Southern Indiana Chapter (04-10) Donation to SOLE

At their July 2003 Executive Board Meeting, the Southern Indiana Chapter (04-10) voted to donate to the Society $1,500 of their proceeds from their administrative sponsorship of the 2003 NAVSEA COTS Steering Board Workshop, held 19-20 February 2003 at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab (Columbia, Maryland).

In spite of the blizzard, over 185 attendees (including the Chapter Chair and Vice Chairs, Finance and Operations) and 12 exhibitors braved the 8-10” of snow to attend this technical forum for members of the NAVSEA COTS community. The chapter, which was recognized at SOLE 2003 with a President's Award of Merit for their continued success in this support relationship with NAVSEA over the past five years, elected to make the donation in appreciation for the contributions of SOLE HQ to their success.

In addition to their 2003 President's Award and for their generous contribution, the chapter has been recognized as members of the Society's Von Braun Club, as "International Space Station" team members. As we did 'officially' at SOLE 2003, we extend our thanks and congratulations to them for a job very well done.

"As published in SOLE Management Newsletter (October 2003, 04-01). Reprinted with permission."
Editor’s Note

As we start the new SOLE year, this issue of SOLEtter brings you an article from Dr. Russ Vacante, newly elected President, and biographical sketches provided by two elected Board members.

Before You Hit “Send”
By Marya K. Pickering, CPL

Email makes it so fast and easy to stay in touch with everyone: family, friends, clients, co-workers. Its almost immediate access combines the speed of a phone conversation with the documentation of a note or memorandum.

The good news is that we can communicate quickly. The bad news is that whatever we put in our email is out of our control once we send the message to its recipient. Those on the receiving end can forward our messages to others with equal speed.

Unfortunately, the immediacy of this medium works against carefully thinking through our ideas before committing them to a transmitted message. Unlike the process of writing a letter or note by hand or on a typewriter, we are discouraged from careful phrasing, correct spelling, and good grammar. Indeed, the instant message (IM) feature is creating a whole new “shorthand” language. All this precisely when we should be concerned with what we say and how we say it because once the message is sent, it can be easily made available to so many others. While we can delete email messages from our own computers, they often live on indefinitely in various network files. Such information can be retrieved by employers’ IT security personnel, may be made available to law enforcement agencies, and could be used as evidence in court.

Part of everyone’s “quality control” process should be to proofread all email – for content as well as grammar and punctuation – and perhaps place it in a “Draft” folder for a day or two. And never document anything in electronic media which you would not like seen next to your name on the evening news or the front page of your local...
Logistics – An Infant Science
Provided by Dr. Lloyd Muller

Recently, my wife and I began planning for the arrival of our first child. This is an involved process and demands a great deal of management attention. I’m sure that many young logisticians could find some value in analyzing my experiences.

Babies, I have discovered, are logistics nightmares. They require specialized equipment for sleeping, feeding, washing, and even a “changing table” on which to perform routine periodic maintenance and inspection. In fact, this Ground Support Equipment (GSE) greatly exceeds, in cost and weight, that of the end item (baby) at delivery. Under the traditional manning concept, the identification and selection of baby GSE is performed by the Maternal Automated Manufacturing Assembly (MAMA). Funding and up-front installation and assembly are provided by the Periodically Assistant Production Assembly (PAPA).

This hardware, however, is only designed to support a baby at a fixed location. As babies are deployable systems, they must frequently operate out of remote locations, in a tactical environment. This requires the development of a War Readiness Supply Kit (WRSK) or: “fly away” kit to support an operational baby in the field. This kit should contain extra bottles, diapers, and other reserve consumables, as well as, spare clothes and blankets, and toys for Emergency Amusement Situations (EAS).

The technical data requirements for maintaining a baby are quite substantial. An enormous number of Technical Orders (TOs) must be purchased and read to ensure proper maintenance procedures are followed (babies are not delivered with repair or operating instructions from the manufacturer). It should be noted that, in spite of the recent developments in automated diagnostic software and hardware, babies have only a limited Built-in-Test (BIT) capability. The standard baby BIT check will inform the maintenance team in no uncertain terms that a problem exists, but provides no specific troubleshooting guides.

The existing baby design is frozen. It is available in only two configurations, with a fixed lead time. Very little research is currently underway to shorten the logistics “tail” or design a more reliable and maintainable baby. This makes it important that all support elements be in place before delivery. Unlike other programs, the baby production manager does not have the option of slipping the delivery date to accommodate ILS program considerations.

