



# The Volunteer

## AACE International East Tennessee Section Newsletter



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Editor: Suzanne Patton

November 2009  
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### Upcoming Events

#### Saturday, November 7, 2009 Certification Exam

UT Outreach Center at 8:00 am

Includes CCC/CCE, EVP, PSP, and CFCCE

#### Thursday, November 19, 2009 Section Meeting

Time: 11:30am – 1:00pm

Speaker: Laura Morris-Edwards, PhD

Topic: Nanoscience: Tiny Treasures

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

January 25, 2010

February 22, 2010

March 22, 2010

April 26, 2010

May 24, 2010

June 28, 2010

The Holiday Dinner is being planned. More information will be available in the November newsletter.

### Message from the “Prez”

*From Joy Grubb, ETS President*

We will be hosting certification exams this Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at the UT Outreach Center. If you are not signed up for this exam please see the article below and think about getting your certification during 2010.

In lieu of our normal monthly section meeting, we will be having a Holiday Dinner in the month of December. Please watch the December newsletter and the website for more details as they become available.

Fall is finally here and as the flu season progresses, ensure the safety of your loved ones by getting your seasonal flu shot when they become available in your community.

There are many things happening in our local section to look forward to in the next few months, and I hope you'll consider being a part of it. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting!

Have a great Thanksgiving,  
Joy

### November Section Meeting – November 16<sup>th</sup>

*Larry Sheron, ETS Vice-President*

There has been a change of schedule for our next section meeting.

The next East Tennessee Section Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Gondalier Restaurant in Oak Ridge. This meeting will be a luncheon meeting (11:30am – 1:00pm).

Laura Morris-Edward, coordinator for guest researchers at the Center for Nanophase Material Sciences, will talk about “Nanoscience: Tiny Treasures”.

This is the first lunch meeting we have had in a while. Please join us for a nice lunch and very interesting topic.

Look for more information next week. Hope to see you there.

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

*Larry Sheron, ETS Vice-President*

The East Tennessee Section's October meeting was held at the Outback restaurant in Knoxville, TN. The guest speaker was John Atwell the Bechtel Project Director for

(and his topic) the TVA Watts Bar Nuclear Power Plant Unit 2 rebuild project.



John gave us a good overview of the rebuild project and the many challenges the team is working on to complete the project. The project has a budget of over \$2 billion, will employ over 1,000 craft and over 500 non-manual personnel. The schedule is about five years in duration and has about two years left until completion. A new generation nuclear plant costs from \$5 to \$7 billion or more to build and based on the estimate to finish Unit 2, it will be much less expensive to complete the existing plant than to build a new plant.

The main mission of the project is to bring the plant to a completed condition that complies with the existing operating license/permit. The license/permit specifies that both Units are to be identical and operate identically, with essentially the same equipment. Since the Unit 2 plant was never fully completed and has been extensively cannibalized for parts, the project team had to establish and confirm the current physical and design state through extensive walk downs performing numerous field surveys and design verifications. The project then designs the work left to be completed and performs the remaining construction and installations.

One challenging walk down project included measuring every hanger, of which there are thousands, in the plant to confirm their status and verify the design. Another major challenge was to procure equipment that is no longer being manufactured as the nuclear power business in the U.S. has been minimal at best for the last 20 years. Unit 2 was also cannibalized over the years and used for spare parts for other TVA power plants. Near exact duplicates of all of the missing parts and pieces of the plant have to be found and purchased. Also, with the major changes in technology over the last twenty years, most new instrumentation is digital and the license/permit calls for

analog instruments that are no longer being manufactured. The project is confident that some exceptions such as this will be allowed by the NRC. John's talk was very interesting and we hope the project team is successful in completing all of the challenges still ahead of them.

## **AACE Certification News**

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

Save the date.

The next time all certification exams will be hosted by the local sections is on March 6, 2010. EARLY deadline for this exam is December 21, 2009 and final deadline is January 5, 2010.

After the March exams the next time all certification exams will be hosted by the local sections is on July 10, 2010. EARLY deadline for this exam is April 27, 2010 and final deadline is May 11, 2010.

If you miss both the March and July exams, the next opportunity would be November 6, 2010. EARLY deadline for this exam is August 23, 2010 and the final deadline is September 6, 2010.

In order to prepare for the EVP exam, AACE has released the EVP Study Guide, 2nd Ed. It is available through the AACEI website bookstore.

Plan ahead and be ready to take your exam in 2010.

## **International News**

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

AACE's website is being redesigned to make it easier for you to locate the things you need!

The new "Mega-Menu" groups areas together and gives you the most commonly used links without running off your screen.

We have five new quick link areas that allow new users to get more information on Becoming a Member, Getting Certified, Increasing Knowledge, our Career Center, and our Annual Meeting - right on our home page.

We also have three new areas that give a basic overview of the Association, showcase our new Member Spotlight, and provide quick links to Search the AACE website. Subscribe to our E-Newsletter and contact information for AACE Headquarters right on the home page.

You will see a preview of the new design colors when logging in to our Web Portal (where you purchase products and services, as well as update your record or pay your membership dues in our database.)

Some of your bookmarks may no longer work after we upload the new site since some of the restructuring has been done to make the site easier to navigate. Please use the new menus to overwrite your existing bookmarks after the new site is live.

## 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

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