



THE SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS

ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE COMMITTEE

QUARTERLY JOURNAL

GOLDEN EAGLE AWARD RECIPIENT

SUZANNE DIGERONIMO

In our last issue of the APC Quarterly Journal, we touched on the subject of the Golden Eagle Award. The SAME APC is proud to announce the recipient of the award is not only a SAME Fellow but also an architect!

If you did not have the pleasure of hearing Suzanne DiGeronimo's acceptance speech in person, please continue reading. Suzanne touches upon obstacles she had to overcome throughout her professional career, which only reinforces how deserving she is of this honorable award.

25 March 2015

Thank you. Wow! The Golden Eagle Award. Thank you all for being here.

You know my dad was a tin can sailor in World War II bobbing along 21 continuous months in the Pacific. He saw the American flag raised high up Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima. Thank you all of you veterans out there. You've accomplished an incredibly fine job for our country, for keeping us all free.

And my mom? She was a real Rosie the Riveter working in the factory on the home front. Our American production of war fighting goods in World War II was the envy of the world – and won war for the Allies. I thank all of you civilians out there working in Public Service. You are all truly awesome!

And me? Well, I came along and upset

the apple cart.

In my generation, girls were the fragile sex. Girls' sports were half-games half-court sorts of affairs. It was boys only for wood shop and drafting. Girls only for cooking and sewing. And an architectural profession? Don't even think about it, said my college professor; it's too tough for a girl.

I didn't know *I shouldn't* or that *I couldn't*.

So I attended architectural school *at night*. I met my husband, my partner, my soul mate: Louis DiGeronimo. He's here today. Hi Lou! We married and spread out a calendar to plan our family. We joke that our son Marcello ought to have received credit for two semesters of an architectural education - 9 months. Marcello's here today. He's a licensed architect working for Turner, just back from Qatar. And no, his professors at Syracuse didn't give him the credit.

But then again, neither did mine. The Dean threw me out of architectural school. Married women with children shouldn't be architects.

I didn't know *I shouldn't* or that *I couldn't*.

Out in the work-world, my supervisor forbid me from entering the construction site; prostitutes serviced the crews there. I joined a professional society and the holiday meeting entertainment was a stripper. To attend a business meeting at a private



Suzanne DiGeronimo
FAIA, FSAME

2015 SAME Fellows Golden Eagle Award Recipient,
APC New York Post Liaison

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WELCOME LETTER



Capt. Charles E. Enos,
AIA, LEED AP, USN (Ret.)
2013 Urbahn Medal Recipient

JJ Tang, the master of APC recruiting, kept telling me “Charles, as the last year’s Urbahn Medal recipient, you have to write an “Introduction” Letter for the APC newsletter”, so I finally agreed last month.

David Packard, the taskmaster that he is, kept on me to write what the APC calls an “introduction Letter” for the newsletter. I had completely forgotten that I “volunteered” to write one. On his second call to me, I finally figured I should ask, “Uh, what is an introduction letter?” His reply: “Oh just talk about anything, but make it from the heart.”

I can do that! I had learned from being active in Toastmaster’s International that the best speeches and presentations are on subject matter that you not only know but that you are passionate about. So...

Does public speaking scare you to death? As architects we are called upon to give presentations to our clients, but many of us also give presentations to our colleagues for professional education and of course presentations to win work with prospective clients. Those you might have mastered, but what if you were asked to be a keynote speaker for an event? Daunting...or in milleniumese: Yikes!

In Toastmasters, we train new members by using what is called an “icebreaker” speech, where the person tells us about themselves (a subject that they know well). Once a person has braved the shock of giving their first speech, they then progress through other hoops which help them overcome stage fright and they eventually also learn advanced techniques on effective speech giving, such as voice variation and use of

gestures to emphasize points and to have an attention getting opening as well as a memorable and valuable ending.

There are two basic fundamentals of effective speech giving and memorable presentations. The first is to choose a subject that you not only know, but are passionate about. The second is tell a personal story intertwined in the speech/presentation; personalizing it really helps to make it memorable for the listener.

