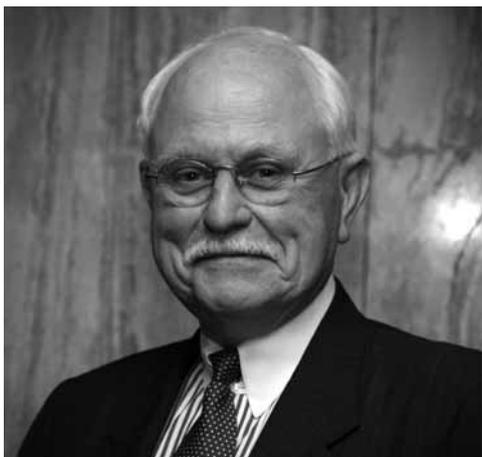


## PROFILES



## DR. REIDAR BJORHOVDE

President, The Bjorhovde Group, USA

*In having to edit the biographies of all the speakers for the SteelFuture website and programme I was immediately impressed with Reidar's long list of achievements and involvement in structural steel research, and thus he seemed to me to be a very serious guy. Meeting him in person at the conference revealed the opposite. Sure he is an expert on many subjects, but always with a mischievous twinkle in his eyes. (Ed.)*

Reidar Bjorhovde was born in the city of Harstad, Norway - 200 miles north of the Arctic Circle. He graduated from the Norwegian Institute of Technology (now called the Norwegian University of Science and Technology) in 1964 with the degree of Sivilingenior in Civil Engineering (equivalent of MSc), and received the degree of Dr.-Ing. (Doctor of Engineering) in 1968. He earned a second Ph.D. in Civil Engineering at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, in 1972.

Dr. Bjorhovde was an Assistant Professor and Norwegian Government Fellow in the Division of Steel Structures at the Norwegian Institute of Technology until 1968, when he joined Fritz Engineering Laboratory at Lehigh University. He subsequently worked for the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) as Regional Engineer in charge of the Boston office in Massachusetts and as Research Engineer at AISC headquarters in New York. He was a professor at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, from 1976 to 1981, and at the University of Arizona in Tucson from 1981 to 1987. A professor at the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from 1987 to 1998, he was Head of the Department of Civil Engineering. He was also the Director of the Bridge and Structures Information Center (BASIC) at the University of Pittsburgh, a national technical center he established in 1989. He is now President of The Bjorhovde Group, a consulting firm and international engineering consortium, located in Tucson, Arizona since 1998.

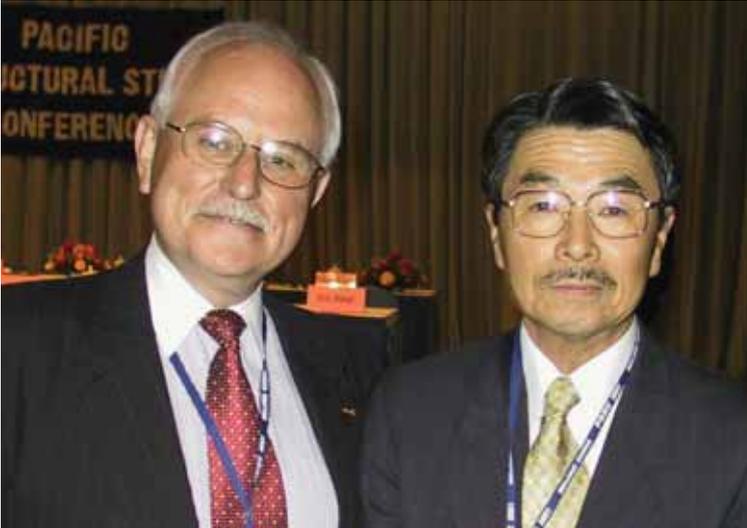
Reidar has done extensive research in the field of structural engineering. His study of column stability and reliability was an international landmark study that yielded what is now known as the SSRC Column Curves. Adopted by the Canadian limit states steel design standard in 1974, they are the basis for the column criteria of the AISC Specification, the AISI Specification for cold-formed steel structural members, the LRFD Steel Bridge Design Specification of AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials), and the South African steel design code. The results for sign structures have been adopted by AASHTO.

He has taught many undergraduate and graduate courses as well as short courses in the US and many other countries on all aspects of steel, cold-formed steel and composite (steel-concrete) structures design, LRFD and limit state design, welded structures, welding technology and construction materials.



Wine tasting at Groot Constantia during the ISCG meeting in Cape Town.

