Dear Omaha Post Members,

It is an honor to serve as President of the Omaha Post. I am very excited to begin the year with a great team of officers and committee chairs. We are facing a few challenges as we embark to implement the strategic plan mapped out in the past few months. However, with a strong tradition of accomplishment at the Omaha Post, I plan to continue to enlist the dedicated members to improve on that success.

I would like to thank COL Joel Cross and the 2013-2014 Board and Committees for their efforts including a strong finish at Industry Day. COL Cross is a great leader and I admire and thank him for his service to our great nation and to the Omaha Post over the past year.

I am excited about the future of the Post and look forward to working with the 2014-2015 board and committee members to continue the tradition of capable leaders. I hope to get to know more folks, see great programs, and possibly uncover a few new ideas during the coming year. And not only leadership, I challenge each member of the Post to get involved and help us improve and prosper.

Speaking to the current membership, we are looking for feedback. Let us know when you like the meeting program. We hope to identify ways for the sustaining member firms to get more return on investment; that means coming up with seminar ideas. We also encourage you to take a turn and do a Sustaining Member Spotlight – 3 minutes of fame! That is something that can make a difference in developing partnerships and business opportunities.

To me, all endeavors can be summed up by the following thought – what you gain will be in direct proportion to what you give. It is my belief that the Society of Military Engineers has much to offer the membership. The SAME mission states, “To promote and facilitate engineering support for national security by developing and enhancing relationships and competencies among uniformed services, public- and private-sector engineers and related professionals, and by developing future engineers through outreach and mentoring.”

We have the opportunity in Omaha to realize that mission in proportion to how our membership embraces it and my experience is that we do it well.

Thank you for the honor and opportunity of serving as President of the Omaha Post. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Jim Wathen, P.E., P.L.S
Omaha Post President
2014-2015 Omaha Post Officers

Officers for the 2014-2015 Omaha Post Board were sworn in during the General Membership luncheon on June 12, 2014. A complete list of all Post Board Members/Officers can be found at www.sameomaha.org.

President
Jim Wathen, EA Engineering

Secretary
Natasha Hartley, Woolpert

Treasurer
Mary McKernan, HDR

Past President
COL Joel Cross, USACE - Omaha District

Vice President - Infrastructure Resilience and Preparedness Committee
Dave Packard, USACE - Northwestern Division

Vice President for Education and Training
Christie Murray, URS Corporation

Vice President for Leadership and Mentoring
Morgan Sykes, Leo A Daly

Vice President for Young Members and College Outreach
Cybil Boss, URS Corporation

Vice President for Relationships and Recognition
Chris Langan, Lamp Rynearson and Associates, Inc.

Director for Communications
Kandi Srb, HDR

Director for Awards and Recognition
Jodi Vaccaro, USA Environmental, Inc.

Director for Black Hills Field Chapter
Bryan Vulcan, FourFront Design, Inc.

Calendar of Events

September 11, 2014
Board Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/10:30 AM

General Membership Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/11:30 AM

SPEAKER
Ted Streckfuss, USACE

TOPIC
STRATCOM Update

October 9, 2014
Board Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/10:30 AM

General Membership Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/11:30 AM

SPEAKER
Doug Jackson, HDR

TOPIC
Council Bluffs Interstate System

November 13, 2014
Board Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/10:30 AM

General Membership Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/11:30 AM

SPEAKER
Bob Riede, HDR

TOPIC
CSO Update, Lift Station Tour

December 4, 2014
Board Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/10:30 AM

General Membership Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/11:30 AM

SPEAKER
Dave Packard, USACE Northwestern Division

TOPIC
Awards
Collaboration Leads to Flood Risk Solutions in Schuyler

By: Jennifer Salak, Outreach Specialist

Rain and chilly temperatures couldn’t dampen the warmth of the smiles radiating from the team as the ceremonial shovels broke ground in Schuyler, Neb., March 27. This was an important day for the city of Schuyler, the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District (NRD), and the Omaha District, all partnering on a project to reduce flood risks in Schuyler.

The formal groundbreaking ceremony took place at the Oak Ballroom, a Roosevelt-era structure built on the north shore of Lost Creek by the Works Project Administration. Schuyler Mayor Dave Reinecke, a speaker at the ceremony, recounted stories of watching his neighbors lose their homes to flooding from Shell Creek in 1990 and the fire department filling his basement with water to prevent the foundation from caving in during that same flood. Reinecke said that over his 16-year term in office, he has watched his entire community suffer through numerous devastating floods from the water overflowing the banks of Shell Creek and Lost Creek.

As each speaker addressed the crowd of approximately 50, one simple message consistently emerged – the spirit of collaboration that was shown by everyone involved with the project.

