



WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 02 MSP News and Updates
- 03 President's Update
- 03 Welcome New Members
- 04 Congratulations!!
- 05 April Webinar Highlights
- 07 SAME Day and Centennial Celebration
- 07 MSP Executive Board Vacancies
- 08 Leadership Development Program
- 08 Virtual JETC Recap
- 09 Job Notices
- 09 Small Business Corner

SAME-MSP BOARD MEMBERS:

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Mortenson Construction

Vice President

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SEH

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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Dave Ausdemore
Ann Banitt
Matt Redington
Katy Thompson

SAME-MSP JUNE MEETING: 06.17.2020

JOINT ETHICS TRAINING WITH ASFPM

1.0 PDH

Kristine A. Kubes, Esq. | Kubes Law Office, PLLC

Rule Renovation: What Recent Updates to the MN Rules of Professional Conduct Mean for your Practice

Learning objectives include:

- ★ Review new and updated MN Rules of conduct for design professionals
- ★ Refresh the design professional's understanding of the MN rules on professionalism and ethics
- ★ Learn how ethical practice protects the public health, safety, and welfare
- ★ Learn about the Licensure Board's Complaint Process

Speaker Biography:

Attorney Kristine A. Kubes is principal of Kubes Law Office, PLLC, serving design and construction professionals through all stages of a project – from contracts to payment issues, liens, and defense of professional liability claims. She is a litigator admitted to argue cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. She is a mediator, and educator on construction, design, and ethics issues. Kristine is the National Chair of the American Bar Association Forum on Construction Law. She served as a public member on the MN Board of AELSLAGID from 2006-2013, during which she served two terms as Board Chair from 2009-2011. For more information, please visit www.kubeslaw.com

Details: Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Time: 12:00 – 1:00pm

Cost: \$20 ASFPM/SAME Members, \$30 non-members

Location: WebEx (details to be provided with registration)

RSVP: Monday June 15, 2020

For more details and to RSVP, please use the following link:

<https://www.same.org/Get-Connected/Find-a-Post/MPLS-STPL/News-Updates/Monthly-Meeting>

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, many conferences have been cancelled or postponed. Here is a summary of some that have moved to a virtual platform and will still be proceeding, somewhat, as planned:

- ★ Association of State Floodplain Managers Annual National Conference, June 7-11
- ★ SAME 2020 Commanders' Briefing, June 10
- ★ Minnesota Water Resources Conference, October 20-21, 2020

Do you have a conference or event you would like to advertise with us? Please contact Katy Thompson at katy@youngecg.com to get your next event included in our newsletter!

SAME-MSP NEWS AND UPDATES

Mark your calendars, despite the pandemic, there are still some upcoming opportunities to get involved with the Minneapolis-Saint Paul SAME Post!

SAME 2020 COMMANDERS' BRIEFING WEBINAR

USACE District Engineer Briefings are coming via webinar on Tuesday, 10 JUNE 2020 from 0900-1230 CST. Cost will be \$100 for private sector participants and free for public sector participants. All proceeds will go to support the Rock Island Post scholarship fund!

A recording of the event will be provided to all registrants. Take advantage of your time working remotely to learn about upcoming project opportunities with USACE!

This year we will have District Engineers from:

- ★ Rock Island District
- ★ Omaha District
- ★ Saint Paul District
- ★ Louisville District
- ★ Chicago District
- ★ Kansas City District
- ★ Saint Louis District

These Districts will be presenting their FY20, FY21 and out-year programs for the benefit of our members, especially the Architect/Engineer community.

Please help us make this event a success. We are looking forward to your attendance at our annual, cost-effective alternative to our old Commanders Briefings Conference!

[Register here](#) and/or contact [Laura Rozumalski](#) with any questions.

GOOD NEWS NEEDED!

Do you have some good news to share with the SAME community? We are hard pressed to keep our spirits up considering the current pandemic and civil unrest. Please feel free to share your good news and be featured in our newsletter and LinkedIn pages! Contact Katy Thompson at katy@youngecg.com with any questions and thank you!

HAVE AN INTERESTING PROJECT TO SHARE?

Consider writing an article for our newsletter! If you have any ideas or suggestions for the newsletter please reach out to Katy Thompson at katy@youngecg.com

CONNECT WITH US!

We encourage you to check out our Facebook and LinkedIn pages and private group to stay up to date on the happenings at our Post – contact Katy if you want to post something to our members.



