



# ORANGE SPEEL

ASPE Chapter 3 Newsletter May 2016

## Letter from the President

### THE RESULTS ARE IN!

Congratulations to our newly elected Chapter Officers/Board of Directors. I am excited to see that we have a few new faces and am grateful to those who agreed to continue to serve. We have some exciting things planned for the rest of this year and look forward to even more in the next!

- President: Carri Morones, CPE
- 1st Vice-President: Kevin Murphy, CPE
- 2nd Vice-President: Chris Spencer, CPE
- 3rd Vice-President: Scott Porterfield
- Treasurer: Asoka Sellahewa, CPE
- Secretary: Andy Heffel



Directors: Wil Beukman, CPE; Tom Smithson; Bryan Barker; Jarred Gormly.

Shortly before the SW Regional Roundtable in Albuquerque, our SW Governor resigned and Joe Fleming, CPE took over as interim Governor. Joe is also serving on the National Strategic Planning Committee and gave a presentation on the By-Law changes and some exciting news for ASPE's future. Please read the articles in this month's newsletter for more information.

We have a few new faces in our Chapter. Chris Spencer, CPE; Larry Hendricks, CPE and Danielle Leyva, CPE transferred from the Inland Empire Chapter. In addition Tyler Blodgett and Jarred Gormly are new members. Welcome to Orange County! We are now 47 members strong, 25 of whom are Certified Professional Estimators (CPE). That is more than 50%!

As many of you know, we lost long time member Paulette Rutlen, CPE last month. She lost her battle with cancer, one she had beat in the past. Paulette served the association on many levels – locally, regionally and nationally. She is one of the first people I met when I became a member and was supportive in my journey to certification.

I hope to see you at a Chapter meeting soon and that you will consider attending Annual Meeting & Estimators Summit in Tampa, Florida July 13 – 17. More information is available at [www.aspenational.org](http://www.aspenational.org).

Until next month,  
*Carri*

*“Professional Estimators and those in training to be estimators shall not enter into agreement that may be considered acts of collusion or conspiracy (bid rigging) with the implied or express purpose of defrauding clients. Acts of this type are in direct violation of the code of ethics of the American Society of Professional Estimators.”*

- Canon # 8

## In This Issue

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## ESTIMATING TODAY

The official monthly new magazine of the American Society of Professional Estimators "Estimating Today" is available online. The February/March edition has interesting articles and each month features a technical paper. Read about BIM Estimating and the Certification Program. This is an opportunity to learn more about estimating and understand what is required to become a Certified Professional Estimator.

### ASPE Membership Meeting

Please RSVP by the Wednesday before each meeting so we are sure to have enough food and place settings.

Registration is available at [www.aspe-oc3.org](http://www.aspe-oc3.org). Click away and make sure you select your dinner choice. On-line payment is now available!

Cost is \$45 if RSVP before the deadline and \$50 if you don't. Note that if you RSVP and you do not attend you will be invoiced and are expected to pay.

The Chapter has to cover the cost of the meals that we confirm.

### "GEO PIERS"

by Ken Hoevelkamp P.E. from Western Ground Improvement

At the May 11 dinner meeting, Ken explained the various types of options available for unsuitable foundation soil types at job sites. With more studies and evolving knowledge there is more information available, yet ground improvement remains ambiguous in the code. We should see more in the 2017 CBC.

The goal is to maintain the structural integrity of the building, avoid collapse and provide egress. Many sites have issues with unstable liquefaction (water) or dry seismic (loose sand) conditions. WGI offers more than just geopiers for solutions based on the specific needs. There are many advantages including less over excavation and import, reduced spoils, eliminating dewatering and reducing shoring requirements as well as LEED credits to name a few. A bit of advice from Ken: "Don't trust the liquefaction assessment. Consult with a ground improvement contractor."

### Upcoming Programs in 2016:

June 8: Bidding and Building Hospitals

September 14: Digital Antenna Systems by Ryan Foucault of DAS Connexion



Annual Meeting & Estimators Summit  
in Tampa, Florida, taking place from  
July 13 to 16, 2016.