When you know the subject matter and are passionate about the subject matter, you can talk all day about it without notes and it clearly shows by your enthusiasm for the subject. When you give examples by telling a personal story, it truly makes it a memorable experience for the listener.

I am writing this during a break between educational sessions at the SAME Energy Forum in Chicago April 14. A few minutes ago, I was walking with SAME Executive Director Brigadier General Schroedel, “Joe” as he likes to be called. I complimented him on the Keynote welcoming speech that he gave to over 200 of us. I told him that I found his speech to be engaging and inspirational and that his dynamic energy clearly affected us and made us active listeners.

He appreciated the feedback and told me a personal story: “Oh, I have found that speaking from the heart with passion works for me, no need for notes. When I was a Lt Col, I was a speech writer for General “Shalli” (John Shalikashvili), and I learned how to write speeches for him by watching videos of his previous speeches and then pretending I was him and just

writing what I thought was a good match for the subject at hand without stopping or editing, then sending that to him as the first draft. Most of the time that became the full speech.”

In other words, Joe quickly learned that passion about the subject coming right from the heart was the best approach to speech writing. And I agree Joe! To all of you who don't

know Joe, grab him in the hallway at one of the upcoming events and gab with him, you will be glad you did. I know I was, he gave me the inspiration to write this Introduction Letter which, by the way, is based on something that I am passionate about and has a personal story within a personal story!

Thanks again, Joe!

Charles E. Enos
Principal
EYP Architecture & Engineering

LAST QUARTERLY CALL

The Architectural Practice Committee hosted a quarterly conference call on Thursday, January 22, 2015. Architectural Practice Committee Chair, JJ Tang, opened the call with introductions and reviewed actions by all APC Committee Vice Chairs. JJ discussed the upcoming Joint Engineering Training Conference (JETC) scheduled for May 19-22 in Houston, Texas. The APC will be responsible for four sessions this year, with topics including public facilities design, energy efficiencies, cyber security and public-private partnerships. JJ also celebrated the signature of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between SAME and the American Institute of Architects. The MOA paves the way for improved professional development programs and a new level of mutual participation in the activities of each organization, locally and nationally.

An AIA credited presentation was given by **Terry Deglandon, Chief of Engineering Branch at Norfolk District Corps of Engineers; Mike Smiley, Chief of Facilities for DoDEA; and Cheryl Fromme, Deputy Chief of Engineering and Construction Branch at Norfolk District USACE**, titled “**Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) 21st Century Schools and the Design Center**”.

DoDEA is responsible for K-12 schools located on U.S. military bases in the United States as well as overseas. In response to criticism from the US Congress, DoDEA has

changed the way it teaches as well as how it designs schools. The approach has been referred to as “21st Century Education”, a student-centered education model. DoDEA recognizes that today’s students have changed at a rapid pace as technology has evolved, creating the need for facility designs that are flexible/adaptable, student-centered, open and transparent, provide a range of learning spaces, are acoustically sound, and are integral to the learning experience. Applied design concepts have resulted in the development of facility focus areas described as neighborhoods, commons, performance areas, and information centers, and influence furniture selection and outdoor learning spaces. Many recent examples demonstrated successful current facility design practices in elementary, middle, and high schools. Innovation is evident as all facets of these principles are explored by the architecture, engineering, interior design and landscape design community.

This course did an excellent job of presenting core concepts of DoDEA’s 21st Century Education, how facility design responds to those ideas, the Design Center approach to shared creativity and standardization, and how the school facility is actually used for education and enrichment of students. The entire slide deck and a recorded presentation are available at same.org/apc.



DoDEA Elementary School Learning Centers



NEXT QUARTERLY CALL



Ed Feiner, FAIA
Perkins + Will

The Architectural Practice Committee will host a quarterly conference call on **Thursday, April 23, 2015** from **12:00 – 1:15 pm EST**. Video conference call-in number: For web connection, go to: <https://www.spiderphone.com/05698937> (This link will help connect both your browser) and **dial +1 212-812-2800** and **enter 0569 8937** for phone connection.

