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**A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Spring has arrived once again in the Midwest! It is a time of renewal and growth in nature, as well as the Omaha Post. The Executive Board, under the leadership of Bob Rounph, our Nominations Chair, has been working diligently to recruit new Board members, committee chairs, and committee members. We have nearly completed the process and I am very excited about the enthusiastic support we have received from those of you who have agreed to volunteer your time and talent for next year's Omaha Post leadership team. We will be sharing the slate of officers and committee chairs with you in the next few weeks.



If you haven't had a chance to add you name to our list, there is still time for you to get involved in this great organization. We need your help and commitment to continue to make the Omaha Post successful. I encourage each of you to consider your level of involvement with the Omaha Post. The value you receive from this or any organization is directly proportional to the energy you put into it. Whether you have served in the past, but are not currently involved, or have never been involved before, please consider volunteering some of your time and energy to one of the many committees that works hard to make the Post a success. It's a great way to make new friends, strengthen relationships, and learn something about leadership and service.

I would especially encourage our younger members to increase your involvement. Your service will give you an opportunity to work with experienced members and leaders, some of who will become your friends and mentors for many years to come. You will also be exposed to personal and professional networking opportunities that have the potential to impact your present and future career.

Now is the time to get involved. Our committees are now forming for next year. Please contact me at (402) 952-2550; Bob Rounph at (402) 896-5341; or any Board member, if you'd like to join us.

Jeffrey Williamson, P.E.  
 President  
 Omaha Post, SAME

**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 me at:

Mary Erwin  
 HDR Engineering, Inc.  
 8404 Indian Hills Drive  
 Omaha, NE 68114  
 (402) 399-4828  
[mary.erwin@hdrinc.com](mailto:mary.erwin@hdrinc.com)

## BREAKFAST WITH THE AGENCIES

A new opportunity exists for all sustaining member firms of the SAME Omaha Post.

Beginning this summer, we will be holding breakfasts three times a year with key members from various agencies. The first meeting will feature decision makers from the Omaha Post Corps of Engineers. This will give attendees an opportunity to meet and network with the decision makers, learn what opportunities may be coming up in the future, and find teaming partners from both small and large businesses.

Attendance will be limited to two attendees from each sustaining member firm. Watch your e-mail and our website for further details!

If your firm is interested in becoming a sustaining member of the Omaha Post, contact Al Tarrell, Unisys Corp., (402) 232-8737 or [atarrell@alum.mit.edu](mailto:atarrell@alum.mit.edu).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**April 20, 2006**

**General Membership Meeting  
Omaha Field Club**

*3D Laser Scanning*

Featured speaker is Michael Frecks, President, 3DS2, Inc.

**May 18, 2006**

**General Membership Meeting  
Omaha Field Club**

*Presentation by the SAME Omaha Post Young Members Committee*

**May 30 – June 2, 2006**

**SAME National Conference  
New Orleans, LA**

**June 15, 2006**

**General Membership Meeting  
Omaha Field Club**

*Changing of the Guard*

**August 22-24, 2006**

**Industry Day/Golf Outing  
Qwest Center/Indian Creek Golf Course**

## OMAHA IN 2011?

The Omaha Post has submitted a proposal to host the 2011 SAME National Conference in Omaha. Fort Worth and Washington, D.C. also submitted proposals. As part of the selection process, Steve Shepard from SAME headquarters toured Omaha with Jeanne LeBron and Jeff Williamson to assess the potential conference sites. The location will be finalized at the June 2nd Board meeting, held in conjunction with the National Conference in New Orleans.



Steve Shepard and Jeff Williamson at Henry Doorley Zoo

 An advertisement for AMEC Expertise. The top features the AMEC logo and the text "AMEC Expertise". Below this is a paragraph describing the company's global presence and capabilities. A bulleted list of services is provided, including Military Munitions Response, Range Management, Environmental Planning, and more. The bottom of the ad includes contact information for Vance Drain, P.G., and a website URL.
 

