

SAME Omaha Post Monthly Meeting – February 12, 2026

Date: 12 February 2026

Time: 12:00 PM Central Time (CT)

Future Post Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, February 10, 2026 – AFFF Management, Clean Harbors
- Tuesday, March 10, 2026 - Mobile Mapping and Aerial LiDAR – R.W. Engineering & Surveying (Pat Gjork)
- Tuesday, April 14, 2026 – *SMP Award Winner Presentation* – Nicole Hunter
- Tuesday, May 12, 2026 – Nebraska Task Force 1 – Ashley Engler
- Tuesday, July 14, 2026 – *Change of Officers* and potential *Post Awards Presentation*
- Tuesday, August 11, 2026
- Tuesday, September 8, 2026
- Tuesday, October 13, 2026
- Tuesday, November 10, 2026
- Tuesday, December 8, 2026

Call to Order- COL Robert Newbauer: calls the meeting to order at 12:00 PM CT.

Roll Call and Determination of Quorum- Secretary Chris Artz conducted the roll call and confirmed a quorum was present (9 or more from this list).

President: COL Robert Newbauer

Secretary: Chris Artz

Treasurer: Brian Schuele

VP for Service Members and Veterans: Rob Hufford

VP for IGE: Bobbi Jo Lang

VP for Resilience: Don Fucik

VP for Professional Development and Personal Growth: Kandi Srb

VP for Leadership and Mentoring: Tom Svoboda

Past President: Stephanie Heibel

Director for Communications: Jill Zehr

Director for Awards and Recognition: Laurie Smithers

Director for Student Chapters: Stephanie Ling

Director for Young Members: Devin Mueller

Director for Fellows: Natasha Gromak

Co-Director for Student Mentoring: Anne Peterson

Co-Director for Student Mentoring: Bill Glismann

Members at Large in attendance (not counted toward quorum):

Programs: Jake Batenhorst

Programs: Ted Kocher

Industry Day: Cindy Lincicome

Industry Day: Jackie Olsommer

Scholarships & Camps: Sean Bayer

Scholarships & Camps: Lannae Long

Small Business: Veronica Doga

Roger Wozny

- Brec Wilshusen
- Chris Langan
- Ryan Watzke

Approval of Minutes – The January 2026 meeting minutes were presented for approval. Motion to approve was made by Tom Svoboda and seconded by Don Fucik. The minutes were approved without objections.

Reports

President: COL Robert Newbauer – Noted successful involvement with Rocky Mountain Region Industry Day last week. He was able to highlight the Missouri River Region JETS. Lost of interest for those in attendance. He could not attend the Post meeting lunch earlier in the week and asked for feedback.

Secretary: Chris Artz – No Report.

Treasurer: Brian Schuele – Brian presented the revised 2026 budget and walked the board through major line items and assumptions. He reiterated that Industry Day revenue is critical to Post programming and reviewed the baseline net revenue target and revenue-sharing arrangement discussed previously. The board discussed the revised allocations in the draft budget (including E-Week sponsorship reductions and adjustments for Fellows investiture), and Brian fielded questions regarding financial software and accounting practices. Motion to approve the revised 2026 budget was made by Tom Svoboda and seconded by Bobbi Jo Lang. Motion was approved by the board during the call.

VP for Service Members and Veterans: Rob Hufford – Rob reported progress on the CTW (Community/Continuing Training/Transition Work—per Rob’s update) initiative and noted positive feedback from the Air Force squadron engagement. He reported outreach is being pushed toward Army and USACE units, and an enlisted COI point of contact is working to expand communications. Rob noted a landing page is available on the JETS website for program materials and outreach, and he will continue coordinating unit-level engagement and updates.

VP for IGE: Bobbi Jo Lang – Bobbi Jo reported membership metrics: an increase of approximately 15 individual members and 5 new company/organizational memberships since the prior report. She confirmed the UNL E-Week group requested a lunch-and-learn session on Friday, February 20 and noted Tom Svoboda may assist with speakers or coordination. Bobbi Jo highlighted Bagels & Joe (February 17) and a LEGO team-building event scheduled the same week as additional student/early-career outreach. She reported meeting with the National Guard to explain SAME membership benefits and discussed arranging color guard participation for Industry Day.

