Publication Award", the NCSEA's "Outstanding Structural Engineering Publication Award" and the United Kingdom's "Oscar Faber Award". Novak is the recipient of the SEAIOI "Most Innovative Structure Award" for the Burj Khalifa project.

## Advocacy

SEAL is proud to sponsor the Auburn University Concrete Day, February 22nd, 2018. We will have an exhibit booth promoting structural engineering.

SEER

NCSEA SEER

[Register here](#)

## Young Member News



The SEAL YMG (and licensed engineers are welcome to play too) is participating in the **Engineering Showcase at the McWane Science Center** again this year! The showcase is **Friday, February, 23<sup>rd</sup>** from 9am to 3pm. We're looking for volunteers to talk to the middle & high school students about what we do as Structural Engineers and to help with an activity similar to last year (stacking solo cups). We are still thinking of activities, so if you have any ideas please feel free to share them with us.

We have set up 3 hour volunteer shifts so it can hopefully fit into your schedule. Ideally, we'd like to have about 4 or so volunteers per shift. Let us know if you have any questions!

Sign up to volunteer here: <https://doodle.com/poll/wh2bkfp6re3mymux>

**R. Blake Greene, PE**

## Lunch and Learn and Mill Tour at Atlas Tube

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, SEAoAL YMG visited Atlas Tube for a Lunch and Learn and tour of the mill. Atlas Tube is a producer of HSS sections, and they provide resources for designing and specifying HSS products. A big thanks to Atlas Tube for the HSS design information and great learning experience for our members!



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