Virginia Peninsula Post Team,

Happy New Year and Happy Super Bowl Sunday! I may be biased but put me firmly in the camp that the Monday after the Super Bowl should be a national holiday each year. It would be much nicer to enjoy all the spectacle that is the Super Bowl if we didn’t have to worry about getting up early the next morning and going to work! Regardless of whether your favorite team is playing Sunday (or whether you even really like football), I hope you all enjoy (responsibly!) watching the game, the commercials, or halftime show with friends and family.

Our 2019 got off to a fantastic start with the Grafton Bethel Elementary School Lego team presenting to us their skit about building structures on Mars. It was amazing to watch these children demonstrate what they learned throughout the process and to see how excited they were talking about it. They then highlighted their Lego robotics skills that helped them win the regional competition and make it to states. The VPP can be proud knowing it has sponsored this aspiring group of engineers and scientists who will solve our nation’s future challenges.

Speaking of future challenges, alternative energy sources is a topic many engineers are working on. We’re lucky to have Dr. Sandeep Kumar, Associate Professor and Director, Energy Cluster within the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department at ODU, as our guest speaker for our February 7th membership meeting. He’ll present to us the latest developments of using algae as an energy source and other energy issues in the region.

February and March bring to us several great SAME events at the national, regional and post levels. One challenge all of us who wear a military uniform must face at some point is finding a job after making the transition from military service. The SAME Transition Workshop & Job Fair take place 28 Feb – 1 Mar at the Embassy Suites BWI Airport in Linthicum Maryland. Whether you are officer/enlisted and making your transition in the next 6 – 12 months, a veteran who transitioned years ago and looking to explore other opportunities, or just possibly thinking about leaving the military in the coming years, I highly recommend attending this workshop. You’ll hear about the job outlook in the A/E/C industry, get a resume review and interviewing tips, listen to panelists who recently made the transition, and get to meet with many private and public sector organizations looking to hire veteran engineering professionals. I attended before I made my transition several years ago and found it extremely helpful. There are even travel and hotel stipends available for uniformed service members. You can find more information and register at https://www.same.org/calendar/ModuleID/6303/itemID/760/mctl/EventDetails.

In March, the Hampton Roads Post is hosting their Small Business Outreach and Industry Day 19-20 March at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott. The Industry Day will take the place of our normal March membership meeting. But we don’t want to go a month without getting together with our VPP Team! So instead of having our normal membership luncheon on March 7th, the VPP will host a social at The Vanguard in Hampton from 4 – 6 pm. See page 3 for more info.

Thank you again for your service to our nation, society, and post! Hope to see many of you at the Langley AFB Club on February 7th!

Cheers!
Rick
RECAP OF LEGO ROBOTIC TEAM: As always, Carol Bauer’s Grafton Bethel Elementary Legos Robot Team gave us an excellent presentation on Thursday, January 3, 2019. Teams are judged on research, team work, and the 2.5 minute performance of their Legos Robot. They are judged on whether the robot hits, lifts, and pushes objects at several stops around the 4 by 8 ft board. This year’s topic for the ten-students team was “Challenges for Astronauts”.

The Grafton Bethel team realized materials will be scarce for the first pioneers on Mars, and packaging and parts of delivery supply ships would have to be used, in addition to the delivered supplies. Using Mars-like soil found in Hawaii, blended with plastics from packaging, the team developed shoe-box sized Legos blocks that could be used to make structures on Mars.

The 4th and 5th graders learned that Mars has ice below the surface, which can provide water and hydrogen. Other clever ideas the team came up with were storing energy from exercise equipment, and refining urine into drinking water.

For the past 13 years, Grafton Bethel has had a Legos Robot team and many team members now have STEM careers.

This year, the Legos Robot team competed in the State Finals. All work by the students is completed after regular school. Besides the students, there’s a club of about 50 others, including a college professor, and at least one NASA employee, who advise and assist.
Join us for our next program to learn about algae. Sandeep Kumar, Ph.D. will speak about algae as an energy source, and what's going on in our region. Dr Kumar is an Associate Professor and Director of the Energy Cluster Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at ODU.

