



Leader Development Program Class of 2020-21



Tasmin Brown, Senior Project Manager, Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
California Region: San Francisco Post
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Tasmin is an Engineering Design Project Manager working in the Californian water and wastewater industry. She focuses on large-scale, Progressive Design-Build partnerships with Construction companies to deliver innovative solutions to municipal and federal clients. She splits her time between the San Francisco Bay area and Downtown Los Angeles. Operating on the board of the SF Post of SAME as Resilience Chair for the last 5 years, Tasmin has organized and hosted a number of panel luncheons and all day conferences focused on local resilience issues with the hope of bringing the disparate agencies together to spark a more integrated approach to the issues affecting Northern Californians most: sea-level rise, wildfires, and energy resilience.

After graduating college from The University of Texas, Austin, Tasmin started her career with a small civil and general construction company in Southern California. Then she switched over to Design Project Management, joining MWH (now Stantec) in Sydney, Australia. Here she worked for 8 years in Alliances with municipal water agencies through collaborative contracts similar to Design-Builds but with more integrated painshare/gainshare characteristics.

Then Tasmin brought her young family back to the U.S. and worked in Northern California, building relationships with USACE and USBR through a number of design research projects trying to combat sea level rise in SF Bay with dredged sediment, management strategies for the Sacramento Delta, connection of water resources for local resilience efforts, and some municipal projects for treatment plant upgrades and earthquake retrofit work.

After hours and on weekends, Tasmin spends her free time outdoors with her family as much as possible - camping in the summer and skiing in the winter. Her husband, Dan, is Kilo '03 from The Citadel. They have a 7-year old son, Charleston (Charlie Brown), and a 9-year old daughter, Waverley.

Fun Facts:

- Works in L.A. 2 days a week and San Francisco (Walnut Creek) the other 3 days
- Used to run a portrait photography business on the side
- Has worked on a number of USACE design research projects trying to combat sea level rise in SF Bay with dredged sediment
- Lived and worked in Sydney, Australia for 8 years
- Named my son Charleston, but his nickname is Charlie (Brown)



Maj Joshua Carroll, Engineering Flight Commander, 8 Civil Engineer Squadron, Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea
International Committee
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Maj Joshua J. Carroll is the Engineering Flight Commander for the 8th Civil Engineer Squadron, 8th Fighter Wing, Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea. He joined the Society of American Military Engineers in 2010 and currently serves as the Professional Development Advisor for the Kunsan Chapter, Korea Post. Maj Carroll started his career at Altus AFB, OK after graduating and commissioning through Air Force ROTC at Virginia Tech in 2008. From 2008-2011, he served in various construction project development and management roles at Altus, and deployed to Khost Province, Afghanistan in 2010 where he continued to manage construction at more than sixty Forward Operating Bases. In 2011, Maj Carroll moved to the Defense Intelligence Agency where he was Deputy Chief, Engineering & Construction Branch, managing projects at over 200 locations world-wide and again deploying to Afghanistan, this time responsible for drawing down several Agency locations across the country. During this time he also earned a Master of Science in Engineering & Technology Management from Oklahoma State University, graduating with honors in December, 2011.

Maj Carroll was the Logistics Flight Commander, 336th Training Support Squadron, from 2013-2016 where he led 48 engineers, logisticians, and communications professionals in mission support activities for the US Air Force Survival School at Fairchild AFB, WA. While here, he also earned his Professional Engineer license in the State of Washington in 2014. In Maj Carroll's third deployment in 2015, he led all base engineering, maintenance, and repair at Air Base 101, Niamey Air Field, Niger. Shortly after returning, Maj Carroll began work at the US Air Forces in Europe – Air Forces Africa Headquarters Staff at Ramstein AB, Germany where for three years he served as African Engineering Operations officer, Contingency Support Branch Chief, and finally Africa Branch Chief in the A4, Civil Engineer Division. Maj Carroll moved to Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea in June 2019 where he currently leads 43 military and civilian engineers in the planning, design, and construction of a \$880 million portfolio. He will rejoin his family at Buckley AFB, CO in June 2020 where he will serve as Operations Flight Commander responsible for base maintenance and repair activities.

Maj Carroll's major awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, and the Korean Defense Service Medal. Additionally, he is a recent graduate of the USAF Air University Leader Development Course for Squadron Command. Josh has been married to the former Alia Steiner of Stafford, VA for nearly twelve years and they have two daughters, Adelynn, 4, and Finleigh, 2.

Fun Facts:

- I've spent 5.5 out of my 12 years in the Air Force outside the US
- I have mountain biked and rock climbed on 4 continents
- My little family of four visited 27 countries while stationed in Germany; my youngest daughter had visited all of those before ever being in the US



Agapito Diaz P.E., Project Manager, AECOM
Pacific Region: Guam Post
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Agapito Diaz, or Pete as he is commonly known, is a native son of Guam. In 2003, he obtained a bachelor's degree in Mathematics from the University of Guam. Like many before him on Guam, he had little choice but to leave Guam to obtain an engineering education. He was accepted into an engineering graduate program at California Polytechnic State University (CalPoly) in San Luis Obispo, CA. In 2006, he obtained a master's degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering from CalPoly. After graduation, he remained in California to gain work experience and obtain a professional engineering (PE) license before returning home. Pete was able to complete both goals and relocated back to Guam in 2011. Pete is a registered Civil PE in California, Hawaii, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Pete is a Project Manager in AECOM's Guam Office. He has 14 years of engineering and project management experience. Pete has worked in all aspects of a project, from proposal development to fee negotiation, contracting, design, bidding and construction support. Pete has participated and managed a wide variety of projects including water and wastewater facilities and infrastructure, site development, utility planning, environmental investigations, and vertical construction for local, state and federal agencies and clients.