As the crowd left the Oak Ballroom and made its way to the rain-soaked project site, TJC Engineering had been hard at work removing trees and clearing ground cover for the project. The Louisville, Ky.-based company, which has extensive experience working with other USACE districts around the country, was awarded the $3.2 million construction contract in September 2013 for the first phase of the project. Phase 1 consists of a new 2.18-mile levee located north and east of Schuyler designed to reduce flooding risks posed by Shell Creek.

Project Feasibility

Construction planning for this new levee involved extensive collaboration between numerous stakeholders. The partnership began in the early 2000s when the city of Schuyler and the Lower Platte North NRD approached the Omaha District about conducting an initial assessment of Platte River flooding and evaluating levee alternatives to reduce flood risk along the southern portion of Schuyler. According to Mark Nelson, Planning Branch Project Manager, “The results of that study indicated that there was federal interest in pursuing a comprehensive feasibility study.”

Schuyler and the NRD agreed to be cost-share sponsors with the Omaha District for a Section 205 flood risk management feasibility study. As the Platte River study progressed, a major flood from Shell Creek in May 2008 caused property damage in the northeastern part of the city. Because of the extensive flood devastation, Schuyler added Shell Creek to the feasibility study.

Other speakers included staff members from the offices of U.S. Representative Jeff Fortenberry, Senator Mike Johanns, and the Lower Platte North NRD, Tim Culp, owner of TJC Engineering, the contractor hired for constructing the project, also spoke. Closing remarks were given by Omaha District Commander, Colonel Joel Cross.

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While residents were completing repairs to their homes and businesses from the 2008 flood, they were hit again in 2010 with flooding in the north from Shell Creek and in the south from Lost Creek, a minor tributary of the Platte River.

In 2011, with input from the cost-share sponsors and the public, the Omaha District completed the Section 205 feasibility study, which identified an economically-feasible project consisting of two levee systems, one to reduce risks from Shell Creek flooding and another along the south side of the city to address Platte River flooding.

Team Collaboration

“Collaboration on this project has been key, and every single member of the Project Delivery Team has been fully engaged with the sponsors, landowners impacted by the project and residents affected by years of flooding,” said Nelson.

Tommy Aldmeyer and Andrew Barry, Geotechnical Engineers in the Geotechnical Engineering Branch, spent many hours in the field working with landowners laying out a final levee alignment that would have the least impact on each person’s property. They also worked extensively with landowners to ensure their irrigation equipment would continue to be able to water crops on both sides of the levee.

Curtis Miller, a Hydraulic Engineer in the Hydraulic Engineering Branch, worked with residents of Rogers, a community of 95 people located 8 miles downstream from Schuyler, to demonstrate through hydraulic modeling that the Shell Creek levee would not contribute to an increased likelihood of flooding.

“Other team members played an integral part in getting this project to the groundbreaking,” said Nelson. “Candace Akins in Real Estate negotiated tirelessly with the city, the NRD and landowners to obtain the required real estate for the project. Christian Davenport in the Engineering Division coordinated with the Nebraska Department of Roads to ensure no traffic safety concerns were created with the road raise. Tom Gorman, also in the Engineering Division, worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to make sure the new levee would comply with that agency’s floodplain regulations.”

By adhering to FEMA standards, the new Shell Creek levee can be accredited, which will benefit Schuyler residents in the protected area with greatly reduced flood insurance premiums.

Two-Phase Project

Phase 1 construction of the Shell Creek levee is expected to be complete in the fall of 2014. Phase 2, once funded, would involve constructing a new levee, approximately 2.5 miles long, south and west of Schuyler along Lost Creek. The Omaha District is working on the design of the Platte River levee. Once the total project is fully implemented (Phase 1 and 2), the risk of flooding in the majority of Schuyler will be greatly reduced, and the potential for annual flood damages will be lowered by approximately $1.9 million.

message from the editor

The Omaha Post is currently accepting articles, press releases, members in the news, job opportunities, etc., for the Fall 2014 newsletter. Please e-mail your articles by October 17, 2014 to Gina Raven at gina.raven@hdrinc.com.
Welcome New Members

Mr. James Torres, AIA  
DLR Group

Mr. Cesar Garcia, PE  
DLR Group

Mr. Jacob McConnell, PE  
DLR Group

Mr. Stanley Meradith, AIA  
DLR Group

Mr. Chris Koehler  
Versar

Mr. Douglas Ashline, Jr., PE  
Versar

Ms. Melanie Barber, PE  
Versar

Mr. David Feiertag  
Versar

Mr. Kirk Ahrends  
Metropolitan Community College

Mr. Frazer Lockhart, PMP  
The S. M. Stoller Corporation

Mr. Kevin Hall  
EAD, Inc.

