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St. Louis Metro A.S.P.E. Chapter 19

# The Gateway Estimator

Volume 9 Issue 4 ♦ December 2007

## 2007 - 2008 Officers and Board

### Board Meetings

First Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

### Officers & Directors

Dan Davenport, McCarthy - President  
Brad Davis, Musick Construction - 1st V.P.  
Colleen West, N.B. West Contracting - Secretary  
Jim Stukenberg, GRS Construction Co. - Treasurer  
Matt Ford, Universe Corporation  
Bob McCann, Hallmark Stone  
Bob Partl, Jarrell Contracting  
Steve Schepker, Century Fire Sprinklers  
Rich Ullrich, Everest Estimating Services  
Mark Uthe, Biddata LLC  
Fred Waldrop, Murphy Company  
Kevin Wiwczaroski, McGrath - Past President

### Committee Chairs

#### Membership

Mark Uthe 314-434-0444

#### Education

Brad Davis 314-781-7005

#### Scholarship

Bob Partl 314-291-0100

#### Awards

Matt Ford 314-439-2800

#### Newsletter

Mindy Funk 314-596-7695

#### Certification

Fred Waldrop 314-997-6600

### Important Numbers

#### President

Dan Davenport 314-919-2226  
[DDavenport@mccarthy.com](mailto:DDavenport@mccarthy.com)

#### Executive Director

Mindy Funk 314-596-7695

## From the President



Hello All:

The last four months have just flown by for me. It seems like just yesterday that I was floating on the Current River and soaking up the wonderful sun and delightful weather. Fall always seems to

bring changes not only in the weather but also in our lives. Several of our members have changed companies and some are searching for new opportunities. I myself have made a change. I am still with McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. but I am no longer in the training department but have returned to our Mid West Division. This will mean less travel which makes my bride happy.

This leads me to a topic which generated a goodly amount of discussion among the board members. We have been approached at times by companies that would like to post advertisements seeking estimators and other construction people on our website. ASPE National provides advertising on their website. This is a service to both contractors and estimators. The board members have differing opinions regarding providing this service on the ASPE Chapter 19 website. The consensus however is that at this time we will not do so.

### Meetings

Our first monthly meetings for 2007 – 2008 were held at Maggie O'Brien's Restaurant in September and October. September's meeting on the I-64 Project was made more

## *From the President*

*Continued from Page 1*

exciting because a group from A.G. Edwards was celebrating a wake for the company. On that day the company officially became part of Wachovia. We had to meet out on the patio. The only problem we had was when a bus came barreling down 20th street we couldn't hear!

In October Sally Barnett led a discussion on "IT'S NOT JUST NUMBERS: Preconstruction Etiquette and Communication" with a group of estimators. And in November we met with NAWIC for a project site visit.

Check out the detailed information either in this newsletter or on the website regarding upcoming meetings and events.

### **ASPE NEWS**

#### **Chapter**

We welcome Mindy Funk as our new Executive Director.

Four of our members are poised to take the examination to become a Certified Professional Estimator. Steve Renschen and John Raham of Jacobs, Everett Myers of CRB, and John Smith of Tarlton were scheduled for the exam in November.

Brad Davis, 1st. VP attended the Regional ASPE meeting in the Quad Cities in October.

#### **National**

Additional information can be found at anytime at the national website at [www.aspenational.org](http://www.aspenational.org).

By the way, the website is to be reworked, updated, streamlined, become more user-friendly, in the near future. Apparently I wasn't the only person who had a hard time navigating my way through the site.

The Certified Professional Estimating process has been modified. The intent is to allow a person to complete the process in a year or less. Remember to contact Fred Waldrop, FCPE at Murphy Company regarding any questions about the process.

News and any other items that would be of interest or value to our membership should be submitted to Mindy Funk or any of your board members.

### **Ramblings**

As I said last time my personal goal this year for myself and Chapter 19 is to improve communication. This is a daily challenge for me in this faster paced electronic world. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding any issues with ASPE. Often we think everything is wonderful because no one is complaining or questioning. If you have a complaint, a question, or suggestion I would like to hear it.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season and can spend time with family and friends.

Take care, be well, and be safe.

Dan Davenport, CPE

# ASPE Holiday Gathering

## Keep A Look Out!

The Holiday Gathering information will be coming soon! So keep an eye out and make sure you add the New Executive Director's e-mail to your address list.

[mindyfunk@stlouis-aspe.org](mailto:mindyfunk@stlouis-aspe.org)

## **A**ttend Three ASPE Chapter 19 Meetings. To Be Entered In \$500 Random Drawings.

All ASPE Chapter 19 members with current year's dues paid are eligible to enter a \$500 random drawing. To be entered members must pre-register for and attend a minimum of three (out of seven) Chapter 19 monthly meetings from September 2007 to April 2008. In addition, you must be pre-registered for and attend the May 2008 meeting to win and accept the cash prize. (The May meeting does not count as one of the three meetings.)

