

Society of American Military Engineers
Academy of Fellows

### **NEWSLETTER**

WINTER 2024



# ★ A Message from the AOF Chair

While 2023 was a busy year for the Academy of Fellows, your Academy continues to identify new ways to mentor and bring value to our members. We have more work to do in 2024 as the Society will introduce the 2030 Strategic Plan.

Over the last year, the AOF Executive Committee has established new initiatives which will empower our Regional Fellow leaders, create a vision through our Journey to Fellow for future volunteers, recognizing exemplary Fellow volunteers with the Regional Fellow Medal award, and contribute to investments in future engineers. Our quarterly Town Halls will continue this year, with the next scheduled for March, 2024. Please join the Town Halls to get updates on our activities and initiatives, so you may support the mentoring of Post leaders. Please join our next Fellows Town Hall, which will be posted at <a href="https://www.same.org/fellows.">www.same.org/fellows.</a>

**Welcome New Investees.** We are extremely proud to welcome the new Fellows Class of 2024 and look forward to their investiture in May. As the AOF Executive Committee reviewed the nominations, we were impressed by the dedication and commitment this new class has provided. They are the very best in SAME and our profession, representing the broad diversity of our Society and contributing industry- government engagement at both the Post and national levels. I encourage the Regional Fellow POCs to begin their mentorship and engagement with the next Class. SAME National President Charlie Perham, F.SAME, has approved our recommendations, and we extend our congratulations to the members of the newest class who will be invested in May at the 2024 JETC in Orlando, Florida.

**Capital Week is quickly approaching!** Instead of our typical luncheon, we will get a sneak peak at the Foundation Reception and submit any bids on Silent Auction items. Fellows will have a networking reception just prior to the Foundation Reception on March 25, 5:30 -7:00 pm. The AOF is hosting the Silent Auction to support the Foundation. We hope you will consider donating an item or experience to help raise money for the Foundation. To submit an item or experience, complete our short form here: <a href="https://www.same.org/silent-auction-item-donation/">https://www.same.org/silent-auction-item-donation/</a>. We hope you will join us in Bethesda Maryland!

As we begin a new year, I extend my personal thanks for your continued commitment to the Society. Your positive impact strengthens our Society and ensures we are setting a strong foundation for the next generations.

Thank you,





### **Congratulations Fellows Class of 2023**

The Academy of Fellows congratulates the members newly selected as SAME Fellows. These individuals will be invested during the Fellows Investiture at the 2024 JETC, being held May 14-16 in Orlando, Florida.

- Ann Bannitt, P.E., F.SAME
- Chief Master Sqt. Adam Boubede, F.SAME, USAF
- Lloyd Caldwell, P.E., F.SAME
- Tiffany Castricone, AIA, LEED AP, F.SAME
- John Constantinide, P.E., CEM, LEED AP, F.SAME
- Matt Dorman, P.E., F.SAME
- Ted Foster, P.E., F.SAME
- · Michelle French, CIH, F.SAME
- Col. James Frishkorn, PMP, F.SAME, USAFR (Ret.)
- Ed Gauvreau, FAIA, F.SAME
- Gary Goodemote, F.SAME
- Capt. Alexander Hutchison, P.E., F.SAME, USN (Ret.)
- Col. Scott Matthews, P.E., F.SAME, USAF (Ret.)
- Amir Mott, F.SAME
- Aaron Murray, F.SAME
- Roger Perk, P.E., F.SAME
- David Pratt, P.E., CEM, LEED AP, F.SAME
- Caroline Roberts, GISP, F.SAME
- Tony Roos, P.E., APWA, F.SAME
- Greg Sallee, P.E., F.SAME
- Maj. R. Brec Wilshusen, P.E., F.SAME, USAF (Ret.)
- Senior Master Sqt. James Wirshing, F.SAME, USAF (Ret.)
- Marilyn Zenko, F.SAME



### **Gerald C. Brown Mentoring Award**

It's that time of year again to give thought to our outstanding Fellows mentors in nominating our truly worthy Fellows for most deserving SAME Gerald C Brown Mentoring Award recognition.

This award recognizes Fellows who, over many years in their careers and in service to our Industry, have shared their knowledge, expertise and skills with peers in a mentoring role.

We want to recognize those who have served as invaluable Advocates, Advisors, Coaches, and Sponsors for professionals or groups, and communicated in impactful ways for the success of others across their comprehensive careers.

Please consult the award criteria and on-line nomination form <a href="here">here</a> to submit a deserving Fellow mentor for this prestigious award by 1 Feb 2024! We look forward to receiving worthy candidates and celebrating our award-winner in May during JETC in Orlando!

PATH TO THE NOMINATION FORM: (In case the link doesn't work) <a href="https://www.same.org/gerald-c-brown-mentoring-award-nomination-form/">https://www.same.org/gerald-c-brown-mentoring-award-nomination-form/</a>



# **Fellows Silent Auction**

For the first time, the AOF will be leading the efforts to raise funds benefiting the SAME Foundation during a Capital Week Silent Auction event on Monday, March 25, 2024 at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center in Maryland and we need your help!

Your help can come in many shapes and sizes. We're specifically asking for DONATIONS of items or "experiences" to be included in the Silent Auction. Please see our online form and complete it for each item or experience you are donating.

https://www.same.org/silent-auction-item-donation/

We are looking for creative items: think of some things or experiences that our members can bid on that are outside of the norm. We have some fun "experience" submissions that include skiing, hiking, golfing and swimming with some of our Past Presidents, and a beach condo rental for a week that includes dinner with a past president, for example. We've also received donations of handmade jewelry, NFL tickets, and more. Items being donated should be newly purchased or acquired, with a minimum value of \$100. Higher valued items are most welcome also.

