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# THE FLYER



Newsletter of the Robins AFB Post: Society of American Military Engineers

## President's Corner



Spring is finally here! So hopefully the pollen count has lowered and spring fever has not hit too hard yet. To many of you and your families, neighbors, and friends, Spring means high school graduation time and once again we will be presenting scholarship checks to two future engineers. Several of us on the Board served on the evaluation committee to review the applications, and like every year, we were totally impressed with the quality of the students

and how competitive everyone's application packages were. If you ever looked at some of those packages, you would feel very comfortable with the abilities of tomorrow's engineers and scientists who will get to work on solving current and future challenges to our environment and our infrastructure. They just seem to be getting better and better.

We recently received the membership baseline for our Post and all other Posts across the Society from SAME National. Overall, membership numbers are down for several reasons. Our challenge today is to reach out to those who have been members in the past, those who have never heard about our Society, and those who have heard, but have not taken full advantage of membership. From the start of the year, SAME National tells us that the Robins AFB Post has lost seven public sector members and three other members. We typically see these numbers go up and down somewhat during the year as folks move in and out of the area, usually moving their membership to a new location. I am glad that they will maintain their membership where they move, but that means that we need to fill their seat at our meetings.

Look around your office. Surely there are those that could benefit from being a member of SAME. Surely there are those that could take an active role in this Post and its activities. Over this summer, our job is simple—bring someone to a meeting and make them a new member! Our summer meetings are usually some of our best attended meetings, so let's take advantage of some great presentations at these summer meetings and bring some new ideas and membership to our great Robins AFB SAME Post.

From the greatest (just kidding) of all sources of information, Wikipedia: "An engineer is a professional practitioner of engineering, concerned with applying scientific knowledge, mathematics, and ingenuity to develop solutions for technical, societal and commercial problems." I think that is a pretty good description of our group. Thanks for being a part of it!

-Mike Coats

### SAME National Focus Areas

1. Ensure Vibrant and Value Added Programs—Create Value for All
2. Support STEM—Share Your Passion, Grow Your Replacement
3. Focus on Veteran Transitions—Help 6,000 military transition from Service over the next 4 years

# Presenter's Bio

Douglas Elledge has been active in the architectural and engineering design community for twenty years. His various roles include being a licensed structural engineer, certified Project Management Professional (PMP), LEED-accredited professional, certified Green Globes Professional, and Guiding Principles Compliance Professional. Doug received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering at the University of Florida in 1993 and his Master of Business Administration at Georgia State University's Robinson College of Business in 2008.

His current responsibility at Merrick includes managing multi-discipline architectural and engineering design projects for NASA, NAVFAC, the Corps of Engineers, Robins AFB, and others with an emphasis on sustainable and high performance facilities.



*Preview of June 2015 SAME Presentation entitled "The NASA Space Launch System". This presentation will be given by Doug Elledge of Merrick.*

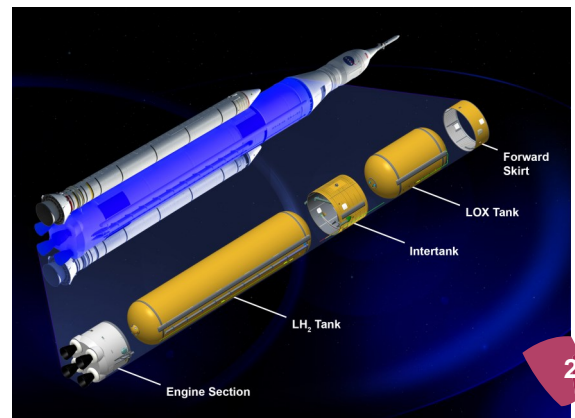


Although it seems to be off the radar screens of many Americans, NASA is currently building this country's newest rocket for deep space exploration. NASA's Space Launch System, or SLS, is an advanced launch vehicle for a new era of deep space exploration well beyond Earth's orbit. In support of this mission, NASA has designed new facilities and revitalized some existing ones at several of its Centers across the country.

At the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, two new test stands designed by Merrick/GMC are being constructed to test components of the SLS core stage, including the liquid hydrogen (LH2) and liquid oxygen (LOx) fuel tanks. At over

two hundred feet in height, the LH2 test stand will have levels that can move vertically to accommodate various test configurations and loading scenarios to simulate the forces that the rocket components will experience at launch.

