Why SAME?  By LT C. B. Allen, CEC, USN

I was recently asked the pointed question: “Why should we invest time in SAME? Our workload and op-tempo keep us too busy.” My personal feelings on the question aside, this topic seems to be on a lot of minds and represents the first - and greatest - hurdle to increased participation within the SAME post. The Society of American Military Engineers Mission Statement reads: “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, and by developing future engineers through outreach and mentoring.” Basically, to keep our nation strong by building relationships within the engineering community and developing the next generation of engineers. Relationships are critical. No single one of us can be a subject matter expert in every engineering discipline. Day after day, our jobs come down to knowing who to go to more than knowing what the answer to a question is. And as engineers we tend to focus our efforts on our technical skills - sacrificing the relationship building, the communicating, the ‘people skills’ that are the key to transforming an engineer into a leader. SAME reminds us, even forces us, to build and develop relationships, thereby improving our job effectiveness. As far as developing the next generation of engineers part, time spent volunteering may be considered ‘mission fail’ if you are in an organization that can’t look further into the future than the next week’s data calls. But for an organization that realizes its current workforce will not be around for an eternity, a small investment in mentoring and outreach will pay huge dividends in ensuring the long-term viability of the organization.

SAME is what you make of it - the more you invest in it, the more both you and your organization will benefit from it.

MOSE Project - Venezia Lagoon

The Dolomiti Post will be hosting a trip to the Venezia Lagoon to tour the MOSE Project. The enormous $7B undertaking comprising 78 floodgates is the largest public works project in Italian history. The goal is not only saving the city of Venezia from tides and rising sea levels, but also preserving the Venezia lagoon - the largest wetland ecosystem in the Mediterranean.

RSVP with MSgt Sartain at courtenay.sartain@us.af.smil.mil

Recent Events

Aviano Elementary School STEMposium
24 April 2014

1st Annual Dolomiti Post Golf Tournament
02 MAY 2014

NOT A MEMBER?
ALREADY A MEMBER BUT NEW TO ITALY?
To join or update your Post affiliation, visit:
http://www.same.org/index.php/membership

Email christopher.b.allen1.mil@mail.mil for help with the process

2014 Post Officers

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2d Vice President - LT Allen
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Upcoming Events

MOSE Project Venezia Lagoon - 19 JUN 2014 @ 1200 Restaurant Belvedere in Punta Sabbioni
Post Quarterly Meeting - 07AUG 2014 @ 1100 / Location TBD
Beretta Factory Tour - TBD

This newsletter was approved by the Post President, Lt Col Kevin R. Mantovani. This newsletter is published on a quarterly basis. Please feel free to contact LT Allen via E-mail: christopher.b.allen1.mil@mail.mil / DSN 314-632-5500.