The mission of the Society of American Military Engineers is to promote and facilitate engineering support for national security by developing and enhancing relationships and competencies among uniformed services, public and private sector engineers, and related professionals.

We have been very busy the past few months and have had some exciting outings and program meetings. We are also looking to end the year with another program meeting in November and our annual holiday social set coming up in December. Can you believe that 2013 is right around the corner?

In July a lot of you braved the heat and a thunderstorm to head to the ball park for our Young Member event. A special thanks to Weston Solutions and Wallace Engineering for co-sponsoring this activity. We have had three very interesting Program Meetings in August, September and October, details of which are featured in this newsletter.

Our next meeting is set for November 20th, 2012; the topic will be the USACE Tulsa FEST Update on Korea/Cambodia Trip. Additionally, Tulsa Post Board Member, Lars Ostervold will update us on his most recent tour of Afghanistan. The meeting will be sponsored by CH2M Hill.

As previously mentioned, our Holiday Social will be on Tuesday, December 18th at Stokley’s Event Center. The entertainment this year includes a murder mystery dinner show performed by the Murder Mystery Players. At the end of the show, we will gather the clues and find out who committed “Murder at the North Pole.”

Regards,

Heather V. Tittjung
2012 Tulsa Post President
Program Meeting

**Topic:** USACE Tulsa FEST Update on Korea/Cambodia Trip; Lars Ostervold presentation on recent tour in Afghanistan

**Sponsor:** CH2M Hill

**Date:** November 20, 2012

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Place:** Room 210, Tulsa District Corps of Engineers District Office Building 1645 S. 101st E. Ave., Tulsa, OK

Professional Development

PE RESOURCES

- **Oklahoma State University Continuing Education** [http://outreach.okstate.edu/](http://outreach.okstate.edu/)
- **University of Tulsa Continuing Engineering and Science Education** [http://www.cese.utulsa.edu/](http://www.cese.utulsa.edu/)
- **University of Oklahoma Continuing Education - Engineering and Geosciences** [http://www.engr.outreach.ou.edu/](http://www.engr.outreach.ou.edu/)
- **OKC Section of IEEE** [https://webinabox.vtools.ieee.org/wibp_home/index/R50021](https://webinabox.vtools.ieee.org/wibp_home/index/R50021)
- **Tulsa Engineering Foundation** [http://tulsaengineer.org/events/](http://tulsaengineer.org/events/)
- **Tulsa Chapter of OSPE** [http://www.ospe.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=34](http://www.ospe.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=34)
- **Oklahoma State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors** [http://www.pels.state.ok.us/](http://www.pels.state.ok.us/)

For further information, please contact:
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Brett.A.Cowan@usace.army.mil

Looking for Articles from Post Members

We are seeking articles from Tulsa Post members to include in future issues of the Post newsletter and in the SAME National *TME-The Military Engineer* bi-monthly magazine. We hope to hear from you.

If you are interested in submitting an article, please contact:
Shannon Koeninger
Email: shannon.a.koeninger@saic.com
SAVE the Date – Annual Post Holiday Social

PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN

Evening of Merriment

On TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2012 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm

Dinner Buffet & Murder Mystery
(Interactive Dinner Show – watch the show performance and then try to solve the murder)

Murder at the North Pole
Santa’s Village is no longer a very jolly place to be when the computer that prints out the “Naughty/Nice” List says everyone’s naughty. There has to be a glitch in the system but when the only elf who knows how to fix it turns up dead, Santa and Mrs. Claus find themselves searching for a cold-hearted murderer in the coldest place on earth... The North Pole. Could it have been Jingle, Santa’s insecure right hand elf, or Twinkle, an elf with “Issues?” Perhaps it was Jedediah Glitch, the Class “C” Villain, or his under-appreciated henchman, Miss Frost. Who knows? Maybe it was Santa himself! It’s a difficult case, but in the end, the Chairwoman Emeritus of the Elf B.I. (Mrs. Claus) is bound to catch her man... or woman... or elf!

AT THE STOKELY EVENT CENTER
10111 East 45th Place
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Watch for additional details on our post website and in upcoming emails!

We will also collect donated items at our Holiday Social to send to Blue Star Mothers of America. These items will be placed in Freedom Boxes to be shipped to our Troops Overseas.
In the News...

