



January 2009 News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,
AACE International

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(walter.manning@fluor.com)

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(chris.swanson@fluor.com)

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President's Message

Members,

Well a new year is upon us and we all survived 2008. Let's have hope that 2009 turns out to be a better year economically.

This summer is the next opportunity for certification testing. If any of you that are seeking a certification, please let Mr. Chris Swanson know. Mr. Swanson will try to put you in touch with an already certified member to assist you with your test preparation. If there is enough interest in a particular certification, a study group may be formed.

Since this time last year our Section's membership has increased, our bank account has grown and we have reached out to new companies and organizations. At this time I wish to thank every one that has been involved with these activities and let you know that we have a stronger and healthier section because of the involvement of our membership.

Any one that is planning to attend our next meeting, please feel free to invite a coworker or an interested colleague. We always have an interesting guest speaker and a light meal or snacks. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely, Walter Manning

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Section Announcements

Certification!!

AACEI offers 7 certifications.

1. Certified Cost Technician (CCT)
2. Certified Cost Consultant (CCC) / Certified Cost Engineer (CCE)
3. Planning and Scheduling Professional Certification (PSP)
4. Earned Value Professional Certification (EVP)
5. Certified Portfolio, Program & Project Management (C3PM)
6. Certified Forensic Claims Consultant (CFCC)
7. Certified Estimating Professional (CEP)

For descriptions and requirements regarding each of these certifications go to the AACEI web page (<http://www.aacei.org/certification/certExplained.shtml>).

The December 2008 issue of Cost Engineering has a very good article on “The Top 11 Tips on writing a Certification Paper”. By reading this article, it should give you the confidence you need to write the paper and to become a certified Cost Engineer/Consultant.

Contact Chris Swanson (chris.swanson@fluor.com) if you have any questions or need assistance regarding any of the certifications mentioned above.

The next certification exams are currently scheduled for:

June 20, 2009 – Location to be determined (Deadline to register is April 06, 2009)

Continuing Education!!

Visit the AACE Online Bookstore (<http://www.aacei.org/technical/ppg.shtml>) where you can order Professional Practice Guides, Recommended Practices and other AACEI merchandise.

Note that the PSP Certification Study Guide, 1st Edition, and the EVP Certification Study Guide, 1st Edition, have recently been released and are now available.

Also, the Skills and Knowledge of Cost Engineering is going “On-Line” in 2009. Look for the launch in February 2009.

Don't Forget to Vote!!

Visit the AACEI website and vote the 2009 Slate of Candidates (Officers and Directors). Ballots will be posted to www.aacei.org on or before February 1, 2009. Your completed ballot must be posted on or before March 15, 2009.



AACE International's 53rd Annual Meeting!!

Make plans to attend the next AACEI annual meeting in Seattle, Washington. It will be held from June 28th thru July 1st. The theme for this meeting is:

TCM: Improving Decision Making in a Green World

AACEI Membership!!

Although December 31st was the last day to pay your AACEI dues for 2009, it is never too late to pay. Please consider joining since this is one way to help promote our profession. And by being a member, you will receive a subscription to the Cost Engineering Magazine which always contains information that you can benefit from. You also get access to AACEI's bookstore and website where other information can be found.

Section News!!

The Section is currently working with Clemson University to identify potential candidates for our Section's Scholarship Fund, along with AACEI's competitive scholarship program. Donald McDonald and Misty Kaplenski are also working on identifying Fluor interns that are qualified for this scholarship. Candidates are required to submit their Competitive Scholarship Application by February 15th. A request to provide a 50% match to our \$1,000 scholarship award is reported to have been approved by AACEI Headquarters. Note that AACEI requires that the applicants should be seeking a degree in Engineering, Construction Management or Business Management, with a potential career path towards Project Controls and Estimating.

Steve Schnee has accepted an offer to transfer to a Project in South Africa. We will soon be seeking a volunteer to replace him as a 2008-2010 Board Member. If you wish to nominate yourself, please contact Walter Manning or Chris Swanson.

And in preparation for electing our 2009–2010 Section Officers and Board Members, please let Walter Manning or Chris Swanson know that you are interested. Nominations will close at the end of March and voting will occur in April. Your new officers and 2009-2011 Board Members will be announced/presented at the May meeting.



January 2009 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap

The Upcountry SC Section meeting was held on January 13, 2009 at the offices of Day & Zimmerman. Our guest speakers were Phil Spangler and Brian Miller of Trehel Corporation. Phil and Brian are members of PCEA, Professional Construction Estimators Association. Phil is currently the President of the Piedmont Chapter and also National Director.

