

January 2024



# Newsletter

Society of American Military Engineers

## MEET THE AGENCIES 2024

JANUARY 25, 2024

Location: SeaTac Crowne Plaza  
17338 International Blvd, Seattle, WA 98188

\$80	Early Bird – Post Member
\$90	Early Bird – Non-Member
\$25	Early Bird – Government/Military/Young Member/Retired
\$0	Students

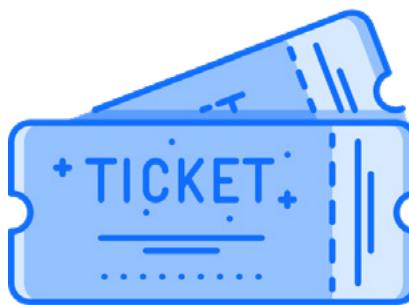
The program features senior personnel from seven public agencies with a Puget Sound footprint. Each agency will present their known and anticipated upcoming contracting opportunities, projected support needs, and recent funding and other development trends throughout the Pacific Northwest for the next several years. Agencies are also requested to bring representatives from their acquisition and program management to help answer questions about their programs.

For best pricing, please RSVP by January 18, 2024.

Pricing will increase \$10 per category after January 18th to cover additional hosting service fees.

### AGENCIES INVITED:

- Port of Seattle
- WSDOT
- WA DES
- King County
- Sound Transit
- University of Washington
- PTAC/APEX Accelerator
- AICEF PTAC



### SAME VISION

"To promote and facilitate engineering support for national security by developing and enhancing relationships and competencies among uniformed services, public and private sector engineers, and related professionals."



SUBSCRIBE

To receive monthly updates on our post and events.

# Letter from the President

## Christian Thompson, Mt. Tacoma Post President



### Happy New Year Mount Tacoma Post!

I hope that everyone had a great 2023 and was able to enjoy a much-needed holiday break... after meeting all of your last-minute deadlines of course. I also hope that 2023 brought you, your family, and your business great success and has prepared you for a prosperous 2024. I know that it was a good year for our Post as it was our second full year post pandemic, which allowed us to get our systems back into high gear with integrating government with industry, collaborating across the AEC industry, developing future leaders, and fund raising for college education in the STEM fields.

Each year we partner with our neighboring posts in Seattle and Portland with hosting industry and government events such as Meet the Agencies, PNW Small Business Outreach (Meet the Chiefs), and the Small Business Symposium. Each one was a huge success yielding great results and we look forward to this year's events to be even more successful. Our annual golf tournament, the SAME Steve Woolery Scholarship Golf Tournament, was another really awesome and successful event. This is our singular fund-raising event for college scholarships that support students pursuing STEM related degrees. The event was so successful that we were able to award one additional scholarship, totaling six scholarships worth \$1,500.00 each. We look forward to continuing this in 2024.

We also reconnected with ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) and conducted our first joint event since 2019. They're another great organization with similar goals. We'll be holding our 2024 joint event with them in March followed by a social gathering. Lastly, I'm especially excited and proud of successfully standing up a student chapter at UW-Tacoma this past year, thanks mostly in part to Bill Fierst and his persistence in getting it done. Building the future in STEM is extremely important to us.

Thank you to all of our members, our member firms, and to others who support our engagements and events. Nothing is easy, but without you, we wouldn't have the resources to connect and engage the AEC industry with government. You are truly a part of our success story. I hope to see you at this year's events, so please subscribe to our newsletter for information and dates. We'll be announcing new leadership soon and I'm excited to see how much further they'll carry the Post and I'm enthusiastic for their success. Let's have a great New Year. It'll be fun.

Cheers to 2024!

Chris Thompson  
Mount Tacoma Post President

## EVENTS

January 25, 2024

[Meet the Agencies](#)  
Crowne Plaza, SeaTac, WA

February 13, 2024

[JBLM MCA Program](#)  
Eagles Pride Golf Course

March 12, 2024

[ASCE/SAME Meeting, Chehalis River Flood Basin Program \(Open Bar Social Following\)](#)  
3:00 PM - Location TBD

April 15<sup>th</sup>,16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

[Small Business Symposium](#)  
Kitsap Conference Center, Bremerton, WA

June 11, 2024

[Meet the Chiefs](#)  
TBD, Seattle, WA





# Member Spotlight

**Keith Davis, Senior Project Engineer**

**ABSHER**



The SAME Mt. Tacoma Post is excited to introduce our chapter's new young professionals representative, **Keith Davis**! Keith comes to us from **Absher Construction** where he has quickly moved up the ranks as a project manager. As our young professionals representative, Keith will focus on recruitment, engagement, and development of our younger members. His fresh perspective and understanding of the needs of young engineers just entering the field will help strengthen our chapter's connection to the next generation of leaders.

