

March 2024



Society of American Military Engineers

Newsletter

Private Public Partnership

MARCH 12, 2024 3:00 - 5:00 PM



Presenter: Joseph R. Carrasquillo III (Joe)
Transition Readiness Liaison (Contractor)
Private Public Partnership Office (P3O)
Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), WA 98433

Location: Eagles Pride Golf Course
1529 Mounts Rd SW, DuPont, WA 98327

Joe Carrasquillo is a Transition Readiness Liaison who assists soldiers at Joint Base Lewis-McChord with their transition from active-duty service. The main focus of the [Private Public Partnership Office \(P3O\)](#) is to get soldiers coming off of active duty to join the Army Reserves by educating them about the many benefits that Army Reserves has to offer them as they make this difficult transition from active duty.

A large part of transition assistance also includes job placement in the public and private sector, Skill Bridge internship opportunities, and insurance. Joe will speak on how the P3O helps soldiers nationwide wide to find gainful employment and how you can become a partner.

SAME VISION

"To promote and facilitate engineering support for national security by developing and enhancing relationships and competencies among uniformed services, public and private sector engineers, and related professionals."

RSVP by Monday, March 11th to: Dave Newkirk (daven@rahaec.com)



To receive monthly updates on our post and events.



Visit Us Online

Small Business Symposium

April 15, 2024 - April 16, 2024

Kitsap Conference Center



Join us for the 2024 Small Business Symposium. Small and large businesses from across the PNW, along with our government partners will be in one place for two packed days of matchmaking, educational sessions, and networking.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

The event starts on April 15th with Matchmaking from 1pm-5pm and the Ice Breaker from 5pm-7pm. Build new relationships with your fellow attendees and reconnect with friends in a relaxed environment.

Day 2 starts at 7:30am on April 16th and will last until 4pm. The SBS can positively impact you and your business for generations to come. Gain knowledge and build lasting relationships. You will not want to miss it! Register right away and secure your sponsorships today – tickets will sell out quickly! Registration comes with 2 day event access and Ice Breaker tickets.

Interested in being a Matchmaking Prime? [REGISTER for your table now!!](#)

Matchmaking is an opportunity for small businesses to meet with government agencies and prime contractors in a personal, one-on-one meeting. At this meeting, the small business can share with the prime contractor/agency details about their products and/or expertise and the prime/agency can meet new qualified contractors/subcontractors/suppliers/teaming partners.

Interested in Sponsoring this Event? [See Sponsorship Opportunity Details.](#)

- Platinum Sponsorship – \$2,500
- Gold Sponsorship – \$1,400
- Large Business Booth Sponsorship – \$1,050
- Small Business Booth Sponsorship – \$600
- Icebreaker Sponsorship – \$1,250
- Breakfast/Coffee Sponsorship – \$1,250
- Scholarship Sponsorship – \$100

DONATE A RAFFLE PRIZE - Point of Contact (POCs) for questions, clarifications or coordination:
Zachary Pesicka – email: zachary.pesicka@wsp.com, phone: +1.253.951.3522



SAME Mount Tacoma Post Scholarships

[Apply Now!](#)

The SAME Mt. Tacoma Post Scholarships stand as a testament to our commitment to fostering excellence in the fields of Engineering, Architecture, Construction, Interiors, Math, and Science. Valued at \$1,500 each, these scholarships serve as a meaningful investment in the academic pursuits of deserving individuals.

Annually, we proudly award four scholarships to students who exhibit outstanding dedication and promise in these disciplines. As a crucial part of our mission to support education, the application deadline for these scholarships is set for May 15th each year. This timeline ensures that we have the opportunity to carefully evaluate and select recipients who embody the qualities and aspirations that align with the values of the SAME Mt. Tacoma Post.

Application Deadline is May 15, 2024.

EVENTS

March 12, 2024	ASCE/SAME Meeting, Chehalis River Flood Basin Program (Open Bar Social Following) 3:00 PM - Eagles Pride Golf Course, Dupont, WA
March 14, 2024	Alliance NW Tacoma Convention Center, Tacoma, WA
April 9, 2024	Cybersecurity Presentation, University of Washington, Tacoma 12:00 PM - 1900 Commerce Street Building/Room MLG 110, Tacoma, WA
April 15,16, 2024	Small Business Symposium Kitsap Conference Center, Bremerton, WA
June 11, 2024	Meet the Chiefs TBD, Seattle, WA
July TBD, 2024	SAME Joint Summer Social (Tacoma & Seattle) TBD
August TBD, 2024	SAME Joint Golf Tournament (Tacoma & Seattle) TBD

