Fort Worth and Dallas Posts
Enjoying Craft Beer With Fellow Engineers

By Kyle Parks, Dallas Post Young Members Chair

How do you get multiple Young Members/Professionals from varying engineering organizations under one roof? Entice them with craft beer and throw in some free pizza. In wanting to create a broader network with fellow engineers, both the Fort Worth and Dallas SAME Posts have reached out to local engineering organizations such as WEAT, ASCE and AWWA to jointly sponsor a Young Members/Professionals event. August 14, 2014, marked our second successful event this year which was organized by Sarwenaj Ashraf (SAME Fort Worth Post Young Member Chair) and held at Martin House Brewing Company located just east of downtown Fort Worth, Texas. Thirty engineers representing three local engineering organizations, SAME FW/Dallas, WEAT and AWWA, sampled micro-brews, networked and enjoyed one another’s company. The highlight of the evening was a private tour by Cody Martin, founder and brewmaster illustrating culinary and engineering applications. The excitement in meeting new engineers from other organizations and developing new friendships make events like this a success. For more information please contact me at kparks@cpyi.com.

Credentialing Achievement Awards Program

The SAME Young Member Council is continuing the Credentialing Achievement Awards Program (CAAP) to promote the professional development of SAME Young Members in support of the SAME Strategic Plan. CAAP serves to fulfill an objective which is to provide financial support for professional development, education, and mentoring initiatives to benefit our SAME members. SAME will support the cost by reimbursing Young Members for exam sitting or registration fees. Full program details and application are located on the Young Member Council’s webpage on the SAME HQ website at www.same.org/youngmembers. 2015 Applications are due April 10 and October 9.

For questions regarding the program, please visit the SAME HQ Website or contact Hector M. Hernandez at 850-396-4934 or Hector.Hernandez@ch2m.com.

www.same.org/youngmembers
I was honored to be selected by the Emerald Coast Post of SAME to attend the Summer 2014 Post Leaders Workshop in Alexandria, Va., along with our Post Officer representative, Richard Brown. As a relatively new SAME member, this was my first opportunity to participate in an SAME National event, and I had no idea what to expect, though I was excited to participate and represent my post.

We arrived in Alexandria on Monday afternoon and caught a taxi to the hotel. I found the accommodations to be very nice; a fine hotel in an incredible location. The scenery on the drive through Old Town Alexandria was quite a treat. It was clear immediately during check in at the hotel that Marc Bialek’s team at SAME HQ had attended to all the details as the hotel staff was well prepared for our arrival.

During the welcome dinner Monday evening, I had the opportunity to network with the other workshop attendees seated at my table which included representatives from posts across the country, as well as a staff member from SAME HQ. It was good to talk with this diverse group of individuals which all shared a common interest in the SAME values and mission though each brought his or her own viewpoint with respect to how he or she could support the overall objectives of the organization. With opening remarks by Dr. Bob Wolff and a keynote address by SAME President Col. John Mogge, dinner proved to be both enjoyable and very informative. That said, I would be remiss if I failed to also mention that the steak and salmon were delicious!

Tuesday morning began with breakfast at the hotel followed by presentations given by Dr. Bob Wolff on the topics of ethics in dealing with DOD as a private organization and SAME National organization and programs. As a member of the private sector and not having served in the military or worked for DOD myself, I found the presentation on ethics to be enlightening. I was previously unaware of some of the nuances associated with how members of the armed services may present themselves personally and represent the government in their official capacities when participating in organizations such as SAME. The overall discussion of SAME National organization and programs was equally informative. During the short time period in which I have been involved with the Emerald Coast Post I have been astounded by the impact that our medium sized post has had just within our area of responsibility. I learned that by comparison the scale of SAME National’s programs as implemented in concert with the individual posts is truly impressive.

The break-out sessions that rounded out the program for Tuesday offered two tracks, so Richard and I were able to represent our Post in both. My first session was on membership and CLAS, which was presented by Marc Bialek, Director of Member and Post Operations at SAME HQ. The subject matter centered around several methods by which individual posts can promote membership growth and retention, as well as the use of CLAS to glean and monitor useful information that can help posts to promote growth and retention. Many valuable ideas, techniques, and strategies were discussed such as taking a proactive approach to following up with visitors to post meetings, seeking cross promotional opportunities with other trade organizations within your post’s area of responsibility, conducting new member orientations and recognizing new members during post events.