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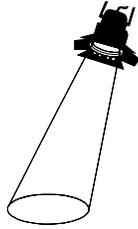
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**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT****DAWN CHAMBERS****Position on the SAME Board?**

Secretary to the Omaha Post Executive Board.

**Duties of this position?**

Keep Board meeting minutes and distribute notices to Omaha Post members.

**What's your "day" job? Describe.**

Project Assistant at URS Corporation – It's my job to make fun of geologists when they try to format reports on their own.

**Personal Information You Would Like to Share?**

Marital Status: Spinster...Old Maid...Controller of My Own Remote...Mower of My Own Lawn, etc.  
Hobbies/Interests: amateur home repair, watching baseball, playing golf (badly)

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

When Jeff Williamson chaired the Industry Day committee, he asked me to act as secretary for that group. That was in early 2003, not long after I transferred here from URS-Denver.

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

I've had a great time working with everyone on the Board and meeting new people at the Membership luncheons. The luncheon presentations have been enlightening as well. As a Project Assistant, my exposure to the engineering field is limited to those projects that URS-Omaha takes on and that I may happen to be a member of the project team. SAME is my way of peeking over the fence.

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

This interview. Any publicity is good publicity.

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

I'd like to stay involved in SAME and volunteer on other committees. Having heard some of the ideas for future SAME events, I don't want to miss out on the fun.

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

I hope one day to win the Split Kitty.

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

I think the Omaha Post's focus on students, whether they're in middle school, high school, or university, is a terrific benefit. Giving kids the chance to learn about our industry, to apply what they learn, and be recognized for their efforts must be a wonderful opportunity.

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

I can't see a down side. You have regular opportunities to network, earn CEUs, raise your awareness of what's happening in the industry, raise your profile by volunteering on a committee, and mentor the engineers of the future. Being active in SAME is just a great opportunity to get yourself "into the mix."

**Any other info you wish to share.**

I'd like to encourage employers to get ALL your employees involved in SAME, regardless of their areas of expertise. As someone in the administrative support field, I know that you don't have to be an engineer to benefit from participation in SAME.

## EPA, DOD AND DOE RELEASE GUIDANCE ON WRITING UNIFORM FEDERAL POLICY - QUALITY ASSURANCE PROJECT PLANS

The UFP-QAPP was developed as a cooperative effort between the Department of Defense (DOD), Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Kansas City District requested HDR attend the first session on preparation of the UFP-QAPP for use in future contracts with EPA Region 2. This training was held January 10-11, 2006 in Edison, New Jersey. The training course was developed by the EPA and the Naval Civil Engineer Corps Officers School (CECOS).

The UFP-QAPP attempts to satisfy all of the agencies' approach to QAPP requirements and incorporates available guidance such as EPA QA/G-9 (data quality assessment), EPA's Data Quality Objectives (DQO's), EPA Region 5 QA/R-5 (QAPP format), EPA's Triad Approach, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Engineering Manual (EM) 200-1-2 (Systematic Project Planning), the DOD Quality Systems Manual (DOD-QSM), and other requirements to meet the Navy and Air Force requirements.

The UFP-QAPP includes a much more stringent documentation process through the use of multiple worksheets. The goal of the worksheets is to document decisions made by the complete team (regulators, contractors, DOD, stakeholders, etc.) and to give new team members or outside parties the ability to look at the worksheets and understand decisions made by the team prior to writing and implementing the QAPP.

The UFP-QAPP approach addresses the different aspects of QAPP development, including the scoping sessions, project management and objectives, measurement/data acquisition, assessment/oversight, data review, QAPP approval and QAPP implementation. Some of the changes to look forward to include the use of the 37 worksheets, inclusion of the public during QAPP scoping meetings, the use of "If..., then..." statements in the scoping process, developing a conceptual site model within the QAPP, new data archiving and access requirements, discussion of an Exit Strategy, changes in data review, and selection of quality assurance/quality control samples. The key to the UFP-QAPP approach is to document, document, and document!

