



# The Boston Post Bugle

A Publication of The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) Boston Post

**February 2005**

**A Distinguished Post of SAME Dedicated to our Nation**

**<http://www.sameboston.org>**

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## This is What Makes America Great

Sent: Monday, November 22, 2004 11:53 AM

Subject: My Son

From Col. Tom Sims (US Army Retired):

My son, the soldier, comes home for good. At last report, he had left Iraq and was waiting a flight in Kuwait. With luck he will be in Germany today and then on to Texas. By the way, he is called "remains" but I know better. He is my son. ...

CPT Sean Patrick Sims, was killed in action Nov. 13 in Fallujah, Iraq while clearing insurgent occupied buildings. It is sad when a father must write his own son's obituary. I don't know what to say. My son, like others falling in that conflict, was a hero who believed in his mission, his unit, and his men. He also believed leaders should be in the front, leading, not following. And that is how he died. He was well liked and respected by his superiors and the men in his company, who sensed his concern for their well-being. ... There is no doubt in our minds that Sean is now in heaven and in the hands of our Lord. We grieve for his loss, which is our loss, but not for his soul.

My son wasn't a rampant political supporter, although he was probably more Republican by instinct. But he did have an abiding trust and belief in the United States of America. He felt we are a moral nation, steadfast in our principles; this nation does not take its commitment of its sons and daughters to war lightly. But unlike many nations in the world, we do not shirk our duties to commit our blood to just and necessary causes. Because that is what keeps us free. ...

My son understood this and believed what he was doing was right. But he also believed that you can't go in and destroy a country and walk away. He was anxious for the insurgents to be quickly defeated so we could start the nation building that Iraq so sorely needs. ... (H)e had been raised in a tradition of grit and putting one foot forward at a time, so he was not deterred by the challenge. He was faced with a difficult, dirty and seemingly impossible task, but his response was not how do I get out of it but how do I get it done. ...

"His sacrifice was made to keep my family, my sons and my grandchildren as well as all Americans safe and free and for that we will eternally be grateful." That's nice. My son would agree. In retrospect, the true hero here is his wife, who is left a young widow with a young son to raise. She is a woman of grace, and grit. She will do well by her son and her warrior husband.



## Membership Poised to Vote Proposed Slate for 05/06

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Monthly Meeting  
**Tues., 8 February 05**

Topic: **Disaster  
 Resource  
 Network**

Speaker:  
**Robert E. Bellhouse**  
 President & COO  
 Parsons Brinckerhoff Telecommunications

Place: Hyatt Regency  
 Cambridge - near MIT  
 575 Memorial Drive

Time: **1130** Registration  
**1200** Luncheon Meeting

Cost: \$35 Before 3 Feb 05;  
 \$40 After;  
 \$25 for gov't; students;  
 and, seniors

RSVP:  
**Ms. Joyce Gilardi**  
 MIT ROTC  
**617-253-4471/4473**  
[Gilardi@mit.edu](mailto:Gilardi@mit.edu)

Payment: Check payable to:  
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## Bugle Information

◆ Contributions to the Bugle may be sent to the Boston Post c/o Joe Bocchino at the US Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Rd, Concord, MA 01742. Call Joe at: **(978) 505 - 9020**

◆ Fax Hard Copy to:  
**(978) 318-8821**

◆ Please Email MSWord text to:  
[joseph.a.bocchino@usace.army.mil](mailto:joseph.a.bocchino@usace.army.mil)

◆ Deadline is always  
 the 20<sup>th</sup> each month.

# POST CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Feature</u>
1 Feb 05	Every 1 <sup>st</sup> Tues	1730 @ Corps HQ	Spring Meeting Committee
8 Feb 05	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday		Post Monthly Meeting & Vote for Officers & Directors
8 Feb 05	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	Following Monthly Mtg	Readiness Committee Mtg
17 Feb 05	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	1200 @ Corps HQ	Small Business Committee
7-10 Mar 05		Coastal Geotools 2005 in Mrytle Beach. Go to <a href="http://csc.noaa.gov">csc.noaa.gov</a>	
8 Mar 05	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	Annual	Post Small Business Matchmaker
11-14 April 05		National Environment Partnership Summit in Chicago, IL. Go to <a href="http://environmentalsummit.org">environmentalsummit.org</a>	
10 May 05	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	Annual	Post Spring Scholarship Meeting
17-20 May 05		SAME National Education & Training Conference in Louisville, KY	
1-4 June 05		International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Conference To be held at Hyatt Regency in Cambridge, MA. Call 701-297-7908 or visit <a href="http://iaia.org">iaia.org</a> .	