For every meeting that a member preregisters for and attends, the member will receive one entry into the drawing. Attending more meetings increases your chances to win. A member will receive one additional drawing entry for each two new members that are recruited, join the chapter and pay dues in this year of membership. A member will receive an additional entry for bringing five preregistered and paid guests to ASPE meetings.

## *Attention Members:*

### Keep ASPE Informed

If you (or your company) have information of interest to your estimating peers, please send it to Chapter 19.

Jobs acquired, completed, promotions, awards, etc!

Send your information to Mindy Funk at [mindyfunk@stlouis-aspe.org](mailto:mindyfunk@stlouis-aspe.org) to be included in the next Gateway Estimator.

A.S.P.E. Chapter 19  
*The Gateway Estimator*  
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**DAN DAVENPORT**  
 TRAINING MANAGER

**MCCARTHY**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS  
 IN OUR NEWSLETTER FOR ONE YEAR**

Please send two business cards & a check made out to A.S.P.E FOR \$50.

MAIL TO:  
 Jim Stukenberg, GRS Construction  
 808 South Main., Suite D  
 Columbia, IL 62236

# “BIM”

## *Building Information Modeling*

*by Rich Ullrich, CPE LEED AP*

Over a decade ago I remember listening to a talk from an executive in the health care industry. This gentleman was quite the visionary. He talked of the future of the medical arts and all the advances that were to come to fruition in the future.

It was almost like listening to Doc Brown in one of those “Back to the Future” movies. I remember looking at the guy next to me thinking what the heck is he talking about?

Some one asked him a question on the future of design and construction in health care. He stated that construction will change very little, there may be some new products (enter green) but for the most part, bricks and sticks will always be bricks and sticks.

He then went on to say that what will change is the way you go about, conduct and deliver your product. The processes you employ in the future will revolutionize your entire industry. Again, I sat there wondering what the heck is he talking about?

Fast forward to 2007. I want to discuss with you the future and next great direction in design and construction.

BIM or Building Information Modeling.  
It’s Computer SOFTWARE but much, much more.

BIM is a design software tool that simulates construction and allows collaboration among the Owner, Architect, Engineers and Contractors. It is technology that will change the way things get designed and built and maintained and the way that all the players of the team relate to one another.

Think of it as AutoCAD on steroids.  
AutoCAD is not going away, rather AutoCAD is just one component of the overall software package.

Some of you may have heard of this and think that BIM is only 3-D design and has been around for a long time. BIM is just not modeling in 3-D. It goes beyond 3-D to 4-D which is TIME. As Doc Brown reminded McFly in Back to the Future. “You need to start thinking 4th dimensionally, Marty”. Yeah, I have a real problem with that too. Where you can look at your new building in sequence month to month to month per the construction schedule in 3-D.

Taking it one step further is the 5th Dimension which is cost over time. That is where we as cost estimators have a great challenge and opportunity ahead of us.

BIM is a digital representation of the Building process to facilitate the exchange and interoperability of information in a digital format.

BIM is Design and Management in a single process. It’s about information use and reuse, where the electronic plans and specs are but a single component or the whole system.

BIM is a 3-D graphic data base that accumulates and stores all detailed information on a project. BIM is utilized to avoid the loss of information associated with the handling of project data from the design team, to construction team, to the building Owner and the facility manager.

From Concept to Design to Construction and Facilities Management.... for the life of a facility.  
Analysis, coordination, fabrication, maintenance.

For Architects, the benefits of BIM are spatial validation. It is much easier to view a design graphically than in two dimensions on a flat piece of paper. It is a great tool to assist and enhance design.

One of the largest benefit of BIM is clash detection. Pre-planning is a very large time saver and money saver. Conflicts discovered out in the field are very costly. We have all been on projects where the trades are standing around scratching their heads saying “that ain’t gohna work”. “What do you want us to do”? Ummm?

With the aid of BIM and clash detection you can efficiently design all the pieces and parts above the ceiling to fit in the thinnest plenum space available within the optimal structural frame. If we can reduce just 4 inches out of the floor to floor height of a building, in a 12 story building you are saving 4 foot of materials, steel, brick, studs, pipe, wire etc. Owners understand less stuff equates to less money. BIM addresses the fundamental pre-planning issue of allowing us to anticipate problems that need to be solved ahead of time.

