



# WORD PASSER

A Monthly Newsletter For The Houston/Galveston Post

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### September 2018

#### September 5

General Membership Meeting  
Keynote Speakers George Hartmann with Texas Board of Professional Engineers

#### September 12

Resilience Committee Meeting  
Guided Tour of the Emergency Operations Center of the Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

### October 2018

#### October 17

Capital Improvements Program Briefings  
APWA and SAME joint event

### November 2018

#### November 12

12<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament  
Kenneth J. Haveman Scholarship Golf Tournament at Longwood Golf Club



## In this edition...

- ★ **July 26, 2018**  
**Environmental Committee Luncheon**  
 Keynote Speakers Nick Russo and Austin Appleton with Harris County Engineering Department
- ★ **August 1, 2018**  
**General Membership Meeting**  
 Keynote Speaker Troi Taylor with METRO and STEM Camp presentations

## Environmental Committee Luncheon

By: Yvonne Hernandez

Harris County Engineering Department joined SAME's Environmental Committee July 26th for an overview of past and expected future projects.

Nick Russo provided updates on Hurricane Harvey projects and their challenges in regards to damaged properties/assets. Managing debris sites required coordination from site selection to TCEQ permitting to various logistics. Austin Appleton shared examples of projects that required an immediate response to flood damage as well as longer term responses to flood damaged properties and the county's success in meeting deadlines that allowed for maximum reimbursement. Mr. Appleton also provided an update and benefits of the Regional General Permit with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Harris County expects projects related to recovery to keep them busy for some time to come. They're planning to add staff to help respond to anticipated funds for additional projects.



# August General Meeting

By: Yvonne Hernandez

SAME's July meeting included a speaker from METRO and was also a celebration of the STEM Camp recipients sponsored by the Post.

Troi Taylor is one of nine METRO Board Members. As Houston is projected to overtake Chicago in population, METRO is moving forward to help meet transportation needs in the region. Congestion is projected to further increase with the population growth, especially to the northwest, west and southwest. Mass transit can play a role in reducing the time Houstonians sit in traffic. METRO has made progress on the 2003 Referendum items with bus routes redesigned with New Network, 8 new transit centers, additional miles of light rail complete among many other accomplishments. Additionally, Bus Rapid Transit is under construction in the Uptown District/Post Oak area. METRO reached out to the public with METRONext and future projects are being planned and prioritized.

SAME Engineering & Construction Camps were also highlighted with Campers recounting their experiences. Every year the Galveston-Houston Post sponsors high school student campers and SAME young member mentors for week-long camps in the spring and summer. A few of the Camper adventures included assembling a wheel barrow, building and traveling in a cardboard boat, forming a concrete beam, building a trebuchet, and creating a water filtration system. Camper activities challenged students in leadership, teamwork, and existing STEM knowledge. The best learning experiences come from failure. Beyond the structured activities, team building, networking and fun were had by all.



# August General Meeting

By: Yvonne Hernandez

SAME Mentors Kalin Ojert of Arcadis and KC Maheshwor of Midtown Engineers recounted their experience as mentors and encourage all eligible SAME Young Members to take advantage of the awesome opportunity. Mentorship roles were also supported by the Post. They had fun, built mentoring relationships with the campers, and had learning experiences of their own.

A special thanks to Keri Garner-Hopple and KC Maheshwor for their work on the SAME STEM Committee and for the time and dedication to help the campers have the experience of a lifetime. Thanks to Buddy Barnes also for his years long support of the SAME Camper program.

Congratulations to each of the campers and mentors below. SAME looks forward to watching them progress on their STEM paths.

**Nolan Murphy** of Kingwood – attended US Air Force Camp – Colorado Springs

**Christian Restrepo** of Cypress – attended US Air Force Camp – Scott Field

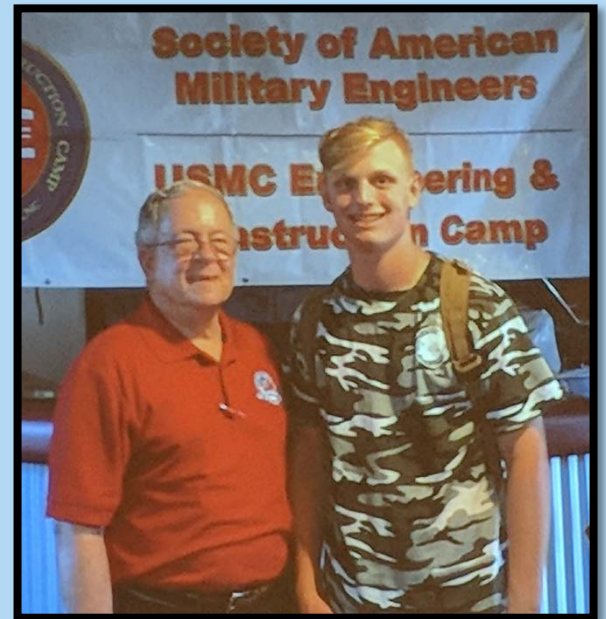
**Michael Hibert** of Spring – attended US Army Camp - Vicksburg, Mississippi

**Hunter Deleon** of Selam – attended US Marine Corps Camp - Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, North Carolina

**Ryan Colwell** of Cypress – attended US Marine Corps Camp - Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, North Carolina

**Kalin Ojert** – Mentored at US Air Force Camp - Colorado Springs

**KC Maheshwor** – Mentored at US Marine Corps – 29 Palms



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## September 2018

★ **September 5<sup>th</sup>  
General Membership Meeting**

Guest Speaker Mr. George Hartmann of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers (TBPE). Mr. Harmann will provide an Ethics presentation and the meeting is hosted by the SAME Houston-Galveston Post Young Members. The meeting will be held from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM at the HESS Club.

★ **September 12<sup>th</sup>  
Resilience Committee Meeting**

Harris County Precinct 4 will be hosting this lunch. The lunch includes a guided tour of the Emergency Operations Center of Harris County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HCOHSEM). The meeting will be held at HCOHSEM, 6922 Old Katy Road, Houston, TX 77024, from 11 AM – 1 PM.

## October 2018

★ **October 17<sup>th</sup>  
Capital Improvements Program Briefings**

APWA and SAME are hosting a capital improvements program briefings. Registration will begin at 8:30 AM, Session 1 will begin at 9 AM, lunch will be at 11:30 AM and Session 2 will begin at 12:30 PM. The luncheon will be held at The HESS Club.

## November 2018

★ **November 12<sup>th</sup>  
12<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament**

The SAME 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Kenneth J. Haveman Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held at Longwood Golf Club in Cypress, Texas. Please consider becoming a team sponsor, food and beverage sponsor, hold sponsor or contest sponsor.

## National Events

For More information on upcoming National events such as elections, scholarship applications, and STEM camps, please visit the SAME National's calendar: <http://www.same.org/calendar>