Mr. Sal Nodjomian  
Matrix Design Group

Mr. Andrew Stephens  
LEDAMARK LLC

Mr. James Lowe, PE, LEED AP  
The Schemmer Associates, Inc.

Ms. Jodi Vaccaro  
USA Environmental, Inc.

Mr. Robert Edwards  
Leidos

Mr. Peter Vaccaro, PE  
TranSystems

Mr. Kevin McNamara  
Sullivan International Group, Inc.

Mr. Roche LeBron  
LeBron Electrical Works, Inc.

Ms. Michelle French, CIH  
RVP

Mr. Matt Matteson  
CTI and Associates, Inc.

Mr. Tim Moore  
CTI and Associates, Inc.

Mrs. Amy Donner  
Tepa, LLC

Mr. Dave Brewer, PG  
Tepa, LLC

Mr. Scott Hartford, PE  
Stanley Consultants Inc.

COL Scott Ayres  
Iowa Army National Guard

MAJ Erik Karstensen

Ms. Sandra Zebrowski, PE

Mr. Kyle Anibas

Ms. Karen Jarvis

Mr. Joshua Rothanzl, PE

Ms. Catherine Grow

Sand Volleyball Tournament to Support Wounded Warriors Family Support

Saturday, August 23, 2014  
Round Robin Play Starts at 9:30 a.m.

O’Leavers  
1322 South Saddle Creek Road  
Omaha, Nebraska

Mentors are needed for the Student Mentoring Program. Go to http://www.sameomaha.org to find out how you can get involved!
Industry Day 2014

By: Cybil Boss

On May 5-7, 2014, the Omaha Post hosted an Industry Day & Golf Outing. The annual event kicked off with the golf outing on Monday, and concluded with the 2-day conference on Tuesday and Wednesday. Attendees from all over the country traveled to Omaha for this event. Over 135 golfers participated in the golf outing at Tiburon and over 325 attendees participated in the Industry Day at the Embassy Suites Downtown. An additional 40 exhibitors and over 60 sponsors contributed to the success of this event.

The theme for the 2014 Industry Day was Adapt to Thrive. The Keynote presentation was delivered by Colonel John D. Folsom, USMCR who is the founder and president of Wounded Warriors Family Support, a Nebraska non-profit corporation. Lieutenant General (Ret.) Robert VanAntwerp delivered an inspiring presentation on leadership, and also was the featured speaker at a special Young Members / Fellows networking luncheon following the conference. The planning committee was pleased to introduce networking 8-on-1s to the conference program as well.

The rest of the conference program included updates from the USACE Northwestern Division, Omaha and Kansas City Districts, and U.S. Army and Engineering Support Center, Huntsville. Training sessions covered sustainability, transportation, thriving in government markets, emergency preparedness, business skills, and environment, safety and occupational health.

Again, thank you to all of our attendees and sponsors for your support of the 2014 Omaha Post Industry Day & Golf Outing. The presentations and attendee list for the 2014 Industry Day can be found on the Industry Day website. We look forward to another successful event in 2015! Mark your calendars for May 4-6, 2015 and join us in Omaha.

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New Post Coin

By: John Remus and Dave Henney

The use of “challenge” coins in the military has a long history. As early as World War I several of the newly formed flying squadrons had medallions stamped with their unit insignia. One pilot that was shot down behind enemy lines had lost all of his identification except his coin, and was set to be executed as a saboteur until someone with the French resistance recognized the insignia on the coin.

During World War II, members of the Office of Strategic Services who were deployed in Nazi-held France used a local coin as a “Bona Fides” during personal meetings to help verify a person’s identity. There would be specific aspects such as type of coin, date of the coin, etc. that were examined by each party. This helped prevent infiltration into the meeting by a spy who would need advance knowledge of the meeting time and place as well as what coin was to be presented, amongst other signals, as bona fides.

As the use of coins developed it became tradition to ensure that all members of an organization carry their coin at all times. This was accomplished through challenge in the following manner - a challenger would ask to see the medallion. If the challenged could not produce a medallion, they were required to buy a drink of choice for the member who challenged them. If the challenged member produced a medallion, then the challenging member was required to pay for the drink.

More recently coins have been used within the military as awards for outstanding service or duty, or used as incentives to build morale. The Society of American Military Engineers, while a civilian organization, has a long history of working with and supporting the United States Military.

For 75 years, the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) has had a lead role in supporting the technical, organizational and personal needs of the growing military community. The Society’s Omaha Post began with the military engineers assigned to the U.S. Engineers Office during late 1938 and early 1939. A 1939 letter from Lt. Edwin A. Bedell to the National Headquarters requested information and assistance in forming a SAME Post.