**How long have you been a member of SAME?**

Recently a new member of SAME. Was brought into it recently the last couple months.

**Why did you join SAME?**

I wanted to get a better understanding of SAME and help represent young professionals working in the federal construction industry.

**What committee do you currently volunteer with?**

I am currently the Young Professionals representative with the Mt. Tacoma chapter.

**What do you enjoy most about volunteering?**

Since I am fairly new to volunteering with SAME, I don't have to much to say about what I like, but what I do like so far is being able to work with other professionals in the industry and getting to know and network with other professionals.

**What is your current occupation?**

Currently a Senior Project Engineer and Quality Control Manager for Barracks Renovation and new three story barracks at JBLM.

**What do you love most about the AEC Industry?**

I enjoy the many different opportunities for creativity, problem solving, and innovation. I also enjoy the many different complexities and learning new skills that are experienced in the AEC industry.

**How do you define success?**

Success can involve different achievements for personal and professional milestones, finding fulfillment and happiness, and making a positive impact on others. Personal success for myself is being able to attain my desired objectives and gain a sense of accomplishment that comes with it.

**Who inspires you?**

My inspiration usually stems from those who have strong work ethic, compassion, and a passion for innovation.

**What's something about you (a fun fact) that not many people know?**

I play a lot of competitive men's softball and will be representing Washington State in the 2024 USSSA Challenge Cup in Florida in January 2024.

**What's the first concert you ever attended?**

Kiss and Aerosmith

**What's New?**

Nothing new, currently joined the SAME Mt. Tacoma Chapter this month and excited for the opportunity.





## Why join the Society of American Military Engineers?

If you are thinking of joining a professional association, it is critical that you ask yourself “what does membership provide for you?” We can all agree that there is little value in paying dues and investing time into an organization just to check a box. After all, the relationship you have with a professional association should create a connection to something that you can relate to and have a passion for. Personally, I struggled with finding what was right for me when considering membership for many professional associations, but then I discovered the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME). My initial impression was that it very much felt like an officer’s club that did not have much to offer a young noncommissioned officer.

I discovered, however, that SAME is a diverse organization that routinely invests in the development of its members. From new member, to the President of the Society, this professional association wants to help you become a better leader supporting the defense of our Nation. SAME provides fantastic networking opportunities, plenty of options for volunteering, technical information through webinars and publications, and even offers stipends to pay for professional certifications. Plus, the membership fee covers the life of your uniformed service!

Everyone can benefit from what SAME has to offer, and you do not need to be an Engineer or have a degree to join. You can volunteer with your local Post, participate in networking events and professional development briefs, and even get a one-day pass for the annual Joint Engineer Training Conference (JETC) or Small Business Conference (SBC) at no cost.

SAME offers professional NCOs tangible value with real rewards, over three distinct periods in a career.

**Near-Term:** Active SAME membership thrusts us into an environment of exposure to engineering techniques and practices of industry and Military Departments other than our own. We soak up information and knowledge without realizing it, immediately making us better NCOs.

**Mid-Term:** SAME offers unique opportunities to continue our technical education and pursue licenses and certifications from affiliated associations. Over a few months, credentialing can better posture NCOs for increased responsibility and promotion. Taking advantage of these industry-recognized certifications will also assist with a smoother transition when exiting the military.

**Long-Term:** NCOs will one day move on from direct military service whether Active Duty or Reserve Component. Most of us change employers but we still prefer technical employment in such a rewarding field. If you want to secure the future, SAME offers the best opportunity for networking with potential employers.

I truly wish I had learned these things sooner in my career, so I urge you not to wait. Come see what SAME can do for you!

CMSgt Adam Boubede

# Membership: What's in it for you?

## **What is SAME?**

- A professional organization that supports your professional and engineering knowledge and career developmental growth.
- SAME offers a wide variety of support programs to help you obtain engineering related professional credentialing.
- SAME is recognized as “the multi-disciplined integrator of national infrastructure related capabilities” where you have the opportunity to learn about and network with uniformed service engineers and leading commercial engineering firms all supporting the country.

## **Benefits of being a SAME Member:**

- Relationship building through a network of [100+ Posts](#) around the world, 1500 sustaining member A/C/E firms, academic institutions, military and government agencies at federal, state and local levels.
- [Stipends, Scholarships & Discounts](#) for education and training.
- Connecting with government and industry leaders.
- Access to cutting-edge [professional development opportunities](#).
- Volunteer [leadership opportunities](#) at the local, regional and national levels to grow your skills.
- [Transition assistance](#) with complimentary workshops, mentoring & networking.
- Reimbursement for professional [credentialing fees](#).
- Subscription to [The Military Engineer](#) technical magazine.
- Support through the [Enlisted Committee](#).