VP for Resilience: Don Fucik – Don summarized committee activity since the last meeting: the Resilience Committee met and conducted outreach to Douglas County Emergency Management; that office is not currently interested in hosting another workshop, so the committee will maintain the contact and pursue alternate partners. Don noted efforts to coordinate with the Nebraska Association of Emergency Management for participation and will report back on any confirmed activity or training coordination.

VP for Professional Development and Personal Growth: Kandi Srb – Kandi reported the Industry Day committee continues planning work and will hold another committee call the following week to finalize registration timing and logistics. She indicated Program Committee Chair in transition as Ted assumes the position. Kandi asked members to share suggestions for speakers.

VP for Leadership and Mentoring: Tom Svoboda – Post Newcomer’s orientation. Our second quarterly session was held on the afternoon of January 22nd. Mike Huffstetler, SAME National President and DLR Federal Practice Lead, presented to seven Omaha Post participants. The topic of the presentation was the value of SAME participation and included ways members can get involved. SAME sponsored networking followed the presentation. The next quarterly session is scheduled for Thursday April 23rd at Offutt AFB.

Avenue of Scholars – The Omaha Post supports the Avenue of Scholars with a \$5,000 annual contribution. Avenue of Scholars supports about 450 high school students of hope and need in seven Omaha area school districts by holding a class for those students, conducting a summer 4-week boot camp, and facilitating internships. Tom Svoboda and Ryan Watzke meet virtual with Lindsay Decker (CEO) and Michael Johnson

(Director of Learning and Development) on Jan 26th to discuss ways we can be actively involved with the bootcamp and overall program.

Past President: Stephanie Heibel – No Report.

Director for Communications: Jill Zehr – Jill reported that National has resolved access issues that had previously limited updates to the SAME Omaha website.

Director for Awards and Recognition: Laurie Smithers – Laurie reported the Post’s streamer submission is complete (submission had been made prior the deadline being extended to February 4th).

Director for Student Chapters: Stephanie Ling –

SAME MCC Student Chapter is hosting a social gathering next Saturday, February 21st from 4:45-6:45 at Maplewood Lanes in Omaha. The University of Nebraska Chapters have been informed and invited and hopes to get some cross chapter involvement. She will share info about Student Chapter involvement, merchandise, potential to volunteer or have a presence at the SMP competition day. She has forwarded the invoice (\$445 for bowling and food for 20 people) to Brian S.

- The SAME Apparel Store is open, active, and ready for orders. At this time Board members do not have a credit to purchase, but active student chapter members each have a \$35 coupon code associated with the student email address. Here’s the link to access it: <https://same25.itemorder.com/>
- She had no updates from UNO student chapter leadership regarding their search for a UNO faculty sponsor.

Director for Young Members: Devin Mueller – Devin reported engagement with SAME National (LDP UPIC) focused on developing a membership engagement best-practices playbook for Young Member retention. He is coordinating a Young Members event and will share the proposed date and format once finalized.

Director for Fellows: Natasha Gromak – Natasha presented the nomination committee slate and reviewed the ballot from last year with current-status notes. Potential President candidate: Col. Mark Russell (55th Mission Support Group Commander); Col. Newbauer will follow up and confirm within one week. Natasha asked whether the Fellows could host another Fellows-only luncheon at Industry Day; Kandi/ co-chairs (Jackie & Cindy) will be consulted about space and logistics. Bobbi Jo noted possible conflicts on the week of the 27th (CMMC and CTW) and recommended avoiding Wednesday the 27th for Fellows events; Natasha and Bobbi Jo will coordinate offline to secure an appropriate day/room.

