



Dear TMS Members and Friends

May 9, 2017

It is a pleasure to write you after a set of extremely productive meetings for the Society in Denver. It was amazing to hear all the things we are doing, learn about some of our recent successes, and meet with some of the best folk anywhere. If you couldn't attend, I'll touch on a few things that are happening, and will happen. And hopefully we can see you at our Annual Meeting in La Jolla, California this November 3-7 (more on this in my closing thoughts).

I assume you have all visited the new website. If you haven't you should do so. While it takes a little getting used to for us old guys, it is amazing, allowing us to easily vote on ballots, track our orders, gain access to our downloads, and learn about what the Society is doing. The new website has been warmly received by the general public, and our sales through the website have been strong and encouraging. We are considering some additional updates and enhancements to the website, hoping to make it an even better resource for TMS Members and the public.

One thing we will be offering members through the website is FREE access to some of TMS's smaller standards in 2018 through a subscription service available only to TMS Members. You will have FREE access to:

- TMS-302-07 Standard Method for Determining the Sound Transmission Class Rating for Masonry Walls
- TMS 402-13 Direct Design Handbook for Masonry Structures
- Standards for Architectural Cast Stone including
 - Standard for the Design of Architectural Cast Stone (TMS 404-16)
 - Standard for the Fabrication of Architectural Cast Stone (TMS 504-16)
 - Standard for the Installation of Architectural Cast Stone (TMS 604-16)

Besides these, you also have access to ALL past editions of TMS Journal, TMS Responds, and other publications through your membership - all for FREE!!!

We hope you will find these and other membership benefits of use. Our goal is to provide you with the resources you need to do your job effectively while also supporting the Society so we can grow and thrive. And that brings me to another major change - we've hired Noah Buchanan as a full time employee starting on May 1 to help with furthering a number of Society initiatives. This is a big deal for TMS as before the recession, we had 5 employees, and more recently have only had Phil and Susan, and sometimes some part-time help. We are excited to have Noah, as he is a whiz kid, and really helps us in a variety of areas.

The above only hints at some of the good things happening. Now for the more sobering news - I don't say bad news, because in my view, it isn't. But to help pay for the staff we need, and to be able to develop new web resources, new webinars, and new publications, we also need income to support

them. While we are looking at recovering some of these expenses through sales of publications and webinar registration, the Board of Directors, based on recommendations from the Executive Committee, the Administrative Committee Team, and the Membership and Outreach Committee will increase Membership Dues in 2018 as shown below. For a normal Member, the dues increase is quite modest. The increase in dues for Affiliate and Sustaining Members is more significant, but remember that we have not increased dues in a number of years, and it has been many, many years since we increased dues for Affiliate and Sustaining Members. We believe that these increases are an investment in OUR Society, and will help position us for even greater things in the future. We also hope the dues increase will not adversely affect you, but if you would like to discuss it, please feel free to give me a call anytime (352-494-8955).

2018 Membership Dues

\$215 Individual (\$195 in 2015, 2016, and 2017)

\$700 Affiliate (\$500 in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017)

\$2000 Sustaining (\$1500 in 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017)

In the next few months, TMS is planning a “Second Thursday of the Month” Webinar Series. Preliminary topics range from Strength Design of Masonry, Energy Considerations, Shear Wall Design, Non-Destructive Testing of Masonry, Anchor Bolt Design, Condition Assessment of Existing Masonry, Masonry Veneer, Masonry Testing, Masonry Inspection, and much, much more. Additional information on these webinars will be released soon, so watch the E-newsletter and the website.

To conclude, and as I started this message, I would very much like to encourage to attend our Annual Meeting in La Jolla, California this November 3-7 where we will celebrate our Ruby (40th) Anniversary. Susan and the Meetings Committee are looking into some fun events between our meetings, and we will reflect back on our first 40 years throughout the meetings. I hope we’ll see you there.

Thank you for your Membership in TMS. For your support. For your dues. For your knowledge, and for making the masonry industry stronger and more vibrant! It is appreciated!

Jerry Painter
TMS President