



Wtca Update

Open Quarterly Meeting Minutes: August 17, 2007, San Francisco

Find out what went down at this summer's Open Quarterly Meeting.

by WTCA Staff

Barry Dixon welcomed attendees to the summer Open Quarterly Meeting and thanked everyone for their participation. **Motion to approve the May 2007 Board Minutes as submitted. Motion by Ben Hershey. Second by Bob Becht. Motion passed unanimously.**

Treasurer's Report

Bob Becht reported that revenues are down 11 percent from the projected budget. This can be attributed to publication sales being down and the Truss Knowledge Online (TKO) revenue being down. Total expenditures are down three percent.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion by Jim Finkenhoeffer. Seconded by Dave Motter. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Committee Report

The Executive Committee is looking closely at the finances of the organization, particularly the membership dues structure. A subcommittee made up of Barry Dixon, Bob Becht, Kirk Grundahl and Ben Hershey will make a recommendation to the Board on what adjustments (if any) should be made to the dues structure.

WTCA and TPI are getting close to finalizing a cooperative agreement for SBCRI. WTCA staff is working to finalize the testing concepts and the list of tests to conduct. When it is most productive to do so, SBCRI staff will schedule weekly teleconferences to discuss what they are going to accomplish week to week in the facility. Some proprietary testing is already underway.

Fort Worth Litigation Update: The only dispute remaining is WTCA's claim against two hotels, which currently resides in a district court. A positive resolution to a lawsuit against WTCA from the Renaissance Hotel has been made with an agreement to hold the 2009 August OQM there.

BCMC Report

139 exhibitors signed up, and overall exhibit space is slightly down, due largely to consolidation. Attendee registrations are down compared to 2006 at this time.

New this year is the BCMC chapter contest, where the largest percentage of members in attendance from a single chapter will receive a pin, ten TTW coupons and recognition at the Annual Meeting and in **SBC Magazine**.

SBC Magazine Update

Thanks to this year's advertisers. Ad revenue is slightly down, but the magazine has been able to control expenses. In the coming months, **SBC** staff will work with members who attend chapter meetings to be even more cognizant of potential stories the magazine should cover.

Committee Reports

CM Roundtable: In an effort to reduce expenses, chapter travel by staff may be reduced. A variety of cost savings options were discussed, and Internet technology could be used as a cost-effective alternative to live meetings. Barry Dixon will be sending out a letter to each chapter president to provide options and from there recommendations will be made.

In light of recent changes in immigration policy, staff will monitor this and continue to provide updates through **SBC** Industry News, Legislative Alerts and other means.

The summer has seen a variety of fire performance of trusses activities from code change submissions to a new NIOSH report on a fire in Green Bay. Component manufacturers were encouraged to keep up on **SBC** Industry News fire service related information, be familiar with Carbeck information on the fire performance of wood trusses, and team up with staff to provide truss plant tours.

CFSC Update: BCSI has been revised for cold-formed steel trusses. WTCA is working on an updated "design responsibilities" document to encompass all structural building component products, from EWP and steel to wood trusses, so that there is harmony with design responsibilities concepts in the market.

Engineering & Technology: In the ANSI/TPI 1 revision process, Chapter 2 has been improved through our work with NCSEA and the manner in which responsibilities are now addressed for temporary and permanent bracing. Complete test fixture development, load acquisition and baseline truss, wall and system testing will consume the rest of the fall. **Tech Note** development will also be a priority to ensure a united message on all WTCA technical issues.

Legislative: The 2008 Legislative Conference will be held in May. The committee feels that a greater emphasis on visiting more federal agencies will be a focus. Advocacy on the state and local level, through truss plant tours, will be a top priority this year.

Management: The TRUCK Program is currently under development and the Basic Training program will be available in English and Spanish in October.

Marketing: The importance of adding new WTCA programs to the SCORE program as they are developed was discussed. It was agreed that new programs created by WTCA to serve members' risk and professional development needs should be added as requirements to maintain Elite status. All new programs will be reviewed and approved for addition to SCORE through the marketing committee.

A motion to restructure TTW program pricing was discussed. The restructuring plan places more value on obtaining CEUs and encourages TTW use among construction industry professionals, chapters and individual members. There is also the option to purchase subscriptions with access to all TTWs. Under the new plan, TTWs can also be bundled for different groups that need this information (specifiers, building inspectors, etc.).

Marketing committee made the motion to approve the new pricing schedule. Seconded by Ben Hershey. Motion approved unanimously.

Membership: General membership statistics were presented. The possibility of changing the current dues structure to a per plant membership fee was discussed.

Joe Odgers was recognized as the top CM recruiter and Stan Sias was recognized as the top Supplier recruiter. The Truss Manufacturers Association of Texas was recognized as the top Chapter recruiter.

QC: The new online QC inspector training tool is available.

Assisting our members with implementation and benchmarking of C_q values was discussed.

WTCA Board of Directors

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- **President:** Robert J. Becht • Chambers Truss, Inc. • 772/465-2012 • bob@chamberstruss.com
- **President Elect/Treasurer:** Ben Hershey • Alliance TruTruss, LLC • 602/252-1772 • bhershey@tru-truss.com
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Continued on page 23

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Mr. Dan Swearingin
Sponsor: Mr. Jasper Diedericks

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Richburg, SC 29729
703/481-9308
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Structural Wood Components, Inc.

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281/259-0668
Mr. Larry Margreiter
Sponsor: Mr. Jack Dermer

Truss Plant, LLC

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Vismas Inc.

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Salter Associates, Inc.

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West Fraser, Inc.

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Williams Robotics, LLC

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Mr. Jeffrey P. Williams

Listing as of 10/15/07

For more information about WTCA membership, contact Anna (608/310-6719 or astamm@quallim.com) or visit www.sbcindustry.com.

WTCA Update

Continued from page 21

Weekly WTCA Board Report

The new Board Report format was discussed; feedback from the Board was positive.

Truss Technology Workshops

Staff gave a presentation on TTWs, explaining why and how members should use this valuable tool to connect with building officials, architects and engineers. This program was very well received and it was suggested that chapters team up with staff to integrate TTW presentations and truss plant tours to educate our markets robustly.

Key Industry Supplier Update: Truss Plates & Steel

The things that had driven the price of steel up—zinc shortage and scrap—have leveled off. Some domestic suppliers have reduced supply to maintain the current price, and there have been some hints that they may raise prices by the end of the year.

Key Industry Supplier Update: Connector Industry/Steel

The preservative treatment issues in our industry have settled down through the testing and evaluation that has been done. For connector companies the current issue is updating the

ICC Evaluation Service (ICC ES) evaluation reports. There is strong desire to find alternatives to the ICC ES process.

Key Industry Supplier Update: Lumber

It was reported that much of Canada is now at the point in the supply life cycle where companies are at the maximum lumber production that they can produce. The demand curve has been and in the future will again be sloping upward, but the supply coming out of Canada will probably not increase. The lumber supply future appears to suggest that as demand will increase, lumber supply will not be able to keep up.

Chapter Representative & Supplier Roundtable Discussion


It was suggested that WTCA promote the "greenness" of the structural building component industry since trusses are an environmentally sound product concept. Staff will look at creating a variety of tools and approaches to take advantage of our products' environmental benefits.

Adjournment


Barry Dixon thanked everyone for attending and said he really enjoyed his time in service to the organization and pledged he would still remain very active.

Motion to adjourn. Motion by Ben Hershey. Second by Clyde Bartlett. Motion passed unanimously. SBC


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