



THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

FORT WORTH CHAPTER

www.seaot.org

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SEAoT Fort Worth News

May 2017

Wednesday, May 24, 2017

Presentation:

A Look at Some Notable Bridge Problems

Speaker: Dr. Karl Frank, P.E.

This presentation will go over the collapse of the I-35W Bridge in Minneapolis, the fracture of high strength rods of the new San Francisco-Oakland Bridge, and the recent fracture of the turnpike Bridge in Philadelphia. Each of these bridges will be reviewed to clarify the underlying issues which caused the problems. The implications of the problems associated with these bridges on engineering design and professional responsibilities, as well as the design lessons learned from each bridge failure will be presented.

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President's Message

Brian Graves, P.E.

Last month's meeting was delightful; thank you to all that attended. The attendance was one of the largest ever hosted by SEAoT Fort Worth. The meeting was also a first in that we were able to host a show and tell put on by our sponsor. Our new meeting venue offers space for large audiences & product demonstrations and we will continue to seek out content that takes advantage of these opportunities.

Many graduate engineers will be joining our profession in the coming months as they graduate from school. They will know how to design beams & columns using the different materials and will know how to use analysis & possibly drafting software, but will lack the knowledge of how to get to the point where they have a beam to design or what to draw. Our job as the veteran engineers

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Lunch Meeting Information

May 24, 2017

809 at Vickery
809 W. Vickery Boulevard
Fort Worth, TX 76104

Meeting Sponsor:
Hirschfeld Industries

Catering:
Colburn's Catering

Check-In:	11:30 AM ó 11:50 AM
Chapter News:	11:50 AM ó 12:00 AM
Lunch & Program:	12:00 PM ó 1:00 PM

*Map to 809 at Vickery is provided at end of newsletter.
Additional Catering information is on page 2.*

SPEAKER BIO:

Dr. Karl H. Frank is a professor emeritus of The University of Texas at Austin and a Chief Engineer of Hirschfeld Industries. Dr. Frank taught at The University for 36 years before leaving to work at Hirschfeld Industries in 2010.

Dr. Frank has been a licensed professional engineer in the state of Texas for over 35 years. He received his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Davis, and both his master's and doctorate degrees in Civil Engineering from Lehigh University.

While at UT Austin he was a director of the Ferguson Structural Engineering Laboratory and of the Maglev Guideway Research Center. Before joining the faculty, he worked 3 years at the Federal Highway Administration of Research. Dr. Frank's research interests include the fatigue and fracture behavior of structures, the design of steel plate girders and their connection, and new technology in steel bridge fabrication. Dr. Frank is widely regarded as one of the world's foremost authorities on the design and behavior of structural steel bridges. Throughout his career at the University of Texas at Austin, he has made extraordinary contributions to improving the understanding of the fatigue and fracture behavior of structural steel as well as towards the design and behavior of bolted and welded connections. And while he is widely recognized for his expertise in steel bridge systems, he is also well known for his contributions to the building industry.

When Dr. Frank joined Hirschfeld industries in 2010, he played an instrumental role in research and development, and has continued to enhance Hirschfeld's partnership with the Ferguson Lab, testing structural designs and working on the future of structural steel. Dr. Frank has provided invaluable assistance to Hirschfeld on the implementation of advanced technologies such as, virtual assembly and Bridge Information Modeling.

Dr. Frank has received the AISC Lifetime Achievement Award, the Croes Medal and Reese Research Prize from ASCE, and the Richard Fountain Bridge Task Force Award from AISI.

Lunch Catering

This month's meeting will be catered by Coburn's Catering. They will be serving chicken and/or beef fajitas w/ grilled onions and peppers (toppings: sour cream, cheese, lettuce, tomato, and pico de gallo). Sides served will be Spanish rice, pinto beans, chips & salsa, and Mexican cookies for dessert. Please indicate if you would prefer the lunch vegetarian alternative (vegetarian lasagna) with your RSVP. Water & tea will both be available to drink, as well.

