



North Winds

VOICE OF THE ANCHORAGE POST

October 2007 EDITION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) Meeting

25 October 2007, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Lonestar Steakhouse
(4810 C Street)

Executive Board Meeting

26 October 2007, 6:30 a.m.
Country Kitchen
346 E. Fifth Avenue
(Next to the Sheraton between Fifth and Sixth.)

Society of American Military Engineers October Monthly Meeting will be Thursday, October 25, 11:30 to 1300 at the Lonestar Steakhouse located at the intersection of C Street and Tudor. Please RSVP no later than October 23rd to Andy Larson at andy@discoverydrilling.com.

SAME Monthly Meeting Guest Speaker

The presenter this month will be Grace Amundson. This past summer the Anchorage Post sent Grace a Service HS student and Navy JROTC cadet to the Seabee Engineering and Construction Camp at Port Hueneme California. Grace will be at the October meeting to tell us about her experience. Join us at the October meeting and hear about Grace's adventures

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

"I have been tasked to deploy to Iraq in January 2008 and I will be undergoing pre-deployment training activities and travel over the next couple of months. Although I technically have more time in my tenure as your Anchorage Post President, that training and travel schedule will effectively take me away from my SAME duties over the coming months.

I want to thank the individual and sustaining member firms for their continued outstanding support. The Anchorage Post continues to fulfill a crucial mission in Alaska. We provide unparalleled engineering support for national security through relationships and competencies among uniformed services, public and private sector engineers, and related professionals. We raise and provide funds to encourage promising students to complete studies in engineering and related fields. We continue to develop our members through an unsurpassed program of stimulating topics and presentations. All of these efforts are critical, especially when the number of engineers in the workforce are declining in Alaska and across the United States.



I will hand over the task of running the Post's operations to our First Vice President, COLONEL Tim Gallagher, U.S. Army (Retired) and, when he's not available, our Second Vice President, Major Kevin Thomas, U.S. Air Force Reserves. I offer them many thanks for their assistance in the coming months. Please provide them with the same great support that you gave me."

Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes SAME, Anchorage Post

Date/Time: 31 Aug 2007/0630

Location: Country Kitchen Restaurant

Attendees: Lt Col James Hodges, Capt Matthew Anderson, Mr. Pat Coullahan, Mr. Chris Turletes, Mr. Skip Koch, , Ms. Kathy Jacobson, SMSgt George Bunting, Col Stu Hartford, Mr. Steve Schwicht, Mr. Tim Gallagher, Mr. Joey Gillespie, Ms. Kathy Gardner, Mr. Bill Kontess, Maj Erik Sell

Not Present: Col Kevin Wilson, Ms. Andrea Soland, Ms. Karen Padgett, Mr. Andy Larson, Mr. George Herr, Mr. Tad Dean, Mr. Jamie Spell, Maj Bryan Erickson, Mr. Everett Mabry, Mr. Bruce Steely, Mr. Kevin Thomas, Capt Greg Mayer, Mr. Ted Trueblood, Mr. John Magee, Mr. Robert Wrentmore

Proceedings:

Lt Col Hodges, Post President, opened the BOD meeting at 0630.

Treasurer. No Report this Month

VP Report. Tim Gallagher was part of a group that met with the UAA Chancellor the Civil Engineering Department and representatives from national engineering societies to discuss challenges to educate and hire young engineers. The group will write Governor Palin for help on the subject. Currently UAA cannot handle the enrollment demand of new engineering students. The group will meet once a quarter.

Programs. Still waiting word from Governor Sarah Palin for our October general meeting. Other possible future meeting topics could be to invite the UAA Engineering Club to discuss their recent Post sponsored trip to support Habitat for Humanity in the New Orleans reconstruction and to have MSgt Pastor from the Elmendorf AFB Fire Department speak about the National Incident Management System. The board also suggested an ethics discussion for a future meeting.

National Convention. San Diego was advertised as hosting the 2013 national convention. The Board requested Tim Gallagher to contact the Anchorage Visitor Center regarding the change, and to work towards hosting the 2014 convention.

Scholarship. Chris Turletes passed around the draft application. One change already included was making architectural students eligible. The board moved to add Master's students to the list of eligible participants. This was approved and the number of Master's students awarded a scholarship will be determined based on the number of applicants.

Membership. Maj Taylor's replacement, Maj Eric Sell has arrived.

Publicity. Help is needed to get the word out for the general membership lunches.

Newsletter. No report this month.

Streamers. The group was asked to provide activities for streamers.

Website. No updates this month.

Golf Tournament. No report this month.

Annual Banquet. Date of the banquet is 26 January. Chris Tuttle will be in charge of displays and setup. Kathy Gardner will handle the raffle. Payment for the Egen Center is due next month. Still need a speaker and planning committee. BOD wants to look for a speaker that is family and government related. The 3rd CES helped with setup in the past, and group is looking to help again this year.

Alibis.

UAA is still looking for instructors for senior design course A letter of endorsement for fellow nominations is needed, and need nominees for Engineer of the Year. The EOY Committee is already seeking nominations.

Next month's events:

General Membership Meeting: 25 October (Lonestar)

BOD meeting: 26 October @ 0630 (Country Kitchen)

Lt Col Hodges thanked everyone for their support and expressed great appreciation for the progress that the Post is making. The meeting closed at 0735.

