



## Open Quarterly Meeting Highlights: March 1-3, 2006 • San Antonio, TX

The winds of change were blowing at the most recent OQM. Find out what's new on the horizon for WTCA.

by WTCA Staff

**B**oard president Don Groom opened the meeting at 8 a.m. on March 3 in San Antonio, TX. The Board passed a motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 2005. Don reviewed the remaining 2006 meeting schedule. Frank Klinger gave a presentation about the teamwork that exists within the Truss Manufacturers Association of Texas (TMAT).

### Executive Committee Report

**Truss Design Drawing Policy:** WTCA staff reminded the Board about the Minnesota building officials' suggestion that they should define how a truss design drawing should appear. The issue was discussed at the December TPI Board meeting, where it was decided that the best solution is to develop an online educational program with each of the software providers to explain what the information on truss design drawings means. PowerPoint® drafts are currently being created by each software provider.

**Name Change:** Don reviewed the statistics from the name change survey:

#### Summer 2005 Results Set 1

73.17% (210 out of 287) picked a different name than Wood Truss Council of America.

26.83% (77 out of 287) want to stay with Wood Truss Council of America

#### Summer 2005 Results Set 2

50.17% (144 out of 287) said that changing the name of the Wood Truss Council of America to a name that more broadly represents the industry's highly varied business interests is in WTCA's best long term interest.

25.44% (73 out of 287) said that changing the name of the Wood Truss Council of America to a name that more broadly represents the industry's highly varied business interests is NOT in WTCA's best long term interest.

24.39% (70 out of 287) said either way is OK.

#### Fall 2005 Results

64% (64 out of 100) said "WTCA - Representing the Structural Building Components Industry" is the best name to represent us for the next 25 years.

36% (36 out of 100) said that "WTCA - Wood Truss Council of America" is the best name to represent us for the next 25 years.

Don introduced the resolution to the Board:

*Whereas, three surveys have been taken of the WTCA membership regarding whether the association should change its name;*

*Whereas, the results of each survey demonstrate that a majority of those responding believe it in the best interest of WTCA to transition away from its current name to a new name,*

*Whereas, a name has been agreed on for the association for the current time,*

*It is therefore, RESOLVED, that the association should transition at this time from the current name of "Wood Truss Council of America" to the name "WTCA - Representing the Structural Building Components Industry;" it is further RESOLVED that Executive Committee take such necessary action as it determines in its discretion to implement the name change as approved by the Board of Directors.*

The Board unanimously passed this motion.

Continued on page 24



### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



### Canadian Wood Council

### Cascade Structural Laminators



### LP Building Products

### NAHB Research Center



## 9th World Conference on Timber Engineering August 6-10, 2006 • Portland, OR

**OBJECTIVE:** WCTE 2006 will provide a forum for the exchange of the latest technological advances, research results and design innovations.

**ATTENDEES:** This year's conference is expected to attract over 500 of the world's experts in the field – researchers, educators, engineers and architects.

**EDUCATION:** Attendees will be exposed to educators and design professionals from around the world who will be presenting some of their most interesting ideas and research results. Continuing education credits (self-documented) will be available to assist attendees to meet requirements of their professional registrations.

**NEW STRUCTURAL SOLUTIONS:** Several leading suppliers of engineered wood products and structural building solutions will provide design-oriented information at their exhibition booths during the conference.

**INNOVATION:** Design professionals from around the globe will showcase an array of innovative wood structures and discuss the challenges related to design and construction.

**NETWORKING:** This conference provides a rare opportunity to meet professional colleagues from around the world and to renew relationships with friends.

