Message From the President

Dear Omaha Post Members,

Wow! Our Post is on a roll. We are so fortunate to have such great volunteers!

First, I want to thank all of the Sustaining members and Fellows for their commitment. As most of you know without the Sustaining Firms and their employee support, a lot of us would not be able to attend the meetings (and have company reimbursed meals). There are events like Industry Day that simply wouldn’t succeed without company support. In addition, the Fellows are recognized as leadership contributors to SAME. The Fellows members form an advisory panel that provides tradition and mentorship for the President and the Board. They keep us between the ditches and moving down the right path. I personally recognize their solid advice and contribution to making the Post great! Also, there are many other members contributing, progressing and making a difference.

Hopefully, all of you had a great 2014 and got through the holiday meals without growing around your middle. New Year’s resolutions are something I utilize. I wish good fortune keeping all of yours in 2015 and suggest that some involve SAME - improving your career or giving back through the Omaha Post.

I mentioned in my summer 2014 message that challenges were ahead but were never a concern as our strong tradition will carry us through. The current team of officers are evidence of our leadership. The committee chairs are proactive. Let’s review a few of the many activities, with references to the newsletter pages that you can read about:

- **Student Mentoring** – Regional V. P. Award to Anne Peterson (page 7).
- **Strong Student Chapter** – Seminars (page 5).
- **Scholarships and Camps** – (page 8).
- **Holiday Awards** – Focus on Industry Day (page 7).
- **Membership Growth** – New Members (page 10).
- **Sustaining Member Spotlight** – Spotlight Benefit contact (page 9).

I could go on … this is an exciting time! Mark your calendars to attend upcoming events: Engineers Week is always a wonderful program, the Student Mentoring Competition is coming up and then there is Omaha Post Industry Day for those who want to build their business and improve teaming. See the Omaha Post website for the particulars and specific dates. Monthly meeting programs also have been stellar and offer Professional Development Hours; it is all part of the value for SAME members.

I hope to see you at a meeting soon. Please come up, introduce yourself, and give me or other Board members or Fellows some ideas and feedback on how we are doing. It is important to have active participation and to keep accountability in the process. However, the best part is networking and sharing ideas. My challenge to each member is to get involved and help us continue to improve.

Wishing all of you a great and prosperous spring and the rest of 2015. If I can do anything to make your membership more meaningful, let me know. If I can’t help you directly, I will make sure you get connected with someone who will help you.

Lastly, I have had a lot going on in my life with my new gig at CDM Smith. As much as I enjoy the type of work I do, it has been difficult to give the Post all I intended. Many others have taken up the slack. Members are the reason for our success. I am thankful to be a small part of that.

Thanks for all that each of you do for the Omaha Post!

Jim Wathen, P.E., P.L.S., DBIA
Omaha Post President
Calendar of Events

February 19, 2015
E-WEEK Banquet
LOCATION
Strategic Air & space Museum
28210 West Park Hwy
Ashland, Nebraska
TIME
6:00 PM - Social Hour (Cash Bar)
7:00 PM - Banquet and Speaker
SPEAKER
Dennis Pate
TOPIC
Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium African Grasslands Construction

Sponsored by the Engineers Roundtable

March 12, 2015
Board Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/10:30 AM

General Membership Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/11:30 am
SPEAKER
Larry Cieslik, HDR, and an OPPD Representative
TOPIC
Fort Calhoun Flood Planning

April 9, 2015
Board Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/10:30 AM

General Membership Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/11:30 am
SPEAKER
Mary Roth, USACE - NWO
TOPIC
Missouri River Recovery

May 4 - 6, 2015
SAME Omaha Post Industry Day & Golf Outing
LOCATION/TIME
Conference at DoubleTree By Hilton Omaha Downtown (new location)
Golf at Tiburon Golf Club

June 11, 2015
Board Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/10:30 AM

General Membership Meeting
LOCATION/TIME
Field Club/11:30 am
SPEAKER
Jay Kline, Leo A Daly
TOPIC
Working in Saudi Arabia

In This Issue
Message from the President ......................... 1
Calendar of Events ........................................... 2
Site Cleanup Demonstrates Unique Technology .................................. 3
UNO SAME Student Chapter AutoCAD Seminars ................................. 5
Sixth Annual Omaha Post Holiday and Awards Event .......................... 6
HDR’s Hacker Receives 2014 SAME Industry Small Business Advocate Award ............. 7
SAME Scholarships and Camp Applications ....................................... 8
Member Spotlight ........................................... 9
Welcome New Members .................................. 10

Message from the Editor
This will be the last published Omaha Post Newsletter. In response to last year’s membership survey, we are moving toward more social media, mobile, and web-based technologies to communicate with Post members. Please visit us on facebook and LinkedIn.