On March 12, 1940, a formal meeting under the chairmanship of Lt. Col. W. M. Hoge was held at the U.S. Engineers Office. By agreement of those present, a committee was appointed to submit a report on the activities and services that could be performed by a local post. The Organizational Committee presented their report at a follow-up meeting on March 19 and received direction to establish a Petition for Charter. The National Society chartered the Post effective March 26, 1940 with 38 Charter Members.

The Omaha Post coin, shown below, commemorates the contribution of the Omaha Post to the military and civilian engineering community that it supports, celebrating the strength of its local members, and its continuing leadership at the national level through regional vice president officership, national officers, national and regional board and committee service; and initiatives such as the 1995 host of the Society’s national diamond anniversary conference. The coin will be given by the Post President as a memento or award to a member or guest that has provided notable contributions or services to the post.

To stay up-to-date on current events, view or join discussions by members or meet SAME Omaha Post members, visit www.linkedin.com.

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Environment
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2014 Camps and Scholarships
By: Natasha Hartley

Camps
The Omaha SAME Post sponsors a minimum of two campers to attend any of the three SAME Engineering and Construction Camps: the Army Camp in Vicksburg, Mississippi, Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO, or the U.S. Marine Corps Camp in Camp Lejeune, NC.

This year we sent two students to the Air Force Academy camp, June 26th – July 2nd, 2014. The Black Hills Field Post sponsored Noah Diamond, a sophomore from Stevens High School in Rapid City, South Dakota and the Omaha Post sponsored Jared Bartels, a sophomore from Platteview High School, Nebraska. Please see both Noah and Jared’s articles on the following pages sharing their camp experience.

If you know of a high school student who would be interested in attending these camps, please encourage them to apply next year. Applications are due on March 1st. Information on the camps can be found on our Omaha Post web site.

Scholarships
The Omaha SAME Post’s Scholarship is a renewable scholarship for a maximum of $8,000 over 5 years for one High School senior participating in the Omaha Post’s Student Mentoring Program (SMP) or similar Post or school sponsored engineering/architectural activities. The scholarship starts out as a $1,000 a year scholarship for the freshman and sophomore years and increases to a $2,000 a year scholarship for the junior, senior, and 5th year if necessary. In order to have the scholarship renewed applicants need to:

- Maintain a 3.0 GPA
- Continue in an engineering/architectural program or a related field of study
- Are encouraged to participate in the SAME chapter at their university or college
- Have contact with their SAME Fellow mentor.

The following renewal applicants continue to meet the scholarship requirements, so their scholarships are being renewed.

- The $2,000 Senior Scholarship was awarded to a junior at UNO studying Construction Management, Adam Crnkovich. Adam’s SAME Fellow Mentor is Jeanne Lebron.
- The $2,000 Junior Scholarship was awarded to a sophomore at UNL studying Civil Engineering, David Johansen. David’s SAME Fellow Mentor is Bob Roumph.
- The $2,000 Sophomore Scholarship was awarded to Seamus Mulcahy a freshman at UNL studying Architecture. Seamus’ SAME Fellow Mentor is Kurt Ubbelohde.
- The $1,000 Omaha Post Freshman Scholarship was awarded to a senior, Grayson Harvey, from Abraham Lincoln High School who will be attending Iowa State University in the fall to study mechanical engineering. Grayson’s SAME Fellow Mentor is Mike Baldino.

The Doug Plack Memorial Scholarship was also awarded at Industry Day. In appreciation of his many years of volunteer assistance to the organization, the Omaha Post established the Doug Plack Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship has been established in perpetuity and will provide education and training funds for a member of the Society, or for someone in their family. The goal of the Plack Scholarship is to raise a base of $20,000, from which the annual interest (approximately $2,000) will be given to one student per year. The first recipients of the scholarship were Doug’s children, Adam and Whitney, who have now graduated and Adam is now serving as the Omaha Post Scholarship Chairman. The Doug Plack Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Linsey Rohe. Linsey’s SAME Fellow Mentor is John Remus.

Linsey is a senior at UNL studying architectural engineering. She is a volunteer for Special Olympics and the Open Door Mission and is currently interning at Olsson Associates.

Congratulations Linsey!

If you know of a student studying for an engineering/architectural degree who would qualify for these scholarships, please encourage them to apply next year. Applications are due on March 1st. Applications can be found at http://www.sameomaha.org/Omaha_Post_Site/Committees_Scholarships.html.
USAFA SAME Engineering and Construction Camp 2014

By: Noah Diamond

On 26 Jun 14 I began my coming of age trip when I arrived at the United States Air Force Academy for the USAF SAME Engineering and Construction Camp. Despite being comfortable in the wilderness mountains of Wyoming, I found traveling alone for the first time through the jungle of airports and transfers to be more anxiety provoking than I had expected. This was my first of many challenges I would find during my week in Colorado Springs.

