



# THE FLYER

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROBINS AFB POST:  
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS

## Preview of June Post General Meeting 21 June 2006

### Guest Speaker:

**Col. David Nakayama**

542 CSW Vice Director and former  
Columbia Accident Investigation Board  
investigator

### Speaking on:

The Role of History, Organization, and  
Culture in the Columbia Accident ...  
What Can We Learn About Our Own  
Organizations?

Despite numerous corrective actions  
following the loss of Challenger in 1986, the  
shuttle program had returned to a nearly  
identical organization at the time of  
Columbia's loss. How could this have  
happened? Hear valuable lessons  
applicable to all organizations. This briefing  
has been recorded and is part of the Air  
War College curriculum.

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### Happy Hour

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month, all  
SAME members, both young and  
seasoned, are invited to meet at the  
Wellston, behind the Officer's Club,  
for a drink or two.

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### Engineering Trivia

The MARS offshore production  
platform in the Gulf of Mexico  
was severely damaged by  
Hurricane Katrina. It is not  
expected to go back online until  
mid 2006. The MARS platform,  
when in full production,  
produces enough oil to supply  
the state of Utah. Approximately  
20% of the rigs in the gulf are  
still shut-down due to hurricane  
Katrina damage.

## What's Coming Up...

### April

*No Post General Meeting  
Everyone is invited to join us  
at the  
Earth Day Golf Tournament  
highlighted in this issue of  
The Flyer*

### May

*No Post General Meeting -  
A tour of Georgia Power's  
Plant Scherer will be  
conducted on 16 May for  
anyone who is interested  
----- Details to follow -----*

### Recap of the 15 March 2006

### General Meeting:

### *Typhoon Pongsana Rebuild*

### Guest Speaker:

**Mr. Phillip McQuiston, Vice  
President - AMEC**

Mr. McQuiston with AMEC spoke on  
AMEC's experience at Andersen  
AFB, Guam. AMEC was contracted  
by AFCEE for more than 20 projects  
to provide infrastructure support  
following Super Typhoon Pongsana.

The projects included back-up  
generators, fuel tanks, blast doors,  
runway repairs, facility construction,  
electrical distribution line burial and  
other airfield work.

## *Earth Day 2006 Activities*

### *Wellston Trail Greenway Cleanup*

Saturday, 29 April 2006  
Meet at Fountain Park on Kimberley Road  
at 0900 hours

POCs: Shan Harris: 327-1072  
& Becky Wainwright: 327-1071

A map is available at  
[www.warner-robins.org/kwrw\\_trail.htm](http://www.warner-robins.org/kwrw_trail.htm)

### *Earth Day on the Greens Golf Tournament Friday April 21<sup>st</sup>*

Presented by Environmental Management &  
Society of American Military Engineers

Pine Oaks Golf Club  
9:30 a.m. Registration begins  
11 a.m. Lunch at Clubhouse  
12 p.m. Shotgun Start

4 Person Scramble  
Play from Best Ball  
\$40 per person

### *To pre-register, please contact:*

Steve Randall at 328-6181  
Eric Anania at 922-7751  
Ken Wharam at 6-5794  
or Steve Smith 6-1197 ext 142

### *Upcoming SAME Event*



2006 SAME Joint Engineer  
Education and Training  
Conference & Expo  
May 30 – June 2, 2006  
New Orleans, LA

<http://posts.same.org/JEETCE2006/>

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## Spotlight on Sustaining Member Firms

This month, The Flyer Spotlight takes a look at one of the oldest engineering organizations in the Air Force:

### Air Force Civil Engineers

Air Force Civil Engineers have a proud heritage tracing back to before World War I. Originally, the engineering function was a small unit of the Army Signal Corps.

During the Normandy invasion the first units of the IX Engineer Command landed on Utah Beach on D-day and on Omaha Beach on D plus 1. An emergency landing strip was completed on Utah by 2115 on D-day. By D plus 16, five fighter-bomber groups were based in Normandy and operating from 4 newly constructed airfields. By V-E Day, 8 May 1945, nearly 250 airfields had been constructed or reconditioned for Allied use. During their peak period, the IX Engineer Command put an airfield into service every 36 hours.

More recently, Air Force Engineering personnel played a vital role during the Gulf War in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. Prime BEEF and RED HORSE troops of Civil Engineers bedded down 55,000 people and more than 1500 aircraft at 25 locations throughout the region. Engineers erected over 5,000 tents, built more than 300,000 square feet of buildings, and laid enough asphalt to cover 120 football fields.

Following the war, engineers deployed to Turkey and Iraq to help feed Kurdish refugees during Operation Provide Comfort. In 1992, both Prime BEEF and RED HORSE personnel traveled to Somalia to "Restore Hope" for the people there.

<http://www.afcesa.af.mil/>