I hope your 2016 is off to a great start so far! As we continue to lay out our plans for the upcoming year, I know that we will have another great year of monthly programs. Joe Ballard has the first part of the year already planned out as our Programs Director, but if there are any ideas for special speakers, tours, training that you or your co-workers are interested in, please do your part and let us know. It does not take much to get it going, and surely, as busy as we are, we still run across something that is really great and would make a good topic to share, or there is something that you wish you knew just a little bit more about that a technical presentation or site visit would help with.

One new plan for the year just came out of our national headquarters. Our Society just published a new 2020 SAME Strategic Plan. While much of the focus is the same as before, I encourage you to look a little closer at it to get to know SAME a little better. Overall I think you will find that the real focus of our Society is YOU! When I say “YOU”, I mean you as an engineering or scientific professional that has some role in national defense—be it a project manager, a technical area expert, a staff scientist, a marketing expert, a trainer or mentor, or a design engineer. The goals, while broad have very specific objectives that I believe each of us can identify and cheer the Society on to meet those goals.

Much of what we do as the Robins AFB Post goes a long way to helping the Society meet its objectives and goals. So make an effort to be an active part of this Post! To learn more about the SAME 2020 Strategic Plan, go to the www.SAME.org web page, select the “Discover SAME” page, and then click on the “National Leadership” link. There, not only will you find the Strategic Plan, but you will also read some exciting news from other areas of our Society. So I encourage you to spend just 15 minutes of one of your lunch breaks and check out the new plan and more. See you around the Post!

Thanks!
-Mike Coats
Mercer Engineering Research Center (MERC) is a non-profit applied research engineering unit of Mercer University. MERC was established in 1987 under the Mercer University School of Engineering to provide engineering and scientific services and specialized technical skills to Robins AFB. MERC’s core competencies include electronic combat systems engineering, advanced algorithm development, modeling and simulation, information systems technology, structures analysis and technology, mechanical and electronic systems design and reverse engineering, industrial engineering, materials technology, human factors and biomechanics, and cyber security.

Mr. Clark will be giving a presentation on MERC’s reverse engineering capabilities and how those essential processes are applicable to the Air Forces’ unique sustainment engineering and supply chain requirements.

Results are in!

Post members were given the opportunity to send in their electronic ballots by January 8th to vote for the 2016 Robins SAME Post Board and the results are as follows:

President: Mr. Mike Coats
Vice President: Mr. Bob Staib
Treasurer: Mr. James Griffin
Secretary: Ms. Esther Lee-Altman
Senior Enlisted Advisor: SMSgt Mary Dearman
Alternate Senior Enlisted Advisor: SMSgt Tony Bourdeau
Director, Events/Small Business: Ms. Judy Middlebrooks
Director, Emergency Preparedness and Installation Readiness: Mr. Louis Young
Director, Memberships (Individual & Sustaining): Mr. Ervin Walker

Please give a warm congratulations to our newest Board members at the next general meeting where there will be an Installation of Officers ceremony led by our regional Vice President, Mr. Alan Watt! If you wish to contact any of the board members, all board members’ contact information is available at the end of this flyer.

Welcome aboard and we’ll see you on the 20th!

Preview of January 2016 SAME Presentation. This presentation will be given by Mr. James Clark of the Mercer Engineering Research Center and is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20th.

James Clark, a Senior Program Manager within the Mechanical and Aerospace Systems Directorate at MERC, has a Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering Degree from Georgia Tech and a Masters Degree, Engineering & Technical Management from Mercer University with almost 30 years product manufacturing, product design, and maintenance experience in both the DOD and private sectors.
Sustaining Member Spotlight: MERC

Providing our customers with real, sustainable solutions has been our core goal since the beginning. As a non-profit provider of engineering and logistics services, Mercer Engineering Research Center (MERC) offers a unique combination of technical and program management expertise, combined with a strong customer support culture. MERC’s full-time technical staff, augmented as necessary by engineering students and an outstanding engineering school faculty, provides cost-effective, responsive support to our customers.

MERC has developed a highly qualified professional staff, complex tools and test equipment, and extensive technical capability in the fields of aircraft structural analysis and design, flight test instrumentation, reverse engineering and prototyping, laboratory structural testing, electronic warfare software algorithm development, web deployed applications with integrated database access, industrial engineering, logistics, reliability engineering, and biomedical engineering.

MERC’s commitment to customer support is continually demonstrated through our motto: “Where real problems meet real solutions.”

For more information, please visit our website at: www.merc-mercer.org.

Call for Volunteers: Local EGR Events

2016 Houston Regional Science and Engineering Fair: This event is being held at the Museum of Aviation (Century of Flight Hangar) in Warner Robins on Wednesday, January 27th. Interested in being a judge for this event? Contact Ms. Ann Williams-Brown at (478) 988-6222 ext 10225 for more details on how you can share your interest in science and engineering with the young people that will be competing at this event.

Georgia FIRST Lego League Robotics Central Georgia SUPER Regional Qualifier: STARBASE ROBINS will once again host this event, which is considered the 2nd tier of competition, just before the state qualifier. This tournament will take place on Saturday, January 23rd at the Museum of Aviation. There will be over 30 teams competing and so, many volunteers are needed to make this event a successful one! Wish to become a volunteer? Email M.s LaTondra Oliver (latondra@starbaserobins.com) for more details.

Same Mission
“To provide education and support to the engineering components of the military and uniformed services, and other federal, state and local government agencies responsible for the nation’s infrastructure, and to advance the partnership between government and the architecture, engineering and construction industry in the interest of national security.”

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.”
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SAME Robins Post
Sustaining Member News

Are you with a Sustaining Member Firm?
If you would like to become one, or if you are not sure of your company’s registration status, please contact Mr. Ervin Walker, our Membership Director at: ervin.walker@caecom.com.

Accepting Abstracts
We are accepting abstracts for presentations for 2016. Let us know what presentation topics, presenters, or tour ideas would most interest you. We want to know what is important to you. Please contact Mr. Joe Ballard at: joe.ballard.1@us.af.mil with feedback or for more information.