HDR has presented the Uniform Federal Policy for Quality Assurance Project Plans (UFP-QAPP) to the District and the Division offices in Omaha and the Kansas City District. It is apparent that not everyone has bought into the new process. Kansas City District has currently been involved in writing several of the new UFP-QAPPs and HDR will begin writing several new UFP-QAPPs before summer.

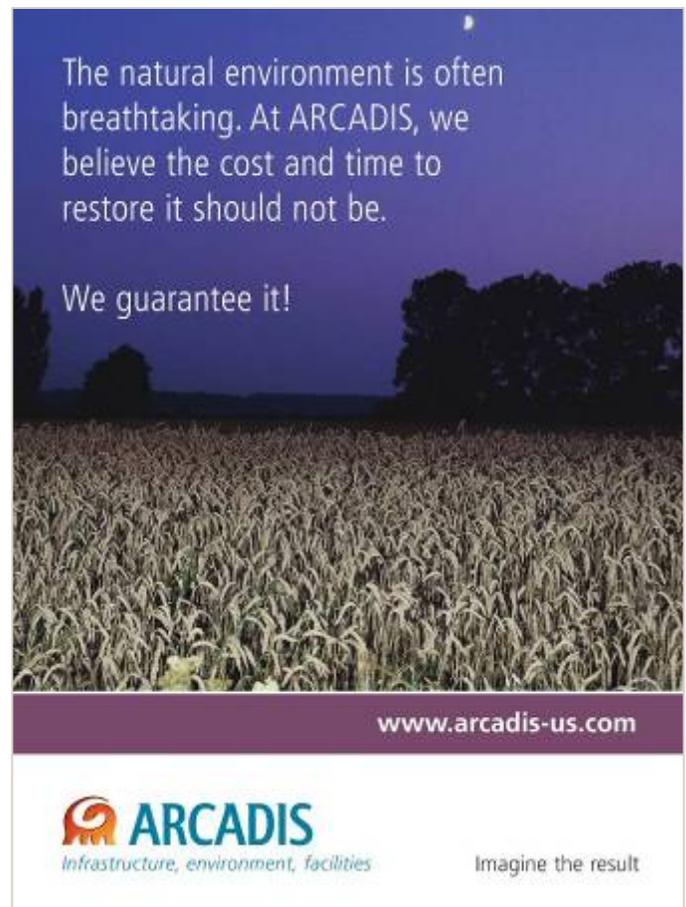


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MACTEC has provided exceptional service to the Federal government for over 30 years, executing contracts with the US Army, US Air Force, US Navy, GSA, Coast Guard, Department of Interior, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Energy, and USEPA. Examples of our DoD projects include: BRAC related environmental restoration and engineering services at Ft. Ord, CA. (250 task orders totaling over \$100M), conducting facility assessment management and infrastructure analysis at 13 Air Education and Training Command bases utilizing MACTEC's Vertex software, design of a high capacity, high security entry control point at Lackland AFB, and providing a 100-person emergency response team to the USACE in support of "blue-roof" and debris removal programs following southeast hurricanes in 2004 and 2005.

MACTEC's successful project execution has been recognized by the many national and regional awards we have received. Recent award winners include:

- Atlantic Station Redevelopment, 2004 Grand Prize Phoenix Award for the best Brownfield Redevelopment project in the nation;
- Eastland Woolen Mill Superfund Site, Corinna, ME with the USACE New England District, 2004 Engineering Excellence National Honor Award from ACEC;

- Nebraska State Highway 22 Improvements, Scotia, NE, 2004 Award of Merit from the Nebraska Concrete Paving Association; and
- Sidney Lanier Bridge Replacement, Brunswick, GA, 2005 Engineering Excellence Honor Award from the ACEC of Georgia.

A long time supporter of SAME, MACTEC is a Sustaining Member of 44 Posts nationwide and our senior personnel are active on the Senior Executive Group, the Environmental Affairs Committee and hold local Post Officer positions. We are proud to be a member of the Omaha Post and to work with you in advancing SAME's mission.