MOUNT TACOMA POST

Origins of the SAME Mount Tacoma Post

SAME Mt. Tacoma (Tahoma) was founded November 6, 1950, Tahoma is the native/indigenous name for Mt. Rainier

The Tacoma Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) was established in 1950, joining the growing number of SAME posts after the national Society's creation in 1919. The original name of the post was the Tacoma-Fort Lewis-Olympia Post of the Society of American Military Engineers. SAME was formed with the goal of bringing together civilian and military engineers to collaborate and share knowledge for the benefit of national defense. The Tacoma Post has a rich history dating back over 70 years, with its members making valuable contributions to military engineering projects and innovations in the Pacific Northwest and beyond. From constructing essential infrastructure at military installations across Washington state to advising policymakers on engineering and national security matters, the Tacoma Post has played a key role in SAME's mission of connecting military and civilian engineers to advance engineering support for national security. Over the past seven decades, the Tacoma Post has carried on this tradition of excellence in engineering support and remains an active forum for cooperation between military and civilian engineers in the Tacoma region and surrounding areas.

Original Objective from 1950:

In the interest of national defense; to advance knowledge of the science of military engineering; to promote efficiency in the military engineer service of the United States; to maintain its best standards and traditions, to preserve the memory services rendered by the engineering profession throughout the wars in which the United States has been engaged; to encourage and foster and develop between military engineers and other arms of the military service a spirit of cooperation and mutual understanding of their respective duties, powers and limitations; to encourage, foster and develop relations of helpful interest between the engineering profession in civil life and that in the military service; to hold meetings for the presentation and discussion of appropriate papers for social and professional intercourse.



SAME Mount Tacoma Post Monthly Meeting Highlights



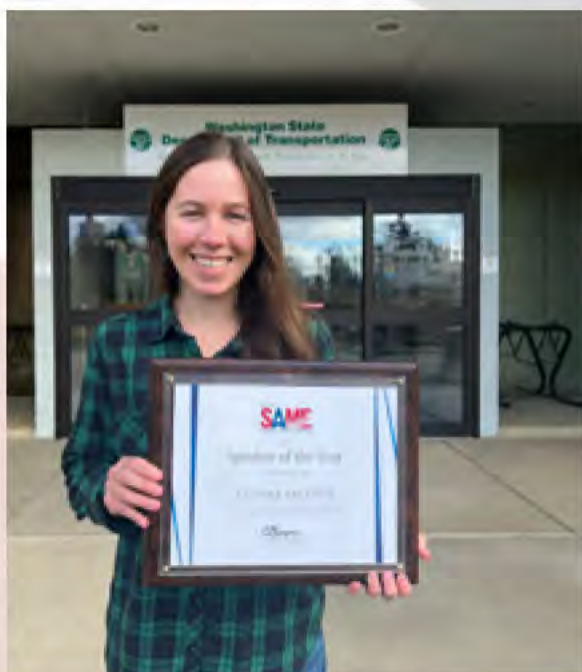
February 2024



In February, the Mount Tacoma Post embarked on a new term, symbolizing a fresh chapter of dedication and accomplishment. During our latest gathering, we inaugurated our newly appointed officers, a pivotal moment that marked the commencement of their leadership journey.

Acknowledging outstanding contributions, Bill Fierst was honored with the prestigious President's Award in recognition of his pivotal role in establishing a new Student Chapter at UW-Tacoma. Additionally, Kyler Higgins, EIT, and Katrina Keleher of WSDOT were lauded with the Speaker of the Year Award for their insightful presentation on the WSDOT Fish Passage Program.

The meeting also served as a farewell to the 2023 President, Christian Thompson, expressing gratitude for his dedicated service. Simultaneously, the Post extended a warm welcome to the incoming President, Julio Iguina, PE, heralding a promising era of continued success and camaraderie.





Member Spotlight



Julio Iguina
Project Executive



How long have you been a member of SAME?
Since 2019.

Why did you join SAME? To further expand my professional network within the local OAC community, supporting my role as Federal Market lead in the PNW for the Walsh Group.

What committee do you currently volunteer with?
Tacoma Post Board.

What do you enjoy most about volunteering?
The rewarding experiences shared with other volunteers while participating in events, committees, fundraisers, etc. You get to be part of a team that is committed to supporting critical and worthwhile missions, while also developing future partnerships and friendships with quality individuals.

