Professional Construction Estimators Association of America, Inc. (PCEA) was chartered in 1956 with 35 members from various construction disciplines in Charlotte, North Carolina. Some of the Charter members remain active today. During our early years, members rallied together to exchange ideas, promote educational endeavors and high ethical standards, while simultaneously developing new friendships. Under the leadership of Charlotte’s early presidents, the members set forth many goals to promote and support the industry while expanding the voluntary association. As a result of these efforts, a second chapter was formed during 1958 in Greensboro, North Carolina (now called the Triad Chapter). The Raleigh-Durham Chapter (now called the Triangle Chapter) followed behind in 1963. Subsequent chapters were formed in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia and Florida. Vern W. "Bill" Helms of the Charlotte Chapter was elected as our first National President in May 1975 during the first annual convention at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Since then, PCEA has grown to almost 1,000 members with twelve chapters in five states. Current goals include active expansion to other market areas.

PCEA members have always been active in the promotion of construction education for the betterment of the industry. Each chapter individually coordinates, develops and establishes programs to assist and enhance the educational endeavors in their community while pursuing the educational goals of membership. PCEA Chapters support educational programs ranging from, but not limited to, scholarships to local students, endowed scholarships at several Universities, providing construction instructors, purchasing equipment for use in technical training and introducing construction as a trade to "at risk" students.
New Chapter President Evan Smith Calls his first Chapter Meeting to Order.

Triangle Chapter Sectary Mr. Jason Graham delivers the July Meetings minuets. The meeting minuets are accepted as read. Jason relayed the Board’s descison to post the prior months Meeting Minuets in the Triangle News Letter instead of taking time away from the meeting. This will allow more time in our monthly membership meeting for support, current business and social programs.

Triangle Chapter President Calls the July meeting to Order. In Evan’s opening statements he relayed up coming events, Evan conveyed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as our chapter President.

Evan discussed the Golf Outing and the planed Sporting Clays. Stressing the need and hope for participant of the membership, their associates, and guest. Through their participation our scholarship initiatives, membership drives and learning opportunities are funded.

We must continue to get younger persons interested in attending our group. We will continue to exercise every opportunity to get younger persons entering our industry involved with PCEA.

It is important for our industry, and our continued growth as a support organization for our members. Working together, our members can make a difference in our community, our work place and our industry by living up to the professional standards our organization represents. By mentoring our younger coworkers, reaching out to High School and College Students, we raise the expectations and professional standards for our industry.

As we work, our work ethic, expertise, and professionalism should always exemplify our organization’s high standards. There is a common trait in our membership, we are leaders in the companies we represent. We expect more from ourselves than others expect. We are more productive, not because we are told to do so but because we are passionate about what we do! That’s why PCEA is important to each of us who belong. - TV -

Membership is always an issue. Providing scholarships, providing quality support for the membership, providing interesting programs and outings are needed to maintain our current members and bring in new members.

We've always need to identify ways to develop and encourage involvement with local Contractors, Vendors and Suppliers.
Regular Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at Casa Carbone, Raleigh, NC. Attendance: 15 members and 3 guests (Monique Young of One Accord Services, Lee Edwards Charlotte Chapter President and his son Grant Edwards). Call to Order at 7:01 pm by President Smith.

Secretary – Secretary Jason Graham read the meeting minutes of the June meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

Treasurer – Kevin Sherron read the June treasurer’s report. The report read as follows; Operating Account balance is $3,817.16 and the Projects Account balance is $38,825.45. The Treasurer’s report was accepted as read.

1st Vice President – Marc Marrotta was covering family duties on the evening, President Smith noted that Rick Embrey has graciously volunteered to help with the out-reach for new members.

2nd Vice President – Tom VonCannon stated that he is currently making final arrangements for the following lineup of presentations: UL in August, EPA in October with a presentation on global warming and the Steel Network in November on the volatility of the steel market.

National Director – Kevin Sherron stated that the next national meeting is in August. He relayed that the national newsletter would include section devoted to internship opportunities for the ASU student chapter. He noted that the Charlotte Chapter has started a single scholarship for the student member attending at least nine chapter meetings. It was also noted that the PCEA is a 501C, which can be deducted as a business expense only.

Old Business – None.

New Business – It was noted that membership meeting minutes moving forward would be presented in the monthly newsletter.

