



Mount Tacoma Post Newsletter

OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING

Military Transition Assistance Program

Tuesday, October 13th, 2026 at 11:30am
Eagle's Pride Golf Course in Dupont, WA

Cost for Lunch:

Uniformed: \$20

Civilian: \$35

Program Description: Military talent abounds in the Pacific Northwest. Join Jen Tetazin and military transition professionals for a discussion on programs that support transitioning service members, veterans, and military spouses. Learn about upcoming career fairs, Department of Defense paid internship opportunities, and resources that help connect military talent with rewarding civilian careers.

About the Speakers:

Danny Williams is a retired U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer and Hospital Corpsman with 24 years of service, including deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He now serves at the Fleet and Family Support Center at Naval Base Kitsap, helping service members successfully transition to civilian life.

Frank Handoe II is a retired U.S. Army Command Sergeant Major and Transition Services Specialist at Joint Base Lewis-McChord. He provides career transition training and workforce development support for service members, veterans, and military spouses.

Jen Tetazin is a retired U.S. Navy Commander, Public Works Director for the City of Tukwila, owner of Next Gov Solutions, and President of the Mount Tacoma Post of SAME. She remains actively engaged in supporting veterans through leadership and advocacy programs throughout the region.

RSVP BY OCTOBER 9TH

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."



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post and events.

2026 SAME Projects of Excellence



Friday, October 23, 2026, 6PM to 9PM | Salty's on Alki Beach

Join us for an evening of networking and recognition for the impactful work accomplished by industry and government!

This event will showcase projects our membership and partners are delivering for the various communities we serve. In addition, we will be presenting awards for the best submissions in five distinct categories: **Collaboration, Innovation, Complexity, Environmental Stewardship, and People's Choice.**

For People's Choice, project posters will be available for viewing and judging by all event attendees. Judging will be open during the social hour leading up to dinner. Votes will be counted during dinner and the award will be issued alongside the other categories later in the evening.

Program:

6:00 - Registration / Cocktail Hour / People's Choice Voting
6:50 - Dinner Service
7:00 - Welcome Address / Keynote Speaker
7:50 - Sponsor Presentation
8:00 - Intermission / People's Choice Voting
8:20 - Awards Presentation / Raffle
9:00 - Adjourn

Parking:

- Private Lot - Free parking is available on-site at Salty's on Alki Beach.
- Street Parking - Additional free and timed spaces can be found along Harbor Avenue SW if the main lot is full.
- Alternative Transit - The King County Water Taxi from downtown Seattle (Pier 50) to Seacrest Park, which is just a short 5-minute walk from the restaurant.

Ticket sales close October 9th. Buy tickets here!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Click here to view SAME National Events.**

- **Click here to view local SAME Events.**

- ★ **OCTOBER 13**
Monthly Luncheon: Military Transition Assistance Program (*great way for local AEC teams to recruit talent from the local Army/Navy bases*) | *Eagle's Pride Golf Course*
- ★ **OCTOBER 13**
Glass Blowing Event
Tacoma Glass Blowing Studio, Tacoma, WA
- ★ **OCTOBER 23**
2026 SAME Projects of Excellence
Salty's on Alki, Seattle, WA
- ★ **NOVEMBER 4-6**
Small Business Conference
Charlotte, NC
- ★ **DECEMBER 3**
SAME Seattle Post Young Professionals
Winter Social
Flatstick Pub, Seattle, WA

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS OPEN!

[Interested in getting more involved with our organization?](#) We are currently seeking members interested in serving on the Board next year. The positions listed below are currently available. If you'd like to learn more about the roles, responsibilities, and time commitments, please contact our post president Jen Tetatzin, PE, PMP or any current board officer for additional information.

1. 1st Vice President (elected)
2. 2nd Vice President (elected)
3. Director (elected)
4. Chair for Preparedness and Resilience (appointed)
5. Chair for Scholarships and Camps (appointed)

GLASS BLOWING

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
OR YOUNG AT HEART



**TUESDAY,
OCTOBER 13**



3:00 PM



**TACOMA GLASS
BLOWING STUDIO**
Tacoma, WA



COST \$40
SAME PAYS THE REST



REGISTRATION LINK

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



SAME
Society of American Military Engineers



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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