## PROFILES

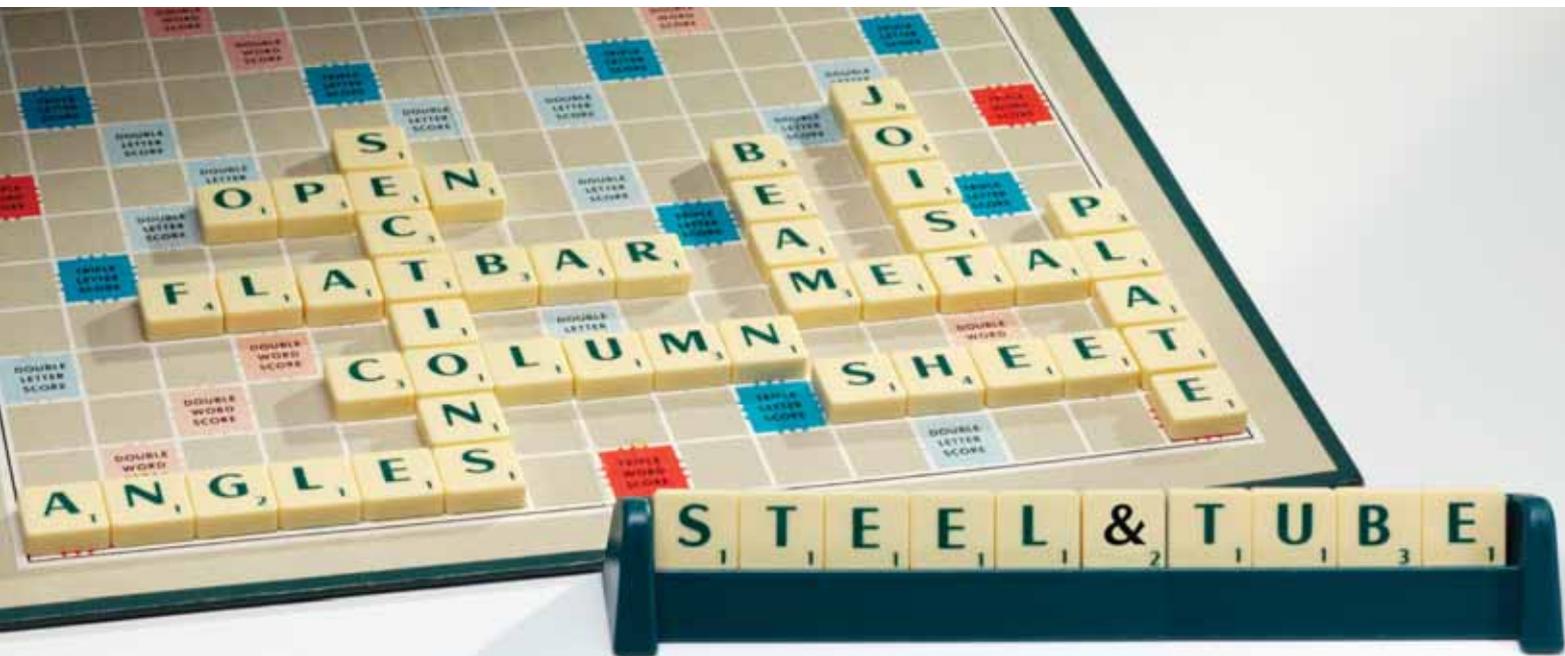


With Prof Yuhshi Fukumoto of Japan.

Through his company, Dr. Bjorhovde has clients in the United States and a number of other countries. Among many assignments, he develops and supervises research and design activities for corporations and industry associations, conducts extensive trouble-shooting for industrial corporations and consulting firms, advises research councils in a number of countries on needs and applications, works with code bodies in the US and many other

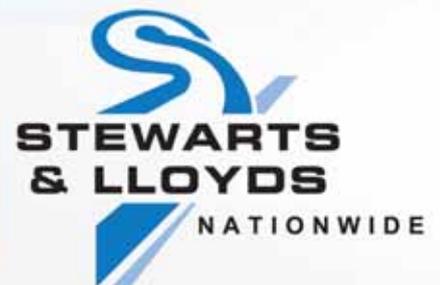
countries to develop state-of-the-art criteria for the use of steel and other materials as well as for structural design. He is the Editor of the *Journal of Constructional Steel Research* and Research Editor of the *AISC Engineering Journal*.