LOCATION: We’ll be at the Langley Club on Langley Air Force Base (JBLE).

NOTE: We are working with Security Forces to get you on base quickly and efficiently. If you do not already have access to Langley AFB and wish to attend our next meeting, then please send Capt Kyle Schafer kyle.schafer.5@us.af.mil the following information by Noon on Friday, 1 Feb: Full name, date of birth, citizenship, gender, and employer. Please to go to the visitor center first instead of going to the gate.

MIX AND MINGLE: We’re excited to gather at The Vanguard to mingle and catch up with our members. Join us for fun conversation and some delicious appetizers. RSVP to Jenni Szabo know if you are going to stop by, jszabo@dijginc.com

Vanguard is at 504 N. King Street Hampton, VA 23669.

https://www.thevanguard757.com/

INDUSTRY DAY 2019: Meet and listen to Industry Day debriefs at the annual SAME Hampton Roads Small Business Outreach + Industry Day on March 19-20, 2019 at the Norfolk Waterside Marriott.

Please sign up HERE and if you have any questions, please contact Cindy Nash at cnash@getsolutionsinc.com
Each year, SAME’s STEM Camps help guide more than 200 high school students to pursue a STEM career and inspire many to apply to a service academy or ROTC. The camps rely on the volunteer support of mentors and staff from across SAME and beyond. There are many types of opportunities available. Visit www.same.org/stemcamps.

Our camps are world-class and feature a very impressive record of producing thousands of engineers and STEM leaders. They provide a rigorous experience for students interested in exploring STEM skills and careers. Campers gain a sense of what it takes to become a STEM professional and what options exist to explore that interest from high school to college and beyond. Each camp has a unique curriculum that generally features hands-on activities conducted in a competitive environment that promote teamwork, leadership, project management, and problem solving.

Campers are supervised by mentors made up of professional engineers, engineering students, military personnel, educators, and other STEM professionals. These mentors are committed to inspiring campers to pursue STEM in college. Mentors are also resources for the campers, providing long-term connections for our alumni.

- Camps encourage STEM interested students to pursue a STEM degree and gives them a sense of the careers associated with that degree.
- Camps serve as leadership development opportunities for the mentors and assistant mentors.
- Camps introduce hands-on construction and engineering skills that are in short supply.

This year the supporting camp locations are:

- U.S. Army Camp, June 9-15, Vicksburg, MS
- U.S. Marine Corps Camp, June 23-30, Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville NC
- U.S. Air Force Academy Camp, June 26-July 2, Colorado Springs, CO
- U.S. Air Force Camp, July 15-20, Scott AFB, IL
- U.S. Navy Camp, July 23-29, Port Hueneme, CA

To see if you’re eligible, go to: https://www.same.org/Camps/eligibility

Once determining your eligibility, complete your application at: https://www.same.org/cvweb/cgi-bin/memberdll.dll/info?wrp=campaccount.htm

If you have any problems, check the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phclyjDrBQI&feature=youtu.be

THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS MARCH 1ST. (US ARMY CAMP DEADLINE IS MARCH 29TH).
2019 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION & APPLICATION CRITERIA

Note: Deadline for Applications has been Extended

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS Applicants must be U.S. citizens and also meet one of the following:
- A college student (freshman through graduate student) enrolled in an accredited Virginia college/university and pursuing an engineering, architecture, construction, facilities management or environmental management/science bachelor's or master's degree or equivalent, or
- A high school senior planning to enroll at a Virginia accredited college/university in the Fall of 2019 to pursue a bachelor's degree or equivalent in an engineering, architecture, construction, facilities management or environmental management/science course of study, or
- A current member ("current" meaning having active membership as of 1 January 2019) or dependent of a current member of the SAME Virginia Peninsula Post enrolled in or planning to enroll for the Fall 2019 semester in an engineering, architecture, construction, facilities management or environmental management/science course of study.