## Do You Know ???



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ralph Salucci Online Bridge Contest (ed. note – the Massachusetts version of the West Point Bridge Design Contest) was held beginning 5 Jan 05. Go to [engineers.org/onlinebridge](http://engineers.org/onlinebridge). Aimed at 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> graders, there are “tons of prizes” including laptops and \$10K scholarships!



Under a new policy taking effect in January, Army Reserve officers will no longer compete for promotion against National Guard officers. Full-time Army Reserve officers will also compete for promotion only with other full-timers. The assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) recently approved a change in promotion policy that creates three new competitive categories for officers previously considered under the single Army Promotion List, or APL competitive category: A National Guard category; An Army Reserve category for Active-Guard-Reserve officers, known as AGRs; and, A category for all other Army Reserve officers. The change will enable RC mandatory promotion boards to select officers based upon “the unique force structure requirements” of the Army Reserve and Army National Guard. See [http://www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,usa1\\_122104.00.html](http://www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,usa1_122104.00.html)



Weston Solutions was the first to send its donation into this year's Spring Meeting. HooAhh! Right behind were: Barker Steel, Brunalli Construction, Bryant Associates, Cabrera, H&S Environmental, R. Zoppo, Louis Berger, and Caffrey Engineering. Our thanks go out to these very generous folks. Your firm is next, right? You do not want to not be on this list.



The Veterans Improvement Act of 2004 improves & updates several VA programs, incl increasing the max amount of housing loan guarantee to \$83,425 from \$60,000. This change in guarantee will increase no-down payment VA guaranteed home loan limits from \$240,000 to \$333,700. The VA now guarantees 25% of the available loan up to the guarantee limit. Go to: [military.com/military/issues/bills/?bill=6637511](http://military.com/military/issues/bills/?bill=6637511).

# President's Message

By COL Tom Koning, USACE

Happy New Year to each and every one of you! I hope this coming year will be filled with great opportunities for friends, families, and business opportunities to come together. I have just completed the Boston Post's Streamer Award submissions for 2004. Although I was deployed for over half the year and cannot take credit for any of it, WOW, the active participants of this Post have done amazing things.

Let's start with our Scholarship Committee – the Post awarded 17 scholarships to deserving students in 2004. A total of \$48,500 was distributed. This brings the total of scholarships presented by the Boston Post over five decades to just about \$1 million. The Boston Post Scholarship program is the second largest in all of the Society. Programs – What a diverse program schedule we have had. Topics ranged from national security, combat engineering, environmental sustainability and stewardship, emerging technologies, small business, to design and construction. We included interests from the public and private sectors as well as including other professional organizations in our activities. We are relevant and timely and that makes an exciting Post. Spring Meeting Committee – Another great event this past year with the change of venue and time (evening function). It is a superb opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of the Post leadership, install the new team, and give out scholarships. The planning is well under way for this year, and it will be super. Do not miss it. It culminates our year and is a wonderful feel-good event.

Other committees at the heart of our society are doing great things too. Readiness Committee – This team has been incredibly active. From the update of the FAST START program to maximum involvement with our federal, state, local and corporate partners, this committee is leading the way for the national organization. Education Committee – Another active group setting the standard for MATHCOUNTS competitions throughout Massachusetts, First Robotics competitions, support to the SAME Construction Camp, Career Construction Days, distribution of the book Amazing Engineers, and lastly support to HBCU/MI activities.

Of course, I have to mention the hard work of the remaining officers. Publicity & Golf – We all appreciate the information The Bulge provides and the effort that goes into the Post's fundraising golf tournaments. We sell out early because we put on a quality event. Thank you to all our corporate sponsors for their contributions. Treasurer – We are financially sound and the scholarship accounts are strong. The standing committees of Membership and Young Members along with our folks working Administration and Chaplain duties are also to be commended. Mostly, I thank you, the membership of the Boston Post, for your support of our activities. You are the reason we do so well. All should be proud of our Post's accomplishments and look forward to even better opportunities throughout 2005.