# “BIM” Building Information Modeling

*Continued from Page 5*

## **BENEFITS of this Building Information Technology include:**

- Reduction in Claims
- Reduces Change Orders
- Reduces Liability
- Improves Project Delivery
- Increases the Speed of Construction
- Clearer Communication to all involved
- Updates are done in Real Time, Instantaneously for all to share
- Reduces the amount of Requests for Information
- Less Blame
- Increases quality, especially for complex buildings such as health care facilities
- Increases safety by reducing risk
- You get a Better Product with higher quality
- Design intent is maintained
- Lower Maintenance Costs
- Enhanced Economics
- Less Cost

GSA, General Services Administration mandates ALL projects to be done using BIM technology. Every response to an RFP from GSA is to include a BIM computer model. Currently GSA has \$12 Billion dollars in active projects.

I heard a government official tell the story of public building that was cared for forever by a single jack-of-all-trades facility guy. He cared for that building for his entire career, knew the building inside on out. All the required information on replacement parts, pumps, filters, etc was either loosely organized or in his head. Then one day he retired. Soon thereafter a water main broke, the man was gone fishing and unavailable and before anyone could find the valve to turn the water off, millions of dollars in water damage had been done.

If BIM had been in place it would have been a matter of a simple phone call and officials would have been able to instantly direct any custodian to shut off the water.

Think of the advantage such technology can have for our firefighters. In a SMART building with BIM technology officials can safely direct our heroes with information on a fire wall breach or the hazards that lie ahead.

BIM is fast accelerating to become main stream for most design firms in the next decade, if not sooner. Taking

BIM one (module) step further is the 5th Dimension cost component. What I have seen thus far, costing in BIM and its modules is the future for the construction estimator. The key being interoperability. Time spent on quantity surveying will be greatly reduced, which will allow you to go home by 4:00 p.m., or “how about another ?” It depends on who you’re working for.

Estimators, we have many challenges ahead of us. With BIM we now have a rendezvous with destiny. Welcome to the new frontier! “Roads? Where we are going we don’t need no stinking roads!”

Rich Ullrich, CPE LEED AP

Rich Ullrich is a Certified Professional Estimator and a LEED Accredited Professional.

Rich is an independent construction estimator providing pre-construction and budgeting services for Owners, Architects and Contractors. He can be reached at richu@EverestEst.com or (314) 306-7535. Comments Welcomed.

# ASPE Certification Program

## *It's Time To Start!*

The American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE) offers a certification program for qualified applicants.

Applicant must have at least five (5) years of estimating work experience to be accepted into the program. Workshop application forms must be completed and sent to either the ASPE Chapter Certification Chair, Fred Waldrop, at Murphy Company, 1233 North Price Road, St. Louis, MO 63132, or a regional member of the National Certification Board by October 1st each year. Certification workshops are held each year at the chapter level during November and early December.

### **Fees for the ASPE Certification Program are as follows:**

ASPE Member - \$350.00 Total

There are three (3) cycles – standard, accelerated and convention.

1. Standard - starts Oct. 1, 1st year and ends Dec. 30 the following year.
2. Accelerated - starts Oct. 1 1st year and ends Aug. 15 the next year.
3. Convention - starts Oct. 1 1st year and ends July 15 the next year.

### **To obtain a Workshop Application Form go to:**

<http://www.aspenational.com/form-certworkshop-member.pdf>

### **For information on Certification contact Chapter 19 Certification Chairman:**

Fred Waldrop, FCPE  
Senior Project Manager  
Murphy Company  
1233 North Price Road  
St. Louis, MO 63122  
Office phone: 314-692-1646.  
E-Mail: [fwaldrop@murphy-stl.com](mailto:fwaldrop@murphy-stl.com)

# Meet Your New Executive Director: Mindy Funk

Marketing Administrator and Estimator for Universe Corporation  
and Freelance Graphic/Website Designer



*Please add me to your contacts so you can be sure to receive all ASPE announcements.*

**E-Mail:**

[mindyfunk@stlouis-aspe.org](mailto:mindyfunk@stlouis-aspe.org)

**Phone:**

(after 4:30 on weekdays please)  
314-596-7695

Hi all, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to everyone and tell you a little about myself. I have been the Marketing Administrator for Universe Corporation for two and a half years now. I am responsible for all the graphic design needs of the company. I create and maintain all the marketing materials being developed to further the company's sales opportunities. Recently, I have ventured into the Estimating territory as well; I am still in the first stages of learning this new artform (I've been told by my fellow estimators that estimating is like creating art: each person does it differently and you can't please everyone).

On a personal note, two and a half years ago I graduated from Truman State University with a Fine Arts Bachelors Degree in Visual Communications. I have been running my own freelance graphic/website design business for almost four years. I started this after an internship during my Junior year at Truman and have been acquiring some great clients along the way. One year and two months ago I married a wonderful man (with a unique last name) and we bought our first home this September. These are our kids:



Meg



Rocky

I look forward to my time with ASPE and meeting all of you. If you ever have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me. Happy Holidays!!

