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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



It's now fall, and all the students are back in school. Also going back to school soon, are all the mentors for the Post's Student Mentoring Program. Each October for the past 13 years, SAME architects and engineers have been going back to school to give area students insights into the architectural and engineering professions.

These mentors perform one of the most important roles in our Post each year. They will meet with students each week over the next six months to help them develop their projects for the competition next spring. The mentor's involvement has been the reason the program has been so successful and has grown to impact over 350 students annually. This past year over 70 professionals mentored the students.

Albert Einstein said, "Setting an example is not the main means of influencing another, it is the only means."

The mentors have set the perfect example for inspiring students. There is nothing greater, to demonstrate the satisfaction of a career in architecture and engineering, than being willing to take the time to share your career with the students.

Our mentors do all their work outside the normal structure SAME activities and are not recognized enough for their efforts. I wanted to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Omaha Post, to sincerely thank all the mentors who have volunteered their time over the years for the Student Mentoring Program. You have truly inspired many.

Bill Glismann  
President, Omaha Post

## TEXOMA-MISSOURI RIVER REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Plan on attending the Texoma-Missouri River Regional Conference scheduled for October 9-11, 2007.

- Historic Stockyards, Fort Worth, TX
- Host Hotels: The Stockyards Station and AmeriSuites Stockyard Hotel
- Exhibit Hall: Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame

Hosted by the Fort Worth Post.

To register, there is a link on the Omaha Post website: <http://www.sameomaha.org>

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, September 27, 2007

***Please note the date and location change!***

### General Membership Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

*“Collaboration Science for Use in Military Engineering and the New UNO Institute for Collaboration Science”*

***Dr. Robert O. Briggs***

***Director of Academic Affairs, Institute for  
Collaboration Science  
University of Nebraska at Omaha***

### Optional “Speak-Up” Round Table

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

*“Discussion on Omaha Post Member Issues”*

Location: Doubletree Hotel\*

October 9 – 11, 2007

### TEXOMA/Missouri River Regional Joint Conference

Go to [www.same-fortworth.org/SAME\\_2007](http://www.same-fortworth.org/SAME_2007) to register!

Location: Fort Worth, Texas

Thursday, October 18, 2007

### Sporting Clay Challenge – Great Kansas City Post Education and Mentoring Fundraiser

2:00 p.m.

For more information, there is a link on the Omaha Post website: <http://www.sameomha.org>.

Location: Powder Creek Shooting Park, Lenexa, Kansas

Thursday, October 25, 2007

### General Membership Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

*“Risk Analysis for Infrastructure Systems”*

***Dr. Andrew Nowak***

***University of Nebraska at Omaha***

Location: Doubletree Hotel\*

Thursday, November 29, 2007


### General Membership Meeting

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

*“Zorinsky Building Overview and Site Tour”*

Location: Doubletree Hotel\*


*\*Doubletree Hotel is located at 1616 Dodge Street*



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## INDUSTRY DAY 2007

by Chuck Paukert

The Omaha Post hosted the annual Industry Day on Wednesday 25 July, 2007 followed by the golf outing on Thursday 26 July. The event was held at the Embassy Suites in downtown Omaha. Our theme "Building Blocks of the Future" recognized the partnerships with federal and private entities to support the nation. This year's activities included over 175 participants, 40 plus exhibit booths and over 125 golfers.

Past Post president and past society president, Roger Wozny, Schemmer & Associates served as the moderator for the event. The first annual scholarship award was made in honor of Doug Plack, USACE employee and active SAME member who was killed last year. For the first award, the Post gave two scholarships, one each to Doug's children, Adam and Ashley. They and Doug's wife, Linda were present for the awards. Bill Stutz of S&A Environmental Consultants, LLC made a presentation to post member, Roy Singleton for the first Golden Eagle Award in honor of Doug Plack. Bill and his company will be making annual offerings of this nature. Thanks Bill!