Times by time zone:

12:00 pm to 1:15 pm, EDT;
11:00 am to 12:15 pm, CDT;
10:00 am to 11:15 am MDT;
9:00 am to 10:15 am, PDT;
8:00 am to 9:15 am, ADT;
7:00 am to 8:15 am, HDT.

The agenda for the quarterly conference call includes an update on committee focus area initiatives, open discussion, and FREE 1 AIA LU/HSW/SD credited interview and Q+A session by **APC Chair, JJ Tang** with **Ed Feiner, FAIA, Perkins + Will**, titled **“History of GSA’s Design Excellence Program”**. Participants are encouraged to interact during the sessions and to pose questions to Mr. Feiner.

The General Services Administration’s (GSA’s) first chief architect, Ed Feiner, will address the history of GSA’s Design Excellence Program and its impact on architectural design of federal government facilities. The interview will focus on GSA’s early stages of the architectural design program and changes that have been made since the program’s establishment. Its impact on our Practice will be addressed and Ed will share lessons learned.

Ed Feiner serves as director of the Design Leadership Council at Perkins+Will. The Council, which includes all design principals, is chartered to ensure the continuity and furtherance of design excellence throughout the firm. Mr. Feiner is considered to be among the leading experts in the U.S. public buildings design and planning, most notably for the design of courthouses. In 2009, Ed assumed a leadership position in the Perkins+Will Washington, DC office as a firm-wide resource.

Before joining Perkins+Will, he was the Chief Architect of the US General Services Administration (GSA) from 1996 until 2005 where he led the agency’s nationwide design and construction program, which included the development of Federal courthouses, office buildings, national laboratories, border stations and special-use projects. Ed held the most senior professional architectural position in the United States government. While at GSA, he founded the Design Excellence Program, which reinvented the federal procurement process for architecture. The program streamlined the process of commissioning a new building and focused on design quality. He was instrumental in the development and execution of GSA’s Green Building Standards, program management and the design of GSA’s first LEED certified projects. Ed personally reviewed and approved the concept designs of all Federal courthouses developed by GSA from 1985 through 2005.

MEMBER NEWS



**Harley H. Hightower,
FAIA, NCARB**
2014 Urbahn Medal Recipient

2014 URBahn MEDAL RECIPIENT - HARLEY H. HIGHTOWER, FAIA, NCARB

Harley H. Hightower, FAIA, NCARB was selected by a jury of fellow SAME Urbahn Medal winners as the 19th recipient of the prestigious SAME Urbahn Medal. The Urbahn Medal is named in honor of Max O. Urbahn, American Institute of Architects and is awarded to an SAME member for distinguished performance in the field of architecture.

Mr. Hightower has advanced the science and art of planning and building in the field of architecture through his eminent and notable contributions to the profession and society exemplified by his performance in Professional Practice, Productive Volunteerism, and Education. In Professional Practice, his primary efforts were directed to remote cold regions with 40 years of continuous experience above the Arctic Circle and work in Antarctica. He innovatively utilized existing technology to resolve the unusual issues of the cold regions while providing sound, cost effective, and functional structures. He used the experience gained in more than 50 years of Practice to transfer that knowledge through Education. He volunteered countless hours at the University of Alaska - Anchorage in

establishing, guiding, and teaching in support of the Northern Design Program and the Architectural and Engineering Technology Program. The Productive Volunteerism included serving on the State of Alaska, Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors; the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards; the State of Alaska Department of Education committee dealing with K12 school construction statewide; and the Anchorage School District Career and Technical Education Committee. In addition, he participated in numerous formal and informal programs mentoring students at the high school and university levels and emerging professionals while encouraging them to pursue excellence and high achievement. Harley Hightower is a life Member of the Society of American Military Engineers and a Fellow in the American Institutes of Architects.