Education – The board is actively searching for a copy of the dependent scholarship, if you have been active on the education committee in the past we ask that you search your files.

Fundraising – The annual golf fundraiser is scheduled for August 15th at McGregor Downs. The registration is active and everyone is encouraged to participate. We are looking forward to a fun day of golf on the course.

Social – President Smith informed the membership that there will be a membership drive social in place of our regular scheduled September meeting. This cookout social will be held at Bonitz located at 10701 World Trade Blvd.

Newsletter – None

Program – Chapter member Tom VonCannon provided a presentation on the construction of ancient ruins in the Yucatan peninsula. These Mayan ruins date to the age of the Egyptian ruins. The construction exhibits a craft that was beyond the ability of the period. All structures were formed by dry stack and many still stand today. The construction illustrated a very civilized and advanced society. The membership enjoyed the presentation and Tom’s wonderful slide show.

The gold roll winner was not held for July’s meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Graham
Chapter Secretary
The July Presentation was by default given by me, We had several real programs in the works, of the three I was working with each had schedule issues that did not allow them to come to the July Meeting. My hope is that I was able to show some of the awe inspiring things I've seen during the most recent of our three trips to Mexico.

There has been much made if the dangers of going to Mexico. True there are places where there are violent acts taking place in Mexico, just as in the US. I must state the people my wife and I met were amazingly open, friendly and happy.

When you drive through many of the towns and remote villages you are struck by hardships the citizenry of Mexico endure, as compared to most Americans. We are truly blessed.

I asked some of the locals why so many of the homes are unfinished and have bars on the windows and doors, I was surprised by their answers! Why are there so many homes not finished? The answer was two fold– The Mexican population do not routinely have the opportunity to send their ailing parents and grandparents to elderly care homes, They tend to have many generations living in the same home. They continue to build additions to their homes to accommodate the expanded number of family members upward. Most of the two and three story homes have concrete and or brick columns and rebar protruding through the roof, giving the small homes an unfinished look.

Even many of the more upscale homes have the same unfinished appearance. It turns out that there is a lower tax rate on homes that are being build, Only after construction is completed do the home owner pay the full tax rate. As for the bars on the windows, it is hot in Mexico! So at night without AC they open the windows and doors, I thought because of the crime we hear so much about. When asked they stated no not crime, wild animals, Wolves, Leopards and wild dogs would enter their homes. Many of the towns and villages are close to large undeveloped areas, Jungles, Sparse Desert land or the Sierra Madre Mountain Range going down the west coast North to South.

As stated we have made three trips To Mexico with more to come in the future. Our first was to **Puerto Vallarta**, on the west coast on the Sea of Cortez. Beach and less than 50 miles inland jungle, 70-100 miles inland the highlands of the Sierra Madre Mountain Range. Beautiful, Beautiful Country! The Mexican Government has been working on the Pan-American Highway for 15 years. This highway runs down the west coast of Mexico when completed this 6 lane dirt road will stretch form the US to Panama. Paving portions of this highway may start in the next 5 years.

The second Trip was to **Cabo San Lucas**, further west located on the tip of the Baja Peninsula where the Pacific and the Sea of Cortez meet. On the Pacific side you see Seals and Sea Lions Basking on the rocky outcrops. My wife and I during this trip rode some 75 miles from the Sea of Cortez across the peninsula through the desert on four wheelers to the Pacific and drove on the beach for miles without seeing another human,

Our most recent trip to **Playa del Carmen**, Mexico was the basis of what I discussed during our July PCEA Meeting with a presentation of the Mayan Building techniques.

I've been privileged to have worked on many amazing projects, Pentagon, The White House, The Smithsonian, 4 nuclear Power Houses and a few military projects I can’t talk about, all impressive in their own right. Nothing has impressed me as much as seeing the limestone structures built by the Mayan People in Tulum “Tea-Lume” and Chichén Itzá’s “Chets I Nitza” both of these ancient Mayan cities are located on the Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico and were believed to have been started sometime around 2,600 BC. This trip was different for us because it was on the southeast coast of Mexico close to the jungles of Belize. As a note the Jungles on the west coast and Panama are much more dense and much wetter. The Jungles on the East coast of Mexico draw water from the ground water encapsulated in the limestone bed rock. It was hot and extremely humid and did not benefit from the eastward air currents that makes the west coast of Mexico seem much cooler. The Sierra Madre mountain range drains any and all moisture out of the clouds well before they reach the east coast. The year before we made our visit to Playa del Carmen it had only rained twice the whole year. During our visit to Chichén Itzá’s it rained twice the first day ending a 9 month dry spell. They were both heavy down pours. Lasting well over an hour each. Within 30 minuets after the rain ended you would be hard pressed to find any indication it had rained. The ground is so porous, what doesn't immediately evaporate permeates into the porous limestone.