## **STEM, Veterans, & Community Support**

### [In 2017, SAME's 100+ Posts & members...](#)

- Awarded over 700 **scholarships**, totaling nearly \$1 million.
- Spent over 16,000 hours supporting **STEM**.
- Contributed over 12,000 hours of **community service**.
- Donated nearly \$286,000 to **K-12 STEM** programs.
- Gave nearly \$110,000 to **veterans & disabled veterans** programs.
- Spent 4,100 volunteer hours providing support to **veterans**.



## Enlisted Membership Application

**Join Now → [www.same.org/join](http://www.same.org/join)**



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Email 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Base or  
Installation \_\_\_\_\_

Service Branch  
and Rank \_\_\_\_\_

DOB (mm/yy) \_\_\_\_\_

Highest Degree       High School     Technical/Associates     Bachelors     Masters     Doctorate

*Questions about membership?*

*Contact our Member Services Team [member@same.org](mailto:member@same.org) or 703.549.3800 ext. 131*

**Society of Military Engineers  
607 Prince Street, Alexandria, VA 22314**

*Dedicated to National Security Since 1920*

# Mt. Tacoma Post

## POST OFFICERS

### Post President

LTC (R) Christian Thompson  
cthompson@civilaire.com  
913-704-5789

### First Vice-President

MAJ Christopher Hassell  
chopr4life@gmail.com

### Second Vice-President

LTC Randy Schultz  
randy.m.schultz.mil@army.mil

### Past President

Janna Peters  
jannapeters@kmb-architects.com

### Secretary, Student Chapter Mentor

William (Bill) Fierst  
wfierst@ahbl.com  
253-383-2422

### VP Sustaining Members

#### Memberships, Camp, Post Fellow

Dave Newkirk  
daven@rahaec.com  
253-606-1047

Andy Chandler  
andrew.chandler@absherco.com  
253-569-4976

### Treasurer

Seth Mattos  
sethm@georesources.us  
253-229-7090

### Awards & Programs

Michael Funches  
mike@ethoscivil.com  
253-414-1989

### Scholarships

Roy Cutler  
roy@cutler-mgmt.com  
253-377-7568

### Small Business Liaison

Julio Iguina Mendez  
jiguina@walshgroup.com  
206-394-7330

### Post Webmaster

Kim Kaul  
Kim.Kaul@bceengineers.com  
253-922-0446

### Communications

Gina Rainwater  
info@prodims.com  
425-828-0500

### VP Young Professionals

Keith Davis  
keith.davis@absherco.com

### Student Chapters, Streamers

Michael Cozart  
Michael.cozart@bceengineers.com  
253-922-0446

### Director

Mike Moran  
michael.moran248@gmail.com  
253-982-4660

### Director

John Haddick  
jehaddick@msn.com  
253-565-1223

### Director

Erik Prestegaard  
erikp@helixdesigngroup.net  
253-922-9037

### VP Individual Members

Andy Chandler  
andrew.chandler@absherco.com  
253-845-9455

## OPEN POSITIONS

### Assistant Treasurer

### Leadership Development

### STEM

## LOCAL MILITARY ENGINEERS

### US ARMY

#### 555<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade

COL Marc Sanborn

#### I Corps Liaison

Major Jon Trump  
jon.l.trump.mil@army.mil

#### 555 SAME Liaison

LTC Randy Schultz  
randy.m.schultz.mil@army.mil

#### CDR 864<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion

Mark Born, LTC  
mark.s.born.mil@army.mil

#### 23<sup>rd</sup> BEB

LTC Christian Johnson  
christian.r.johnson18.mil@army.mil

#### CDR 14<sup>th</sup> BEB

LTC Louis Hammond  
louisphillipe.l.hammond@army.mil

### 3-364<sup>th</sup> BEB, First Army

LTC Greg Canady  
gregory.w.canady.mil@army.mil  
CSM: CSM Nathaniel Atkinson  
Nathaniel.atkinson3.mil@army.mil

### ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

#### Construction and Fac Mx Office

LTC Adam Iwaszuk  
Adam.m.iwaszuk.mil@army.mil

#### 194<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Flight

Commander, Lt Col John McKinley  
john.mckinley@us.af.mil

#### 248<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Flight

Commander, Col Craig Fery  
craig.fery@us.af.mil

### US AIR FORCE

#### 627<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron

Lt Col John Legloahec  
john.legloahec.1@us.af.mil

### AIR FORCE RESERVES

#### 446<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron

Commander, LTC Kimberly Hubbard,  
Kimberly.hubbard.1@us.af.mil

### AIR NATIONAL GUARD

#### 248<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Flight

Commander, Col David Walter  
SAME Liaison, LTC John McKinley, John.  
mckinley@ang.af.mil

