Hello fellow young members!

Blink! It's August. But go ahead and throw those back to school ads in the recycling bin because the official middle of summer is August 7. Now that we've all agreed that we still have plenty of time to grill brats/play bocce/whatever, I'd like to invite you to kick back at your desk and add this issue of YM Connections in its entirety to your summer reading list. It’s an easy read and I think you'll all get a lot out of it. For example, did you know...

• …that outgoing SAME Executive Director Bob Wolff didn’t become a member of SAME until he was 40? Never being an official SAME young member didn’t stop him from being a great advocate for all of us during his 12 years at the helm of SAME. Read more in our interview on the next page.

• …that more than 100 professionals called into the Young Member Council’s last professional development teleconference on ethics in engineering? And that many of them received PDHs?? And it was free??? But enough with my questions, read more about our next call with new SAME President John Mogge on page 7 and get ready to bring your own questions.

• …that 17 young members volunteered as mentors at this year’s SAME Engineering & Construction camps?

There’s something for everyone in this issue, and we couldn’t do it without our writers who volunteer every issue to bring you relevant stories from the world of SAME. Feel free to get in touch with Gia if you’d like to contribute as well—his contact is to the left.

I want to close by offering Dr. Wolff a sincere thank you on behalf of young members. He’s been a staunch supporter and driving force behind the growth of the SAME Young Member program, and we wish him the best. We’re also excited to get to know incoming Executive Director Brig. Gen. Schroedel. Stay tuned, everyone!

Ben Redding
Chair, SAME Young Member Council

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Join the SAME Young Members LinkedIn Group!

Through the members-only SAME group, you can leverage the power of the SAME network to find and reach the new business contacts you need, accelerate your career through referrals from SAME members, know more than a name by viewing profiles from fellow SAME members, and let other SAME members know what you have to offer professionally to them and their contacts. Access to the special SAME group features on LinkedIn is free, and is available to SAME Members only.

SAME Members are encouraged to join the SAME network.
JOIN HERE: www.linkedin.com/e/gis/2633/363BDB4528E2/
Q. You have been the SAME Executive Director since 2002. How would you assess the growth and development of SAME over the last 12 years?

In my opening statement in 2002, I pledged to operate SAME as a successful business with the goal of growing the top line (revenue) while investing in the future and maintaining a sound financial position to achieve Society goals. SAME has grown its investment accounts from $1.6 million to $4.7 million and its Education and Mentoring Fund from $15,000 to $848,000. Sustaining Members have increased from 9,200 to more than 15,000 and the number of Sustaining Member companies from 1,400 to just under 1,600—even with much industry consolidation. Individual membership has increased from 9,700 to more than 12,000. Revenue has increased from $1.8 million in 2002 to $6.7 million in 2013. The number of Posts has decreased from 126 to 105, based on the inability of many locations to sustain Post operations due to deployments and the results of BRAC. However, SAME established a new Student Chapter model in 2006 with 10 Student Chapters which has now grown to 55 Student Chapters. And a statistic for which I am most proud is the growth in public sector membership from 3,300 in 2007 (when we began to track public sector membership) to over 7,000 in 2013.

A major factor in the growth in revenue has been the establishment of a Meetings and Exposition Department at SAME HQ. In 2002, the headquarters had no capability to host conferences and workshops and now about one-third of the revenue comes from the JETC and other events. In 2005, SAME also made a decision to become the host for The Infrastructure Security Partnership (TISP), which was established after 9/11. TISP has grown and contributes to the SAME emergency preparedness and infrastructure resilience goal.

Q. What have you enjoyed the most about being the SAME XD?

I would say four things. First, fulfilling my vision for SAME to elevate it to a more professional organization. My vision was developed from active participation on the national Board of Direction as the Chair of the Education and the Technology Advancement Committees, and then President of the Washington, D.C. Post in the 1990s. Second, I have enjoyed the freedom to build and manage a talented HQ staff without supervision from the Board—I very much appreciated the trust the Board and national officers placed in me. Third, I have very much enjoyed the opportunity to travel extensively throughout the 12 years to many of our Posts—including Europe and Korea—and in most every case to bring back to SAME HQ ideas to make SAME better. And finally, I have enjoyed the relationships with 12 SAME Presidents, many members of the national Board of Direction and Post leaders. I know I will cherish these relationships for years to come.