The APC congratulates Harley on this great accomplishment and invites you to meet him and extend your own best wishes at the APC's first session at JETC, titled "SAME APC Meeting: Perspective of Facility Design, by Urbahn Medal Recipient, SAME APC and AIA Public Architects", where he will provide a presentation of the his work in the cold regions of this planet.



*SAME Urbahn Medal.
Since 1997.*

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

APRIL 2015

TISP Critical Infrastructure Symposium

April 20-21, Westin BWI Airport,
(Linthicum, MD)

2015 SAME Mid-Atlantic Industry Day and Small Business Conference

April 22-23, Marriott Norfolk
Waterside
(Norfolk, VA)

MAY 2015

Omaha Post Industry Day

May 4-6, DoubleTree by Hilton
Omaha Downtown
(Omaha, NE)

Panama City Post Industry Day

May 7-8
(Panama City, FL)

Southern Nevada Post Industry Day

May 12
Nellis Air Force Base, NV

Buffalo Post Industry Day

May 14
Hotel Lafayette
(Buffalo, NY)

2015 SAME JETC

May 19-22, George R. Brown
Convention Center
(Houston, TX)

JULY 2015

San Antonio Post Small Business Market Research Fair

July 20-22, Omni Colonnade
(San Antonio, TX)

Industry Day South Florida Post

July 22, Rusty Pelican
(Tampa, FL)

For more information on upcoming SAME events, please visit:
<http://www.same.org/index.php/events/calendar-of-events>

ARCHITECT'S FIELD SKETCH CORNER

In today's architectural practice, architectural design concepts have been conveyed predominately through computer images to others. Even though these images can offer us very realistic feel for our design, but what is missing in most cases is the connection between the artistic emotion of an architect and his design product. To that end, architect's freehand sketches are the most direct translation of his design thought and emotion on paper. Therefore, it is more intimate and closer to our hearts.

- JJ Tang, AIA, APC Committee Chair



CONTINUING EDUCATION

In an effort to continuously encourage education and support of its members, SAME has teamed with RedVector to provide SAME members with exclusive access to technical training for the A/E/C industry and related professions. Courses are designed to meet state licensing board continuing education requirements.

Preview courses

Not sure if a specific course is what you are looking for? Our easy-to-use system allows you to preview courses to determine if the content meets your specific education needs.

Course features

These courses are designed using the latest eLearning methods to be fast, informative and user-friendly.

To begin, you must create your personal username and password. To ensure you receive the 15% SAME member discount on all courses, please create your account in line with your SAME membership. As such, you should create your login as:

- Username: use your e-mail address tied to your SAME membership
- Password: use your SAME member number

Once you have created your personalized account using your SAME membership information, you may login to RedVector through SAME's special RedVector portal at any time to take courses and receive the 15% SAME Member discount!

For more information [click here](#).



COMMITTEE LIAISONS

The APC could not be successful without its Liaisons. Our committee is fortunate to have both Service Branch Liaisons as well as Architectural Liaisons.

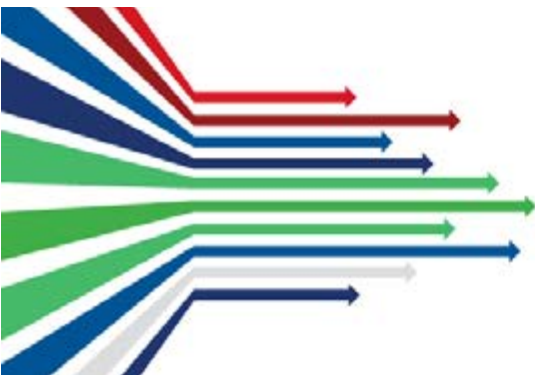
These liaisons help coordinate architectural programs within their local SAME post as well as coordinating

shared programs between SAME and local architectural organizations.

