

NOVEMBER 2007

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER #3

American
Society of
Professional
Estimators



www.aspenational.com

Our Mission

Since 1956 ASPE serves the construction & engineering industries by providing education, training, fellowship and opportunities for professional estimating development..



President's Message	1
Member Spotlight	3
Speaker Information	4
Meeting Information	5
Calendar of Events	6
ASPE Board Members & Committee Contacts	7
Joke of the Month	8
Wanted Message	9
Certification	10
New Member Profile	11
Quote of the Month	11
Announcements	12

**ORANGE SPEEL
NEWSLETTER**





President's Message

It's hard to believe the November is already upon us. Soon the holidays will here. At our October meeting we had a good presentation on "Recommended Bidding Practices for Competitively Bid Projects." Board members Ron Svarc & Paulette Rutlen helped with the presentation. For those of you that are interested, or perhaps missed the meeting, a summary of the power point presentation is shown in November's newsletter below.

Our dinner meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. We meet at the Mezzanine Building at the Newport Gateway Towers, in Irvine (see enclosed map for details). The next dinner meeting is scheduled for November 14th. Social hour starts at 5:30 PM with dinner at 6:30 PM.

In December, we will be having a Mystery dinner theatre dinner holiday party. The professional dinner theatre troupe is held at the Mezzanine Building at the Newport Beach Towers, in Irvine. This get together will be a party, with no technical discussions. Friends, guests, spouses, significant others, are all invited to attend. More information is included below in this month's newsletter.



I encourage you to come to our meetings. Make some new friends, network, keep current with industry trends, share some stories and have some fun.

We are still looking for board directors. These individuals will meet with the elected chapter persons and the committee chair persons. We meet tentatively once a month for approximately one hour. No meetings are held during the summer break. Come and join us. Check it out once if you are not 100% certain that you want to volunteer. We will even provide the dinner and drinks. Board member suggestions and ideas will help us in making our organization better.

If you become a volunteer it will help you maintain your standing with ASPE. Become a board or chairperson!

~ Dan Schottlander, CPE
President, ASPE Orange County Chapter

ASPE Code of Ethics:

Cannon #1

Professional estimators shall perform services in areas of their discipline and competence.

Cannon #2

Professional estimators shall continue to expand their professional capabilities through continuing education programs to better enable them to serve clients, employers and the industry.

Cannon #3

Professional estimators shall conduct themselves in a manner, which will promote cooperation and good relations among members of our profession and those directly related to our profession.

Cannon #4

Professional estimators shall safeguard and keep in confidence all knowledge of the business affairs and technical procedures of an employer or client.

Notes from the President

The chapter website continues to grow and improve.

You can now book your reservations on line. Thanks

once again to Paulette Rutlen who is the “Web

Master”. Our website is www.ASPEChapter3.org.

Our newsletters are posted on the site. If you have

any questions or ideas on what to include in our

website, feel free to contact Paulette. Don't forget

that the national website is www.aspenational.com.

Please remember that by serving on ASPE boards

and committees, your efforts will make our chapter a

success. Be sure to attend our next dinner meeting in

December! And feel free to invite a colleague or a guest!



Cannon #5

Professional estimators shall conduct themselves with integrity as all times and not knowingly or willingly enter into agreements that violate the laws of the United States of America or of the states in which they practice. They shall establish guidelines for setting forth prices and receiving quotations that are fair and equitable to all parties.

Cannon #6

Professional estimators 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.

Cannon #7

Professional estimators shall not engage in the practice of "bid peddling" as defined by this code. This is a breach of moral and ethical standards, and a member of this society shall not enter into this practice.

Cannon #8

Professional estimators and those in training to be estimators shall not enter into any agreement that may be considered acts of collusion or conspiracy (bid rigging) with the implied or express purpose of defrauding clients. Acts of this type are in direct violation of the Code of Ethics of the American Society of Professional Estimators.

Cannon #9

Professional estimators and those in training to be estimators shall not participate in acts, such as the giving or receiving of gifts, that are intended to be or may be construed as being unlawful acts of bribery.