Also – be watching for a new communication item distributed with the monthly meeting notices that will provide current, timely information to Post members!
Site Cleanup Demonstrates Unique Technology
By: Kerry Larsen, ERDC Public Affairs

VICKSBURG, Miss. - Cleanup efforts on the former motor pool site at the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) in Vicksburg, Mississippi, were recently completed and incorporated some new, cutting-edge technology, making the process more environmentally friendly and economical.

The motor pool operation utilized mechanics to perform maintenance and repairs on vehicles and heavy equipment from the early days of the Waterways Experiment Station until 1996, when the station transitioned to leased and rented vehicles and equipment. The motor pool building served a variety of other purposes, including logistics offices, until 2009, after which time it remained empty until its demolition in 2012.

The ERDC enlisted the assistance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Omaha District and its Environmental Remediation Branch to conduct a three-phase cleanup project on the motor pool site.

The key component of the cleanup was the Vapor Energy Generator (VEG) soil remediation system at the site. The patented VEG technology houses a completely enclosed treatment chamber within which the soil and associated contaminants are heated by introducing steam at temperatures as high as 1,100 degrees Fahrenheit into the chamber. As an internal auger rotates the soil, the steam causes contaminants to be released and captured by a vacuum system inside the enclosed treatment chamber. The captured gases are then run through a series of patented acid gas and emission-reducing filters before being routed back to the generator to be burned as fuel to run the treatment system.

Using this process, the plant actually uses less and less fuel as project time goes on. The system operates completely on recycled water, making it environmentally friendly. Most significantly, once the contaminated soil is treated - in this case to achieve non-detectable levels for all chemicals of potential concern at the site - the clean-treated soil is then placed back into its original location and compacted for reuse, eliminating the need and expense of offsite transportation and disposal of soils at a landfill. Using this soil remediation system resulted in the removal and onsite treatment of a significant amount of contaminant mass that otherwise was slated for disposal at a landfill. As a result, fully treated soils were reused onsite without restrictions, generating significant reductions in cost, liability, vehicle traffic through residential areas, and significant reductions in carbon dioxide and other atmospheric emissions that would otherwise have occurred throughout the soil remediation process.

At ERDC, the need to purchase fill soils was eliminated through full reuse of treated soils, and the organization’s liability for contamination was eliminated through complete treatment rather than by transporting contamination to a landfill, where ERDC would remain responsible for its ultimate fate. The full treatment and reuse of soils also helps minimize the potential for future groundwater impacts from chemicals leaching through soils, thereby aiding groundwater treatment activities in achieving site closure.

All of these accomplishments occurred while achieving remediation carbon footprint reductions on the order of 80 percent over the transport and disposal of soils at an offsite landfill. Phase One of the project involved groundwater testing on the site, followed by in-situ treatment of...
chlorinated solvents present in groundwater from approximately 20 to 35 feet below grade. The groundwater treatment implemented was purposely aggressive to help meet an expedited project timeline, involving the injection of microorganisms that feed on contaminants, a micro-emulsion food source for the microorganisms, and a chemical reducing substrate which degrades contaminants rapidly by introducing ferrous iron into the groundwater system. This treatment was accomplished over a one-week period.

Phase Two of the cleanup targeted soils from the ground surface to approximately 20 feet below grade and was completed in mid-August. Twenty-five hundred cubic yards of soil were excavated from the site. From this soil, approximately 800 cubic yards were found to contain chlorinated solvents consistent with those in the groundwater, including trichloroethylene (TCE), perchloroethylene (PCE), and several of their byproducts, such as vinyl chloride. TCE and PCE have both been used extensively as solvents in the automotive and dry cleaning industries for many years, among other uses. TCE was also used as an anesthetic until the 1980s, routinely mixed with nitrous oxide.

The final phase of the cleanup involves routine monitoring of groundwater quality to ensure that the treatment efforts, especially those associated with the expedited groundwater injection activities, were adequate to sufficiently treat the groundwater and achieve closure of the environmental case at the site.