If you are interested in becoming a SAME Architectural Liaison, please contact Scott Leister for more information: richard.leister@us.af.mil

Branch	Name	Email
Army	Ed Gauvreau, USACE HQ	edmond.g.gauvreau@usace.army.mil
Navy	Kathleen Reid, NAVFAC Atlantic	kathleen.o.reid@navy.mil
Air Force	Gene Mesick, AFCEC	gene.mesick@us.af.mil

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Albuquerque	Jim Oschwald	jim.oschwald@urs.com	URS
Baltimore	Bill McCarthy	bmccarthy@rtkl.com	RTKL
Dallas	Laura Lavelle	Laura.Lavelle@jacobs.com	Jacobs
Denver	Joe Cruz, AIA, NCARB	joe@ihamail.com	Iron Horse Architects
European Region SAME (Rhein Main, Kaiserslautern, Naples, UK)	Sandra Zettersten, AIA, Dipl.-Ing. Architektin, FSAME	SZettersten@BH-BA.com	Buchart-Horn GmbH
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Tampa	Steve Tozer	Steven.Tozer@hdrinc.com	HDR
Washington DC	Franklin Kaye	fkaye@eypae.com	EYP



SAME 2015 Joint Engineer Training Conference & Expo

May 19-21, 2015 • Houston, Texas

You are cordially invited to join us at the Society of American Military Engineers' 2015 Joint Engineering Training Conference (JETC), scheduled for May 19-22, 2015 at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, TX.

JETC not only provides unique opportunities for networking between the private and public sectors, it also includes many sessions that offer professional development continuing education units in support of many licensure and credentialing organizations. This year, the Architectural Practice Committee will host four sessions, offering AIA Learning Units for each.

**Session #1: SAME APC Meeting:
Perspective of Facility Design, by
Urbahn Medal Recipient, SAME APC
and AIA Public Architects**

Time:

May 19 (Tuesday), 09:30 to 11:30

Speakers:

- Harley Hightower - 2014 SAME Urbahn Medal Recipient
- Ed Gauvreau – USACE

Moderator:

- David Packard - USACE
- SAME APC Chair and Vice Chairs

This session presents an overview of current trends in public agency design and construction, with special

emphasis on trends affecting design of DoD facilities. The current chair of the AIA Public Architects Knowledge Community will discuss the new partnering agreement between SAME and AIA, plus new initiatives at AIA that directly involve DoD, federal and other government agencies. The 2015 recipient of the Max Urbahn Medal for excellence in architecture will give a presentation on his significant projects and his career perspective of architecture.

Immediately following the JETC lunch, participants are invited on a tour of the Discovery Green downtown park, located just outside the front door of the Convention Center hosted by **Robert Owens, AIA, LEED AP, Associate Principal, Page and Jeffrey Bricker, AIA, Principal, Page**. Page is a 400-plus person multidisciplinary architecture and engineering firm with offices in the U.S. and abroad.

The tour will include a short (15 min.) slide presentation and overview of the park, components and features (highlighting sustainability enhancements), history of the project, approval process, and subsequent impacts on downtown and the city. The walking tour will include Visiting Oak Allee, Botanic Garden and Listening Vessels, Adult Tree house at the Grove, Exit stairs as Art, Crawford promenade concealing utility easement, Great Lawn, Surrounding Development following park opening,



Discovery Green downtown Park adjacent to the George R. Brown Convention Center (left)

“Mystree” and playground, Solar photovoltaic and water heating collectors, Administration building with real time energy display, Interactive fountain and pump room, Lakehouse with library and green room uses, Amphitheater as garage cover, Le Phantom by Jean Dubuffet, Garage lobby and vehicle ramp. The tour will focus on design effectiveness and system integration. Plan for at least 45 minutes for the walking portion of the tour, until 12:30, but Page can make it an hour or longer if that time is available in the conference agenda. The presentation and tour is available for AIA CEU credit and we’ll have appropriate paperwork for those interested in getting Continuing Education credit.