Directors for Student Mentoring: Anne Peterson with Bill Glismann – Bill reported they are in the final stretch preparing for SMP activities. Submissions for the SMP competition closed at the end of the previous week and are being finalized. Nicole Hunter will attend the “Introduce a Girl to Engineering” outreach event. The SMP Day on March 26 requires volunteers (including judges) and the committee requested assistance with recruitment. They also noted Awards of Distinction sponsorship is nearly complete and the committee is seeking one additional firm and an attendee to fill that sponsorship slot.

Committee Reports

Industry Day: Cindy Lincicome and Jackie Olsommer – The Industry Day committee continues preparations; registration is scheduled to open in February consistent with the timeline discussed in committee calls.

Programs: Ted Kocher – Ted confirmed the March program slot is filled and is actively working to fill remaining program dates later in the year. He asked board members and agency contacts to forward speaker suggestions and to contact him at tkocher@schemmer.com to cover open months (notably September–November).

Scholarships & Camps: Sean Bayer – Sean reviewed updates to the scholarship application forms and the outreach plan to advertise scholarships using Bobbi Jo’s email lists and SMP coordinator Nicole Hunter. National Camps made initial contact requesting Post support; the Post is prepared to support \$800 for camp tuition and \$800 for travel for selected students. In addition, the 2026 budget includes an Engineering Camps mentor-sponsorship line of \$1,500 to cover mentor participation/expenses.

Small Business: Veronica Doga – No Report.

Meeting adjourned by COL Rob Newbauer at 12:50 PM CT.

Minutes prepared by Chris Artz on February 12, 2026

2026 SAME Budget Worksheet			Notes
Treasurer	Income	Expense	
Misc. Post Expenses	\$100	\$3,600	
Interest Income	\$100	\$0	
E-Week Registrations (Pass Through)	\$0	\$0	
Accountant Fees (Treasurer)	\$0	\$3,000	
Annual Mailbox/Storage Locker/Google Drive (Treasurer)	\$0	\$600	
VP for Professional Development and Personal Growth	Income	Expense	
Monthly Programs	\$0	\$21,000	
Meeting Venues	\$0	\$21,000	
Monthly Meeting Registrations	\$12,000	\$100	
Monthly Meeting Registrations	\$12,000	\$0	
Annual Square Fees	\$0	\$100	
Monthly Member Spotlight Presentation	\$0	\$0	
No Cost	\$0	\$0	
PDHs	\$0	\$0	
Printing expenses	\$0	\$0	
Scholarships	\$33,000	\$48,100	
Split Kitty Donations	\$2,000	\$0	
Scholarship Donations	\$1,000	\$0	
Earned Interest from Investments	\$30,000	\$0	Budget balancing.
Doug Plack Scholarship	\$0	\$8,500	