Q. What YM initiative/program are you most proud of during your time as the SAME Executive Director?

Establishing a Yong Member Council and guiding the selection committee for elected directors to select one Young Member each year so that our Board now has some great young member participation. This is really significant since for most professional societies, one has to have grey hair to be elected to the National Board. I also am proud of our participation in the Emerging Leaders Alliance Workshop to which we send Young Members each year, the Young Member stipends we have provided in some years to the JETC and the Credentialing Reimbursement Program we recently initiated. We need to continue to engage our Young Members but also provide them financial support.

Q. Do you have any parting advice or words of wisdom for SAME YMs?

Unfortunately, I did not become a member of SAME until 1983 at age 40 – no longer a Young Member. I missed out on all the years in which I could have gained knowledge and relationships through active participation. So I would encourage Young Members to get involved and take on leadership positions in SAME to benefit their personal and professional growth. Some key opportunities are to be mentors at the SAME Engineering and Construction Camps and the SAME Student Chapters – these motivated high school students and often overwhelmed college students need the encouragement and inspiration from Young Members to continue to pursue an engineering or STEM career. I am big believer in professional licensing and certifications. I did not get my P.E. license until 1988 when I wanted to apply for a senior engineering position in the Corps of Engineers – I should have worked to get my P.E. earlier in my career because I never would have achieved the senior positions in the Corps and the Air Force without it and it gets harder to accomplish the older you get. Finally, I have had some failures in my career. I believe everyone will, so you just need to learn from failure and continue to believe in yourself and your ability to meet future challenges.
2014 JETC Recap: From a First Time Attendee and Young Member Point of View

By James Blake, Philadelphia Post Board Member and Project Engineer at O’Brien & Gere

I had the pleasure of attending the Joint Engineering Training conference (JETC) in Orlando this year, as a first time attendee and Young Member representative of the Philadelphia Post. Leading up to JETC, I had much anticipation and nervous energy since I typically only attend one conference, of any nature, a year. Additionally, hearing stories from people I know who’ve attended JETC were filled with “…we talked about it at JETC”, and “…we met at JETC.” This heightened my awareness of the potential for business opportunity intelligence, and reinforced that I might find the channel partner(s) of my dreams at JETC. At first, it was a lot to take in and I didn’t know what to expect but I was intent on enjoying the experience.

I arrived at the Rosen Hotel in Orlando a day early to participate in a business development course and upon my arrival the first friendly face I met was Belle from SAME-HQ. Brie was so helpful in showing me the correct room, as her and the other professionals at the course registration saw the look of panic on my face when I stormed up to the booth hoping I was in the right location.

The course was presented in a way that resonated on an inner level and with the tools and techniques that were presented, I felt better equipped to engage during JETC for marketing and business development purposes. I barely made it to registration, on-time, after the course ended, before making the bus to the Ice Breaker Reception at City Walk Universal Studios.

The reception was very well organized and there were plenty of SAME-guides to make sure that everyone made it to their destination. City Walk was great because it was a free-for-all of socializing and exchange of information and just a great way to get acquainted with the other attendees. Before I knew it, the Ice Breaker was over, and I was on my way out thanking everyone I passed along the way for the great time.

The next morning started off with a briefing from the Service Chiefs. It was the first time I was really able to visualize the vast number of attendees and the projections of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, from the service chiefs. Infrastructure, International and inter agency support, dredging, performance based remediation…this was the kind of human-intelligence everyone was talking about!! After the informative session with the Service Chiefs, I had a few minutes to check out the exhibition hall before I needed to be at my first conference session.

Upon entrance to the exhibition hall, I immediately began executing my pre-planned exhibitor booth visits. During the course of my lap around the hall, I see a few familiar faces from the Philadelphia Post, including, Wendy Parker of AMEC, Jeff York of AD Marble, Keith Ludwig of Dewberry, and Karen Buniak of TTI. I tried to thank them to the deepest extent of gratitude, for allowing me to come here. Halfway into my praises, the next thing I knew my session was about to start and I needed to beat feet in order to not show up late. On my way out of the exhibition hall, I found out that there was a JETC app for the iPhone. This app has the schedule of events, an event planner for me to track my planned sessions, and general information to keep me on the yellow brick road!

I attended the Response to National Disasters session which consisted of a panel discussion highlighting the effects of Super Storm Sandy on each of the presenters daily work lives within their respective agencies.

On my walk from the conference room back to the exhibition hall, I noticed how full of activity the hallways were. Large groups, small groups, one-on-one, people were interacting, taking notes, listening intently, making appointments for follow-ups. This was something of interest to me because I could see the advantage of JETC was that it afforded attendees numerous instances for run-ins, thus facilitating idea exchange. As I was walking I noticed someone who had been in my SMPS course, from the Mid-West, representing a designated small business. I thought to myself “I meant to follow-up with him about…”, and over I went to discuss who within my company I wanted to introduce him to from his home region.

