Letter from the President

2018 is Finishing Strong

It’s November, the holiday season is beginning, 2018 is wrapping up and we start to prepare for 2019. In October William Musser, Senior Technical Specialist for US CAD presented to us about Bluebeam and the many ways it makes our job easier. He explained the 3 versions of Bluebeam, the 2018 improvements and access to a complete set of markup, editing and takeoff tools. He discussed shortcuts, preloaded tools sets and video tutorials to utilize Bluebeam to its fullest potential.

At our upcoming November meeting on Wednesday the 14th, Steve Murow will be presenting on “Why Cost Estimators Make the Best Expert Witnesses (Your next career?)”. Steve’s career spans 40 years in the land development and construction industry and more than 1,500 projects estimating. His many accomplishments include not only being an expert witness for earthwork and site work issues, he is also past National President of the Forensic Expert Witness Association, past President of the FEWA-OC chapter, past President of our ASPE-OC chapter and Founder and Chairman of Murowi/CM. His company has been ranked for the 3rd year in a row as one of Orange County’s Best Places to work.

In keeping with Steve’s theme for being an expert witness the November/December 2018 issue of Estimating Today is featuring an article titled: Expert Witness: Questions to Ask Before You Are Retained”. This article was first published in the 2018 May/June edition of DCD Magazine and is by David Battle, Certification Chair and past President of Oklahoma City Chapter 80.

On October 19th and 20th I represented our chapter at the Northwest Southwest Regional meetings which were hosted by Arizona Chapter 6 in Tempe, AZ. Fridays presentation included: Nucor/Vulcraft Ecospan System; Preconstruction Modeling and its effect on budget and scheduling; Principled Living; followed by Advancements in Estimating which discussed estimating programs. The evening ended with a catered Mexican dinner. Saturday was all ASPE business with the NW SW Governors meeting; Leadership Training and then as a group we worked on “Developing a Power Point presentation for chapter modules until adjournment at 2:00. I will be reporting on this in an upcoming newsletter.

I want to thank everyone who has presented ideas for upcoming programs. Please find the 3x5 cards at the registration table to write down your ideas for dinner programs. Our objective is to make our meetings relevant for all of us to be better and more informed estimators.

2018 is coming to an end, but Owners want their budgets “now” so they can plan for 2019. Not only is our work demanding but the additional demands of the holidays make the last 6 weeks very busy. As a reminder there is not a dinner meeting in December so that you can enjoy the holidays with family and friends.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Kevin Murphy, CPE. ASPE Chapter 3 President
**Upcoming Programs in 2018:**

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

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**ASPE Chapter 3 Dinner Meeting held October 10, 2018**

**Bluebeam Revu 2018 by Guest Speaker William Musser of U.S. CAD**

William Musser is a Senior Technical Specialist for U.S. CAD who started his presentation with 2 questions:

1) Why do we use Bluebeam REVU?
2) What’s new in 2018 Bluebeam?

The discussion started with the 3 different types of Bluebeam. They are Bluebeam Revu, CAD and Xtreme. With Revu Standard it provides markup, editing and collaboration. Features also include plug-ins for Microsoft Office and a pdf printer. Revu CAD includes the standard features, but also communicates with CAD programs. Extreme includes all of the features of Standard and CAD, but has many advanced features including optical character recognition (OCR), linking real-time data from measurements markups to Excel worksheets and more.

Studio, which is included in Revu, has both management and real-time collaboration. Entire projects can be stored in the cloud. Studio Sessions enables project teams to review, markup and update the same files with up to 500 users simultaneously users.

Some of the new features include improved panel views which leave more room for documents and drawings. A new “dashboard style” interface which provide an improved view of what you are working on. Custom keyboard shortcuts which make exporting and sharing with the project team easier. There is two methods to compare documents. One is an overlay feature, which produces a light table effect with revisions color coded and stacked on top of each other. The second is “compare documents” which adds clouds around the differences.

Bluebeam offers video tutorials, pre-loaded tool sets and sample files to help the new and experienced user with support so we can use the software to its maximum.

Thank you William for this presentation on Bluebeam.  
Article by Kevin Murphy, CPE