What is your current occupation? Project Executive at Walsh's Seattle Regional Office. I get to lead and support teams during and through all phases of a project(s), from preconstruction (RFP / Proposal), design development, construction execution, and commissioning / closeout.

What do you love most about the AEC Industry?
The challenges it presents and the opportunities it provides for us to overcome them. We are a "people oriented" industry. 90% of our challenges stem from communication, whether lack of clarity, lack of technical / practical knowledge, or simply lack of communication period. We've been told "us engineers" are not good communicators...

Truth is, we are not that bad either. In my experience, I've found once you take the first step and reach out to others with a clear message and a good attitude, those supposed barriers fall down instantly, allowing our teams to focus and go after the same goal. That's when the real fun begins!

How do you define success? Webster's dictionary defines success as... :) In the simplest term, you set a goal and give it everything you have to meet or exceed. I try to measure the progress of the work that needs to be done, personally and professionally. I try to take everything day by day. Look for small plans of what can be accomplished each day. Did you win today? How many days in a row have you had a W? Pretty quickly you can get on a winning streak that reflects purpose and provides a sense of fulfillment. This helps develop and maintain a mindset of success to prepare you for the real challenges in life. They're unavoidable. Many of them are not fun at all. But they all provide an opportunity for growth.

Who inspires you? My family. Their well being and success. They give me purpose. They humble me every day.

What's something about you (a fun fact) that not many people know? I was born and raised in Puerto Rico (fully bilingual).

What's the last book you read? The Wager by David Grann

What's the first concert you ever attended? Night Ranger, 1986, San Juan Puerto Rico

What's New? I won the 2024 SAME Tacoma Post President race in a landslide! (*ran unopposed*)



STEM/ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CAMPS



Start Your STEM Journey in Summer 2024!

Looking to engage in hands-on learning and fun?

SAME offers week-long summer STEM/Engineering & Construction Camps for high school students!

Led by industry professionals and other volunteers from the military and engineering community, the SAME Camps Program focuses on hands-on, project-based learning that provides students with opportunities to begin exploring STEM fields, including science, engineering and construction as well as technology and the environment; work together in teams; and chart a course for future education, leadership, and workforce opportunities.

The camps each feature many dynamic activities, including building concrete beams and dog kennels, operating drones and remote-controlled underwater vehicles, using survey equipment, constructing and racing cardboard boats, and more!

CAMP HIGHLIGHTS:

- Camps last one week and range from \$100 - \$800.
- Early Bird registration discounts.
- Scholarships for campers are available.
- Camps are offered at six locations/bases.
- Lodging and all meals provided.
- Camps held in June and July; all are overnight camps.
(Must be at least 15 years of age to apply: rising sophomore, junior, or senior.)

Campers are selected by SAME Posts from around the country, which often provide offsetting financial support toward camp tuition. Each year, more than 75 percent of campers receive over half their costs paid.

Application Deadline: March, 15, 2024

TEAMWORK



LEADERSHIP



PROJECT MANAGEMENT



PROBLEM-SOLVING



2024 SAME CAMPS SCHEDULE



SAME/U.S. ARMY CAMP
Vicksburg, Miss.
JUNE 9-15



SAME/U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY CAMP
Colorado Springs, Colo.
JUNE 23-29



SAME/U.S. MARINE CORPS CAMP
Camp Lejeune, N.C.
JUNE 23-29



SAME/U.S. NAVY CAMP
Port Hueneme, Calif.
JULY 14-20
**Exact dates still being finalized.*



SAME/U.S. NAVY CAMP
Naval Air Station
Jacksonville, Fla.
JUNE 23-29



LEARN MORE / APPLY



#SAMECAMPS - www.same.org/camps



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



Name

Mailing Address

Email 1

Email 2

Work Phone

Cell Phone

Base or Installation

Service Branch and Rank

DOB (mm/yy)

Highest Degree High School Technical/Associates Bachelors Masters Doctorate

Questions about membership?

Contact our Member Services Team member@same.org or 703.549.3800 ext. 131

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

Dedicated to National Security Since 1920

Mt. Tacoma Post



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Small Business Liaison

Assistant Treasurer

Leadership Development

STEM

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I Corps Liaison

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555 SAME Liaison

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CDR 14th BEB

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CDR 23rd BEB

LTC Chris Johnson
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CDR 5th BEB, 5th SFAB

LTC Charlie Comfort
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CDR 3-364th BEB, First Army

OPEN

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248th Civil Engineer Flight

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