



### Quick Links

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### Upcoming Meetings:

- **Wed, November 19th**
- **Wed, December 17th**
- **Wed, January 28th**

### Frequently Used Links:

- National website at [www.same.org](http://www.same.org)
- Post website at [www.same-msp.org](http://www.same-msp.org)
- Listing of [Post Leaders](#)
- Listing of [Post Sustaining Members](#)

### \*Note about PDHs:

To the best of our knowledge, this program meets the requirements of continuing education as outlined by the Minnesota Board of Registration and should count as 1.0 PDH or .1 CEU (or portion thereof as indicated in the announcement) of development towards required continuing education credits. Certificates will be distributed to those in attendance immediately following the seminar.

### Next Meeting Presentation

**Wednesday, 22 October 2014**

## What's in WRRDA 2014 and the Status of Federal Appropriations

### Judy DesHarnais

Deputy for Programs and Project Management  
St. Paul District, US Army Corps of Engineers

**No-PDH**

### Presentation Synopsis:

The President signed the Water Resource Reform Development Act (WRRDA) 2014 into law June 10, 2014. The new law has many important changes for the Corps and more specifically, there are several parts that are important to the St. Paul District. Within the St Paul District, the new law authorizes:

- the Fargo, N.D., Moorhead, Minn., flood risk reduction project;
- the completion of the Roseau, Minn., flood risk reduction project;
- an environmental restoration project at Marsh Lake, near Ortonville, Minn.;
- the closure of Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam within one year; and
- other policy issues that affect our Nations Water Resource Development

Judy's presentation will highlight the significance of the passage of WRRDA, and highlight some of the appropriations issues that impact the Corps of Engineers and the St. Paul District.

### Speaker Bio:

Judith L.A. DesHarnais (Judy) was selected as the St. Paul District's deputy for Programs and Project Management in March 2001. She was also responsible for Planning until 2010 when it was realigned across the region.

DesHarnais has served as project manager for the Devils Lake Project and chief of the hazardous toxic radiological waste section within the Engineering and Planning Division. She has been a structural engineer, project engineer, engineer manager, technical manager and study manager for projects throughout the district. From September 1999 through March 2001, she served as chief of the Project Management Branch. During the periods of January to July 2001 and February to August 1998, she served as the acting deputy district engineer. Additionally, from July to October 2006, she served as the acting commander of the St. Paul District.

She is a registered professional engineer in Minnesota and a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Society of American Military Engineers. She has received numerous personal awards and project awards, including the Chief of Engineers' Award of Excellence for Civil Works in 1996 and 1998.

[See Page 4 for Logistical Information for this Meeting](#)

## Highlights of the Previous Meeting

Post President Chris Erickson (standing on the left) and Post Director and Small Business Liaison Sherry Van Duyn (standing on right) presented the Post Mug and Coin to the distinguished group of panelists that provided interesting discussion and fielded many questions primarily on the topic of Mentor Protégé (MP).



Discussion highlights included:

- The primary MP program is administered through the Small Business Administration and is for 8(a) program small businesses. There are many other MP programs through the Department of Defense, Minnesota Department of Transportation, other federal and state and private entities, but do not include the waiver of affiliation. A proposed rule is due out this fall to determine whether a formal program like the SBA's program will be available through other federal agencies and will encompass other small business entities.
- The DOD MP program provides funding through existing IDIQ contracts to mentors to provide a defined mentoring program.
- The mentors benefits are great and can include geographic expansion, new clients, teaming on small business set aside contracts, and adding new services through the protégé.
- The protégés benefit similarly but also get assistance on business, technical services, proposals and marketing strategies, resources, and systems, and new clients.
- A mentor protégé team is likely one that already exists and includes two companies that have teamed in the past and have a relationship and similar culture.
- For small businesses, look at who has current large contracts and target them for new business. Attend small business fairs and association meetings such as SAME to build relationships.
- Disadvantages of the MP program, is there are mentor specific requirements and reporting. Make sure to fully understand the requirements.
- For existing MP relationships, the Corps will work with the SBA on any existing contracts to make sure requirements are met.

Sherry Van Duyn from Landmark Environmental moderated the panel discussion. The panelists, shown in the photo, from left to right were:

Sherri Komrosky, MN PTAC

Randy Czaia, US Small Business Administration, MN District Office

Michelle French, Stanley Consultants, Chesterfield, MO, representing a large business

Gene Kuppenbender, Bay West, representing a small business

Gwen Davis, US Army Corps of Engineers Small Business Program

Feel free to contact any of our panelists for more information or other questions, contact information was in last month's newsletter.

