



SOCIETY OF AMERICAN MILITARY ENGINEERS



PORTLAND POSTSCRIPTS | Feb 2024

President's Corner

Portland Post Members,

For 2024, the Portland SAME luncheon we'll have a new home once again. Starting with our lunch meeting on February 7th, we'll meet at the Embassy Suites by Hilton in Downtown Portland, 319 Pine Street. This historic building was Portland Post's home in years past. Our return will bring us closer to our membership base. Please sign up through Eventbrite by January 31st and join us as we hear from the Commander of US Coast Guard Base Astoria and their efforts standing up the Coast Guard's newest installation. Attendees will receive one PDH credit.



Due to its proximity to the holidays, we will not hold a regular lunch meeting in January. Instead, we have an even more exciting event: Ax Throwing! Young Professionals are encouraged and all post members and guests are welcome to join this social/networking event on January 18th, 5pm, at the Timber & Blade in NW Portland. Registration is required through Eventbrite.

I'd like to thank Chris Bahner, P.E. from West Consultants for his informative presentation on hydrologic studies performed in the Willamette River Basin. This state-of-the-art analysis is helping to reduce risks and better manage USACE's 13 dams withing the basin. The presentation was a big hit, with 45 members in attendance - our largest lunch turnout of the year.

Help us build momentum to grow interest in engineering. Invite a friend to join you at future SAME meetings. Another way to help grow engineers is through Engineer Week. The Portland Post will once again support USACE Portland District and Portland School District's celebration of Engineer Week on February 20th & 21st. If your firm is interested in sponsoring a booth during the event, please contact Past-Post President and Engineer Week Committee Chair Heidi Nelson, P.E.

Our Post goals are to Strengthen Industry-Government Engagement, develop Leaders for the Profession, and enrich the STEM Pipeline for the Nation. We hope you can join us for upcoming events in 2024! Speaking of new year, you can download your free USACE Pet Calendar at www.petcalendar.us

Sincerely,

Pete Helmlinger, PE
Brig. Gen., USA (Ret)
President, SAME Portland Post

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Next Post Event – Feb 7, 2024

Presentation: U.S. Coast Guard’s new base “Base Astoria”

Date: Feb 7, 2024

Time: 11:30 – 1:00 pm

LOCATION: **VENUE CHANGE:**
Embassy Suites, Gevurtz Room on 2nd Floor
319 SW Pine Street, Portland, OR 97204
5-minute walk from MAX Oak Street or 6th & Pine Station
Parking, on-street metered parking or \$7 Valet parking

In-Person Cost: See EventBrite Link for specific cost information

SAME Portland Post Members \$40.00 (+\$4.52 processing fee)

SAME Members \$45.00 (+\$4.87 processing fee)

All Other Registration Type: \$50.00 (+\$5.20 processing fee)

Donation for Portland Post Scholarship Fund: free

Retired/Govt (ID Required) \$35.00 (+\$4.19 processing fee)

RSVP By: **Wednesday - Jan 31, 2024 (12:00 pm) (PREPAYMENT REQUIRED) at**

Event: [2024 NEW LOCATION - SAME Portland Post Monthly Lunch Meeting: FEB 2024 Tickets, Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 11:30 AM](#)
[|Eventbrite](#)

U.S. Coast Gurad’s new base “Base Astoria”

Abstract: Come learn how the Coast Guard’s reorganization of mission support to the Oregon Coast provided opportunities and avenues to strengthen shoreside engineering command, control, and execution across 336 miles of coastline from Westport WA to Brookings, OR.