- > Programming / Conceptual Cost Estimates
- > Design Phase Cost Estimates
- > Peer Review Estimates
- > Value Engineering
- > Quantity Surveying
- > Bid Review / Negotiation
- > Change Order Management

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SBE / DBE Certified

## What is a QS aka Quantity Surveyor?

A Registered Quantity Surveyor will hold a degree or diploma for a 4 year Bachelor program with relevant experience.

A QS training will amongst others entail estimating and feasibility studies. A QS will act as the financial advisor to the client for the specific Construction project for which he was appointed.

He will calculate the building cost, financial returns and other operating costs to convince the Owner whether to invest or withdraw from the project

## ASPE National Website

The new website has been on line since mid-June. It is a good resource with features such as "instant chatting" and email between members. The National calendar lists upcoming events and classes available. One of the many benefits of ASPE membership is networking and sharing information. If you have not updated your profile it will not be possible for others to reach out to you.

## Dinner Meeting Recaps

The March meeting had Lee Peterson from the Port of Long beach telling us about the majestic new bridge that will span the LA River.

The Gerald Desmond Bridge is a vital part of the nation's transportation network, with nearly 15 percent of the waterborne U.S. import cargo trucked across the bridge. It's also a key commuter route for the region, helping to connect Long Beach to the South Bay and beyond. It is a critical route with more than 70,000 vehicle trips a day. Replacing the bridge is one of the major projects of the Port's capital improvement program to modernize the nation's second busiest port and keep it competitive. The new bridge will be a grandiose cable-stayed design. It will be equipped with numerous improvements and commuter benefits.



In April Danny Pelisek educated us to the powerful functionality of Bluebeam REVU. With a practical knowledge that conveyed a strong bond between theory and practice he demonstrated:

- How to set up the dynamic Revu® interface to perform .
- How to perform estimates faster with stored, information-rich custom markup tools.
- How scale tool sets to be able to automatically calibrate to drawings.
- How to use Revu® Visual Search tool to quickly find and count PDF-content symbols.

## Chapter Newsletter Articles

We are always looking for articles for the Orange Speel newsletter. These can be informational or technical in nature. Share a recap of a program/ seminar attended, estimating tips, articles on ethics, or other construction/estimating related items. The deadline for submittal is the Friday following our membership meeting. Any arriving after that will be considered for the next month. Items can be sent

## Fundraising Ideas?

Have you participated in or heard of any great, fun or interesting fundraising ideas? We would love to hear them! What do you like to do? Can we turn that into a money making event? Bowling? Miniature golf? Casino night? Perhaps you know of a place that will help us put something together?

## Board of Directors

[2015/2016]:

**President:** Carri Morones CPE

**1st Vice:** Scott Porterfield

**2nd Vice:** Kevin Murphy CPE

**Past President:** Steve Murow

**Secretary:** Andy Heffel

**Treasurer:** Asoka Sellahewa CPE

**Certification:** Ron Svarc, LCPE

**Membership:** Kevin Murphy CPE

**Directors:** Ron Svarc, LCPE;

Wil Beukman, CPE;

Tom Smithson



By: John McReynolds, 2016 FEWA National President

At a FEWA National Conference the light came on for me. A guest speaker said, “I figured out what you guys do! You make ‘experts’ into ‘expert witnesses!’”

Being a great expert witness is **much more** than being a competent expert in your field. While it is generally assumed that “expert” and “expert witness” are two sides of the same coin, these are two distinctly different skillsets.

One definition of an “expert” is: *a person who by virtue of credential, training, education, profession, or experience – who has special knowledge, beyond that of the average person, sufficient that it may be legally relied upon.* An “expert witness” is an “expert” who can review the facts and then effectively form, convey, and defend an opinion within a litigated matter.

