Letter from the President

This is my last letter to you as your President. On August 1st, our new Board comes into office and I will continue on as your Immediate Past President. I am grateful that so many of those who served this year have agreed to stay on and that our newest CPE (Certified Professional Estimator) Erick Hernandez has joined the Board. Ron Svarc, LCPE is our incoming President. He has been President before and will continue to serve on the National Standards Committee. In addition, Kevin Murphy, CPE – Vice President; Asoka Sellahewa, CPE – Treasurer; Bryon Barker – Secretary; and our Directors are Scott Porterfield, Jarred Gormly and Erick Hernandez, CPE. With this leadership, I see great things in our Chapter’s future!

Ron and I attended this year’s National meeting, the “Mile High Summit” in Denver, Colorado. It was exciting to see so many new people and some that I had not seen in a while. I was especially proud of our new Southwest Governor, Larry Hendrick, CPE, an Orange County Chapter member! More information can be found on the Summit in this newsletter.

Many of my inspirational thoughts shared at the meetings dealt with finding your passion and to pursue happiness. Some of you may know that I wanted to live closer to my sister and her family. This year I decided to make this a priority and in early June I moved to Jacksonville, FL. I do not have an ASPE chapter here so will remain an Orange County member. Thankfully new technology will allow me to remain active and I can even attend the Board meetings online. We have some great speakers lined up and I don’t want to miss them! I am still working for Cupertino Electric.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your President these past 2 ½ years. Thank you to our Board and all of those who have supported me along the way.

Carri

“Professional Estimators and those in training shall utilize their education, years of experience and acquired skills in the preparation of each estimate or assignment with full commitment to make each estimate or assignment as detailed and accurate as their talents and abilities allow.”

- Canon # 6

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SENIOR ESTIMATOR

EQS Consultants is an independent construction cost consulting firm providing expertise in estimating, value engineering and construction management. We seek a professional with a passion for estimating and a dedication to client services. A CPE / CIQS / MRICS qualification is preferred. Duties include preparing detailed construction cost estimates, change order estimating & negotiation, cost control and estimate reconciliation.

Company offers excellent wages, according to experience.

For consideration, submit your resume to asoka@eqsconsultants.com.

Upcoming Programs in 2016:

September 13: “Industrial Strength Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF’s)” by Randy Daniels of Fox Blocks

October 11: “Contract Documents - What to Look For & What to Look Out For” by James Wakefield of C&W LLC

November 8: “Anaheim Ducks Training Facility (Ice Rink)” by Chris Spencer CPE of Swinerton Builders

2017 ASPE Annual Meeting and Estimators Summit (AMES)

This year’s Summit was acclaimed as the best overall Summit in the last 5 years by all members that attended regularly. They were highly opinionated that this year offered great, practical education seminars and excellent opportunity for networking with other estimators from across the country. The theme for this year’s Summit was the Art and Science of Estimating. The educational lineup provided top notch presenters and subjects. Not only did we earn Professional Development Units toward our CPE renewal, but we learned relevant skills that will enable the attending estimator in their work.

On Saturday there was a great and positive State of the Union message rather than the customary business session. Every goal of the Society is to have 3 mile stones. Board reports will be accessible by members up to 30 days after submittal. The fiscal year will end on December 31st. This will not affect election terms for either National or Chapter offices. The budget for 2018 will be approved by August 17 with member access by the end of September. Many other activities were announced including a Social Link blog, marketing for Scholarship applicants, marketing ASPE as well, Scholarship requirements, updating the Chapter Handbook, identifying the ‘Guide to Start a Chapter’ that will be easier to find on the website. As of this time there are 1,789 national members of ASPE.

The next Southwest Regional meeting will be held in Costa Mesa at the Ayers Hotel on September 29 /30. More information to follow. The regions main goals are: Membership and Fund Raising.

The President’s Party, at the Denver Art Museum, was one of the most enjoyable ever. The America’s Got Talent finalist, Carl Michael performed his magic and yours truly almost had a 6 inch nail driven into his hand…

Thursday and Friday’s speakers were extremely informative and professionally presented. Niel Nickolaisen on ‘Two Concrete Things That Accelerate Transformation’ and Betsy Allen-Manning on the ‘Leadership Advantage’. Kenyon Salo gave a heart touching Keynote Lunch on the three concepts of ‘The Bucket List Life’. Also presented were topics on ‘Leveraging Historical Costs to Maximize Cost Intelligence’, ‘Microsoft Skills for Estimators’, BIM case studies and Panel discussions, ‘Public Speaking and Thrive at it’, ‘Creating Time Efficiency and Managing Multiple Priorities’.

This was a remarkable experience and very valuable to individuals for Professional Development.