Mary McKernan Scholarship	\$0	\$10,500	
SMP Scholarships	\$0	\$13,000	
Student Post Scholarships	\$0	\$8,000	
Avenue Scholars Boot Camps	\$0	\$5,000	
Engineering Camps (2 students)	\$0	\$1,600	
Engineering Camps (Mentor Sponsor)	\$0	\$1,500	
Industry Day	\$315,000	\$200,000	
Conference	\$315,000	\$200,000	
Golf			
VP for Leadership and Mentoring	Income	Expense	
SMP Steering Committee	\$5,000	\$65,125	
Sustaining Member Donations	\$5,000	\$0	
Quarterly Invoices (\$7,000)	\$0	\$28,000	
SAME Membership	\$0	\$125	
Program Kickoff with Teachers	\$0	\$2,000	
Competition at UNO	\$0	\$11,000	
Competition Prizes	\$0	\$9,500	
Competition Plaques	\$0	\$2,500	
Field Trip	\$0	\$2,500	
USACE Workshop	\$0	\$2,500	
Teacher's Grant	\$0	\$5,000	
Misc. Expenses	\$0	\$2,000	
Fellows Coordinator	\$0	\$1,500	
Investiture Ceremony Travel & Lodging (1 Fellow)	\$0	\$1,500	
VP for Relationships	Income	Expense	
Membership	\$7,000	\$0	
Annual Member Dues	\$7,000	\$0	
Engineering Roundtable/E-Week	\$0	\$3,000	
E-Week Banquet (Donation & Attendees)	\$0	\$2,000	
E-Week Resume Workshop	\$0	\$1,000	
Community Donations	\$0	\$3,500	
Engineering Day donation to Chamber	\$0	\$500	
Response to donation requests	\$0	\$3,000	
Veteran Outreach	\$0	\$700	
District care package mailings	\$0	\$200	
Healing Waters Event	\$0	\$500	
Small Business Liason	\$0	\$500	
Small Business Conference	\$0	\$500	
Public Agency Partnerships	\$0	\$500	
Miscellaneous outreach	\$0	\$500	
Director for Communications	\$0	\$200	
Post website	\$0	\$200	
Miscellaneous communications	\$0	\$0	
Director for Awards and Recognition	\$0	\$970	
Holiday and Awards Event	\$0	\$350	
Board Member Gifts - \$35 EA (Post President)	\$0	\$420	
Outgoing Post President Gift (Incoming Post President)	\$0	\$200	
Director for Black Hills Field Chapter	\$0	\$1,000	
Symposium Sponsorship	\$0	\$1,000	
National SAME Event Support	\$0	\$9,550	
JETC Travel, Lodging, Registration (YM & Post President)	\$0	\$4,800	
Post Leadership Workshop Travel, Lodging	\$0	\$1,500	
Small Business Conference Travel, Lodging, Registration	\$0	\$2,000	
Regional VP Travel to Post Meetings	\$0	\$1,250	
VP for Resilience	Income	Expense	
Resilience Committee	\$0	\$1,800	
Resilience Conference Travel, Lodging	\$0	\$1,500	
Committee meeting	\$0	\$200	
Misc espenses, travel to meet with NEMA, SERT Training	\$0	\$100	
VP for Young Members and Student Chapter	Income	Expense	
Young Members	\$0	\$2,500	
Professional Development Seminar/Workshop	\$0	\$1,500	
Quarterly Socials	\$0	\$1,000	
Student Chapter	\$0	\$7,500	
Annual Expenses	\$0	\$7,500	
Total	\$372,100	\$371,145	

