



The Boston Post Bugle

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

May 2005

A Distinguished Post of SAME Dedicated to our Nation

<http://www.sameboston.org>

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President's Message

By COL Tom Koning, USACE

This will be the 45th Annual Spring Meeting of the Boston Post of the Society of American Military Engineers. The primary purpose of this meeting is the culmination of our annual scholarship fund raising drive, thereby allowing the Post to recognize and award scholarships to engineering students from area colleges and universities. This meeting also serves to transfer the leadership of the Post to those elected to leadership positions for the upcoming year.

Scholarships are awarded each year by the Boston Post to deserving students, who have a sophomore or junior standing in an engineering curriculum. Two types of scholarships are awarded, singularly or in combination; twelve endowed scholarships as provided by generous Post benefactors, and Post scholarships derived from our annual fundraising. This year we are extremely pleased to not only have grown our number of endowed scholarships, but also have initiated a new scholarship category directed at our 2-year Historically Black Colleges and Universities / Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI). Today we will recognize 21 highly deserving students with a total of \$50,000 in scholarships! The officers and Post members extend our sincere congratulations to the recipients, their families and friends.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank this year's elected officers, Board of Directors and committee members for their selfless service and hard work in support of the mission of SAME. This has been a wonderful year for the Post and their contributions deserve recognition. A special thank you goes to the Spring Committee for their dedication and attention to detail for making this a special event.

It has been a pleasure and honor for me to serve as your president this year. I owe a debt of gratitude and appreciation to those who made my term easy and filled in for me while I was deployed. Thanks to all of you.



The Boston Post Open Sold Out

By Joe Bocchino, USACE

The Post Open Golf Tournament will be held Tuesday 14 June at the infamous Sandy Burr CC in Wayland, MA. The day promises to be super with great weather ordered, an expected \$15-20K in scholarship revenues, and lots of fun in store. As usual there will be lots of prizes for all valued in the thousands. Our thanks in advance to Weston Solutions for the 1st place jackets and Holes-in-One, SEA for breakfast, TRC Environmental for signage, the Munseys & the crew at Sandy Burr, and the legendary Post Golf Committee incl the Mulligan Girls Debi Heims of H&S Environmental and Sheila Warren of DL Maher.

As the headline proclaims: we're sold out (and there should be no surprise there) with a scheduled 160 golfers. There will be no time to spare as we must and will start early in order to squeeze in a full day which includes the annual Post Clambake at Hanscom's "FamCamp" later in the afternoon (1600/1630). The Clambake is one of the longest Post traditions and renown for its networking and lobster fest. Watch the Bugle for details.

Annual Spring Meeting

Tuesday, 10 May 05

Speaker:

BG Bo Temple

USACE, North Atlantic
Division Engineer

Topic:

The Corps of Engineers & Its Future

Place:

Bedford Renaissance
Rte 3A, Bedford
Middlesex Turnpike

Time:

1730 Registration
1815 "Spring Meeting"

Cost:

\$75 Before 5 May 05;
\$80 After;
\$60 for gov't; students;
and, seniors

RSVP:

Dave Heislein
MACTEC
781-245-6606

Payment: Check payable to:

Boston Post, SAME



Bugle Information

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

◆ Email MSWord text to:

joseph.a.bocchino@usace.army.mil.

◆ Deadline is always the 20th each month.

POST CALENDAR

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Feature</u>
10 May 05	2 nd Tuesday	1730 Registration	Post Spring Scholarship Meeting Bedford Renaissance. Go to sameboston.org to download registration.
17-20 May 05			SAME National Education & Training Conference in Louisville, KY
1-4 June 05			International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) Conference Hyatt Regency in Cambridge, MA. Call 701-297-7908 or visit iaia.org .
6-9 June 05			8 th Int. In-Situ & On-Site Bioremediation Symposium Baltimore, MD. Go to: battelle.org/biosymp
14 June 05	2 nd Tuesday		Post Open Golf Tournament & Annual Clambake
8 July 05	2 nd Friday		USACE, New England District Change of Command
19-22 July 05			ASCE Watershed Conference in Williamsburg, VA. Go to asce.org .



Did You Know ???

- The Army announced the following GO assignments: **BG (Promotable) Thomas P. Bostick**, Director of Military Programs, United States Army Corps of Engineers TO Deputy Chief of Engineers/Deputy Commanding General, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC. **BG William T. Grisoli**, Commanding General, United States Army Engineer Division, Northwestern TO Commanding General, United States Army Engineer Division, North Atlantic. **BG Merdith W. B. Temple**, Commanding General, United States Army Engineer Division, North Atlantic, Fort Hamilton Military Community, Brooklyn, New York TO Director of Military Programs, United States Army Corps of Engineers. The Bugle congrats all. **BG Bo Temple is also RVP of the North Atlantic Region of SAME.** **BG Bill McCoy**, from Assistant Commandant, U.S. Army Engineer School, Fort Leonard Wood, to Commander, Gulf Region Division. Now you know.