One last piece of advice. Communications between MAMA and PAPA is vital during the production phase. Item nomenclature must be watched very closely. It is seldom advisable for the military logistician, for example, to refer to the baby as “my little weapon system”.

New/Reactivating Chapters

There has been significant activity since SOLE 2003 in the area of chapter organization/revitalization. Listed below is that activity, with the current status of the activation/reactivation. (Note: Chapters are listed in order of date of initial contact, not in order of importance or progress toward activation/reactivation.)

a. Seoul, Korea (15-02) [new, chartered 8/21/03]
b. Maine Maritime Academy - Student Chapter (01-11) [new, chartered 9/25/03]
c. Lefkosia, Cyprus (38-01) [new, chartered 9/30/03]
d. Taipei, Taiwan (14-01)
e. Others in the Works --

(1) Saudia Arabia (reactivation of 11-01). Status - Initial inquiry and coordination with SOLE Headquarters.

(2) Battle Creek, Michigan (tentatively, 04-14). Status - Initiated by Defense Logistics Information Service (a corporate member of SOLE since 1994), initial groundwork has been done.

(3) University of Alabama (Huntsville) [UAH] Student Chapter. Status - On 15 October, Randy Gibbs (Vice Chair, Publicity, Tennessee Valley Chapter) and Don McKay, CPL (Director, Transportation & Distribution Application Division) briefed five faculty members from the university's Civil Engineering, Systems Engineering, and Information Technology departments on the mechanisms for/benefits of establishing a UAH Student Chapter.

"Excerpts from SOLE Management Newsletter (October 2003, 04-01). Reprinted with permission."
Maj. Gen. (Ret) Paul M. Lee, Jr.,
Director at Large,
Awards Committee Chairman

“It is an honor for me to have been elected a member of the SOLE Board of Directors, in July 2003.

“My current position is Training Director for Jacobs Sverdrup Advanced Systems Group. For nearly 34 years I served as a Marine Logistician retiring in March in 2003 as the Inspector General of the Marine Corps.

“Following graduation from the University of Pittsburgh in 1969 with a Bachelors degree in Economics, I was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. By the spring of 1970, I began a journey as a Marine Corp supply officer that would take me around the world and cover more than three decades. During the subsequent years I would command a Headquarters Company, a Combat Service Support Element in Southwest Asia, a Supply Battalion, the 2nd Force Service Support Group, a Joint Task Force doing sea based disaster relief and contingency management and the Marine Corps Materiel Command. My staff positions included Operations Officer at both Marine Corps Logistics Bases Barstow and Albany, Director of an Inventory Management Division with the Defense Industrial Supply Center, Philadelphia Pa., Director of the Warfighting Development and Integration Division Marine Corps Marine Corps Combat Development Command Quantico, Va., and Director Logistics Policy, Plans, and Strategic Mobility Installations and Logistics Headquarters Marine Corps.

“I earned a Masters of Science in Materiel Management with honors from the Naval Post Graduate School and have completed studies in National Security and Strategy at the Command and Staff College, U. S. Naval War College, and U.S. Army War College. Additionally, I completed the Department of Defense Acquisition Executive Management Course and the Penn State Executive Management Course.

“Joining SOLE permits me to continue my education and association with professional logisticians. SOLE has the respect and support of scores of executives and managers in and out of government. And when it comes to shaping the careers of logisticians and providing a network of professional contacts, SOLE has a committed membership that is shaping the business future and security of our nation.

“SOLE provides opportunities to meet new colleagues and to build relationships that bolster professional development. Whether someone is looking to improve their performance in their current position or reevaluating their career progression, SOLE is an enabler and can help. It is exciting to be part of an organization that shares a common focus...individual professional development.

“In addition to being a member, I wanted to take my involvement a step further. Becoming a member of the Board of Directors will enable me to take a more activist role in assisting our members and shaping policy.

“Skilled logisticians are the product of study, reading, training, education, and access to subject matter experts. There is no other way to obtain the knowledge, skills, and abilities of a logistics professional. SOLE logisticians constitute a vital element in any government or business enterprise. My intent is to pursue new ideas on how to increase the professional knowledge of every SOLE member.

“This is an exciting time to be a logistician. I am honored to be a member of SOLE and privileged to serve on the Board of Directors.”
Greater Washington Area Chapter

Vondell Carter from the US Army Material Command (AMC) presented information on LOGTECH at their September meeting. The primary mission of the Center of Excellence in Logistics and Technology (LOGTECH) is to leverage global best practices and explore leading-edge logistics technologies to prepare logisticians for advances that will drive logistics and supporting technologies in the future.

