Welcome to the 2019 calendar year for the SAME Chicago Post. Although we’ve only had a couple of Post meetings, the current Board has been quite busy transitioning in new members, getting budgets together, submitting streamer and annual reports, and planning events for the upcoming year. I would like to thank the 2019 Officers and Board for their enthusiastic commitment to the Post. The 2019 Board and Committees consist of:

April Ricketts - President
Michele Atkinson - 1st Vice President
Tatiana Papakos - 2nd Vice President/Programs Chair
Ryan Hopkins - 3rd Vice President/Young Member
Dogus Meric - Secretary and Newsletter Editor
Jim Wescott - Treasurer
Bob Ivarson - Board of Direction
Linda Sorn - Board of Direction
Kerri Daniels - Education and Scholarships Chair
Alex Masters - Communications Chair
Michelle Dojutrek - Resilience Chair
Rob Foster & Anngie Richter - Boat Cruise Committee Co-Chairs

I would also like to thank Past President Jim Wescott and the 2018 Board (some of whom are also members of the 2019 Board) for all their work in carrying on the Post Traditions. We are here to serve you, so if you have any suggestions on how we can make this a more vibrant and interactive Post, please let any of the current Board and Committee Chairs know.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the committees, please let me know as we currently have positions opened for STEM & Camps, Streamers, and Membership

As mentioned, we have already had our January and February Post meetings. In case you missed those meetings, our featured speakers were:

- January – Rishab Mahajan, PE, CFM, CPSWQ (with Geosyntec Consultants) speaking on “Sediment Transport Modeling to Support Port and Harbor Activities”
- February – Jan Plachta (retired USACE) presented on “Artist in Concrete and Steel – Bridges of Ralph Modjeski”.

We do give PDH credits at our meetings, so if you are needing continuing educational hours please be sure to stop by.

Be sure to check out the rest of this newsletter to learn more on upcoming Post events. One big event on the horizon is our annual Boat Cruise. More information will be coming out in the weeks to come, but we are looking for volunteers and potential sponsors to make this year’s boat cruise a huge success. If you are interested in volunteering or being a sponsor, please contact our Boat Cruise Co-Chairs:

- Rob Foster: robert.foster@akana.us
- Anngie Richter: Anngie.Richter@cardno.com

Lastly, the SAME Centennial is coming up in 2020. I am sure that Society will be sending out information in the TME or emails in the next few months, but I would also like to do my part in helping spread the word, so here are a few historical tidbits on the history of SAME:

In 1919, Maj. Gen. William M. Black, USA, the Army’s Chief of Engineers, appointed a nine-officer board to consider the formation of an “association of engineers” that would preserve, and expand upon, connections formed in war and promote the advancement of engineering and its related professions. Early in 1920, the first SAME Posts were established.

Until Next Time…

April Ricketts, SAME Chicago Post President
Greetings from Post 3rd VP
by Ryan Hopkins -- SAME Chicago Post 3rd Vice President

SAME Chicago Members,

It is my honor to serve as the 2019 3rd Vice President for the SAME Chicago Post! I have been a member of SAME since 2015, and I joined to support the society’s focus on infrastructure as it relates to our national security objectives.

I am an Architect at the Chicago office of Gensler, specializing in project management and critical facilities design. I also proudly serve as an engineer officer in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard since 2004, currently assigned to the 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team (28th Infantry Division). My wife Celeste and I live in Chicago, and we have a young son (Jackson) who is approaching his first birthday.

I look forward to building upon previous successes within our Chicago Post, and I am focused on increasing young member engagement within our chapter.

Ryan Hopkins
SAME Chicago Post 3rd Vice President

The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) is the premier professional engineering association in the United States for connecting architects, engineers and builders in the public sector and private industry, unifying them to improve individual and collective capabilities for national security.

Its goal is to unite A/E/C entities and individuals in the public and private sector to prepare for – and overcome – natural and manmade disasters, acts of terrorism and improve security at home and abroad.

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2019 SAME Chicago Post Officers and Board
President—April Ricketts (CDM Smith)
rickettsa@cdmsmith.com
1st VP—Michele Atkinson (Calvary Consulting)michele@cavalryconsulting.com
2nd Vice President—Tatiana Papakos (Michael Baker)
Tatiana.Papakos@mbakerintl.com
3rd Vice President—Ryan Hopkins (Gensler)Ryan_Hopkins@gensler.com
Treasurer—Jim Wescott (Tetra Tech)jim.wescott@tetratech.com
Secretary—Dogus Meric (Geosyntec)dmeric@geosyntec.com
Linda Sorn (USACE)linda.m.sorn@usace.army.mil
Bob Ivarson (HNTB)rivarson@hntb.com

2019 SAME Chicago Post Committees
Communications—Alex Masters (Strength Environmental)
Education and Scholarships—Kerri Daniels (DLZ)
Boat Cruise—Rob Foster (Akana)
Resilience (Michelle Dojutrek (USACE)
Young Member—Ryan Hopkins (Gensler)
Membership—Vacant
Strategic Planning and Streamers —Vacant
Stem and Camp—Vacant

Greetings from Post 2nd VP
by Tatiana Papakos -- SAME Chicago Post 2nd Vice President

Greetings SAME Chicago Members,

I am serving as the 2nd VP for the Chicago Post and would like to introduce myself. I am the water resources lead for the Chicago office of Michael Baker.