Consider a combined donation - Fellows Class or a donation from your Firm or your local Post.

The Silent Auction will be administered via an online platform and will be open in advance of the March 25th event. In fact, we will close the bidding just prior to the event and will announce the winners at the Silent Auction.

We also need volunteers to assist on-site at the event. Please contact Beth Harris <a href="mailto:beth.harris@primeeng.com">beth.harris@primeeng.com</a> or Kathy Off</a> <a href="mailto:koff@same.org">koff@same.org</a> if you plan to attend Capital Week and would like to help.

This is our first time attempting this sort of an event to raise funds and awareness for our Foundation. Thanks so much for your interest and your support. We look forward to seeing you at Capital Week in March!



# **December Town Hall Recap**

In December, the Academy of Fellows held another great town hall where more than 50 fellows gathered to hear from the Academy's Executive Committee.

 Our December Town Hall highlighted successes of Fellows in 2023 and 2024 opportunities to get involved - including supporting the Silent Auction at Capital Week, mentoring during the Transition Workshop, and Nominating Fellows for the Gerald C. Brown Mentoring award, among others.

Did you miss the session? Find the replay (and other town halls) on the SAME Fellows Page:

https://www.same.org/membership-communities/academy-of-fellows/

Ideas for topics or speakers? Please reach out to Vice Chair, Post Outreach and Engagement Russell Patterson, F.SAME at RPatterson@cems-ae.com

# **Journey to Fellow**

The Journey to Fellow program is to support the development of future fellows early in their SAME career to help them prepare for their nomination.

The first webinar - Journey to Fellow: What is a Fellow? What are the Benefits" aired January18. The next one is <u>February 29 - Detours and Alternative Paths to Fellow.</u> These are great opportunities to engage new members, your mentees, young professionals, and long-time members. Please invite them to join!

All of the Journey to Fellow webinars will be recorded for replay anytime by any member who is interested in pursuing a path to Fellow. Details on our website: <a href="https://www.same.org/membership-communities/academy-of-fellows/">https://www.same.org/membership-communities/academy-of-fellows/</a>

# **Regional Fellows Medal Awards**

The AOF XC Regional Fellows Medal is to recognize our "Exceptional Fellows" serving at the Post and Regional level.

Please contact your Regional Fellow POC and Beth Harris <u>beth.harris@primeeng.com</u> to submit an Exceptional Fellow for this special recognition.



Photo L-R: Ardita Dushi, Angie McCullough, Josh McClure

Angie McCullough, VP at CMJ Engineering, was awarded the first Regional Fellows Medal in Texas at the December 6, 2023, Fort Worth Post joint meeting with Dallas Post and CMMA. Angie has been active in the post for over 20 years and has remained extremely active since becoming a Fellow. She currently serves as the Post Secretary, chair of the scholarship fundraiser golf tournament, and leads the scholarship awards committee.

Gwen Parker received the new Regional Fellows Medal, presented by the Carolinas RFPOC Frank Mondo and AOF XC Awards and Recognition Vice Chair Beth Harris.

Gwen has been a mentor, coach, advisor, friend and ally of most everyone in the Savannah Post and more



Photo L-R: Frank Mondo, Gwen Parker, Beth Harris, Maureen Warren, Joel Burke, Sally Riker.

recently in the Atlanta Post, making her the ideal recipient of this prestigious new medal. Her years of dedicated service leading and guiding leaders in the Savannah Post as well as co-chairing their highly acclaimed Annual Program Review for many years, and most recently co-chairing the regional JETS conference in Atlanta and mentoring leaders for the 2024 JETS conference taking place in Savannah are great examples of how Gwen has served SAME in an exceptional capacity for more than two decades.



# **Important Dates**

### **FEBRUARY:**

FEB 8: RFPOC Call

#### **MARCH:**

MARCH 14: Fellows town Hall

### 2024 CAPITAL WEEK ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND (MARCH 25-28)

MARCH 25: Fellows Networking Reception 4:30-5:30 PM

MARCH 25: SAME Foundation Fundraising Reception 5:30 - 7:00PM (additional registration required)

#### MAY:

### 2024 JOINT ENGINEER TRAINING CONFERENCE AND EXPO, ORLANDO, FLORIDA (MAY 14-16)

MAY 13: Young Professional/Fellow Networking Event (RSVP Required) MAY 16: Fellows Luncheon and Class of 2024 Investiture (RSVP Required)

### Join us on LinkedIn



https://www.linkedin.com/groups/14326344/

### **AOF 2023 Executive Committee**

- Chair Cindy Lincicome, F.SAME
- Deputy Chair Jeanne LeBron, F. SAME
- Vice Chair, Internal Brig Gen Patrice Melancon, P.E., F.SAME, USAF (Ret.)
- Vice Chair, Communications & Marketing Carrie Ann Williams, F.SAME, CPSM

- Vice Chair, Post Outreach & Engagement Russ Patterson, F.SAME
- Vice Chair, Awards & Recognition Beth Harris, F.SAME, CPSM
- Vice Chair, Events Lisa Thoele Dugan, F.SAME
- Vice Chair, Mentoring Col. Shawn Moore, F.SAME, USAF (Ret.)