For more information about MACTEC, contact Alan Phillip, Regional Federal Programs Manager at 781-213-5613 or Walter Case, Office Manager, Lincoln, NE at 402-421-7755 or visit us at [www.mactec.com](http://www.mactec.com).

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**KANSAS CITY CIMO PROJECT WINS NATIONAL AND LOCAL AWARDS**

On Thursday, Jan. 26, the *Kansas City Business Journal* reported on the U.S. Conference of Mayors presenting the 2006 Award of Excellence in Public/Private Partnerships to the Kansas City CIMO project. MWH is the program manager of this joint effort between the municipal government and two engineering firms, MWH and Burns & McDonnell of Kansas City.

“We’re extremely pleased to be recognized by the U.S. Conference of Mayors for the City’s innovative partnership with MWH,” said Kansas City Mayor Kay Barnes. “The creation of CIMO has enabled us to more quickly and efficiently revitalize downtown Kansas City and make much needed improvements throughout our neighborhoods while restoring community confidence in city government.”

In addition, the fourth annual City of Kansas City, MO., Environmental Achievement Awards ceremony on Monday, Jan. 23, recognized MWH employee David Peck, along with two City employees, for their work on the Sprint Arena/KC Live site remediation, part of the CIMO project that MWH manages. The City’s Environmental Management Commission sponsors the awards, which they present with the Mayor’s Office.

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**SCHMIDT JOINS STAFF OF LEO A DALY**

Jenifer Schmidt has recently joined LEO A DALY as the corporate marketing coordinator for the health care and federal market sectors. She will work with the corporate program directors on activities supporting each market sector's business plan. As such, she will be responsible for developing and maintaining database information including past projects, key personnel, client references, and narratives on key topics/issues. Jenifer will support the market sector directors for conferences and conventions, proposals and presentations, brochures, award submittals, articles, and other marketing collateral materials. Jenifer received her Bachelor's degree in Communication from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and has over four years of marketing and corporate communication experience. She is a member of the Society for Marketing Professional Services, and has served as a committee chairperson for the Society of American Military Engineers since 2003.



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**2006 INDUSTRY DAY/GOLF OUTING**

Mark your calendar for this year's SAME Industry Day and Golf Outing scheduled for August 22-24. Due to positive feedback from attendees last year, we will once again be giving small businesses the opportunity to introduce their company to attendees in an informal setting. We will also be holding a 1/2 day workshop the first day, topic to be announced.

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**STUDENT-INITIATIVE MENTORING PROGRAM**

In its 12<sup>th</sup> year, the Omaha Post is again hosting the annual Student Mentoring Engineering/ Architectural Competition and Awards on Tuesday April 25, 2006 in the Scott Conference Center on the South Campus of the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The Competition starts at 8:30 am and will run until 3:30 pm. More than 450 students are participating. There are 17 Middle School teams and 21 High School teams from the local area competing for 12 cash awards ranging from \$250 to \$1,000. The goal is to introduce pre-college students to “Real World” engineering/architectural concepts. This is accomplished through a six month program in which each team identifies a project, researches that project, writes a report and gives an oral presentation on the report. Each team is mentored by one or two professionals from the many local Engineering and Architectural firms who volunteer, at a minimum, one hour of their time each week over the six month period. This year there are 75 mentors. The reports and oral presentations are

judged by 20 professionals from the Engineering/ Architectural fields.

The Awards Ceremony is from 7:00 pm to about 8:00 pm in the Scott Center. A Projects’ Display in which the teams get to showcase their projects precedes the Awards Ceremony from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm also in the Scott Center.

The Keynote speaker will be Mr. Kobie Boykins from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at California Institute of Technology. Mr. Boykins is a graduate of Northwest High School, Omaha NE. He received his Mechanical Engineering Degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York. Mr. Boykins’ topic will be the Mars Exploration Rover. Mr. Boykins worked on the Rover Mission from concept through testing and deployment.