Pete's first involvement with SAME was with the Guam Post in 2012. Pete was challenged by a Board member to restart their Young Member (YM) Committee. Steadily, the Guam Post YM committee grew and became more active taking on activities and events geared towards leadership development, community outreach, and networking. Today, the Guam Post YM events make up a good portion of the Streamers requirement for the post. Pete has been an appointed and elected director for the Guam Post for several years and has served in leadership roles in many of the Guam Post's committees including Membership, Young Members, Programs, Awards, Website, STEM Camp, Student Chapter Mentor, and Veterans. From June 2018 – June 2019, Pete served as President of the Guam Post. This year, Pete has been active in the planning of several key events for the post, including the Guam Industry Forum and the Guam Post's Centennial Celebration.

Pete enjoys participating in STEM events and sharing his experience and perspective with school kids of all ages. One of his passions is supporting a new 4-year civil engineering degree program at the University of Guam and the construction of a new School of Engineering building so that future generations can more easily attain an engineering education at home. Pete enjoys island living, traveling, and spending time with family.

Fun Facts:

- I am a Pacific Islander, born and raised on Guam. I grew up with 3 seasons: wet season, dry season and typhoon season.
- I enjoy island living (spending time with family, going to the beach and good food), but love to travel. I once planned an impromptu 2-week European backpacking trip in one night using a train app.
- I am a thrill seeker. I enjoy roller coasters, zip lining, whitewater rafting, and skydiving.



CPT Thomas Fakler, Civil Engineer, Ulteig
Great Lakes Region: Minneapolis-St Paul Post
Fargo, ND
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Thomas Fakler is a registered professional engineer in the States of North Dakota and Minnesota. He is currently a Civil Engineer for Ulteig Engineers where he participates in the design of large-scale transportation, aviation, and electrical distribution projects. He is also an Assistant Operations Officer for the 164th EN BN, 141st MEB, North Dakota Army National Guard (NDARNG)

where he is tasked with tracking administrative, training, and tactical operations for five engineer companies.

Thomas originally enlisted in the NDARNG in 2006 as a combat medic and was assigned to the Liaison Monitoring Team, Multinational Task Force East, Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo operating as a Team Leader to direct both US and Multi-National Soldiers for KFOR-12 in 2009. After returning from Kosovo, Thomas pursued his degree in Civil Engineering at North Dakota State University (NDSU) and successfully completed his program in 2013. While attending NDSU, he attended Officer Candidate School and commissioned in 2012. Since commissioning, he has held various Engineering Officer positions with the NDARNG to include Platoon Leader, Executive/Construction Officer, and Company Commander of the 188th EN CO, 142nd EN BN, 141st MEB, NDARNG. While in command, he was responsible for the welfare of over 150 Vertical Construction Engineers and \$13 million worth of equipment. Thomas also planned and prepared the largest deployment of NDARNG Soldiers to Africa during United Accord 18, a Multi-Component and Multi-National training exercise in Ghana, Africa. Other notable activities Thomas is proud of during his time in the NDARNG include six flood fights in five different cities, project management of various troop construction projects, increasing the capabilities of Camp Grafton Training Center, and participation in the State Sponsorship Program between the NDARNG and Ghanaian Armed Forces. Upon completion of company command, he was assigned to the 164th EN BN, 141st MEB, NDARNG in 2018.

Upon graduation from NDSU in 2013, Thomas began working at Ulteig Engineers in Fargo, ND with a focus on highway transportation design and construction and has participated on projects with a combined construction cost of over \$150 million for the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT). While living in Minneapolis, 2015-2017, Thomas was the lead designer/project manager of 70 underground electric distribution systems for various residential developments in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro. Thomas moved back to North Dakota in 2017 where he has returned to highway transportation engineering with a mixture of aviation design and construction to broaden his skillset.

Thomas met his wife Theresa in 2008 while they were both freshman at NDSU and married in 2014. They enjoy spending their free time outdoors as much as possible with activities which include jogging, riding bike, kayaking, cross country skiing, helping work cattle at the family farm, and walking their Scottish Terrier "Wallie". They are truly happy spending time with their son Theodore who was born in May, 2018 and who really enjoys visiting animals at the zoo.

Fun Facts:

- I played high school football against Carson Wentz.
- I owned a fishing tackle company called Master Angular Tackle while in college.
- My wife and I plan on visiting a zoo in all 50 States.