**TO ATTEND:** For more information, or to inquire about exhibitor or sponsorship information, contact:

Ms. Jamie LeGore • Oregon State University  
Phone: (541) 737-6443 • [jamie.legore@oregonstate.edu](mailto:jamie.legore@oregonstate.edu)

[www.wcte2006.com](http://www.wcte2006.com)

For reader service, go to [www.sbcmag.info/wcte.htm](http://www.sbcmag.info/wcte.htm)

### at a glance

- ❑ The WTCA Board voted unanimously to pass a resolution changing the name of the association to "WTCA – Representing the Structural Building Components Industry."
- ❑ A management committee resolution was passed to change the Wage & Benefit and Financial Performance survey policy.
- ❑ Two new technical staff members have been hired, and the number of professional engineers on staff has increased to four.
- ❑ The design of the research and testing facility is nearing completion.
- ❑ The next OQM will be May 10-12 in Washington, DC, in conjunction with the 2006 SBC Legislative Conference.



Open Quarterly Meeting Highlights  
Continued from page 22

BCMC Report

Committee chair Doug Folker said exhibitor promotions have been sent and BCMC staff has begun to sell sponsorships. The committee has approved the economics and kick-off speakers.

WTCA staff talked about the unexpected difficulty in hotel room availability in Fort Worth. This is due to the renovation or closing of downtown hotels. A lengthy discussion about the issues facing BCMC due to this problem took place. Staff reported that if the show remains in Fort Worth, attendees and exhibitors will likely be housing in remote hotels and shuttles will transport them to and from the convention center. The Board discussed moving the show to another convention center. It was suggested that staff look into the Gaylord Texas in Dallas/Fort Worth, San Antonio or Houston. The Board directed staff to look at all options and determine the best course of action.

SBC Magazine

WTCA staff reported that 2006 is off to a great start and **SBC** continues to undertake several industry projects that have great value to each member of WTCA. For 2006, there are currently 30 Gold, 12 Silver, and 3 Bronze program advertisers.

Management Committee

Committee Chair Ben Hershey read a motion to change the

Wage & Benefit and Financial Performance Survey Policy:

*To encourage participation in its Wage & Benefit and Financial Performance Surveys, WTCA shall sell the Wage & Benefit and Financial Performance surveys to non-participating component manufacturer members at a cost of \$1,600 each. If the purchasing member company participates in the next survey (the next appropriate survey of the survey that was purchased), a credit of \$1,400 will be applied to the member's account.*

The Board unanimously passed the motion to adopt the policy change from the Management Committee.

Legislative Committee

Allen Erickson invited everyone to participate in the 2006 Legislative Conference and reinforced the value of this to each member. The conference will be held May 10-12 in Washington, DC.

Staff Update

Staff reported that Keith Hershey and Jim Vogt, P.E. have been hired to strengthen the technical department and help tackle industry testing needs. Rachel Smith, P.E., and Ryan Dexter, P.E., recently passed their professional engineering exams; as a result, staff has gone from one P.E. to four.

Research & Testing Facility

Kirk Grundahl gave an update on the research and testing facility, announcing that the design of the building is nearing completion. He reported that new staff member Keith

Hershey is taking on many of the testing facility development responsibilities.

He explained that the best way to envision the testing that will be done in the facility is to think about a box that is 20 feet wide by 20 feet high by 98 feet long. This can be tested with gravity and lateral loads in two directions. The challenge we face is to design the columns and the concrete to handle the lateral loading capacities. The Board raised questions regarding dynamic testing, whole house testing, wind and seismic testing.

It was also mentioned that at its last meeting, TPI offered to become 50/50 joint venture partners in the testing facility. TPI made a proposal that will begin the process of working out an agreement.

John Huck asked about allowing organizations outside of WTCA to use the facility. This has been discussed by everyone involved to ensure that the best approach is taken to meet everyone's testing needs. A suggestion was made that some sort of cap on the percentage of usage by those outside the industry be considered.

