



Society of
SAME
American Military Engineers

Lake Michigan Post

Society of American Military Engineers



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SAME MISSION

"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"

SAME VISION

"To be a premier global engineering organization leading the professional and personal growth of all members in support of military readiness and development of solutions to national security challenges."

POST PRESIDENT THANK YOU

CAPT Scott A. Bernotas, CEC, USN
President, SAME Lake Michigan Post



I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the members of the SAME, Lake Michigan Post (LMP) for their extraordinary efforts and achievements over this last year. When I look back over the last year, I'm amazed at how much was accomplished in such a short period, by so few. I also, would like to say thank you for assistance you gave me in getting up to speed as a new member of the LMP board.

During the course of the last year our major focus was on preparing for and hosting a successful Regional Conference for SAME. Through the absolutely herculean efforts of Jim Lisak, Dean Geers, Robert Soos, and the tremendous support of Ken Endress, Becky Werra, Bob Seguy, Rob Foster, Tract Leaders JJ Tang, Emma Kowalenko, and Jan Huber the Regional Conference was a rousing success. Participants, other posts representatives, regional and National SAME representatives all praised the conference as innovative, informative, well-organized, and rewarding. Please accept my humble appreciation for your dedicated efforts in a job well done!

However, the Regional Conference was not the only focus of the LMP membership. I'd like to specifically thank the LMP members who have, in the course of just one year and through dedicated spirit of volunteerism, achieved the following in support of the local communities:

- Hosted a Small Business Expo which rivaled the Regional Conference in terms of program and public benefit. Thank you membership, especially Jan Kaiser, Aina Vilumsons, and Emma Kowalenko who put this world-class event together.
- Collected gifts for children in war-ravaged countries. Thank you membership, especially Jim Powell who put together the program, collected, packaged and shipped the toys.
- Hosted mentoring programs for the local Youth Build and Youth Conservation Corps. Thank you to all the participants

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Another year has come and gone already! What is striking is the fact that this past year has been full of many Post accomplishments. We began the New Year by inducting the 2011 Officers and Board. Captain Scott A. Bernotas, NAVFAC Midwest, became the Post's President and took the helm with much energy and enthusiasm. Many thanks to the Small Business Expo Committee, who led another successful event in the spring. 300 people from companies across 16 states were in attendance at the Hilton Chicago/Northbrook. The Outreach Committee once again organized our support of the Math Counts program at both the state and local levels. Two of our members received awards this past year, Bernard Ben-Carew received an honorable mention for the SAME Paul R. Smith NCO Medal and JJ Tang was the winner of the SAME Urban Medal. In March we sadly lost one of our members, Allen Glenn Behring, who quietly passed away in late March. We miss you All!

By mid-year our members enjoyed another successful annual Golf Outing. The Golf Outing committee planned this fun fundraising event to benefit our scholarship program. We were able to award \$12,000 in college scholarships and several additional scholarships for the SAME Engineering and Construction Camps. Our annual Yellow Ribbon Barbeque at the NSGL beach house was a great success. 250 lbs. of school supplies and toys were processed for shipment to Djibouti & Afghanistan. This fall, Dean Geers and Robert Soos led their Committee to organize a very successful Regional Conference in Milwaukee. The theme of this year's conference was: Innovate, Collaborate, Discover. There were 453 registrants and 75 exhibitors in attendance. Many thanks to Aina Vilumsons of the Wisconsin Procurement PTAC office and her staff for their continued support of all of the LMP's initiatives, in



SAVE THE DATE
SAME SMALL BUSINESS EXPO
MARCH 7 - 8
HILTON NORTHBROOK

POST PRESIDENT THANK YOU (CONT'D)

for taking the time to make a difference and Tony Bilotti and Emma Kowlenko for putting the program together.

- Delivered Scholarships to deserving future engineers. Thank you to all who participated in the evaluation process and Ken Endress for running this program and finding the deserving candidates.

I'd be remiss if I also didn't thank the board members for their dedicated efforts every month in a host of other programs (Joint meetings with the USCGB on Sustainability and the Chicago Post; monthly luncheon programs; annual golf outing; and other events).

Whew! What a tremendous number of achievements in so brief a time. All of the above contributes to a better community and none of the above would have happened without your dedicated and smart efforts – for that there are not the right words to express my deep-felt Thank You to each of you.

Lastly, I offer my best wishes to the newly elected 2012 Officers and Board Members and to all of you a Happy and Prosperous holiday season and 2012.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW (CONT'D)

particular the Small Business Expo and our Regional Conference in Milwaukee. And now winter is already already here and we are collecting toys for the Toys for Tots Collection. Thanks to my counterparts for all their efforts on the Communication Committee. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes on behalf of many of our members. We wish you the best throughout the year in 2012!

JOINT ANNUAL MEETING

Lt Jeffrey S. Gray (pictured) presented on the War of 1812 at the November 16, SAME Chicago and Lake Michigan Post Joint luncheon. LT Gray's presentation outlined the history of the War of 1812 as well as upcoming events.



Lt Jeffrey S. Gray (pictured),
Navy Recruiting Command

From 2012 to 2015, the U.S.

Navy, U.S. Marine

Corps, U.S. Coast Guard will commemorate the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 and The Star-Spangled Banner. To facilitate this effort, the Navy has partnered with the International Council of Air Shows, the Navy League, the Naval Historical Foundation, and Operation Sail to create world-class events. There will be celebrations around the country with Signature Events in New York, Baltimore, Norfolk, New Orleans, Boston, Chicago, and Cleveland, and smaller events in other cities.

Events and activities for senior Navy leadership to engage and connect with civic, business, and government leaders in Chicago will take place August 15-20, 2012; additional information on events and the Bicentennial of the War of 1812 can be found at <http://www.ourflagwasstillthere.org/index.htm>. A solid list of events will be posted in early to mid-January.

SAVE THE DATE

2012 Great Lakes Ohio Valley Regional Conference

28-30 August 2012 - Pittsburgh, PA

Further details will be posted as they are available

Calendar of Events

21 Dec 11	Chicago Post Board meeting 10:30 AM, Trinity River Ecosystem Restoration Presented by HNTB 11:30 AM River Center Bldg 111 N Canal Chicago (1st FL Conf Rm) Lunch: \$12 members / \$15 others Jim.Wescott@tetrattech.com	19 Jan 12	SAME Board Meeting, Flanagan's, 11:30 AM
12 Jan 12	SAME Luncheon, Highland Park Country Club; 11:30 AM. Installation of Officers / Presentation by Joan Freitag, RVP	9 Feb 12	SAME Luncheon, Highland Park Country Club; 11:30 AM. Regional Disaster Preparedness, Response and Recovery / Presentation by William Anderson
		23 Feb 12	SAME Board Meeting, Flanagan's, 11:30 AM
		7-8 Mar 12	SAME Small Business Expo
		22 Mar 12	SAME Board Meeting, Flanagan's, 11:30 AM

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Interested in submitting an article for our next edition? Contact
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