

Cascadia Chapter
SAVE International
Wednesday May 14, 2008
Rock Salt Café – Seattle, WA

Attendees:

Andrea Ball
Hank Ball
Harvey Childs
Laurie Dennis
John Langer
Steven Lingenfelter

Blane Long
Rahul Nagalkar
Marlo Stebner
Eric Trimble
Jim Wixson

Following a social hour, the meeting was called to order by Andrea Ball, Chapter Secretary. The meeting was well attended, with 10 chapter members and one guest, Steven Lingenfelter from Absher.

The following announcements were made:

- June meeting will be held at the SAVE meeting in Reno, Wednesday June 11 at 7:00am; location to be determined. Guest participant will be Ron Tanenbaum with the San Diego chapter. The meeting will focus on how to make the Cascadia chapter more effective.
- No chapter meetings will be held in July or August.
- Ashley Carson is our new webmaster.
- Steven Paget passed his CVS exam. Congratulations!
- A Board and Officers meeting was held prior to this meeting. All Officers attend and none of the Board members attended. It was suggested that a second Officers and Board meeting be held in late August prior to the start-up of regular monthly meetings in September.
- Roster for BEST studies will be coming shortly. Rahul and Meng will work on one study for UW's Ballmer Hall in June, and two additional studies are coming – K-12 Skills Center for Pierce County and an aviation facility. (H. Childs)

Committee reports:

Treasurer – John Langer \$2805.58

Membership / Outreach – Andrea Ball and Hank Ball

- Three new members – Joseph Russel, AVS (USACE, Oregon City, OR), Mohamed Hassan (Colt-Worley Parsons Canada, Edmonton, AB), Margie Jeffs (Idaho National Lab, ID)
- MOD I class to be taught in June at Olympic Associates. Class will be taught by Hank Ball. It is hoped that a few new chapter members will arise from this course.
- Question: Are there any initiatives within SAVE to bring in new members? (H. Ball) Response: In the past there have been membership drives but there is nothing currently.
- Suggestion: Check the SAVE membership roster for people located in Montana and British Columbia and invite them to join the Cascadia Chapter. They may or may not belong to the Rocky Mountain or International chapters already.

Programming – Blane Long

Recommend including a programming discussion at the August Board/Officers meeting. It was suggested that members working towards their CVS should schedule a month to present in order to earn points.

Government – Joel Davis (no report available)

SAVE Amendment vote

- Cascadia has been granted three delegates for voting on the proposed constitutional amendment regarding percentage of affirmative votes needed to pass a constitutional change.
- The three delegates are: Steven Paget, Blane Long and Rahul Nagalkur with Andrea Ball serving as alternate.

Program: Laurie Dennis – Update on SAVE Certification and Education

Laurie presented a very informative program on the current directions within SAVE regarding education and certification. Some of the highlights included

- The addition of a new CVS – Academic track
- Continued development of a program to support AVS's working towards CVS (more info at SAVE)
 - AVSs: identify studies and partner with a CVS (L. Dennis); look at lessons learned from others – think outside the box and be creative in how to do / find studies (J. Wixson)
 - CVSs: encourage CVSs to use AVSs as assistants in studies (L. Dennis)
 - Clients: embrace the use of assistants (L. Dennis); don't make AVS just an assistant – utilize them as technical recorders / team members (B. Long)
 - Comments: thought about sending out survey to AVSs and asking them how they need help (H. Childs); the challenges are in finding opportunities to share/do presentations and in finding a CVS in the area who wants to be an advisor (B. Long); some advisors are not ideal so we need to find ways to encourage them to be more active and supportive (L. Dennis); advisors earn recertification points for advising and having their advisee obtain their CVS (L. Dennis).
- Review of requirements for each level of certification (http://www.value-eng.org/education_certification.php)
- Comments regarding the CVS paper:
 - Intent is to show that you can communicate in the writing
 - Need more clarification on what is meant by "original" topic (B. Long)
 - Need to increase the size of the PDF files SAVE can receive (B. Long); SAVE is working on this issue (L. Dennis)
 - Is there a database of papers or abstracts? (A. Ball); No, but 'good' papers may be invited to be published or presented (L. Dennis)
 - A paper that has already been published cannot be submitted for CVS but publishing a modified version of a pre-published paper may be acceptable. (L. Dennis)
- Comments regarding the AVS/CSV exam:
 - Do not have to be an AVS to get a CVS – can work straight through to CVS (L. Dennis)
 - Cost of an AVS may / may not be included is cost of MOD I – depends on the instructor (L. Dennis)
 - Certification used to be very challenging – I applaud the work done to revamp the process, especially the option to take the AVS exam at the end of the MOD I (H. Childs)
 - AVS certification does not expire (L. Dennis)
 - Is there any data tracking number of AVS who become VMP/CSV? (H. Ball) No. (L. Dennis)
 - 8 new CVS awarded so far this year (L. Dennis)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Andrea L. Ball
Cascadia Chapter Secretary