## Education Committee

By Christen Clarke Sardano, Shaw

First - The Post BOD (Board of Directors) approved \$1000 for the First Robotics competition at the Algonquin Regional H.S. located in Northboro, MA. Inspiration was provided by student Mark Nash and the lead teacher for this project, Mr. George Clark. They even have a website (who doesn't?) - [www.usfirst.org/robotics](http://www.usfirst.org/robotics). The requirements of the robot were posted 8 Jan and the robot must be sent in by 22 Feb. The school already raised the \$6,000 required to send the school team to the regional competition and the Post \$1000 will be used to defray their expenses toward the national competition (presuming they move on). There are about 25 students and 12 parents involved. They have corporate sponsorship from HP and Intel. Mr. Clark and a student will be invited to give a 5-10 minute presentation to either the SAME BOD or the general membership later in the year.

Second - It looks like the Post and our Member firms will sponsor the four MathCounts competitions closest to Boston. Some contribution between \$250 and \$500 will be made for each competition held this year in Chelsea, North Andover, Plymouth and Framingham. Thanks everyone! So far I have received checks from Shaw E&I (\$500), Batelle (\$500), Cabrera (\$250), and Nobis (\$250) for Mathcounts this year. It looks like we are going to send \$500 each to the Metrowest Competition, the Chelsea Competition, and the other two competitions in Andover and Plymouth. The money is greatly appreciated by all of the competitions.

# Small Business Committee

By Pete Delano, Nobis Engineering

## ***Upcoming Matchmaker Event – Mark Your Calendars !***

Plans are underway by the Boston Post Small Business Committee to sponsor a day-long “Matchmaker Event” on Tuesday, March 8, 2005 at the Renaissance Hotel in Bedford, Massachusetts to be held in conjunction with our regular monthly Post luncheon meeting. Our invited luncheon speaker is Mr. Scott Denniston, Director, Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization, U.S. Dept. of Veteran Affairs. Scott is an outstanding and very entertaining speaker. Don't miss out ! The tentative program:

7:30 – 8:30	Registration
8:30 – 12:00	Training Sessions and Contract Opportunity Briefings
12:00 – 1:30	Luncheon & Speaker
1:30 – 4:00	Matchmaker Appointments & Networking
4:00 – 6:00	Cocktail Hour/Networking (Cash Bar)

In addition, we have also invited many agencies to present their program and contract opportunity updates to us including - the USACE New England District, Navy, EPA Region 1, US Coast Guard, Volpe Transportation Center, Defense Energy Supply Center, and SBA. Watch for more details during January and February within the Bugle and website ! If questions, contact me at (978) 683-0891 or [pdelano@nobisengineering.com](mailto:pdelano@nobisengineering.com).



## **Sustaining Memb of the Month:**



Established in 1997, Charter Environmental, Inc., is an environmental contractor specializing in servicing the needs of consultants/engineers, contractors, private sector clients and government agencies. Charter's rapid, client-focused growth has resulted in national recognition in both *Engineering News Record* and *Environmental Business Journal* as one of the country's top environmental firms. Charter is based in Wilmington, Massachusetts and has principal offices in Chelsea, Massachusetts and Eliot, Maine.

Through our Federal, municipal and commercial client base, we have established capabilities in site redevelopment, ecosystem restoration, hazardous materials abatement, decontamination, dismantling and demolition, environmental technologies, infrastructure and facilities, and waste management.

Charter prides itself on the technical depth of its staff, its fleet of heavy equipment and its in-place management systems that enable the firm to self-perform even the most complex remediation and restoration projects. For special or unique applications, Charter fabricates its own equipment and systems to meet project requirements.

