President’s Corner

Greeting Portland Post,

The next three months of our meetings is shaping up to be pretty educational and entertaining. Next month, our own Vice President, LTC John Cunningham, PE will be presenting on his recent assignment to help restore power to Puerto Rico. A little preview of his experience can be found here: https://www.facebook.com/PortlandCorps/videos/10156222124373792/.

A fun fact, LTC Cunningham was succeeded in Puerto Rico by Portland Post VP LTC Cullen Jones.

In May, we have the US Army Reserve’s 671st Multi-Role Bridge Company coming in to give us a flavor of the Combat Engineers. I have been looking forward to this presentation since 2002 when I left the 671st as an E4. These incredible soldiers can build a bridge (over land or water) in less than 30-minutes. Can you imagine the potential lifesaving capabilities we have in Oregon for a Post-Disaster response?

In June, we end our training year with our annual Meet the Primes/Meet the Chiefs meeting. Terry Hosaka is leading the MTP phase, and is looking for sustaining members interested in participating as Primes. For the Meet the Chiefs, we are booking a solid dais of Federal agencies who will be presenting on their upcoming contracting opportunities and the missions of their organizations.

To celebrate our incredible year of training, we are joining up again with the Portland District for our annual golf tournament. The dates and location are being finalized, but if you’re interested in helping plan the Post’s side, and help award the Bud Ossey Cup, please give me a call.

Lastly, I am very excited to have a new position added to our Board of Directors; a Young Member representative. We will officially swear him in at the June installation of Officers, but I look forward to working with Ben Stolt from the Portland District. Ben has been a strong advocate for E-Week, and we are thrilled for him to join our Board. OK, one last thing. On March 31 at 9pm, there will be a benefit concert in support of Operation Standdown (an organization that provides critical support to our vulnerable Veteran’s). I highly encourage you to purchase a ticket to attend the event. See you in April!

Essayons!

Tony Roos, P.E.
President, SAME Portland Post

Next Post Event – SAME Luncheon

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<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Wednesday, Apr 4, 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Time:</td>
<td>11:30 AM to 1:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cost:</td>
<td>Retired Members ($25.00) Public Agency Members ($25.00) Private Consultant-Sustaining Member ($30.00) Non-Member ($35.00) LATE-rsvp closed on 31 Dec ($45.00) PREPAYMENT RQD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Sentinel Hotel, 614 S.W. 11th Avenue, 2nd floor</td>
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<td>Event:</td>
<td>Power Up in Puerto Rico</td>
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<td>RSVP By:</td>
<td>Mar 28, 2018 at <a href="mailto:SAME.PDX.RSVP@gmail.com">SAME.PDX.RSVP@gmail.com</a>, or call 503-643-8710 to confirm and prepay with credit card. Do Not respond to this email. To ensure your RSVP is received, please use: <a href="mailto:same.pdx.rsvp@gmail.com">same.pdx.rsvp@gmail.com</a></td>
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Apr Topic: Power Up in Puerto Rico

Speaker: LTC Cunningham, USACE, Deputy Commander for Task Force Power Restoration

Background: LTC John D. Cunningham received his commission as an Engineer Officer in 2002 and has served in leadership and staff positions across the United States, in Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Republic of Korea. He served as a Sapper Platoon Leader in Mosul, Iraq, an Earthmoving Platoon Leader, and Company Executive Officer in the 326th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division from 2003 to 2005 at Fort Campbell, KY. He served as a Battalion Logistics Officer and Military Transition Team Engineer in the 1st Special Troops Battalion (STB), 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division from 2005 to 2007, during which he advised an Iraqi Army Battalion in Eastern Diyalah Province. LTC Cunningham Commanded A Company, 1st STB from 2007-2008 and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st STB from 2008-2009, with service in both Fort Campbell, KY and Tikrit, Iraq. LTC Cunningham served as an Instructor in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department at the United States Military Academy from 2012 to 2014. LTC Cunningham also served at Fort Hood, TX, where he deployed to Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan as part of the 1st Cavalry Division staff, serving as Divisions Engineer (Forward) and Counter-IED Officer. From 2015-2016, he served as Battalion Executive Officer for the 91st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, and deployed to the Republic of Korea as part of a regionally aligned force mission. LTC Cunningham is currently serving as the Deputy District Commander for the Portland District, US Army Corps of Engineers.

LTC Cunningham’s education includes a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the United States Military Academy (2002) and a Master of Science in Power Systems Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin (2011). His military education includes the Engineer Officer’s Basic Course, Engineer Captains Career Course, Intermediate Level Education at Fort Lee, VA, the US Army Airborne School, Ranger school, and Air Assault School. He is a licensed Professional Engineer and is a certified Project Management Professional. His awards and decorations include three Bronze Star Medals, three Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, the Army Achievement Medal, two Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medals, the Combat Action Badge, the Air Assault Badge, the Army Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

Abstract: LTC Cunningham deployed to Puerto Rico in support of the US Army Corps of Engineers disaster response after Hurricane Maria from mid-January to early March 2018. He served as the Deputy Commander for Task Force Power Restoration, where USACE is executing the FEMA grid restoration mission in partnership with the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority and the Utility Industry (a number of Mutual Assistance contributors along with and the New York contingent).

Puerto Rico has 2,400 miles of transmission lines across the island and 30,000 miles of distribution lines with 300 substations. It is estimated that 80 percent of the grid was affected by Hurricane Maria. The Corps has been supporting grid restoration through four primary lines of effort:

- Provide temporary emergency power and spot generation for critical facilities like hospitals and shelters;
- Ensure adequate generation at the power plants;
- Reinstall and repair transmission lines, and;
- Restore and repair distribution lines, ultimately providing power to local residences.

LTC Cunningham will provide an overview of the Power Restoration mission and discuss the current progress in emergency repairs to Puerto Rico’s electrical grid.
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**Portland SAME OSAC Scholarship**

Portland Post members, if you have or know a student that is interested in pursuing a degree in Aeronautical, biomedical, chemical, civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering and would like “free” money to help with their education, the Post is seeking motivated students who will enroll as college sophomore or above for fall term/semester in undergraduate study to apply through the Oregon Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) for our post scholarship. Please check out the scholarship at:

https://oregonstudentaid.gov/

The Post scholarship is #481

**STEM Engineering & Construction Camps**

SAME, in collaboration with the military services, offers a series of week long, STEM Engineering & Construction Camps designed for High School students who excel in math, science and technology courses and are interested in pursuing engineering, architecture, or related fields in college. Each of our camps has their unique curriculum, with the common thread being: challenging environment, hands-on activities, mentors who are young engineers, long term resources for alumni. There are more opportunities all across the country and military branches than ever before, seven unique camps to choose from! The Portland Post also has scholarships available for helping defer some of the costs.

Stay tuned for application deadlines and check out the National website for more information.

http://www.same.org/STEMCAMPS

**SAME Young Council Representative**

The Portland SAME Post is seeking a motivated young member interested in making a difference by becoming our Post’s representative to SAME’s “Young Member’s Council”. Please contact our Post President, Mr. Tony Roos at 503.703.2552 (cell) or troos@kittelson.com to learn more about this great opportunity.

The long overdue and highly anticipated Fall issue of the Young Member Connections is ready for viewing. View it here.

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