



# The Volunteer

## AACE International East Tennessee Section Newsletter



Volume 20, Number 5  
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October 2009  
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### Upcoming Events

#### Section Meetings:

#### Monday, October 26, 2009 Section Meeting

Time: 6:00pm social/dinner

6:30pm business meeting

6:45pm – 7:30pm Speaker

Speaker: John Atwell, Principal Vice President of  
Bechtel Power Corporation

Topic: What's new in the nuclear industry

#### Save the date for future section meetings:

November 16, 2009

January 25, 2010

February 22, 2010

March 22, 2010

April 26, 2010

May 24, 2010

June 28, 2010

The Christmas social is being planned. More information will be available in the November newsletter.

#### Certification Exam

Saturday, November 7, 2009

UT Outreach Center at 8:00 am

Includes CCC/CCE, EVP, PSP, and CFCCE

### Message from the "Prez"

*From Joy Grubb, ETS President*

As we are preparing for winter there are several efforts underway to develop training seminars. The plan is to offer a session in January and March. Please provide ideas of training topics to Bob McCoy or myself. In addition, a holiday get-together is being planned for this winter.

Also, congratulations are extended on behalf of the AACE-ETS to Armando and Kathy Garza, who have

recently retired from Bechtel. They will be relocating from East Tennessee in pursuit of new adventures. Both Armando and Kathy have been active AACE members, including serving on the Board of Directors, and have contributed a great deal to the East Tennessee Section. Good luck to both of you!

### October Section Meeting – October 26<sup>th</sup>

*Larry Sheron, ETS Vice-President*

The October section meeting will be held Monday October 28 starting at 6:00 PM at the Outback Restaurant on N. Peters Rd. The restaurant is located in West Knoxville just off Cedar Bluff Rd., South of I-40.

So mark your calendar for Monday October 26. Our guest speaker is Mr. John Atwell, the Project Director of the Watts Bar Unit 2 Nuclear Power Plant Project. Those that attended the joint PMI\AACE 2 years ago heard him speak coming away well informed. He will be giving an update on what's new in the nuclear industry and some specifics about his project.

See you there.

### September Section Meeting – September 28<sup>th</sup>

*Larry Sheron, ETS Vice-President*

The East Tennessee Section's September meeting was held at the Gondolier restaurant in Oak Ridge, TN. The guest speakers were Ernestine Meiners and Nelson Turnstall. They are both members of Toastmasters International and their topic was, you guessed it, Toastmasters.

It was a very interesting meeting as they shared their speaking program with us by walking through a Toastmasters meeting including participation of the audience in a typical meeting format. A typical meeting is usually broken up in to the following sections: Speakers, Vote for best speaker, Table Topics, Vote for best table topic, Evaluations, including the “Ah” counter, Vote for best evaluator, and then Questions from the floor.



Our members were called upon to share a table topic with the group. Three or four of the more brave members helped out by sharing their table topic, which is by answering a simple question like, what does your chair (or computer) think about you at work? or why do I like East Tennessee? Some of the computers comments were very funny. We enjoyed all of the speaker’s remarks and especially Nelson Turnstall (of Toastmasters) who’s speech was “My Personal Toast to Toastmasters”. He shared his experience with toastmasters from when he first became aware of them years ago, and has been a loyal member ever since. Even though he’s an experienced speaker and very good and interesting to listen to, Ernestine still gave him an evaluation, I guess it was more for our benefit than for Nelson’s.

There are fourteen clubs in the surrounding area that are open to the public, as well as some closed clubs that are company specific. Toastmasters was started in the 1920’s in California, with their head quarters currently still in Southern California. As Toastmasters International celebrates its 85th anniversary this month, the organization stands at a historic high point. Membership is at an all-time high, with more than 250,000 members in 12,000 clubs in 106 countries. They are organized into a hierarchy of clubs, areas, divisions, districts, and regions

Each year they hold a number of large group meetings that include competitions and socials at various places around the world. The descriptions of the events they shared sounded like they have a great time even though they still get nervous when speaking. They are happy to have guests visit their meetings and you don’t have to be a member to attend. But, they may ask you to say something even if just your name, so be prepared, to have some fun. A local club can easily be found on the World Wide Web



## **AACE Certification News**

*From [www.aacei.org](http://www.aacei.org)*

All Certification exams will be hosted by the local sections on NOVEMBER 7, 2009. The deadline has passed for these exams. Please watch for news on the next exam opportunity.

Please contact Melissa Buckner, Education Director, with any questions.

## **International News**

*From [www.aacei.org](http://www.aacei.org)*

Need help updating your resume? Looking for a job or want to make sure you have the skills to apply for that job that was just posted?

AACE International has a webpage that gives detailed position descriptions for careers such as Cost Controller, Cost Estimator, Planner/Scheduler, Project Controls Manager, etc. Having trouble putting what you do into words? Maybe this will help.

<http://www.aacei.org/careerlist/>

AACE International also has a Career Center available where they list current job openings and resumes.

Whether you need to get your name out there or just want to browse what's available, this could be what you are looking for.

<http://www.aacei.org/listings/>

## 2009 AACE Salary Survey

From [www.aacei.org](http://www.aacei.org)

The AACE Salary Survey is now available to complete on the AACE International website. Each year AACEI conducts the survey and the results are available for free to members. Do you know what you are worth?

The purpose of the survey is to enable project and cost professionals in different locations, industries, and work functions to compare their salaries, and to provide employers with information on prevailing wage rates among these professionals.

As part of your AACE membership benefits you will automatically receive a copy of the results when they are published.

<http://www.aacei.org/resources/surveys/takeSalarySurvey.shtml>

## Keep Us Informed!!

*Suzanne Patton, Newsletter Committee Chair*

As we are ever striving to keep our members informed about what is happening in the organization, we hope this newsletter will help us do that. If you have any announcements regarding seminars, members receiving a special recognition or award, members moving or changing jobs, job opportunities or anything else deemed appropriate to share with the East Tennessee AACE members, provide this information no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month to Suzanne Patton. Suzanne can be emailed using the ETS Board link on the ETS website. Just click on contact under the phone number.

## Contact Information

### Board of Directors:

President:	Joy Grubb, EVP	241-4366
Vice-President:	Larry Sheron, EVP	632-6241
Secretary:	David Benton, EVP	241-5264
Treasurer:	Audrey Clark, CCC	986-6806
Past-President:	Tammi Hodges, CCE	574-5484
Regional Rep:	Kathy Garza, CCC	806-2107

### Directors:

Membership:	Robyn Rose	574-8593
Education:	Melissa Buckner	574-8300
Communication:	Mark Plemmons CCE	241-9432
Activities:	Bob McCoy, CCC	574-9715