The second session I attended was the young member forum. The forum proved to be a lively discussion with young members from all over the country, all with varying perspectives but sharing common goals, and many useful ideas were promoted within the group. Growth strategies for young member involvement that were discussed included everything from promotion of credentialing programs for young professionals to fostering student chapter activities. The open sharing of ideas from many viewpoints was a refreshing and productive exercise.
The final break-out session on my agenda for Tuesday was on volunteer leadership and was presented by Rear Adm. Michael Giorgione. I thought the admiral’s presentation style achieved the maximum possible impact in that he was extremely effective in garnering participation from each and every attendee. The exercises during the session caused each of us to really consider what the terms “volunteer” and “leadership” mean, both individually and combined. Through the session I gained a new understanding of the volunteer leadership aspect of what it means to be an active member of an SAME Post, and how I can best recognize and appreciate the acceptance of the responsibility of that role by each of my fellow post members.

On Wednesday morning, Richard and I both sat in on the medium post roundtable discussion. During this session, a representative from each medium post at the workshop was able to speak about their respective post’s effective programs with relation to implementation of the new SAME mission statement, post assistance to veterans and wounded warriors, continuing education and mentoring success stories. It was a remarkable experience to hear how each of the posts were pursuing varied and singularly creative opportunities to fulfill the SAME mission. I came away from the roundtable discussion with new ideas and a greater understanding of the impact SAME has in communities throughout the nation.

Heading home on Wednesday afternoon, I felt a sense of privilege to have been able to participate in such a constructive event. Through the workshop I was able to gain a new perspective on the wide ranging effect SAME can have in our communities, from the overall goals of national right down to local post programs. Whether it be in support of our veterans and active duty military engineers or in the development of the next generation of engineering professionals through involvement in STEM initiatives at the primary education level, there is much work to be done and many avenues by which we can achieve our goals. As a young member of SAME, I am now more convinced than ever that there is a broad spectrum of platforms from which we can promote our mission and values and impact our communities and the engineering field. I appreciate having had the honor of representing the Emerald Coast Post at the SAME Summer 2014 Post Leaders Workshop to reinforce that conviction and gain a new perspective on how to best represent SAME values on the home front.
I had the opportunity to serve as a mentor at the Summer 2014 Society of American Military Engineers/United States Air Force Academy (SAME/USAFA) Engineering and Construction Camp. Ninety-six high school students from around the world were selected by SAME posts to attend the camp. These students are top of their class, maintain a high GPA, and are extremely active in all types of extracurricular activities. The 96 campers were organized into 8 teams called flights, each of which was led by a flight commander (a college engineering student) and two mentors (SAME Young Members). During the week-long camp, students performed hands-on activities following the theme of “BUILD then DESIGN”. This concept allowed campers to have a limited amount of time to quickly come up with a design, build it, and then test it. After testing, the campers were able to see the flaws and strengths in their designs and discuss which techniques may have been better than others. It allowed the campers to spend more time hands on, rather than sitting in a classroom.

For each activity, flights were evaluated based on teamwork, organization, leadership, safety, and solution. At the end of the week, a top flight was named at the graduation ceremony. One activity was focused on green/sustainable energy. Each flight was acting as a firm being evaluated for a contract award to explore various renewable energy and sustainability solutions for future projects on the base. There were eight stations where the campers performed different activities including design, build, and test a small wind turbine and hydropower turbine; design a green roof and a LEED building; and perform evaluations of recycling, water conservation, solar power, and a net-zero building. A few other activities in the flight competition included construction of a wood frame building (shed); design, construction, and destructive testing of a reinforced concrete beam; and design, construction, and testing of a sprinkler system. The camp also featured a tour of the US Air Force Academy including the engineering labs, an opportunity to attend a religious service on Sunday at the Academy chapel, a visit to a local A/E firm, and a hike around the Garden of the Gods park.