Summer Gladden CF APMP, LEED AP BD+C, Proposal and Marketing Manager, Leebeor Services, LLC
Middle Atlantic Region: Central Virginia Post
Williamsburg, VA
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Summer Gladden is the Marketing and Proposal Manager responsible for the overall marketing direction and proposal strategy of Leebeor Services, LLC. Summer has been a member of the Leebeor team since shortly after graduating from Christopher Newport University with a bachelor's degree in Political Science in 2010, beginning as a project coordinator before being promoted to a marketing and proposal coordinator in 2013. She is also a LEED Accredited Professional in Building Design and Construction and serves as Leebeor's LEED Administrator, responsible for compiling, reviewing and submitting documentation to the USGBC for compliance.

At Christopher Newport University, Summer was an active member of Model United Nations and Zeta Tau Alpha. She also served as news and copy editor of the student-run newspaper "The Captain's Log", where she discovered her passion for writing, editing, and graphic design—all keys to her professional success.

For the past four years, she has held at least one position on the SAME Central Virginia Post Board of Direction, often serving in dual roles. She began as Director of Publicity in 2015, quickly taking on the role of Secretary as well. She has since served as Vice President and is the current Central Virginia Post President. In the past three years, Central Virginia has been named the Society's Top Small Post (2016, 2017) and Top Medium Post (2018), in part due to her contributions. Beyond the Post, Summer is the Middle Atlantic Region secretary and the Vice Chair of Communications for the Young Member Community of Interest.

In addition to SAME, Summer is a member of the Association of Proposal Management Professionals Tidewater Chapter, US Green Building Council Virginia Chapter, Design Build Institute of America Hampton Roads Chapter, and Society for Marketing Professional Services Virginia Chapter.

The oldest of two, Summer is a native of Salem, Virginia, where most of her family still lives. She resides in Toano, Virginia, with her partner of 14 years, Randy, and their 1-year-old Boston terrier, Fox. In her spare time, she is an amateur (emphasis on amateur) astronomer. She is a wine enthusiast who also enjoys tennis, live music, murder mysteries, and never leaves the house without sunscreen.

Fun Facts:

- I try to read at least 2 "just for fun" books a month.
- I grew up in a house on Gladden Road and most of my neighbors were family members.
- I was the first in my family to earn a college degree.
- I go by my middle name.



LT Kristi Gordon, FEAD Director, PWD Meridian, NAVFAC SE
Lower Mississippi Region: Vicksburg Post
Meridian, MS
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Lieutenant Kristi Gordon is a native of Vicksburg, Mississippi and a 2011 graduate of Louisiana State University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. She received her commission through Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island and earned a Master of Business Administration in Financial Management from the Naval Postgraduate School in 2018.

Her expeditionary tours include platoon commander and officer-in-charge of Detail Sasebo, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion FIVE; and Construction Readiness Operations officer, THIRTIETH Naval Construction Regiment.

Her shore assignments include construction manager and energy team leader, Naval Air Station Pensacola Public Works Department.

Lieutenant Gordon is currently assigned as the Facilities Engineering and Acquisition Division Director at the Naval Air Station Meridian Public Works Department.

She is a licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Louisiana and is a qualified Seabee Combat Warfare Officer. Lieutenant Gordon has also completed the Joint Professional Military Education Phase One qualification through the Naval War College. Her personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards). She is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Society of American Military Engineers.

Fun Facts:

- I was once a licensed skydiver
- I play classical violin and piano (but not well!)
- I am a single mom of a 4 year old boy and love spending time building LEGO sets, hiking, riding bikes, reading and visiting science museums



Capt Gregory Hege, Chief, Operations Engineering Element, 628 CES
Carolina Region: Charleston Post
Charleston, SC
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Capt. Hege is the Chief of the Operations Engineering Element, Operations Flight, 628th Civil Engineer Squadron, Joint Base Charleston. As the Ops Engineering Chief, he leads three of the unit's key sections – Requirements & Optimization, Service Contracts, and Material Control. Collectively, these sections maintain JB Charleston's infrastructure through analytically based asset management, provide over \$10M in annual service contract support, and maintain the unit's vehicle fleet and required materials. Also during his time at JB Charleston, Blake deployed to Al Udeid, Qatar and served as the chief of operations support for the AFCENT/FORWARD A7 Directorate. While there, Capt Hege oversaw the theater's RADR program, served as a contracting officer representative for warm-status Thumrait AB, and assisted the 1CECG in planning the bare-base-beddown of Prince Sultan AB.

Before being assigned to JB Charleston, Capt Hege was assigned to JB Elmendorf-Richardson. While there, he served as the Community Planning OIC, Project Programming OIC, Requirements &

Optimization (R&O) OIC, and group executive officer. As the Space Allocation & Programming OIC, Blake facilitated the comprehensive BCAMP development process of 29.3 million square feet of real property. As the R&O OIC, he helped evolve JBER's BCAMP process to include data analysis tools like BUILDER and PCASE with a "right time, right dollar, right facility" mentality.

Capt. Hege was born in Indianapolis, IN and enrolled in the U.S. Air Force Academy in fall of 2010. He has been excited and proud to serve as a commissioned CE officer since he commissioned in May 2014. Dedicated to a life of service, Capt. Hege and his wife are both serving as active duty members of the U.S. Air Force.

Fun Facts:

- I am a first generation military member in my family.
- About every weekend, my wife and I are enjoying a DIY project. I also love woodworking and building simple furniture.
- In line with my passion of educating the next generation, I helped establish Joint Base Charleston's STEM outreach program.