Half expecting to be thrown in line by a drill sergeant – I was warmly greeted at the airport by a friendly and personable staffer, and other campers that I instantly felt a comrade with. As we entered the Academy campus I felt upwelling feelings of privilege, excitement and anticipation. Campers were immediately divided into eight flights with twelve members on each team, and without enough time to eat our lunches we were sent to our first task.

While a member of Bravo flight, we built and designed a variety of structures, toured the United States Air Force Academy facilities, and attended small group lectures by both military and civilian engineers. Over a week’s time our flights competed in hands-on activities that were based on a “build then design” learning model where we learned from our successes and mistakes. We constructed, within timed deadlines, a wooden framed building, multiple types of towers, concrete and balsa beams, model gliders, and functional sprinkler systems to name a few. The projects were graded on team work, costs, practicality and strength. Each project illustrated a different engineering principal. To meet timed deadlines for the project, each flight selected a leader for the challenge and then the team collaborated to find their best solution. Of course we found that good teamwork and everyone contributing to the challenge provided most our success.

Later, during the camp, we toured the United States Air Force Academy campus and many of their engineering departments and labs. The two departments that really interested me and sparked my imagination were aeronautical and biological engineering. The aero-engineering department is given assignments from the government and civilian corporations to modify and design manned aircraft and drones. The bio-engineering department is working to create a strain of algae that is hardy, and creates an abundance of lipids. The lipids are extracted from the algae cells and refined into renewable fuels. Both of these disciplines are on the cutting edge of their fields and have the potential to make major impacts on military and civilian technologies.

Throughout the camp we listened to prominent military and civilian engineers who gave talks about their experiences and insights to a variety of engineering fields. Some memorable speakers included astronaut Col. Alvin Drew (USAF), and Col. Joel R. Cross, Commander of the Omaha District of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers. These speakers had lots of insightful tips for young and aspiring engineers.

2 Jul 14 was graduation day. I never would have expected this camp to have such a positive impact on my life. I left camp with priceless experiences and a whole new understanding of what it’s like to be an engineer. I met many likeminded peers my own age, who will be my lifelong friends, and after this team building camp I will be a better leader. I am now increasingly inspired to pursue engineering as a profession, and reaffirmed in my desire to apply to the United States Air Force Academy. Hopefully, one day I can return to this camp as a cadet, or as an engineer.

I would like to thank the Omaha SAME Post for sponsoring me to attend this camp, the Black Hills Field Chapter in my nomination, and Lt. Col. (Ret.) Bryan Vulcan for his assistance with my application.
SAME Camp 2014
By: Jared Bartels

I was at first very reluctant to apply for this camp thinking in my head I wouldn’t be good enough or smart enough for all the kids that might be applying as well. I am so thankful that I was given this opportunity by my local post because the experience was phenomenal. I was surprised when I got there to realize how far some people had come to attend this camp. I thought to myself that it must be top notch if it draws from across the country. Our flights were predetermined and I was to be in Alpha along with 11 others and our flight commander Joey Lehotsky.

At the start our group did a few small activities that didn’t count for or against our end score. Our group had a few leaders stick out and take charge during those first few small things and we did not receive the best judging by far. The next day we followed the same path until we realized that our entire group was at this camp for a reason. We started taking more input and picked one leader instead of having many with conflicting ideas. It really worked and showed on the score board since we held the lead up until the very end, where our group fell apart in our water balloon catapult and water filtration setups.

My absolute favorite event we did at camp was the Balsa Wood Bridge. Our flight was divided in half and one did a water balloon catapult and the other built a balsa wood bridge. The objective in the Balsa Wood Bridge project was to build a bridge that could span a 17” gap and have it be the lightest yet hold the most weight. Our group built a rectangle like structure, as you can see in the picture, that weighed roughly a quarter of a pound and was able to hold an assortment of rocks and water in a bucket weighing up to roughly 130 pounds. We crushed the competition in that event and it was my favorite for how well our small group worked together to complete it in a short 45 minute time frame.

