

THE LIBERTY BELL



ASPE Liberty Chapter 61, Philadelphia, PA

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATORS

The President's Message, Karla Wursthorn, CPE

Septembers' dinner meeting presented by Matthew Miller of Worth and Company, Inc. on Building Information Modeling was a great success. Thank you to Matthew as well as guests from Willard, Limbach, Fluidics and Falasca for enlightening us on this very interesting technology! It appears that mechanical contractors will be leading the way in the use of this powerful new tool.



Our Mission :

The American Society of Professional Estimators serves construction estimators by providing education, fellowship, and the opportunity for professional development.

- EDUCATION
- CERTIFICATION
- FELLOWSHIP
- PROFESSIONALISM
- STANDARDIZATION

Our October dinner meeting will be Wednesday, October 21st at the Doubletree Hotel in Plymouth Meeting (Social Hour at 5:30, Dinner at 6:30 with speaker to follow). By now, almost everyone in the commercial construction industry has attended some type of green training which may include becoming a LEED Accredited Professional or becoming Green Advantage Certified. You've probably heard about LEED credits and probably have even bid on or built a LEED project. Unfortunately, most seminars do not address the cost implication of LEED projects. This month's dinner seminar will focus exclusively in **How to Estimate and Bid on LEED Projects**. David Gehringer, LEED AP, of Nason Construction will be presenting this informative seminar that you won't want to miss! Please mark the date on your calendar!

Join us for: **How to Estimate & Bid LEED Projects.**

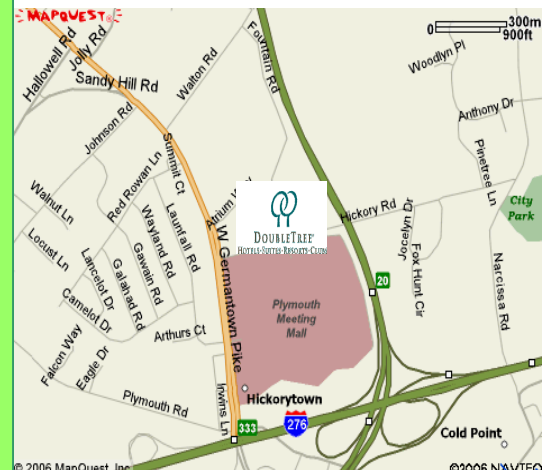
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|--|---------------|
| October 21st, 2009 - Meet & Greet | 5:30PM |
| Dinner | 6:30PM |
| Presentation | 7:30PM |

Dinner is \$35 with a choice of Chicken or Fish.

Presentation By:

David Gehringer, LEED AP

Nason Construction, Inc.



John Stewart Named Fellow!

ASPE Chapter 61 congratulates John Stewart in being named "Fellow" at the National Convention in St. Louis. Being designated as "Fellow" is the highest honor in ASPE. Standards of excellence for this title are very high and the application process very rigorous. John has served the American Society of Professional Estimators at the Chapter, Regional and National level, which included being elected National President. In addition to his service to ASPE, John has made contributions to other industry organizations by being a member of ASHRAE and NFPA and teaching courses for GBCA. He has further contributed his time with several Springfield area community and charitable organizations. If that is not enough, John was awarded a Navy Commendation Medal for "heroic achievement while serving in the USS Belknap (CG 26) on 22-23 November 1975." John put himself at great personal risk to bring a raging fire with subsequent explosions under control after a collision. His brave actions resulted in bringing the fire under control which restored vital services to the ship. Thank you to Terry McGeehan for submitting John's application for consideration. ASPE Chapter 61 is very proud to call John Stewart a Fellow!



Member Profile: Donna M. Blaszczyk, Owner Blas Construction, LLC

Career Path: My father was the business agent, manager, and administrator for The Asbestos Workers Pension & Welfare Funds. At the age of 16, I started working at the fund office and saw firsthand, their dedication and efforts. I also worked for the Teamsters and SEIU Local 36 in the benefit fund offices in an administrative capacity. I saw how the unions helped better the lives of workers in all the building trades. Of course, I married a "union carpenter" and after the birth of our second child, the idea to start a business came to mind. I now own Blas Construction and proudly consider the team of people I employ "family". This year I was honored to have been named as one of Pennsylvania's Best 50 Women in Business for 2009.

Favorite Part of Job: The relationships that are formed and built with clients as well as the relationships and bonds with our employees. I particularly enjoy when we construct projects that contribute to the community or watching a "green" apprentice grow into a seasoned journeyman.

Least Favorite Part of Job: Chasing down money or when a company who owes you money files for Chapter 7 or 11 bankruptcies.

Year Joined ASPE: Chapter 61 in 2008. I am also a proud member of NAWIC and IFCA.

Favorite Thing About ASPE: "Cocktail Hour." Discussing the successes and challenges that my peers in the same market area are having is beneficial. I enjoy the educational aspects of ASPE as well as the opportunity to establish a more personal relationship with its members.

