



The Society of Cost Estimating and Analysis

The Dayton Coster Greater Dayton Chapter

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2005 - 2006 DAYTON CHAPTER

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President's Message: Jeremy Mitchell



The Dayton Chapter of SCEA is off to a great start in this 2005 – 2006 chapter year. It is my pleasure to serve this year as your President. We have started the ball rolling and are building up needed momentum to truly have an outstanding year.

This year's Board of Directors has many new and familiar faces. I appreciate all of the work that the Directors do to support the advancement of cost analysis in the Dayton area. Without their commitment, this organization would not exist.

At our initial board meeting, I set out some goals for the local chapter to focus on this year: The first goal is to enhance each member's

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Upcoming Chapter Events

November Networking Luncheon November 16, 2005
 December Membership Mixer December 8, 2005
 SCEA Exam Review Session December 14, 2005
 SCEA Certification Exam January 26, 2006

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President's Message (continued)

professional development. We are in a very dynamic career field. It is our job as your Board of Directors to provide you with meaningful/relevant topics and speakers to broaden your cost estimating and analysis horizon. Keep an eye out for our upcoming luncheons and seminars!

The second goal is to focus on **training**. While much of our cost estimating expertise is being lost due to the retiring workforce, this provides for a new wave of junior cost estimators to step forward. We want to provide this junior workforce with the tools necessary to get their jobs done. By providing training and opportunities for certification, we can help mold the future of cost estimating.

The third goal is to revitalize the annual **awards** program. This chapter is full of great estimators and analysts doing extraordinary work. It is time for you to be recognized. Look out for a more structured awards program this year culminating with formal awards presentations.

The fourth goal is to improve our **communication**. Our newsletter has been very successful in reaching our membership. We also have a website, www.daytonscea.org, that helps us get the word out. We want to make sure that you know what is going on.

The fifth goal is to expand our **member relations**. To do this, we are going to schedule "Networking Lunches". These lunches will have no agenda, just an opportunity for you to enjoy the company of fellow cost estimators during an informal lunch time gathering. We are also going to bring back our very popular "Membership Mixer".

We are going to have a very challenging, yet rewarding, year. I encourage you to participate in as many events as you can as we together try to unite those persons having as their common objective the desire to promote and advance the field of estimating for the public good. If I can do anything to make your membership with the Greater Dayton Chapter of SCEA more fulfilling, please do not hesitate to contact me.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

2005 SCEA/ASMC Golf Outing a Huge Success

By
Ron Vorhis

The 2005 annual golf outing for financial personnel was co-sponsored by the Society of Cost Estimating and Analysis (SCEA) and the American Society for Military Comptrollers (ASMC) on 12 August at the Twin Base golf course. The weather was perfect and everyone had a great time. Both skill prizes and door prizes were awarded. The team with the lowest score of 62 was comprised of Jason Mutchler, Tom Felton, Ryan Rueve, and Keith Riethman. The team with the highest score of 82 was comprised of Damian Gainer, Jeremy Mitchell, Dustin McGlothen, and John Hawkins (their goal was to have a lot of fun). The skill prizes for women were: longest putt made by Kristen Scherer, longest drive won by Kerrie Schieman, and closest to the pin won by Kerrie Schieman. The skill prizes for men were: longest putt made by Tom Hogan, longest drive won by Robert Adams, and the closest to the pin won by Tom McConnell. The shortest drive of the day was made by Linda Williams.

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2005 SCEA/ASMC Golf Outing a Huge Success (Continued)

The golf outing would not have been a success without the donations of our support contractors and Fairborn Buick. The following door prizes were provided: Modern Technologies Corporation (MTC) (Pat Westcott) supplied miniature golf bags with tees and a divot repair tool for each golfer and (Ron Runkel) provided two \$50 gift certificates at Dick's; Management Consulting and Research (MCR) (Tom Hogan) provided two \$50 gift certificates at Dick's; Titan (Deborah McConnaughey) provided a \$25 gift certificate at Dick's and a \$25 gift certificate at LaRosa's; Northrup Grumman Corporation (TASC) (Jim Wansack) provided golf balls, an umbrella, and golf towels; Innovative Technologies Corporation (ITC) (Joe Loper) provided golf balls and golf towels; Tecolote (Brian Fields) provided golf balls; Frontier (Morgan Moore) donated a Vantage Acuity Driver; PESystems (Larry Bogemann) provided golf balls; PRICE Systems (Jim Otte) donated golf balls; Booz-Allen Hamilton (Sharon Johnson) provided golf cart umbrellas, divot repair tools, and bottles of sunscreen with key snaps to hook onto the golf bag; and STG (Steve Rosengarten) provided golf balls and drink bottles. Fairborn Buick provided the hole-in-one prizes; the biggest one being a new 2005 Buick LaCross. The hole-in-one prize for the car always add a little excitement to the game because with one good (and very lucky shot) you can drive away with a new car, Unfortunately, no one came close to winning any of the hole-in-one prizes this year. Please pass a word of thanks to the support contractors and Fairborn Buick for their help for making the outing a success.

Tom Weideman and I hope everyone had as good a time as we did and we will look for you next year.



Greater Dayton SCEA Treasurer, Damian Gainer, taking a practice swing at the SCEA/ASMC Golf Outing

SCEA 2005 Award Winners Announced
By
Jeremy S. Mitchell

The Greater Dayton Chapter of SCEA is happy to announce the winners of the 2005 Annual Awards Program.