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During the AMEC sponsored small business networking event at Cuba Libre I was able to run into those same familiar faces from the SAME-Philadelphia Post, a few coworkers from different offices, and a few new but familiar faces I had met throughout the conference. The funny thing about this instance though, was that it came to mind that I still hadn’t seen much of my own direct supervisor all conference. The thought of “I wonder if he knows I’m alright…” was interrupted by the fact that I was able to meet members of SAME-National.

Again, Wendy Parker to the rescue introduced me to Ben Redding, the Chair of the Young Member Council, Brie, and a number of other representatives from other Posts. At the end of my night at Cuba Libra, I walked away with an internal list of ‘To-Do’s’ for when I get back home, and the main ‘to-do’ was that since I enjoyed hearing about the initiatives at SAME-National, and some of the initiatives that the other Posts were having, that I really wanted to make sure that I figure out a way to contribute to those initiatives.

Bright and early, I had one thing on my mind when I walked into the South Concourse….It’s Picture time!! I know I already registered, but let’s take a faux registration picture! “Oh that sign says JETC; my camera roll needs one for my collection.” Familiar friend Brie was stationed near the Society Ball registration table, so what better way to show that I’m just not here by myself then to get Belle in a picture with me! I had been using the JETC app on my phone, and the day before I booked my planner with sessions from 10AM-noon, noon-1:30, and 14:00-1600. There was a tie for seminars in the 1400 slot, for attending the Contracting in the AOR: Lessons Learned from Industry Perspective; and the Developing Engineers and the Value of Credentialing. I saved both sessions in my planner and was going to decide at the last minute which one to attend. The tug and push factor for attending one versus the other was that lessons learned is always a great tool for optimizing strategies that succeeded and mitigating those strategies that floundered during any specific project.

Later on that evening I had the opportunity to attend the JETC Society Ball. As formal as the description on the JETC app made it seem, when I walked into the Society Ball, the air seemed light and friendly. I remember this because first I was particularly shocked at how friendly and light the mood felt for such a formal event. The most enjoyable parts about the program was the roast and comments of outgoing SAME Executive Director Robert D. Wolff, Ph.D., P.E., F.SAME. The relationship between Dr. Wolff and his staff reminded me of a family, and his warm and heartfelt reflections on his time with SAME were touching. The collective admiration by the Ball attendees at the end of his remarks, gave me a moment to reflect on the underlying message I understood during the Service Chiefs briefings the day before. That message was: ‘we may be separate, but we all serve the same purpose together.’ Here I was, a kid from the suburbs of Philadelphia, at a conference in Orlando, sitting at a table with a guy from the mid-west, my boss from central Pennsylvania, and a couple who just finished working overseas, in a room with a thousand other people, ranging from civilians, to active duty, to retired duty, across the branches of the military, applauding and supporting the mission of SAME.

The evening progressed, and eventually I migrated from my table, to a table of young members from back home and from other regions. I sat and talked with Carrie Ann Miller, from the SAME-Baltimore Post. Something she said during the course of our conversation is the perfect way to sum up the overall experience for me at my first JETC. She pointed out her reasons for involvement in SAME and why she enjoys JETC so much. It’s the experiences and exposure that SAME and the JETC gives us. The chance to get to know each other on a personal and professional level, so that one day as we young members get long in the tooth and further in our careers, we will have known and worked with others for such a long time that each national event turns into a pseudo family reunion.
This year’s AFA/SAME E&C camp was a great success. We had 96 smart and motivated campers from around the world, a staff of 37 with excellent Leadership from OIC and AOIC Captains Steve Klenke and Tim Pauh, Cadet OIC Pete Amaddio; Sr. Mentor Kurt Ubbelohde, Joe and Janice Dombi running Ops; CIC Cooksey, Hugh Cronin, Dennis Scott and Grant Bartee supporting logistics and 16 SAME YMs providing incredible mentoring for the HS Campers, being led by AFA Cadets and College Students (former campers) in the Flight Commander roles. Thanks to the Pikes Peak and Denver Posts and their many SM firms for providing many of the training events.

