



# WORD PASSER

A Monthly Newsletter For The Houston/Galveston Post

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### April 2017

**April 5**

General Membership Meeting

Speaker Devon Tiner,  
Assistant Director of Asset  
Engineering at Houston  
Airport System

**April 25**

Environmental Committee Luncheon

Speaker Leah Oberlin of  
the Port of Houston

### May 2017

**May 31**

Sporting Clay Tournament

SAME supports the  
Veterans in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual  
Clay Shoot Tournament

## In this edition...

★ **March 1, 2017**

### General Membership Meeting

Rod Pinheiro, P.E., CFM, Env. Sp., Assistant Director of the City of Houston's Storm Water Maintenance Branch, presents the goals and outlook of the City's Storm Water Action Team



★ **March 10, 2017**

### Port of Houston Boat Tour

SAME STEM Committee organizes a boat tour of the Port of Houston for a group of 33 eighth graders from Saint Ambrose Catholic School

# March General Membership Meeting

By: Liz Parent



On March 1, 2017, the SAME Houston-Galveston Post hosted speaker, Rod Pinheiro, PE, CFM, ENV SP. Mr Pinheiro is the Assistant Director of the Storm Water Maintenance Branch of the City of Houston's Street and Drainage Division. He presented information about the City's new Storm Water Action Team (SWAT) that was recently created to help proactively improve drainage and mitigate flooding citywide. The new program has been funded by City Council initially for \$10 million. The funding is allocated to 22 projects, 2 in each council district.

## SAME Welcomes Speaker Rod Pinheiro!



Projects include replacing storm sewer inlets and collapsed outfalls, in addition to erosion repairs and more regular mowing. Mr. Pinheiro brought a presentation that showed several of these types of projects. The project selections were based on 311 calls and information about the frequency of flooding in the area. The City's ability to implement practical improvements to provide flooding relief make Houston's neighborhoods more resilient, and reduce low frequency flooding. Our members received a PDH for their attendance.



# Port of Houston Boat Tour

By: Keri Garner Hopple



On Friday, March 10, 2017, the SAME STEM Committee, organized a field trip for 33 eighth grade students from St. Ambrose Catholic School on the Port of Houston Sam Houston Boat Tour. This was the first time in years that this annual boat tour started out with warm weather and clear, bright skies. Before the tour started, the SAME committee provided the students with a scavenger hunt list of items that they were to discover while on the tour. To complete their scavenger hunt, the students would be required to listen to the boat captain, who always gives a great narration of all the activities and sites that the students would be observing along the channel. The students were also encouraged to find the boat personnel and SAME Engineers to find out answers to specific questions. John Smaistrla and Dalton Krueger from Harris County Flood Control District joined us on this year's tour and were a great resource for the students as they approached them with questions about the Port of Houston. Following the boat tour, the SAME STEM Committee provided a pizza lunch for the students back at their school.



The SAME STEM Committee would like to send out a big thank you to **John Smaistrla, Dalton Krueger, Suzanna Set, Maheshwor KC, Jenna Gardner and Duane Hopple** for helping out at the field trip. The STEM Committee will be looking at scheduling another field trip with St. Ambrose in Fall 2017.

## 2017 Officers & Board Members

### Officers

President	Mike Fitzgerald	BGE
President Elect	Tom Martens	Terracon
Vice President, Programs	Ed Mears	Pulice Construction
Secretary	Tommi Jo Scott	LJA Engineering
Treasurer	Dennis Turner	Fugro
Assitant Secretary	Bob Morgan	Amani
Assistant Treasurer	Kate Petterson	Realtor

### Past President/PP&FC Chair

Past President	Liz Parent	5engineering
PP&FC Chair	Reid Mrsny	Harris County
PP&FC Secretary		

### Directors

Director (PA) Jan.2015-Dec.2017	Mark Vincent	Port of Houston
Director Jan.2015-Dec.2017	Buddy Barnes	Arcadis
Director (YM) Jan.2015-Dec.2017	Johan Petterson	Dannenbaum
Director (PA) Jan.2016-Dec.2018	Reid Mrsny	Harris County
Director Jan.2016-Dec.2018	Jon Strange	JNS
Director(YM) Jan.2016-Dec.2018	Omar Oweis	Jacobs
Director (PA) Jan.2017-Dec.2019	Joe Myers	COH
Director (YM) Jan.2017-Dec.2019	Patrick Korn	Terracon
Director (PA) Jan.2017-Dec.2019	Greg Olinger	CWA

## 2017 Committees

### Operations Committees

Past Presidents and Fellows	Reid Mrsny	Harris County
Scholarship/Constr. Camp Selection	Ramon (Scholarship) Keri (E&C Camps)	Midtown Engineers Midtown Engineers
Audit	3 Member Committee	
Nominating	PP&FC Committee	

### Mission Committees

Membership	Jenna Gardner	Dannenbaum
Sponsorships	Tommi Jo Scott	LJA Engineering
Resilience (EPIR)	Dan Menendez James Kisel	Huitt-Zollars Dannenbaum
STEM	Keri Garner Hopple	Midtown Engineers
Golf Event	Patrick Korn	Terracon
Streamers & Word Passer	Janelle Colomb	COH
Streamer Mentor	Liz Parent	5engineering
Public Agency	Yvonne Rivera	Costello
Environmental	Yvonne Hernandez	Terracon
Small Business	Bonnie Moss	MBCO
Young Members	Patrick Korn	Terracon
Awards	Lee Lennard	BGE
Website (Web Master)	Rose Romero	BGE
Community Programs	Samantha Harn	CivilTech
E-Week Representative	Liz Parent	5engineering
Leadership/Mentoring	Ramon Herrera	Midtown Engineers
TAMU Chapter Liaison	Omar Oweis	Jacobs

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## April 2017

### ★ April 5<sup>th</sup> - General Membership Meeting

Devon Tiner, P.E., PMP, Houston Airport System Assistant Director - Asset Engineering at where he is responsible for management of all activities of the Asset Engineering Business Unit in the Infrastructure Division. The Asset Engineering Business Unit is responsible for providing and maintaining infrastructure assets at an acceptable level of service through systematic, coordinated planning and programming of infrastructure investments, and execution of projects in the capital improvement plan.

### ★ April 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> - Interested in Hiring Vets?

The Houston/Galveston Post has partnered with NEXTOPS, an organization that assists soldiers transitioning out of the military and into the civilian job force, to support the 2017 Military Construction (MILCON) Summit. NEXTOPS is co-hosting this event with Ft. Hood. It will be held April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at the Texas A&M Central Texas campus in Killeen, TX. If your firm is interested in meeting potential candidates for construction, construction inspection and other supervisory positions please consider attending this event. For more information go to: <https://nextopmilconsummit.eventbrite.com>

### ★ April 25<sup>th</sup> – Environmental Committee Luncheon

The first Environmental Committee Luncheon will be held April 25<sup>th</sup> with Speaker Leah Oberlin of the Port of Houston. For more information, please contact Yvonne Hernandez at [Yvonne.Hernandez@terracon.com](mailto:Yvonne.Hernandez@terracon.com)

## May 2017

### ★ May 31<sup>st</sup> – Second Annual Sporting Clay Shoot

The SAME Houston/Galveston Post presents the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sporting Clay Shoot Tournament, set for May 31<sup>st</sup> from 3pm until 7pm at the American Shooting Centers. SAME is partnering with NEXTOPS so each team can be assigned a veteran teammate! Find more information as well as the flyer for this event on the post website.

## 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>