Member Spotlight



Ron Svarc CPE, MBA, GC

Ron Svarc was born in Nurnberg Germany right after the World War II. Since that time Ron has experienced 38 different mailing addresses and never spent more than eleven months in any school until Pacific High School in San Bernardino. Ron received a BS in Mathematics and became a Charter Member of the Football Hall of Fame at the University of California @ Riverside. Ron performed 24 different jobs while in college. Immediately after graduating in 1970, Ron spent 4.5 years in the NFL and 13 years in Semi-Pro Ball as a place kicker/punter. While with the San Diego Chargers, Ron first worked with M. H. Golden on the Coronado Shores Condominiums and the San Diego Union Tribune Building during the off-seasons in 1972 and 73. Ron has been in construction ever since as an Estimator, Senior Estimator, Chief Estimator, Superintendent, Carpenter Helper, Foreman, Equipment Operator, Project Engineer, Project Manager, Construction Manager, Scheduler and Designated Expert. Ron has more than 34 years of construction estimating and management experience in all types of residential, private, public works, theme park, industrial and commercial construction technology. Ron became a CPE in 1982 and has served as President(4 years), Awards Chairman, Installation Chairman(4 years), Treasurer and Newsletter Editor (third year). Ron is currently CPE Representative for the National ASPE Certification Board Southwest Region.

During the period from 1984 to 1994, Ron was active in construction technology as a Construction Superintendent, Senior Estimator, and Project Manager for Clock Construction Co., Breton Construction Co., and Disneyland. He was proactive in planning and management of many different building types and project types; including single family residences and multi-family residences, concrete tilt-up warehouses, commercial tenant improvement, explosion-proof buildings, refurbishment of existing buildings for ADA compliance and lead abatement, and commercial remodeling. Ron was responsible for project programming, bidding, bidding, negotiation, and contract administration for these companies. He also developed internal budget controls, master project estimates and monitored construction costs.

During the period from 1994 to 2004, Ron continually expanded his role in estimating and construction management with major corporate entities, including Waban, Inc. (HomeBase), Bay Apartment Communities, Pepper Construction Co., TBC Contractors, Bert L. Howe and Associates, Inc., and BRE Properties, Inc. As a Chief Estimator, Project Manager and/or Construction Manager, he was directly involved in all aspects of construction, including entitlement, personnel management, product research, specifications writing, change orders, cost reporting, and compliance with project schedule parameters. Ron was instrumental in the implementation of corporate expansion for the HomeBase home improvement stores and estimated podium high rise and wrap projects including several thousand multi-family apartment units. He also supervised construction of the Hawthorne Police Facility, Pacific Wharf at California Adventure as well as several medical office buildings and Churches. While at Bert l. Howe and Associates, Mr. Svarc provided services in General Construction Standard of Care and Estimating as a designated expert consultant.

Ron has been married to Renee for 18 ½ years, has 4 children and one grandson, one week old. Ron received his MBA from Phoenix University in 1994 and has a General Contractor's License for California, Arizona and Nevada. Ron is active as an Elder in Abiding Savior Lutheran Church. Ron loves Fantasy Football and Baseball, golf, model cars, Sudoku, and is a scratch bowler.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATORS
Invites you to join the
ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER'S
next meeting at:



Date: Wednesday, November 14th , 2007

Social Time: 5:30 p.m. - Program & Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Location: 19800 MacArthur Boulevard, Irvine, CA

The Mezzanine @ Newport Gateway Towers

Presented by: Attila Beres PhD, PE

Topic: Recent Trends in Concrete Construction



The November dinner program will be presented by Attila Beres, PhD, PE, Western Regional Manager of US Buildings and Special Structures Portland Cement. Attila will be bringing with him three other gentlemen to provide an in depth panel presentation on 'Recent Trends in Concrete Construction'.