For more information on this project and VEG Technology:

VEG Soil Remediation Technology.pdf
VEG Technology Remediation Information 120814.pdf
UNO SAME Student Chapter AutoCAD Seminars

By: Jessica Branigan

The UNO SAME Student Chapter hosted two AutoCAD seminars on November 8th, 2014. In the morning, guest presenter Todd Schackelford, from Leo A Daly, presented on some of the basics of Revit and how it is implemented in engineering. In the afternoon, guest presenter Tom Glidewell, from Lamp Rynearson & Associates, presented on some of the basics of AutoCAD Civil 3D and how it is implemented at LRA.

The Student Chapter would like to thank Todd and Tom for taking time out of their weekend to share their expertise with the students! We also would like to thank Chris Langan from LRA for his help in scheduling a presenter and for assisting Tom during his seminar. About 20 students participated in each seminar and all gave positive reviews and thanks to the volunteers who presented. The Student Chapter hopes to make these seminars a tradition in upcoming years!
Sixth Annual Omaha Post Holiday and Awards Event

By: Jodi Vaccaro

The Sixth Annual Omaha Post Holiday and Awards Event was held on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at the Field Club of Omaha. Jodi Vaccaro, Director for Awards and Recognition, announced 2014 award winners and National award nominees.

Members who attained significant Membership Milestones in the Society were presented membership pins. Three members were recognized for 25 years of membership, including: Roberta Perry-Schlicher, P.E.; Joe Shields, P.E.; and COL Robert D. Volz, P.E. USA (Ret.); and three members were recognized for 15 years of membership, including: Connie Cook, Phil Dula, and Christopher D. Wiehl, P.E. In addition, 18 members celebrated their 10 year anniversary, and 41 members celebrated 5 years with SAME. The Society and Omaha Post appreciate the dedication and support of long-term members.

We took a moment to recognize scholarships and awards presented during the past year, including:

Scholarships awarded:
- Freshman ($1K): Grayson Harvey, Iowa State Univ. (Mech. Eng.)
- Sophomore ($1K): Seamus Mulcahy, UNL (Civil Eng.)
- Junior ($2K): David Johansen, UNL (Civil Eng.)
- Senior ($2K): Adam Cmkovich, UNO (Const. Mgmt.)
- Upper Classman ($2K): Meagan Kurmel, UNO (Arch. Eng.)
- Doug Plack Memorial Scholarship ($2K): Linsey Rohe, UNL (Arch. Eng.)

SAME Engineering Camp Scholarships:
- Noah Diamond, Stevens High School, Rapid City, SD
- Jared Bartels, Platteview High School, Platteview, NE

Doug Plack Golden Eagle Award:
- David Packard, USACE Omaha District

Omaha Post President's Awards:
- Kim Collins, USACE Omaha District
- Jeanne Lebron, Altus Architectural Studios

Student Chapter Rising Star Award
For the first time we recognized the efforts of a member of our student chapter with the Omaha Post Student Chapter Rising Star Award. Tim Chavez, current Student Chapter President, was our first recipient.

The Omaha Post Public Sector Partnering Award recognizes an individual employee in the public sector who has made significant contributions to both their workplace and in support of the Society. The 2014 recipient was COL Joel Cross, USACE Omaha District.

The Omaha Post celebrated the success of the annual Omaha Industry Day. The event started in 1999 after Omaha Post successfully hosted a Regional conference the year before. Since 2010, attendance has averaged 350 attendees, with an average revenue of $52,000 for the post. As a way of recognizing those volunteers that have played a major role in Omaha Industry Day, we acknowledged these members that have served on the Planning Committee for three or more years.

- Cybil Boss
- Jeni Merryweather
- Christie Murray
- Keith Potts
- John Remus
- Melissa Scaturro
- Justin Schillerberg
- Jodi Vaccaro
- Jim Wathen
- Jeff Williamson
- Roger Wozny

The Industry Day Co-Chairs were asked to select a couple volunteers that have historically gone above and beyond; the post recognized Barb Tozser, InfraStructure, and Chris Langan, Lamp Rynearson & Associates, for their extraordinary and sustained service. We also recognized Cybil Boss and Christie Murray for providing extraordinary and sustained leadership, serving as the Industry Day Co-Chairs for the past four years.

Continued on page 7...
We were pleased to have our Regional VP, Michelle French, in attendance to present the Regional Vice President’s Award, which is given to individuals who have made significant contributions within the Region or local Post in the past year or for longer durations. The RVP Medal was awarded to Anne Peterson, HDR, for her significant contributions to the Omaha Post Student Mentoring Program.

The program concluded with the recognition of National SAME Award recipients and nominations. Two nominees were forwarded for consideration of National Awards.

Cory Reiter, Sullivan International Group, has been nominated for the Young Member Medal, for outstanding leadership and accomplishments in support of the SAME mission.

