

July 2023



Society of American Military Engineers

# Newsletter

## SAME Climate Pledge Arena Field Trip

*75-minute tour followed by lunch afterwards.*

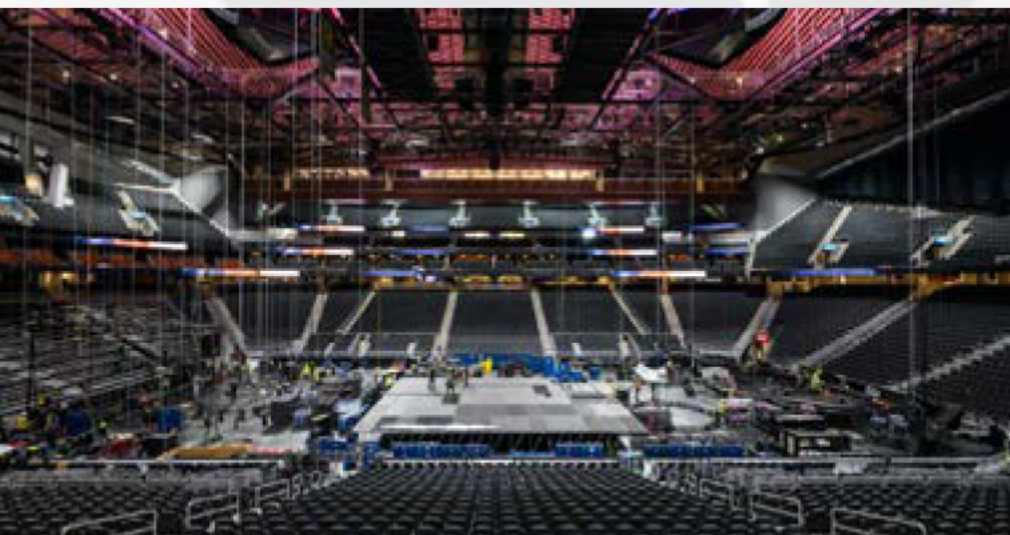
- Date:** July 21 2023 - 10:40 AM  
**Location:** 334 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109  
**Lunch:** Toulouse Petit  
601 Queen Anne Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98109

**Tickets:**

[Register](#)



Visit Us Online



## Young Professionals Representative Needed

Join us in making a difference by becoming our Young Professionals Representative. As a liaison between our organization's leadership and young members, you'll have the opportunity to advocate for your peers, organize engaging events, and contribute to initiatives that cater specifically to young professionals. Submit your application with a cover letter and resume to Christian Thompson ([cthompson@civilaire.com](mailto:cthompson@civilaire.com)) to be considered for this exciting role.



To receive monthly updates on our post and events.



# SAME SUMMER SOCIAL

A/E/C  
Small & Large Business  
Networking Event

[FREE REGISTRATION - CLICK HERE](#)

Thurs, 27 July : 4-6pm

SAME  
Seattle  
Post



SAME  
Mt Tacoma  
Post

1053 Lake Washington Blvd, Renton WA 98056

*Thank You Sponsors!*



Hosted by Seattle & Mt Tacoma Post S  
Lori Revely & Julio Iguina





# Member Spotlight

**MAJ/EN Chris Hassell**  
**Brigade Executive Officer**  
**Joint Base Lewis McChord**



**How long have you been a member of SAME?**  
8 months.

**Why did you join SAME?**

I joined SAME to meet people outside of the military uniform and connect with the local community. I also joined because I love hearing about ongoing and future projects in the surrounding area.

**What committee do you currently volunteer with?**

I don't volunteer with any committees. My schedule is pretty crazy, so I only have time for two hobbies, family and riding dirt bikes.

**What do you enjoy most about volunteering?**

I really enjoy the briefers that attend the SAME monthly meetings. The topics are always interesting, and I always learn something new.

**What is your current occupation?**

I am currently the Brigade Executive Officer in the 55th Engineer Brigade at Joint Base Lewis McChord. I currently have 18 years of service and look forward to the next adventure.

**What do you love most about the AEC Industry?**

There is always something new and innovative. I love the development and design concepts that allow you to see the results of the work you put into a project.

**How do you define success?**

Everyday I ask myself, what did I do to make the organization better? If I can't answer the question, then I didn't have a successful day. Overall, as long as I tried by best and worked hard, I'm happy regardless of the results.

**Who inspires you?**

My father was my biggest inspiration. He grew up with dirt floors and no father figure. He became very successful and showed me how to be a man. He taught me you must work hard and have a good work life balance or all the work you accomplished means nothing.

**What's something about you (fun fact) that not many people know?**

I raced motocross and arenacross as a kid and had a few sponsors. I had no intention of going to college or joining the Army. All I ever wanted to do was race professionally or be a mechanic for a professional team. I missed a lot of school due to traveling or laying in a hospital from crashing and almost failed my second year of college for missing to many days. My dad made me quit, so I could be the first family member in our family to graduate college. I figured if I couldn't be first in racing motocross, I'd be the first to graduate college. Based on this article, we know how this story ended.