**Mindy Funk**

*Executive Director*

# Industry-Related Web Sites

## **St. Louis Chapter 19 ASPE**

[www.stlouis-aspe.org](http://www.stlouis-aspe.org)

## **National ASPE**

[www.aspenational.org](http://www.aspenational.org)

## **National ASPE Education Board**

[www.aspeducation.com](http://www.aspeducation.com)

## **Association for Advancement of Cost Engineering, St. Louis Section**

(AACE)

<http://web.networkusa.net/aacestl>

## **American National Standards Institute**

(ANSI)

[www.ansi.org](http://www.ansi.org)

## **American Society of Civil Engineers**

(ASCE)

[www.asce.org](http://www.asce.org)

## **Ass. General Contractors of St. Louis**

(AGC)

[www.agcstl.org](http://www.agcstl.org)

## **ASA Midwest**

[www.asamidwest.com](http://www.asamidwest.com)

## **Greater St. Louis Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute**

(CSI)

[www.stlcsi.org](http://www.stlcsi.org)

## **National Association of Women in Construction**

(NAWIC)

[www.nawic.org](http://www.nawic.org)

# Related Local News

## **NAWIC News**

NAWIC Chapter 38 is hosting their Holiday Gathering at 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 13th at the Lemp Mansion. Chapter 38 is also participating Missouri Women in Trades and Construction Career Center. For additional information visit their web site at <http://www.geocities.com/~nawica>. To learn about the National Association of Women in Construction visit [www.nawic.org](http://www.nawic.org).

## **St. Louis AGC Events**

Young Constructors Happy Hour - Wednesday, December 12 5:00 p.m. Helen Fitzgerald's Located at 3650 South Lindbergh. RSVP to Mary Jobe at 314-781-2356 or [mjobe@agcstl.org](mailto:mjobe@agcstl.org). For additional details visit [www.agcstl.org](http://www.agcstl.org).

## **ASA-Midwest Council**

ASA is hosting a Casino Night/Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 19 at Syberg's on Dorsett from 6:30 – 10:00 p.m. Each person will receive \$10,000 in play money to play poker, roulette, blackjack and craps. If you run out of money you may purchase more. Turn your play money in for tickets at the end of the evening for your chance to win many prizes. Please bring your spouse or significant other. The cost is \$75.00 per person. They will have appetizers and drinks throughout the evening. Reservations are due by December 14. For details contact Reba Gillick at [reba@asamidwest.com](mailto:reba@asamidwest.com) or 314-214-1664. Visit [www.ASAMidwest.com](http://www.ASAMidwest.com).

## **AACE News & Events**

The Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering invites ASPE members to attend their meetings. Please e-mail David Motherwell, CCE at [david@ameren.com](mailto:david@ameren.com) for details.

# Chapter 19 Meeting Prepay Option

Chapter #19 is now offering all ASPE members an option to prepay for all eight 2007/2008 monthly meeting dinners for \$240.00 (\$30.00 per meeting). Some members have requested this option as a way to cut down on the number of times they must submit for re-imbursement from their employers. Your employers may like this option, also, as it will cut down on the number of checks written.

This option is available only to ASPE members in good standing. If you have not paid your renewal dues, please get them up to date. If you have not joined ASPE yet and would like to take advantage of this payment option by joining our organization, call Mark Uthe at 314-434-0444 with your name, company address, phone number and e-mail address or fax number to receive a membership application.

**If you are current in your membership and wish to prepay for this year's meetings, fill out the form below and mail with your check (made out to ASPE) to: ASPE c/o GRS Construction, Attn: Jim Stukenberg, 808 S. Main, Suite D, Columbia IL 62236.**

## 2007/2008 MEETING PREPAYMENT

Enclosed please find my payment of \$240.00 for payment of all eight ASPE meetings offered this year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Although you are paying for all eight monthly meeting, please RSVP to Cyndi Walker each month so we have an accurate reservation with Maggie O'Briens. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings this year.

# ASPE MEMBER COMPANIES

Ahal Contracting Co., Inc.

Alberici Constructors Inc.

Architectural Systems

Bangert Computer Systems

Bazan Painting Company

Biddata, L.L.C.

C & R Mechanical Co.

CRB Builders

CE Jarrell Mechanical Contractors

Century Fire Sprinklers

Clayco Construction

Commercial Document

Solutions, Inc.

Condaire, Inc.

Golterman & Sabo, Inc.

E. Meier Contracting

Everest Estimating Services

GRS Construction

H & G Sales Inc.

H & K Construction, LLC

Hallmark Stone

Henges Interiors

HOK Design Build

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Jacobs/Sverdrup Civil, Inc.

Jim Taylor, Inc.

Joseph Ward Painting Co.

K & S Associates, Inc.

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Michael Latas & Associates

Millstone Bangert, Inc.

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West Contracting

Wiegmann Associates