

THE LIBERTY BELL



ASPE Liberty Chapter 61, Philadelphia, PA

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATORS

The President's Message, Karla Wursthorn, CPE

We have an exciting speaker lined up for the December Social/Dinner Meeting. Charlie Shields of Wells Fargo Advisory Group will provide an **Economic Outlook for 2010** with a special focus on construction. If you listen to the news there seems to be some optimism about an economic recovery underway, but how does that translate to the construction industry? How far behind are the construction jobs? What has been or will be the effect of the stimulus on building construction? What market sectors shall we expect to see make a come back first? Join us and find out! Please mark your calendar for December 16th at the Doubletree Hotel in Plymouth Meeting (Social Hour at 5:30, Dinner at 6:30 with speaker to follow).

Thank you to Dave Gehringer of Nason Construction for his excellent presentation in October on **How to Estimate and Bid on LEED Projects**; I really liked his organized approach to creating sub-estimates for each LEED point in order to evaluate their merits. November's meeting was also appreciated by the good showing of attendees, thanks to Art Belfi of Belfi Brothers, who presented **How to Estimate Ceramic Tile**. I personally enjoyed Art's historical perspective of his family business and how times have changes in his industry.



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

Join us for: **Holiday Social**

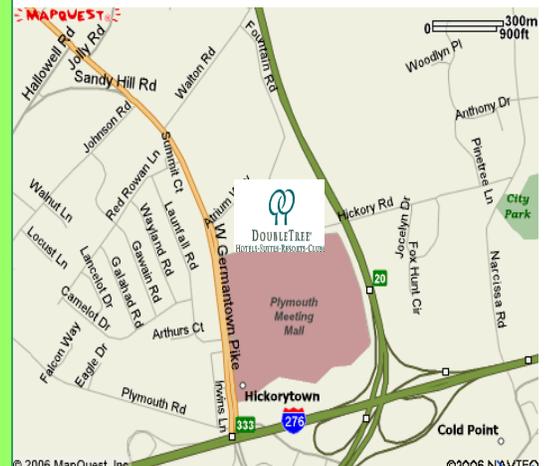
December 16, 2009 - Meet & Greet 5:30PM
Dinner 6:30PM
Presentation 7:30PM

Dinner is \$35 with a choice of Ravioli or Salmon.

Presentation:

Economic Outlook 2010

By: **Charlie Shields,**
Wells Fargo Advisory Group



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: Tom Rowland, CPE, V.P. Estimating, Carroll Contractors

Career Path: I always enjoyed building things even as a kid. My father grew up thru the depression and was always building or fixing things himself. I was fascinated with all that he could do and was always around to help him. I decided to pursue a career in building construction while in high school which lead me to attend Spring Garden College. It was in college while taking an estimating class that I really became interested in estimating. I was intrigued by the idea of trying to determine the cost of a project prior to building the project. I graduated in 1979 with a BS in Construction Engineering Technology. I have worked for four General Contractors, two Construction Managers and one subcontractor over the years, all in estimating.

Favorite Part of Job: Quantity take-offs, I enjoy estimating all of the various trades / components that make up a project.

Least Favorite Part of Job: The whole RFI process, it has become very time consuming.

Year Joined ASPE: Chapter 61 in 2004.

Favorite Thing About ASPE: The Social Hour, spending time listening to the successes and challenges of others in construction. The speakers, you can always learn something new.

Family: My wife Melanie and I have been married for 25 years as of this past August. We have three children, Lora who attends Kutztown University, Amy who attends East Stroudsburg University and Stephen who attends West Point.

Hobbies: Woodworking, hiking, golfing, wine tasting.

Favorite Books: "Oh Henry", "The Firm".





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: http://www.aspenational.org/Education_Scholarships.aspx. Questions should be directed to jstewart@keatingnet.com.

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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

COMMUNITY DESIGN COLLABORATIVE

The Community Design Collaborative is a volunteer-based community design center that provides pro bono preliminary design services to nonprofit organizations.

TRADITIONAL SERVICE GRANTS

[Borough of Millbourne/The Pennsylvania Environmental Council](#), Millbourne, PA (Del. Co.) - 6501 Market Street

Feasibility study/conceptual design for redevelopment of a key site at the center of the Borough

Volunteers needed: structural engineer, cost estimator

[Cramer Hill Community Development Corporation](#),

Camden, NJ (Camden County), 24th St. & Hayes Ave.

Conceptual design for a community teen lounge/youth center (project related to Big Picture MetEast High School student senior project)

Volunteers needed: cost estimator

[Impact Services Corporation](#), Roxborough, 700A Walnut Lane

Conceptual design for renovation to the Walnut Lane Golf Course and clubhouse

Volunteers needed: landscape architect, cost estimator

[Logan Community Development Corporation](#), Olney-Oak Lane, 4800- 4900 N. Broad Street

rStore: One-on-one design consultations with business owners for commercial facade improvements

Volunteers needed: architects/intern architects, cost estimator

[Norris Square Civic Association](#), Bridesburg/Kensington/Richmond, 142-174

W. Diamond St.

Feasibility study for redevelopment of the Saint Boniface church complex

Volunteers needed: historic preservationist, cost estimator



2009 - 2010 BOARD DIRECTORS & COMMITTEE CHAIR

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	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>Presented By</u>
8/19/09	Demystifying Lighting	David LaPann, Penn Lighting
9/16/09	Challenges Estimating with BIM	Matthew Miller, Worth & Co.
10/21/09	Estimating & Bidding LEED	Dave Gehringer, Nason Construction, Inc.
11/18/09	Estimating Ceramic Tile	Art Belfi, Belfi Brothers, Inc.
12/16/09	Holiday Social w/Economic Outlook	Charles Shields III, Wells Fargo
1/20/10	(NAWIC) Philadelphia's Waterfront	Alan Greenberger, Philadelphia Planning
2/17/10	Philadelphia's Green Aspirations	Philadelphia Sustainability Director
3/24/10	(SADV) Ethics Roundtable	Two panelists from each organization
4/21/10	Integrated Project Delivery	Robert Korn, Kaplin Stewart
5/19/10	Emerging Technologies	James Benham
6/13/10	Awards Dinner (w/ Spouses)	TBD