Tennessee Valley Chapter

Mr. Richard E. Turner, Deputy Executive Director of the Integrated Material Management Center (IMMC) at Redstone Arsenal spoke at the July chapter meeting. His topic was “The Changing Face of Logistics Support to the Warrior.” He presented an overview of the impact of the recent Southwest Asia deployment on repairs, supply, and sparing. He spoke about the increase in aviation spares and about initiatives between the services and contractors to increase readiness in a high operational tempo situation.

Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter

The topic at the September meeting was “Organization for the Upcoming SOLE 2003-04 Year.” The results of the election were announced and the new chapter officers discussed potential topics for the upcoming chapter year.

Fort Belvoir Chapter

Mr. Dave Armour discussed the Homeland Security Department (HSD) at the Fort Belvoir Chapter meeting in September. The massive consolidation and transformation of several government agencies under one department was the central theme in Mr. Armour's discussion. The HSD consists of four major directorates: Border and Transportation Security, Emergency and Preparedness and Response, Science and Technology, and Information Analysis and Infrastructure.

Indianapolis Chapter

District 04 Director Charlie Coogan, CPL, Fellow, congratulated the chapter on the platinum awards they received at the SOLE Symposium. As part of their August meeting, he mentioned the groundswell that occurred at the symposium on resurrecting, reviving, and revitalizing the LSA process. The guest speaker for the September meeting was Mr. Darren Smith, Project Engineer for three weather system programs at Raytheon Technical Services Company. Mr. Smith discussed the Tactical Meteorological Observing System (TMOS), the Tactical Weather Radar (TWR), and the National Polar-orbiting Operational

Vice Chairperson of Programs for the Fort Belvoir Chapter, Bill Kobren, earned his CPL at the SOLE Symposium. Just over one year ago, Bill participated in the Fall 2002 Logistics Review Course taught by the chapter. Bill passed three of four sections of the CPL exam when he took the exam the first time. He passed the remaining fourth section at the national conference. Congratulations Bill!

Many chapters used their August and September meetings to discuss the events at the SOLE Symposium in Huntsville. Symposium attendees from the Tennessee Valley Chapter pictured here Front row: Doug Barclay, Debbie Baugh, Emma Louise Cooper, Joyce Bilodeau, Randy Gibbs; back row: Bob Hardison, Jim Wasson, Jim Sharp, Doug Baker, Lou Sciaroni, John Mabry.

(See “SOLE Beat” page 6)
Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS). The TWR incorporated COTS into a military application and was installed in nine overseas locations. Following the speaker, District Director Charlie Coogan, CPL, Fellow took the opportunity to swear in the chapter's new officers for 2003-04.

**Summit City - Fort Wayne Chapter**

At the September meeting, Chapter Chair John Judd, C.P.L. discussed his impressions from the 2003 SOLE Symposium that was held in Huntsville. Ms. Alycia Smith, Raytheon, spoke on the topic of “Configuration Management” at the October meeting. The new chapter officers were also installed at the October meeting including Tony Thieme as the new chapter chairperson.

**Atlanta Chapter**

The Atlanta chapter officers and committee chairs held a June planning meeting to discuss their plans for the coming year including several workshops, awards, their newsletter The Atlanta-Gram, and the chapter finances.

**French District**

At the 18th International Logistics Congress in Munich the French District was honored for receiving the best International SOLEtter, the “SOLE France Letter”.

If you have information you would like to see included in SOLEbeat, send it to Ken Helms, CPL at ken.helms@itt.com.

**SOLE 2003 Conference Proceedings**

As many of you may have heard, SOLE 2003 was a welcome success. With over 375 attendees/exhibitors, the feedback we've gotten from both was that it was a valuable experience.

We are in production now on the CD-ROM of the conference proceedings. Unlike past years, where the CD was made before the conference -- and, as a result, probably contained only 80-85% of the papers/presentations actually listed in the technical program -- we decided to distribute the proceedings after the conference. With this schedule, both the technical program and the presentations by the keynote speakers, plenary session members, and panelists will be included (where they previously had not been available).

With the unavoidable last minute cancellation of the opening session keynote speaker (Congressman Weldon), we used as a 'substitute' opening address Dr. Wernher von Braun's remarks made at SOLE's very first “symposium” - SOLE's first Annual Meeting, held on 13 September 1966, in Huntsville. The black and white video recording of that 'speech', which is just as germane now as it was 37 years ago, is being converted to DVD format. The remarks, which are a little over 20 minutes long, will be included on a separate DVD that also will be distributed to the conference attendees (as a companion to the proceedings CD).