Overall, this camp taught me a lot and made it amazingly fun. I not only learned more about engineering in general, along with all the possibilities but I also learned the military side of the equation and how it adds so much more opportunity. I’m not entirely set on the military yet, but it has definitely opened my eyes more to the opportunity and I am keeping it in my sights for the future. Again, I am entirely thankful for the opportunity to attend this camp; it has changed many perceptions I used to have for the better.
The APC Does 2014 JETC

By: Dave Packard

The Architectural Practice Committee (APC) celebrated its first anniversary during the 2014 Joint Engineer Training Conference (JETC) held in Orlando, Florida May 20-23, 2014. The APC hosted two Concurrent Education Sessions during the conference. The first, held on Wednesday, May 21, titled “2013 SAME Urbahn Medal Recipient Lecture” was moderated by David Packard, APC Vice Chair for Communications. An update to APC initiatives by APC Chair, JJ Tang was followed with a feature presentation by Mr. Charles Enos, AIA, LEED AP, Principal, EYP Architecture & Engineering PC, recipient of the 2013 Urbahn Medal. His presentation is titled “Sustainable Design in Renovation – Case Studies” and available at http://www.same.org/images/Documents/APC_Enos.pdf. The presentation followed the development of sustainable designs for three existing federally-owned structures, demonstrating designers’ challenges to achieve LEED NC criteria within the limits of existing and historically significant buildings. The work was the basis of his award.

Ed Gauvreau, AIA, is the Vice-Chair, AIA Public Architects Advisory Group and the Army’s Service Branch Liaison to the Architecture Practice Committee. His presentation focused on the great architectural design work being done by public agency architects in a presentation titled, “AIA Public Architects Knowledge Community”.

A second Concurrent Education Session was held on Thursday, May 22, and moderated by APC Chair, JJ Tang. The session, titled “DoD Facility Design & Construction Strategic Focus and Direction”, explored facility design and construction from the perspectives of chief architects of the Air Force (Gene Mesick, R.A., AFCEC), the Navy (Ray Rodriguez, NCARB+GCP, LEED AP, NAVFAC Southeast), and the Army (Scott Wick, AIA, LEED AP, PMP, HQUSACE). The dialogue that resulted from the session yielded valuable feedback to the agencies from public agency and private sector architects.

Members and spouses of the Architectural Practice Committee, along with 2013-2014 SAME President Gary Engle and his wife, gathered for a very special social outing, hosted by Charles Enos. The group was treated to a tour of several new attractions which recently opened at Walt Disney World’s Magic Kingdom, guided by Steve Grant, WDW Architect, and Diego Parras, WDW Office of Public Affairs. Their enthusiastic presentation included detailed descriptions of the challenges facing WDW design and construction teams as they completed work on new attractions within the WDW operating environment. Attention to design details with extreme operational demands (around the clock operation, high density public safety, and contextual design) can present special challenges to the WDW Imagineering team. The planning, programming, and construction they do sets the Disney experience apart from similar theme park experiences and the enthusiasm modeled by our hosts was infectious, to say the least! Afterward, the APC retired to a local Japanese steakhouse for a delightful rest at the end of a long, but gratifying day.
Call For Nominees 2014 SAME Awards
By: Jodi Vaccaro

The Omaha Post Awards Committee is seeking nominations for the 2014 SAME Awards Program. While deadlines for National awards do not occur until February 13, 2015, the Omaha Post initiated an annual awards program in 2009 to identify OUR best candidates for awards in all categories. The 6th Annual Omaha Post Awards Program is scheduled for December 4, 2014 and nominations for that program must be submitted by November 20, 2014. Potential candidates for National awards will then be recognized at the local level and submitted for national recognition in January.

The list of SAME Awards is available on the National web site and is summarized below. The Omaha Post has received many significant awards in recent years, most notably the Walter O. Bachus Gold Medal, bestowed on our very own Roger Wozny in 2006. There are MANY members who have made significant contributions to the Omaha Post for years and have yet to be recognized. Please take a moment to consider your fellow members and, more importantly, take the action to make a difference for those who have done the same. You’ll be glad you did.

The committee is always looking for other ways to recognize the achievements of Post members. If you have an idea for an award or know an individual who deserves special recognition, contact us and we’ll determine the best way to make it happen. Additional information regarding the awards program is available by contacting Jodi Vaccaro, Director for Awards and Recognition at (402) 660-4049, jvaccaro@usatampa.com, or visit the SAME web site.

Bliss Medal
Eligibility Criteria
• Full time educator of architecture, engineering, construction in a college, university or military engineer school who has been a member of SAME at least one year prior to nomination.

Nomination Criteria
• Excellence in educating, mentoring, and motivating students in the classroom and through the SAME Student Chapter. Nomination must list courses taught and methods by which nominee interfaces with students and the Student Chapter.