Jeanne LeBron, Altus Architectural Studios, was nominated for the Post Small Business Liaison Officer (PSBLO) Award, for eminent and notable contributions to small business. On December 11th, Jeanne was presented this National award at the SAME 2014 Small Business Conference!

Congratulations to the 2014 awardees and thank you to all Omaha Post members for your selfless contributions to the Society.

HDR’s Hacker Receives 2014 SAME Industry Small Business Advocate Award

By: Mary Zgoda

Jackie Hacker, Small Business Program director, was selected by the Society of American Military Engineers to receive the 2014 SAME Industry Small Business Advocate Award. The award was presented during the 2014 SAME Small Business Conference at an awards luncheon Dec. 11 in Kansas City, Missouri.

The award is presented to an individual who has been an outstanding spokesperson and advocate for small business with the Small Business Administration, Department of Defense agencies and other groups, and for outstanding contributions to SAME small business conferences, training sessions and forums.

Hacker, who is based in HDR’s Kansas City, Missouri, office, works with small businesses in the federal, state and local government small business programs. Prior to joining HDR, Hacker founded Jackie Hacker & Associates, LLC, which provided federal business development services to small and large businesses. In this role she served as the small business liaison officer for a major defense contractor and oversaw a highly decorated small business program, including seven Department of Defense Nunn Perry Awards.

She previously received the 2011 Regional Vice Presidents Medal and 2008 Presidential Award for Small Business Advocate of the Year, both from the Society of American Military Engineers.

Presenting the award to Jackie are Col. John W. Mogge, Ph.D., president, and Gen. Joseph Schroedel, P.E., executive director, both of the Society of American Military Engineers.

Mentors are needed for the Student Mentoring Program. Go to http://www.sameomaha.org to find out how you can get involved!
SAME Scholarships and Camps Applications

By: Adam Plack

SAME Scholarship Applications Due March 1st (new applicants)
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 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

New SMP Scholarship applications are due on March 1st. Renewals are due on February 1, 2015. Applications are located at http://www.sameomaha.org/Scholarships.html.

Doug Plack Memorial Scholarship Applications Due on April 1st
The Doug Plack Memorial Scholarship is also open for applicants this year. 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. Applications for the Doug Plack Memorial Scholarship can be located at http://www.sameomaha.org/Doug_Plack_Scholarship.html and are due on April 1, 2015.

If you have additional questions on Scholarships or Camps, please contact Adam Plack at 402-995-2755 or adam.r.plack@usace.army.mil.

SAME Summer Engineering Camp Applications Due March 15th
SAME Omaha Post is now accepting applications for SAME Summer Engineering Camps. The engineering camps are designed for High School students who excel in math, science and technical courses and are interested in pursuing engineering in college. These one-week camps are high energy, hands-on events for students from across the country and around the world. The camps are led by a professional staff of engineers from both private industry and the military services. There are four camps this year:

- U.S. Marine Corps Camp – Camp Lejeune, NC – June TBD, 2015

Applications for these camps are due to the Omaha Post by March 15, 2015.

The Omaha Post will select our top applicants and submit their names to our National organization for final selection. The Omaha Post can sponsor up to two campers. In sponsoring our selected campers, the Omaha Post will pay the camp registration fee ($550) and the camper is responsible for paying for transportation to the camp. Information on the camps can be found at http://www.sameomaha.org/Scholarships.html.

Applications should be submitted to:
Adam Plack
1002 Sterling Drive
Papillion, NE 68046
adam.r.plack@usace.army.mil
Member Spotlight: Jessica Branigan

Position on the SAME Board?
Duties of this position?
Student Chapter Liaison. Duties include working with the student chapter to organize meetings, working with Cybil Boss on procuring items for advertising and promoting the student chapter and Omaha Post, and getting students interested in monthly Post meetings for future involvement after graduation.

“Day” job?
I am a hydraulic engineer for the Army Corps of Engineers Omaha District. I work for the Water Control and Water Quality Section, which maintains the data collection program for the district and provides water management support for tributary projects to the Missouri River.

Personal info
I am currently engaged, and plan on getting married next summer. I recently became a homeowner, and have spent the last few months working on house projects.

How did you become involved with SAME?
I first heard about SAME during a presentation the Omaha Post gave (including Cybil Boss) during one of my college classes. I became interested in getting a student chapter started, and worked with Cybil and some other college students to make that a reality.

