Afghan Air Force Construction Program:  Update from Kabul

Jarrett Purdue, Retired Air Force Civil Engineer Officer

Speaker Bio:

Jarrett Purdue is a recently-retired Air Force civil engineer officer and career member of SAME. He served 24 years on active duty in a variety of engineering leadership positions at the installation and headquarters levels, and on multiple deployments to Southwest Asia including a tour with the US Army Corps of Engineers executing the Oil and Water Resources national reconstruction program in Iraq in 2008. He is currently the Regional Manager for Operations Services with the Minnesota DNR in St. Paul.

Presentation Synopsis:

The presentation will cover Jarrett’s 2016 deployment to Kabul, Afghanistan, where he led the air base construction and engineer training program for the Afghan Air Force. As the Director of Engineering for the coalition’s joint and multi-national Train, Advise, Assist Command-Air, Jarrett led a small team of engineers responsible for sustainment of Afghan air bases around the country, supporting the training and equipping of the Afghan Air Force’s fire departments, and enabling the beddown of major new weapons systems through construction of new facilities. At the same time, he served as the mentor for the Afghan Air Force’s Chief of Installations. The presentation includes a brief overview of Coalition activities in Afghanistan and discussion of several major construction projects supporting these key programs.

Meeting Location:

LOCATION:  Grumpy’s Bar & Grill, 2801 Snelling Ave, Roseville, MN 55113
Free parking is available adjacent to the restaurant.

Agenda:

Social time and lunch (if you so desire) will be available from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM with presentation from 12:30 PM to 1:15 PM.

A lunch at a cost of $20 will be available. Lunch will consist of a grilled chicken sandwich buffet and will include chips, a Caesar salad, and beverage. Please RSVP no later than Monday, October 23rd with your intent to either partake in the lunch or to come for the presentation only.

Please click the RSVP button in the left-hand column of page 1 or use the following Eventbrite link to RSVP:
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/october-professional-development-meeting-tickets-38517997367
Highlights of the Previous Meeting

Uniquely located in Minneapolis, on Hennepin Island in the Mississippi River, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory opened its doors in 1938. Over the years the lab has grown and evolved. The laboratory has been the headquarters and administrative home of the National Center for Earth-surface Dynamics (NCED), a National Science Foundation-sponsored research center. SAFL is also home to the Eolos Wind Energy Research Consortium, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy. In 2010, a major renovation was funded by the National Science Foundation's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Jeff Marr, Associate Director of Engineering and Facilities, discussed the history of the lab and types of research projects conducted. After the presentation, a tour through this renovated historic facility was given by Jeff Marr and Barbara Heitkamp, Communications Specialist. The tour highlighted a range of experimental facilities available for use by researcher and SAFL collaborators as well as showcased several current research projects.

Energy research has focused on turbine and blade design for wind farms; hydropower and marine hydrokinetic power; algal biofuels; and hydrocarbons in underwater basin and delta reservoir structure. Interdisciplinary fluid mechanics research includes river and stream restoration; sediment transport; dam removal; hydraulic structure design; geomorphology; nutrient and microbiology water quality issues; and relationships between water, sediment, and ecology (including freshwater mussels and algae) with research taking place in indoor and outdoor flumes as well as the outdoor stream lab in the Mississippi River. Physical modeling provides the opportunity to improve computational modeling and provides validation.

Federal Small Business Conference

The Federal Small Business Conference for Architecture, Engineering, and Construction Industry will be held in Pittsburgh, PA on November 15-17, 2017. The conference will include plenary sessions, briefings, education and training, networking roundtable sessions and an exhibit hall. See link for more information: http://www.samesbc.org/index.cfm

SAME-MSP Post’s 2017 Industry Day and 32nd Annual Golf Tournament Survey

Didn’t attend the Industry Day or Golf Tournament? Please take a few minutes to tell us why – this will help us improve the 2018 event and better serve you: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2VCQYVY