Phil and Brian are visiting local professional organizations in order to increase awareness of PCEA and to promote membership. PCEA is an organization that has 13 Chapters in five southeastern states, with their Headquarters being in Charlotte, NC. PCEA's mission statement is to:

... promote and improve the construction industry through education of the Association's membership, through the continuing education of construction professionals and craft persons. The Association will work to define and encourage high ethical standards of conduct among its members and will promote the fraternity of the construction industry through social interactions.

Certifications are available in estimating through PCEA/ASPE.

PCEA has found its niche within smaller markets and smaller to mid level contractors and is currently working hard to increase networking amongst other groups in the Upstate area. PCEA is currently striving to reach \$20K worth of scholarship funds to appropriate over the coming year. Golf tournaments and multiple conventions are a means of securing educational funds.

The Upcountry SC Section would like to thank Phil Spangler and Brian Miller for an informative presentation. If you are interested in joining PCEA, please contact Phil at pspangler@trehel.com. Also visit their website for more information: <http://www.pcea.org/index2.cfm>. Membership dues are \$250 annually and can be pro-rated.



February 2009 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Location: Day & Zimmerman's Office Building

Scheduling for Contractors **Guest Speaker: Ron Winter, PSP** Ron Winter Consulting, LLC

Ron Winter has a BS in General Engineering and a MS in Systems Management. He has over 20 years of experience in Computerized Scheduling, Information Management, Project Management and Delay Claims Preparation in technical construction and manufacturing industries. He has published numerous papers on various Scheduling topics and received AACEI's Technical Excellence Award in 2007.

Ron will talk to us on his perception of the potential need in the industry to assist 3rd tier contractors working under a General Contractor or an EPC Subcontractor. He will address how these types of contractors are not as sophisticated as EPC or larger firms and that in today's environment, they need assistance in developing and managing their schedules more effectively.

YOU ALSO DO NOT NEED TO BE A MEMBER OF AACEI TO ATTEND.

Please RSVP no later than Friday, February 6th at 5 PM by e-mail or phone. The cost of the meeting is **\$20.00**.

Schedule:

6:00PM to 6:30PM Registration, Networking and Light Meal
6:30PM to 7:15PM Presentation

Reservations

For information, please contact:

Chris Swanson (864) 517-1571 (e-mail – chris.swanson@fluor.com)



2008/9 Meeting Schedule for AACE UpCountry SC Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 Oct 2008	Ken Willis, Fluor, Int'l Assignments – What to Expect
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	11 Nov 2008	Doug Findley, Clemson Professor, Topic TBD
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	09 Dec 2008	Robert Toet, Fluor, Knowledge Management
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	13 Jan 2009	Brian Miller, Trehel Corp, PCEA Organization
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	10 Feb 2009	Ron Winters, Ron Winters Consulting, Scheduling for Contractors
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	10 Mar 2009	Al Gasper, Fluor, Risk Management
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 Apr 2009	Donald McDonald will host a Mock Arbitration
UCSC Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	12 May 2009	TBD

2008/9 Meeting Schedule for AACE Catawba (Charlotte) Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 Oct 2008	Dr. Kenneth Humphreys, Consultant, Risk & Contingency using Range Est'g
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	11 Nov 2008	Mark Jones, CDP Inc., Planning & Scheduling using Primavera Software
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	09 Dec 2008	Paul Shuster, Power Advocate, Construction Index Tools
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	13 Jan 2009	Scott Bishop, HDR Inc., Cost Estimating Classifications and Models
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	10 Feb 2009	Doug Creech, Carolina Healthcare System, Professional Paper
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	10 Mar 2009	Mark Hoecker, Duke Energy, Cliffside Power Project
Catawba Dinner Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	14 Apr 2009	TBD
Social Dinner	2 nd Tuesday	08 May 2009	None

Please contact Shirley Harris at Shirley.Harris@ch2m.com if you are interested in attending a Catawba Section Meeting. These meetings are typically held at: 11301 Carmel Commons Blvd. Suite 304 in Charlotte



2008/9 Meeting Schedule for AACE Atlanta Section

Description	Day of Week	Date(s)	Presenter & Topic
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	16 Sep 2008	Michael Opitz, 3D Imaging Services, The Emerging Technology of 3D Imaging
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	21 Oct 2008	Kamyar Molavi, Esq., Weissmann, Zucker Euster PC Law Firm, Changes to the Georgia Lien Statute
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	18 Nov 2008	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	16 Dec 2008	Holiday Social Dinner
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	29 Jan 2009	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	17 Feb 2009	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	17 Mar 2009	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	21 Apr 2009	TBD
Atlanta Dinner Meeting	3 rd Tuesday	15 May 2009	TBD

Please contact Mark Cundiff at markcundiff@hotmail.com if you are interested in attending an Atlanta Section Meeting. These meetings are typically held at: Cross Creek Café, 1221 Cross Creek Parkway in Atlanta