<https://www.facebook.com/SAMEMSP/>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/same-msp-post/>

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Well, it has been an unprecedented spring. Unfortunately, our March joint ASCE meeting was postponed due to COVID-19 concerns. We are looking to reschedule the presentation on the Collapse of the Innovative FIU Pedestrian Bridge, so please stay tuned for upcoming information. We had a very successful webinar on April 8th that discussed the impacts to the A/E industry due to COVID-19. A special thanks to **Matt Reddington**, our director of programs, **Katy Thompson**, the director for website and communications, and our secretary, **Dan Kvasnicka**, who have done a wonderful job adapting to this new environment. Even though the webinar was scheduled with such short notice, over 80 members participated. We hope those that were able to join found it to be very informative. In June, we plan to host another webinar that will be a joint webinar with the MNFPM in hopes that this summer we can all enjoy each other's company once again.

For those of you that were able to attend the **Virtual JETC** this past month, I really hope that you enjoyed it and that it offered some great takeaways that you can use in future endeavors. If you missed it and are still interested in viewing some of the sessions, all sessions are available for on-demand listening. If there is something you missed or something new you want to learn, you will have access through your registration. One Track Pass registrations will have the option to upgrade to full registrations to take advantage of over 40 PDHs available during Virtual JETC - visit www.SAMEJETC.org for more information.

SAME continues to grow and we are really looking for some assistance in a couple of crucial roles that help to keep the post operational. Please consider getting more involved with SAME. Additional details regarding volunteer opportunities with our post are as follows:

★ **Habitat for Humanity**

Our annual event was cancelled; however, we were still able to donate to Habitat for Humanity. We hope to continue our relationship with this wonderful organization and aim to host future events to support their efforts.

★ **Chair of Continuing Professional Competency Committee**

We have been so blessed to have had **Michelle Larson** help us with our planning and execution of Professional Development Hours for our programs. However, Michelle will be leaving for a temporary duty assignment in Brazil next year. **WE REALLY NEED YOUR HELP TO FILL THIS POSITION**. If anyone is interested in becoming more involved with our post, this is a great opportunity. Please feel free to reach out to me if you are interested.

★ **Chair of Records and Archiving**

We are looking for a SAME member who would be willing to assist with setting up a record storage management system. This position will require approximately 1 hour per week to set up an external document management folder that will allow SAME-MSP to manage archives in an efficient and organized fashion. Please consider donating some of your time.

Jane Flewollen
SAME-MSP Post President
Direct: 763.287.3464
Email: jane.flewollen@mortenson.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The following individuals have joined the SAME-MSP Post this month – thank you for joining us and welcome to the Minneapolis-Saint Paul Post!

- ★ David Johnson, AECOM
- ★ Laura Rozumalski, Fresh Water Engineering





Congratulations to Christine and Mark!



Please join us in congratulating **Christine Afdahl** for receiving the **2020 SAME Post Service Medal!** For 29 years, Christine has attained a remarkable level of experience through involvement in numerous roles, including multiple board and chair positions. Christine has served as Junior Vice President, Committee Chair for Memberships, Post Vice President in 2009-2010, and Post President in 2010-2011. Throughout the years, Christine Afdahl's involvement in the MSP post can be described as thoroughly dedicated, continually focused, and an ever-willing volunteer. This award is well deserved.

Please join us in congratulating **Mark Angelo** for being inducted into the **SAME Fellows!** For 32 years, Mark has demonstrated service and dedication to SAME and to the engineering profession. Mark has designed and managed flood damage reduction projects for many communities and has assisted several communities in flood fighting efforts as a consultant and volunteer. He has also written several professional articles and made numerous presentations, including at SAME events, to educate other engineers and the public on floodplain management.

Mr. Angelo served on the Minneapolis-St. Paul Post's board of directors for 6 years and the Rock Island Post's board of directors for 2 years, where he served in several elected leadership positions, including President, Vice President, Director, and Committee Chair. Mark has been instrumental in many programs that the Minneapolis-St. Paul Post still supports today, including the 4-year scholarship program, K-12 outreach and grants, and STEM related events. He also developed ongoing relationships between SAME, ASCE, MNFPM, the National Guard, and several others. Mark continues to serve SAME unselfishly as a leader and a mentor and is truly an asset to the Minneapolis-St. Paul Post. Once again, please join me in congratulating Mark on his outstanding accomplishment!

Congrats to both Christine and Mark on their accomplishments!

SAME-MSP POST EDUCATION GRANT RECIPIENTS!

The following two schools were awarded education grants this year:

SIBLEY EAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | GAYLORD, MN

The school was awarded funds to purchase **Engineering is Elementary** curriculum activity kits. These are hands on engineering challenges that will enhance the engineering initiative within each grade level. The curriculum activity kits will give students the opportunity to design alarm circuits, bridges, windmills, and shelters. The \$2,411 grant will allow 462 elementary school students to experience this new curriculum.