All are invited to attend. Additional information may be obtained on the Web site <http://www.pki.nebraska.edu/simp/>

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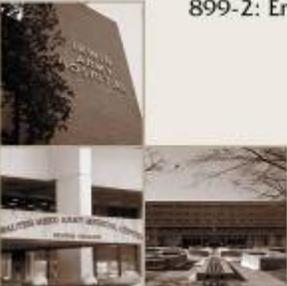
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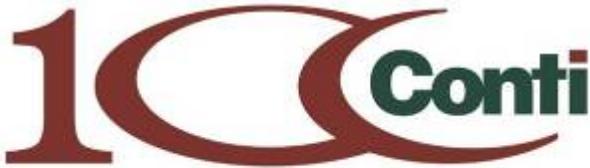
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# Welcome New Members!

The SAME Omaha Post currently has 64 Sustaining Member Firms, up from 61 at the end of 2005.

## New Sustaining Members and Their Representatives:

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Jennifer Johnson  
Scott Cary  
Eileen Fagan  
Jim Fluhr

### MACTEC Engineering and Consulting

Alan Phillip  
Everett Wessner  
Jim Purvis

### PBS&J

Randy Graham  
Jon Holbrook  
Wayne Overman  
Wayne Hudson

### LEO A DALY Company (second membership)

Jeanne LeBron  
Kurt Ubbelohde  
Jeni Schmidt  
John Whisler  
Terrence Williams

### Parsons

John Hoesterey  
Ross Miller  
Richard Hall  
Todd Trometer

## New Individual Members:

Melissa Kurtz, 55 CES/CECP  
MAJ James Schreiner  
Timothy Welsh, USACE  
Dr. Elizabeth Jones, UNL  
Capt. Paul Sutto, USAFR  
Capt. Brandon Varilek, USAF  
Galen Rejda, USACE

## New Student Members:

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Joel Peterson  
Mary Stubbs  
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## UNO STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATE

The student SAME members of the University of Nebraska – Omaha's chapter have kept busy this spring with a few activities, tours, and guest speakers.

In January, Clayton Miller had the opportunity to attend the National SAME Student Leadership Conference in Salt Lake City. The conference gave him the opportunity to meet the national student officers and get an idea of what the national student council does. He participated in a few of the ongoing ASCE activities and attended a few sessions that included topics such as personal and professional development and career skills.

In February, UNO's ASCE Chapter invited the SAME members to their first spring meeting. The speaker was Todd Feldman, P.E., a structural engineer at HDR, who gave a presentation on a hospital project that he worked on in Wisconsin. It was a great opportunity for the students in attendance to see an overview of the structural design process, and ask questions about what life is like in the workforce.

The first student chapter meeting was held in February at PKI. Don Moses from the Army Corp of Engineers gave a presentation about the Corps' response to the hurricanes in 2004 and 2005 and also some of the other disasters SAME helps to prepare for. Close to thirty ASCE and SAME students attended the meeting and most of them were underclassmen.

Another joint SAME/ASCE meeting was held in March at PKI. The speaker for that meeting was Carl Burns from the Nebraska Department of Roads who gave a presentation on the Dodge Street overpass that is currently almost a year ahead of schedule. He stressed the importance of good communication and public relations skills in the engineering field.

Some of the upcoming activities that are scheduled for the remainder of the semester include a day trip to Gavin's Point Dam near Yankton, SD on April 7th. The student chapter is planning on sending a vanload of students to the dam for a tour of the power plant facility and fish hatchery. There will also be an April meeting that will include Matt Metcalf and Dan Neumann to speak about professional skills and development. The new

officers for the 2006-2007 school year will be elected at this meeting and other membership issues will be discussed. So far this year the student chapter has increased its membership to forty-one members and close to one hundred others on the email communication list.



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## WHITE HOUSE NAMES HDR'S PETERS TO TRANSPORTATION POLICY COMMISSION

President George W. Bush has appointed Mary Peters to the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission as created by Section 1909(b) of the SAFTEA-LU transportation bill. Peters, a senior vice president with architectural and engineering firm HDR, is based in the firm's Phoenix office. She served as FHWA Administrator from 2001 to 2005.



