Next Meeting Presentation

Wednesday, February 27th, 2019

USACE St. Paul District—Past, Present, and Future

Col. Samuel L. Calkins, USACE—St. Paul District Commander

Speaker Biography:

Col. Samuel L. Calkins assumed command of the St. Paul District June 30, 2016, becoming the district’s 65th commander and district engineer. Prior to assuming this command, he served as the command engineer for Army Cyber Command and Second Army at Fort Meade, Maryland.

Col. Calkins, a native of Miami, Florida, earned his commission in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1993. His first assignment was with the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado, where he served as a sapper platoon leader and assistant operations officer. He then spent two years in Izmir, Turkey, serving as facilities engineer for NATO Land Forces – Southeast Europe. Following the Engineer Officer Advanced Course, he was assigned to the 172d Infantry Brigade at Fort Wainwright, Alaska, where he served as brigade engineer and commanded the 562d Engineer Company. In 2001, he went to graduate school at the London School of Economics in preparation for an assignment as an instructor at the United States Military Academy.

After teaching economics for three years at West Point, Col. Calkins served as regimental engineer and then executive officer for the Special Troops Squadron in the 2d Cavalry Regiment in Vilseck, Germany. While serving with the 2d Cavalry Regiment, he deployed to Baghdad and Baqubah, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He returned to the United States in 2009 and became a professor of military science at the California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California. Subsequently, he moved to Fort Riley, Kansas, where he assumed command of the 1st Special Troops Battalion in 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. While in command, he deployed with the brigade to Kirkuk, Iraq, in support of Operation New Dawn. Following command, he served on the Joint Staff in Washington, D.C., as an emergency action officer and executive assistant to the Director of Operations. He then attended the National War College and spent a year at Fort Meade with Army Cyber Command.

Col. Calkins is a graduate of the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the Army Command and General Staff College, the National War College and the Army Airborne School. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Bronze Order of the DeFleury Medal.

Presentation Synopsis:

Col. Samuel L. Calkins, USACE—St. Paul District Commander, will be presenting a brief overview of the district’s history, provide an update on current activities, and discuss future initiatives related to flood risk reduction, navigation, regulatory, recreation, emergency response, engineering and planning in St. Paul District and the Mississippi River Valley Division.

Meeting Location and Details:

**Grumpy’s Bar and Grill:** 2801 Snelling Ave, Roseville, MN

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM: Networking and optional lunch
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM: Technical presentation

Please RSVP by no later than **Wednesday, February 20th, 2019** with your intent to either partake in the optional $20 lunch or for the presentation only.

To RSVP please use the following Eventbrite link: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/february-professional-development-meeting-tickets-55527209378](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/february-professional-development-meeting-tickets-55527209378)
January Meeting Highlights

Jonathon Kusa, the Managing Principal of Interfluve, provided a presentation on restoration of cranberry bogs. Cranberries are grown primarily in Wisconsin, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oregon, and Washington. Extensive land modifications such as creation of berms and ditches are often required to create an environment that is suitable for growing and harvesting cranberries. As cranberry growing has become more efficient and profitable in Wisconsin, some older and less productive cranberry bogs in Massachusetts are being retired or abandoned. Interfluve has completed two bog restoration projects in Massachusetts (Eel River and Tidmarsh Farms).

There were numerous partners supporting these cranberry bog restoration projects. Partners included American Rivers, the USDA, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, the Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and the Town of Plymouth. The land for the Tidmarsh project is privately owned by professors at the University of Massachusetts and the restored bog is now a “Living Observatory” affiliated with the University.

Key considerations for restoring these bogs include minimizing earthwork expenses while performing enough earthwork to allow exposure of buried peat and seed stock, reestablishment of ‘natural’ channels through heavily modified areas, removal of unnecessary flow control structures, protection of vegetation from foraging animals during critical early plant growth phases, and careful construction phasing to minimize downstream pollution through suspended sediments. It is anticipated that the restoration efforts will support native fish, bird, and plant populations.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District Industry Day

Rock Island SAME Post and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Rock Island District are hosting their first Industry Day on February 28th in Davenport, Iowa from 8am to 4pm. The event will be a mix of educational opportunities, including networking with government personnel and other contractors, as well as learning how to increase business with the Rock Island District. There will also be an opportunity to connect with District technical experts and learn more about their programs, contracting, small business office and senior leadership.

In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to sign up at the SAME Installation dinner on February 27th or at registration on February 28th for small group roundtable sessions with the technical/program offices of their district. These 20 minute small group sessions are limited to representatives from five companies on a first-come first-served basis. Representatives will be able to have a direct conversation with the PM, lead engineer, or operations manager and share your company’s capabilities and ideas. More information on these sessions are at the event website, including descriptions of Government Roundtable hosts, and will be updated as more information is available.

Please contact Beth White at Elizabeth.M.White@usace.army.mil with questions or if interested on becoming an exhibitor or sponsor. Register at https://www.same.org/Get-Connected/Find-a-Post/Rock-Island

Small Business Corner

Mark your calendar for the 20th Annual SAD-BOC small business conference on April 18th at the Earle Brown Heritage Center from 9 am to 3 pm!