My son was in Echo (Josh Edelman). He came home last night and told us what an amazing program you guys put together. He is super excited to go to the Academy now, and what a great opportunity to have seen it and experienced it in such a hands on way! Your camp leaders sounded wonderful. Please pass our gratitude onto them and let them know what a difference they made in his life. Thanks so much. Cheri and Dan

On behalf of Brett Stell's family, thank you so much for what you all did for the Engineering camp. Brett absolutely loved every single activity, class and project. He was a part of the Delta group. He has told us everything about what he did and we are amazed at how much he learned. I am an educator and I do realize how much time and preparation goes into a camp. You all definitely went above and beyond. Thank you again for providing such an outstanding experience for all of the students. Suzanne Brett's mom)

Thank you for helping with the SAME camp, I really enjoyed it and hope I can come back to help when I’m older. It was incredibly well run! I am so thankful for everyone who took the time off to help make the camp run smoothly, it really meant the world to me. If you’re ever in Orlando, feel free to e-mail me, I’d love to meet up for lunch. Again, I can not reiterate enough how much I enjoyed the camp, thank you so much! Hooah! Sincerely, Kristen

Thank you for coordinating such a wonderful camp this year. I had a great time. It was a unique and exciting experience. I learned a lot about engineering, USAFA and engineering opportunities in the military. I am happy that I could attend this year’s camp in such a great facility. I hope you had a great 4th of July. Thank you, Ian

Thank you for producing and overseeing such an amazing SAME camp experience. I learned a lot about the military as well as construction and engineering. I would never have had the experience to complete the projects we worked on anywhere else. I greatly appreciate the time you and others put in to make the camp run smoothly. Sincerely, Patrick

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Thank you for putting together such an awesome camp. I love learning engineering with hands-on projects. I also appreciated being able to tour all of the engineering classrooms at the Air Force Academy as they have some amazing equipment. After the camp, my mom and I also toured the Colorado School of Mines and the University of Colorado Boulder. I am excited to be applying to both the Air Force and Naval Academies and AFROTC and NROTC. My chosen fields of study are Aeronautical or Mechanical Engineering. Next week, my mom and I will do tours and meet with ROTC reps at Embry-Riddle, Georgia Tech, Purdue and Ohio State. So far, my two favorite schools are the Naval Academy and the Colorado School of Mines. We have only been looking at schools with either Air Force or Navy ROTC. Schools with ROTC programs that I am exploring are University of Washington Seattle, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Notre Dame, Northwestern, UCLA, University of Rochester, and Rennselaer. I would greatly appreciate any insights you have into choosing a hands-on engineering college. I would also like to learn more about any SAME engineering scholarships. Thank you, Michael

Thank you for providing this awesome opportunity for the kids. My son, Randy Williams, brought back knowledge from the camp that he would have never received anywhere else. It was educational and fun at the same time. Thanks again for taking the time to inspire this new generation of engineers. Jessica

Alex (Alex is a repeat mentor 5 years, former camper 2003 and in the US Army). I am Cole Edwards' mom. My husband and I wanted to thank you for being a great mentor for Cole. You were the difference and your leadership/relevance made a great impact on Cole. Thank you for all your efforts. God bless!

What an amazing experience. Sedric Jeremiah will provide some feedback when he comes home but he was only home for one day and took off for a mission trip to build houses in the hills of Michigan. Hopefully he learned some things at the SAME camp that will help his crew in this next building adventure.

Thank you to all the folks who put this camp together, helped on site, and anyone who took part to make this happen. When I picked Jeremiah up from the airport, he spent the next two hours (until 3 am) talking nonstop telling me stories about the SAME camp and the people he met. It was hilarious. He had a great time. It was an honor and a privilege for him to be granted this experience. Thanks to all! Jacqueline

Please visit the website: [http://www.same.org/index.php/events/professional-credentialing-reimbursement-program](http://www.same.org/index.php/events/professional-credentialing-reimbursement-program) for details or contact Hector M. Hernandez at Hector.Hernandez@ch2m.com (850-396-4934) for more information.
Upcoming YM Professional Development Call

By Matthew Altman, Vice Chair – Programs, SAME YM Council

Thanks again to Col. Joe Manous, USA (Ret.), and Capt. Alan Watt, UNSR (Ret.), for an outstanding professional development discussion on engineering ethics. We had nearly 100 professionals on the call to discuss a very important topic for all engineers.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our next YM Professional Development Call:

When: Wednesday, 27 Aug 14, 1100-1200 EST

Guest Speaker: Col. John Mogge, Ph.D., RA, CSIP, F.SAME, USAF (Ret.)

Description: We are honored to have the newly installed SAME President, Col. John Mogge, USAF (Ret.), as our guest speaker this quarter. Col. Mogge will discuss a variety of topics of interest to Young Members, including sustainability and consulting engineering, as well as internal innovation and visioning careers.

Admin: To join the call, go to https://www.spiderphone.com/75303076 OR dial +1 212-812-2800 and enter 7530 3076.

Professional Development Hours: The YM Council will award one PDH for participation in this call.