Charter's strengths include:

- Strong financial position, evidenced by our significant bonding and insurance capacities
- Broad resource base with multi-skilled professionals and diverse equipment to self-perform environmental remediation and civil construction
- Outstanding safety program with an EMR consistently well below 1.0.
- Affiliated waste transportation company, AmeriTech, licensed to transport hazardous/toxic waste throughout the U.S. and Canada
- Certified, award-winning minority business enterprise with multiple Federal/state designations
- SBA-certified SDB, 8(a) and HUBZone firm

# News & Views ...



Boston Post Sustaining Member **GeoSyntec** was 7<sup>th</sup> among the "100 Fastest-growing US A/E & Environmental Consulting Firms." A hearty "how to go" to **Chuck Raymond**. We burst with Bugle pride for the Post's own **GeoSyntec**.



Another Post Sustaining Member, **Environmental Chemical Corporation** received a new performance- based IDIQ contract award in December from the Army Contracting Agency and the Army Environmental Center. **ECC** was one of five small businesses awarded a contract with a value of \$160 million to be shared between the five contractors. The scope of work is for environmental clean-up at Army installations throughout the US and includes environmental assessment, investigation, remediation, and response actions for hazardous substances, munitions and explosives of concern, and radioactive waste. A loud *HooAhh* for **Rob Paine**, **Stu Kibbee** and the rest of the gang at **ECC**. The Bugle congratulates you.



Did you catch our own **Sheila Warren (D.L. Maher)** posing with **BG Bo Temple** in recent edition of SAME's NEWS for December 04? Oozing that Sheila effervescence, North Atlantic RVP BG Temple and she (New England RVP) were caught beaming over our agreement to run joint regional conferences – ours slated for June 06. 07,08, and 09 belong to the North Atlantic region with our turn coming again in 2010. **Looking Good Sheila**.



**The Value of Marriage?** - Dartmouth has found a strong marriage is worth about \$100,000 per year (2004 P.L.); that is, someone who married "well" is on average as happy as a single person earning \$100,000 *more* than the married someone. (ed note: the implications of carrying this logic further puts way too much pressure on our non-married colleagues) **Too much happiness going around?** Some assume that widespread happiness would hurt the country because productivity would decline. Research shows, however, that happiness is good for the economy and the country. Happy people are richer and more productive than unhappy people. Ok – with that settled – how do we score apathy? Confused yet? Another study points out that the U.S. GNP has risen 300% in the last 50 years while "life satisfaction" has remained flat. Thus, we must have very happy people who are not satisfied with life ... as the Bugle staff looks forward to Valentine's Day.



**Battlefield Promotion.** We here at the Bugle are not fans of The Apprentice. But we note that Kelly Perdew, one of the winners of the show, had a leg up on the competition because of his military background. Perdew is a **West Point** graduate and former **Army intelligence officer**. Perdew's former commanding officer told **Donald Trump** he "would be remiss" not to hire Perdew. The Bugle staff gained new respect for Trump hoping that he put two & two together and appreciated his Apprentice.



**At Ivy League Schools, ROTC, Long Banned, Plots a Comeback - Push May Stir Up Old Passions On These Elite Campuses; A Beachhead at Harvard** (from The Wall Street Journal): Lt. Vincent Tuohey has led a platoon patrolling Baghdad's airport. He has dodged bombs, grenades & gunfire. No one doubts his bravery, but gets strange looks when he relaxes in his college T-shirt. "You went to Harvard? Why did you join the Army?" Lt. Tuohey, 25 years old, is part of a rare breed: the Ivy League-educated officer. In the 1960s & 1970s, Brown, Columbia, Harvard and Yale banished **ROTC**. But earlier generations drilled at these schools, and a Harvard lieutenant would not be out of place on the battlefield.

DoD asked the Army, Air Force, Navy & Marines (if) they are interested in an **ROTC outpost at Harvard**. For decades ROTC students at Harvard trained at the neighboring MIT. In a letter sent to Harvard alumni, **Lt. Col. Brian Baker (yes, the Post's LTC Brian Baker)**, the commander of the **ROTC Army battalion at MIT**, says he plans to meet with Harvard President Lawrence Summers to lobby for a Harvard beachhead. "Our nation needs a cross section of America represented in its officer corps," and that he wants to double the number of Harvard cadets to 100. The Defense Business Board, an advisor to **Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld**, issued a report calling for a return of ROTC to elite campuses. Congress ratcheted up the pressure by passing a measure sponsored by Rep. Chris Cox (R., Calif.), a Harvard alumnus making it clear that Congress empowers the government to withdraw federal funding from schools that bar military recruiters or the ROTC.