Session #2: Designing strategies to Reduce Energy Consumption in DoD facilities

Time:
May 19 (Tuesday), 13:15 to 14:15

Speakers:

- Eric Mucklow – Lead Architect for Energy Policy, USACE HQ
- Ned Shepherd – LNO and Energy & Sustainability Engineer, NWD, USACE
- Gene Mesick– Chief, Technical Services Division, AFCEC

Moderator: Homer Guy, Senior Project Manager, Versar

This session discusses Energy Reduction mandate and explores design and construction strategies, methods and implementation to reduce facility energy consumption.

Session #3: Future Directions including Cyber Security in Facility Design & Construction

Time: May 21 (Thursday) , 09:30 to 10:30

Speakers:

- Scott Wick, Chief Architect of USACE
- Gene Mesick, Chief, Technical Services Division, AFCEC

- Kathleen Reid: NAVFAC
- Paula Loomis, Deputy engineer, Coast Guard

Moderator: JJ Tang, AIA, HDR Architecture, Inc.

This session invites the lead architects of the Army, the Navy, the Air force and the Coast Guard to discuss the most important strategic focus including cyber security and overall directions of facility design and construction for their agencies in the next three years, and have an open dialogue with the industry to exchange ideas and feedback of what it takes to achieve these objectives.

Session #4: Public-Public; Public Private (P4) partnerships - Opportunities for Increased Efficiencies

Time: May 21 (Thursday) , 14:00 to 15:00

Speakers:

- Ivan Bolden- Chief, Army Public-Private Initiatives Division, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management
- Lt. Col Chris Miller – TX ANG Air Force Community Partnership Program Office of the Assistant

Secretary of the Air Force (Installations, Environment and Energy)

- Charles Lubeshkoff - Program Manager, Marstel-Day, LLC & Regan McDonald, Atkins Global

Moderator: Bob Harris - NAVFAC

This session provides insight into current P4 partnerships and Intergovernmental Support Agreement legislation (10USC 2679). What better way to understand what the Services are doing than to hear it from the agencies and practitioners themselves? Join us to review the current status of initiatives, Intergovernmental Support Agreement legislation and lessons learned by all stakeholders. This session will include a panel of practitioners and agency representatives to discuss progress to date, lessons learned and challenges.

We encourage you to join us in Houston and to become a part of the dialogue between architects within our Society. The role of architects within SAME is changing and APC is working diligently to provide benefits to our community. Your input is valuable and will help form the future of our profession within this wonderful organization!



