

SEM History

Experimental Techniques March/April 2003, Vol. 27, No. 2

SEM History in Review

1943 - Sixty Years Ago

First Meeting of the Society for Experimental Stress Analysis A Meeting of the Eastern Photoelastic Conference was held at the Chrysler Institute of Engineering in Detroit, May 13-15, 1943. It was officially entitled the "Seventeenth Semi-Annual Eastern Photoelastic Conference and Experimental Stress Symposium", thus already indicating that group's interest had broadened beyond just photoelasticity. Charles Lipson was chairman of that meeting. The Eastern Photoelastic Conference Executive Committee then included: W. M. Murray (chairman), T. J. Dolan, M. Hetenyi, C. Lipson, R. D. Mindlin, E. K. Timby, F. G. Switzer, and E. O. Waters. During the meeting, Murray, Hetenyi and Lipson proposed that a dues-paying organization be formed with a name that would not be tied to any one particular technique. The assembled members approved and authorized Murray, Hetenyi and Lipson to proceed with arrangements as rapidly as possible. **Thus the Society for Experimental Analysis was born!** R. D. Mindlin was asked to join the organizing group and therefore Murray, Hetenyi, Lipson and Mindlin are considered to be the founding members of the SESA. They later served as its first four presidents, respectively.

1943 SESA Spring Meeting was both the first meeting of the SESA and the last meeting of the Eastern Photoelastic Conference. The Chrysler Corporation provide funds to publish the Conference Proceedings which became Volume I Number 1 of the SESA Proceedings, the first of the hard cover, blue books which soon gained international reputation.

1943 SESA Fall Meeting was held jointly with ASME Applied Mechanics Division at the Pennsylvania Hotel in New York City, December 2-4.

Bill Murray was SESA President and handled most of the secretary-treasure duties out of his MIT office.

1953 - Fifty Years Ago

Walter Ramberg was the SESA President.

Bill Murray was the SESA Secretary-Treasurer.

Frank Tatnall was made the Society's first Honorary Member.

1953 Spring Meeting was held in Milwaukee, WI in May.

Bill Hofmeister was the meeting chairman.

1953 Annual Meeting was held at the Hotel McAlpin in New York City, December 2-4.

George Herrmann was the meeting chairman.

Stephen Timoshenko presented the second Murray Lecture.

1963 - Forty Years Ago

Walter Soroka was the SESA President.

Bonney Rossi was the Executive Secretary.

1963 SESA Spring Meeting was held at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel in Seattle, WA, May 8-10.

Attendance: 200

Harry Majors was the meeting chairman.

1963 SESA Annual Meeting was held at Statler Hilton Hotel in Boston, MA, November 6-8.

Attendance: 350

Jim Flanagan was the meeting chairman.

Hugh Dryden presented the Murray Lecture.

1973 - Thirty Years Ago

Bonney Rossi was the Managing Director.

1973 SESA Spring Meeting and Third SESA International Congress on Experimental Mechanics was held at the International Hotel in Los Angeles, May 13-18.

Attendance: 500

Clyde Work was the SESA President during the Spring Meeting

Rod Christy was the meeting chairman.

1973 SESA Fall Meeting was held at the Indianapolis Hilton Hotel in Indianapolis, IN, October 16-19.

Dick Thurston was the SESA President during the Fall Meeting.

Dave Willis was the meeting chairman.

George Irwin presented the Murray Lecture.

1968 - Twenty-Five Years Ago

Fred Bailey was the SESA President.

Bonney Rossi was the Managing Director (formerly called the Executive Secretary).

1968 SESA Spring Meeting was held at the Thruway Motor Inn in Albany, NY, May 7-10.

Attendance: 325

Dick DeMichele was the meeting chairman.

Honorary Members Tatnall, Hetenyi, and Frocht gave featured lectures.

1968 SESA Annual Meeting and 25th Anniversary Celebration was held at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel in San Francisco, CA, October 28-November 1.

Attendance: 400

Hank Kirkwood was the meeting chairman.

Charles Lipson presented the Murray Lecture.

SESA Awards were Inaugurated:

Frank Tatnall received the first F. G. Tatnall Award.
Max Frocht received the first M. M. Frocht Award.
Greer Ellis received the first Distinguished Contribution Award (later named the Lazan Award).
Warren Rhines received the first M. Hetenyi Award.

1983 - Twenty Years Ago

Ken Galione was the Managing Director.
1983 SESA Spring Meeting (Fortieth Anniversary) was held at the Bond Court Hotel in Cleveland, OH, May 15-19.

Attendance: 450

Stu Swartz was the SESA president during the Spring Meeting.

T. C. Peters was the meeting chairman.

Albert Kobayashi presented the Murray Lecture.

1983 SESA Fall Meeting was held at the Hotel Utah in Salt Lake City, UT, November 6-9.

Attendance: 300

John Ligon was the SESA President during the Fall Meeting.

Hal Gascoigne was the meeting chairman.

1993 - Ten Years Ago

1993 SEM Spring Conference on Experimental Mechanics SEM's Fiftieth Anniversary was held at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn in Dearborn, MI, June 7-9.

Frank Adams was the SEM President during the Spring Meeting. This was the Golden Anniversary Meeting.

C. W. Smith presented the Murray Lecture

1993 SEM Fall Conference on Structural Testing Technology at High Temperature II was held in Ojai, CA, November 8-10.

Gary Cloud was the SEM President during the Fall Meeting.