



Chapter Corner

For more information about WTCA Chapters and how to become more involved, contact Anna L. Stamm (608/310-6719 or astamm@qualltim.com) or Danielle Bothun (608/310-6735 or dbothun@qualltim.com). Contributions to Chapter Corner, including pictures, are encouraged. Submissions may be edited for grammar, length and clarity.



Chapter Spotlight

Bracing Education from WTCA's Capital Area Chapter

by Al Lilley, Senior Building Inspector, James City Cty, VA

On behalf of everyone here in the James City County Code Compliance office, I would like to thank WTCA's Capital Area Chapter team for their help and generosity in conducting a workshop for our inspectors. Trish Kutz of WTCA was very accommodating when I called to get information and materials regarding wood truss issues. She made the necessary calls to put this together. Robert Dayhoff with Shelter Systems Limited conducted the workshop at

our office and provided a very helpful presentation custom tailored to our needs. This kind of service is greatly appreciated by everyone in our industry. We hope to get Robert back for another workshop in the near future. Thanks to everyone involved for your support and generosity. **SBC**



The Code Compliance Officials of James City County, VA following the TTW presented by the Capital Area Chapter.

Chapter Highlights

California Engineered Structural Components Association

This summer, the California Chapter continued its new practice of holding its meeting online via **SBC Connection**. The members have come to really appreciate the ease of attending chapter meetings as no travel is required, just a phone and an internet connection.



High on the agenda at the meetings was the chapter's success on the Safety Zone for Off-Loading Components. Thanks to the development time invested and beta testing done by chapter members, the complete line of Safety Zone materials was completed and made available in July. Now all members can improve safety at the jobsite, protecting themselves and their drivers at every delivery, by using the Safety Zone signage, laminated Guide to Creating a Work Safety Zone, and Safety Zone Delivery Inspection Report/Off-Load Inspection Report. Kudos to all involved!

Technical matters discussed at the summer chapter meetings included additional *Technical Notes* requested by chapter members, such as gypsum cracking and ridging, special inspections, and the *Tech Notes* on changes in the 2007 Supplements to the IBC and IRC that affect component manufacturers. The members also reviewed the chapter's educational efforts, including truss plant tours for the Fire Technology program at Long Beach City Community College and the San Diego Miramar College Fire Technology program. In addition, a poll of members was conducted on groups they would like the chapter to contact and educate through truss plant tours, and an action plan for contacting a targeted list of engineering, building official, and fire service groups was determined.

Northwest Truss Fabricators Association

The Northwest Truss Fabricators Association held its 25th Annual Golf Tournament in July. The guest celebrity was NFL star Manu Tuiasosopo, formerly with the Seattle Seahawks and the San Francisco 49ers. He provided great fun on one of the par 3 holes where each group had a chance to hit the golf ball with him and have pictures taken. In all we had 108 golfers, many walking away with some great prizes. It is always fun to get out and meet your fellow industry compatriots, and this day was no exception.

During this past year, our Northwest Chapter has accomplished many things. We were instrumental in helping the State of Washington Department of Labor and Industry write the new crane operator and crane truck certification rules. Our efforts paid off big time in reducing the requirements that were mandated by the legislature. Our association also put together a lean manufacturing event for those members who wished to participate. This event covered what is lean manufacturing and included actual lean manufacturing training and activities at participating member locations. The members who participated all gained valuable increases in plant efficiencies. In addition, we provided three training sessions for different building jurisdictions and field inspectors. During these sessions we trained the inspectors on how to use the WTCA's BCSI-B3 Summary Sheet – Permanent Restraint/Bracing of Chords & Web Members in conjunction with truss layout and sealed truss engineering. The inspectors all learned a lot about truss bracing and were very thankful for the training. We as an association were able to have personal contact with these inspectors, which always goes a long way toward strengthening a better working relationship.

Also this year we have had several great guest speakers for our general membership meetings. Former Saturday Night Live producer Mr. Bill Satton presented "The Five Best Decisions the Beatles Ever Made" and tied it in with how we should use those five decisions in our business and lives. What an entertaining night that was! Mr. Matthew Gardner, an area economist with international ties, spoke on the current economic conditions and

when to possibly expect things to turn around in the housing market. He was very entertaining and had a great sense of humor, so even his economics did not seem too dry. Next up, we will welcome Randy Goruk of WTCA's Professional Leadership Academy to speak on "Leadership Essentials in a Down Market." If you're near Bothell, WA on November 12, please consider joining us for dinner and an evening among fellow truss industry friends.

Wisconsin Truss Manufacturers Association

In August, the Wisconsin Chapter held its Annual Golf & Fishing Outing. In the morning, a brief membership meeting was conducted that touched on several items including: an update on what to see at BCMC; the chapter's education presentation for Arnold & O'Sheridan Consulting Engineers; a member's experience with an OSHA inspection focusing on dust issues; and the latest news on Green Building and steps toward certification. After the meeting, it was off to the golf course and the lake for some friendly competition, and then back to the clubhouse for dinner (see photos).



Wisconsin Chapter members enjoyed a great day on the greens and over drinks.

WTCA – Northeast

This summer, the Northeast Chapter participated in the 2008 New England Fire/Rescue/EMS Expo, and by all accounts it was a big success. Chapter members spoke with over 200 fire fighters and handed out Carbeck CDs and literature. Importantly, they also made some great contacts with training officers, and the chapter expects to do follow-up trainings in several localities. By request, they are also planning a demonstration/tour, to be held in Massachusetts, that will clearly portray the effects of fire on a structure with equivalent loads. Thank you to everyone who supported the chapter's participation in the Fire/Rescue/EMS Show and especially to the folks who worked at the booth and on

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Brice Hereford and Brad Ferris at the New England Fire/Rescue/EMS Expo.

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the educational presentations: Kirk Grundahl of WTCA, Brice Hereford of FastenMaster, Chris Smith of LaValley Building Supply, Jeremiah Longe and Cregg Smith of Wood Structures, John Goodrich of Truss Engineering Corporation, and Brad Ferris of S.R. Sloan (see photo). The chapter has already booked its booth space for the 2009 New England Fire/Rescue/EMS Show!

This year, the chapter has been spending its resources educating building and fire officials and improving communication, and the fall was no exception. In October, it hosted a booth and provided two seminars at the Eastern States Building Officials conference at UMass—Amherst. They hope to do more with building officials and fire training officers in the coming year, too, and chapter members are encouraged to propose additional groups and programs to be added to the educational schedule. **SBC**



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