



July 2015

The Capital Estimator

A publication of the Columbia Chapter of the Professional Construction Estimators Association of America

A letter from The President:

We are now solidly into the 2015/2016 year and as the new national board is hard at work, we are working within the chapter to bolster our membership numbers and provide fun and informative meetings and activities. Our July meeting was well attended and included two potential new members. Fred Delk, **Executive Director of the Columbia Development Corporation**, was optimistic and entertaining in his forecast for the future of Columbia proper. I know our membership has enjoyed hearing the positivity in the economic outlook for the midlands area that has been echoed by our last few presenters. I certainly hope this translates into some buzz and excitement for our current and hopefully growing membership. A great many thanks goes to Dennis Childs for the excellent roster of speakers we have enjoyed over the past year. Bill Barton has made a push to recruit new members throughout the last month, and we hope to build on his efforts and pull several new faces into our group. Let's capitalize on the momentum created from the long overdue recovery of the Columbia area.

Let's have a great year,

Whit Suber

The National View:

One of the benefits of PCEA membership has always been in educational endeavors, both for the benefit of college students, as well as for our own members. The college side of that process has been in place from the early days. The Ted G. Wilson Scholarship is an endowed scholarship funded and administered by the national organization that is awarded to one student from each of the PCEA chapter states for studies in Construction Science and related degrees. Most chapters also have scholarships available for award to dependents of their members, and some have other scholarships set up with local colleges for students in construction related fields. The "Ted G" as it is commonly known has been in place from the early days of PCEA, and the local chapter scholarships have awarded for a number of years, and help to assure the success of those students who will someday take our place in the bid room.

The member education has lagged behind in that process, but we are working to change that. Yes, we recognize that even the most seasoned (sounds better than "oldest") estimator still does not know everything, and can benefit from some educational opportunities. National PCEA, under direction of our own Bill Barton, is actively moving toward a partnering arrangement with an established provider to be able to offer Continuing Education opportunities that cover a wide range of topics of concern to the construction industries.

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Topics such as jobsite safety, hazmat procedures, legal issues, labor and HR issues, technology, and numerous others will be available through online training courses. These will be open to individuals outside of just the PCEA membership, and accessed through our portal for registration. As an added benefit, a portion of tuition costs for the courses will be returned to PCEA to help keep the association functioning without raising membership dues.

Nothing is finalized on this, but it is a hot topic with your PCEA National Board of Directors, and we are working toward getting this into a formal agreement and begin making it available through the PCEA National website in the current fiscal year. Watch for updates as “PCEA University” takes shape and this added benefit of your PCEA membership becomes available.

Jim Cormany
Columbia Chapter National Director

This month's Speaker



Fred Delk

Fred Delk is the Executive Director of the Columbia Development Corporation; the organization has worked for the past 30 years to develop the Congaree Vista and South Columbia.

Fred has held the CDC position for the past 19 years, working with a wide range of projects including Columbia's Governor's Hill, Vista Commons Apartments, the Publix Grocery Store the renovation of 701 Whaley Street and most recently the purchase and plan for redevelopment of the 100 year old Palmetto Compress Warehouse. These developments and others sponsored by the corporation were accomplished by a unique blend of creative finance and public/private partnerships.

Mr. Delk paints an optimistic portrait for the future of downtown Columbia. While others attribute the expected growth in the midlands area to factors such as low energy costs respective to Europe, and the convenient though dilapidated interstate system; he cites many other reasons that should spur a quadrupling of the downtown population. Mr. Delk believes that the younger generation is looking to city life as an option simply to live differently from their parents. He further thinks that the convenience of downtown living is also a draw to young people in an effort to reduce vehicle costs and or live healthier by incorporating bicycles and walking as opposed to driving. This new approach to marketing downtown living should lead to further developments and improvements along the canals and the vista area including but not limited to: bike paths, parking decks, street beautifications, and hopefully; a downtown area dry cleaner.

This Month's Activities



Join us at the Grecian Garden

2312 Sunset Blvd

West Columbia

6PM Thursday, July 9th

Please click on URL below to register for this event.

<http://pcea-columbia.wildapricot.org/event-1924788>

July 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	29	30	1	2	3	4
		Board Meeting				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				Membership Meeting Grecian Gardens		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

2014-2015 Officers

President	Whit Suber	Argos/Ready- Mixed Concrete	803-413-9461
1 st Vice President	Randy Corn	Concrete Supply Company	803-600-7427
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National Director	Jim Cormany	Bamastone Corporation	803-356-3111
Treasurer	Matt Solomon	McCrary Construction Co.	803-799-8100

Bring a guest to the August membership meeting and receive a 20.00 gift card from Whit.