Also attending will be Jim Brown from Pankow Builders, Raymond Calles and Mike Stone from Morley Builders. The

4 man panel will be open to construction concrete questions that any of you may have. You are encouraged by Attila to submit your questions as soon as possible to your Chapter President, Dan Schottlander, so that they be able to prepare more complete and researched answers. This is going to be one of the most informative topics of the year and are encouraged to make reservations early.

For reservations, please go to the website to book your spot at www.aspechapter3.org.
Contact Art Quinion at artq@phoenix-planning.com or call 949-581-9370 if you have any questions.



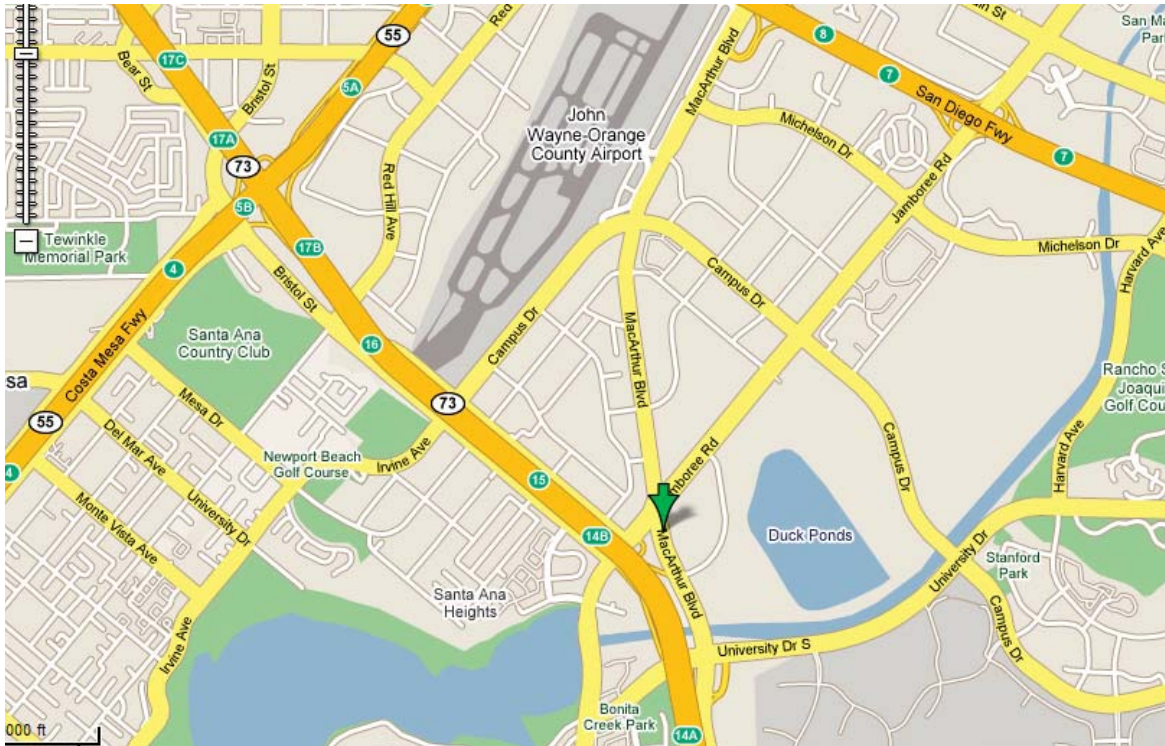
MEETING INFORMATION

Speaker: Attila Beres, PhD, PE

Date: Wednesday, November 14th , 2007

Social Time: 5:30 p.m. - Program & Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Location: 19800 MacArthur
Boulevard, Irvine, CA
The Mezzanine @ Newport
Gateway Towers
P: 949 724-1066
405 Freeway @ MacArthur
Junction between
MacArthur & Fairchild



Dinner:

Chicken \$35

Fish \$35

For reservations, please go to the website to book your spot at www.aspechapter3.org.
Contact Art Quinion at artq@phoenix-planning.com or call 949-581-9370 if you have any questions.

