

SEPTEMBER 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
Certification Information	3
Joke of the Month	3
Member Spotlight	4
Quote of the Month	4
Speaker Information	5
Meeting Information	6
Calendar of Events	7
ASPE Board Members & Committee Contacts	8
Web site of the Month	8
National Convention Update	9
Wanted Message	10
Announcements	11

ORANGE SPEEL NEWSLETTER





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.

President's Message

Hopefully everyone had a great summer break! We are excited about the upcoming year. With your support, we will be able to institute some new programs for 2007-2008. This year, we are planning programs on green buildings, industry trends, conceptual & design build estimating, estimating software, and on-screen takeoffs. Arrangements have already been made for forthcoming guest speakers at our monthly dinner meetings, which will be held each month beginning this fall. Our first dinner meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday September 12th at 6:30 PM.**



All of our dinner meetings are tentatively scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month. The next dinner meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 10th at 6:30 PM. We will have another dinner meeting in November, followed by continued dinner events after the first of the year. In December, if all goes well, we would like to have a holiday party.

This summer ASPE's National meeting & Convention was held at Park City, Utah. Ron Svarc our past president has written a summary of the meeting, which you will find below. Next years national convention is going to be held in Baltimore, Maryland during July 9th – 11th, 2008. The convention is going to be at the Hyatt Hotel on the waterfront, which could make a nice family vacation for those of you that maybe inclined to attend.



As mentioned earlier we would like to institute some new programs. We need volunteers! This is a great way to give back to your organization ASPE, get some certification points, make some new friends and just hang out with other people that have the same professional interests.

Ron Svarc our past president and current board member is currently the editor of the chapter newsletter. Our newsletter needs an Editor –in-Chief. This volunteer will assemble the various articles that are written by others, and perhaps contribute to the newsletter by writing an occasional article. We have electronic templates and we are retaining the services of a graphics consultant to complete the monthly newsletters.

...continued on page 2

President's message continued...

The key to any organization is growth. Estimators are not a well known entity. In our industry the demand for estimators is always a constant. We are looking for a membership chair that will work with other board members, come up with new ideas, programs and events to increase our chapter membership.



Another way of growing our membership is to recruit younger people that are just beginning their professional careers. One method of doing this is to offer scholarships to college students, thereby introducing them to ASPE. Our chapter needs a scholarship chair person, so we may get started on this important endeavor.



We are also 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 (excluding the summer break) and we provide dinner and drinks. Board member suggestions and ideas will help us in making our organization better. Any volunteers?

Don't worry. If you are a little nervous or hesitant on volunteering for any of our chapter positions we will mentor and help you to succeed. Being a volunteer will enable you to maintain your standing with ASPE re-certification points. Our chapter needs your help. Become a board or chairperson.

See you on September 12th.

~ Dan Schottlander

President, ASPE Orange County Chapter

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.

Certification

If you are considering taking the CPE examination, now is the time to start planning ahead. The certification program has been modified from last year. Things have been streamlined as the certification process now will take six months to complete.



There are two test cycles to choose from;

- March 1st (cycle 1)
- September 1st (cycle 2)

A chapter workshop is no longer required. Instead, the workshop will be offered online on the national ASPE web site. The test dates will be held in September and in March. The first test is four hours and covers general estimating knowledge (GEK). The second test, which is eight hours, covers the 16 CSI divisions. It consists of 200 questions and four estimating problems. If there is enough interest, we will set-up a Chapter work-shop to help anyone who wants to take the test to pass it.

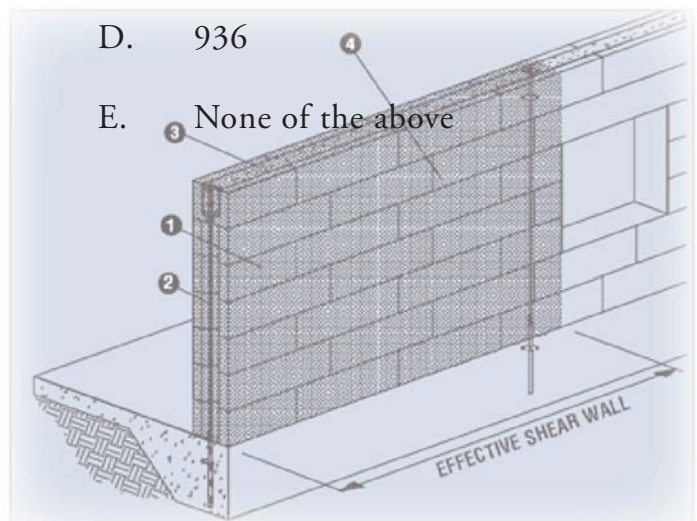


Estimating Knowledge

How many pieces of 8" x 8" x 16" block are required to build a block wall 48' long by 17' - 4" tall? Assume there is no waste, no joint thickness and round up to the nearest piece.

