



# Lake Michigan Post

Society of American Military Engineers

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## BOY SCOUTS EARN ENGINEERING MERIT BADGES AT NAVSTA

On Saturday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 650 Boy Scouts came aboard NAVSTA Great Lakes to earn various merit badges. NAVFAC Midwest military, staff, and family volunteers took part in leading the architecture and engineering merit badge programs.

There were approximately 50 scouts enrolled in architecture and 20 in engineering. The scouts took part in many activities throughout the day that were led by the volunteers. The activities included lessons in:

- Classes to take in high school to prepare for college.
- Licensing in the fields of architecture and engineering.
- Construction site visit at Building 1 aboard the Naval Station.
- Lesson in the history of the Naval Station construction.
- Discussion on types of bridge construction.
- Design ideas for bridge construction.
- Popsicle stick bridge building contest.



Above, CDR Cyr answers questions at Boy Scouts Building 1 visit.

The winning bridge is proudly displayed! This bridge held a remarkable 80 lbs supported only at the ends over a 20" span.

The bridge contest culminated the event with a lot of excitement from the scouts watching each bridge be weight tested to see which one was the strongest. After testing all 14 entries, we ended up with one team that had a bridge that held all the weights on site. The 24" popsicle stick bridge held 80 lbs. What a great job by the Scouts!!! Everyone had a great time and we are looking forward to the event returning to NAVSTA Great Lakes next year.

*LTJG Jeremy Theis, LMP Assistant Secretary*

Dec 13 Holiday Luncheon - Election – Toys for Tots Collection –White Elephant Gift Exchange



Membership Committee

To kick off the new year, we will be holding a Membership Committee meeting after the January luncheon meeting at Highland Park Country Club on January 10<sup>th</sup>. I am pleased to announce that Al Behring, LMP Board Member, has agreed to help with the Membership Committee this year. We are looking for a few good people to help us revitalize the new membership effort in the private, public and military sectors. Please email me if you are interested in participating [aesche@eschelee.com](mailto:aesche@eschelee.com).  
*Al Esche, Membership Committee Chair*

## Chicagoland Water and Wastewater Preparedness and Business Resiliency Summit

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Water Security Division (WSD) and the Chicago Manufacturing Center co-hosted the Chicagoland Water and Wastewater Preparedness and Business Resiliency Summit on November 28 at EPA Region V headquarters in Chicago. Anthony Bilotti, LMP Readiness and Homeland Security Committee Chair represented S.A.M.E. at the event.

"The summit will take a new look at the interdependency of water, energy, community and industry in a major metropolitan region," said Demetria Giannis, CMC President and CEO. "Drought conditions in the Southeast and the West this summer underscore how important it is for the public and private sectors to work together to mitigate adverse public health, economic, and environmental consequences of disruption in the water supply or wastewater management."

The interactive forum featured business perspectives from Baxter Healthcare Corporation, Corn Products International, PVS Chemicals, Inc. and the Chemical Industry Council of Illinois. Also on the program were risk management and resiliency experts from Aon Insurance, Allstate, and the Illinois Medical Center District. Public sector representatives included the City of Chicago, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, USEPA, the Department of Homeland Security, state and local emergency management officials.

Mr. Drew Orsinger of USEPA will speak to LMP members about water security concerns at our February meeting.  
*Anthony Bilotti – LMP Readiness and Homeland Security Committee Chair*

## Fellow Members of the S.A.M.E. Lake Michigan Post

Happy Holidays! It's hard to believe that the year has come to an end. It has been a great year! Because of your hard work and involvement, the Lake Michigan Post has been active in our community and had a positive impact on our troops' effort overseas.

As I finish my tour as President, I want to say thank you to our wonderful leadership team. They are the folks who work tirelessly each month behind the scenes to ensure our Post's success.



I also want to thank each and every one of you who has volunteered in some capacity, whether it be the Golf Tournament Fundraiser for scholarships, Math Counts, Yellow Ribbon activities, Small Business Expo, or the myriad of other events. This newsletter reflects back on some of this year's activities.

Without your spirit of volunteerism our Post would not have successfully achieved its goals toward scholarship funding, the furthering of engineering and related professional fields, small business outreach, programs offering PDHs, Math Counts, and joint events with the Chicago Post.

As I turn over the gavel next month, I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve.

*CAPT Robert Gibbs,  
2007 President, S.A.M.E.  
Lake Michigan Post*

Share Your Talents

Join Your Committees

Program Committee Recap

## 2007 Election Slate for Officers – Board of Directors

President	John Ochoa
Vice President	CDR Rob Ganowski
Treasurer	Steve Blinderman
Secretary	ENS Nathan Cross
Asst Secretary	LTJG Jeremy Theis

### At Large Directors

Al Behring
Ken Endress
Al Esche
CDR Bob Hartmann
John Markley
Emma Kowalenko

### Committee Chairs

Yellow Ribbon	Jim Powell
Outreach	Ken Endress
Membership Programs	Al Esche
Readiness	Raj Rajaram
Golf Fundraiser	Anthony Bilotti
Website	Blayne Kirsch
Small Business	Manny Costeira
Communication	Steve Blinderman
	Emma Kowalenko

We have had interesting and educational programs in 2007 beginning with the tour of the Battle Station Simulator at the Great Lakes RTC in February and ending with the Joint Chicago and Michigan Post program in November. Topics covered (PDHs distributed) included underwater concrete inspection, LEEDs examples of public buildings, the use of BIM software for building design, and water resources planning in Puerto Rico. We hosted a joint meeting with the Association of Facilities Engineering, learned about experiences of military construction activities in Afghanistan at our Yellow Ribbon BBQ/supplies collection, and our small business expo was a success. Our premier fundraising event, the June, golf outing raised scholarship, engineering camp, and Yellow Ribbon funds.

In 2008, LMP will co-sponsor a Design-Build seminar with the Chicago Post. This half day workshop will be run by the S.A.M.E. National Office of Continuing Education. A sub committee will be formed. Details to follow. Our committee is looking for energetic members with ideas for speakers on topics of interest. Please indicate your interest by e-mailing me at [rjaram@techknow-eng.com](mailto:rjaram@techknow-eng.com).

*Raj Rajaram – Program Committee Chair*

Interested in submitting an article for our next edition? Contact Emma Kowalenko 312-853-0500 ext 24 or [ekowalenko@kowalenkogroup.com](mailto:ekowalenko@kowalenkogroup.com)

\*Lake Michigan Post Website <http://www.same-lakemichigan.org/index.html> for Updates and Changes



# 2007 Highlights

## Joint Lake Michigan Post and Chicago Post Events

**CHICAGO RIVER CRUISE  
Fisher House Fundraiser  
August**

**JOINT MEETING  
Chicago Post Host  
November**

The Golf Outing raised over \$15,000 for scholarships and two engineering camps, and \$1200 for the Yellow Ribbon Committee

## June Golf Outing Raises \$15,000+



## Yellow Ribbon Supplies Collection & BBQ - September

## Small Business Expo & Matchmaking - October

Jun 15  
Golf at  
Midlane

From June through October, the Yellow Ribbon Committee facilitated the collection and shipment of 750 lbs of school and sports supplies, and toys for the distribution by deployed US Troops to children overseas

The time taken saves lives, blesses kids, and encourages those Troops serving us.

More than 100 small and large business representatives attended the 2007 Small Business Expo. For the first time this year, the Expo also included matchmaking sessions for one-on-one networking opportunities between businesses and with assist agencies such as the US SBA and USEPA Region 5.