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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020

Dear SAME Members,

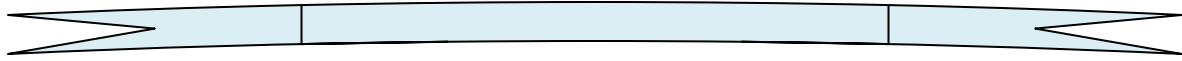
Season's greetings to you all as we begin such a wonderful holiday season, with Thanksgiving just around the bend this week and then shortly thereafter Christmas and New Year's. The season is anything but normal, though, as we're seeing COVID-19 cases rise across the Nation, even here in Louisiana. If you can make it, I hope to see you at our December 4th luncheon, held in conjunction with the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association Conference on Friday, December 4th. We will continue to implement the same precautionary measures (sanitized area, face masks, socially distanced seating, keeping a record of attendance, etc...) but SAME as an organization is enacting additional precautions to ensure its members' safety. For every meeting we will conduct an active risk assessment and enact risk mitigations. One of the new requirements for attendees will be to sign a waiver of liability. The Board and I will be closely following local and state COVID-19 protection measures and guidance and will continue to use them to inform how to best hold our meetings safely (virtually or in person). We'll be sure to communicate quickly any changes or updates, so thanks for your continued commitment and patience. This same desire for member safety drove this year's SAME Small Business Conference to do its first-ever all virtual event. All reports from within USACE were that it was a resounding success so I hope you were able to participate and find value in it. I'll close with a message appropriate to the Thanksgiving Holiday by saying "thank you" to Mr. Greg Breerwood. Greg has served our board and our scholarship committee faithfully and well but is taking some well-earned time away. We are a better chapter and we've made students' lives better because of all of his care and effort. Thank you, Greg. I hope all of you enjoy a happy, healthy, and warm Thanksgiving Holiday.
Sincerely, COL Murphy

HOST SUSTAINING MEMBER INFORMATION

Thank you to Freese & Nichols, Inc. for hosting last month's meeting.

We still have some luncheon meetings available for Sustaining Members to host. Hosting our monthly meetings is a great opportunity to put your firm in the limelight and showcase your firm's experience and abilities. If your firm is interested in hosting one of these meetings, please contact Charlie Settoon at (504) 889-0182.

We would like to thank all the Sustaining Member Firms who have hosted a monthly meeting in the past. If it has been a while since your firm hosted a meeting, you are welcome to host another meeting. Let's continue to show our support for the Louisiana Post through this great professional opportunity.



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION AND NEWS

MEMBER INFORMATION

LOUISIANA POST MEETING

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2020

VIRTUAL SOCIAL – 11:45 A.M.

POST LUNCHEON - 12:00 P.M.

LOCATION:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89934820565?pwd=VWNHSm1pR09abm9oQjhOS2dkem1SZz09>

Meeting ID: 899 3482 0565

Passcode: 776452

GUEST SPEAKER:

**COLONEL STEPHEN MURPHY, COMMANDER &
DISTRICT ENGINEER, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT**

TOPIC:

UPDATE ON USACE ACTIVITIES

THIS WILL QUALIFY AS 1.0 PDH

DON'T FORGET THAT EVERY MONTH YOU CAN EARN 1.0 PDH (PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOUR) FOR ATTENDING S.A.M.E. LUNCHEON MEETINGS.

Colonel Stephen Murphy **Commander & District Engineer New Orleans District**



Col. Stephen Murphy serves as the 64th commander of the New Orleans District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Col. Murphy's Army career began in 1997 when he received his commission as an engineer officer from the Illinois Institute of Technology. Over the last 22 years, he has served at all echelons within the Army, to include assignments with Armored, Stryker, Airborne, and Special Operations units, as well as in the interagency in Washington D.C. No stranger to USACE, Col. Murphy commanded the Nashville District from 2015 to 2017 where he delivered a civil works program estimated at 290 million dollars annually with a focus on navigation, hydropower, and flood risk management. He has deployed to combat four times in both Iraq and Afghanistan as well as to conduct peacekeeping operations in the Balkans. Within the United States, Col. Murphy has also participated in

humanitarian assistance missions, to include fighting forest fires in Montana and providing hurricane relief in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina.

Col. Murphy holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology, a Master of Science in Civil Engineering from Missouri University of Science and Technology, and a Master of Arts in Strategy from the Army War College.

Col. Murphy comes to New Orleans from Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania where he recently graduated from the U.S. Army War College. Prior to the War College, his two decades of service span numerous engineer command and staff assignments in USACE, the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC), the U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC), the US Army Special Operations Aviation Command (USASOAC), 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne), the 82nd Airborne Division, the 2nd Infantry Division, and the 1st Cavalry Division. He has also had the unique experiences of serving as an infantry battalion operations officer in combat in southern Afghanistan with 2-1 Infantry (Stryker) out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord as well as an Army Interagency Fellow assigned to the Pakistan Desk at the Department of State in Washington D.C. when Osama Bin Laden was killed in 2011.

Col. Murphy's awards include the Bronze Star Medal with one Oak leaf cluster, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Army Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Army Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two campaign stars, Iraq Campaign Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, NATO medals for both Bosnia and Afghanistan, and the Combat Action Badge. He is also a recipient of the Army Engineer Association's Bronze De Fleury Medal.

Col Murphy has earned the Ranger tab, Sapper tab, and Master Parachutist Badge.

In addition to the Army War College, Col. Murphy is also a graduate of the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Joint Engineer Officer Course, and the U.S. Marine Corps Command and Staff College.

A native of Greenville, South Carolina, he is happily married to the former Nicole Lyda, also from South Carolina, and they have two children, Will, 15, and Claire, 12.