The event was opened by a presentation from Dr. John Stansbury, professor at the University of Nebraska, Omaha. He offered insight into what the academic and industry areas need to do to provide engineering students with the abilities to compete in the changing engineering work environment. Federal construction program updates were provided by Daniel Saniuk, USACE Northwestern Division; Erik Blechinger, USACE, Omaha; Steve Iverson, USACE, Kansas City; and Dennis Furman, USAF, ACC. Design-Build perspective from a contractor view was offered by Harvey Robinson, TEPA and from federal view by Bert Matya, USACE. The luncheon offered table top discussions with each table hosted by a federal employee. The Small/Large business spotlight was arranged by Larry Woscnya and monitored by John Shaler, Earth-Tech. The Small/Large business spotlight provided an opportunity for firms to showcase their services. About 40 firms participated. Numerous networking breaks were scheduled for attendees to visit the exhibitor booths and an Ice breaker was held the evening of 25<sup>th</sup>.

The golf outing was held at the Indian Creek Course in west Omaha and by the end of the event, the temperatures were getting a bit warm. A box lunch was served and pin prizes were awarded.

The planning committee did an excellent job of organizing the event. We would like to thank all the sponsors who made this a success. The Industry Day proceeds are used to



support the post Student Initiative Mentoring Program (SIMP), a program that encourages engineering, architecture and sciences in middle and high schools.

Copies of the presentations and list of attendees are available at the post website [www.sameomaha.org](http://www.sameomaha.org).

Next year's Industry Day will be combined with the Missouri River/Texoma Regional to be held in Omaha 21 to 23 October, 2008.

The SEH logo features a stylized blue wave above the letters 'SEH'. Below the logo, the contact information is listed: '14216 Dayton Circle, Suite 5, Omaha NE 68137', '402.895.0746 • www.sehinc.com', and '[ ARCHITECTS | ENGINEERS | PLANNERS | SCIENTISTS ]'.

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# PORT HEUNEME SEABEE ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION CAMP

by Evan Hilgemann

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everybody involved in the Omaha SAME post for choosing and supporting me to participate in the Port Heuneme Seabee Engineering and Construction Camp. The week I spent at the camp was a unique opportunity to learn more about engineering and construction concepts through simple yet fascinating exercises like cardboard boat building, concrete beam testing, and popsicle stick bridge building. Through these activities, I was also able to increase my knowledge about effective teamwork by working with many remarkable and intelligent high school students and adult mentors from not only around the nation, but from around the world. I look forward to pursuing an education and career in the engineering field, an aspiration that will be supplemented by my many valuable experiences at Port Heuneme. Furthermore, I learned important information about joining and living in the military. Once again, I would like to thank everybody in the Omaha SAME Post for supporting me to participate in this once in a lifetime event.



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## SAME AIR FORCE ACADEMY ENGINEERING CAMP

by Steven Anderson

Summer is often a time to relax from school, hang out with friends, and travel on vacation with your family. This summer I did a little bit of all those activities, however, I did not take a break from my studies.

It has always been my goal to attend the Air Force Academy, Annapolis, or WestPoint for college. I have always wanted to fly and still dream about it today. However, in my determination to fly I have discovered that engineering and architecture have become two of my favorite passions as well.

This summer I got the amazing opportunity to expand my knowledge, do something that I love, meet awesome people, and even check out one of the colleges of my dreams. This summer I attended the SAME Air Force Academy Engineering Camp. I was extremely nervous at first since I would not know anybody there. When I got there I was placed into the Echo flight and went and met all of my group members. We were a very diverse group with kids from North Carolina, California, Kansas, and many other states. The best part about my flight was that we all shared a common goal in life, and no one made fun of others or left people out. Thanks to this closeness in our

flight we functioned in the events extremely well. We took second place overall and won events such as the concrete beam competition, GPS navigation competition, the water balance competition, and took second and third in many other events. Out of all the numerous events we competed in, my favorite by far were the water treatment facility we designed, the concrete beam, and the shed we built. Besides just designing and building all day, we also got the chance to tour the academy, visit NORAD, and had fun socializing with others at picnics and the little bit of free time that we got. We had excellent mentors and great cadets who showed us around and gave us an idea of what life at the Academy is like.