In 2022, the US Coast Guard established its newest Base in Astoria, OR. Base Astoria’s Commanding Officer and Executive Officer will discuss the leadership lessons learned and challenges encountered while restructuring mission support along Oregon’s coastline. Historically, mission support activities, to include facility shoreside maintenance, repair, and construction were led at the installation level by an operational commander, for Astoria, this was a career aviator. With the re-organization, the Coast Guard established a Base Commander whose sole focus is mission support and is charged with overseeing and leading the region’s facility engineering, naval engineering, personnel admin, supply, contracting, medical, electronics, and information technology departments. A facet of this change is of particular interest to SAME members, CDR Wimmer and LCDR Becker’s numerous and significant changes to the area’s shoreside maintenance programs as a pair of career Civil Engineers. Specific challenges and leadership milestones overcome by the pair regarding facilities engineering included the following. Developing a method to provide outlying operational units with adequate shoreside facility guidance. Cultivating and generating dec-plate-level by-in for data collection on recurring maintenance completion. Improving communications between deck-plate-level maintainers and outlying units and regional engineering design and construction units. Reinvigorating relationships with area stakeholders to further real property, permitting, and land use initiatives at the installation commander level.

Speakers:

Commander Todd M. Wimmer, USCG Commanding Officer USCG Base Astoria, OR

Commander Todd Wimmer currently serves as the Commanding Officer of Base Astoria responsible for mission support and operational logistics across the 13th District's Southern Washington & Oregon Region. He recently served as Chief of Facilities at Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma from 2019-2022. Prior to Petaluma, he served as Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit Honolulu from 2016-2019, and as Division Chief for the Shore Infrastructure Logistics Center's Mission Readiness Product Line in Oakland, California from 2012-2016.

Other assignments include Civil and Construction Project Engineer with Civil Engineering Unit Juneau, Alaska; Facilities Planner and Construction Engineer with Facility Design & Construction Center Atlantic (Norfolk, Virginia) supporting Coast Guard Units across the Eastern United States, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean; and shipboard engineer aboard Coast Guard Cutter ALERT homeported in Astoria, Oregon.

Originally from Cañon City, Colorado; Commander Wimmer graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He also holds a Masters of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Colorado, Boulder. He is a licensed Professional Civil Engineer registered with the State of Alaska, and a Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional under the U.S. Green Building Council. Additionally, he is a Department of Homeland Security Level III Acquisition Program Manager and a Society of American Military Engineers Fellow.

Commander Wimmer is married to Ms. Denise Adamic, also of Cañon City, Colorado. They have a newborn daughter Maia, and can be found most weekends out surfing, hiking or outdoors enjoying the beautiful Northwest together.

Lieutenant Commander Steven A. Becker, USCG Executive Officer, USCG Base Astoria, OR

LCDR Steven Becker is the Executive Officer for the Coast Guard's newest Base in Astoria, Oregon where he oversees the Coast Guard's execution of mission support roles in the Columbia River area. Commissioning from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 2011, he began his career as a Weapons Officer onboard the 110' coastal patrol boat, USCGC ROANOKE ISLAND, in Homer, Alaska where he conducted over 100 law enforcement boardings at sea. Next, he served onboard the 225' seagoing buoy tender, USCGC ELM, in Atlantic Beach, North Carolina as the Operations Officer where he serviced floating aids to navigation from North Carolina to New York. After 4 years of sea duty, the Coast Guard selected LCDR Becker for the Civil Engineering Advanced Education Program obtaining a Master's of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

After graduate school, he served as a Regional Facility Manager and Construction Manager for Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit Miami, Florida. There, he responded to hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria providing on scene engineering support and damage assessment to countless affected Coast Guard facilities. In 2020, LCDR Becker assumed the duties of Facility Engineer for Coast Guard Base Miami Beach, Florida where he was responsible for overseeing the engineering plant and facility operations across the 11-acre Causeway Island



as well as 300 additional acres covering three satellite locations. In his spare time, LCDR Becker achieved his Juris Doctor through the Florida International University College of Law and passed the Florida Bar becoming a licensed Florida attorney in 2020. LCDR Becker is a Texas licensed professional engineer and native of Austin, TX.

Portland SAME Post Opportunities

Are you passionate about building leaders for the profession and leading collaboration? The Portland Post of SAME needs your active involvement as an officer or Director in the Post!

Nominations are now open for Board Officers and Director Positions of the Portland Post of SAME

We are now accepting nominations for the following positions:

Post Officers are voting members and serve on the Board of Direction for 1 year starting June 1st 2024 through May 31st 2025

President

2nd Vice President

Mentoring

Secretary

1st Vice President

Director for Youth and

Director for Education

Treasurer

Directors serve on the Board of Direction for 2 years starting June 1st 2024 through May 31st 2026.

