



SAME Mount Tacoma Post **Newsletter**

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

PFAS Filtration Using Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC)

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 11:30am

Eagle’s Pride Golf Course in Dupont, WA

Cost for Lunch:

Uniformed: \$20

Civilian: \$35



The program features a presentation on the City of DuPont’s efforts to design, fund, and construct two GAC filtration systems, removing PFAS chemicals from the ground water for drinking water use. The presenter for this meeting will be Gus Lim. He is the City Engineer for the City of DuPont. He served in the Navy as a Civil Engineer Corps Officer, and retired from naval service.

His past positions include the Housing Facilities Services Director at the University of Oregon, the Public Works Director for the City of DuPont, the Director of Facilities and Operations at Pierce College, and the Director of Maintenance and Operations with the University of Washington, Tacoma.

He is a registered Professional Engineer (Civil) in the states of Washington and Oregon. He holds a Master of Engineering Degree from the University of Florida, and a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering Degree from the University of Washington, Seattle. He is a member of the Order of the Engineer, Society of American Military Engineers, American Public Works Association, and American Legion.

RSVP BY FEBRUARY 6TH

Click here to submit your RSVP via email to Mike Funches mike@ethoscivil.com

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.”

 **Follow Us**
 on LinkedIn!

 **click here to SUBSCRIBE**
 & receive monthly updates on our post and events.

Meet the Agencies Recap

Thank you to everyone who joined us and volunteered to make this year's Meet the Agencies event a success.

Thanks to host Jen Tetatzin, PE, PMP (NextGov Solutions) and our presenters from University of Washington, Sound Transit, Washington State Department of Transportation, Washington APEX Accelerator, and the Port of Seattle for sharing their time and expertise. This was a joint event put on by Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) - Seattle Post and our post.

Click the boxes to the right to view and download the event presentations.



UNIVERSITY
OF
WASHINGTON

SOUND
TRANSIT

WSDOT

WASHINGTON
APEX
ACCELERATOR

PORT
OF
SEATTLE

MOUNT TACOMA POST 2026 Election Results

The Results are in!

Congratulations to:

- President: Jen Tetatzin
- Vice President: Meaghan Owens
- Secretary: Bill Fierst
- Treasurer: Mary Bruenn
- Directors: John Haddick, Janna Peters, Dave Newkirk



STEM/ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CAMPS

Mission: Possible! Start Your STEM Future Now

EXPLORE. BUILD. LEAD.

Looking for hands-on learning and unforgettable summer fun? SAME's STEM/Engineering & Construction Camps offer high school students immersive experiences supported by the SAME Foundation and led by professionals from the military and engineering community and other volunteers.

Activities include:

- Building concrete beams
- Using survey equipment
- Constructing & racing cardboard boats
- ...and much more!

CAMP HIGHLIGHTS:

- Camps last one week and range from \$100 - \$800.
- Camps are held in June and July; all are overnight camps.
- Hosted at 6 locations/bases nationwide
- Lodging & meals included

(Must be at least 15 years of age to apply: rising sophomore, junior, or senior.)

SAME camps help students chart a course toward future education, leadership, and career opportunities in STEM—while building confidence, friendships, and unforgettable memories.

**READY TO LAUNCH YOUR STEM JOURNEY?
MISSION POSSIBLE STARTS NOW!**

Apply Today! Application Deadline is March 11, 2026.

TEAMWORK



LEADERSHIP



PROJECT MANAGEMENT



PROBLEM-SOLVING



2026 SAME CAMPS SCHEDULE



SAME/U.S. ARMY CAMP
Vicksburg, Miss.
JUNE 7-13, 2026



SAME/U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY CAMP
Colorado Springs, Colo.
JUNE 21-27, 2026



SAME/U.S. MARINE CORPS CAMP
Camp Lejeune, N.C.
JUNE 21-27, 2026



SAME/U.S. NAVY CAMP
Port Hueneme, Calif.
JULY 19-25, 2026



SAME/U.S. NAVY CAMP
Naval Air Station
Jacksonville, Fla.
JUNE 21-27, 2026



SAME STEM CAMP
Honolulu, Hawaii
JUNE 7-13, 2026

LEARN MORE / APPLY



#SAMECAMPS • www.same.org/camps

**Exact dates still being finalized.*

Mission: Possible! Start Your STEM Future Now

The Mount Tacoma Post would like to sponsor one camp application to attend the Army Engineering and Construction Camp free of cost! Click here to learn in-depth details about all camps listed above.

UPCOMING EVENTS

★ CLICK HERE TO VIEW SAME
NATIONAL EVENTS ★

- ★ **FEBRUARY 10**
City of Dupont | PFAS Water Filtration Plant |
Presentation by Gus Lim *Eagle's Pride Golf Course*
- ★ **MARCH 26**
Alliance Northwest Tacoma Convention Center
- ★ **APRIL (SPECIFIC DATE TBD)**
Small Business Symposium & Meet the Chiefs
SeaTac, WA
- ★ **MAY 19-21**
JETC 2026: Innovate Forward! Details Below
Oregon Convention Center



SAME
Joint
Engineer
Training
Conference
& Expo
MAY
19-21
2026
PORTLAND
OREGON

INNOVATE FORWARD

#SAMEJETC26: Innovate Forward!

Vital ideas. Pivotal connections. Essential mission support.

Energize your role. Resource your mission. Innovate Forward

JETC 2026 is the premier annual gathering of the military engineering community—bringing together uniformed engineers, government civilians, industry leaders, young professionals, innovators, partners, and subject matter experts for three days of collaboration, learning, and inspiration.

This year's theme, "Innovate Forward," will spotlight the technologies, strategies, and partnerships shaping the future of engineering support for national defense and infrastructure resilience.

Experience JETC 2026! The only event of its kind and help shape the future of engineering services in support of the warfighter and national security.

Click here for more information!

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP CYCLE

The 2026 application cycle is open and applications are due on April 15th. The Scholarship Application Form will be posted soon. In the meantime, all information can be found on our website > [click here!](#)



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

MOUNT TACOMA POST



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