What has been personally fulfilling/beneficial from your work with SAME?
The sense of accomplishment I get from successfully organizing or planning events for the student chapter makes it easy to put the time in to work with the students. I know from my experience as a student that being involved in an organization like this can lead to career opportunities and great professional contacts, and I love being able to help current college students make those connections.

What project/task/endeavor have you been most excited/proud to work on in conjunction with SAME?
I’ve only been involved in SAME as a Student Chapter Liaison for a short time; but one of our greatest accomplishments was getting the AutoCAD seminars organized and making them successful. It required a lot of work from both the student officers and myself to find volunteers to teach the sessions, advertise to other students, and plan activities that would result in the seminars being a success in the student’s eyes. All these things were accomplished, and future seminars will see greater interest from all engineering students at UNO, and could evolve into a big yearly event.

What are you looking forward to in the next year? 5 years? 15 years with SAME?
I’m looking forward to becoming more involved in the Omaha Post and getting to contribute more to the great things SAME achieves each year.

What are the goals you hope to accomplish during your time in your position on the board?
I hope to help the student chapter promote their organization enough that a larger core membership can be developed. This will ensure the student organization lasts through future officer changes and facilitate more great ideas for meetings with more involvement.

What would you say to an individual thinking about joining SAME?
SAME is a great opportunity to not only make great connections and continue your learning for yourself in your career, but also to give back to the community. SAME’s involvement with Wounded Warriors and the great opportunities for anybody with ideas to jump in and start something makes it easy to stay involved and be excited to be a member.
Welcome New Members

Ms. Robin Fordyce  
Patti Banks Associates dba Vireo

Mr. Michael Omane-Achamfuor  
Mason & Hanger

Mrs. Mel Scaturro  
LeBron Electrical Works, Inc.

Mr. Todd Feldman  
HDR

Mr. John Martin  
HDR

Mr. Marvin Miller, PE  
The Atlantic Group LLC

Mr. Tim Stagg  
The Atlantic Group LLC

Mr. David DeMartino  
Oneida Total Integrated Enterprises, LLC

Mr. Timothy Pool  
SCS Engineers

Mr. Randy Root  
Burns & McDonnell

Mr. Brian Tri  
Barr Engineering Co.

Mr. Mark Reasoner  
Louis Berger

Mr. Jedd Narsavage  
Louis Berger

Dr. Cheryl Chapman, PhD, PE  
Louis Berger

Mr. Maurice Evans  
Trinity Analysis & Development Corp.

Mr. Peter Andersen  
Trinity Analysis & Development Corp.

Mr. Nick Jaros  
Professional Employment Group

Mr. Timothy Zande  
Aerotek

LTC Michael Sexton, PE  
USACE

Ms. Elizabeth Hunter  
Leo A Daly

Mr. John Yonemori-Antal

LtCol Jerry Sanchez, USAF

CAPT Alex Stites, USN

Mr. Charles Paukert, PE

---

leidos

> Formerly part of SAIC
> A legacy of engineering excellence
> New company name (pronounced ly-dose)

Site restoration, remediation
Regulatory compliance, permitting
Air, water, and waste
Planning
Architecture and Engineering (A/E)
DesignBuild℠
Renewable energy
Environmental consulting
Emergency response

leidos.com/engineering

Environmental Capabilities

- Public Involvement Strategy
- Community Outreach
- Facilitation
- Intergovernmental Relations
- Event Management
- Stakeholder Analysis
- Dispute Resolution
- Risk Communication
- Training

402-934-4495  
www.SolutionsByIMS.com
Omaha Post

USA Environmental, Inc.
A Small Business providing Munitions Response Services

Core Capabilities:
- Munitions Response Services - MEC Characterization, Remediation, & Disposal
- Range Sustainment - Debris Removal, Range Maintenance, & Target Replacement
- Construction Support - MEC Avoidance for Construction Projects and Cultural & Biological Surveys
- Geophysical Services - Digital Geophysical Mapping, GPS Surveying, & GIS Mapping
- Underwater UXO Support - UXO Dive Teams (DGM), Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV)
- Community Education - Public Involvement & Outreach

www.usatampa.com
Jodi Vaccaro, Business Development
402.660.4049 – jvaccaro@usatampa.com

Professionalism – Responsiveness – Cost Effectiveness

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.

SAME Omaha Post 2015 Industry Day & Golf Outing
May 4 - 6, 2015
Golf at Tiburon Golf Club
Conference at DoubleTree By Hilton
Omaha Downtown (new location)

save the date!

SAME Omaha Post Newsletter Winter 2015
Return to Table of Contents