In this edition…

✦ May 23-25, 2017
Joint Engineer Training Conference & Expo (JETC) 2017
State Representative Dennis Paul, PE gives the keynote speech at the banquet to honor Public Agencies across the region.

✦ May 31, 2017
2nd Annual Sporting Clay Tournament
The Houston-Galveston Post hosts social event to show appreciation to our nation’s veterans.

✦ June 7, 2017
Public Agency Banquet
State Representative Dennis Paul, PE gives the Keynote speech at the banquet to honor Public Agencies across the region.
Our Post held the 2017 Public Agency Banquet on June 7th at the Omni Ballroom of the Hilton Westchase Hotel. Our keynote speaker was State Representative Dennis Paul, PE (District 129) who gave an excellent overview of the latest legislative session going on in Austin. Rep. Paul serves as Vice Chair of the Texas Ports, Innovation and Infrastructure Select Committee. He is also a member of the House Rules and Resolutions Committee and the Insurance and Pensions Committees. Rep. Paul has worked on issues like supporting the Ellington Field Space Port, the Coastal barrier system, U.S. Africa Command moving to Ellington Field, property and business tax cuts and pension reform. Additionally, he is a structural engineer who owns his own small business! As far as awards given at the banquet, the Public Agency of the Year Award was given to Coastal Water Authority. Greg Olinger accepted the award. The Post awarded the Sustaining Member Firm of the Year (large category) to Terracon. Tom Martens accepted the award. The Post also awarded the Sustaining Member Firm of the Year (small category) to Sengineering. Liz Parent accepted the award. We concluded the evening with announcing the winners of the Silent Auction items. Thank you to all who helped organize, plan and execute the details of the banquet to make it a huge success!
Wednesday May 31st marked the launch of the 2nd Annual SAME Houston/Galveston Post Sporting Clay Tournament. Similar to the inaugural event, the focus was social interaction while showing our support to the veterans that serve our country at home and overseas. By partnering with Lone Star Veterans Association, a local non-profit that serves veterans and their families by providing social and career services, we reached out to local veterans that have recently left military service and offered them positions as shooters on each of the member teams. A total of 12 member teams were sponsored for the event, resulting in the participation of 36 SAME Houston/Galveston Post Members and 12 veteran shooters. Lining up in the early afternoon, the tournament began with a Sporting Clay course that provided a challenge for both new and experienced shooters alike. The tournament ended with a dinner and awards presentation, along with a raffle that was managed by the post’s Young Member Initiative. Participating veterans were awarded with the post’s President’s Coin as a symbol of our appreciation for their service and sacrifice for our country. Although the event was not designed as a scholarship fundraiser, we managed to raise approximately $1,500 for the post’s scholarship fund. All in all, the 2nd Annual Sporting Clay Tournament was a literal and figurative blast.
The Joint Engineer Training Conference & Expo (JETC) 2017 was held in Columbus, Ohio this past May. Attending from Houston Galveston Post were Ed Mears, Buddy Barnes, PE, FSAME, and James Kisiel, PE. The premier SAME national event was attended by over 1,700 folks including service members from all military branches and all five Engineer Chiefs. The chiefs shared perspectives of capacity and outlook for infrastructure needs. The Chiefs spoke of likelihood of new BRAC by 2021. Specifically, the USAF has upwards of 30% excess capacity throughout its bases, limiting its funds to maintenance and operations versus needed upgrades and modernization. The Chiefs are seeking ways to be part of President Trump administration’s proposed public-private partnerships to leverage private investment to minimize their operational costs while improving mission performance.

Guest speakers during the conference were very inspirational. Air Force Colonel Eileen Collins, Space Shuttle pilot and commander, spoke about NASA’s post-Columbia disaster and cultural changes to become a better organization. Iraq war army veteran and wounded warrior Noah Galloway shared his very personal experiences from joining military, losing limbs in combat and learning how to overcome depression.

Our own LTC Barnes was again inducted to the national board of direction for SAME, an important role for both our Post and SAME as the Houston-Galveston Post continues to trail-blaze an innovative role serving municipal members.

Thank you for the sponsorship to attend this wonderful program and represent our Post. The photo above is the Texoma Region folks in attendance.
## UPCOMING EVENTS

### July 2017

**July 12th**  
Joint General Membership Meeting with APWA  
For July’s General Membership meeting, the Houston-Galveston Post will hold a joint meeting with APWA to recognize students through Scholarships.

### August 2017

**August 2nd**  
General Membership Meeting  
Speaker Mark Vincent from Port Houston will present and Construction Camp Attendees will give presentations.

### September 2017

**September 6th**  
General Membership Meeting  
The September General Membership meeting will be hosted by the Houston/Galveston Post Young Members and will feature an Ethics Presentation.

### November 2017

**November 15th – 17th**  
Federal Small Business Conference  
Held in Pittsburgh, PA, the annual conference features small business education sessions, briefings from federal agencies on small business procurement, networking round tables, and more! For more information about the conference and sponsorship, visit: [www.same.org/SBC](http://www.same.org/SBC)

### National Events

For More information on upcoming National events such as elections, scholarship applications, and STEM camps, please visit the SAME National’s calendar: [http://www.same.org/calendar](http://www.same.org/calendar)