**Columbia** is considering a return of ROTC. Students in Army ROTC now travel by subway to the Bronx to drill at Fordham. **Yale** College Republicans plan to launch a bring-back-ROTC campaign. At **Harvard**, an alumni group called **Advocates for Harvard ROTC** intensified its campaign since 9/11. To Ivy League cadets, a return has historical resonance. Among the earliest students at Columbia was Alexander Hamilton, who rose to prominence as a Revolutionary War hero and aide-de-camp to **George Washington** (see icon). Freshmen dorms at Yale surround a statue of Nathan Hale (class of 1773), executed by the British and credited with the parting words: "*I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country.*"

Lt. Tuohey, the Army lieutenant in Baghdad who graduated from Harvard in 2001, draws inspiration from his great-uncle, a U.S. Army first lieutenant who died in France during World War II. "I've learned more in Iraq than I learned during four years at Harvard," Lt. Tuohey says. "There's no greater honor than leading men in defense of your country." Essayons!

# NEWSLETTER

## Boston Post SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Alpha Analytical Labs	1/02		Mill City Environmental Corp.	1/04
AMEC Earth & Environmental	1/95		MWH	10/03
AMRO Environmental Labs	7/99		Nobis Engineering, Inc.	9/97
APEX Environmental	4/00		Normandeau	9/03
Applied Geographics	4/95		Parsons	12/92
Arcadis – GM	6/98		Parsons Brinckerhoff	4/89
Battelle	9/00		Paterl Construction	7/03
Louis Berger & Assoc.	6/93	GEI Consultants, Inc.	PEER Consultants, P.C.	10/96
Bond Brothers	8/04	GeoSyntec Consultants	Perini Management Services, Inc.	3/93
Bryant Associates	11/88	The Geotechnical Group, Inc.	Pennoni Associates	6/02
The BSC Group	12/85	Golder Associates	Plexus Scientific Corp.	3/93
Cabrera Services, Inc.	8/00	Green Seal Environmental	Riverdale Mills	4/03
Camp, Dresser & McKee, Inc.	11/76	GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.	Rizzo Associates	5/89
Cape Environmental	12/02	H & S Environmental	SAIC	10/95
Cashman Construction	3/03	Haley & Aldrich, Inc.	SEA Consultants, Inc.	11/89
CDM Federal Programs	12/91	Hanson Professional Services	Chas. H. Sells, Inc	6/95
CH2M Hill, Inc.	4/93	Hart Crowser	Shaw Environment & Infrastructure	9/84
Charter Environmental	11/04	HNTB	SplitStream Technologies	3/03
Conti Environmental	10/00	HydroGeologic	STV Group, Inc.	10/91
Cutler Associates	7/03	ICF Consulting	Survey & Mapping Consultants	11/97
Dewberry	8/85	Jacobs Engineering Group	Tantara Corporation	3/02
DLZ National	7/03	Keville Enterprises	TechLaw, Inc.	10/00
Domenech, Hicks & Krockmalnic	4/88	Lin Associates, Inc.	Tetra Tech FW	3/90
Dufresne-Henry, Inc.	5/97	Loureiro Engineering Assoc.	Tetra Tech NUS	8/98
EA Engineering Science & Tech, Inc.	10/95	MACTEC	TranSystems	3/89
Earth Tech	2/90	Maguire Group, Inc.	TRC Environmental Corp.	1/93
Edwards & Kelcey	11/03	D.L. Maher Co.	URS	5/99
ENSR Consulting	8/93	Marin Environmental, Inc.	Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.	6/95
Environmental Chemical Corp.	4/96	Maxymillian Technologies	Vollmer Associates	8/88
EST Associates	2/03	M. Baker Associates	Washington Group International	8/03
Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, Inc.	9/80	Metcalf & Eddy, Inc.	Watermark Environmental	1/03
Gale Associates	2/97	Mill City Environmental Corp.	Weston & Sampson Engineers	6/89
Gannett Fleming, Inc.	2/96		Weston Solutions	9/92

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