The commission includes 12 members. Congressional leadership of the House and the Senate appoint eight members, and three members are appointed by the President. The Secretary of Transportation serves as the chair.

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## SAME-OMAHA WINS MEMBERSHIP AWARD

The Omaha Post of SAME is the proud recipient of the "Membership Streamer" for 2005. A post must show growth in both Individual and Sustaining membership to earn this award - only about one-third of SAME posts qualified, so earning the streamer represents a significant accomplishment for SAME-Omaha. The Post went one step further, placing in the "Top Ten" nationally in percent growth for both Individual Members (#7) and corporate Sustaining Memberships (#6) among Large Posts who qualified for the streamer. Both categories ended up with just less than 10% growth for SAME-Omaha in 2005.

Jeanne LeBron, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of SAME-Omaha and Director of Federal Programs for LEO A DALY, is widely credited with fueling the strong growth in membership for 2005. "We are very pleased with the Post's performance, and most of the credit has to go to our members," she said. "They (post members) are our greatest recruiting tool - they bring guests to our post functions, present a positive image of SAME-Omaha to their colleagues and coworkers, and help keep the post strong - maintaining membership growth would be very difficult without their help," she added. Jeanne is assisted in the membership effort by Al Tarrell, SAME-Omaha's Membership Coordinator and a Database Analyst for Unisys Corporation. Al has begun making more extensive use of database tools to assist SAME-Omaha in maintaining a clearer picture of membership status and areas that need attention. This is an ongoing effort which will hopefully continue to progress and pay dividends as further improvements are made.

Jeanne and Al worked with SAME-Omaha's Board of Directors to set several membership goals for 2005. These goals were very closely aligned with those of SAME-National, so the Omaha Post's progress feeds directly into National's overall objectives. Jeanne highlighted several of those key membership goals for 2005:

- **Increase membership from the public sector.** This is one of National's key goals, and they have just implemented a revised dues structure to assist in achieving it. More than 40% of SAME-Omaha's new Individual Members for

2005 were from the public sector, a tremendous result directly supporting National's priorities.

- Increase numbers of Young Members.** SAME-National also understands the need to recruit Young Members (those under 35 years old) to help ensure long-term success of SAME, and so made recruitment of Young Members another of its priorities. Again, more than 40% of the Omaha Post's new members were Young Members, contributing significantly to the long-term viability of both the national and local organizations.
- Strengthen Sustaining Membership.** Maintaining corporate memberships is another of SAME-National's long-term goals, as they recognize that support of Sustaining Members is vital to maintaining a strong and vibrant organization. The Omaha Post supported this effort in several ways for 2005:

  - Nearly 10% growth in numbers of corporate Sustaining Members.
- Expanding Scope.** The Omaha Post hoped to grow into areas outside its traditional focus during 2005. Highlighting that effort was the addition of Booz Allen Hamilton, a global strategy and consulting firm and one of the primary contractors at U.S. Strategic Command at Offutt AFB, as a Sustaining Member for 2005.
- Expanding Influence.** New Sustaining Members for the Omaha Post hail from Nebraska, Missouri, Colorado (2), Utah, Maryland, and Massachusetts. The addition of these geographically dispersed member firms highlight the impact the Post has on operations throughout the entire United States.

Thanks to all of you for helping SAME-Omaha win the Membership Streamer for 2005. Maintaining strong membership growth is an ongoing effort – so keep up the good work! Please contact Jeanne LeBron ([jmlebron@leoadaly.com](mailto:jmlebron@leoadaly.com)) or Al Tarrell ([aetarrell@cox.net](mailto:aetarrell@cox.net)) if you have any questions about membership or would like to take a more active role in supporting the membership process.

## OTHER 2005 STREAMER RESULTS

The Omaha Post had a very successful 2005 overall. In addition to the membership streamer, the Omaha Post was awarded the following streamers *with distinction*:

- Education and Training Streamer
- Outreach and Communications Streamer
- Relationship Recognition Streamer

Thanks to everyone for their continued support of the Omaha Post!