Dr. Bjorhovde is a member of the Committee on Specifications of AISC and the committee for the Canadian steel design standard CSA S16. He was a member of the Cold-Formed Steel Structures Committee on Specifications of the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) 1974-1976 and 1981-2011. He was Chairman of the Structural Stability Research Council (SSRC) 1998-2002 and a member of the SSRC Executive Committee 1987-2008. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Technical Activities Division of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute for the term 1999-2004, and served as its Chairman for 2002-2003. He has collaborated extensively with European and Chinese researchers, and is a member of several committees of the European Convention for Constructional Steelwork (ECCS). He continues to be a member of many committees of AISC, AISI,



## The hard facts

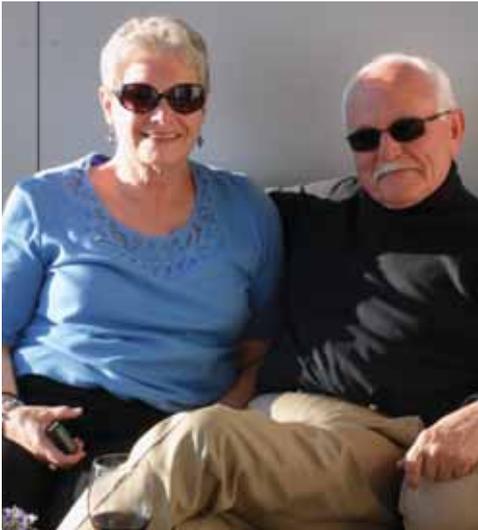
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## PROFILES



Reidar with his wife, Pat – they have been married for more than 40 years.

ASCE, SSRC and several other national and international organisations.

Reidar is a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), a Fellow of the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) and a member of the

European Convention for Constructional Steelwork (ECCS). He has received a number of awards, including the Duggan Medal of the Engineering Institute of Canada, the NATO Senior Guest Scientist Award (France), the T. R. Higgins Award of AISC, the prestigious Research Fellowship of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, and the J. James R. Croes Medal, the Shortridge Hardesty Award and the George Winter Award of ASCE, the IMCA Award of the Mexican Institute of Steel Construction (IMCA), the Lynn S. Beedle Award of the Structural Stability Research Council and the AISC Lifetime Achievement Award. He received the Charles Massonnet Award of the European Convention for Constructional Steelwork in 2012. The Singapore Structural Steel Society has named him an Honorary Fellow. In 2012, Tsinghua University in Beijing, China, named him a Tsinghua Chair Professor. He is listed in many editions of Who's Who and similar reference books.

The author of more than 300 archival publications, he has lectured and consulted in numerous countries, and has presented papers at various conferences and industry assemblies more than 500 times. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the United States, Canada and Norway.

Reidar and Pat celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in October 2012 – another astounding achievement. In addition to major interest in classical music (see the article excerpt below), he travels a great deal, is an avid photographer, and reads extensively particularly history.

He speaks seven languages and in his own words "dabbles in four more"!

## AN ENGINEER AND HIS MUSIC

*An excerpt from an article that appeared in Modern Steel Construction November 2011*

If actions speak louder than words, then it's safe to say that Reidar Bjorhovde really does love music. Every weekend for nine years Bjorhovde rolled out of bed at 3:30 in the morning to arrive at the studios of Tucson's KUAT-FM by 5:00 a.m., where he hosted an early morning radio broadcast of classical music from 1998 until 2007.

His radio career actually started a few years earlier at WOED-FM in Pittsburgh, where Bjorhovde was serving as the head of the civil engineering department at the University of Pittsburgh.

Where did this deep interest in music come from? In his native Norway, the entire Bjorhovde family was musically involved. All of Bjorhovde's three sisters were musical, and so was he. "For a number of years I played first trumpet in a symphony orchestra," he said. "We were amateurs, but we were actually pretty good." Although he put away his trumpet when he came to the U.S. in 1968 to study at Lehigh University, Bjorhovde's love of music flourished.

Meanwhile, after receiving his doctorate, he joined AISC. Initially he was an AISC regional engineer in Boston, coincidentally the home of one of this country's great orchestras. A promotion brought him to AISC headquarters, which at the time was in New

York. While in New York he acquired a copy of the Kochel catalogue, a massive book which is a chronological listing of all the works of his favourite composer, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

In the late 1980s he moved to Pittsburgh, home of another great symphony orchestra. "Then in 1998 I changed careers," Bjorhovde said, "and set up my own consulting firm in Tucson, Arizona." Shortly after his arrival a friend suggested Bjorhovde apply for a part-time opening as a producer/announcer at the local public radio station.

Finding an outlet in classical music radio was one of those fortunate things that happens in life, Bjorhovde observed. "My musical interests are very broad, from the early rococo to 20th century music, from solo performance to orchestral music and concertos. I like 20th century choral music very much, and of course opera. Such beautiful music to listen to, and to simply learn about. I am constantly amazed at how many people say, 'how do you know that?' Well, I just have a good memory."

But as much as he enjoyed his radio days, "after nine years of early hours at the radio station, my wife was happy to get me back," he said.



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