

NYC
Post's

S A M E story

THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS

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LETTER FROM COL. TORTORA

As we quickly approach our 67th Annual Dinner Dance, the editors of The SAME Story thought it would be interesting to reminisce about last year's gala event. With special thanks to Vinny Mangiere and his very capable Committee, the 2006 Dinner Dance was a resounding success. With representation from all branches of the military, public and private sector within the A/E/C industry, we were all most grateful for the ability to share this evening with almost 200 of our over 175 Scholarship recipients.

We hope that these photos will remind you of a wonderful evening and urge you to again support our Scholarship Fund with your support and presence at this year's event on Saturday evening, November 3rd, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Also, inside this issue, please find a new feature called Meet the Members. In this space, we will focus on you, the lifeblood of our Post. By being located in such a dynamic region of the nation, we are blessed with an abundance of talent and experience drawn from the highest reaches of

both the public and private sectors of our industry. This month will feature a Q&A session between Stu Piken, Deputy District Engineer & Chief Operating Officer of the NY District, and Greg Kelly, Post Publicity Chair and Senior Vice President of PB.

As always, thanks for your continued support of our Post,

Colonel Nello Tortora, USA
President, NYC Post, SAME ■



The 66th Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance attracted over 600 attendees to the Waldorf Astoria Hotel on November 4, 2006.

DINNER DANCE APPROACHING NOTE FROM OUR DINNER DANCE CHAIR

NOVEMBER 3, 2007

The NYC Post will hold its 67th Annual Scholarship Fund Dinner Dance on Saturday, November 3, 2007, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. On February 28, 2007, the Post's Board of Directors approved the nomination of Major General Del Eulberg, U.S. Air Force Civil Engineer, for distinction as the 2007 Dinner Dance Guest of Honor.

To all of you who attended the event in 2006 or made contributions, I extend my sincere thanks for your continued commitment and support of the NYC Post's Scholarship Fund. If anyone has any questions about the upcoming event, please contact me at: vinny.mangiere@jacobs.com.

SAME Story • Volume 8 • Number 2/October 2007

Publicity Chair: Gregory Kelly, PB
Editors: Richard Smith, PE
Judy DeSena Cooper, PB
Graphics: Amy Bellur, EB

Did you know that you can visit us on-line? Go to <http://same-nyc.org> for additional events and information, or for a direct link to the National site.

To contribute now about your firm or events, please contact Judy Cooper at cooperj@pbworld.com.

Highlights
DINNER
2006
DANCE



Our Guest of Honor, Rear Admiral Dale G. Gabel, with our Honored Guests.



Many of the Post's Student Scholarship awardees were in attendance to be honored by all.



Cadets from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point enjoyed the gala event.



Judy DeScerza Cooper addressing the guests as our Post President.

MEET THE MEMBERS

A DISCUSSION WITH STU PIKEN, NY DISTRICT USACE, AND GREG KELLY, PB

GK: "I am often surprised by the range of projects undertaken by the NY District. Can you profile for the reader the broad and diverse mission of the NY District?"

SP: "Thank you for the opportunity. Corps missions, in general, include five broad areas: water resources, environment, infrastructure, homeland security and war-fighting in support of the National Defense Strategy. Our top priority is in support of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). For the NY District, these mission areas are addressed within our Civil Works and Military programs. Our geographic areas of responsibility vary in these two programs, but principally cover the states of New York and New Jersey. We are also a team member, with five other District offices, that comprise the North Atlantic Regional Business Center. By sharing our capabilities, we are better postured to address the diverse problems within the northeast region of the nation."



Stu Piken

"In our Civil Works Program, we provide comprehensive, innovative, sustainable and Integrated systems-based approaches to water resources challenges in the areas of flood damage reduction, navigation and ecosystem restoration. We also operate and maintain all federal waterways in our region, including our responsibilities under our regulatory permitting authorities. Our military program provides design and construction of facilities to support the needs of the Army and Air Force, from housing, administration buildings, hospitals and schools, to training ranges and sophisticated weapons research facilities. We are also engaged in the cleanup of hazardous, toxic and radiological waste projects at formerly used defense sites, areas that were formerly used during the Manhattan Project, and assisting EPA in its Superfund program."

GK: "That is an impressive undertaking by any measure. How has the NY District organized itself recently to deliver its annual program?"

SP: "The District's organizational structure is very similar to the private sector. Our Planning and Engineering Divisions cover the full spectrum of capabilities for our mission areas. Our Construction Division performs QAVOC services on all our projects, and our Operations Division maintains over 240 miles of federal navigation channels. One key change has been our focus on Project Management. Our Project Management Business Process requires a dedicated Project Manager, a Project Delivery Team and a Project Management Plan. We are also strongly encouraging our Project Managers to become PMI certified. As one component of the entire U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, we can also reach out to any of our other district offices and laboratories to obtain specialized expertise. Keep in mind that while we need to maintain a core capability in the technical fields, most of our planning and design work, and the construction of all our projects, are dependent on the private sector."

