



DEDICATED TO THE NATION'S DEFENSE SINCE 1920

## ***Lake Michigan Post***

of The Society of American Military Engineers



August 2, 2004

Our Next Post Meeting is . . .

### **Friday, August 13, 2004 Tour of Millennium Park**



**10:30 AM Bus Departs Bldg 190  
1:00 PM Tour Begins**

Please join us on Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup> for an insider's tour of Chicago's new Millennium Park. Two key individuals who helped to create the most exciting new destination to come to town in decades will lead the tour. Our tour guides are Mr. Ed Uhler, FAIA who was the Project Manager for the City and Mr. Jim Conrath, site superintendent for URS.

Lunch is on your own at many of the options provided in the area.

The tour will step off at 1:00 PM from the north side of the skating rink.

Those interested in taking a bus can meet at Building 190 at 10:30 AM.

#### **Special Thanks to the Lake Michigan Post Sustaining Members:**

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Think that Millennium Park is just the replacement for the Grant Park Band shell- well think again. This 24-acre masterpiece is of course home to the Frank Gehry designed band shell, but there's a lot more to see. The Anish Kapoor designed sculpture, Cloud Gate, or the "bean" as it has already affectionately been dubbed. The Crown Fountain designed by Barcelona artist Jaume Plensa with Chicago's Krueck & Sexton features gigantic video images of ordinary Chicagoans who have a big surprise to offer. The bridge over Columbus Drive, also Gehry designed, is a sculpture on it's own. The Lurie Garden, designed by Seattle Landscape Architect Kathryn Gustafson, provides the park with "truly 21st century landscape" according to Architecture critic Blair Kamin. And there's even more to see, so make sure you wear comfortable shoes.

Now, if the artistry of the Park is not enough to tempt you consider some of the incredible engineering feats accomplished by this project. The large portion of the site was constructed over active rail lines almost 40 feet in the air at some locations. At other locations a multilevel parking garage is hidden beneath what appears to be a grassy lawn. Both the sculptural band shell and curving bridge both required significant structural acrobatics to support their stainless steel cladding. You will be amazed to learn some of the insider's stories of the technical feats accomplished to bring this project to completion.

Lastly, after all it's Friday afternoon, it's summer- this is a great opportunity to enjoy all that the city has to offer. Stay downtown to see the concert on Friday night, or enjoy any of the nearby attractions.

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**RSVP to LT Constance Danner by Tuesday, 10 August 2004.**  
**Phone: (847) 688-2600 ext 426; or E-mail: [constance.danner@navy.mil](mailto:constance.danner@navy.mil)**

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