I cannot think of any better experience for someone interested in engineering. This was by far one of the highlights of my life and has made me work even harder to make sure I can get into the Academy. The theme of the camp was build then design, and by using this method I learned ten times more than what I would have learned the other way around. I definitely had an amazing time and I am definitely going to pursue a career in hopefully civil, environmental, or astro engineering. I am very thankful to the Omaha SAME Post for sponsoring me and I am hoping that many others like me will get this truly wonderful opportunity.



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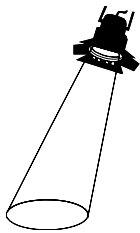


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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### ROBERT (BERT) MATYA



#### Position on the SAME Board?

Vice President, Industry Day and Regional Conference

#### Duties of this position?

As I'm relatively new to SAME, I see it to provide a USACE perspective to the Board and both learn from other's experience while providing new ideas to the existing group of professionals.

#### What's your "day" job?

Program/Project manager for Army Transformation at Fort Carson, Colorado

#### Personal Information

My interests include golf, volleyball, hiking, guitar and photography (Husker sports goes without mentioning, but I guess I just did). I enjoy spending time outside of work with family, friends, and being involved in my local church ministries or volunteer organizations.

#### How did you become involved with SAME?

Through encouragement of Doug Plack.

#### What has been personally fulfilling/beneficial from your work with SAME?

The relationships I have developed.

#### What project/task/endeavor have you been most excited/proud to work on in conjunction with SAME?

The local industry days.

#### What are you looking forward to in the next year? 5 years? 15 years with SAME?

The Regional Conference and encouraging more participation from my colleagues. **5-15 years?** I don't plan that far in advance. There are too many opportunities for change out there!

#### What are the goals you hope to accomplish during your time in your position on the board?

Providing a USACE perspective in the local chapter that would benefit planning of events; and encouraging more USACE participation in those events.

#### What benefits do you see for our community through SAME's work?

Sustaining and building of relationships that allow the industry to respond to the needs of nation.

#### What would you say to an individual thinking about joining SAME?

"What are you waiting for? There's great people in SAME!"

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## STANLEY CONSULTANTS ELECTS NEW OFFICERS



Baton Rouge, Louisiana - Stanley Consultants, Inc. has elected Gayle A. Roberts, P.E., President and Chief Operating Officer, effective Sept. 18, 2007. Greg Thomopoulos, current President and CEO, was elected Chairman and CEO of Stanley Consultants. Dick Stanley, current Chairman, was elected Chairman Emeritus and continues to

be a Director of the company.

Gayle Roberts has been with the company for 25 years, most recently as Senior Vice President and Business Leader of the company's Education, Healthcare and Industry business unit. She has a chemical engineering degree from Iowa State University and an MBA from St. Ambrose University. She is a licensed professional engineer in seven states and Puerto Rico.

## THE SCHEMMER ASSOCIATES, INC. NAMES PATRICIA BIRCH PROJECT MANAGER



Omaha, Nebraska - The Schemmer Associates Inc. (Schemmer) has named Patricia Birch, AIA, as Project Manager of the Facilities Division's Architectural Department in Lincoln.

An exceptional leader and architect, Birch brings a wealth of experience to Schemmer, having managed a broad range of architectural projects for both public and private-sector clients. During the past 25 years, Birch has honed her professional skills in architectural design and project management, completing unique and challenging projects in specialty areas such as education, commercial, life care, sports/recreation, civic and government, housing and historic preservation.