AWARDS
- Scholarship values will have a maximum value of $1,000. The value and number of scholarships awarded will be determined by the Evaluation Panel based on need, qualifications, and available funds in the approved budget.
- There will be four separate award categories: 1) high school seniors, 2) college freshmen/sophomores, 3) college juniors/seniors, and 4) graduate students.
- Winners will be notified on or before Wednesday, 24 July 2019, and awards will be presented in person to the winning applicants at the SAME Virginia Peninsula Post general meeting on Thursday, 1 August 2019. If a winner cannot attend the meeting, the scholarship award and check will be mailed via US Postal Service to the address on the application.
- The award must be used for education-related expenses such as tuition, fees, books, travel to or from school, room and board, etc.

SELECTION CRITERIA Selection will be based on these three weighted criteria:
- Academic Standing and Acknowledgements (50%) - combines GPA and overall academic achievement, honor societies and/or fraternities, academic awards, Dean’s list, etc.
- Community and School Involvement (30%) - evaluates extracurricular activities including work experience (paid or volunteer), school-sponsored activities (sports, clubs, student government, etc.), participation in service organizations, or other service, which may include military involvement (Cadet positions, ROTC, etc.). Identify any leadership positions held.
- Financial Need (20%) - based on a statement of financial need from the applicant regarding how educational costs are being met/not being met.

EVALUATION PANEL
- The Virginia Peninsula Post will convene a panel of no less than three Post members to evaluate the applications received.
- Using the criteria outlined above, the Evaluation Panel will score the applications and, based on score, will rank order them within each of the four award categories.
- The Evaluation Panel will present their recommendations for number and value of awards in writing to the Virginia Peninsula Post Board of Directors for approval. Once approval is obtained, the winning applicants will be notified.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS. The four (4) items identified below must be postmarked, e-mailed, or hand delivered* no later than Friday, 24 May 2019, to be considered for scholarship award. The Evaluation Panel will not consider any incomplete application for award.
- A completed 2019 Scholarship Applicant Information Sheet (attached).
- A written statement, no more than two (2) pages maximum using single-spaced paragraphs of 12 point Times New Roman text, from the applicant addressing each of the three selection criteria (1) academic accomplishments, 2) community/school activities, and 3) financial need.
- A letter of recommendation from a school official, counselor, coach, etc. having direct knowledge of the applicant. The person making the recommendation may e-mail or mail the recommendation directly to the Scholarship Chair, identified below, or provide a sealed letter to the applicant.
- An official sealed copy or certified copy of the applicant’s full current official school transcript. The school may e-mail or mail the transcript directly to the Scholarship Chair, identified below, or provide a sealed/certified copy to the applicant.

The completed application must be postmarked, e-mailed, or hand delivered no later than Friday, 24 May 2019:

Paul Burgener
214 Bruton Ave
Newport News, VA 23601

If you have questions, please contact Paul at 757-775-7172 or Paul.Burgener@us.af.mil
2019 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT INFORMATION SHEET

Name: ____________________________ Date: ____________

Address: __________________________

Phone: ____________________________ E-mail: ____________________________

University or High School Currently Attending: ____________________________

Course of Study (Current or Planned Major): ____________________________

Current Status: High School Level: Senior [ ]

College Level: Freshman [ ] Sophomore [ ] Junior [ ] Senior [ ] Grad [ ]

Cumulative GPA (indicate scale, i.e.: 3.8 out of 4.0): ____________________________

For High School Applicants, provide contact information of your school Guidance Office:

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Checklist for Other Application Items Required:

[ ] Applicant Statement addressing the three selection criteria (2-pages maximum)

[ ] Official Sealed Transcript

[ ] Sealed Letter of Recommendation
It’s **MathCounts** again! Who doesn’t love math—these middle schoolers certainly do!! It’s at Hampton University on Saturday, February 16 from 7am to 3pm.

They are looking for people to help with the competition. This includes set up, registration, grading, wrap up and cleanup. If you’re interested, please contact Dr. Arun Verma theonlyakverma@gmail.com to let him know you are interested in helping out and he will send you the information.