November

2007

Sunday

Monday



Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				1	2	3
4 Don't Forget! Turn your clocks back one hour! 	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Dinner Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. in Irvine	15	16	17
18	19 Board Meeting @ 6 p.m.	20	21	22 Happy Thanksgiving 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	



2007-2008 Board Members and Committee Chairs

President	Dan Schottlander, CPE Earth Tech	949 330 2299 dan.schottlander@earthtech.com
1 st Vice President	Art Quinion, CPE Phoenix Planning	949 581 9370 artq@phoenix-planning.com
Secretary/Treasurer	Shantha Suraweera, CPE O'Connor Construction Management	949 476 2094 ssuraweera@ocmi.com
Immediate Past President	Ron Svarc, CPE BRE Properties, Inc.	949 863 4266 kickerron@cox.net
Board of Directors	Paulette R. Rutlen, CPE The Austin Company	949 451 9055 paulette.rutlen@theaustin.com
Chapter Certification Chair	Art Quinion, CPE Phoenix Planning	949 581 9370 artq@phoenix-planning.com
Board of Directors	Vacant	Vacant
Programs	Vacant	Vacant
Newsletter	Vacant	Vacant
Membership	Vacant	Vacant
Certification	Vacant	Vacant
Education	Vacant	Vacant
Scholarship	Vacant	Vacant
Bylaws	Vacant	Vacant

Web site of the Month:

Our very own Orange County Chapter's web site is up and running. Please check it out when you get the chance.

<http://www.aspechapter3.org/>

Advertising Opportunities:

Business Card Ad:	1 Issue	\$15
	6 Issues	\$60
	12 Issues	\$100
Full Page Ad:	1 Issue	\$50
	6 Issues	\$200
	12 Issues	\$300
Employment Ad	Each Issue	\$50

Announcements

We have many local chapter members that have been longtime members of Chapter 3, for ten, fifteen, twenty-five, thirty and forty years. At our November meeting we would like to honor the following people with service pins for their support of ASPE. A special thanks to;

Raymond Lombard	10 years
Daniel Hoxie	10 years
Sam Brusco	10 years
Ronald Fedman	10 years
Art Quinion	10 years
Robert Gallucci	10 years
Ron Svarc	10 years
Gregory Grosz	15 years
Paulette Rutlen	15 years
Surinder Kanda	15 years
Bert Howe	15 years
William Simek	25 years
Marie Osowski	30 years
Lawrence Lee	40 years

We would also like to thank Colm O'Conner and all of the OCMI staff that are currently members of Chapter 3. ASPE National has recognized Colm and OCMI as one of the leading firms with ASPE members. Thanks for your continued everyone support! www.aspenational.com.

Question of the Month

Escalation for an 18 month long project that is scheduled to start six months from the present is calculated as follows;

- A. At the beginning of the project
- B. At mid point of the project
- C. At the end of the project
- D. At the published annual rate for escalation (ENR, CPI, etc.)

Joke of the Month



The correct answer is B.

ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER

WANTED



Have some extra time to spare? How about volunteering?
The following committees would appreciate your help.

- Board of Directors
 - Programs
 - Newsletter
 - Membership
 - Certification
 - Education
 - Scholarship
 - Bylaws

For more information, please contact Art Quinion

Certification Testing and Training

By Art Quinion

ASPE Chapter 3 Certification Chairman

Becoming a Certified Professional Estimator (CPE) is one way of being recognized for your achievements as an estimator. For those of you considering certification, there is some information you may be interested in. In recent years, some branches of the Federal Government have started to ask that construction cost estimates prepared for them be prepared by a professional cost estimator. The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has added the following paragraph to their 2007 Project Estimating Requirements for the Public Buildings Service manual (publication P-120):

“Capital project estimate submissions must be prepared by professional cost estimators unaffiliated with the design team or the Construction Manager as Contractor (CMc). Certification as a cost engineer by the Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering (AACE), or as a certified professional estimator by the American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE), is supporting evidence of an estimator’s qualifications, although it is not required.”