David M. Fraser Award
Eligibility Criteria
• USMA First Class Cadet who has Branched Engineers and will be receiving a degree in one of the following disciplines:
  - Chemical Engineering
  - Civil Engineering
  - Computer Science
  - Electrical Engineering
  - Engineering Management (Various ABET tracks)
  - Environmental Engineering
  - Mechanical Engineering
  - Nuclear Engineering
  - Systems Engineering

• A minimum of 3.0 CQPA (Cumulative Quality Point Average – Academic, Military and Physical).

Selection Criteria
• An informal leader and role model in the graduating class.
• Has taken part in engineer related activities including, but not limited to:
  - Sapper school
  - Engineering-related AIAD
  - SAME Student Chapter leader, organizer, member
  - Community service tied to engineering effort

Gerald C. Brown Mentoring Award
Eligibility Criteria
• Candidate must be an active SAME member and Fellow.

Nomination Criteria
• Advocate - Arrange for the mentee to participate in high-visibility activities within your organization and in SAME-sponsored events.
• Advisor - Communicate the formal and informal realities of career progression; recommend beneficial training; review mentee’s professional development plan if he/she has one.

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Communicator - Establish an environment for open interaction with young members; act as a sounding board for ideas and career concerns.

Coach - Teach managerial and technical skills; recommend specific behaviors for success; encourage Young Members to take leadership roles in SAME.

Sponsor - Take Young Member to SAME meetings and introduce to colleagues; connect Young Members with educational and employment opportunities.

Goethals Medal

Eligibility Criteria
- Registered engineer who has been a member of SAME for at least one year prior to nomination.

Nomination Criteria
- Eminent and notable contributions in engineering, design, or construction in the past five years.

J.W. Morris Sustaining Member Award – Large Company

Eligibility Criteria
- A company in the private sector must be Sustaining Member of at least two or more SAME Posts in each of the previous five years.

Nomination Criteria
The company will be evaluated based on the extent to which during the previous calendar year:
- The company appoints individuals to sustaining member representative positions for each Post affiliation.
- Company representatives take on leadership positions at the Post, Region and National level, including Board of Direction, standing committees and conference planning committees.
- Company supports Young Member participation in Society activities and mentoring programs.
- Company supports K-12, College Outreach and community service activities.
- The number of Posts supporting the nomination with validation of the company’s participation during the past year (in the form of attached letters of support).
- The company advertises in SAME publications (The Military Engineer, SAME News and the Print Version of the Directory of Member Companies & Public Agencies).
- The company exhibited and sponsored activities/events at SAME National and Region Conferences.

Paul R. Smith Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Medal

Eligibility Criteria
- Any Active, Reserve, National Guard or Retired Noncommissioned Officer who has been a member of The Society for at least one year prior to nomination.

Nomination Criteria
- Outstanding leadership and accomplishments in support of the SAME Strategic Plan.
- Outstanding leadership and contributions to military engineering over the past five years.

Public Agency Award

Eligibility Criteria
- Any federal, state, or local public agency that has maintained its membership for three or more years is eligible for the award. For federal agencies, the award is intended for a field organization, not the entire agency.

Nomination Criteria
- Extent to which the public agency appoints individuals to public agency representative positions for each Post affiliation.
- Extent to which the public agency participates in procurement opportunity briefings.
- Extent to which public agency representatives take on leadership positions at the Post level, including Board of Direction and standing/ad hoc committees.
- Extent to which public agency supports Young Member participation in Society activities and mentoring programs.
- Extent to which public agency supports K-12, College Outreach and community service activities.
- Extent to which the public agency participates in Small Business programs sponsored by The Society or federal agencies.
Robert B. Flowers Small Business Member Award

Eligibility Criteria
- A company that has at least one Post Sustaining Membership in the past three years and is a Small Business in at least one NAICS category as of the date of nomination.

Nomination Criteria
- Extent to which the company appoints individuals to sustaining member representative positions for each Post affiliation.
- Extent to which company SM representatives take on leadership positions at the Post level, including Board of Direction and committees.
- Extent to which company supported Young Member participation in Society activities and mentoring programs.
- Extent to which the company supports K-12, College Outreach and community service activities.
- Extent to which the company participates in Small Business programs sponsored by The Society or public agencies.
- Extent to which the company advertises in TME-The Military Engineer magazine, and the Directory of Member Companies & Organizations (online or print versions).
- Extent to which the company exhibits and sponsors at SAME region and national conferences.

Seymour S. Greenfield Sustaining Member Award – Medium Company

Eligibility Criteria
- In order to be eligible for the award, an SAME Sustaining Member company in the private sector must be a medium-sized company (101-2,499 employees) and be a Sustaining Member of at least two or more SAME Posts in each of the previous five years.