As you look at the following pictures remember we are being told that these structures were built using heat hardened limestone tools to quarry and cut and carve the stones to build these buildings. Many state the detail can not be replicated today with our advanced tools and tooling methods. When I asked our guides if they believed what I had seen on several TV shows where it was stated that Aliens had visited their ancestors to assist in giving them the knowledge to build such structures he stated that yes they were visited and helped by Aliens from space. All three of our Tour Guides were Mayan.
Small Pyramid Chichén Itzá’s. As with most of the Pyramids this building is a Calendar each level is a month each portion of the band around the Pyramid is a week, add up all of the steps and they total 361 days the 4 step at the top total 365 Days. Their calendar predates the Gregorian we use and was more accurate.
First Rain Storm

Sacrificial Alter
Cenotes exposing the underground water table. Many of these were used as sacred sacrifice spots. Cold Water!
Observatory one of the oldest known to have existed
This Vulture was waiting for someone to die from climbing the stairs. I believe he was following me!
July Meeting Guest

Monique Young
of One Accord Services,

Lee Edwards
Charlotte Chapter President

Grant Edwards

New Pyramid Found! It will take many years to excavate and restore.

Can you imagine doing these intricate carvings in stone using stone tools. Modern experts state it could not have been done with stone tools.

Oldest artifact depicting space travel over 2,000 years old.
The Carolinas Associated General Contractors (CAGC) has issued a call for members to support Political Action Committees in North and South Carolina as the election season approaches.

“Your contribution to the NC or SC PAC enables us to provide financial support to elect legislative and statewide candidates who can be champions for the construction industry and to support legislators who are currently or aspire to be in leadership positions where they have significant influence over legislation and funding,” the CAGC announcement said.

“The dynamics of this election year has created uncertainty and volatility that could unseat some of our long-time allies. We need to be able to help these vulnerable legislators that we count on for support.

To BIM or Not To BIM

North Carolina Construction News special feature

In the construction industry, everything is big: the projects, the budgets and, the opportunity to improve productivity and efficiency. Studies have shown that on some projects, as much as 30 percent of every construction dollar is wasted, exceeding one trillion dollars annually. In an effort to put a stop to this, brothers Ron and Jon Antevy created e-BUILDER, which is currently used to manage over $200 billion in active construction projects. The company provides fully integrated, cloud-based construction program management software that helps its customers, the building owners, improve project execution to make the process faster, more efficient, and less expensive.

BIM is one of the latest technologies employed by the construction industry to address inefficiencies, but its advantages differ across market stakeholders. While the idea of BIM has been around for a few decades, it has only recently come to the forefront as a practical addition to the project execution process. While most BIM tools approach the industry from the designer and contractor’s perspective, e-BUILDER believes the specific needs of the facility owners should also be considered. By breaking down individual needs, specific best practices and useful functionalities become more apparent.

For instance, clash detection is a major BIM benefit for contractors as it allows them to identify issues before construction begins, which were previously only discovered during the actual building process. Most owners on the other hand, do not delve into the same level of detail as the contractor during the construction process, but they naturally remain tied to the project even after building project is complete. Therefore, owners have different needs for access to project information before, during and after construction. They also have a need to ‘connect’ BIM data to other project information before, during and after construction. For owners, the ability to store and easily access BIM data in the cloud and connect that data to other project or building asset information is an important benefit.

While the topic of BIM for contractors versus owners is still new, it’s growing and will likely become a more significant topic of conversation as owners think about the tools and technologies available that can assist them throughout the entire lifecycle of a project.