- A. 832
- B. 370
- C. 740
- D. 936

E. None of the above



Joke of the Month



"All right you guys, pay attention for once. We gotta fill this up quick! The plans were upside down."

The correct answer is D. $48' \times 17' - 4" = 832 \text{ SF}$. $8" \times 8" \times 16"$ block = 0.89 SF. $832 \text{ SF} / 0.89 = 936$ pieces.

Member Spotlight



Art Quinion, CPE

Phoenix Planning & Construction Services

Art Quinion, CPE, is a principal and co-owner of Phoenix Planning and Construction Services, Inc., an Architecture and Estimating firm in Laguna Hills, CA. Art is married (21 years) and has two daughters. He has worked as an Estimator since 1985 and has estimated Commercial, Military and Institutional projects ranging from a few thousand to over 45 million dollars. Art and his partner started Phoenix Planning in 1996 and have enjoyed running a business that has grown steadily over the years.

Art joined ASPE in 1994 and became a Certified Professional Estimator in 1995. Shortly after that, he took over the role of Chapter Certification Chairman when Paulette Rutlen stepped down and still enjoys his role in helping to add more CPE's to our society. In 2007, Art was voted in as Chapter Vice President and is working with the other officers and Board of Directors to help build our chapter and expand our programs.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Choose the battles large enough to be important but small enough to win.”

~ Anonymous

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATORS

Invites you to join the
ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER'S
next meeting at:



Date: Wednesday, September 12th , 2007

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

Location: 19800 MacArthur Boulevard, Irvine, CA

The Mezzanine @ Newport Gateway Towers

**John Cross, P.E., Vice President of Marketing
American Institute of Steel Construction**

Topic: Structural Steel and You-Surviving the Construction Playground

Structural steel versus poured in place concrete, market conditions and industry trends.

Background:

John Cross is Vice President of Marketing for the American Institute of Steel Corporation and is a frequent speaker at seminars and workshops focused on construction material pricing and the early involvement of steel specialty contractors in the design and construction process. He has pioneered the equipping of structural steel fabricators for early involvement in projects through a specialized training program conducted in partnership with the Design Build Institute of America. He was awarded the 2003 National Press Award from DBIA for contributions to the Design-Build movement.

John, a registered professional engineer, has been involved in the Chicago and national engineering community for the past 30 years. He has authored numerous publications dealing with material volatility design-build, steel fabrication, information systems, slope stability analysis, hydroelectric power development, parking structures and multi-story residential projects. He is the co-author of the *Innovations in Structural Steel: Open Deck Steel-Framed Parking Structures*.

For reservations, contact Sharon Kha by e-mail at sharondkha@yahoo.com or call 213-217-7173.