Federal agencies meet to discuss Operation Warfighter

By Nate Herring

Several federal agencies met at Keystone State Park in Mannford, Okla., to discuss Operation Warfighter, a Department of Defense federal internship program that places Wounded Warriors in positions at federal agencies while they are completing their medical board process.

At the meeting, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, which interns several Wounded Warriors through Operation Warfighter, shared success stories and encouraged other agencies to participate in the program.

“What we’re trying to do is spread the word that there are Soldiers out there who may not have exactly what you’re looking for but need a transition and have many skills to bring to your agency,” said Col. Michael Teague, Tulsa District commander.

The meeting was a partnership between the Tulsa District and the local chapter of the Society of American Military Engineers. They have an objective this year to promote the Wounded Warrior program and specifically Operation Warfighter.

“The Tulsa District has a unique perspective because we are a U.S. Army organization and we also have strong relationships with other federal agencies outside of the military,” said Teague. “This is such a beneficial program that takes care of the Soldiers and helps the agencies as well.”

Operation Warfighter is open to wounded, injured, or ill Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Service Members from all branches. It is designed to help reintegrate the Service Member into the community by providing them an internship at federal agencies.

“The program allows for these Service Members to gain valuable federal work experience that will give them an edge after transitioning out of the military,” said Erasmo Valles, Operation Warfighter regional coordinator in San Antonio, Tex. “While working with these agencies, the Service Member will receive training and experience that will be a great addition to their resumes and work history and help them in their job search when they transition.”

Federal agencies can participate in the program with no cost to the agency since the Service Member is on Military payroll, Valles said.

“The agency gains a Service Member that is well trained, disciplined and dedicated,” he said. “In most cases, these Service Members can offer a different perspective, and approach to problem solving, managerial methods, and work ethic that will bring a positive affect to the work place.”

Bill Smiley, Chief of Emergency Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District has had three Operation Warfighter Soldiers work in his office.

“They have all been very productive and are especially good at filling the gap in projects between technical and administrative tasks that we find are hard to execute with everything else going on,” he said.

While the program doesn’t guarantee a permanent position after transitioning out of the program, 80 percent of participants have been accepted into permanent employment after they complete the internship and transition out of the military, said Katie Spencer, acting Operation Warfighter program manager.

Geza Horvath, who works for Smiley in the Tulsa District emergency management office, started the Operation Warfighter program in March 2009 and transitioned into a permanent position in Dec. 2016.

“Working at the Corps engaged my mind to pay attention to what I needed to do,” he said.

Horvath, who spoke at the meeting with federal agencies, enjoys the opportunity to share his story and to tell other Wounded Warriors about the program.

“It means a lot to me,” he said. “Nothing feels better than having another Soldier progress, learn and succeed in the Operation Warfighter program.”

Plans are underway to hold a similar meeting with federal agencies in Oklahoma City in October.
From Fox News 7/11/12:

Federal agencies have gathered to help each other find ways of hiring wounded veterans.

The regional and state Operation Warfighter organization, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tulsa District, Oklahoma Military Department, Society of American Military Engineers, Weston Solutions, and the Oklahoma Federal Executive Board, all met with the federal agencies on Wednesday morning.

The program has been going on for more than five years, but officials say not enough agencies are taking advantage of the program and neither are the returning wounded soldiers.

Sgt. Craig Horvath of the Oklahoma National Guard now works full time for the Tulsa District Army Corps of Engineers. He came back from Iraq in 2008 and struggled to fit back into civilization.

"If you weren't there you wouldn't understand," said Horvath. "There are people out there who want to kill you."

Months before Horvath was honorably discharged he was placed in medical treatment in Fort Bliss, Texas and later at Camp Robinson in Little Rock, Ark.

"During that time we didn't do anything, we stayed in our barracks," said Horvath as he described what he did while he waited for his medical evaluation for months.

"We were really stressed about employment, finance, family, what's next in our life."

The soldiers learned about the Operation Warfighter program and thought they would much rather work and apply himself than sit around and wait for his honorable discharge. He made one phone call to the Tulsa District Army Corps of Engineers and was hired a week later.

"I was kind of apprehensive at first but they took me under their wing and the rest is history," said Horvath.

