

## Delaware Valley Section

### NEWSLETTER

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#### AACE International Delaware Valley Section **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Jeffrey E. Sueck, CPE, CCC, CEP, PSP, AVS, MRICS  
Section President



The AACEI – Delaware Valley Chapter President Mr. Jeffrey E. Sueck, CPE, CCC, CEP, PSP, AVS, MRICS would like to thank all of our AACEI Delaware Valley Section Members who attended the meeting on Wednesday, December 1, 2010. Our organization is taking positive steps towards increasing our membership and awareness for professional growth by reaching out to upcoming young professionals. For example, in the month of January our members Danielle Green, Warren Tasca, and Aaron Roche will be visiting Drexel University and presenting to several classes AACEI's Education and Scholarship program. Please help me thank them for their great effort. I encourage our members to feel free to participate with our organization's programs. Our membership attendance is improving but hope that everyone make a small effort to attend and promote our organization. If anyone is interested in presenting at one of our monthly meetings please feel free to contact us. at [aaceidvs@yahoo.com](mailto:aaceidvs@yahoo.com). Please include your name, phone number, e-mail address topic of discussion, date you would like to present and a short bio about yourself. We are going to continue to improve current member participation and meeting attendance; interesting and interactive topics is a good place to start. This will help us in attracting new members and increasing current member participation/retention. We are continuing to improve our meetings by offering more options like cash bar, three choices for entrée selection and even accommodating special dietary needs. We will continue to bring new and exciting topics at our monthly chapter meetings. AACEI DVS is making great effort to promote other volunteering opportunities such as Habitat for Humanity and hope

to have your support through making a small donation or attending January 14<sup>th</sup> happy our event. Please contact Mark Sanders (treasurer) for more information regarding Habitat for Humanity via his email address ([msanderspe@comcast.net](mailto:msanderspe@comcast.net)). For more information regarding AACEI's Education and Scholarship please contact Warren Tasca who is our Education & Scholarship Committee Chairman at [warren.tasca@stvinc.com](mailto:warren.tasca@stvinc.com).



#### **December Meeting Summary:**

The AACEI Philadelphia Delaware Valley Section participated in an Annual Multi-Society Dinner Meeting hosted by SAME at the Club of Philadelphia. The participants were AACEI, ASCE, CMAA, Engineer's Club of Philadelphia, IIE, PMI, PSPE, and SNAME. The topic was "Panama Canal Expansion Program" presented by Mr. David J. Nisula, PE, PMP. Mr. Nisula is currently serving as the Assistant Program Manager for the \$5.25B Panama Canal Expansion Program for CH2M HILL's program Management Team. His

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presentation included an overview of the project. At this annual meeting many toys were collected for Toys for Tots.

#### Interested in presenting at a monthly meeting



If anyone is interested in providing us with a presentation or know of someone who would be interested in speaking at one of our monthly meetings; please contact Ricardo Aviles or Warren Tasca. We appreciate your help and would like to thank you in advance for taking the time to participate and improve our section. We are looking for speakers and would be greatly appreciate for your assistance to help us cover some dates. Please see listed below a list of tentative dates and topics.

#### Member Participation in Meeting approx. 5%:

Please support your Section. Below please find a list of upcoming events.



#### Tentative Dates and Topics for Upcoming Meetings:

**January 14, 2011** – Habitat for Humanity Happy Hour Benefit Event. RSVP ([msanderspe@comcast.net](mailto:msanderspe@comcast.net))

for this Friday's happy hour: 5:00pm - 7:30pm at The Fox and Hound - 1501 Spruce Street - open bar and hot food! .

**January 15, 2011** – AACEI DVS is hosting host arranged exams. STV Construction, Inc is providing venue at their Philadelphia office.

**February 9, 2011** – Presenter: Mr. Tim Mason - Monthly Meeting Topic: Your Impact on the Industry – Proposals to Projects.

**March 16, 2011** – Monthly Topic: TBD.

**April 13, 2011** – Presenter: Aaron Roche LEED Green Associate (member) – Topic: LEED v3 as it relates to Cost Estimating and Scheduling.

**April 2011** - Topic “Habitat for Humanity” – Volunteer Work – Weekend Work. (We need at least 10 volunteers for this to happen) Additional information will be provided for place, date and time.

**May 11, 2011** – Topic is to be determined and will be provided at a later date. Officer Elections to be held.

**June 8, 2011** – Pre- planning meeting will be held to discuss to-date and ongoing Delaware Valley Business information.



#### AACE International - Upcoming Testing Information

AACEI Delaware Valley Section is also currently seeking volunteer proctors and locations for the AACE International 2011 certification exams for March 26, 2010. Please contact AACE International

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headquarters to register for any test. We thank you in advance for your support and volunteering to host/proctor. If anyone does agree to host/proctor an exam we will send a request for more specific information from you at a later date.