LT Christopher Joseph, Project Manager, Stanley Consultants, Inc.
Texoma Region: San Antonio Post
Round Rock, TX
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Chris Joseph was born in Virginia Beach and raised in a Navy family on the Eastern Coast of the United States. He received his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He was commissioned as an Active Duty US Navy Civil Engineer Corps Officer in 2012 through Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI.

His first assignment was to the Facilities Engineering and Acquisition Division, Public Works Department, Naval Base Guam in 2013, where he served as a construction manager. He subsequently served in the Production Division of Public Works as the Assistant Production Officer in 2014.

In 2016, Chris reported to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion ONE where he served as the Charlie Company Commander before deploying to support the Combined Joint Task Force – detail Horn of Africa as the Operations Officer and Assistant Officer-in-Charge. Upon his return, he served as the Battalion Assistant Operations Officer.

In 2018, Chris transitioned from Active Duty to the Reserve Force in order to pursue his master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder. After completing his degree last summer, he began working as a Project Manager for Stanley Consultants, Inc. in their federal and international markets.

Chris is a registered professional civil engineer in the state of Arizona and Texas. He has attained his Contracting Level II certification from the Defense Acquisition University and is a LEED Accredited Professional (BD+C). His personal awards include the Joint Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (x2) and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Chris currently resides in Round Rock, Texas with his wife Elizabeth and four children Alei'a (6), Peter (5), Gianna (3) & Benedict (1 month). He enjoys the outdoors and is an avid rock climber and rugby player.

Fun Facts:

- I was an honorary member of the Rwandan Rugby Team in 2010
- I converted my garage into a home bouldering gym
- I donated my hair to Wigs for Kids before joining the military
- I dream of one day becoming a volunteer fire fighter.



LT Aaron Kotlarz, Public Works Officer, Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa
International Committee
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LT Kotlarz is a native of Jacksonville, Florida and received a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of North Florida in 2009 and a Masters of City and Regional Planning from Clemson University in 2018. LT Kotlarz was commissioned September 11, 2009 after completing Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island.

His first tour was as a Construction Manager/Assistant Public Works Officer at Naval Station Newport. LT Kotlarz then reported to Naval Construction Battalion FIVE, serving as Embarkation Officer, Assistant Operations Officer, and Pacific Partnership Officer-in-Charge, deploying to various locations in the Pacific. Kotlarz then reported to the Center for Seabees and Facilities Engineering as the Learning Program Manager for the Civil Engineer Corps Officers School. Next he reported to Public Works Department Pensacola serving as a Construction Manager and then Production Officer. LT Kotlarz most recently served as the Public Works Officer for United States Naval Hospital Okinawa, Japan, overseeing facilities maintenance and construction at the Navy's largest overseas hospital.

LT Kotlarz is currently the Public Works Officer for Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa.

LT Kotlarz is a qualified Seabee Combat Warfare Officer, a licensed Civil Engineer in the State of Florida, and DAWIA Contracting Level II certified. His personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2) and Navy Achievement Medal.

Fun Facts:

- I won a trip to Super Bowl 48 in NYC in 2014 through a Fantasy football sweepstakes. I almost didn't go because I thought it was a scam.
- I'm a pretty avid reader. I started keeping a list of books I've read in 2008. I'm over 250 since then.
- I've got two kids (5 and 2) and just celebrated my tenth wedding anniversary



Jared Matthews P.E., Mechanical Engineer, Merrick & Company
South Atlantic Region: Space Coast Post
Merritt Island, FL
jared.matthews@merrick.com

Jared Matthews is a 2004 graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, GA, with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and a 2009 graduate of the Florida Institute of Technology in Melbourne, FL, with a Master of Science in Engineering Management. Jared obtained his professional engineering license in 2009 in Mechanical Engineering.

He currently works as a Mechanical Engineer at Merrick & Company and is the Office Manager of the Merritt Island location. He has more than 15 years of experience designing mechanical and plumbing systems for laboratory, pharmaceutical, biopharmaceutical, commercial, office, and industrial facilities. He also has experience with control systems, Design-Build RFP preparation, investigative research of existing building issues, engineering studies, construction document preparation, calculations, Building Automation System (BAS), and sustainable design principles, including LEED requirements and documentation.

While at Merrick, Jared has worked on many federal projects, including USACE, NAVFAC, and NASA. Jared provided mechanical engineering for the Airmen Training Complex (ATC) Equipment Building at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland AFB, TX, which provides power, chilled water, heating hot water, and domestic water to dining and classroom facility (DCF) 4, ATC7 & ATC8. For the NASA Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) at Kennedy Space Center, he reconfigured the existing AHU's to feed additional platforms and modified the existing gas systems (CA, N2, HE, & BA) to serve the new Vertical Processing Stand (VPS) in High Bay 4. Jared is also currently working with NAVFAC to design training facilities for both personnel and vehicles. Along with this experience, he has designed multiple hangars, headquarters buildings, air traffic control towers, and entry control points.

Along with being an active member of SAME, Jared is actively involved in both the American Society of Heating Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and the American Society of Plumbing Engineers (ASPE). He is registered as a Professional Engineer in Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Texas, Hawaii, and Guam. Jared is also a LEED Accredited Professional and an ASPE Green Plumbing Designer (GPD).