Report by Ron Svarc LCPE
Board of Directors
[2017/2018]:

President: Ron Svarc LCPE
1st Vice: Kevin Murphy CPE
Past President: Carri Morones CPE
Secretary: Bryon Barker
Treasurer: Asoka Sellahewa CPE
Certification: Carri Morones CPE
Membership: Bryon Barker; Jarred Gormly
Directors: Jarred Gormly; Erick Hernandez CPE; Scott Porterfield

Member Mingle: Pete Fowler

Pete Fowler joined ASPE in the late 90's and became a CPE in 2000. He is President of Pete Fowler Construction Services, Inc. (PFCS), a licensed general building contractor in California and Oregon. Pete received a B.S. in Construction Management from CSU, Chico. Pete also held certifications from AAMA, ICBO, and others. Pete has published articles in national magazines, and has been spoken widely (ASPE, ASTM, BETEC, CAI, ICC, NIBS, RCI, etc.). Pete has experience with successful expert witness testimony, including Federal Court.

PFCS is a consultancy focused on delivering SOLUTIONS for those who own, or work in the building or buildings business, by applying expertise. Every year PFCS works on projects as widely varying as single-family residences, multi-family projects, mixed use developments, commercial, institutional, industrial, low-rise, mid-rise and high-rise construction.

Member Mingle: Pete Fowler

As Lombard Consulting Services is a forensic construction consulting firm based in Huntington Beach. Currently five of our employees hold CPE credentials and are members of local chapters, with one more in the process of testing. We are currently looking to add a senior estimator to our team.

Link: https://www.indeed.com/cmp/Lombard-Consulting-Services-Inc./jobs/Construction-Cost-Estimator-05b7046b862ae3b9?q=lombard+consulting

ASPE Chapter 3 Dinner Meeting held on June 14, 2017

Guest Speaker Kim Zolna – “Industrial Network Communication”

Kim Zolna is an Industrial Sales Engineer for Belden Industrial Solutions Group who specializes in industrial networking and connectivity whose territory is Southern California and Nevada. The Company was founded in 1902 by Joseph Belden. Thomas Edison the inventor of the telephone and light bulb was an early customer. Belden is now an international company with manufacturing facilities throughout the world. In the United States it is located in Indiana with corporate headquarters in St. Louis. The company’s 5 business platforms are Broadcast, Enterprise Connectivity, Industrial Connectivity, Industrial IT and Network Security.

For the end user and designer Belden offers design support, technical resources, cross referencing of part numbers, project quotes, lead time / project management, tagging / labeling and lagging, copper buying, review of specifications and boiler plate specifications, network certification programs and training courses.

Kim rounded out a successful 2015 - 2016 dinner meeting presentations. We thank her for a very informative presentation to the group about the many different types of cable which are available for both data and video.

Article by Kevin Murphy, CPE
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 meets the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Embassy Suites Hotel on Frontera in Anaheim.

More information at www.nawicoc.org

Mile High Summit – The Art and Science of Estimating

Submitted by Carri Morones, CPE

The 2017 annual meeting took on a new personality but holding true to ASPE Core Values – Education, Professionalism and Fellowship. The first speaker of the morning spoke about “Purpose Alignment” and how important that is on a business and personal level.

The next presentation was “The Leadership Advantage – How to Connect, Communicate & Influence Different Personalities”. Using the DISC system we learned about the strengths and weaknesses of the 4 types.

Keynote Lunch Speaker, Kenyon Salo explained how the three simple concepts of the “Bucket List Life” can guide you through your life long journey.

A surprising topic was how to leverage “Historical Costs to Maximize Cost Intelligence”. “Microsoft Excel Skills for Estimators” was a great reminder of some of the functions and formulas long forgotten as well as some ideas and short cuts of how to more effectively use Excel for estimating.

The second day brought “Estimating with BIM Case Study: Fact and Fiction”, and “BIM Expert Panel” where we learned how BIM is used in the estimating process.

Underlining the importance of good presentations was “Surviving (and THRIVING at) Public Speaking”. Fear of speaking can cripple your career.

Apart from networking with estimators of different facets of the industry form across the country, multiple exhibitors demonstrated software programs and other products.

Mark your calendars for next year’s Summit June 27 – 30, 2018 in Pittsburgh, themed “Developing the Next Estimators”. A new 10th Edition of the Standard Estimating Practice is due out soon as well as the on-line PIE (Proficiency in Estimating) test that employers can use to verify the experience of a prospective employee and the Associate Estimating Professional (AEP). More information will be send out as soon as available.

ASPE Member 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. Click away and make sure you select your dinner choice. On-line payment is now available!

Cost is $45 if RSVP and pay before the deadline and $50 if you don’t.

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