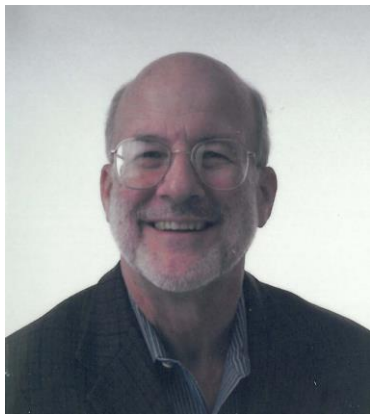




The Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Elects Joseph H. Comer, III as the Next Society President – “We Are SNAME”

(Alexandria, VA) On Friday, November 8, 2013, Joseph H. Comer, III was elected to be the next President of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME), first serving as President Elect, starting on January 1, 2014 and then, President from 2015-2016.



Mr. Joe Comer has spent over 42 years designing and producing a wide variety of vessels, both commercial and military, within shipyard organizations and as the senior principal of the Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering design firm, Ship Architects, Inc. A noted leader in initiating culture changes in shipyard planning and engineering to migrate from ‘boat building’ to “vessel manufacturing,” he has traveled extensively to foreign shipyards in Europe and Asia to learn and transfer ship manufacturing knowledge to US shipbuilding. Programs were developed by him to fund and implement planning, engineering and production process changes that have resulted in savings for many Gulf Coast yards, most notable Bender Shipyard. Engineering and planning processes focused on the tools needed to integrate the material, drawings and work orders with the interim products being built at each work station. For these achievements in ship manufacturing he was recipient of the 2005 Rosenblatt/Michigan Award from the University of Michigan’s Department of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering.

Mr. Comer has always recognized the need to give back to the community and our industry. He has taken a lead in many community activities including Boy Scouts, church, Kiwanis, yacht clubs, SNAME, ASNE and the Propeller Club. He has also been a mentor to young professionals wanting to get into the field of marine sciences not only through the Sea Grant program but also through leadership training programs implemented at shipyards.

Participation in SNAME has been a lifelong focus that seems to return tenfold for the volunteer time and company sponsorships contributed. Over the years since becoming a member in 1978, Mr. Comer has served numerous local section positions, been a member of several of SNAME’s committees and most recently as Executive Committee member and Regional Vice President. During the second half of his term as RVP, he has focused on expanding SNAME membership through identifying the needs of a larger constituency of potential members such as shipyards, vessel operators and marine equipment manufacturers. And starting in the latter half of 2013, Mr. Comer has taken his initiative to develop a broader membership base by instituting changes in the Society bylaws and code of ethics.

In the next years to come, Mr. Comer hopes to reinforce what SNAME is to him; what SNAME is to its members; what SNAME is as a Society; and what SNAME should be to the world:

“Over 120 years ago the New York Times reported on Nov 28, 1892, ‘It is announced today (Nov 27th) that the most prominent and influential persons in the shipbuilding and shipping interests of the United States have completed the preliminary organization of a professional society of high standing to be called ‘The Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers’, whose object shall be to promote the art of shipbuilding in all its branches, both commercial and naval’.

The next time you need knowledge, that purchasing agent, outside machinist or manufacturer may be sitting right next to you at the SNAME Annual Meeting or a Section Meeting.



Thank you so much for your confidence. We are SNAME. Now the world over.”

A transcript of Mr. Comer’s acceptance speech can be found [here](#).

The Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers is an internationally recognized non-profit, technical, professional society of individual members serving the maritime and offshore industries and their suppliers. Founded in 1893, the Society comprises over 8,000 individuals throughout the United States, Canada and abroad. Membership is open to all qualified applicants in or associated with the maritime, offshore, and small craft industries