The wounded soldiers are already being paid by the federal government so the hiring federal agency hires them for free. It's almost like an internship. Then after the wounded soldier is honorably discharged they get either hired on full time or take their skills learned at the federal agency and go elsewhere.

"It just say it out right, it's a joy watching them," said U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Chief of Public Affairs Ross Adkins. "These people come in and they have a lot of worries, a lot of them come back with a condition that means they cannot be a soldier anymore."

Adkins gets to work with the soldiers the Corps has hired on.

"With the military background that they all have, they are very loyal, they are trustworthy, go get them and punctual, they have the type of work ethic we'd like for almost any job," said Adkins.

The federal agencies are trying to reach out to the 300 wounded soldiers who arrived home from the Oklahoma National Guard 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team a few months ago.
Ret. Lt. Col. Eugene Snyman is currently serving as the Small Business Program Manager for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District.
In the News...

Morris receives Advocate of the Year award

Nate Herring
Public Affairs

Linda Morris, Deputy for Small Business at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District was presented the 2012 Advocate of the Year award by the Oklahoma Native American Business Enterprise Center Aug. 23 during Minority Education Development Week held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Tulsa.

The Oklahoma Native American Business Enterprise Center, which is sponsored by the Minority Business Development Agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce, presents the yearly award to an individual who represents and works on behalf of Native American Businesses to gain government contracts.

As the Tulsa District Small Business Office deputy, Morris works with small and minority businesses, including Native American businesses, to maximize their opportunities to procure contracts within the Tulsa District’s area of responsibility.

“A portion of the contract dollars awarded to Native American Businesses go back into the tribal government and is used to fund healthcare for their youth and elderly and often tuition assistance for their young people,” she said. “Those contracts keep our community economy stronger because we invest in them as contractors and they in turn invest in the local community.”

Morris, who has been with the Tulsa District since 2008, is planning to retire at the end of the year.
On July 19, 2012, Tulsa Post SAME Members and their families came out to the Tulsa Drillers ONEOK Field for a fun night for the whole family! The evening began with a tailgate party at Wallace Engineering where food and fun was had by all. Due to a storm, the game was delayed by about an hour and a half, but that did not “dampen” the spirits of the SAME members. The storm also helped to cool the evening off from the hot July temperatures. The turnout was great with about 35 in attendance. The event was also a Young Members Event, and it was great to see our Young Members out for the game. Thanks goes to Weston Solutions and to Wallace, who jointly sponsored the event.
MISSION & COMMITMENT

For the past 32 years, Leetex Construction’s mission is to be General Contractor of Choice known for superior service, a responsive team effort that emphasizes commitment of excellence consistently exceeding customer expectations.

Here at Leetex Construction we are dedicated to our clients and are grateful for the long-term relationships and the mutual loyalties we’ve forged with them over the years. We’ll continue to do whatever is necessary to build on that foundation, remaining a trusted partner in every construction endeavor.

Leetex Construction has become a premier builder by delivering excellent solutions and results for a broad range of high profile design/build and construction management projects. We are known for exceptional quality, innovative technologies, and responsive customer service.

Our proactive approach prevents unforeseeable delays, scheduling issues, change orders and design errors during the construction process. Our team has a proven track record of delivering within challenging environments.

Leetex has a long standing tradition of excellence and commitment to quality. We succeed through the strength of our people who take great pride in the product we deliver.

Regardless of the scope and complexity of your particular project, Leetex Construction has the experience and flexibility to tailor a working relationship and offer a project delivery method that will meet your needs.
George M. Tapia presented information regarding the firm of Tapia and Associates, Inc., a Federal Consulting and Construction Firm (Veteran Owned Business). Mr. Tapia is the President and CEO of Tapia & Associates, Inc. He has provided consulting, products and services to the federal government for over 30 years. He has recently worked extensively in educating and providing the federal government with “Net Zero Design and Build” facilities. He also authored Siemens Industries first Mentor Protégé Agreements with the Department of Energy and the Small Business Administration.

Mr. Tapia has provided insight on how to increase organic sales to the federal government to Fortune 500 companies such as Siemens Industries, Tyco International, and LSB Industries, Inc. He has a dedicated passion to educate small businesses on how to conduct a mutual positive relationship with large corporations.