2026 SAME BUDGET		2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2024 Budget	2024 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 Actual	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Actual	2026 Budget Comments/Questions
INCOME												
Treasurer	\$100.00											
Misc. Income	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$751.46	\$100.00	\$858.29	\$100.00	\$1,165.92	\$1,600.00	\$484.30	\$1,600.00	\$114.60	
VP for Professional Development and Personal Growth	\$360,000.00											
Monthly Meeting Registrations	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$13,386.75	\$12,000.00	\$12,081.91	\$10,000.00	\$12,604.62	\$8,000.00	\$13,235.35	\$8,000.00	\$9,074.95	
Scholarships - Split Kitty Sales	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,198.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,380.00	\$2,000.00	\$317.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,132.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,344.00	
Scholarships - Donations	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$632.28	\$1,000.00	\$1,350.00	\$100.00	\$5,828.58	\$100.00	\$1,000.00	\$100.00	\$240.00	
Scholarships - Foundation Fund Withdrawal	\$30,000.00	\$27,000.00	\$27,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$35,000.00	*This is our budget balancing line item. First time used since 2021
Industry Day	\$315,000.00	\$305,000.00	\$321,700.03	\$260,000.00	\$308,336.35	\$230,000.00	\$261,433.73	\$207,365.00	\$230,704.17	\$165,000.00	\$200,381.22	*Revenue exceeded expectations again.
VP for Leadership and Mentoring	\$5,000.00											
SMP Steering Committee (Sustaining Member Donations)	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$4,454.83	\$5,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00	
Fellows Coordinator	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
VP for Relationships	\$7,000.00											
Annual Membership Dues	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,571.50	\$6,000.00	\$7,252.25	\$4,000.00	\$6,474.75	\$4,000.00	\$4,383.15	\$4,000.00	\$4,569.20	
Small Business Liason	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	
Veterans Outreach	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Total Income	\$372,100.00	\$359,100.00	\$376,694.85	\$319,100.00	\$336,758.80	\$271,200.00	\$292,824.60	\$243,065.00	\$255,938.97	\$201,200.00	\$253,723.97	
EXPENSES												
Treasurer	\$3,600.00											
Misc. Expenses	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,755.76	\$3,640.00	\$3,436.09	\$3,640.00	\$3,600.30	\$5,140.00	\$3,554.77	\$4,440.00	\$3,491.97	
VP for Professional Development and Personal Growth	\$269,200.00											
Monthly Programs	\$21,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$23,200.34	\$16,000.00	\$21,385.15	\$10,500.00	\$15,715.42	\$10,500.00	\$10,386.08	\$10,500.00	\$6,827.34	*December 2024 meeting included
Monthly Meeting Registrations	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	
PDHs	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Scholarships and Camps	\$48,100.00	\$46,100.00	\$28,045.36	\$41,100.00	\$34,066.96	\$22,700.00	\$35,100.00	\$20,700.00	\$21,810.96	\$18,700.00	\$18,000.00	*Some unused and \$6,000 yet to be cashed.
Industry Day	\$200,000.00	\$190,000.00	\$248,483.79	\$160,000.00	\$179,953.07	\$143,000.00	\$158,831.90	\$120,731.00	\$142,635.36	\$95,000.00	\$90,486.64	*Due to anniversary dinner.
VP for Leadership and Mentoring	\$66,625.00											
SMP Steering Committee	\$65,125.00	\$65,125.00	\$62,317.72	\$65,500.00	\$62,142.63	\$64,000.00	\$58,248.17	\$56,000.00	\$47,264.38	\$53,000.00	\$35,354.58	
Fellows Coordinator	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,213.74	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	
VP for Relationships	\$19,920.00											
Engineering Roundtable/E-Week	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$3,065.58	\$4,000.00	\$6,452.92	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$3,000.00	
Community Donations	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$1,100.00	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,500.00	\$360.00	\$6,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	
Veteran Outreach/Community Involvement	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$102.07	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$700.00	\$370.21	\$700.00	\$277.40	\$700.00	\$0.00	
Small Business Liason	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	
Public Agency Partnerships	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$134.24	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	
Director for Communications	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$107.99	\$200.00	\$57.97	\$200.00	\$0.00	
Director for Awards and Recognition	\$970.00	\$970.00	\$75.00	\$970.00	\$0.00	\$970.00	\$934.99	\$970.00	\$729.07	\$970.00	\$447.18	
Director for Black Hills Field Chapter	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	
National SAME Event Support	\$9,550.00	\$9,550.00	\$4,876.26	\$6,750.00	\$5,346.93	\$6,750.00	\$1,558.25	\$6,750.00	\$6,667.48	\$6,750.00	\$0.00	
VP for Resilience	\$1,800.00											
Resiliency Expenses	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,028.58	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	
VP for Young Members and Student Chapter	\$10,000.00											
Young Members	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,938.79	\$2,500.00	\$200.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,055.21	\$2,500.00	\$1,426.02	\$2,500.00	\$1,048.41	
Student Chapter	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$5,933.62	\$7,500.00	\$3,516.04	\$2,000.00	\$7,136.01	\$1,000.00	\$1,256.29	\$1,000.00	\$319.95	
Total Expenses	\$371,145.00	\$358,645.00	\$379,828.71	\$318,760.00	\$317,246.69	\$270,860.00	\$292,713.69	\$242,091.00	\$238,065.78	\$201,160.00	\$158,976.07	
NET INCOME	\$955.00	\$455.00	-\$3,133.86	\$340.00	\$19,512.11	\$340.00	\$110.91	\$974.00	\$17,873.19	\$40.00	\$94,747.90	