- Northeastern University honored **Boston Post Director Frederick Aufiero** with the "Outstanding Engineering Alumni of the Year Award" in recognition of his efforts to advance the College of Civil and Environmental Engineering. **Fred Aufiero**, President and CEO of Post Sustaining Member **S E A Consultants Inc.**, was also instrumental in initiating a communications program in the College which is now an ongoing part of the engineering curriculum. The Bugle sends its congratulations to Fred for this most deserving recognition.

- The **new Army Combat Uniform (ACU)**– replacing the Battle Dress Uniform or BDU) has an estimated wear life of only six months. They cost \$88 each and use a digitized camouflage pattern together with a "moisture-wicking" T-shirt. Now you know that too.

- The **National Response Plan** was released in January and says that the federal gov't will only step in when an incident exceeds local & state capabilities (Ed note: no news there). The NRP provides a framework for private and non-profit entities (*that's SAME*) to plan & integrate preparedness and response activities. Go to dhs.gov. (Ed note: Be assured that the Boston Post award-winning Readiness Committee chaired by **Mike Bradbury of Nobis** is all over this.)

- Post Sustaining Member **Cape Environmental** is now just plain "CAPE." Bugle friend **Doug DeFazio of CAPE** says the new look is not a legal change, rather a reflection of CAPE's broad range of services incl infrastructure and fueling systems. Our Bugle best to CAPE.

- The **Ancient & Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts** headquartered at Faneuil Hall is the 3rd oldest military organization in the world (presently). It was founded in 1638 to train gentlemen officers, and its alumni include US Presidents James Monroe, Chester Arthur, Calvin Coolidge and JFK. Like us, The Ancient & Honorable stand for "patriotism, service to our nation, support to the military, and fraternity." Essays!

News & Views ...



Bugle correspondent Rob Paine of ECC reports from Baghdad ... "It was a great Tuesday for us in Iraq. We had an SAME Baghdad Post luncheon with two chiefs: **LTG Strock, Chief Engineer for the Army and MG Fox, Chief Engineer for the Air Force (and President of SAME National)** were both there, along w/ many other one- and two-stars. **The Commander of GRD (BG Bostick) and the Director of AFCEE (Paul Parker)** were also there. (Boston Post Sustaining Member) ECC had three seats at the head table: **RADM (Ret) Kubic, Mike Meuleners and Rob Paine** ... ECC got several references in the speeches by LTG Strock & MG Fox, and there was a lot of goodwill earned. By the way, the Baghdad Post (earned) an SAME "streamer" for membership, and (growing) from hardly any attendees ... to: 65 in Nov; 95 in Dec; 120 in Jan; 145 in Feb and **181 attendees in March!** (Ed note: It is noted for the record that opportunities for these attendees to do anything other than work, eat, sleep, and care for personal hygiene are limited – pretty soon they'll be a large post & possibly member streamerless ... but I digress ... sorry [The Bugle](#) sends our congrats.)



As you probably know, **SFC Paul Smith, a combat engineer, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor** on the second anniversary of his death in Operation Iraqi Freedom. In an unsent letter to his parents, he wrote "it doesn't matter how I come home because I am prepared to give all that I am to ensure that all my boys make it home." On April 4, 2003, he did exactly that. At the Baghdad International Airport, he engaged the enemy in a withering firefight from an unprotected position atop an Armored Personnel Carrier. He fired hundreds of rounds before being killed. His remarkable bravery saved as many as 100 American lives that day. The engineer regiment can be especially proud. SFC Smith is the 14th engineer to receive the Medal of Honor. The last engineer to receive the honor was CPL Terry Kawamura for bravery in Vietnam in March 1969. Another Medal of Honor recipient who wore castles, General Douglas MacArthur, whose "Duty, Honor, Country" speech in 1962 could have been written about SFC Smith. "In his youth and strength, his love and loyalty he gave, all that mortality can give...he belongs to history." More than one million military men & women have served in Afghanistan or Iraq since 2001. But Sergeant Smith is the only one whose actions earned the Nation's highest honor after wending its way through more than 12 levels of military & presidential reviews. Since the medal was created in the Civil War, there have been 3,440 recipients, but only 842 since World War II, when the requirements were tightened. There are 125 living recipients of the award.