If you would like additional information regarding this presentation, please email Mr. Tapia at gmt@tapia-associates.com.
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CORPORATE PROFILE

WHO WE ARE
Mead & Hunt is an employee-owned architectural and engineering firm with nearly 450 professional, technical and support staff in more than 20 offices nationwide. We have been serving clients in both the public and private sectors since our founding in 1900.

INNOVATIVE
To meet our country's aggressive and changing needs, Mead & Hunt is continually expanding to offer innovative engineering and design services to meet a multitude of challenges. Annually, we are nominated for and win, industry and trade awards for the creative solutions we provide clients.

RESPONSIVE
Effective and responsive service is what we provide. Strong two-way communication is imperative to the success of our projects. We place the utmost importance on listening to and understanding our clients' needs; together, we determine the best possible solution. The depth of our staff allows us to complete many projects simultaneously and keep projects on schedule and budget.

ADAPTABLE
Mead & Hunt is a nimble organization, able to adapt to the changing world in order to remain a successful business.

GROWING
Mead & Hunt is one of the largest architectural and engineering firms in the nation. Our company has ranked as a top 500 A/E design firm in Engineering News Record for several years running. Engineering News Record also ranked Mead & Hunt in their list of the “Top 25 in Airports.” In addition, Mead & Hunt is recognized on The Zweig Letter Hot Firm List as one of the top 100 fastest growing A/E firms. The Zweig Letter also designated Mead & Hunt as a “Five Year Climber” — only four other firms in the country were awarded this top honor. Also, we were ranked in the top 10 “Best civil engineering firm to work for” in the nation by CE News magazine.

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Our record of successful project execution and ability to provide continuity and quality of service is important. Our multidiscipline teams provide top-of-the-line architecture, engineering and scientific solutions for the most challenging projects. Mead & Hunt's principals are highly qualified, dedicated and fully involved in providing experienced leadership in undertaking any project.

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- Environmental projects
- GIS and mapping
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- Industrial and food facilities
- Military facilities

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Lance Hursh from Pumps of Oklahoma, Inc., gave a brief presentation regarding the products that they supply, which includes high efficiency pump systems from Wilo USA. Pumps of Oklahoma, Inc. is a supplier of industrial, municipal, agricultural, and environmental pumps. They supply submersible and above ground pump equipment to the international community. They provide consulting services for the system specifications and design phase of projects, which is included with sales and service capabilities. They also engage in research and development to assist in the final design of specialized pump systems.

Paul Yaple from WILO USA presented a project completed recently at Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, GA. Hunter Army Airfield chose to investigate the benefits of high efficiency pumping technology that combines ECM motors and variable speed drive pumps for water circulation.

Wilo provides the technology and expertise for the operation and application of high-value pumps and pump systems for heating and cooling technology, air-conditioning, water supply and sewage disposal. The Wilo brand and all associated product brands under the Wilo umbrella set the standard for technical performance and efficiency.
Enercon sponsored the meeting and presented about “Flooding Analysis for Nuclear Power Facilities in the U.S.” Guest Speakers included John K. Huggins, P.E., CFM, Civil Engineer, Enercon Services, Inc. and Howard Kellick, EI, Technical Specialist, Enercon Services Inc.

In response to the nuclear disaster at the Fukushima Daiichii Nuclear Power Plant in March, 2011, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has required that all existing nuclear power plant operators within the United States re-evaluate external risk factors which could negative impact their facilities. Of particular importance to this re-evaluation are flooding and seismic risks. Enercon Services has been working closely with many of these nuclear power plants to investigate the impacts of these risks. This presentation will explain the process behind the re-evaluation of flooding risks to existing nuclear power plants, based on the new procedures required by the NRC.

John Huggins is a professionally licensed Civil Engineer for Enercon Services, Inc. within the Environmental Services Group in the Oklahoma City office. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M University and has over 7 years of experience as an Engineer with a specific background in water resources and land development projects for various cities, municipalities and government agencies in several states.

Howard Kellick is a technical specialist currently working for Enercon Services, Inc., within the Environmental Services Group in the Oklahoma City office. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Engineering from the State University of New York at Buffalo and has over 7 years of experience as an engineer with a specific background in FEMA floodplain mapping.
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- SAME National’s weekly digest blog “Bricks and Clicks” at www.same.org/blog
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