

MEET A SEAMASS MEMBER: **Ellen T. Swanson, PE**

Ellen is an Associate at McNamara • Salvia, Structural Engineers in Boston, and serves as a Director on the SEAMASS Board. She has more than 16 years of structural engineering experience primarily serving high-rise, residential, and retail clients. She is passionate about creating innovative designs with architectural teams while working closely with general contractors to identify cost-effective solutions.

Ellen earned a Master of Science in Structural Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis and a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Colorado School of Mines.



*She has answered the questions below, so we may get to know her better.
Thank you, Ellen, for your contributions to SEAMASS and the Structural Engineering profession!*

Why did you join SEAMASS?

I joined SEAMASS to help elevate the structural engineering career path and contribute back to the profession I proudly enjoy.

As an engineer, what accomplishments are you most proud of?

I'm proud to have designed multiple buildings that shape the Seaport District today. I remember writing college admission essays describing the LEGO structures I created as a child and my desire to design buildings. I don't think my dreams ever reached as far as I have come, designing multiple high-rise buildings in Boston's fastest-growing and newest neighborhood.

Describe a project that you're involved with.

I was on the design team for Parcel 12, Boston's first air rights project in nearly 40 years, mainly focusing on the hotel portion. The design and coordination of this one-of-a-kind project included various government agencies and was multiple years in the making. The opening of the citizenM Hotel in a couple of months will be an amazing milestone for the City's Air Rights Parcels over the Massachusetts Turnpike.

How do you spend your free time?

In my free time I enjoy spending time with my husband, my ten-year-old son, and my dog. I try to spend much of my free time outside. My son and I go biking around the neighborhood (his routes somehow always include passing the ice cream shop). I enjoy hiking with my dog on the weekends. My husband and I love sharing our enjoyment of traveling with our son. We renewed his passport this month and we are looking forward to our next adventure to Europe this summer!