



April 2009 News Update

The Newsletter of the UpCountry South Carolina Section,
AACE International

President's Message

Members,

As the out-going Section President, I need to tell all of our members how much I enjoyed being your Section President this past year. It has been a great experience and I have learned a great deal.

I can only suggest that all section members seek an officer position and find out how rewarding serving can be.

Our next meeting is our last before the summer break. I would like to thank everyone who has helped me reach the goals that I set for our section when I was elected President.

- 1) We have expanded our section's membership.
- 2) We had enough money in the treasury to offer a scholarship to a deserving student.
- 3) We have expanded our membership to include members outside of Fluor Corporation.

I would encourage the next Section President to set realistic goals and strive to achieve them. It has been an honor and a great learning experience to serve as your Section President.

I offer best wishes and support to the next President.

I wish you all well in furthering your career either by working toward being AACEI certified or by staying involved in our Section and taking a leadership role.

Enjoy your summer

Sincerely, Walter Manning

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

Past President
Bob Boyd, PSP, CEP, CCE

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

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Misty Kaplenski

Treasurer
Rita Wheeler

Certification Chair
Chris Swanson, CCC

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Becky Spencer, CCT

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Becky Spencer, CCT

2007 – 2009 Directors
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2008 – 2010 Directors
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Newsletter Editor
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Awards and Elections Chair
Don Metcalf

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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>).

Chris Swanson is working on arranging for an EVP certification seminar to be held locally next year. Please 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 13, 2009 – To be held at Fluor's Offices – Patewood Complex

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, the EVP Certification Study Guide, 1st Edition, are now available. The Skills and Knowledge of Cost Engineering is now available "On-Line" at AACEI's website.

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



Section News!!

AACEI have notified us that our top ranked scholarship applicant, Appling Wells, has won the competitive scholarship for 2009. He not only will receive AACEI's scholarship award of \$8,000 but will also receive our section's \$1,500 scholarship award. Congratulations are in order for this Clemson student since he ranked first out of 178 applicants.

Voting of our 2009–2010 Section Officers and Board Members was held last month. Your new officers and 2009-2011 Board Members are:

- President – Chris Swanson
- Vice-President – Walter Manning
- Secretary – Misty Kaplenski
- Treasurer – Rita Wheeler
- 2009 – 2011 Board Members – Donald McDonald and Bob Boyd

Misty Kaplenski continues to spearhead a Mentoring Program for our local members. Please contact Misty if you are interested in either being a mentor or a mentoree.

Becky Spencer has been working on our chapter's website. It is hoped that we will have a web-site up and running in May.



April 2009 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting Recap

The Upcountry SC Section meeting was held on April 14, 2009 at the offices of Fluor Enterprises. Our guest speakers were Donald McDonald (Fluor's Corporate Claims Management Group), Ron Stuff (Fluor Legal Counsel) and Mark Sucher (Fluor Legal Counsel). The purpose of this "Mock Arbitration" exercise was to allow the audience to become familiar with the arbitration process, to understand legal requirements for proving one's case, and what it takes to be a qualified expert witness in such cases.

Some background information was first presented about the Arbitration process before the case was presented. Arbitration is a cost effective way of dealing with issues out of court. Arbitration is also a good means of settling disputes because all decisions are Final, Binding and Non-Appealable.

A general description of the case was presented to the audience. The audience was divided into groups and was told that at the end, they would pass judgment on the case. The arbitration was patterned after an actual arbitration. The issue revolved around whether or not the contractor (Catfish Contractors) performed the work according to the specifications of the contract. The Owner/Client (Nyet County Airport) argued that the backfill/compaction specification (gradation tests) was not achieved and was therefore not in compliance with the terms of the contract.

The presenters started with Opening Arguments and then followed up with Witnesses and Presentation of the Case before the Arbitration Panel (audience). Both sides argued entitlement (basis/justification for their case) and quantum (time and damages). They talked about the process of "Blending the Soil", the results of the first backfill lift and the results of the second backfill lift. Once the contractor was told that they were not in compliance with the specification (during the second lift), the contractor offered alternative solutions but in the end had to remove the second lift and reinstall it. Upon presenting their cases, Final Arguments were made. The arbitration panels (audience) then consulted within their groups and presented their verdict. It was interesting to see that the verdicts were all across the board. Some gave an award to the Contractor while others gave the award to the Owner. The actual ruling went 100% in favor of the Owner since the Contractor proceeded with construction even though tests showed that the gradation deviation was outside the specification and was great enough to require removal and reinstallation.

The Upcountry SC Section would like to thank Donald McDonald, Ron Stuff and Mark Sucher for a very entertaining and informative presentation.



May 2009 UpCountry SC Section Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Location: Day & Zimmerman's Office Building

Global Warming and Power Plants

Guest Speaker: Michael Twitchell

Fluor Corporation

Mr. Mike Twitchell has a BS in Chemical Engineering and is a registered PE. He is also a certified PMI Project Management Professional. He has over 38 years of project management, engineering management and process engineering experience in the Oil, Gas, Chemicals and Power Industries. He has worked out of 4 Fluor offices in North America and has traveled to many countries on assignment during his 28 year tenure with Fluor.

The power industry is now entering into a new, exciting and challenging market for the 21st century: the reduction of CO₂ emissions from power plants. CO₂ is believed by many in the scientific community to be a significant contributor to global warming. Carbon Capture and Storage is an approach to mitigate global warming by capturing CO₂ from power plants and storing it. Mike will present this issue at a high level discussing the various global warming concepts and various possible technical processes to reduce CO₂ emissions from power plants.

We look forward to seeing you. This is our last meeting for the season. Don't miss it!

Please RSVP by Friday, May 8th 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