Nomination Criteria
The company will be evaluated based on the extent to which during the previous calendar year:
- The company appoints individuals to sustaining member representative positions for each Post affiliation.
- Company representatives take on leadership positions at the Post, Region and National level, including Board of Direction, standing committees and conference planning committees.
- Company supports Young Member participation in Society activities and mentoring programs.
- Company supports K-12, College Outreach and community service activities.
- The number of Posts supporting the nomination with validation of the company’s participation during the past year (in the form of attached letters of support).
- The company advertises in SAME publications (The Military Engineer and the print version of the Directory of Member Companies & Organizations).
- The company exhibited and sponsored activities/events at SAME National and Region Conferences.

Student Leadership Medal

Eligibility Criteria
- A Student Chapter officer who has been a member of SAME for a least one year prior to nomination.

Nomination Criteria
The following criteria will be used in judging nominations for excellence in the current academic year:
- Leadership in a SAME Student Chapter.
- Leadership in organizing and conducting professional development.
- Leadership in community service.

Sustainability Award

This award recognizes outstanding efforts to meet the goals of the Executive Order 13514, which focuses on federal leadership in environmental, energy, and economic performance. Nominations can be made by a Post for individuals, teams or units recognizing their efforts in one of two award categories: 1) Towards Net Zero; and 2) Education and Outreach.
The submittal requirements for this award are very specific, so it is advised that criteria be reviewed at: http://www.same.org/index.php/about-same/awards-a-recognition-programs/same-awards/42-about-same/awards-a-recognition-programs/638-sustainability-award

Sverdrup Medal

Eligibility Criteria
- Uniformed Members of SAME, age 39 years or younger in the year for which nominated and who has been a member of SAME for at least three years prior to nomination.

Nomination Criteria
- Outstanding contributions to engineering, design, construction, research & development, or planning for the past three years.
- Demonstrated leadership in managing projects or organizations.
- Receipt of awards or other recognition for professionalism, leadership.

Urbahn Medal

Eligibility Criteria
- A Registered Architect who has been a member of SAME for at least three years prior to nomination.

Nomination Criteria
- Eminent and notable contribution in the field of architecture with emphasis on accomplishments in the past five years.

Technology Advancement Medal

Eligibility Criteria
- SAME member for at least three years prior to nomination and has led the advancement of engineering or related technology in support of the DOD mission.

Nomination Criteria
This Medal is given only to an individual but the individual can be a leader of a team who can also be recognized with certificates of achievement. The award recognizes:
- Advancement of technology to benefit DOD users.
- Application of technology to projects resulting in improved quality, endurance and/or cost savings.
- Communication skills in getting user adoption of technology.

Tudor Medal

Eligibility Criteria
- Civilian member of SAME age 39 years or younger in the year for which nominated and who was a member of SAME for at least three years prior to nomination.

Nomination Criteria
- Outstanding leadership and accomplishments in support of the Society Mission over one's entire period of membership in the SAME.

Walter O. Bachus Gold Medal

Eligibility Criteria
- A member of The Society for at least 20 years.

Nomination Criteria
- Outstanding leadership and accomplishments in support of the Society mission over one's entire period of membership in the SAME.

Did you know SAME has a Student Chapter?

Contact Jessica Branigan, USACE-Omaha District at 402-995-2332 or Jessica.A.Branigan@usace.army.mil for more information.
Join the SAME Omaha Post for a SAND VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT!

WHAT: Sand volleyball tournament to support Wounded Warriors Family Support

WHEN: Saturday, August 23, 2014; Round robin play starts at 9:30am

WHERE: O’Leavers, 1322 South Saddle Creek Road, Omaha

Join the SAME Omaha Post at this fun event to raise money for Wounded Warriors Family Support, and compete against other A/E/C firms.
Teams will be 6x6 Coed (Minimum of 2 females required per team).
Lunch will be provided, and beverages will be available for purchase.
All proceeds to benefit Wounded Warriors Family Support.

COST: $150 per team; Checks payable to ‘SAME Omaha Post’

TO REGISTER OR QUESTIONS: Please contact Cybil Boss (402.952.2539 or Cybil.Boss@URS.com); DEADLINE for registration is August 18th

The Omaha Post Young Members are proud to host this event.
Sustaining Member Spotlight Volunteers Needed
Please consider providing the Sustaining Member Spotlight at a luncheon meeting. Contact Tom Svoboda, Farris Engineering at 402-952-4363 or tsvoboda@farris-usa, if you are interested.

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Environmental consulting
Emergency response
SAME Sustaining Members are welcome to submit job opportunity advertisements for inclusion in the SAME Omaha Post quarterly newsletter. We require that your advertisement not exceed business card size and that you submit it in the form of an image (jpg, tif, etc.) or pdf. Please e-mail your advertisement to gina.raven@hdrinc.com.

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