## MWH WINS AWWA TOP OPS AWARD

MWH recently won the top honor in a highly competitive contest sponsored by the American Water Works Association (AWWA) in Texas. The AWWA declared our team of water experts the winner of the 2006 Texas Section AWWA Top Ops award at the annual state competition held in Austin, Texas, U.S.A. This team operates the Houston Area Water Corporation's Northeast Water Purification Plant.

MWH will now advance to the national Top Ops competition, which will be held at the AWWA Annual Conference in June in San Antonio.

Last year, MWH won the Star Demonstration Site Designation from the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) for its outstanding safety performance as the design-build-operator of this \$129 million Northeast Water Purification Plant.

**SEH HIRES ADDITIONAL RESOURCE FOR MUNICIPAL, FEDERAL PROJECTS**

Rick Zabel, PE, joined Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH®), a professional consulting services firm, as a Project Manager and Design Engineer for municipal improvements, federal facilities and private land development projects.



Rick Zabel

Zabel brings to SEH 22 years of engineering experience with more than 10 years of direct project management experience on multi-disciplined design projects, including several years specifically dedicated to work for federal clients. He has worked on numerous highly visible projects such as the Stapleton Redevelopment Project and the Air Force Academy Air Traffic Control Tower.

**HDR RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD FOR HOLLAND CENTER**

HDR Architecture has received a national award from Building Design and Construction, a national trade publication, for its work on the Holland Center for Performing Arts in Omaha. HDR received one of six "Building Team Project Awards" and will be profiled in the magazine's May edition.

The Building Team Awards are granted based on a combination of design, engineering, construction quality, excellence, and how the building team collaborated to overcome obstacles. HDR collaborated with Polshek Partnership Architects of New York to create this landmark in the heart of downtown as a physical symbol of Omaha's commitment to the musical arts. Critics have called it one of the country's best-sounding new concert halls.

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**THE SCHEMMER ASSOCIATES INC. INTRODUCES KRAGER AS PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER**

The Schemmer Associates (TSA) Inc., a full-service architecture and engineering firm, introduces John Krager III, P.E. John joins the firm as a professional engineer. His role will be project manager and design engineer on a variety of civil engineering projects, with his main focus being on land development. He will oversee the services offered by TSA's Land Development Department.

Krager has over 18 years experience as a civil engineer specializing in land development and infrastructure design. He is experienced in working with clients, contractors and public agencies through the many stages of a development project, from initial land planning to project completion. His role as project manager has included assisting developers with the City of Omaha preliminary and final platting procedures. As project manager, John prepared cost estimates, source and use of funds, build/out and valuation schedules, construction plans and specifications, construction administration, and special assessments.

John has worked on a broad range of projects including: Legacy subdivision at 168<sup>th</sup> and West Center Road; Deer Creek golf course and residential subdivision located at 120<sup>th</sup> and Military; West Dodge Hills, a mixed-use subdivision located at 180<sup>th</sup> and West Dodge Road; as well as civil site work for the Metro Community College South Campus MAT Bus Hub and Learning Connector Building.

John is a graduate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha and is a member of Omaha Engineer's Club and the Metro Omaha Builders Association.

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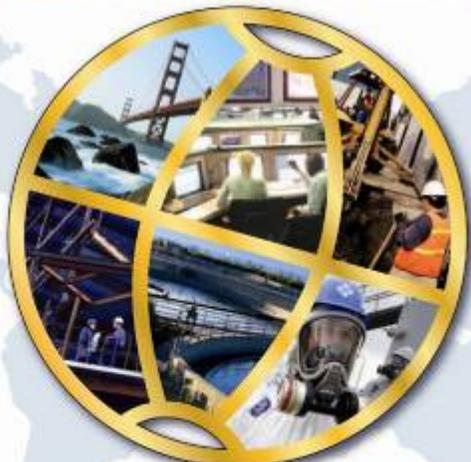
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