In his spare time, he loves to play LEGO® with his six-year-old son, John, and hang out with his wonderful wife of 16 years, Laura.

Fun Facts:

- I grew up as a military brat (My father retired from the Army as a Lieutenant Colonel).
- I am a Sci Fi audible junkie, with 355 titles and counting.
- While in college during our final year at school, my future wife and I flew to Las Vegas to get married.
- My first year in college I was on the cheerleading team before my grades suffered too much and I had to focus on my studies.



SMSgt Philip McAlpin, Jr., Operations Flight Superintendent, 5th Civil Engineer Squadron

Missouri River Region: Minot Post

United States Army Sergeants Major Academy Fort Bliss, Texas

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Senior Master Sergeant Philip B. McAlpin Jr., served as the Operations Flight Superintendent for the 5th Civil Engineer Squadron “Warbolls” Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota. He was responsible for 298 enlisted and civilian personnel who perform vertical and horizontal construction on 5.5 billion dollars of infrastructure, 2.1 million square yards of pavement, and a 1,420-acre airfield that support dual-nuclear wings comprised of 28 B-52 aircraft and 150 intercontinental ballistic missiles spanning an 8,500 square-mile area of operations. Currently, he is a student at the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Sergeant McAlpin was born in South Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and enlisted in the Air Force in August of 2001 after graduating from Ridley High School. After completion of Basic Military Training and Technical Training, his first duty station was Sheppard AFB, as a Pavements and Heavy Equipment Operator Apprentice. He has compiled a broad-range of operational experience throughout seven deployments and by serving in positions such as 554th RED HORSE Assault Assessments and Repair Operations (AARO) Team, 820th RED HORSE Airborne Flight NCOIC, Airborne Explosives Demolition Team Lead, Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade Instructor, Defense Battle Lab Technician, Heavy Repair Section Chief, and Heavy Repair Superintendent. Sergeant McAlpin has served overseas in Korea and Panama; and his deployments have supported wartime operations such as IRAQI FREEDOM, ENDURING FREEDOM, and most recently INHERENT RESOLVE at Kobani Landing Zone, Syria in 2018.

SMSgt McAlpin’s major awards and accomplishments include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (1 OLC), Air Force Combat Action Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal (3 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (2 OLC). He is a graduate of the Airborne Jump Master, Pathfinder, Air Assault, and Contingency Airfield Pavement Evaluator courses. Additionally, he is a Distinguished Graduate and Commandant’s award recipient from the Noncommissioned Officer Academy and a 2019 United States Air Force Twelve Outstanding Airmen of the Year.

He has been married to the former Joanna Brittingham of Newport News, Virginia for ten years. They have three boys Philip III (5), Owen Lee (3), and Mason (1). In his spare time he enjoys skydiving, scuba-diving, and creating opportunities to reach his and anyone under his charge to reach their full potential.

Fun facts:

- I am a Pavements and Construction Equipment Operator by trade and love my Job!
- I enjoy jumping out of perfectly good aircraft, but more importantly, love my family.
- I enjoy reading, researching better ways to get things done, and always prefer action over image.
- I have recently found a love for Geotechnical Engineering and will be pursuing that in the future.
- I am an Airman for life!



Ree Miskimon, Sr. Director of Marketing and Communications, PRIME AE Group, Inc.

North Atlantic Region: Baltimore Post
Baltimore, MD

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Building relationships and creating value for architecture/engineering/construction (A/E/C) organizations is Ree's expertise. As a business development professional and marketer for professional services, Ree offers a strong commitment to the DoD and non-DoD A/E/C marketplace.

Having worked in the industry for over 21 years, she is passionate about seeing results through new and sustained business.

Whether it's through strategic marketing for clients, launching a new branch office, acquiring a new firm, or training staff to enhance their professional growth, Ree achieves results. Her passion for connecting with people and witnessing the development of their professional abilities is apparent in her endeavors to enhance employee growth through her high-level business and human development efforts.

Ree is the Senior Director of Marketing and Communications for PRIME AE Group, Inc. (PRIME AE) where she leads the marketing and communications operations for the firm, which operates out of 14 offices across nine states. She supports PRIME AE's business planning, acquisition initiatives, and works in partnership with the firm's executive leadership to achieve the company's business development and financial goals.

Ree speaks on business development, marketing, and professional relationship topics for A/E/C professionals including marketers, business developers, project managers and executives at industry conferences, seminars, and PRIME AE leadership workshops.

She is actively involved with several industry societies, including: the Society for American Military Engineers (SAME), the Baltimore Post where she serves as director and was the membership chair for six years; the Society for Marketing Professional Services (SMPS) as a member of the senior advisory council, mentor, past president of the SMPS Maryland Chapter, and regional conference planning committee member for over six years; and American Council For Engineering Companies (ACEC)/Maryland as a member of the communications committee.

Ree's passion for connecting with people has extended into her volunteering efforts with her daughter's Cub Scout pack #1516, where she is the communications director. And for fun, Ree became a certified personal trainer through the National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM).

Fun Facts:

- I am a National Academy of Sports Medicine-Certified Personal Trainer and train clients at Crunch Fitness
- I tell people I was raised by a pack of wolves because my dad raised me and my three older brothers alone
- I won first place female singer on Royal Caribbean's Karaoke Roulette.