In case you missed it ... Your **Boston Post is now the 4th largest SAME Post** in the world – in both Individual & Sustaining membership! Our Scholarship program continues to be second only to NYC in dollars awarded. Our own **Sheila Warren of DL Maher** and New England RVP captured the Recruitment Award for large Posts. And our sister Posts **Piscataqua and Narragansett Bay won Top Post honors** for the medium & small post categories, respectively. Congrats. We're the BEST.



And .. Hot off the presses ... Our own Boston Post President **COL Tom Koning was selected as SAME's 2005 Wheeler Medal recipient.** The award is bestowed on a military officer whose contributions have significantly contributed to the advancement of military engineering. COL Koning's accomplishments in Iraq as well as the New England District are deserving of this prestigious recognition by SAME. The Post is proud of COL Koning's service. The medal will be awarded at the SAME National Joint Engineering Conference later in May. Of course – our Bugle best to COL K.



With Marines facing a spike in off-duty accidents, all **Marines must now sign a pledge promising to be safe** before going on leave. (Ed. Note: You cannot make this stuff up) The new policy requires supervisors to *swear* they are confident their Marines will keep their promise. The idea is to raise safety awareness, help Marines remember they're Marines 24-7 - and highlight accountability. The new "Leave Pledge" comes after 55 Marines have died in off-duty mishaps over the past 12 months.



On the outskirts of Baghdad, 50 Iraqi insurgents attacked a convoy of 30 tractor trailer trucks moving supplies. These trucks, driven by third country nationals (primarily Turkish), were escorted by 3 armored Hummers. When attacked, one of the Hummers and the three soldiers aboard were immediately wounded, and the platform taken under heavy fire. Three of the drivers were killed and 6 wounded. After three minutes of sustained fire, a squad of enemy moved toward the disabled trucks. Each had handcuffs and were looking to take hostages. About this time, three Hummers that formed the MP Squad arrived like the cavalry. They had been shadowing the convoy and arrived on the scene just as the enemy moved forward. The MP squad opened fire & drove across the kill zone, between the enemy and the trucks, drawing fire off of the tractor trailers. The three Hummers, carrying nine MPs and a medic, flanked the enemy with plunging fire. In front of them, was a line of seven sedans, all w/ doors & trunks open, the getaway cars and a lone two-story house off on their left. The MP's middle vehicle was then hit by an RPG knocking the gunner unconscious and down into the vehicle. Simultaneously, the rear vehicle's MPs open their doors & dismount, while their gunner continued firing from on top. All three fall under heavy return fire, wounded. The Squad's medic and another MP begin combat life-saving to treat the three wounded. The gunner on the floor of the second Hummer is revived and climbs back and opens fire. The enemy has gone into ditches and hiding behind some small trees. The MPs use a .50 cal and SAW flanking fire to tear them apart. Meanwhile, the medic & MP treating the wounded come under sniper fire from the house. Each of them, remember one is a medic, pull out rocket launchers from the Hummer and nearly-simultaneously fire into the house to *neutralize* the shooter. Two sergeant MPs work their way up the trenchline, throwing grenades, firing grenades, and firing their M4s. One sergeant runs low on ammo and runs back to a vehicle to reload. *She* moves to her squad leader's vehicle, and because this squad is led so well, she knows exactly where to reach her arm blindly into a different vehicle to find ammo-because each vehicle is packed exactly the same, with discipline. As she turns to move back to the trenchline, the gunner in the second HMMWV sees an "AIF" jump from behind one of the cars and start firing on the Sergeant. He pulls his 9mm, because the .50 cal is pointed in the other direction, and shoots five rounds wounding him. A lone man with an RPG launcher on his shoulder steps from behind a tree and prepares to fire on the three Hummers and is killed with a single shot thru the head by the previously knocked out gunner. The three wounded MPs: one lost a kidney and will be paralyzed; the other two will recover, though one will forever have a bullet lodged below his heart. The female E5 Sergeant who fought thru the trenchline will become the anti-Jessica Lynch media poster child. **She deserves every bit of recognition we can give. They all do.**



SitRep Iraq (from **Ken Paton, USACE volunteer. Essayons!**) ... Mudhafar was so close to me I felt his breath as he talked. He talked softly but **Chris Lindsay (USACE Volunteer & Post Member. HooAhh)** could hear from two desks away. He said "I have never traveled out of Iraq because Saddam wouldn't permit it. Saddam didn't want the world to know about us". Mudhafar began talking about what it was like right after the US pulled out after the 1991 Gulf War. The Shias in this region rebelled against the Regime after the US left, and they were severely punished. Mudhafar, who must have been in his early twenties at the time, went on to say, "Many, many, many of my friends were killed by Saddam. People were killed in the streets, I mean women and children. Thousands were killed. **The people here love Americans because they got rid of Saddam and many bad men.**" He's not the first person here to tell me these things.