There are four (4) positions open for the 2024-2026 term.

Director (4 positions)

In addition, the Post has a number of appointed positions and committee positions.

Community, Social, And Special Activities

House

Webmaster

Publicity

OSU Student Post Mentor

Readiness

Newsletter Editor

Small Business Liaison

Nominations (including self-nominations) are due on or before **6 Mar 2024**

Please email any questions or your nominations to Andrew Young, Nominations Committee Chair, at ayoung.SAME@gmail.com

Portland SAME 2024 Program Preview

- **Women in STEM**
- **Industry Panel**

SAME Portland Post Young Professionals Winter Networking

Are you ready to sharpen your professional connections? This is your chance to network in a unique, casual environment, so don't let it pass you by. Get together with the SAME Portland Post for *some networking and axe throwing*. Join us for a thrilling evening of axe throwing at Blade & Timber Axe Throwing - Portland! Get ready to unleash your inner lumberjack and show off your skills in a friendly competition. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to socialize, have fun, and try something new! Waivers will need to be filled out upon arrival.

When: January 18th at 5pm sharp

Where: Blade & Timber Axe Throwing

1150 NW 17th Ave, Portland, OR 97209

Details: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/portland-post-young-professionals-axe-throwing-tickets-771879611697>

SAME will be Joining USACE – Portland District for 2024 Engineering Days

SAME and USACE will be hosting a STEM Outreach Program for Local High School Students during Engineering Week, coming up in February 2024. SAME representatives will be reaching out to our members to participate in a lunchtime career fair during the STEM event. The lunchtime career fair will give the student participants an opportunity to engage with STEM professionals, hear career advice from and ask questions of experienced professionals, and practice their networking skills.

Where: USACE downtown headquarters located at Block 300, 333 S.W. 1st Avenue, in Portland, Or

When: Two different groups of students in 2024 - February 20 and February 21

For a STEM-program and lunch and learn with our local A/E/C firms from 11:55am to 1:10pm each day. We are expecting about 100 students each day. The students will be exposed to a variety of engineering disciplines through hands-on workshops, panel discussions in the morning and afternoon Sessions. The program will allow students a unique opportunity to learn more about engineering professions, other aspects related to engineering and a variety of engineering career options.

EVENT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY: \$300 for entire event

SAME participants will be hosting booths and will have stamps to add to the Student's Passports following a 30-minute pizza lunchtime feast...the entire group of students will be visiting booths to acquire a stamp and will be eligible for the raffle prizes.

Questions about this event and/or sponsorship?

Please email 2024.same.engineering.day@gmail.com – or Call Heidi Nelson at (503) 481-6822 to register.

Registration Ends February 15, 2024. Please make check payable to S.A.M.E. Portland Post. Donation is tax-deductible.

Checks can be submitted at luncheon check-in or mailed to: Tony Roos, 1300 E. Hillsdale Dr., Newberg, Oregon 97132

UPCOMING SAME EVENTS – SAVE THE DATE

Capital Week: Mar 25-27, 2024, Rockville, MD. *Capital Week is open exclusively to SAME members, this opportunity will put you ahead of the curve in planning your company's acquisition strategy. Hear about the government's upcoming engineering, design, construction, and environmental programs during the FY2023 DOD & Federal Agency Programs Briefings. Network with senior leaders and meet directly from contracting representatives, flag and general officers, and other decision-makers from the engineering components of the military services and several federal agencies.*

Joint Engineer Training Conference & Expo, May 14 – 16, 2024, Gaylord Palms, Kissimmee, FL. *JETC offers a unique mix of education, training, leader development, networking, innovation, collaboration, and more, drawing over 2,200 professionals from across the military engineering community, private industry, federal agencies, and academia. This premier annual event provides a venue for professionals in engineering and related fields to learn and collaborate in a joint environment that only SAME offers.*