Col. John W. Mogge is Global Director of Technology, Practice and Design, Environmental Services Business Group, CH2M HILL, and the 2014–2015 President of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME).

Col. Mogge joined CH2M HILL in 2001 as Southeast Business Group Manager in the firm’s Transportation Business Group following a 27-year career with the U.S. Air Force. In August 2008, he became Global Director of Business Development and Strategic Planning, CH2M HILL Environmental Services Business Group, and in January 2010, was named a Senior Vice President with the firm and appointed to his current position as Global Director of Technology, Practice and Design. Among his many achievements at CH2M HILL, he served during 2006–2007 as the Sustainability Program Manager for planning the execution of the 2012 London Olympics as a member of the CLM Joint Venture.

Before transitioning to the private sector, Col. Mogge held a number of increasingly demanding positions as a civil engineer officer with the Air Force, culminating as the Air Force Reserve Command Civil Engineer, Robins AFB, Ga., from 1999–2001. In this role, he oversaw infrastructure and facility programs at 13 Air Force Reserve Command bases with a plant replacement value of more than $4 billion. He personally directed a headquarters staff of 80 and was the senior military officer and functional manger of 5,700 full-time and reserve civil engineers, organized in 40 squadrons across the country. His responsibilities also extended beyond the Department of Defense and included support to state and local disaster response activities as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Prior to serving as Air Force Reserve Command Civil Engineer, Col. Mogge was Commander and Base Civil Engineer, 78th Civil Engineer Group, Robins AFB, 1996–1999. Before that, from 1994–1996, he was the Director of Civil Engineer Programs, HQ U.S. Air Force, The Pentagon. He also served as Director of Environmental Programs, HQ Air Combat Command, Langley AFB, Va.; and prior to that he was the Director of Civil Engineer Readiness, HQ Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, Tyndall AFB, Fla.

Col. Mogge entered the Air Force in 1974 and as a Company Grade Officer served at bases to include Eglin AFB, Fla.; Spangdahlem AB, Germany; Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio; and Ramstein AB, German. Then as a Field Grade Officer beginning in 1985 he served as Base Civil Engineer at Fairfield AB, United Kingdom, and later at Kunsan AB, Korea.

An active member of SAME since 1980, Col. Mogge has served on the SAME National Board of Direction as an Elected Director and as the Middle Atlantic Regional Vice President. He also served as Robins Post President; was the 2012 South Atlantic/South Central Regional Conference Program Track Planner and Committee Mentor; and in 1996, served as Co-Chair of the SAME National Conference in Washington, D.C. Col. Mogge was invested into the SAME Academy of Fellows in 1996 and he is currently Chair of the SAME National Energy & Sustainability Committee. He also is a member of the American Institute of Architects.

Col. Mogge graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Florida in 1973 and completed his master’s degree in Architecture at the University of Florida in 1974. In 2004, he earned a doctorate in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Georgia Tech, with a focus on Sustainable Planning, Design and Construction.
Interested in pitching in?

Help us fill our vacant liaison vacancies. Let Ben know you’re interested: same.ymchair@gmail.com

LinkedIn for your Post, Committee, Council or Conference
• Use your group’s LinkedIn page to create opportunities for two way discussion about important issues relevant to your group. Discussion threads are open conversations that any group member can respond to. Groups can be open or closed – it is up to the moderator to decide, and can be changed later if needed.
• Be sure to link your group to SAME HQ as a subgroup so members can easily find you, and list your group on the SAME social media webpage so members can easily find you
• Seek feedback for upcoming events (what topics are of interest, dates/time, etc?); post industry related articles with brief your commentary or invite the comments of others.

TWITTER for your Post, Committee, Council or Conference
• Create a Twitter account for your group to share information and provide real-time information to your followers by sending out important updates about event dates, speakers, membership goals, honors, awards, etc.
• Link tweets to your group’s LinkedIn and/or Facebook page where members can find more details and information, or link tweets to the event or article you are referencing.
• Post information relevant to your members beyond your group’s boundaries—connect members with other organizations and other aspects of SAME.
• Begin to follow similar groups, people, and firms to share their news and updates with your followers (retweet).
• Use hashtags (#) for events to create and track conversations (e.g. #JETC2014)

Facebook for your Post, Committee, Council or Conference
• Create a Facebook page to share news of interest to your group and encourage their participation and sharing with their friends and colleagues
• Facebook is a great resource to showcase pictures of events, accomplishments of members, and industry news
• Connect your network to other organizations that would benefit from knowing what is happening in your group; Members who “Like” your page receive your post updates in their timeline