In this presentation, Doug Elledge will discuss the challenges for Merrick's design engineers and architects in their collaborative effort with NASA to create an unprecedented structure to test the world's most powerful rocket.



The next Robins Post General Meeting will be held on **24 June 2015** at **11:30 am**. The meeting will be held **OFF BASE** at our usual location, the China Buffet (605 Russell Parkway, Warner Robins 31088). All are welcome.

## UPCOMING DATES FOR 2015:

### NOTE CHANGE IN DATE:

**24 June:** 1130 Hours: SAME General Meeting immediately preceded by SAME Robins Post Board/Officer's Meeting. Presentation will be on biocontainment from Leslie Saunders of Leo A Daly.

**15 July:** 1130 Hours: SAME General Meeting immediately preceded by SAME Robins Post Board/Officer's Meeting. HQ AFRC will be giving their annual program review.

**19 August:** 1130 Hours: SAME General Meeting immediately preceded by SAME Robins Post Board/Officer's Meeting. 78 CEG will be giving their annual program review.

**16 September:** 1130 Hours: SAME General Meeting immediately preceded by SAME Robins Post Board/Officer's Meeting. Presentation TBA.

## 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."*

# Joe Ballard: Critical Infrastructure Symposium Summary

Many thanks to our Post for allowing me to attend the 2015 Critical Infrastructure Symposium 19-21 April in Baltimore. The theme of this year's conference was "3P's of Resilience: Partnering - Planning - Performance." I estimate there were approximately 250 attendees from as far away as Portland, OR and Tacoma, WA. The Symposium included three different technical sessions as well as an awards dinner and closing session for the mass audience. The keynote speaker for the awards dinner was Ms MaryAnn E. Tierney, Regional Administrator for FEMA Region III, and the closing session included briefings from representatives from the Texas Department of Homeland Security as well as the Chairman of

the Partnership for Critical Infrastructure for the Association of American Railroads.

Report continued on page 4.



## Sustaining Spotlight:



Ocmulgee, Inc. is a surveying and engineering firm that provides professional services across the state of Georgia. Our mission is to offer clients professional, comprehensive, and cost effective assistance on an array of projects. We equip our professional staff with the latest trends and technologies to provide our clients with quality, professional service. Formed in 2004 and originally known as Ocmulgee Site & Environmental Services, Inc. (rebranded in 2013), Ocmulgee, Inc. offers various services in the realm of surveying, civil and environmental engineering, and planning.

**Surveying:** Boundary/Topographic Surveys; Construction Staking; As-Built Survey; Alta Survey; Record Research Legal Descriptions; GIS Mapping

**General Civil Engineering:** Consulting; Construction Management; Swere Design & Modeling; Pump Station Design; Water Distribution Design & Modeling; Flood Plain Modeling; Hydrologic Modeling; Contract Administration; Roadway Design; Sewer Inflow & Infiltration/Testing

**Environmental/Permitting:** Wetland/Stream Delineation; Wetland Permitting & Mitigation; Surface Mining; Borrow Area Design & Reclamation; NPDES Permitting for Construction & Industrial Activities; Erosion Sediment & Pollution Control Plan; Spill Prevention Control & Countermeasures; Waste Convenience Centers/Transfer Stations; Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessments;



Inert Landfills

**Planning:** Master Planning; Annexation & Zoning

**Grants:** Funding Search; Coordination with Potential Funding Source; Application & Proposal Preparation/Submittal

Please visit: [ocmulgeeinc.com](http://ocmulgeeinc.com) for more information.

# Critical Infrastructure Symposium Summary

(Continued from p. 3)

This year's event also included a first: TISP sponsored an Infrastructure Challenge competition for several college teams. There were five teams involved this year: two from VMI, and one each from The Citadel, The United States Naval Academy, and Johns Hopkins University. The teams were asked to design a future national transportation system to effectively and efficiently integrate all transportation modes (aviation, highway, maritime, pipeline, and railroad) to safely and securely transport people and commerce throughout the US in 2115. The teams presented their designs at breakfast on day 2 of the conference; the design by The Citadel was chosen by a group of judges as the winner, with each team member receiving a small monetary prize.