Birch holds a bachelor's and master's degree in architecture from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, and is a registered architect with the State of Nebraska. She holds memberships with the American Institute of Architects-State of Nebraska, Lincoln Chapter; National Council of Architectural Registration Boards; Project Review Board, University of Nebraska; City of Lincoln Building Codes Task Force; and the Preservation Association of Lincoln.

"The addition of Pat Birch as Project Manager for our Lincoln office is integral in continuing to provide exemplary services to our clients," said Mark Higgins, AIA, Executive Vice President of Schemmer's Facilities Division. "Her diverse experience with both private and public sectors will enhance the capabilities of the firm, and will provide clients with additional benefits, as well as the convenience of a full-service firm."



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**THE SCHEMMER ASSOCIATES, INC. APPOINTS  
JON GOLDIE SENIOR GEOTECHNICAL  
TECHNICIAN**



Omaha, Nebraska - The Schemmer Associates Inc. (Schemmer) has named Jon Goldie, E.I., as Senior Geotechnical Technician within the Civil Division's Geotechnical Engineering Department. He is responsible for coordinating field and laboratory testing of construction materials for a variety of projects and also serves as

Project Manager for materials testing.

Goldie has more than three years of experience working as the lead technician on projects throughout the Omaha and Lincoln areas. He has been certified for testing of concrete and soil, special inspections for structural masonry, and observation of deep foundations. His laboratory skills include proficiency in a wide range of tests for soil, concrete, asphalt and aggregates.

Goldie holds a bachelor's degree in materials engineering from Iowa State University, and is a registered engineering intern in Nebraska. He possesses certifications with American Concrete Institute (ACI) for both level one field technician and laboratory strength testing technician. He was recently certified with the International Code Council (ICC) as a structural masonry special inspector. He holds a membership with ASTM International.

"Jon brings to Schemmer his specialized construction materials inspection and testing expertise, including concrete, soil, and asphalt testing. His certified testing knowledge and past working relationships with area contractors will be major assets to our firm's geotechnical engineering practice" said Loras Klostermann, P.E., Manager of Schemmer's Geotechnical Engineering Department.



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## SPORTING CLAY CHALLENGE – GREATER KANSAS CITY POST EDUCATION AND MENTORING FUNDRAISER

The Greater Kansas City Post is hosting a fundraiser for the Education and Mentoring Fund. The event will be held at the Powder Creek Shooting Park in Lenexa (a map can be found on their website at [www.powdercreek.com](http://www.powdercreek.com)). Please plan to join us whether you are an experienced shooter or have never picked up a gun. This even is open to everyone, so bring along friends, family, clients, or co-workers and support this great cause.

For more information, there is a link on the Omaha Post website: <http://www.sameomha.org>.

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## DOUG PLACK SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Please help us remember Doug and continue his legacy of mentoring, assisting, and participating? Please donate to the Doug Plack Memorial scholarship by sending your check, made payable to SAME-Omaha Post, to Box 24804, Omaha, NE 68124.

Please note on the memo line that the check is for the Plack Scholarship Fund. Thank you to those who have donated so far!

## REQUEST FOR MENTORS

The Student Initiative Program is starting its 14<sup>th</sup> year working with High School and Middle School teams from the Omaha metro area and surrounding towns. Last year we had over 70 volunteer to be mentors for the 30 teams (over 300 students). Many of last year's mentors have volunteered again this year, but we anticipate a need for more mentors to help at new schools and backfill positions for those who cannot return.

If you are interested in promoting your profession, working with pre-college students, or earning a maximum of 30 Professional Development Hours, contact Paul Sutto, HDR, 926-7121 or Roy Singleton, Peter Kiewit Institute, 554-2098. Additional information may be obtained from the Program's web site [www.pki.nebraska.edu/simp](http://www.pki.nebraska.edu/simp).

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

If you have any articles, press releases, or information you would like published in the next issue, please send them to Christie Kampschneider at [c\\_kampschneider@urscorp.com](mailto:c_kampschneider@urscorp.com).