Photo taken by Stanford Moore

Omaha Post / AIA-Southwest Iowa

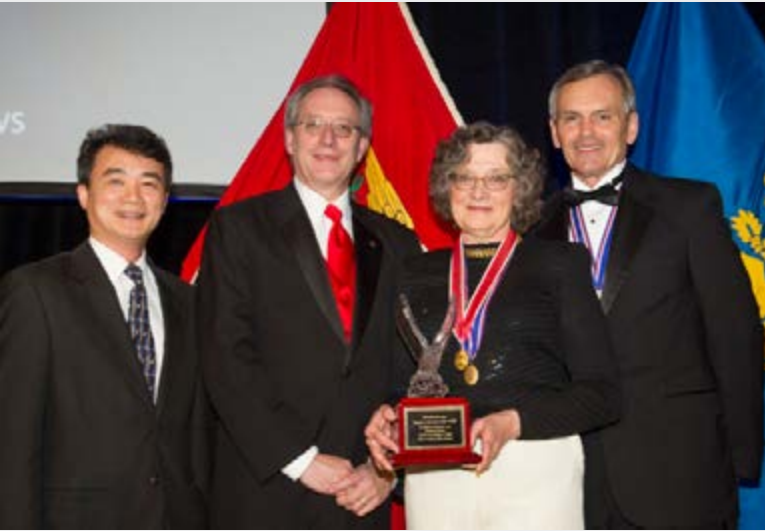
Co-host Professional Development

The signature of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between SAME (National) and the American Institute of Architects (AIA) which was summarized in the last issue of the APC Quarterly Journal heralded a new era of cooperation between the two organizations. In the spirit of that relationship, the Omaha Post Architectural Practice Committee (APC) Liaison, David Packard (acting on behalf of the deployed Omaha Post APC Liaison, Robert Hailey, HDR), met with representatives of AIA Chapters from Omaha, Lincoln, and Council Bluffs, to discuss joint activities in fulfillment of the APC mission. In February 2015, Dave was approached by the Southwest Iowa Chapter of the AIA with a proposal to begin joint sponsorship of Professional Development Seminars. The chapter has sponsored monthly “Lunch and Learn” meetings held at a local A-E firm in Council Bluffs, Iowa. These technical seminars are presented by vendors/suppliers who obtain AIA accreditation allowing 1 AIA Learning Unit for each session. Licensed Professional Architects are required to complete a prescribed number of accredited LUs each year (or two in Nebraska). There is no charge for these seminars since the presenters cover the entire cost of each presentation. The President of the Southwest Iowa Chapter had been informed that the AIA was considering significant changes to the program with the potential of a more formalized registration and associated fees. Those attending the sessions expressed concern, noting that many fee-based training opportunities exist already.

The mission of the Architectural Practice Committee is to promote architectural practice within SAME, broaden the organization’s exposure in the architectural community, and recruit more architects, along with expanding networking and mentoring opportunities. Dave forwarded a motion for the Omaha Post to support an initiative for joint sponsorship of the seminars in keeping with the SAME/AIA MOA. The unanimous response of the Omaha Post Board of Directors was yes. We believe the Omaha Post is first post in SAME to create a working relationship at the local level. This is a great mutual benefit opportunity for the organizations and helps meet professional development requirements of both the Leadership and Mentoring Streamer and the Education and Training Streamer, as it will satisfy mentoring, continuing education, assistance in obtaining professional licensure and certifications, and many more. In addition, we will promote the idea of a joint meeting or one program/year related to architecture and would like to explore at least one joint AIA/SAME session at Industry Day.

Please let us know if your Post is working on joint AIA/SAME activities. We would encourage those activities and will report any progress in the APC Quarterly Journal. If you have questions on our experience, don’t hesitate to contact Dave Packard at david.a.packard@usace.army.mil.





Suzanne DiGeronimo receiving the 2015 SAME Fellows Golden Eagle Award
From Left to Right: JJ Tang, Ed Gauvreau, Suzanne DiGeronimo, John Magge

University Club in Manhattan, I had to go through the kitchen and up the service elevator. No women allowed.

There were no women in military combat, no women in military *leadership*. Ah, but all that was about to change, as it does in this great country of ours not with the clash of the sword - but with the stroke of a pen.

President Gerald Ford signed a bill that included a mandate that all the military academies were to admit women. The first graduating classes of hearty female midshipmen and cadets happened in 1980.

No surprise then that in 1981 I receive my first Prime Contract with the Military; US Coast Guard, Third Coast Guard District, Governor's Island. The Coast Guard District Engineer suggested I join SAME and so I did.

I met New Jersey Post President Brigadier General Patrick J. McCarthy, New Jersey National Guard - a leprechaun of an American Irishman / a workaholic of an advocate of The Society. I met his wife Marie. Now Marie raised five kids all through Pat's long military career and his extended absences. Need I say more about her spirit?

And so I progressed and became New Jersey Post President. The Core assigned a new New York District Engineer. That military position automatically received SAME position, head of North Atlantic Region. I invited the General to speak at my small NJ Post member meeting / held at the tiny *enlisted* club / at the obscure Military Ocean Terminal Bayonne, MOTBY - a place where only military luggage ever went.

He came! Brigadier General Gerald C. 'Jed' Brown. Jean Jennings Brown, Jed's wife is here today. She flew

in from Abu Dhabi just to be here tonight. Thank you for coming Jean. Your presence here means so very much to me.

Jed *adopted* me; he encouraged me to do all I could for the Post, the Region, for Nation. No restrictions, no barriers.

I didn't know *I shouldn't* or that *I couldn't*.

So. What was it that made SAME as a professional organization so very attractive for me? It was the active participation of both military and civilians certainly – but also the welcome mat that SAME extends to family.