This year's Symposium was another great opportunity for me to network with other SAME Post Emergency



From L-R: Brec Wilshusen; our own Director of Emergency Preparedness, Joe Ballard; John Had-dick; and Brian Brech at the Awards dinner.

Preparedness Committee members and share ideas on how we can more effectively coordinate with local Emergency Preparedness officials and share our Post resources with them to enhance their capabilities. My attendance was only made possible by the hard work from you all in helping our Post earn the Emergency Preparedness streamer with distinction, so I thank you for your contribution in helping me attend this year's event. Our goal this year will be to once again earn the streamer with distinction and work even closer with our local EM officials to make our Post resources relevant to their vital work.

## SAME Spotlight: Member of the Month

Mr. Edward Piekarczyk is a Vice President in the Atlanta office of Leo A Daly, a premier Architectural and Engineering firm with 30 offices world-wide. Mr. Piekarczyk has been leading as the Regional Director of Federal programs across the South Atlantic region for the past 7 years. He has been instrumental in nearly doubling the federal business in the Atlanta office by capturing several significant Federal IDIQ contracts with the US Army, Air Force and the Navy.

Before joining Leo A Daly, Mr. Piekarczyk completed a 26-year career with US Air Force civil engineers, culminating in three successive positions as the Base Civil Engineer and Fire Marshall with diverse background in architecture/design, construction management, force protection, and physical plant operations. Colonel Piekarczyk's (Col Pie's) last duty station was Robins AFB, where he served as the last military commander of the 78th Civil Engineer Group (2006-2008).

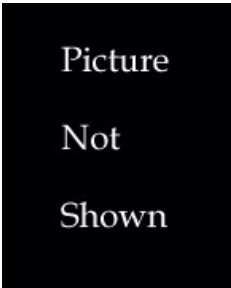


# 2015 Post Scholarship Winners

As we do every year, the Post had to decide from a pool of many great candidates who would receive the Ric Powers Memorial Scholarship. This year, the Post decided on two very worthy high school seniors. Read about our winners below. Congratulations to both and here's to helping them out with their plans as future engineers!



Chase McCard graduated with honors from Howard High School and plans to attend Georgia Tech this Fall. You may remember that name as Chase was our Post's representative at the Engineering Summer Camp at the Air Force Academy in 2014. He is an Eagle Scout, Crew Leader and Leave No Trace Trainer with Boy Scout Troop 170 in Macon. Chase was the Howard High Band Brass Captain and Trombone Section Lead, highlighting both his talent as well as leadership skills. He plans to pursue an undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering and ultimately a graduate degree as well.



Nicklaus Hall graduated seventh in his class at Perry High School and will be attending Georgia Tech in the Fall. As a Senior, he was captain of the Perry Soccer Team and Secretary of the National Honor Society. Nick also founded the Perry High School Bible Club and volunteers through the Perry Volunteer Outreach mission as well as at his church. He is interested in applying his future engineering degree overseas in a mission related field such as helping to provide clean drinking water to those in need.

## Congratulations, Grads!

### Are YOU up for the challenge?

### Call for new Programs Director

Our Programs Director of 10+ years, Mr. Ken Branton, is stepping down from the Post as he is retiring as of 22 May. The Robins SAME Post wishes Ken the best of luck in his future endeavors since he now gets to do whatever he wants! Congratulations, Ken, and we hope you enjoy your retirement! With that said, the Post is in need of someone to take over as Programs Director. This person would be responsible for scheduling the wonderful programs that the Post has hosts throughout the year. Remember that this is YOUR Post and you have the say to decide what programs YOU want to see.



What better way to do that then becoming the Program Director!?!)

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to be an integral part of the Robins SAME Post! Speak with any Board member today to see how you can take on this exciting role!

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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 Ms. Anna Jackson, our Sustaining Member Director, at 478.397.0997 or at:

[ajackson@cticompanies.com](mailto:ajackson@cticompanies.com).

### Accepting Abstracts

We are accepting abstracts for presentations for 2015. 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 Ms. Esther Lee-Altman at: [esther.lee.altman@gmail.com](mailto:esther.lee.altman@gmail.com) with feedback or for more information.