“BIM has been gradually taking off in the U.S. but, it’s coming in a big way as people begin to realize the benefits of 4D planning,” said Jason Ruddle, managing director of Asta Development. “While the U.K. has seen a huge increase in BIM projects due to new government requirements, it is owners and forward-thinking construction firms driving that adoption here in the States.”
Members Corner
Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers:
Marc Marotta and Family  -  Father Passed Away
Jason Graham and Family  -  Uncle
Kevin Sherron and Family  -  Father
Tom VonCannon and Family -  Father and Uncle

PCEA recognizes that one of the greatest problems facing our industry is a shortage of interested and well qualified employees at all levels. To that end, our mission is to extend Scholarships to persons interested in pursuing a career in the construction industry.

The following Scholarships are funded by the PCEA Triangle Chapter fundraisers and events. (Please see a Faculty Representative at these schools to receive an application).

PCEA Triange Chapter 3 Scholarships:

PCEA Member Dependent Scholarship
The PCEA Member Dependent Scholarship is available to immediate family members of PCEA members in good standing. The recipient of this Scholarship does not have to be pursuing a degree in the Construction Industry.

North Carolina State University
University of North Carolina at Charlotte
East Carolina University
Wake Technical Community College
Vance Granville Community College
It’s Time to knock the dust off of your Golf Clubs and Clean Up your Balls

PCEA Spring Golf Tournament 2016
MacGregor Downs Country Club
Date: 15 Aug 2016
Shotgun Start @ 11:00 AM

It is time for the 28th Annual Don Mizelle PCEA Spring Golf Tournament. This year the tournament will be held at MacGregor Downs Country Club in Cary, NC. The Sponsorship Levels and Golfer Registration Form are on the attached downloadable entry form. 2016 PCEA Golf Outing Flyer.pdf or if you would prefer, you can Register and/or provide Sponsorship online at PCEA Spring Golf Tournament 2016
We look forward to seeing you at this years Tournament and helping to make it another great success!

MacGregor Downs Country Club
430 Saint Andrews Lane
Cary, NC 27511

http://www.macgregordowns.org/golf

Registration & Box Lunch begins at 11:00. | Shot Gun start at 12:00 pm / Meal & Awards following the last team to finish.

The Date has been set! Our next Raleigh Golf Outing is set for August 15, 2016. This is the Annual PCEA Fund Raising Golf tournament. This years outing will be at McGregor Downs, located in Cary. It is set for a 11:00 shotgun start. We need to have to have a minimum of 48 players. Details to follow as we get more information. Dust off your Clubs, and get your foursome ready for a day of fun and fellowship.
MacGregor Downs Country Club is deeply rooted in a treasured history, and timeless tradition. Since 1967, the Club has continued to build on its legacy and is poised for the next half-century. Today, MacGregor Downs remains one of the most prestigious private clubs in North Carolina.
Sometimes our light goes out but is blown into flame by another human being. Each of us owes deepest thanks to those who have rekindled this light.

Albert Schweitzer
August Membership Meeting

Next Meeting  8-18-2016
Pre-meeting Social
starts @ 6:30 PM
Meeting starts @ 7:00 PM

Address:
6019-A Glenwood Ave
Oak Park Shopping Center
Raleigh, NC 27612-2601

August Speaker is Set
Mrs. Denice Durrant
Representing - U/L - Underwriters Laboratory

We have all seen the markings on many of the devices we use every day. Did you ever wonder what the marking meant or what it takes to obtain the U/L Label? Prepare to be enlightened! We have lined up a U/L Project Manager that actually sets up the protocol, performs the testing and when everything goes as advertised by the manufacturer certifies the product as safe and reliable and awards the U/L seal. This is one presentation you will not want to miss. A lot of neat stories I'm sure.

Denice Durrant currently serves as a Senior Project Engineer at Underwriters Laboratories (UL) in Research Triangle Park, NC. UL is a global independent safety science company with more than a century of expertise innovating safety solutions from the public adoption of electricity to new breakthroughs in sustainability, renewable energy, and nanotechnology. Denice works within the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) group where she is responsible for handling projects related to the certification of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Personal Flotation Devices (PFD) including garments/components, PFD components, structural fire-fighter hoods, and other materials used on devices within the industry. Denice holds Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degrees in Textile Engineering and Materials Science & Engineering as well as Master of Science (M.S.) degrees in Materials Science & Engineering and Chemical Engineering from North Carolina State University. An avid Wolfpack fan, Denice enjoys traveling, running marathons, and also serves as a mentor for current engineering students at NCSU.
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