Rachel Pichelmann (center), SAME Member, presents the award check to Sibley East Elementary School represented by the STEM teacher, Ms. Schuette (left) and the school principal, Mrs. Martens (right).

DASSEL COKATO MIDDLE SCHOOL | COKATO, MN

The school was awarded funds to purchase 15 programmable **BOLT robots** and a Sphero self-guided course for the instructor. The BOLT robots will be used to complete a variety of coding challenges while utilizing math and science principles in the STEM classroom. Utilizing these robots and the challenges/opportunities they bring, will open doors, and provide experiences that students did not know were available. The \$2,700 grant will allow 214 middle school students to participate in this exciting opportunity.

APRIL WEBINAR HIGHLIGHTS

COVID-19 has had a tremendous impact on our daily lives as we adjust to the new realities of facing a pandemic. The health of our loved ones and vulnerable populations continues to be of paramount importance and is weighing on all of us. We hope that everyone who is reading this newsletter is safe and well.

As we adjust to this new reality of social distancing, our in-person monthly meetings are being replaced with webinars for the time-being. For our first post-pandemic meeting, the SAME board thought it would be timely and valuable to schedule a webinar on COVID-19. We felt the COVID-19 situation and impacts to our industry were a perfect fit for the topic of resilience which is one of our Post's focus areas.

Our webinar (on April 8) included several guest speakers that facilitated a conversation on a variety of COVID-19 related topics. Nearly 80 people attended this webinar, making it one of our highest attended events in recent history! The intent of this meeting was to be relatively informal and interactive. We are hoping as we all adjust to this new format of virtual meetings, that we can continue asking questions, providing ideas, and comparing experiences. Thank you for adjusting to this new format, your interest, and for attending this event. Hopefully, you can continue to join us for other future 'virtual' meetings as these meetings are an opportunity to collaborate, socially connect, and continue our important mission.

LT COLONEL PATRICK J. SULLIVAN | DEPUTY COMMANDER USACE, ST PAUL DISTRICT

Lt. Col. Pat Sullivan discussed how a distributed work force has changed how our leaders lead, and how we interact with others in our workplace and industry. He shared the following lessons learned and provided thoughts on how we are improving our approach to communication when everyone is now teleworking instead of being in the office. His insights included:

- ★ With a change in our office environment moving to working from home, the leaders in our organization must change how they lead. First, leaders must ensure that all employees have the equipment and access to all needed networks. This includes ensuring that they have a good workspace with good ergonomics. All phones must be forwarded so that your internal or external customers have a seamless transition in this new environment.
- ★ Leaders must know the environment that their employees are working in. Understanding which employees are trying to have both parents working at home while getting their young children through their homework is extremely important. Giving these employees a little more flexibility on schedule and workload will give major returns later to the organization.
- ★ Leaders must communicate differently. Just walking to someone's desk or bumping into people in the hall is no longer available. Leaders must improve their technology skills and reach out to their employees much more deliberately and much more often. Regular meetings must continue to keep the foundational actions of an organization moving, or these things will become much more difficult in the near future when they become a high priority.
- ★ We have had some lessons learned in our organization. All employee calls are a great way to get information out to multiple levels very quickly in a rapidly changing environment. Setting up groups of 4 employees to do a lunch call is a great way to keep employees connected. Doing a quick 5-minute technology class at the beginning of a meeting is a great way to get everyone feeling more comfortable with the change in environment. Doing an ice breaker activity where everyone can either talk or vote on something is a great way to get people more comfortable with using the new technology. Virtual on boarding is something that takes a little time to develop, but it is very much needed when you try to continue to hire.

KEVIN WILSON | DEPUTY DISTRICT ENGINEER FOR PROGRAMS AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, ST PAUL DISTRICT

Kevin Wilson provided an overview of what the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is doing to support the State of Minnesota and help avoid hospital bed shortages during the novel coronavirus pandemic. Highlights included:

- ★ St Paul District (MVP) of the US Army Corps of Engineers has been working with the State of Minnesota since the Governor's initial "Stay at Home" order in mid-March. In addition, the St Paul District has been helping the Omaha District with their COVID-19 efforts in eastern North Dakota.
- ★ MVP supported Minnesota's overall planning efforts for the Community - Alternate Care Sites from initiation. Working with the MN State Emergency Operation Center, MVP conducted 40 assessments in MN over a two-week period, participated in the prioritization of top locations, and conducted more in-depth assessments of the top ten sites.
- ★ A wide variety of sites were assessed including recently closed health care facilities, long term care facilities, dorms, hotels, camps, a closed prison, and arenas.