Treasurer's Report

Barry Dixon reviewed the 2005 financials, reporting that WTCA had another very good year. He then reviewed our historical financial performance as follows:

WTCA's Budgeting Process 2000-2005						
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Budget Income	\$789,375	\$1,182,430	\$1,412,900	\$1,614,205	\$2,203,950	\$3,053,857
Actual Income	\$934,469	\$1,363,565	\$1,526,626	\$1,813,458	\$2,913,004	\$3,566,128
Budget Variance	\$145,094	\$181,135	\$113,726	\$199,253	\$709,054	\$512,271
	18.38%	15.32%	8.05%	12.34%	32.17%	16.77%
Budget Expenses	\$1,247,789	\$1,437,490	\$1,806,962	\$2,218,560	\$2,747,658	\$3,681,461
Actual Expenses	\$1,298,624	\$1,477,426	\$1,865,566	\$2,040,220	\$2,757,565	\$3,716,148
Budget Variance	\$50,835	\$39,936	\$58,604	-\$178,340	\$9,907	\$34,687
	4.07%	2.78%	3.24%	-8.04%	0.36%	0.94%
Budget Net Income	-\$458,414	-\$255,060	-\$394,062	-\$604,355	-\$543,708	-\$627,604
Actual Net Income	-\$364,156	-\$113,861	-\$38,941	-\$226,761	155,439	-\$150,020
Budget Variance	\$94,258	\$141,199	\$55,121	\$377,594	\$699,147	\$477,584

Barry pointed out that WTCA does an excellent job of budgeting expenses and has been conservative in budgeting income. He then moved on to the 2006 budget, where we are again budgeting a \$225,000 deficit which falls well within the guidelines allowed by the WTCA bylaws.

As the Past Presidents, Executive Committee and WTCA Board have directed in the past, WTCA is not in the business of accumulating cash, it is in the business of advancing industry interests by investing all the resources that it can to

Continued on page 26

BEAMS • HEADERS • JOISTS • LINTELS • RAFTERS

# KRB GLULAM®

## BEAMS & HEADERS

2400 F<sub>b</sub>- 1.8 E

- Optimized strength using Norway Spruce machine stress rated (MSR) laminates
- I-Joist compatible sizes
- Full 3-1/2" and 5-1/2" widths available to match lumber sizes
- Also available in typical glulam sizes (3-1/8", 5-1/8" & 7" widths)
- Over 20% lighter weight than Southern Yellow Pine glulam
- Industrial grade (of high quality)
- Easily installed (No TOP/BOTTOM)
- No camber — always straight & true
- Each beam is individually shrink-wrapped
- Several ports of entry — we can service East, Southeast & Gulf port customers
- Available in lengths up to 51'

**finnforest** Finnforest USA Engineered Wood Division  
www.finnforestus.com • 800/622-5850 • Fax: 586/296-8773

For reader service, go to www.sbcmag.info/finnforest.htm

W T C A

Many Thanks to Our TTT Online Training Partners

**Robbins Engineering, Inc.**

**MiMiTek®**

**EAGLE**

**ALPINE**

**TRUSWAL®**  
INTELLIGENT BUILDING SOLUTIONS

For details, contact WTCA at 608/274-4849 or visit www.sbcindustry.com.

**WTCA**

For reader service, go to www.sbcmag.info/wtca.htm

Whether You're in the Classroom, Designing a Roof/Floor System, or on the Jobsite, Rely on the Experts at USP.

- Integrated in leading Truss/EWP Design software programs.
- Quality Products, Nationwide Availability, Superior Value.
- Extensive Product Testing, Dedicated Engineering and Field Support.

**USP STRUCTURAL CONNECTORS®**  
A GIBRALTAR INDUSTRIES COMPANY

For further product information call 1-800-328-5934 or visit www.USPconnectors.com

For reader service, go to www.sbcmag.info/usp.htm



John Griffith

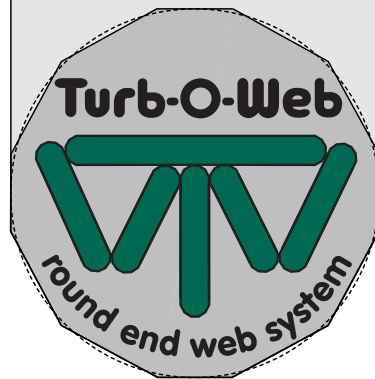
## Turb-O-Web USA, Inc.