SAME Engineering and Construction Camp— Campers Report

Engineer and Construction Summer Camp After Action Review:

This past summer the Anchorage Post sent Grace Amundsen a Service HS student and Navy JROTC cadet to the Seabee Engineering and Construction Camp at Port Hueneme California. Grace will be at the October meeting to tell us about her experience. Here are her responses to the "ten" questions that we have asked previous campers to answer. Join us at the October meeting and hear about Grace's adventures

Q1. Tell us what Camp you went to:

The SAME/Seabees Engineering and Construction Camp in Port Hueneme, California.

Q2. Where did you eat, work and sleep?

We slept in canvas tents we set up ourselves on the first day of camp. We worked everywhere from classrooms to construction sites, with a little laboratory work smashing concrete and compressing Styrofoam cups in salt water at pressures equal to the deepest portions of the ocean in between. Eating was varied from day to day. Breakfast and occasionally lunch was at the bachelor mess hall, but lunch was more often on the go wherever we were

working that day. Dinner was things like outdoor barbecues and pizza.

Q3. What were the demographics of Camp?

The camp had a fair smattering of people from across the United States, and, indeed, the world. There were campers from as far away as the United Arab Emirates and Germany, but Alaska was considered almost as much a foreign country as either of these. The campers were of all races, with nearly three times as many males than females. I was one of perhaps a dozen females attending. The mentors and instructors were mostly Navy, but there were also some Air Force, Army, and Coast Guard people in the mix. There were engineers, architects, electricians, and various other construction oriented fields, a wide knowledge base.

Q4. What was the worst thing about camp?

The tents were pitched on dusty, reddish dirt that got on everything and in everywhere. That got very annoying quickly.

Q5. What was the best thing about camp?

The best things about camp were being exposed to all sorts of diverse experiences. From racing cardboard boats to meeting people from so far away, I had a wonderful trip and learned a lot in a short period of time.

Q6. What was the funniest or most outrageous thing?

Our female mentor (adult leader), Allison, was only about 5' tall, and I'm 5'3". Of the nine boys and one adult male mentor in our squad, not a single one was under 6' tall. As a joke, during the building of the cardboard boats, they made us stools to stand on so we could see what was happening.

Q7. What life lesson did you learn?

Light hearts lighten the load; doing work because it's fun makes it easier and much more enjoyable.

Q8. Did you enjoy the experience and why?

I loved it. The camp was exciting, presenting new experiences in the full confidence that with guidance we could and would handle them. Throughout the camp I learned new things, and applied them. Many of the concepts I've been learning in math and physics make much more sense now that I've used them in practical applications, and I enjoy them more than ever.

Q9. Would you recommend the camp to a friend or class mate? What advice would you give them?

Yes, I would definitely recommend this to my classmates. I would tell anyone else interested in this camp to be prepared to work hard and play hard to get the most out of the experience.

Q10. Will you be continuing with the military and/or science or engineering in college (tell us your plans as you know them now)

I'm currently planning to be a civil engineer, and I hope to go to the University of Alaska Fairbanks. I've spoken with a representative from the ROTC program there, and am seriously considering that option. I'd like to see the world, as much as possible, and I like the wide variety of possibilities in engineering I glimpsed at Camp.

Q11. Share a picture or two with us and tell us why it is significant.



(above) This picture is of my squad pulling together during the Seabee Olympics. Teamwork was emphasized throughout camp. This is a great example of something we learned.



(above) This is my squad in front of a steel rebar reinforced concrete I-beam we made ourselves. It shows one of our accomplishments at camp.

Attention Sustaining Member Firms

The Anchorage Post is accepting nominations from our general and sustaining membership to be the Anchorage SAME Post's representative to the Alaska Engineer of the Year honorarium for 2007. To be nominated a candidate should have made recent contributions to the Anchorage SAME Post, have a history of contribution to SAME National, and the local engineering community. Additionally our candidate should be able to demonstrate community involvement. Please sent nominee names to Skip Koch at skip.koch@westonsolutions.com or call Skip at his office at 276-6610. **Nominations are due not later than Friday 26 October 2007.**

Again, Thanks to all sustaining members for your support and interest in the mission of SAME and your affiliation with our post. With your membership, you get four sustaining member representatives and one young member representative (must be 35 or younger to use this slot). If you would like assistance to add representatives, you may contact the new membership director, Maj Erik Sell, at 552-9642, by e-mail at Erik.Sell@elmendorf.af.mil, or update your membership online at www.same.org.

From the Editor

The SAME Newsletter welcomes articles of interest and photos for the Newsletter. Please submit articles and photos with captions concerning SAME activities to the editor by the 10th of each month.

All members should check the web page to verify your email address is correct at:

www.same.org/custom/postrosters

From the Web Master

Website Update:

We've added the following new pages to the web site:

- Monthly luncheons –where we post presentations from past luncheons
- Job Central – where members are invited to post resumes or job opening announcements free of charge!

You can navigate to these pages by visiting www.sameanchorage.org and clicking on the links at the left of the page.

Your North Winds Newsletter is published by:



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This months Newsletter is sponsored by The Shaw Group. Please review the insert for more in-depth information concerning the services they provide.



Sponsorship for all remaining months of 2007 have been filled. Thanks again for sponsoring the SAME Newsletter if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact

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Have you been to the Post website?

Check it out at:

<http://www.sameanchorage.org>

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