**What's the last book you read?**

Ta-Neshi Coates, *Between the World and Me*. The book is about his perception of what feelings, symbolism, and realities are associated with being black in the United States. The book also explains how racist violence and systemic racism have been used on society, threatening the black community. Being a minority growing up in the south, I really connected with the author. The book also made me realize how important it is to have these tough conversations with my children and stress the importance of education.

**What's the first concert you ever attended?**

The first concert I ever attended was Beastie Boys in 1989. Detroit, MI. I was ten years old. Definetly the craziest concert I have ever been to.

**What's new?**

This year I am going to ride dirt bikes in two of the most coveted trail systems in the United States. I look forward to being a part of such an elite group of riders to ride such a special place.

Steve Woolery Annual Scholarship

# GOLF TOURNAMENT



Thursday, August 10, 2023

**SIGN UP NOW!**

Please join us for our annual golf tournament benefiting the Scholarship Fund for the Seattle and Mount Tacoma Posts of SAME! The tournament will be a 10 AM shotgun start at Eagle's Pride Golf Course with a banquet dinner afterwards. To sign-up, click the button above or copy/paste the following link:

<https://same-pnw-golf-tourney.square.site/>

## Golfer Registration

Military Player Rate: \$75  
Civilian Player Rate: \$125

## Available Sponsorships

Event Sponsor - \$2,000	Player Cart Sponsor - \$500
Closest to the Pin - \$750	Beverage Cart Sponsor - \$500
Longest Drive - \$750	Military Team Sponsor - \$300
Hole Sponsor - \$500	

Questions? Contact Dave Newkirk at [daven@rahaec.com](mailto:daven@rahaec.com).



## Why join the Society of American Military Engineers?

If you are thinking of joining a professional association, it is critical that you ask yourself “what does membership provide for you?” We can all agree that there is little value in paying dues and investing time into an organization just to check a box. After all, the relationship you have with a professional association should create a connection to something that you can relate to and have a passion for. Personally, I struggled with finding what was right for me when considering membership for many professional associations, but then I discovered the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). My initial impression was that it very much felt like an officer’s club that did not have much to offer a young noncommissioned officer.

I discovered, however, that SAME is a diverse organization that routinely invests in the development of its members. From new member, to the President of the Society, this professional association wants to help you become a better leader supporting the defense of our Nation. SAME provides fantastic networking opportunities, plenty of options for volunteering, technical information through webinars and publications, and even offers stipends to pay for professional certifications. Plus, the membership fee covers the life of your uniformed service!

Everyone can benefit from what SAME has to offer, and you do not need to be an Engineer or have a degree to join. You can volunteer with your local Post, participate in networking events and professional development briefs, and even get a one-day pass for the annual Joint Engineer Training Conference (JETC) or Small Business Conference (SBC) at no cost.

SAME offers professional NCOs tangible value with real rewards, over three distinct periods in a career.

**Near-Term:** Active SAME membership thrusts us into an environment of exposure to engineering techniques and practices of industry and Military Departments other than our own. We soak up information and knowledge without realizing it, immediately making us better NCOs.

**Mid-Term:** SAME offers unique opportunities to continue our technical education and pursue licenses and certifications from affiliated associations. Over a few months, credentialing can better posture NCOs for increased responsibility and promotion. Taking advantage of these industry-recognized certifications will also assist with a smoother transition when exiting the military.

**Long-Term:** NCOs will one day move on from direct military service whether Active Duty or Reserve Component. Most of us change employers but we still prefer technical employment in such a rewarding field. If you want to secure the future, SAME offers the best opportunity for networking with potential employers.

I truly wish I had learned these things sooner in my career, so I urge you not to wait. Come see what SAME can do for you!

CMSgt Adam Boubede

# Membership: What's in it for you?

## **What is SAME?**

➤ A professional organization that supports your professional and engineering knowledge and career developmental growth.

➤ SAME offers a wide variety of support programs to help you obtain engineering related professional credentialing.

➤ SAME is recognized as "the multi-disciplined integrator of national infrastructure related capabilities" where you have the opportunity to learn about and network with uniformed service engineers and leading commercial engineering firms all supporting the country.

## **Benefits of being a SAME Member:**

- Relationship building through a network of [100+ Posts](#) around the world, 1500 sustaining member A/C/E firms, academic institutions, military and government agencies at federal, state and local levels.
- [Stipends, Scholarships & Discounts](#) for education and training.
- Connecting with government and industry leaders.
- Access to cutting-edge [professional development opportunities](#).
- Volunteer [leadership opportunities](#) at the local, regional and national levels to grow your skills.
- [Transition assistance](#) with complimentary workshops, mentoring & networking.
- Reimbursement for professional [credentialing fees](#).
- Subscription to [The Military Engineer](#) technical magazine.
- Support through the [Enlisted Committee](#).