Daytona Beach, Florida

Office 888 887 2693

Email: john@turb-o-web.com

[www.turb-o-web.com](http://www.turb-o-web.com)



Patented in the U.S. and Canada

For reader service, go to [www.sbcmag.info/turb-o-web.htm](http://www.sbcmag.info/turb-o-web.htm)



Strongest Truss Trailer  
130,000 PSI Steel  
One Piece Beam  
Lifetime Warranty  
Many Galvanized Parts  
Bigger Rollers

For pricing & ordering information feel free to contact us at:

PRATT Industries, Inc.

2979 W. Bay Drive, Belleair Bluffs, FL 33770

Phone: (727) 584-1414 • Fax: (727) 584-2323

E-mail: [sales@prattinc.com](mailto:sales@prattinc.com)

[www.prattinc.com](http://www.prattinc.com)

For reader service, go to [www.sbcmag.info/pratt.htm](http://www.sbcmag.info/pratt.htm)

## Open Quarterly Meeting Highlights

Continued from page 25

undertake tasks that will improve our industry for all who are deriving benefit from it.

He noted that we are being aggressive in projected expenditures for online training (TTT Level III and the development of Level IV), chapter support and staff travel to chapters, increased demand in In-Plant WTCA QC, ORisk, and the new testing facility. The 2006 numbers did not include revenue from the potential joint TPI/WTCA testing facility agreement, which could easily offset the budget deficit.

Ultimately, each year our goal is to get even better at budgeting accurately on both sides of the ledger.

**The Board unanimously passed the motion to approve the 2006 Budget as submitted.**

## TPI Report

Charlie Hoover reported that at February's joint E&T and TPI TAC meeting in Chicago, the first ANSI/TPI 1-2007 Project Committee meeting was held. The ANSI/TPI committee process has over 50 participants. It's a participatory process, and Charlie encouraged all Board members to get involved if they have an interest in this area.

TPI has a new set of officers; Tom Whatley (Eagle Metal Products) is the President, Andy Schwitter (Truswal Systems) is the Vice President and Wayne Masengill (Cherokee Metal Products) is the Treasurer. TPI is also currently conducting a search for a Technical Director.

On the topic of steel, not much has changed since October. China is still a strong steel producer and consumer, which affects the global steel supply. There has also been a big upswing in commercial demand domestically. A zinc shortage is also presenting a challenge for the galvanizing process.

## Lumber Report

Cathy Kaake said there are record levels of production in the lumber industry. She reported that Canfor is going to purchase New South, mainly due to their interest in bringing in more lumber from European sources. Also, Koch Industries has bought George-Pacific.

She also talked about the recent development of a component manufacturer-focused brochure, called Southern Pine for Structural Components. In it there are direct comparisons regarding the use of SYP in a townhouse project.

## Chapter & Supplier Roundtable Discussion

John Huck brought up girder nailing. He said they have one municipality that refuses to let them nail from one face, so they now have to flip all girders and nail them from both sides. It was suggested that they use screws to address the problem, but John pointed out some of the issues that they run into with using screws. Staff will draft a *Tech Note* clarifying all aspects of the girder nailing issues.

John asked if WTCA had thought about putting together a guide to help members navigate the business of whole house design/engineering. The Board talked about code and engineering issues, and the need to be careful when manufacturers consider this business activity. WTCA has budgeted money to ensure that we develop a fundamentally sound understanding of the legal, engineering and code environment as a first step.

Charlie gave the plate supplier's perspective, saying they are responding to the market, not driving it. Each manufacturer has to make its own decision regarding its business model, deciding how it is going to meet customers' needs. He said there are a lot of business opportunities, and the suppliers are trying to create products to meet their customers' needs (developing software and products that address bracing and shear wall engineering issues, for instance). **SBC**

*The next WTCA Open Quarterly Meeting will be held May 10-12 in Washington, DC, in conjunction with the SBC Legislative Conference. For more information, contact WTCA staff at 608/274-4849 or [wtca@sbccindustry.com](mailto:wtca@sbccindustry.com), or visit [www.sbccindustry.com](http://www.sbccindustry.com).*



## 2006 Committee Priorities

Below is a summary of three top priorities for each committee in 2006. For a complete listing of the priorities ranking, visit **Support Docs** at [www.sbcmag.info](http://www.sbcmag.info).

