Letter from the President

OUR TIME IS IMPORTANT

First let me thank you for taking the time to read this, whether it’s word for word or skimming through it. As the incoming President I want everyone to know that yours, ours and my time is very important and valuable and we strive to not waste it.

Our objective for this upcoming year is to make our meetings relevant for what will help all of us as estimators. One thing I request from our members and visitors is to let us know what topics interest you. What do you want to learn more about? Have you been at a presentation that is relevant to our members? If so, please let us know the company, the presenter and subject matter so we can look into it.

The presentations for our upcoming meetings are: September is Beamish Waterproofing presenting on waterproofing. In October Bluebeam will be presenting and letting us know about their upcoming program updates and features. Steve Murrow of Murrow CM will be speaking on “Why Estimators make the best expert witnesses” in November. There will be no meeting in December so that our members can concentrate on the holidays and their family. January through June, 2018 is open, but we will be filling those spots soon.

In June, I attended my first Estimator Summit in Pittsburgh appropriately called “Steel City Summit: Developing the Next Estimator. My 6:30am flight departing LAX and arrived in Pittsburgh at 4:30pm. After checking in I attended the Welcome Reception where I saw many friends from other chapters. Thursday was “Tech Day” and it started with breakfast, conference welcome by Marcene Taylor, National President and then a full day of attending 8 events. Professional Development Day was Friday another full day with speakers. In the evening was a cocktail reception followed by the awards dinner. Saturday was Society Business Day. Our speakers discussed “Fiduciary Responsibility in Estimating, James Benham discussed tech and then the board discussed the “State of the Society” and “Best Practices in Chapter Leadership”. A few hours break allowed seeing some of the attractions close by. A short bus trip took us to the Presidents Party which was held at the PPG Aquarium. The 3 days proved extremely informative 3 days. Next June, 2019 the Estimator Summit will be held in Kansas City, MO where the theme is “Rock the Rolls”.

National is implementing many changes with one being the required CPE PDU’s being reduced from 30 to 24 per year. Renewals will now be yearly in January. Many other changes are coming.

I want to thank you for taking the time to read or skim this article and hoping you will enjoy the upcoming 2018 - 2019 meetings.

Kevin Murphy
ASPE Chapter 3 President

“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
Board of Directors
[2018/2019]:

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(Dinner meetings & speakers)
Wil Beukman (Newsletter)

Upcoming Programs in 2018:
September 12: “Waterproofing”
by Kyle Eazor of Lowry’s Specialty Distribution.

October 10: “Bluebeam”
by TBD Bluebeam.

November 14: “Why Estimators make the Best Expert Witnesses”
by Steve Murrow of Murrow CM.

ASPE Chapter 3 Dinner Meeting held on June 13, 2018:

Guest Speaker – Aaron Bishop of Western Ground Improvement - “Estimating Geopiers”

Aaron Bishop is a geotechnical engineer working for Western Ground Improvement specializing in ground improvement and is the local Geopier representative. Geopier, a Tensar Company, started in 1989 with rammed aggregate piers. Subsequent developments include Rigid Inclusion and Slope Reinforcement System.

Geopiers was the original system of rammed aggregate piers. GP1 was the original and has now evolved into the current GP3. The definition of ground improvement is improving the conditions or characteristics of the soil “in place”. The rule of thumb is that if the soil requires over excavating and recompaction to depths of 8’ or greater then ground improvement, depending on the soil can be an excellent alternative. Geopier has completed over 9,000 projects and are now approved for projects in the City of Los Angeles.

To determine if geopiers are an option, Aaron starts his review by first evaluating the geotechnical report. The first items to review are the seismic hazards and if the site is susceptible to liquefaction. Then the boring logs where the soil characteristics and the blow counts are reviewed. If piles are recommended then geopiers can be a good option.

Depending on what the design criteria is: static settlement can run as little as $4 per SF with improvement at the foundations only. Seismic settlement can consist of a grid pattern 2’ diameter geopiers at 8’ on center each way which can cost up to $25 per SF. As cost is always an issue, there are 2 options: Option 1 is full mitigation of the site where Option 2 is designed for life safety only. With Option 2 the Owner is made aware that structural damage can occur to the buildings in an earthquake.

Design lead time is normally two (2) weeks. Consultant review is dependent upon their workload and contract terms. Typically from NTP to approved plans is 3 – 6 weeks. Construction schedule varies depending on the application chosen, size of the building, etc. One advantage of geopiers is after award construction can start quickly as the aggregate is local and readily available for trucking to the site.

Thank you to Aaron for his presentation on ground improvement cost and methods of using geopiers.

Article by Kevin Murphy, CPE
Save the Date!!

2018 ASPE Joint Southwest/Northwest Fall Regional Meeting

**Host:** ASPE Arizona Chapter 6  
**When:** Friday & Saturday - October 19 & 20, 2018  
**Where:** Hotel Information Coming Soon

Questions? Contact Larry S. Lucero, CPE - llucero@bankerinsulation.com

**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](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 and pay before the deadline and $50 if you don’t.

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