GK: "Is the NY District involved in any BRAC-related work?"

SP: "Yes. We have projects at The U.S. Military Academy at West Point in New York and Picatinny Arsenal and McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey. In addition, as part of the North Atlantic Regional Business Center team, we are managing a major BRAC project at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia."

GK: "I understand there has been some relocation of Pentagon folks to Virginia. How is the NY District supporting that effort?"

SP: "That is the project we are managing at Ft. Belvoir. The Washington Headquarters Service, pursuant to BRAC 05, would be consolidating some of its leased space into an Administration Campus at Ft. Belvoir. That decision, however, is pending while other

continued on other side

MEET THE MEMBERS

Continued from other side

alternatives are being considered. In addition to WHS, other projects being undertaken by our Regional Business Center Districts at Ft. Belvoir include the National Geodetic Agency New Campus East, a Community Hospital, and the National Museum of the Army."

GK: "The NY District had to deploy talented individuals to overseas assignments in the Middle East as well as support to FEMA along the Gulf Coast. No doubt this has had an impact on the delivery of programs here in the District and at the same time has provided professional development opportunities. How have you dealt with these deployments from a NY District delivery perspective and have you been able to leverage this challenge to develop the next generation of project managers?"

SP: "Excellent question. We encourage our employees to deploy both in support of GWOT and for professional development. Employees who have served either overseas or as part of our role in the National Response Plan for natural disasters have obtained training and leadership opportunities that may not have been available otherwise and, as a result, improved their management and technical skills, while enhancing their career development. But, as you stated, leveraging resources to continue to execute is a challenge. Certainly, there have been some problems; however, they have been minimized by utilizing the capabilities of other District resources and relying even more on the private sector."

GK: "It is impressive how the Corps always seems to rise and meet these challenges head on. Speaking of challenges, what are some of the areas where the NY District will be challenged over the coming years?"

SP: "First, allow me to broaden your question, as a challenge for the Corps is also a challenge for industry. Inevitably, we are partners in meeting the needs of our Nation. We expect a continued growth in our military mission.

"The major focus of our MILCON work is at Ft. Drum, New York, in support of the 10th Mountain Division. The Army's conversion to rapidly deployable, self-contained Brigade Combat Teams has

required extensive new construction at this installation. This MILCON Transformation requires innovative processes to deliver our projects. We have met the challenge of industry to be less prescriptive and allow industry to share in the risk. Our goal is to deliver quality products to our soldiers, faster, cheaper, safer and greener.

"In the Civil Works area, our top priority will continue to be the completion of the NY/NJ Harbor Deepening Project, a national priority project, to deepen those channels to 50 feet. Meeting the region's infrastructure needs, particularly in the areas of flood and coastal storm damage reduction, will continue to be a challenge in light of the competition for limited federal dollars.

"To meet these challenges, we must maintain our technical capability, continue to train our people, and be available for deployments where and when needed."

GK: "What are the ways the industry, including SAME members, can support the NY District to meet these challenges?"

SP: "As an organization, SAME should continue to provide a vehicle through your conferences and publications for continuing professional development, and continue to champion the role of the engineer as problem solver. I would also encourage all SAME members to make a concerted effort to reach out to those new engineers and promote the values of SAME. Finally, I would challenge industry to continue to be innovative and make suggestions on how we in the Corps can provide better service in meeting the challenges facing us here and abroad."

GK: "Thank you." ■



Col. Nello Tortora, Commander of the Corps' New York District, is flanked by Mr. and Mrs. Hans Von Winkle.



Brigadier General Todd Semonite and guests.



The Service Chiefs with Dinner Dance Chair Vinny Mangiare and Judy DeScenza Cooper, Post President.



Col. Rick Polo (Ret.) accepting the Past President's Award.



Members of the head table II to r) Nancy Griffis, Bud Griffis, Major General Ronald L. Johnson, Len Cooper, Lieutenant Colonel Leonard Law, Seated Major General Johnson's guests and Judy DeScenza Cooper.

UPCOMING events

NOVEMBER 3 (SATURDAY)

The 67th Annual Scholarship Fund
Dinner Dance
The Waldorf-Astoria Hotel

NOVEMBER 15 (THURSDAY)

TISP Breakfast
8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
(Reservations Required)
Stony Brook Manhattan

DECEMBER 12 (WEDNESDAY)

Board of Directors
Luncheon Meeting

FEBRUARY 26 (WEDNESDAY)

Board of Directors
Luncheon Meeting

FEBRUARY 27 (WEDNESDAY)

Post Regular Evening Meeting
5:30 PM - 8:45 PM
The Harvard Club

S A M E Story • page 4

DEDICATED TO THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS
NEW YORK CITY POST
c/o PB
One Penn Plaza • 2nd Floor
New York, New York 10119

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