
President's Message



LTC Michael Ruppert

As your Post President for the 2016-2017 season, I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I've been a member of SAME for over 20 years now, attending programs with whichever Post falls in my path as the Army has moved me from the Northeast to the Southwest to the Northwest and now back to the East Coast. I am an electrical engineer by schooling, a combat engineer by Army definition, a veteran of two tours in Iraq, and husband to beautiful wife and fellow service member who gave us twin babies earlier this year. It's an exciting time and I'm thrilled to be in the Mid-Atlantic, and residing locally right here in Fells Point.

Over the last 2 years, as 2nd VP and 1st VP, I've had the chance to observe one of the most active posts in the country with Baltimore Post. I want to call out the incredibly dedicated committee members who engage on dozens of initiatives with young members, engineer's week, philanthropy, national security, STEM events, and so much more. My sincere thanks goes out to everyone who contributes and organizes these events throughout the year.

Next, I want to introduce our 1st VP in the Baltimore Post: Rob Scrafford from Gannett Fleming. Rob has been your communications committee chair for several years but is taking on the officer role now. Rob's officer role is even more important this year as he will provide the continuity and succession of leadership in the Post when I am deployed to support Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Afghanistan. We don't call ourselves the Society of American Military Engineers for nothing! But just as the Army teaches about resiliency, we in Baltimore Post are more than capable of seamless transition. Rob will be assuming the Post President role before the calendar year is out, and we will be electing follow-on officers in the next month to backfill vacancies.

LTC Mike Ruppert, Baltimore Post President

To see LTC Ruppert's entire message, click [here](#).

September Meeting- Developing Baltimore

Bill Cole, president of the Baltimore Development Corporation spoke about development around Baltimore.

Did you know that Baltimore City has the 8th largest millennial population and it is the 4th fastest growing in the nation. They are becoming the City's base. Many work in Washington, D.C.

He spoke about several high profile development projects:

Harbor Point- has the first design-build bridge in the City.

Inner Harbor 2.0- In addition to renovation of Harbor Place, concepts include renovating Rash Field, creating an urban beach, and a pedestrian bridge connecting Federal Hill to Harbor East.

Pratt Street Redesign- Will include removing the berms along the street and adding development to the street edge.

Port Covington- Its the second larges urban development in the country and is expected to create 42,000 construction jobs. Under Armour is planning on building an "Under Armour World" similar to the LL Bean flagship store in Maine.

In addition to finding out about development, 6 of our scholarship awardees were present to be presented with their scholarship checks. Each addressed the attendees to let us know where and what they were studying.



Bill Cole, BDC President speaking to the crowd.

Mentoring at the Air Force Academy Summer Camp By Alison Augustyn

The week of July 6 - July 13, I had the opportunity to serve as a mentor for the second time at the summer 2016 SAME USAFA Engineering and Construction (STEM) Camp. Ninety-six high school students from around the world were selected by SAME posts to attend the camp. The Baltimore Post sponsored two students this year, Kasey

The students chosen to attend this camp are extraordinary; many are top of their class. The 96 campers were organized into 8 flights, each of which was led by a flight commander (a college engineering student or Air Force Academy cadet) and two mentors (SAME Young Members). During the week-long camp, students performed hands-on activities following the theme of BUILD then DESIGN. This concept allowed campers to have a limited amount of time to quickly come up with a design, build it, and then test it. After testing, campers were able to see the flaws and strengths in their designs with a technical discussion about which techniques may have been better than others.



One activity was focused on green/sustainable energy. The idea was that each flight was a firm being evaluated for award of a contract to explore various renewable energy and sustainability solutions for future projects on the base. There were eight stations where the campers performed different activities including design, build, and test a small wind turbine; design a green roof and a LEED building; and perform evaluations of recycling, water conservation, solar power, and a net-zero building.

Other activities included constructing small wood frame dog houses; design, construction, and destructive testing of a reinforced concrete beam; a tour of the US Air Force Academy including the engineering labs; an option to attend a religious service on Sunday at the Academy chapel; and a visit to a local A/E firm, where my flight toured an active construction site.

This year, I had the pleasure to serve on the "Young Engineers' Panel", which is a Q&A session that gives campers the opportunity to find out more about different career paths and glean some advice on pursuing a career in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) fields. The students leave camp with unique experiences, lasting memories, new friendships, and wonderful role models. It has been extremely successful in piquing interest in STEM careers and we love hearing about the paths our campers have chosen since attending the camp.

Schiffmacher and Hikel Receive Awards

Regional Vice President Coins

At our monthly meeting in September, Emily Schiffmacher, PE and Chris Hikel were honored with SAME Regional Vice President Coins presented by our RVP, Jim DeGour. Emily and Chris have worked tirelessly as assistant treasurer and treasurer for close to a decade. We all appreciate the work that they have put in over the years. Chris is a project manager for the the Veterans Administration and Emily is Chief of Environmental Munitions Design at the USACE Baltimore District.



Upcoming Events

See what we will be up to!

October 20: Site visit to Rec Pier Hotel construction site with happy hour to follow.

October 24: USACE North Atlantic Division Industry Day in Newark, NJ

November 7: Monthly meeting with workshop on Asset Management and Keynote speaker on the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War.



To register for our meetings or for more information, visit our website [here](#).

Meeting **The Engineering Society of Baltimore**
Location: 11 West Mount Vernon Place
Baltimore, MD 21201

samebalt.org

Newsletter compiled by Rob Scrafford of Gannett Fleming. Articles can be submitted to SAME@gfnet.com and rscrafford@gfnet.com for consideration.

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