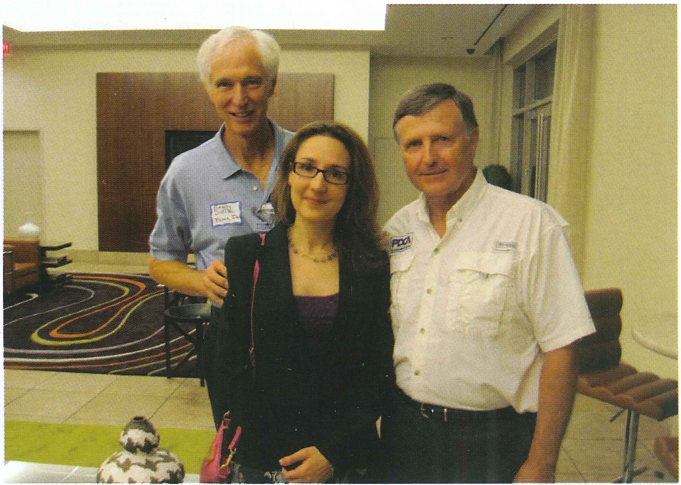


The PDCA Texas Chapter held their second quarterly meeting on Thursday, June 26 at One Park Place in Houston, Texas. The meeting was hosted by Bo-Mac Contractors and supper was sponsored by L.B. Foster Co. The featured speaker for the evening was Anna Sellountou, Ph.D., P.E., senior engineer with Pile Dynamics, Inc. Anna provided a presentation on the capabilities of Wave Equation Analysis to analyze the effects of soils, hammer selection, hammer components and pile types on capacity, drivability and driving time. Any number of combinations can be modeled to improve design and installation efficiency. Anna also discussed the use of the Pile Driving Analyzer and CAPWAP analysis to measure driving energy, driving stresses, bearing capacity and capacity distribution to better model the pile-soil-hammer combination.



The chapter is currently encouraging the Texas Department of Transportation to specify driven piles more frequently, organizing driven pile educational seminars for university professors and students, promoting and facilitating driven pile test demonstrations, providing driven pile seminars for local structural and geotechnical engineers, providing current updates on driven pile specifications to engineers and architects and education regarding the actual noise and vibration caused by pile driving. ▼



From left to right: Randy Dietel, Anna Sellountou and Rusty Signor