Capt Arpan Patel, USAF, P.E, Team Chief - Civil Engineer, Air Force Civil Engineer Center
South Central Region: Panama City Post
Burke, VA
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Arpan Patel graduated from the United States Air Force Academy with the Class of 2014 and began his involvement with SAME, leading in programs such as the USAFA STEM Camps. He began his engineering career as the Chief of Construction, 319th Civil Engineer Squadron, Grand Forks AFB, ND. There, he directed project managers and construction inspectors on over 40 projects valued more than \$42M in varying disciplines from HVAC controls and optimization, large runway repair and construction, and facility infrastructure support and renovation. Arpan was able to capitalize on his airfield construction and maintenance experience, leading him to be selected into the Airfield Pavement Evaluation Team pipeline in October 2016.

Shortly after, Arpan was assigned as the Special Capabilities Flight Commander for the 1st Expeditionary Civil Engineer Group, serving in over six countries in the Middle East and Southwest Asia. Arpan had the honor to lead nine teams comprised of 46 Total Force Airmen and over 60 projects completing quick construction, maintenance, and bed-down efforts for joint forces in hotspots throughout Iraq and Afghanistan. Within weeks of his return in August 2017, Arpan moved to Austin, Texas where he began his graduate studies at the University of Texas at Austin. During his graduate career, Arpan earned a Master's degree in Civil Engineering, his Professional Engineer license in the state of Texas, and the privilege to coach over 200 kids, aged 2-8, with the Soccer Shots Austin organization. In December 2018, Arpan was assigned to Tyndall AFB, FL with the Air Force Civil Engineer Center to serve in his current role as a Team Chief of the Airfield Pavement Evaluation Team. He and his team are responsible for the structural and condition assessment of US Air Force airfields around the world. He provides project level recommendations and consults with units across the Department of Defense in regard to airfield infrastructure concerns. Over the past year the team has accomplished over 18 site evaluations both stateside and locations overseas in the Pacific and Middle East.

Fun Facts

- Arpan enjoys traveling both for work and pleasure and has become quite the frequent flyer.
- He keeps an active lifestyle with hiking, soccer, and golf, although is trying to slow down after two ACL surgeries.
- He currently serves as the Young Member Chair of the SAME Panama City Post.



Vinnie Plocido, Senior Planner, WSP
Ohio Valley Region: Pittsburgh Post
Pittsburgh, PA
vincent.plocido@wsp.com

Vincent "Vinnie" Plocido is a senior planner within the Federal Programs and Logistics Group at WSP and is based out of the Pittsburgh office. A native to the Western Pennsylvania area, Vinnie attended Penn State University, graduating in 2010 with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture Degree. Vinnie is a licensed landscape architect in Pennsylvania, achieving initial licensure in 2013. Vinnie's professional career spans nearly 10 years, with 7-1/2 years specifically focused on Department of Defense master planning efforts. This experience includes requirements analyses, planning charrettes, DD Form 1391 development and documentation, installation development plans, area development plans, and facility utilization studies. He routinely manages master planning projects for multiple USACE Districts, specifically managing task orders for Army, Navy, Air Force, National Guard, and Coast Guard clients.

Vinnie recently completed a task order for USACE, Europe District: The update to Army in Europe Pamphlet 420-100, Standards for Forward Operating Sites (AKA the “Red Book”). Throughout the development of this high-profile and successful effort, Vinnie had the opportunity to interface with U.S. Army in Europe (USAREUR), Headquarters Department of the Army (HQDA), and Joint Staff (Office of the Chief Engineer – Pentagon), and to visit Forward Operating Sites in Eastern Europe in order to ensure the regulations established in Europe are nested within the current and future policy for contingency basing.

Vinnie has been involved in various leadership positions, both professionally and personally throughout his career. He is a member of the SAME Pittsburgh Post and local Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, where he served as treasurer from 2016-2018. Vinnie also led a weekly high school small group of 10-15 students at his church from 2010-2018.

Vinnie lives in Cranberry Township with his wife, daughter, and dog. In his spare time, he enjoys golfing, boating, and spending time with his family.

Fun facts:

- I love to golf and I have three hole-in-ones.
- My “first kiss” was filmed when I was 5 years old for a TV commercial for a local radio station (KISS). That was the same day I got chicken pox.
- I enjoy building things and doing home improvement projects. I try to buy at least one new power tool that I “need” for each project.



Bruce Preston, Director of Operations, TSK Architects
Southwest Region: Phoenix Post
Mesa, AZ
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Bruce Preston was born and raised in Mesa, Arizona. He attended Arizona State University and earned a Bachelor’s of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) in Architecture and Design. He is married to Allison, has three sons Ford, Jameson and Maddux, and currently resides in Mesa along with family, horses, chickens, dogs, a cat, and a couple of fish tanks, a.k.a. “The Preston Farm.” He is an avid baseball and Chicago Cubs’ fan.