An “expert” has **knowledge**. An “expert witness” can **convey that knowledge effectively** in a litigation setting. Smart people were being outsmarted if they are not trained as expert witnesses. If we are experts in our respective fields, why would we not seek out the same attributes to become “expert” in the field of “expert witnessing”? By getting involved in FEWA, you can gain the credentials, receive the training and education, learn to refine your practice and benefit from networking with more experienced members. For more information visit [www.forensic.org](http://www.forensic.org)

## ASPE – Changes Coming!

There has been a lot of discussion about updating By-Laws, simplifying membership categories and planning for the future of ASPE. The employment of Estimators is projected to grow at least 15% from now until 2022 not taking into consideration the number of Estimators that will retire between now and then, who will be replaced by new Estimators. How do we get more people involved in ASPE? What value will increase interest? What kind of training will prove effective and desirable?

The Strategic Planning Committee has identified some of the strengths we need to promote better and some of the weaknesses we need to address. A revised mission and vision needs to be established for the future. The “industry is dynamic and fast-moving and ASPE needs to be the same”. ASPE needs to be the “Go-To” resource for estimators at all levels of their professional careers”, including those who are just starting out.

## Certified Professional Estimator – Certification Program & Renewal

The deadline for the next certification cycle is in July. If you are interested in applying for the program it is not too early to do so. The information and forms are available on line at [www.aspenational.org](http://www.aspenational.org)

Once you are certified you must renew your certification every 3 years. A complete list of requirements can be found at the National website. The deadline is July 31 of the year your certification expires. If you are unsure of when that is contact Carri Morones at [president@aspe-oc3.org](mailto:president@aspe-oc3.org). It is important to note that if your certification has expired you have up to 6 months past the expiration date to apply for Re-Instatement or up to 3 years to apply for Re-Activation. Once it has passed the 3 years you must reapply as a new candidate. More information is in the Certification Renewal Handbook at the website.

# National Partnerships



About RICS: RICS is the world's leading qualification when it comes to professional standards in land, property and construction. In a world where more and more people, governments, banks and commercial organizations demand greater certainty of professional standards and ethics, attaining RICS status is the recognized mark of property professionalism.

112,000 professionals worldwide have already recognized the importance of securing RICS status by becoming members. Members are recognized by the designation after their name - FRICS (for Fellow of RICS) or MRICS (for Member of RICS).

The National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) originally began as Women in Construction of Fort Worth, Texas. Sixteen women working in the construction industry founded it in 1953. Knowing that women represented only a small fraction of the construction industry, the founders organized NAWIC to create a support network. Women in Construction of Fort Worth was so successful that it gained its national charter in 1955 and became the National Association of Women in Construction. Today, NAWIC provides its members with opportunities for professional development, education, networking, leadership training, public service and more.

The Orange County Chapter #91 meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Frontera in Anaheim. For more information visit the website at [www.nawicoc.org](http://www.nawicoc.org)



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## Member Mingle: CHRIS SPENCER

This month the spot light is on Chris Spencer, the 2nd vice-president elect of the OC Chapter.

Christopher S. Spencer, CPE, LEED AP, graduated from San Diego State University in 2003, obtaining a BA in Economics with a Specialization in Quantitative Analysis and a Minor in Mathematics. Following his tenure at SDSU, Chris enrolled at California Polytechnic University Pomona and successfully completed various Construction Engineering courses through the College of Engineering.

His first job out of college was with R.C. Construction Services, Inc., a General Contractor in the Southern California region specializing in public works building construction projects. While at R.C. Construction, Chris expeditiously worked his way from Project Engineer to become the company's Chief Estimator, a position he held for 6 years.

In 2014 Chris went to work for California ENR top rated construction firm Swinerton Builders and is a Senior Estimator based out of their Irvine office.

### SPONSOR SHIPS:

**Newsletter/website: \$100 per year [minimum of 6 issues, one every other month]. This is for a business card ad in the newsletter and on our website.**

**Dinner Sponsors: \$75 per meeting. Your company logo will appear in the meeting program, a logo and mention will appear in the next newsletter issue and 3 minutes to speak about your company at that meeting to tell us about your company and what it does etc.**

**We reserve the right to decline based on ASPE Canons and bylaws**

**Business card/logo to be provided in resolution suitable for use.**



CHRIS SPENCER