- ✚ The AACE Headquarters Certification Staff and the Certification Board are committed to offering a quality exam product by improving the overall Certification process, as well as the ability to release exam results faster. In order to accomplish these goals, the Certification Board has changed the deadline for submitting the Technical Paper required with the CCC/CCE certification. The submittal of the Technical Paper now coincides with the registration deadline date as posted on the website. Candidates failing to submit the Technical Paper by the registration deadline will not be permitted to sit for the CCC/CCE exam.



#### Exam Opportunities

The Certification Board of AACE has adopted a *Controlled Chaos* approach to the 2011 Certification exam calendar and exam process. This new approach is called "ARRANGED EXAMS". With the increasing demand for AACE certifications, both domestically and internationally, the Certification Board has developed and approved Arranged Exams as an option for potential exam candidates. The "normal" spring, summer, and Fall/Winter Certification Exam cycles at the local section level will remain unchanged; the intent of the Arranged Exam approach is to offer additional opportunities to those interested in certification. An Arranged Exam is a flexible opportunity for those pursuing multiple certifications, offers alternative exam dates available

to sections, AEPs, and exam candidates in remote locations, must be requested in advance by completing the Arranged Exam Request Application and submitted to the Certification Manager for verification and approval. Different from Exam on Demand, the Arranged Exam approach expands the 2011 Certification exam calendar to specific dates which are controlled by the Certification Program. Exam on Demand was popular and easy to market, but it was unpredictable and very often an unexpected surprise to the Headquarters Certification staff. The 2011 Exam Calendar has been expanded to 18 possible exam dates. All exam dates are available to all sections, AEPs, and exam candidates who may or may not be near an active section who regularly hosts certification exams. These 18 specific exam dates make exam preparation predictable and organized. Headquarters Certification staff can now plan their work and work their plan in an organized and efficient manner. The exam dates are grouped, keeping the 60 day exam registration deadline intact for each possible exam date. The registration deadlines will not be compromised for any section, AEP, or individual exam candidate. All guidelines and requirements established by the Certification Program will be consistently maintained. Over the past year, there have been multiple requests from sections and AEPs to permit candidates to sit for multiple exams during an exam cycle. By using the Arranged Exam approach, an exam candidate could feasibly sit for a different exam on any of the given exam dates; as long the candidate meets the requirements to sit for the exam and the exam venue/two proctors have been identified, verified and approved by the Certification Manager. Another new addition to the Exam Calendar is the introduction of weekday exam opportunities. There is a growing interest, both domestically and internationally, in taking exams during the week instead of only on Saturday. Each group of possible exam dates has a weekday opportunity, as well as the normal Saturday opportunity. The arranged exam works the 2011 Certification Exam Calendar will show all exam dates and which sections/locations have been confirmed. An individual person or group of people can choose any of the listed exam dates from the Exam Calendar. The Certification webpage will

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directly link those interested to “learn about Arranged Exams”. If after reading “learn about Arranged Exams”, there remains an interest – the person requesting the Arranged Exam will be required to identify two Proctors, confirm the exam date and exam location, identify which exam(s) will be administered, and who the contact person will be for this specific Arranged Exam. The request will be electronically acknowledged to the requester. All preliminary information must be verified and approved by the Certification Manager. Once an Arranged Exam has been approved – meaning, two Proctors are identified and approved, exam location has been approved, and the principal contact information is verified – the exam candidate(s) will be sent an electronic link via email to actually register and pay for the exam.

From this point, the candidate is following the usual process and steps for registration and payment of certification exams. The Certification Program feels this approach is a win-win for all – A win for the Association. For more information on Arranged Exams, visit [www.aacei.org](http://www.aacei.org) certification link.

#### Job Posting



Looking for new job posting!



#### Career Opportunities

*Career Opportunities*

If you know of any career opportunities that are available in our industry we would greatly appreciate it if you could e-mail the relevant job information to [aaceidvs@yahoo.com](mailto:aaceidvs@yahoo.com)

#### AACE International 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting



AACE International's 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
TCM: Imagine the Possibilities! at the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim, CA Sunday, June 19, 2011 thru Wednesday, June 22, 2011

#### Western Winter Workshop



In 1961, AACE's San Francisco Bay Area Section started its long tradition of hosting the Western Winter Workshop -- the longest running workshop of any section activities. This year's event marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the event will be returning to the famed Pebble Beach Resort. Plan now to attend as this is a special event you won't want to miss. This Western Winter Workshop will take place on February 2, 2011 to February 6, 2011 in Pebble Beach Resort, CA.

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### Networking Opportunities



Join AACE on these networking venues!

Editor: Ricardo I. Aviles, PE, PSP

Editor: Warren C. Tasca