Newsletter Advertisement Policy

The Fort Worth Chapter of SEAOt would like to invite all prospective advertisers to contribute to the newsletter. We will definitely appreciate your support. You may support SEAOt by advertising in the newsletter. Space is available to structural engineering firms, vendors, and suppliers starting at \$125.00 for one year of advertisement (8 newsletters). If interested, please contact the newsletter editor, Steven Hodridge, via email at FTW@SEAOt.org.

The newsletter editor is also looking for articles and announcements for publication. Submissions may be sent to the editor via email at FTW@SEAOt.org. Articles and ads to be included in the newsletter must be received by the first Wednesday of the month the article or ad is to first appear. The newsletter is loaded on the SEAOt website, so you will get exposure to the entire state of Texas and more.

Reservations for Lunch Meeting

To reserve a place at this month's meeting, please **RSVP by 5:00 PM on Friday, May 19, 2017**. You may make your reservations via email at FTW@SEAOt.org or by phone to Steven Hodridge at (817) 649-1544. Indicate the name of each attendant when making a reservation for several people. Also, specify if vegetarian meals are required. Lunch will be served at the meeting.

The cost is \$20.00 for members and \$35.00 for non-members. The cost for students is \$10.00. Reservations are required to ensure adequate seating. A map of the location of 809 at Vickery is included at the end of the newsletter for your use.

President's Message continued from page 1

is to continue the young engineers' education (they only thought they were done with school!) and further develop their skills as their mentors. Being a mentor to a young engineer can be challenging as it takes lots of time and patience, and can be frustrating if your student's skills stop developing at a certain stage or if they choose to leave your firm. However, these downsides shouldn't discourage building a professional relationship, guiding, and sharing ideas with young engineers. The profession as a whole depends on the continued development of young engineers in their post-formal education. There are many benefits for the mentor as well. Explanations have to be well thought out and firmly based on good engineering practice; preparation for discussion serves as a kind of continuing education in itself. Questioning the reasons why certain things are done the way they are can reinforce those decisions or update them to better engineering practice for better efficiency in both design time and construction cost. And, fresh perspectives bring new ideas. Being able to implement a new idea presented by a young engineer not only helps their confidence but can result in a better engineering product. Keep in mind that we are not limited to developing talent within our own companies. SEAOt meetings are a great place to meet other engineers and engage in engineering discussion.

So, with that in mind, our next meeting will be on May 24. The outdoor courtyard is open for our use, and if the weather is nice, it would be a great place to talk with your fellow engineers before or after the technical presentation. As a reminder, please plan to arrive between 11:30am and 11:40am so that we can get lunch served, everyone seated, and the meeting started on time

Brian Graves, P.E.
President

Cancellations

Please note that cancellations must be made by **9:00 a.m.** on **Monday, May 22nd, 2017**, to be honored. SEAOt reserves the right to decline cancellations made after the cut-off and to invoice no-shows.

Editor's Notes

Reminder: Please make sure you RSVP by the deadline so we can ensure there is enough food for everyone.

Membership Announcements

Current SEAOt members who would like to be transferred to this chapter are invited to do so by logging in with their user name and password and updating their chapter selection from their membership profile. Please email FTW@SEAOt.org for additional information. ❖

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEAOt FORT WORTH LUNCH MEETINGS FOR 2017:

809 AT VICKERY - FORT WORTH, TX

May 24, 2017

June 28, 2017

September 27, 2017

November 15, 2017

Upcoming Seminars:

- [SJI Seminars](#)
- [ACI/PCA Seminars](#)
- [AISC Seminars](#)

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President-Elect	Brad Watson, P.E.	(817) 735-7416	bbw@freese.com
Treasurer	William Gigl, P.E.	(817) 294-4141	wjgigl@sbcglobal.net
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Past President	John Tornberg, P.E.	(817) 569-0070	j.tornberg@structuralsolutionsinc.com
State Director	Brian Graves, P.E.	(817) 335-3909	bgraves@callahaneng.com
State Director	John Tornberg, P.E.	(817) 569-0070	j.tornberg@structuralsolutionsinc.com
Membership	Open	(817) 735-7416	-
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