



February 2009 News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,
AACE International

President
Walter Manning, CEP
(walterjmanning@gmail.com)

Past President
Bob Boyd, PSP, CEP, CCE

Vice President
Chris Swanson, CCC
(chris.swanson@fluor.com)

Secretary
Misty Kaplenski

Treasurer
Sanjay Mahajan

Certification Chair
Chris Swanson, CCC

Website Editor
Becky Spencer

Membership Chair
Becky Spencer

2007 – 2009 Directors
Donald McDonald, CCE, PSP
Ken Willis

2008 – 2010 Directors
Jeff Bannister, CEP
Steve Schnee

Newsletter Editor
Bob Boyd, PSP, CEP, CCE

Scholarship & Student Outreach
Chair
Bob Boyd, PSP, CEP, CCE

Awards and Elections Chair
Don Metcalf

Inside This Issue

President's Message	- 1
Section Announcements	- 2
February Dinner Mtg Recap	- 4
March Dinner Meeting	- 5
2008/9 Meeting Schedules	- 6

President's Message

Members,

As the Stock Market falls and private sector jobs evaporate just consider this thought: 2009 may end up making 2008 look like a good year. The following is offered for your consideration.

- An AACEI certification brings value to your current employer and may help with a job search, if needed.
- The AACEI website is a great resource for job postings and information on employers needs.
- Also at the website, take time to review the corporate sponsors of AACEI to confirm the level of support our organization receives.
- Our section meetings are not only knowledge sharing and learning, but a great place to get to know some of your peers and network.

You can keep buying lottery tickets and hope for the big payday or pursue an AACEI certification, attend meetings and network with your professional peers and take charge of your own future.

Remember our section meetings are open to all. Please do not hesitate to invite a coworker or anyone you think may be interested.

Everyone have a safe and happy Saint Patrick's Day

Sincerely, Walter Manning



Section Announcements

Certification!!

Let's congratulate Walter Manning in successfully passing the Certified Estimating Professional exam. AAACEI 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 AAACEI 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 AAACE Online Bookstore (<http://www.aacei.org/technical/ppg.shtml>) where you can order Professional Practice Guides, Recommended Practices and other AAACEI 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 AAACEI 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!!

Five college students submitted their application for AACEI's competitive scholarship program. These will be reviewed by mid-March and the winner should be chosen by late March. Our section will be giving \$1,500 to one of these students.

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.

Misty Kaplenski is spearheading a Mentoring Program for our local members. Contact Misty if anyone is interested in either being a mentor or a mentoree. More about this will be announced by Misty at our next Section meeting and newsletter.

Becky Spencer has been working with Robin Donley in developing our chapter's website. It is hoped that we will have a web-site up and running in March or April.



February 2009 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap

The Upcountry SC Section meeting was held on February 10, 2009 at the offices of Day & Zimmerman. Our guest speaker was Ron Winter of Ron Winter Consulting LLC. Ron 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 talked 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 identified the key differences between general contractors and EPC contractors. He discussed the necessary requirements of managing project schedules in today's environment. He showed how 3rd tier contractors are not as sophisticated as EPC or larger firms and that they need assistance in developing and managing their schedules more effectively.

The Upcountry SC Section would like to thank Ron Winter for an informative presentation.



March 2009 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Location: Day & Zimmerman's Office Building

Trends in Risk Management

Guest Speaker: Al Gasper

Fluor Corporation

Al Gasper has a BS in Chemical Engineering and is currently Vice President, Project Management in Fluor's Corporate Risk Group. As such, he is responsible for reviewing risk projects that are executed by Fluor worldwide. He has over 40 years experience in management, construction, operation and maintenance of process plants. Over the last 25 years he has held leadership roles in various office locations for Fluor.

Al's talk is entitled: Trends in Risk Management within the EPC Industry. He plans on presenting how we should identify, assess and mitigate Risk.

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

Please RSVP no later than Friday, March 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	Mike Twitchell, Fluor, Global Warming and Power Plants

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