### Membership

- Staff travel to chapter meetings and member visits
- Membership promotion to small companies
- Assistance to chapters for educational programs and Truss Technology Workshops (TTWs)

### Marketing

- Promotion of TTW Online programs
- Development of new industry details to be used by specifiers
- Assistance to local building official and fire service groups with online training

### Engineering & Technology

- Active participation in Truss Plate Institute Technical Advisory Committee (TPI TAC)
- ANSI/TPI 1 analysis
- Monitoring of and participation in building code development

### Quality Control

- Development of QC Management Information System
- Development of QC Best Practices and creation of an online training program
- Creation of QC Basics for Assembler Training

### Legislative

- Continued development of Congressional relationships
- Creation of a Voting Record Database on the **SBC** Legislative web site
- Development of state model legislation (through ALEC) on issues like transportation permitting, building labeling and fire code development

### Management

- Release of ORisk Phase I
- Development of Plant Training for New Employees
- Continued support of Operation Safety

## Quick Delivery Reliable Supply Consistent Quality

**MSR Inventory Available  
in Aurora, IL, & Reading, PA**

**State-of-the-Art Sawmills  
in Perry & Preston, GA**

**SPIB Grade Marked SYP  
#1, #2 & MSR**

**Tolleson**  
Lumbermen Since 1919  
**LUMBER COMPANY • INC**

*We believe in long term relationships!*



**Call 1-800-768-2105 today!**  
**[sales@tollesonlumber.com](mailto:sales@tollesonlumber.com)**  
**[www.tollesonlumber.com](http://www.tollesonlumber.com)**

For reader service, go to [www.sbcmag.info/tolleson.htm](http://www.sbcmag.info/tolleson.htm)

**the HAINCOMPANY**  
[www.haincompany.com](http://www.haincompany.com)  
6125 Enterprise Drive Units 1 & 2, Diamond Springs, Ca 95619  
530-295-8068 Ph - 530-295-0468 Fax

*Our Measuring  
System can be  
used with any  
saw and setup  
is simple!*

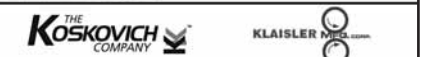
*(Shown with Vista  
Angle Boss® Saw)*

## Hain Measuring System

*Changes are instant,  
accurate, and it's the  
most durable system  
on the market!*

**Hain Sub  
Component Nailer**

**Our new DVD is  
here! Request  
your copy today  
or watch it online!**



For reader service, go to [www.sbcmag.info/hain.htm](http://www.sbcmag.info/hain.htm)

# STRUCTURAL BUILDING **COMPONENTS**<sup>TM</sup>

---

THE FUTURE OF FRAMING

[www.sbcmag.info](http://www.sbcmag.info)

Dear Reader:

Copyright © 2006 by Truss Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. For permission to reprint materials from **SBC Magazine**, call 608/310-6706 or email [editor@sbcmag.info](mailto:editor@sbcmag.info).

The mission of **Structural Building Components Magazine (SBC)** is to increase the knowledge of and to promote the common interests of those engaged in manufacturing and distributing of structural building components to ensure growth and continuity, and to be the information conduit by staying abreast of leading-edge issues. SBC will take a leadership role on behalf of the component industry in disseminating technical and marketplace information, and will maintain advisory committees consisting of the most knowledgeable professionals in the industry. The opinions expressed in SBC are those of the authors and those quoted solely, and are not necessarily the opinions of any of the affiliated associations (SBCC, WTCA, SCDA & STCA).



6300 Enterprise Lane • Suite 200 • Madison, WI 53719  
608/310-6706 phone • 608/271-7006 fax  
[www.sbcmag.info](http://www.sbcmag.info) • [admgr@sbcmag.info](mailto:admgr@sbcmag.info)