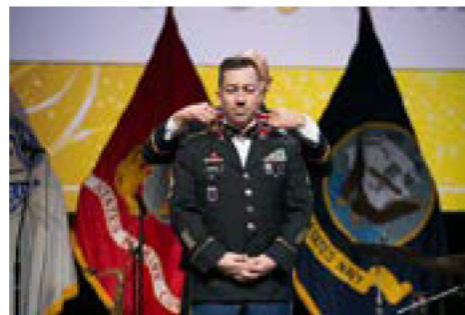
## **STEM, Veterans, & Community Support In 2017, SAME's 100+ Posts & [members...](#)**

- Awarded over 700 **scholarships**, totaling nearly \$1 million.
- Spent over 16,000 hours supporting **STEM**.
- Contributed over 12,000 hours of **community service**.
- Donated nearly \$286,000 to **K-12 STEM** programs.
- Gave nearly \$110,000 to **veterans & disabled veterans** programs.
- Spent 4,100 volunteer hours providing support to **veterans**.



## Enlisted Membership Application

Join Now → [www.same.org/join](http://www.same.org/join)



Name

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Mailing Address

---

Email 1

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Email 2

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Work Phone

---

Cell Phone

---

Base or Installation

---

Service Branch and Rank

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DOB (mm/yy)

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Highest Degree    High School    Technical/Associates    Bachelors    Masters    Doctorate

*Questions about membership?*

Contact our Member Services Team [member@same.org](mailto:member@same.org) or 703.549.3800 ext. 131

**Society of Military Engineers**  
607 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

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*Dedicated to National Security Since 1920*

# Mt. Tacoma Post



## POST OFFICERS

### Post President

LTC Christian Thompson  
cthompson@civilaire.com  
913-704-5789

### First Vice-President

MAJ Christopher Hassell  
chopr4life@gmail.com

### Past President

Janna Peters  
jannapeters@kmb-architects.com  
253-229-1025

### Secretary, Student Chapter Mentor

William (Bill) Fierst  
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### Treasurer

Seth Mattos  
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253-229-7090

### VP Sustaining Members

#### Memberships, Camp, Post Fellow

Dave Newkirk  
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253-606-1047

Andy Chandler  
andrew.chandler@absherco.com  
253-569-4976

### Awards & Programs

Michael Funches  
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253-414-1989

### Scholarships

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253-377-7568

### Small Business Liaison

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206-394-7330

### Post Webmaster

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253-922-0446

### Communications

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425-828-0500

### VP Young Professionals

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253-845-9544

### Student Chapters, Streamers

Michael Cozart  
Michael.cozart@bceengineers.com  
253-922-0446

### Director

Mike Moran  
michael.moran248@gmail.com  
253-982-4660

### Director

John Haddick  
jehaddick@msn.com  
253-565-1223

### Director

Erik Prestegaard  
erikp@helixdesigngroup.net  
253-922-9037

### VP Individual Members

Andy Chandler  
andrew.chandler@absherco.com  
253-845-9455

## OPEN POSITIONS

### Second Vice-President

### Assistant Treasurer

### Leadership Development

### STEM

## LOCAL MILITARY ENGINEERS

### US ARMY

555<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade  
COL Jeff Hall

### I Corps Liaison

Major Jon Trump  
jon.l.trump.mil@army.mil

### 555 SAME Liaison

LTC Chris Thompson  
christian.a.thompson6.mil@army.mil

### CDR 864<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion

Mark Born, LTC  
mark.s.born.mil@army.mil

### 23<sup>rd</sup> BEB

LTC Christian Johnson  
christian.r.johnson18.mil@army.mil

### CDR 14<sup>th</sup> BEB

LTC Louis Hammond  
louisphillipe.l.hammond@army.mil

### 3-364<sup>th</sup> BEB, First Army

CDR: LTC Steven Beard  
Steven.w.beard.mil@army.mil  
CSM: CSM Nathaniel Atkinson  
Nathaniel.atkinson3.mil@army.mil

### ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

#### Construction and Fac Mx Office

LTC Adam Iwaszuk  
Adam.m.iwaszuk.mil@army.mil

### 194<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Flight

Commander, Lt Col John McKinley  
john.mckinley@us.af.mil

### 248<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Flight

Commander, Col Craig Fery  
craig.fery@us.af.mil

### US AIR FORCE

#### 627<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron

Commander, Lt Col Derek Gregory  
derek.gregory@us.af.mil,  
derek.a.gregory2.mil@army.mil

### AIR FORCE RESERVES

#### 446<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron

Commander, LTC Kimberly Hubbard,  
Kimberly.hubbard.1@us.af.mil

### AIR NATIONAL GUARD

#### 248<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Flight

Commander, Col David Walter  
SAME Liaison, LTC John McKinley, John.  
mckinley@ang.af.mil