Family: Married with three children, ages 26, 22 and 16.

Hobbies: Applying and learning how to complete the WBE application! No kidding, it's a full time job. I enjoy stimulating the economy in my own special way with collecting credit card bills and driving my husband crazy. I take pleasure in designing living and work spaces for friends and family, and charity work for "Mary Kate's Legacy Foundation". And last, but not least...I love to go to the shore in the summer and spend time boating with family and friends.

Favorite Books: Murder Mysteries and "How to Collect From Dead Beat Contractors".





ASPE CERTIFICATION, (Excerpts from ASPE National website)

By Ron Trawinski, CPE, Ch. #61 Certification Chairman

One of the benefits of membership in the American Society of Professional Estimators is our Certified Professional Estimator's (CPE) program. The certification program is one of the single most important career development steps a construction estimator can make. Several reasons why you should consider becoming a CPE are:

Certification grants you professional credentials, similar to a CPA or PE.

Certification reflects your commitment to the construction profession as well as personal achievement.

Certification can enhance your position with your current employer.

Certification can improve career opportunities and advancement.

Many government agencies now require bid proposals to be prepared by estimators who are certified. This includes ASPE Certified Professional Estimators.

So, hopefully I have sparked your interest and you are now contemplating, "How do I become a CPE"? The ASPE website (www.aspenational.org) has a detailed section devoted to the Certification process. To summarize the website, each candidate seeking Certification must meet five basic requirements:

Minimum of five years construction experience.

Completion of the CPE orientation workshop.

Completion of a 2500+ word technical paper on an approved topic of the candidate's choice.

Passing a four hour General Estimating Knowledge (GEK) exam.

Passing an eight hour Discipline Specific Test (DST) or, if a DST exam is not available in your field, submission of 100 technical questions and answers.

Sounds like a lot of work; however, speaking from personal experience, with a little bit of sweat and some time management (as estimators, we know all about this!) you will be able to successfully complete the program within a year. Still interested but have some questions? Feel free to give me a call (Ron Trawinski CPE, 610-266-4532). Two Certification cycles are now being offered - one starting in January, 2010 and the other beginning in July, 2010. I look forward to working with you towards the successful completion of your Certification program.

Scholarship

ASPE is now accepting applications for a substantial scholarship for a full time student in the construction field who has completed at least 2 years of related course work. For more information and an application which is due February 15th, please visit www.aspenational.org (click on Education

Basic Canons of ASPE

Canon #1 - Professional estimators shall perform services in areas of their discipline and competence.

Canon #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.

Canon #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.

Canon #4 - Professional estimators shall safeguard and keep in confidence all knowledge of the business affairs and technical procedures of an employer or client.

Canon #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.

Canon #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.

Canon #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.

Canon #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.

Canon #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.



Penn Lighting's David LaPann and company President, Dave Quinn receive a token of appreciation from Karla



Lee Hartwig receives the President's Service Award. Lee served the chapter for two tours of duty.

2009 - 2010 BOARD DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIR

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|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
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| 1st Vice President | Mike Lese | mlese@msn.com | By Laws |
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| Secretary | Tom Rowland , CPE | trowland@carrollcontractors.com | |
| Directors: | Brian Dixon, CPE | bdixon@oliversprinkler.com | |
| | Lee Hartwig | windowman@verizon.net | Nominations |
| | Dennis Gleason, CPE | dennis.gleason@exceloncorp.com | |
| | Donald Logan, CPE | dlogan59@comcast.net | Newsletter |
| | Terry McGeehan, FCPE | Terrence.McGeehan@yahoo.com | Awards |
| | Sid Numerof, CPE , ME | the.sid@verizon.net | Education |
| | John Stewart, CPE | jstewart@keatingnet.net | |
| | Ron Trawinski, CPE | trawinski@verizon.net | Certification |
| | Nick Vermont | nvermont@asclean.com | |

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS 2009/2010

| <u>Meeting Date</u> | <u>Program Title</u> | <u>Presenter</u> |
|----------------------|--|------------------|
| August 19th, 2009 | Demystifying Lighting | Penn Lighting |
| September 16th, 2009 | Using BIM | Worth & Co. |
| October 21st, 2009 | Estimating LEED | Dave Gehringer |
| November 18th, 2009 | How to Estimate the Cost of Ceramic Tile | |
| December 16th, 2009 | Holiday Social | |
| January 20th, 2010 | (With NAWIC) Philadelphia's Waterfront | |
| February 17th, 2010 | Philadelphia's Green Aspirations | |
| March 24th, 2010 | (With SADV) Ethics Roundtable | ASPE & SADV |
| April 21st, 2010 | Integrated Project Delivery | |
| May 19th, 2010 | Emerging Technologies in Construction | |
| June 13, 2010 | Awards Dinner (w/ Spouses) | ASPE |