Bruce is a highly skilled and service-oriented professional equipped with a solid track record of success in the architectural and engineering community, specifically federal DoD and civilian contracts. He is the Director of Operations for TSK Architects. Besides operations, his professional experience includes multi-project management, preparation of project programs and design documentation, and construction administration. He has provided services to municipal, state, and federal agencies, design/build contractors, developers, and individual clients. He has in-depth experience with the following project types: multi-family, dormitory and military housing, government facilities, aircraft hangars, industrial, commercial office buildings, hospitality, medical outpatient clinics, transportation, childcare and educational facilities.

Extremely motivated and ambitious, Bruce provides timely and accurate advice, guidance, support, and training to team members and others. He leads by example and strives to consistently hit targets, improve best practices, and organize time efficiently. He has developed and maintains an active portfolio and client relations with both federal and private clients across the nation and has a strong track record executing projects all over the US and internationally.

Bruce is the Post President for the Phoenix SAME Post. He also is an Honorary Commander at Luke Air Force Base serving with the Civil Engineering Squadron. Additionally, he volunteers with Fighter Country Partnership, a nonprofit organization supporting Luke AFB. He also volunteers his time and skill set to his church by providing pro bono design and construction services, as well as manual labor for property improvement projects, and he is a part of his church's security team. As Bruce grew up in this church community, he volunteers his time and skill set to give back to the church that provided him and his family so much throughout the years.

His family also volunteers with Angel Acres, a nonprofit which provides horse therapy for disadvantaged and disabled children. Volunteering with Angel Acres enables Bruce to spend time with his wife partaking in a hobby they both love – horses – all while benefitting children in need.

It is not always easy to maintain work-life balance, especially traveling 40-50% of the time for work, and having a family with 3 young boys, but Bruce's mottos are "work hard, play hard" and "pay it forward." Bruce also currently coaches his son's baseball team, and inspires them each week with a motivational theme. Participating in these organizations and activities, whether by himself or with his family, keeps Bruce humble and grounded. He prides himself on being a team player: it is bigger than he is. It is about the team, the project, the company, or in this case, the organization.

Fun Facts

- In one Spring Training season, I attended 21 games in 10 different stadiums and watched 15 different teams play baseball.
- I have pulled 7Gs in an inverted dive in a F-16 dogfight against a Canadian F-18.
- I have never been to another country outside of North America.
- I own a tractor.



Kevin Remley, Senior Environmental Engineer, Indian Health Service
Northwest Region: Gem State Post
Fort Hall, ID
kevin.remley@gmail.com

LT Kevin Remley has been active duty with the United States Public Health Service since September 2017. He is currently stationed in Fort Hall, Idaho as an Environmental Engineer with the Indian Health Service where he improves the sanitation facilities of underserved and vulnerable populations on the Fort Hall and Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservations and acts as a role model of public health in the community through leadership, service, integrity, and excellence. LT Remley joined SAME in 2018 and currently serves on the Health Engineering Task Force.

LT Remley graduated from Utah State University in 2008 with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering. His career started in the private sector with an engineering firm in Salt Lake City, UT where his work focused on soil and groundwater remediation, hydraulics, and hydrology design projects. He transferred within the engineering firm to their Portland, OR in 2013 with a continued focus on soil and groundwater remediation projects. LT Remley entered the public sector in 2016 when he joined the Indian Health Service in Spokane, WA with a new focus on drinking water and sewer design. LT Remley then transferred to Fort Hall, ID upon his Call to Active Duty in 2017. LT Remley is a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Idaho.

LT Remley's awards include the USPHS Individual Achievement Medal for superior efforts in accomplishing the IHS's mission to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level. Other awards include the 2017 IHS Portland Area Director's Award as a member of the Sanitation Facilities Construction Project Development and Funding Team, the 2018 IHS Portland Area Director's Recognition of Excellence Award, and the 2019 IHS SFC Portland Area Senior Engineer of the Year Award.

LT Remley has been married to his best friend, Kelli, for 16 years and they have four children; Sarah (15), Jonathan (14), Jacob (12), and Ethan (6).

Fun Facts:

- I enjoy baking in my free time as a creative outlet, breads being my favorite items to bake.
- I started learning to play the cello as an adult.
- I lived in Buenos Aires, Argentina for about a year and a half for a church service mission.



Colleen Rust, Project Manager, Sundance Consulting Inc.
Rocky Mountain Region: Albuquerque Post
Albuquerque, NM
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Colleen is a Project Manager at Sundance Consulting, Inc., a woman-owned, Native American small business in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Colleen has over 10 years' experience managing a broad range of environmental projects for the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, and a wide variety of civilian agencies.

She is currently managing multiple concurrent projects performing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) investigations for the U.S. Air Force's remote sites throughout Alaska for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and is responsible for management of PFAS-contaminated soils associated with the Eielson Air Force Base F-35A mission-critical, beddown construction program. She is accustomed to leading and coordinating multiple field teams and contractors in remote settings with complex logistical and health and safety requirements.

Colleen holds a Bachelor of Science in Geology from Texas A&M in College Station, Texas and a Master of Science in Hydrogeology from Washington State University in Pullman, Washington. She is a licensed professional geologist in the State of Washington (PG-WA), and a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) through the Project Management Institute.