The winner in the category of Management was Mr. Earl Kessinger (Aeronautical Systems Center, Acquisition Cost Division). Earl led the 11-estimator team performing cost analyses for the \$4.2B Joint Unmanned Combat Air System (J-UCAS) program. As the key estimator and financial manager for all J-UCAS classified and special projects, Earl developed realistic cost estimates for leading edge technology efforts and forged the path for the future. He captured software and schedule risks and provided the J-UCAS program with a plan to bring the paper dream to reality.

The winner in the category of technical achievement was Ms. Duetta Metz (Aeronautical Systems Center, Acquisition Cost Division). Duetta sets herself apart from other estimators based on her in-depth experience in software cost estimating. As ASC's software estimating guru, she supported several software cost estimates, including the C-130 AMP, B-1 Radar Upgrade, and Personnel Recovery Vehicle estimates.

Mr. Kessinger's and Ms. Metz's nominations were forwarded for consideration for the 2005 SCEA National Awards.

Special thanks to all who submitted a nomination for the awards program. Please continue to support your high performers by nominating them for future SCEA awards. For more information on the Greater Dayton Chapter of SCEA Awards Program, please contact Mr. Bob Novak (787-8987).

Past and Future of Cost Estimating Profession
By
Ryan Rueve

The Dayton SCEA Chapter hosted a member luncheon on October 19th at the Fireside Room of the Wright-Patt Club and Banquet Center. The guest speaker for this luncheon was Col (ret) Ed Weeks, former Director of Budget Programs (SAF/FMBP) and a past Commander of the Air Force Cost Analysis Agency. Over forty cost estimating professionals attended the luncheon to network, catch up on current cost issues around Wright-Patterson AFB, and hear Mr. Weeks' perspective on the past and future of the cost estimating career field. Mr. Weeks, now a Senior Associate with Booz Allen Hamilton, also shared his experiences in the Pentagon on 9/11 and the Global War on Terrorism budget preparation activities that ensued. After this attention-grabbing opening account, Mr. Weeks shared his observations on the direction of the cost career field over the past two decades and where it's headed in the future.

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Past and Future of Cost Estimating Profession (Continued)

As a result of years of downsizing that has occurred in the cost community since its heyday in the late 1970's and 1980's, Mr. Weeks characterized the Air Force's cost estimating and analysis capability today as diminished. While he highlighted downsizing in the cost career field, he also pointed out that the pendulum is shifting. According to Mr. Weeks, senior leaders in the Air Force cost estimating community are re-energizing the cost estimating discipline in the financial management ranks with tangible results expected in the very near future.

Leading the charge is the Undersecretary for Cost and Economics, Mr. Rich Hartley. Mr. Hartley has spearheaded a thorough assessment of the current state of the cost estimating community and the impacts of a diminished cost estimating capability on resource management. He has also developed a plan, which Mr. Weeks shared, to restore the cost estimating competency within the Air Force. As a result of his efforts, Mr. Hartley has gained Air Force senior leader support for 50 organic positions to be designated for cost estimating and analysis functions and allocated across the Air Force. In addition, he also garnered support for 50 positions to staff a new Air Force Cost Center of Excellence which will provide cost and economic analysis support to base level financial management organizations. Although the details are not yet finalized, Mr. Weeks indicated that some of these positions could come to Aeronautical Systems Center. Regardless of the exact location of these positions, the message is clear – cost estimating and analysis is an invaluable function that is crucial to effective resource planning and acquisition management.

About the speaker: Mr. Ed Weeks has over 26 years of experience in the financial management arena with specific work in weapon system cost analysis, budget development and execution, auditing, program management, business process development, and large organization leadership. During his military career, Mr. Weeks held key positions in the Air Force financial community including:

- Director of Budget Programs (SAF/FMBP), Pentagon
- Deputy Comptroller, HQ Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, IL
- Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Cost and Economics (SAF/FMC), Pentagon
- Commander, Air Force Cost Analysis Agency
- Deputy Comptroller, Air Armament Center, Eglin AFB, FL
- Deputy, Program Control Division, F-22 System Program Office, WPAFB, OH

After retiring from active duty in August 2002 at the rank of Colonel, Mr. Weeks joined Booz Allen Hamilton as a Senior Associate. In his current position, Mr. Weeks is the Air Force market leader for the Business Analysis group within Booz Allen's Economic and Business Analysis (EBA) team. His group provides specialized cost and financial analysis support to several organizations across the Department of Defense (DoD). Mr. Weeks is a Certified Cost Estimator/Analyst (CCE/A) and long-standing member and advocate of SCEA. He currently serves as the SCEA Region 5 Vice President.

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Past and Future of Cost Estimating Profession (Continued)



Mr. Ed Weeks sharing his perspectives on Cost Analysis



Ms. Linda Turner, Greater Dayton SCEA President-Elect, presenting Mr. Weeks with the SCEA Award of Excellence

Wanted:

Ways and Means Focal Point

Greater Dayton Chapter of SCEA

Duties: Lead the effort of identifying and coordinating fundraising activities for the Greater Dayton Chapter of the Society of Cost Estimating and Analysis.

Contact: Jeremy Mitchell

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**The Dayton Coster
Greater Dayton Chapter**

If you have comments, ideas, or are interested in contributing an article to "The Dayton Coster", please direct them to Amy Balsamo at Amy.Balsamo@wpafb.af.mil.