Vendor booths and lectures continue to give many small businesses, government, and large businesses the chance to discuss upcoming opportunities and ways to better connect to do business. Small businesses have the opportunity to be matched with a government or corporate buyer interested in their services as part of the matchmaking session that has been a hit for the last several years.
SAME-MSP Post 2019 Scholarship Announcement

The 2019 Scholarship Application Forms are now available on the Grants & Scholarships tab of the SAME-MSP website, as well as via the links below. If you know someone who is deserving of a scholarship, please urge the young person to apply for one the Post’s scholarships. The SAME Minneapolis-Saint Paul Post will be granting three scholarships:

- two (2) one-time $1,500.00 scholarships
- one (1) $1,500.00 multi-year scholarship ($6,000.00 max)

The deadline for submitting scholarship applications is Friday, April 5th, 2019.

Applicants are rated in a number of areas including academics, school activities, and community activities. High school seniors and Post-secondary students are eligible if they are either:

- Children, grandchildren, or siblings of members of the Minneapolis-Saint Paul Post. Sponsoring members must be a SAME Minneapolis-Saint Paul Post member for the current year and have been a member of the Post for a minimum of at least one year prior to the current year.
- Student Members of the SAME Minneapolis-Saint Paul Post who will be registered as full-time post-secondary students in the fall of the year of selection. Applicants under this category must be registered through SAME as a Student Member; student memberships are free for full-time undergraduates at an accredited college or university, or high school students.

Applicants must be registered as full-time post-secondary students in the fall of the year of selection and be majoring in an accredited engineering, science, math, or technology-related field and/or disciplines that will specifically support these fields of study.

A committee of Post members will evaluate the applications. All applications are kept confidential, and only the winners are announced. For additional information, please contact Erin Krug at Erin.E.Krug@usace.army.mil or 651.290.5576. Scholarship Application Packages can be downloaded from the Post’s website at: http://same-msp.org/grants-and-scholarships/

SAME-MSP 2019 Education Grants

The SAME-MSP Chapter is offering educational grants for up to $3,000.00 for elementary and secondary schools for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year for schools within a 100-mile radius of Saint Paul, Minnesota. One fundamental goal of SAME is “To promote an understanding of, and appreciation for, the engineering related disciplines and to help the young people in our communities be better prepared to become our future engineers.” The Chapter is requesting applications from schools and classroom teachers who are committed to supporting the math and sciences that support future engineering-related career opportunities. We are encouraging all grade levels to participate.

Applications for these grants will be reviewed on the following criteria:
- Creativity and quality of proposed project
- Demonstrated demand or need for the project
- Support of the Minnesota or Wisconsin math and/or science academic standards

The application form is posted on the SAME website at http://same-msp.org/grants-and-scholarships/, and applications are due April 5th, 2019. Elementary and secondary teachers / schools that are promoting the math and sciences within the 100-mile radius are encouraged to apply. For a listing of the historical grants awarded, please go to http://same-msp.org/grants-and-scholarships/
**Future City Competition**

The Minnesota Regional Future City Competition was held on Saturday, January 19, 2019 at the Dakota County Technical College in Rosemount, Minnesota. Again this year, the Post sponsored one of the special awards, the focus of which was for the team that best addressed "Readiness for Natural and Manmade Disasters".

The team that won the post's award was Justice Page Middle School (Minneapolis) for their city named "Ciudad Rota". Thanks to the seven volunteers we had as judges, Bill Holman, Erin Krug, Mark Stousland, Wayne Wambold, Laura Wehr, Terry Zien, and Peter Allen. Congratulations to the Justice Page Middle School students for their comprehensive understanding of natural and manmade disasters and their enthusiasm with their presentation.

**Habitat For Humanity Volunteer Opportunity**

Sign up now to volunteer for the SAME-MSP Post’s annual Habitat for Humanity event on February 23rd, 2019 from 8 AM to 4 PM! Lunch will be provided, and we are hoping to have at least 10 volunteers. This is a great opportunity for team building and contributing to this great program. Start talking to your co-workers and let's build a great team for H4H! Contact Rebekah Hudson at rebekah.hudson@jedunn.com to sign up now!

**Save the Date for SAME-MSP Post Happy Hour!**

Monday, March 4th, 2019
4 PM to 6 PM
Location TBD
Check your e-mail for updates!

**Sustaining Member Presentations at Future SAME-MSP Post Meetings**

The SAME MSP Post is looking for our sustaining members to give a brief five minute presentation about your company prior to the monthly presentations. This is a great networking opportunity to tell others about your company’s services, small business information, etc. Please email Sherry Van Duyn at svanduyn@landmarkenv.com or Dave Ausdemore at dave@hssciences.com if you would like to present.

**Have an idea for future meeting topics or tours?**

Please contact Matt Redington with your ideas at matthew.redington@hdrinc.com or 763-591-5487!