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**Time Out 4 U** is a non-profit organization that coordinates and conducts a STEM event each year. They unite professional traveling teams of certified teachers and field experts executing STEM workshops, activities, after school programs and annual STEM symposium across the Hampton Roads Area. To provide and preserve educational opportunities for PreK-12th grade students in STEM, Time Out 4U provides students opportunities to make connections between in-class curricula and its significance in a real world setting.

**WHEN:** Are you available for their next event on Saturday April 13, 2019 at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton? They are looking for volunteers to lead the kids in a STEM experiment and/or demonstration and want to know if you can help.

This year, the focus of their theme and activities will be centered on Engineering, Physics and Astronomy.

**HOW:** To make this event successful, they are asking for you to join their efforts to stimulate the community of learners with STEM by being a sponsor for this great event.

Your support can start with:
- Co-hosting an interactive hands-on activity at our STEM Symposium
- Advertising your organization in our STEM booklet

**CONTACT INFO:** To discuss more, please feel free to contact Chandra Oaks-Garcia at 757-268-3365 or 757-218-4393.
The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) brings together professional engineers and those in engineering related fields; To improve and increase the engineering capabilities of the nation; To exchange and advance the knowledge of engineering technologies and practices.

**DID YOU KNOW...**

Did you know that SAME has a podcast channel with more than 22 episodes? It’s called **REAL TiME podcast**. They look inside the 2020 SAME Strategic Plan to help strengthen the engineering potential of the United States; talk about the Post Leaders Workshop; and interviews with lots of people, including the U.S. Coast Guard Academy’s Academy Introduction Mission Program (AIM), Stephen Grenier.

Click here to check them out!

**UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS**

- **Facilities Management Workshop**
  - February 7-8, 2019
  - San Antonio, TX

- **Transition Workshop & Job Fair**
  - February 28 - March 1, 2019
  - Embassy Suites BWI Airport in Linthicum, MD

- **Capital Week**
  - March 11-13, 2019

- **SAME Joint Engineer Training Conference**
  - May 7-9, 2019
  - Tampa Bay, Florida
  - More info to come

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**LOOKING AHEAD:** We’re lining up our monthly programs for 2019…and looking for ideas and suggestions for the presentations. Do you, or know anyone, that would be willing to spread some knowledge for us?

We’d love to hear about Resilience, Energy, Cyber, Sea Level, Offshore Wind or Water, Construction Site Visits, Ethics, Environmental, and new Computer and Construction Technologies. If so, please contact Ms. Amelia DaCruz, at amelialynndacruz@gmail.com or 757.376.8606.
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
MEET...MICHAEL CREASY

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA AREA?
I moved to Williamsburg, after serving 8 years in the Air Force, in January of 2015.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT SAME?
Having the ability to stay connected with the military design and construction environment.

WHAT’S ONE PERSONAL FUN FACT ABOUT YOU?
I was member of the Corps of Cadets and Air Force ROTC while attending Virginia Tech and receiving my undergraduate degree in architecture.

HOW DID YOU GET STARTED WITH SAME?
Upon joining GuernseyTingle who has an active role in the VPP.

WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT JOB?
Designer and Project Manager for GuernseyTingle. Working on many varieties of projects, including custom residential, commercial development, medical facilities, and government projects.

YOUR MOST NOTE-WORTHY ENGINEERING-RELATED ACCOMPLISHMENT? WHAT WAS MOST CHALLENGING?
I feel that my most note-worthy accomplishment to date has been with the continued and growing success with government projects. From single award and multiple award contracts with USACE and NAVFAC to IDIQ contracts with JBLE and Design/Build Job Order Contracts with Fort Lee I have enjoyed many successful projects in the 4 short years since joining GuernseyTingle. These projects along with my interactions through SAME have helped me maintain the community feeling of being part of the military family.

The most challenging professional experience has been in the transition from the owner’s perspective as a design and construction Project Manager for the Air Force Health Facilities Office to being on the services side of government design and construction.
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THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS!!

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