Post Leadership Workshop, Aug 4-6, 2024, Scottsdale, AZ. *SAME will host this multi-day training and networking workshop for volunteer Post and National leaders across the Society. Attendees from SAME posts nationwide will meet to hear from multiple speakers on how to deliver value to members through Industry-Government Engagement and other programming. Insights into membership recruitment and retention and Post best practices will also be shared. Expect a relaxed atmosphere with ample networking and group activities.*

2024 Federal Small Business Conference for the A/E/C Industry, Nov 20-23, 2024, New Orleans, LA. *For three days, attendees took in more than 40 education sessions and participated in; Business Opportunity Sessions Presented by Government Agencies, One-on-One Matched Networking Appointments Between Small Businesses and Both Government Agencies and Large Businesses, General Sessions Featuring Government Outlooks from Government Agencies, Leading Education and Training Insights.*

<p>PRESIDENT <i>BG (Ret.) Pete Helmlinger, PE, MS</i> 1ST VICE PRESIDENT <i>COL Jeffrey Hall</i> 2ND VICE PRESIDENT <i>Justin Stranzl</i> PAST PRESIDENT <i>BG (Ret.) Pete Helmlinger, PE, MS</i> DIRECTOR FOR EDUCATION <i>Dan Lautzenheiser, PE</i> SECRETARY <i>Sarah Johnson, PE</i> TREASURER <i>Tony Roos, PE</i> OSU Student Post Mentors <i>(Vacant)</i></p>	<p>HOUSE <i>Karl Sonnenberg, RA</i> DIRECTOR FOR YOUTH AND MENTORING <i>LCDR Steven Becker</i> COMMUNITY/SOCIAL/SPECIAL ACTIVITIES <i>Kori Zummach, MA</i> NEWSLETTER EDITOR <i>Robert Moriarty, CEM</i> PUBLICITY <i>Kori Zummach, MA</i> SMALL BUSINESS LIAISON <i>Dana Holschuh, M.A., RPA</i> WEBMASTER <i>Todd Martinez, PE</i></p>	<p>2022-2024 DIRECTORS <i>LTC (Ret) Rick Goodell, PE, FSAME</i> <i>Dana L. Holschuh, MA, RPA</i> <i>Kori Zummach</i> <i>Amber Weber, MBA</i> 2023-2025 DIRECTORS <i>Kathryn Thomas</i> <i>Tony Roos, PE</i> <i>Terry Hosaka, PMP</i> <i>Robert Moriarty, CEM</i> <i>Andrew Young, PE, PMP, F.SAME</i> HONORARY DIRECTORS & FELLOWS <i>Patrick Keough, PE, FSAME</i></p>
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SUSTAINING MEMBER FIRMS		
<p><i>Adiona Corp</i> <i>AECOM</i> <i>Akana</i> <i>Anchor QEA</i> <i>Altman Browning and Company</i> <i>Cascade Coil Drapery, Inc.</i> <i>Cornforth Consultants, Inc.</i> <i>Central Geotechnical Services, LLC</i> <i>EA Engineering, Science & Technology</i> <i>Eaton Corporation</i> <i>Froelich Engineers, Inc</i> <i>GeoEngineers, Inc.</i></p>	<p><i>GHD Inc.</i> <i>GRI-Geotechnical Resources</i> <i>Haley & Aldrich</i> <i>HDR Engineering</i> <i>Intertek PSI</i> <i>Jacobs</i> <i>Kiewit</i> <i>KPF Consulting Engineers</i> <i>Kleinschmidt Group</i> <i>Lindahl Reed, Inc</i> <i>Mason, Bruce & Girard, Inc.</i> <i>Mott MacDonald</i></p>	<p><i>Northwest Watersheds LLC</i> <i>North Wind Group</i> <i>NV5Parr Excellence</i> <i>Siemens Industries, Inc.</i> <i>Shannon & Wilson Inc.</i> <i>Stantec, Inc.</i> <i>SWCA Environmental</i> <i>Tetra Tech Inc.</i> <i>Portland District – USACE</i> <i>Wood</i> <i>WSP</i> <i>Western Shelter</i></p>