I am a professional engineer with many years of experience in water resources and project management. I specialize in hydrologic and hydraulic modeling, drainage design and studies, flood plain analysis, watershed studies, stream restoration, stormwater master planning and permitting, best management practices and low impact development (LID) design, TMDL development, and water quality assessments. I managed the design and construction oversight of several ecosystem restoration projects for the City of Chicago, MWRD, USACE Chicago District, and IDNR.

My goals as a SAME Chicago Post officer are to encourage participation from engineering professionals in SAME activities and bring interesting presentation topics to our general meetings. If you have a topic that you would like to present on and share with our members, please reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Tatiana Papakos

SAME HISTORY

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The Chicago Post has begun planning for our 13th Annual Boat Cruise Fundraiser. This year’s cruise will take place on Tuesday evening, July 30, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

Started in 2007, the event has raised over $35,000 for the following veteran and military family support organizations:
- Fisher House at the Hines VA Hospital
- Fisher House-Wisconsin
- Volunteers of America of Illinois (VOA-IL) Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP)
- Operation Support Our Troops (OSOT)
- DiveHeart Military Wounded
- National Military Family Association
- Veteran’s Trek
- Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans
- Wounded Warrior Project

Proceeds from last year’s cruise have also supported Post scholarship and other critical Post activities. Our goal for this year’s cruise is to raise $10,000 through Corporate sponsorships and recordbreaking attendance, exclusively for Veterans and Military Family support organizations.

Sponsorship levels and beneficiaries have not yet been established, and we welcome your input, particularly regarding worthy organizations making meaningful contributions in support of our troops, veterans and their families. Initially, we plan to continue our support to Fisher House—Illinois and to send one or two veterans on the annual Honor Flight to Washington, DC.

To meet our goal, we need Post volunteers to assist with the planning, promoting, and implementing the event. Past Post Presidents Anggie Richter and Rob Foster are co-chairing this year’s Cruise. Please contact them directly to offer your support, suggestions, or If you have questions regarding the event.

Anggie Richter, Cardno, Anggie.Richter@cardno.com, 708 534 3450
Rob Foster, Akana, Robert.Foster@akana.us, 708 533 7111
UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH
No Post Meeting This Month

APRIL
4/11—SAME Lake Michigan Post Industry and Small Business Series
4/17—Chicago Post Meeting: Topic: Emergency Interstate Bridge Closures and Responses

MAY
SAME JETC—5/7—5/9

JUNE
6/19—Chicago Post Meeting

JULY
7/30—Annual Boat Cruise

AUGUST
SAME Post Leaders Workshop—8/4—8/6
8/21—Chicago Post Meeting

The SAME Chicago Post holds regular lunch meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, unless “special events” supersede. Networking begins at 11:30, with presentations starting at about 12:00. Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held at the USACE Chicago District Office, 231 S. LaSalle Street, 16th Floor. Reservations are required for lunch and for building access.
April Post Meeting Information

Below is the information about the general meeting on 4/17

- Presentation Topic: Emergency Interstate Bridge Closures and Responses
- Speaker: Kent Zinn, PE, Michael Baker International
- When: Wednesday, April 17, 2019
- Where: US Army Corps of Engineers Chicago District Office, 231 S LaSalle St, 16th Floor, Chicago IL (The meeting will be on the 16th floor, but you will need to sign in at the lobby and at the 15th floor - Bring your photo ID).
- Time: 11:30am (There will be a Board Meeting at 10:30am.)
- Lunch Fee: $15 (on RSVP form, please indicate if any dietary restrictions)
- Continuing Education Credits will be offered.

When surprise structural issues occur on highly-traveled interstate bridges, state DOTs need to quickly develop strategies for traffic detours, public engagement, and engineering solutions to mitigate travel delays, congestion, and economic impacts to the local communities. This presentation will describe two unique events and how emergency action was able to minimize impacts to the traveling public.

Speaker Bio: Kent is a Senior Vice President of Michael Baker’s Chicago’s office and the Great Lakes Regional Director, Kent has over 25 years of experience in providing bridge engineering and management services to local agencies and municipalities. He has worked on projects throughout the Midwest, including long-span river crossings and complex structures, such as steel and concrete arches, steel box girders, bridge retrofits, and post-tensioned concrete. He is a National Highway Institute instructor who teaches load and resistance factor bridge design courses to the staff of state departments of transportation nationwide.

Photos from January and February Post Meetings