If you would like to become certified, the certification process requires the candidate to write a 2,500 word technical paper, in addition to taking two examinations. The first exam is a General Knowledge Exam (GEK) consisting of approximately 500 questions across a variety of construction topics including AIA documents and general estimating knowledge. The candidate has four hours in which to complete this test. In addition, each candidate must also take a Discipline Specific Test (DST). These exams are a test of the candidate’s specific area of expertise. Currently ASPE has Discipline Specific Tests in numerous categories including General Estimating, Earthwork, Concrete, Roofing, Plumbing, HVAC Sheet Metal, and Electrical to name a few. The DST exam is an eight hour test with true/false and multiple choice questions as well as estimating problems that are basically mini-estimates.

There are two testing cycles per year. The timeline for the next testing cycle starts on March 1st, however your application for the testing must be received by the Society Business Office by no later than January 25th. Once approved, you will be required to complete an online workshop to begin the testing process. I am also available to give a Saturday workshop, in addition to the required online workshop, to review the technical paper and test requirements if you feel it would be helpful.

As the Certification Chairman for ASPE Chapter 3, I’m available to answer any questions you may have about the certification process. Please feel free to e-mail me at artq@phoenix-planning.com or call me at my office at (949) 581-9370.

New Member...Introducing Stephen Dunn



Dr. Stephen R. Dunn brings a perspective to his job few others can. Dr. Dunn earned a BS in Architectural Engineering from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and went on to receive a PhD in Business Administration. He has more than 28 years of general administration, project management and general contracting experience with more than 10 years of direct accountability for the general administration and supervision of division activities.

As the Director of Preconstruction Services for gkkworks, an Irvine based architectural and construction services company, he has the direct responsibility for the companies estimating, bidding, value engineering, constructability reviews, Design/Build, and risk management activities. He has also served on the Board of Directors of the San Diego Chapter of the Project Management Institute and St. Clare's Home (a center for homeless and abused women and children), was the Chairman of the City of Oceanside's Public Safety Commission, and received the 2001 Volunteer of the Year award from the San Diego Philanthropy Council.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“ Good people are good because they've come to wisdom through failure. We get very little wisdom from success, you know.”

~ William Saroyan
(1908 – 1981)
U.S. Author

Web site Up & Running

Chapter 3 is proud to announce the unveiling of our own chapter web site, www.ASPEChapter3.org. We will be posting our newsletters & meeting information, along with any special announcements. If you or your company wish to sponsor our web site or would like to place an advertisement, please contact our President, Dan Schottlander. The site construction is not complete, but we are well on our way. Go check it out!

~Paulette R. Rutlen, CPE

Mystery Dinner

As Dan had mentioned, our holiday party will be a Mystery Dinner in December. The event will be hosted by The Gourmet Detective, Orange County's favorite Murder Mystery Dinner Show Comedy. You will laugh, witness a crime and help solve a mystery. For more information, please visit www.gourmetdetective.com.



Any Program Ideas?

If there is enough support from the chapter, other things that we can develop, could include sponsoring a golf tournament, hosting an estimating academy, or having a regional meeting in 2008 with other ASPE chapters. (This year the regional meeting is being held in Reno).

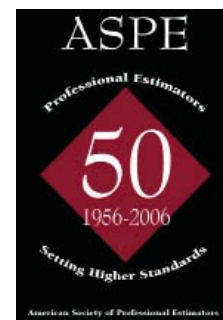
In order to make our chapter work for everyone we are looking for your ideas and input. What topics would you like to see discussed? What programs would you like? If you are a General Contractor, Subcontractor, Consultant, Architect or Engineer, what topics are you interested in? Any suggestions that you have, we would appreciate your input.

New Members

We have three new members. A special and warm welcome is given to Steve Dunn, Peter Garan, and Paul Steele. Feel free to introduce yourselves to our new members at the next meeting.

Memberships

With each publication, our electronic newsletter is distributed to over 150 individuals, members & non-members alike. If you know anyone that might enjoy receiving our newsletter, please pass it along and give us their e-mail address. If you are not currently a member and enjoy our readership as well as our events, perhaps you may want to consider joining ASPE for 2007 – 2008.



www.aspenational.com