What MVP learned:

1. MN has tremendous health care capability with dedicated and concerned health care providers.
2. The State is organized into eight health care regions comprised of private providers who form consortiums to ensure the region has the appropriate levels of health care. The State has limited authority over the regions.
3. By bringing in the appropriate planning staff (including planners from the MN National Guard), the regions were able to work jointly in planning the alternate care sites.
4. The MVP conducted 11 site assessments in Fargo, Grand Forks, Devil's Lake and Jamestown, North Dakota. This was in support of the Omaha District which has overall responsibility for the state. Bringing in MVP to support the eastern half of North Dakota was logical since the MVP normally works with stakeholders on civil works projects in these areas.

CATHERINE LANG | HDR CHIEF COUNSEL WATER

Catherine Lang (Chief Counsel for HDR's Water Business Group) provided her perspective on implications of COVID-19 on legal contracts. Some of her thoughts included:

- ★ Contracts may already have terms that are relevant to the COVID 19 pandemic.
- ★ Businesses should review applicable terms in their contracts such as force majeure, suspension, and changes provisions to understand potential impacts.
- ★ As we adjust to a new post-pandemic business environment, new contracts may need to use revised or clarified contract terms to make sure such an event is covered. New contracts may need to include a detailed force majeure clause that anticipates labor and supply shortages related to "disease," "epidemic," or "acts of God". New contracts may also need to include provisions for time and compensation relief.
- ★ Consider drafting notice letters if delays or disruptions are anticipated. We should at least put clients on notice of impacts and reassess on whether further notices or claims are required
- ★ Monitor COVID-19-related government/regulatory announcements related to your industry, workforce, and supply chain
- ★ Make 'upstream' and 'downstream' contracts consistent on force majeure provisions. You do not want to be in a situation where you have contract protections under a prime contract but not for a subcontract on the same project, for instance.

MATT REDINGTON, PE | HDR DAM, LEVEE AND CIVIL WORKS SR. BUSINESS CLASS LEADER

Matt Redington discussed how safety measures are important for our project teams and the clients we serve. Some thoughts provided for consideration included:

- ★ Resiliency refers to the ability to respond, absorb, adapt to, and recover from a disruptive event. Resiliency is relevant to us on multiple levels during the COVID 19 pandemic:
 - » Personal resiliency
 - » Government agency resiliency
 - » Private company resiliency
 - » Infrastructure resiliency
 - » SAME organization resiliency
- ★ Avoid in-person meetings and meet virtually if you can during this period of social distancing. Virtual meetings are proving to be an effective, although sometimes challenging, tool.
- ★ Different populations may have different levels of vulnerability due to population density, location, proximity of health care services, and resiliency of health care facilities/personnel. If you must meet in person, consider where you are going and who you are meeting.
- ★ If you must meet in person, coordinate with the other parties on their concerns and vulnerabilities. As we adjust to this new reality, there are no right or wrong answers. Every site visit or meeting should be considered and evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- ★ Safety plans should be updated and customized to account for COVID 19 risks.
- ★ Plans should be developed to consider what actions staff should take if they become ill when travelling or on site. Separate travel plans or vehicles could provide opportunities to maintain distance and minimize risks. Contingencies for isolating in place should be identified.
- ★ People have differing levels of vulnerability due to diverse factors such as age, pre-existing health conditions, living arrangements, proximity to health care facilities, and financial resilience. Be understanding that the COVID 19 pandemic is a deeply personal experience that is different for everyone.

2020 SAME DAY AND CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Due to the current circumstances surrounding COVID-19, we are going to combine our **2020 SAME Day** with our **Centennial Celebration** that is being planned for the end of September/early October time frame. We will provide more information in the upcoming newsletters and look forward to seeing you in the fall.

If you are interested in presenting on a topic of interest, becoming a sponsor for the event, or becoming involved in the effort, please feel free to reach out to [Peter Allen](#) for additional information.

RECRUITING 2020-2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS!

Have you enjoyed participating at SAME-MSP events, but are looking to further invest yourself in the organization? Maybe you are looking to broaden your professional network, or gain some invaluable leadership skills? If so, please consider running for a position on the SAME-MSP Executive Board for 2020-2021. Below are the open positions:

- ★ Vice President
- ★ Director of Resiliency

Please feel free to reach out to [Jane Flewellen](#), current SAME-MSP President, or [Lindsey Roberts McKenzie](#), current SAME-MSP Vice President, if you have any questions or if you are interested in a position. We would love for you to join and share your time and talent!

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The [Joint Engineering Training Conference & Expo](#) (JETC) was held virtually this year on May 27th through 29th and also marked the graduation of the SAME Leader Development Program (LDP) Class of 2019-2020 and the kickoff of the Class of 2020-2021.