## Midwest Levees & Rivers Technical Exchange



The Technical Program for the 2014 Midwest Levees & Rivers Technical Exchange has been announced! Leading experts from USACE, FEMA, USF&W, various state agencies, universities, and the private sector will be in attendance and presenting on topics pertaining to flood risk management, repair and rehabilitation, and environmental restoration.

Please help us spread the word about this bi-annual conference to raise awareness of flood control and navigation issues, not only in the Midwest, but across the country. There are many opportunities to exhibit, sponsor, volunteer, golf, and network.

We hope to see you in Saint Louis on October 27-29, 2014!

For more information, see the [Event Flyer](#) and please visit <http://www.celebratingourrivers2014.com>.

## Great Lakes & Ohio Valley Regional Conference



The Kentuckiana Post will be hosting the Great Lakes & Ohio Valley Regional conference November 19-21 2014. This year's theme is Bridges to the Future. For Conference and Exhibit Registration, Conference Agenda, and Local Attractions please visit [JETS 2014](#) <<http://2014jetslouisville.org>>

## Engineers and Technical Professionals Need to Help with Future City Competition



This will be the 13th year that teams from Minnesota have participated in the national Future Cities Competition and will be the 7th year that the SAME M-SP Post will be sponsoring a special award category for the team that best addresses "Readiness for Natural and Man-made Disasters".

### Volunteers willing to help any of the following capacities are very much needed ...

The M-SP Post needs the assistance of four volunteers on the morning of Saturday January 17, 2015 to help select the team to receive our special award. If you are willing to help with this portion of the event, please contact M-SP Post Junior Vice President **Peter Allen** at [peter.j.allen@urs.com](mailto:peter.j.allen@urs.com).

The organizers of the state competition are looking for engineers and technical professionals who are interested in being either a Mentor to a specific school team or a judge in one of the three judged events as described below. Mentors help students and educators better understand the practical applications of math and science as they work with students in the design of a future city. 5.0 PDHs of community service are awarded to all mentors whose teams complete the competition and are printed on the mentor's certificate of appreciation. Engineers in all fields are welcome. Just as cities need all types of engineers, so do our students. For complete details about mentoring see <http://www.futurecity.org/region/mentoring>.

Volunteers are needed to help judge the various portions of this season's National Engineers Week Future City Competition (FCC). Volunteer judges are needed during the months of December and January. For complete details see <http://www.futurecity.org/region/volunteer-judge>.

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## Logistical Information for Upcoming Luncheon Meeting

### Meeting Location:

Fort Snelling Officer's Club at 395 Minnesota 5, St Paul, MN 55111

See map at [http://www.same-msp.org/\\_images/934thOfficersClub.jpg](http://www.same-msp.org/_images/934thOfficersClub.jpg)

### Agenda:

Social time and lunch (if you so desire) will be from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM in the dining room of the Officers Club. Post Meeting and Presentation will be from 12:30 PM to about 1:30 PM in the ballroom of the Officers Club.

### Luncheon Menu, Cost, and RSVP Info:

The Club's cafeteria-style lunches are typically \$10.00 or less; people who partake in the cafeteria-style lunch will pay the Officers Club directly. If you come only for the presentations, there is no charge.

Please RSVP with your intent to either partake in the cafeteria-style lunch or to come for the presentation only; this will help the Officers Club staff to ensure that an adequate amount of food is prepared. Either leave a voice mail message with Michelle Larson at 651-290-5632, or click the RSVP button in the left-hand column, or send an email message to

[michelle.j.larson@usace.army.mil](mailto:michelle.j.larson@usace.army.mil)

## Winners of the Drawing for a Free Lunch

At the September Meeting — No Drawing

At the June Meeting — **Paul Dierking**, HDR  
**Paul Senne**, RESPEC

At the May Meeting — **Terry Zien**, US Army Corps of Engineers  
**Nicholas Croveti**, MN Air National Guard

### *Engineers and Technical Professionals Need to Help with Future City Competition*

*(Continued from page 3)*

The competition is comprised of three judged parts:

- Computer design & layout using SimCity software
- A 700-1000 word essay on an assigned engineering-related topic
- Building a table top scale model of a section of the city and a team oral presentation of their city and model

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If you are interested in helping with any aspect of the state competition, send your contact info (name, company, work phone, work address, and email) to:

**Colleen Feller** at [colleen.feller@metroecsu.org](mailto:colleen.feller@metroecsu.org) or phone: **612-638-1511**

[www.same-msp.org](http://www.same-msp.org)