Students from the GMU Student Chapter joined young members (and some “not quite as young” members) at the YM Happy Hour on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at Bungalow Billiards and Brew Company in Chantilly, Va. This Happy Hour featuring complimentary appetizers was one of the events of the 2014 Mid-Atlantic Region Joint Engineer Training Symposium. The photos below show that everyone had a great time. The YM event organizers also promoted the SAME National Credentialing Achievement Awards Program (CAAP) for Young Members and NCOs at the event. Jamare Bates, John Cardenas, and Francisca “Frankie” Gulley were three NoVA Post Young Members who worked hard to ensure a successful YM event. Thank you to CDM Smith and Dewberry for sponsoring this event!
Philadelphia Young Member Event

By James Blake, O'Brien & Gere, Philadelphia Post

The Philadelphia Post held the Young Member event at the Wells Fargo Center for an in-depth tour of the facilities. Young Members and friends were treated to fun facts about the sports teams past and present, back stage views of the VIP and press areas and we were even serenaded with a rehearsal performance of the Star Spangled Banner. Afterwards, we migrated to Xfinity live (the site of the former Spectrum arena), for food, laughter, and networking.

Who knew that the Sixers were previously named the Warriors? Also, who knew the Flyers were almost named the Quakers instead? Anyone who attended the event now knows that. We were treated to viewing memorabilia of the Flyers Hall of Famers, which included bronzed busts, views of actual jerseys worn by popular 76ers through the decades, and the visitor locker room for the NBA games. With a great birds-eye view of the arena, we learned from the NHL press area, the press seats sometimes go on sale for concert additional seating. From the Cadillac Grille to the Lexus Club, we got a behind the scenes (well behind the glass with the blinds closed) view of the Comcast SportsNet room. As many times as I’ve been there throughout the years, Thursday was the first time I noticed the Wilt Chamberlain statue near the escalators, close to the VIP entrance.

The Victory Pub at Xfinity live was the perfect back-drop for some good old fashioned chatter. Tasting the latest offerings from the Victory line, we were able to discuss such topics as the 2015 Design and Hazardous Waste Conference that the SAME-Philadelphia Post will be hosting, the SAME Philadelphia Post Phillies game on August 5, and the Preston and Steve Radio show event happening on the other side of Xfinity Live. I think a good time was had by all, and considering that I ran out of business cards by the end of the event, I know I had a good time as well.

Upcoming YM Professional Development Call

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

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

When: Tuesday, 17 Mar 15, 1100-1200 EST

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

Description: We are honored to have the 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.
Over 30 SAME Members, inclusive of Student Chapter Members, attended the SAME New Jersey Post and Philadelphia Post Joint Young Member event held at the Battleship New Jersey on Thursday, September 18, 2014. The group was able to network on a beautiful September evening, while enjoying spectacular views of the Philadelphia Skyline and Delaware River Bridges.

The technical session was led by Dr. Golda, the Chief Technologist of the Machinery Research and Engineering Department, Naval Ship Systems Engineering Station (NAVSSES), part of the U.S. Navy’s Naval Sea System Command. Dr. Golda focused on the shipbuilding industry in the Delaware Valley, and explained the building of the Hog Island Shipyard during World War I, which, in many ways, foreshadowed the creation of numerous shipbuilding yards during World War II. Dr. Golda addressed issues such as site preparation, use of modular construction, training of the workforce, and lessons learned. PDH’s were offered to attendees as well.

A few highlights from Dr. Golda’s presentation:

- The contract to build Hog Island Shipyard was awarded in September of 1917 for an estimated contract cost of $21,000,000.00. It was to be the largest shipyard in the world, estimated to produce over 120 ships, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- The shipyard was completed in June of 1918 at a total cost of $66,000,000.00.

- Over 30,000 workers were employed at the 846-acre yard, and some were provided housing. There were 12 service restaurants, 5 mess halls, a hotel, cafeteria, YMCA and even a shipyard training school with 150 instructors. The majority of the 1-4 week courses were out in the open (“hardening up” process).

- Hog Island Shipyard received the World’s Launching Record on May 30, 1919 for launching 5 ships, totaling 39,125 tons, in 48 minutes and 10 seconds!

- And finally... the term “hoagie” evolved from Hog Island. The lunchtime meal for workers at the shipyard was called the “Hog Island Sandwich”. It was then shortened to “hoggie”, and around WWII it evolved into what is currently known as a “hoagie”!

A great time was had by all, and the first of many more successful joint Young Member events between the two posts. A special thank you to Devin Demarco and his team who led the efforts on planning this wonderful evening, as well as the following SAME Sustaining Member Sponsors:

- First Environment, Inc.
- Hill International, Inc.
- REGENESIS.

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/
Interested in pitching in?

Help us fill our 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. #JETC2015)

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