MEETING INFORMATION

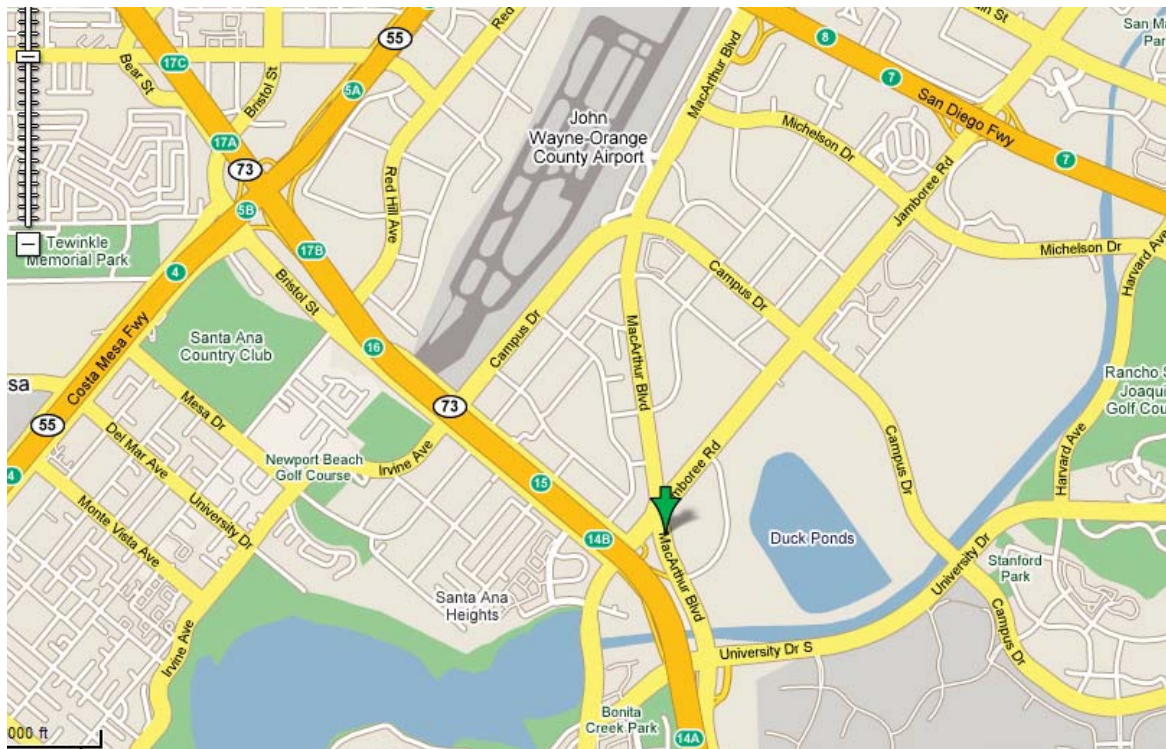


Speaker: John Cross, P.E.

Date: Wednesday, September 12th , 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, contact Sharon Kha by e-mail at sharondkha@yahoo.com or call 213-217-7173.

September

2007

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

						1
2	3	4	5 Board Meeting @ 6 p.m.	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Dinner Meeting, @ 6:30 p.m. in Irvine	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

23



*Don't miss the next meeting on Wednesday, October 10th at 6:30 PM.



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:

For some quick construction calculations,
check out the following web page:

<http://www.get-a-quote.net/quickcalc/>

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

Extra, Extra, Read All About It...

National Convention Update

Provided by: Ron Svarc, CPE

The National Convention for ASPE was held in Park City, Utah where the temperatures of this beautiful skiing resort hovered at 90 degrees. Over 200 people attended the convention. As Representative for the Southwest Region on the National Certification Committee, I spent three days in caucuses and meetings to finalize the new CPE application and testing process. We established new sessions to begin every March 1st and September 1st each year. A CPE application and testing schedule complete with milestones is listed in the ASPE web site under Certification. Go to: www.aspenational.com.



Paulette Rutlen with Ron York
of the Phoenix Chapter



We also established a New Certification Board Chairman for the National Committee, Bill Manfredonia of the New Jersey Chapter. We also welcomed new Southwest Regional Representative Dan Engle to the board

The National Business meeting held on Saturday, July 14th was attended by Shantha Suraweera and John Mauk and was relatively short. That is because Amendments to the By-Laws as presented in the Delegate book were not discussed and was tabled for future discussion, presumably when it is published nationally within the stipulated time guidelines. A motion was brought to the floor regarding the expense of \$41,000 on the audit for 04/05/06 financial records. It was indicated that there is no legal requirement to carry out a certified audit. The motion was approved by majority vote.



Members from Boston to San Diego get
together for dinner in Park City, Utah.

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

Congratulations

Our very own **Paulette Rutlen** CPE of Chapter #3 has been elected **First Vice President of ASPE National** for 2007 -2008.

Congratulations Paulette!



Ron Svarc has been appointed **National Certification Chair for the Southwest Region** for 2007 – 2008. Congratulations Ron!



Any Program Ideas?

If there is enough support from within our chapter other things that we can develop could include a chapter web site, a technical e-mail help-desk estimating board, golf tournament fund raiser, host an estimating academy, and or host a regional meeting with other ASPE chapters.

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 or Consultant what topics are you interested in? Any suggestions that you have, we would appreciate your input.

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.



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