Colleen is highly active in her local SAME Albuquerque Post, and has shown tremendous dedication to the success of its programs. This past year she was appointed as the SAME Albuquerque Post Secretary; chaired the Albuquerque Post's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) program; is serving as a young member; and is co-chair for the 2020 SAME Centennial Celebration and 2nd Annual Albuquerque Post Industry Day. As a working mother of three elementary school children, Colleen is passionate about leading by example to inspire our next generation of leaders and supporting the Albuquerque Post's commitment in partnering with the local community to strengthen and expand STEM-related programs for K-12 grade schools and college. In addition, she is actively involved with local community and industry associations. She is the elected Treasurer of Ranchos de Placitas Sanitation District (5-year term), the elected Treasurer of the New Mexico Engineering Foundation supporting the SAME Engineering and Construction Camps, and in a Virtual Mentorship Program with the Texas A&M Geology & Geophysics Department. She also supports AAUW Tech Trek New Mexico, a weeklong camp at NM Tech for grade school and college girls who are passionate about STEM careers.

In her spare time, Colleen and her husband Phillip Rust, PG, LHG, the Hydrogeologist for Bernalillo County enjoy being co-owners of the family-friendly Brew Lab 101 Beer & Cider Co. in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. They have a lifelong goal of camping and summiting the 50 highest points of the U.S. with their three children Liam (7), Rose (6), and Eva (6). The entire family has successfully summited over 12 high points with the most recent being Mount Marcy, New York, and have visited over 20 states in their cross-country adventures and travels.

Fun Facts:

- My husband and I are co-owners of a family-friendly, Breaking Bad science themed Brew Lab 101 Beer & Cider Co. in Rio Rancho, New Mexico. The owners group is made up of STEM career types and our favorite hashtag is #nosciencebeer. We brew beer, cider, and root beer for the kids! (Check out the Facebook page: . <https://www.facebook.com/brewlab101/>.)
- I have personally hiked and camped in all 50 states, and I have a lifelong goal of summiting the 50 highest points of the U.S. with my husband and our three children Liam (7), Rose (6), and Eva (6). The entire family has successfully summited over 12 high points with the most recent being Mount Marcy, New York, and have visited over 20 states (so far) in their cross-country adventures and travels.
- I met my husband, also a geologist, on my very first day of college in Geology 101. Our first date was spelunking (caving) in the Whirlpool cave outside of Austin, Texas. We have always joked we had to marry a fellow geologist to rationalize the need to move our numerous rocks and minerals throughout our lives.
- I have through the years always found a way to work on remote Alaska projects from the lower 48 (L48). I started out working in Alaska as a summer intern my sophomore year of Texas A&M University and now manage multiple concurrent task orders for the USACE-Alaska District.



Scott Turygan, P.E., PMP; Civil Engineer; US Army Europe, G34 Protection European Region: Rhein-Main Post
Mainz, Germany
scott.d.turygan.civ@mail.mil

Scott Turygan provides engineer expertise to US Army Europe's Antiterrorism Program headquartered in Wiesbaden, Germany. Since 2013, he ensures US Army facilities throughout Europe incorporate required protective design considerations to deter and protect from terrorist attacks. He also serves as an engineer on multi-discipline assessment teams where he identifies vulnerabilities and mitigations from all relevant hazard sources that risk mission operations.

Scott previously worked in South Korea for the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Far East District where he provided structural engineering expertise to their Construction Division's Quality Assurance Branch as the Yongsan Garrison Relocation Plan rapidly progressed through \$10.7 billion of military construction projects.

Scott started his career with the US Army as a structural design engineer for the USACE New Orleans District. He was attracted by the overall mission and landmark projects within the Greater New Orleans Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System. He designed and managed engineering projects for the \$15 billion civil works program under an accelerated pace to install a complete system before 2011's hurricane season. Scott earned his Professional Engineer license during these years of applied technical experience.

At The College of New Jersey, Scott earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, played on the conference champion football team, and traveled to Thailand to construct their Engineers Without Borders design project. He earned a master's degree from Mississippi State University where he focused in structures. This was his first exposure to blast resistant design thanks the school's partnership with researchers at the nearby USACE Engineer Research and Development Center.

He's presented on protective design topics at numerous SAME post meetings, at the 2017 American Society of Civil Engineers National Convention, twice at the International Symposium on the Interaction of the Effects of Munitions with Structures, and has published research on the effects of weaponized small drones.

Scott's most rewarding professional moment was deploying to his hometown in Atlantic County, New Jersey to assist with the 2012 Hurricane Sandy response. He assisted the same communities and local officials he started his engineering career with as a college intern by providing them valuable knowledge and lessons learned from his professional experiences of responding to similar emergencies in the Southern US with USACE.

Scott serves as the Treasurer to his SAME Rhein-Main Post since 2018, and values the connection SAME provides him to the engineer community and relevant technical content while overseas. Aside from engineering, he enjoys exploring the endless cultural attractions throughout Europe, scenic drives & rides closer to home in Mainz, and keeping active with various sports to mitigate the interesting food and drinks he enjoys along his travels.

Fun Facts:

- I visited every nation in Europe, including obscure ones like Andorra and San Marino.
- In my teenage years, I restored a 1967 Mustang with the help of my father.
- I ran the original marathon from Marathon to Athens in 2016.
- I live on the Rhine River in Germany just 10 miles from where my grandfather crossed it in 1945 with General Patton's Third Army.