For my own personal intellectual stimulation, the Society has always had the most mind-boggling technical sessions – sessions like no other engineering society has – hands down, no competition! Tour Cheyenne Mountain, tag along on a re-fueling bomber, learn techniques to secure and lock down core critical facilities.

AND programs that invite others' interest. New York Harbor inspection tours by Army vessel. Lectures on history at West Point. Summer Picnics at Picatinny.

With SAME, its work **and** recreation, its men **and** women, leaders **and** doers, husbands and wives, all ranks, all working together - appreciating each other's differences and celebrating each of our individual contributions / by this combination, our Society is the envy of the world.

And so my volunteer career with The Society has lasted **34 years!** I've worked elbow to elbow with Rear Admiral Navy, Vice Admiral Coast Guard, Brigadier General Army, Major General Air Force, Lieutenant General Army, and amongst all these giants, these heroes ...

Me; A little Polish-Lithuanian girl born to the farms and coal mines of northeastern Pennsylvania.

So for Pat and Jed, for our Society's rich legacy of leadership ...

For the Fellows newly invested today...

For future SAME Fellows... maybe even my own grandkids,

I am proud to accept this, the Society of American Military Engineers, Academy of Fellows, Golden Eagle Award.

All my life I've been told *I shouldn't* and that *I couldn't*. Well, I did.

And you know what?

I'm not done yet!

And that my friends is what being an SAME Fellow is all about. **APC**

Old vs New

Perspective: Young Member, Young Architect in SAME



Yvonne Lee, AIA, NCARB
*SAME APC Liaison &
APC Journal Graphic Designer*

I'm the lucky one.

After reading Suzanne DiGeronimo's acceptance speech, that phrase became much more real to me. I am from the generation of Millennials who grew up with the Internet, color TVs, cell phones, boundless opportunity! Joining a professional society such as SAME is one of those career "musts" for me; but how do new, young members make a place for themselves in this seasoned organization?

There is a lot of perspective here. I obtained my Master of Architecture in 2011. This achievement was only the first step in a long professional journey. There wasn't a point where I was told I couldn't become an architect. I'm not asked to come through a secondary entrance when I attend meetings. I didn't have as many obstacles as Suzanne DiGeronimo but I have struggled to find my place in a profession that is still male dominated, even today and in a society that is dominated by engineers. Those statistics don't scare me, though; what worries me is finding the right avenue to achieve my goals and how to put in as much as I get out of being a member of SAME.

I started with finding common ground. Locating a committee that focuses on shared interests is always a great starting point! Lucky for me, the year I was becoming active in SAME the Architectural Practice Committee was just formed. I hadn't even looked into the Young Member Council at this point but I knew if I headed towards other architects, they'd be bound to accept a wide eyed, enthusiastic, new young member. Right? Thankfully, JJ Tang, APC Chair and Dave Packard, APC Communications Vice Chair, took me under their wings and offered

me ample opportunities to get more involved.

Numerous questions have risen throughout my professional progression. I'm constantly trying to stay in touch with the new but also be respectful of the "old"--advice to the Young Member, be careful not to offend when using that word. As a young member and a young architect I have a lot to learn. The profession is changing and so is SAME. *How do I fit in? Where can I help? How do I help SAME?* The best thing I think a young member can do is learn from your Fellows.

Suzanne is a great example and should be a great inspiration for all members (not just young or new). She continued to persevere and stayed active in SAME. In order for SAME to continue to grow, educate and support the next generation of engineers, and even architects, we need to keep volunteering, keep participating.

In the end, my real question to you, devoted APC Journal reader: What really is the difference between Old vs New?

Maybe there isn't a difference. Perhaps the New is just the outcome of learning from the Old and moving forward. Stay active, Members, no matter what your status is in SAME. Keep encouraging the collaboration of engineers, architects, military and civilian, so that SAME can continue to follow its mission and create a society where there is no old *versus* new but instead just one cohesive organization.

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