Congratulations to [Erin Krug](#) for graduating in the inaugural LDP Class of 2019-2020! A formal, in-person graduation ceremony has been postponed for a future SAME National event.

The MSP post was honored again with a LDP participant! [Thomas Fakler](#) is from the MSP post and will be the Great Lakes Region representative in the SAME LDP Class of 2020-2021. Congratulations Thomas!

VIRTUAL JETC RECAP

The Virtual [Joint Engineering Training Conference & Expo](#) (JETC): Adapting for Today and Tomorrow was held from May 27-29, 2020. This was the first-ever Virtual JETC that was redirected in planning from the original JETC in Washington, DC back in April. Virtual JETC is a historic moment in SAME because it is our first-ever virtual national conference. But it is also the transition into our second century. During the week, Heather Wishart-Smith was sworn in as the 101st SAME National President, and we said farewell and thank you to our 100th National President Buddy Barnes.



Virtual JETC was a chance to stay up to speed with all that is happening in the federal A/E/C sector—from the comfort and safety of your computer!

- ★ Virtual JETC featured keynote speaker Mike Rowe, host of television series Dirty Jobs and advocate for the trades fields.
- ★ The Engineering Service Chiefs Panel spoke on May 27.
- ★ Gen. Stanley McChrystal, USA (Ret.), Founder of The McChrystal Group and former Commander of U.S. Forces - Afghanistan, spoke on May 29 on leadership and managing in crisis.
- ★ U.S. Surgeon General Vice Adm. Jerome Adams, MD, MPH, USPHS, provided a special message to attendees in our closing session on May 29!

Virtual JETC featured over 40 education and training sessions designed to provide you with professional development content that will support your needs right now!

A total of seven tracks devoted to environmental, energy & sustainability, architecture & engineering, joint engineering, employment, resilience, and leadership to help you improve your skills and knowledge and ensure you and your organization remain relevant in a competitive environment.

Participants have access to 90+ vendors in the virtual Exhibit Hall—the perfect place to discover a wide range of products & services, and product demos. Check out the full exhibitor list of leading A/E/C companies at Virtual JETC!

SUSTAINING FIRMS UPDATES

JOB NOTICES

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District is seeking a Civil Engineer to perform civil/site design and analysis for horizontal construction projects. These projects support inland navigation, flood risk management, environmental restoration, and emergency response to disasters. For information and to apply, go to:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/558890800>. Please contact Gary Wolf with questions at gary.c.wolf@usace.army.mil or (651) 290-5288.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District is seeking a Senior Structural engineer to resolve complicated engineering problems and make decisions on the design, analysis, and evaluation of project features. These projects support inland navigation, flood risk management, environmental restoration, and emergency response to disasters. For more information and to apply, go to <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/547524600>.

Please contact Mike Dahlquist with any questions at michael.s.dahlquist@usace.army.mil or at (651) 290-5571.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all our Sustaining Firms – SAME-MSP appreciates your support and want to make sure all our members are aware of it, too!

- ★ AECOM
- ★ AMEC Foster Wheeler
- ★ Anderson Engineering of MN
- ★ Ayres Associates
- ★ Barr Engineering
- ★ Bergmann Associates
- ★ Burns & McDonnell
- ★ Cardno Inc.
- ★ CH2M Hill
- ★ Eaton Corporation
- ★ EMR Inc.
- ★ Hammel Green and Abrahamson
- ★ Hanson Professional Services
- ★ HDR Engineering
- ★ HNTB Corporation
- ★ Jacobs
- ★ Landmark Environmental
- ★ Mortenson Construction
- ★ Parsons
- ★ Quantum Spatial
- ★ Rani Engineering
- ★ RSP Architects
- ★ SEH
- ★ Stanley Consultants
- ★ Stantec
- ★ Weston Solutions

Did you know that as part of your sustaining membership we encourage you to talk about yourselves to our members?

Please email Sherry Van Duyn at svanduyn@landmarkenv.com or Dave Ausdemore at dave@hsscences.com if you would like more information on how to get involved!

SMALL BUSINESS CORNER

Join us for our monthly meeting of the **SAME Small Business Community of Interest's Steering Committee** every 4th Friday of the month at 12:30 PM ET

Join online:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/515387837>

Next Small Business Community of Interest (COI) Monthly Meeting:
Friday, June 26, 2020 12:30 PM ET

Have an idea for future meeting topics or tours? Please contact Matt Redington with your suggestions at matthew.redington@hdrinc.com or 763.591.5487!



same.org/mpls-stpl