As an aid to chapter program, training and recruiting/retention initiatives, a copy of both the von Braun DVD and the SOLE 2003 Proceedings CD-ROM will be distributed to every chapter. The distribution will come both with the encouragement to safeguard both items for use as part of the chapter's 'library'/tool kit; and with the caution that neither is to be copied for subsequent reproduction, distribution and/or sale, since to do that would both violate the copyrights and deny the Society of the income (small though it might be) from the sale of both items. [We will be offering them to members at a lower rate than to libraries and non-members.]

We anticipate that the manufacture/production of both will be completed next month, such that distribution can begin the end of November.

"As published in SOLE Management Newsletter (October 2003, 04-01). Reprinted with permission."
2004 District Director Elections
By Chair, District Affairs Committee/VP, Member Services

As you may recall from emails this past year from Tony Trovato, CPL (now SOLE's Immediate Past President) and articles in the SOLEetter, the February 2002 changes to SOLE's Bylaws (passed by the Board of Directors) that restored the election of the Society's Directors to the membership governed the election of this year's directors and officers. Ed Donahue, Chair of the District Affairs Committee, and SOLE Headquarters are working with the incumbent directors of the US odd-numbered districts to conduct the elections for the FYs 2004-2005 District Directors. Using the model of last year's highly successful District 04 Director election, ballots are being developed and voting is underway/will begin shortly for the following candidates in the following districts:

District 01 Candidate - William (Bill) LaVarnway (incumbent appointee)
balloons will be due at SOLE HQ nlt 15 November 2003
District 03 Candidate - Dale Starr, CPL (incumbent appointee)
balloons will be due at SOLE HQ nlt 15 November 2003
District 05 Candidate - Doug Barclay (incumbent electee)
District 07 Candidate - William (Andy) Evans (new candidate)
balloons are due at SOLE HQ nlt 10 November 2003
District 09 Candidate - Ed Welch (incumbent appointee)
balloons are due at SOLE HQ nlt 31 October 2003

With the exception of Andy Evans (who is coming off a two-year term as President of the Logistics Education Foundation), all of the incumbent DDs agreed to continue to serve on the Board of Directors until their successors (i.e., themselves) were elected. Since this is the first year of the revised election procedures, “the cart got just a little ahead of the horse” in this year's DD elections. For those of you DDs currently serving in even-numbered US districts, start now to identify the candidates for your replacement -- the 2004 elections for the FY's 2005-2006 DDs will be conducted in July, so that the elections will have been completed before SOLE 2004. Every member of the SOLE Management Team is critical to the Society's success - and especially when he/she serves as a bridge between the Board of Directors and the Chapters.

Lyle L. Paulson, CPL
VP Member Services

For more that 18 years, Lyle L. Paulson, CPL has been involved with SOLE activities from Chapter to International levels. He has been reelected as VP, Member Services this year. Prior to this involvement, Lyle was elected co-director for the Space Logistics Division within SOLE in August 1999; and served as SOLE ADD in 2001.

At Greater Washington Area Chapter (GWAC) he has been active as Chairman for the last three years and a member of the Board. Prior to transferring to GWAC, he was Chapter Chairman for the Space Coast Chapter in Florida for three years. Lyle has been a Certified Professional Logistician for more than 10 years, having recently been recertified.

Wanting to help the Society grow is one of the main reasons that Lyle really wanted to take on the Member Services job. Some people feel that membership in our Society isn’t worth the $130.00 but others really do believe it is based on the networking, sharing of knowledge and knowing that others out in the world have logistics problems and answers.

Lyle’s main goal is to increase the membership within our Society by at least 10 percent if not more and getting the word out that logisticians are an important part of any organization – commercial or government.

Presently, he is the Senior Logistics Engineer for Northrop Grumman working in Washington D.C. on special projects for the Federal Aviation Administration. Lyle has both a Masters degree in Logistics and in Management.

Lyle helps the GWAC chapter in the many endeavors that foster logistics in the commercial and government arenas; and for the past three years has helped chair highly successful space logistics panels at SOLE’s annual symposia.

"As published in SOLE Management Newsletter (October 2003, 04-01). Reprinted with permission."
SOLE 2004
“Future Logistics: The Integrated Enterprise”

31 August – 2 September 2004
Norfolk Waterside Marriott
Norfolk, Virginia

To learn more about the year-long path to SOLE 2004, and nominate best practices or Six Sigma candidates contact SOLE HQ at solehq@erois.com.