

ASMC

GULF COAST CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2016



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Executive Committee:

President	Ms Leah Hodge	883-3384
VP-Eglin	Mr Ray Graber	882-8097
VP-Hurlburt	Mr Rick Figueroa	884-2802
VP-Tenant	Ms Rachael Peoples	883-0832
Secretary	Ms Lindsey Stephan	883-4925
Treasurer	Ms Michelle Woolgar	882-6700 x 7800
2 nd Treasurer	Ms Mandy Chapman	882-5754
Reconciler	Ms Angela Gilbert	883-3412
Programs	Ms Connie Clay	883-2890
	Ms Gayle Thomas	883-2897
	Ms Kimberly Sypher	882-7682
Publicity	Ms Susan Ashworth	883-0177
Mini-PDI	Ms Kaci Harris	884-7643
Membership	Ms Heather Long	884-2806
Education/CDFM	Ms Lisa Gamon	883-5336
	Ms Edwina Freeman	883-5317
Enlisted Advisors:		
Hurlburt	TSgt Steven Coover	884-1548
Eglin	TSgt Kimberly Holen	882-2001
Ways & Means	Mika Gellinger	882-8650
	Ms Jennifer Miller	882-0283
Community Service	Mr Robert Turpin	883-5332
	Ms Kaci Harris	884-7643
Awards	Mr George Joseph	883-2123
	Ms Kristen Pedro	883-2152
Webmaster	Mr Jason Guzzardo	882-7595
Newsletter	Ms Brianna Hoppel	883-4238



President's Corner



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ASMC Gulf Coast Members,

March was a busy month for the Comptroller Squadron. Initial distribution was received in February so in March we started looking at obligation rates and building courses of action. In addition, we had our mid-year review and unfunded drill through both IMSC and AFMC. In conjunction with the 96 TW/FM, we held our second quarter Financial Management Board meeting, and just for fun, we worked through a UEI.

Two years ago we had our first UEI under the new inspection system, but this year's inspection was different again. Unlike last time, most of the verification/validation detail work was done prior to the inspection team getting to the base. If your self-inspection questions were answered thoroughly and had substantial supporting documentation uploaded, those questions/processes weren't looked at in great detail when the team reached the base. Under the new inspection system, this is a continuous process, not something you do just before an inspection. The self-inspection program is designed for an organization to self-identify problems or process issues and take corrective action. Identifying problem is not a bad thing anymore. Not ...

MINUTES: Executive Council

The ASMC Executive Committee meeting minutes are posted on the Gulf Coast Chapter webpage. To review them, please go to the website: <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/> and click on the tab marked "Minutes" along the top.

ASMC, P.O. Box 1756, Eglin AFB FL 32542



President's Corner



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taking corrective action is.

From our perspective, the team on the base looked at the Major Graded Areas (MGAs) of managing resources, leading people, improving the unit, and executing the mission, and how the Comptroller Squadron effected those areas either positively or negatively. The old inspection system had a narrow focus of just compliance... did you cross your T's and dot your I's. I like the new inspection process better. No more ramping up to get ready for an inspection, you should be focusing on the bigger picture; how do I make my Unit, my Wing, and my Air Force better!

A couple other things I wanted to bring up about Relay for Life. Dedra Hickman and her team have hit the ground running and already raised \$900 for the Comptrollers for a Cause team. Starting 1 Apr, they will be selling coupon books for \$15 each. Also, the next big fund raiser will be an Origami Owl Jewel party the afternoon of 9 Apr. Anyone interested in learning more about this or any the fund raisers can contact Dedra Hickman or Maika Andrew. In addition, the team is always looking for volunteers and any ideas for additional fund raisers.

*Ray Graber
ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter, VP-Eglin*



Upcoming Events



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APRIL LUNCHEON

No luncheon this month due to RPDI.

<https://cs3.eis.af.mil/sites/OO-ED-AA-A2/AQ/Registration/Registration/Registration.aspx>

MAY LUNCHEON

When: TBD

Where: TBD

What: Induction Luncheon

<https://cs3.eis.af.mil/sites/OO-ED-AA-A2/AQ/Registration/Registration/Registration.aspx>

RPDI

The RPDI will be held at the **Emerald Coast Convention Center on 14 Apr 16**. Our programs committee came up with a great day of training for all of us! You will get to hear three fantastic general session speakers and have the option to pick 4 different breakout sessions. We hope you can join us for this awesome day of training.

Please share with co-workers, friends, and anyone you come across! To register:

<http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/rpds/>. Any questions? Contact Kaci Harris at kaci.harris@us.af.mil and Kristen Pedro at Kristen.pedro.1@us.af.mil.

WAYS and MEANS

We are soliciting members' interest in upcoming volunteer opportunities at future luncheons. Be sure to provide your contact info, interest, and availability on our sign-up clipboard. Near future opportunities include:

- Annual ASMC Golf Tournament – **June 3rd, 2016 @ 1200**

POC: Mika Gellinger, 882-8650



Community Service



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Fisher House:

The ASMC Community Service committee has scheduled bi-monthly dinners at our local Fisher House here on Eglin AFB. The ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter started preparing meals last July, and is scheduled every other Tuesday through the Month of June. We are still looking for volunteers for the following dates:

- Tuesday, 5 Apr 16
- Tuesday, 19 Apr 16
- Tuesday, 3 May 16
- Tuesday, 17 May 16
- Tuesday, 7 Jun 16
- Tuesday, 21 Jun 16

If anyone is interested in volunteering to provide a dinner with the Fisher House, you may call Maika Andrew at 850-420-8893 or she may be reached by email at maika.andrew.1@us.af.mil.

Pictured below from left to right: Lisa Gamon, Leah Hodge, and Tammy Robbins



Pictured to the right and below: Mercedes Suarez, A1C Matthew Swift, and Lt Garrett O'Hanlon





Community Service



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SANDESTIN WINE FESTIVAL

- Friday, [Apr 15](#) and Saturday, [Apr 16](#), 2016 Village of Baytowne Wharf Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort -- Volunteer registrations are now being accepted!!
- Plans are currently underway for the 30th annual Sandestin Wine Festival at the Village of Baytowne Wharf and it is time to reserve your volunteer spot. Volunteering at this event is fun and a portion of the proceeds from the Grand Wine Tasting will be donated to the Fisher House of the Emerald Coast, Inc.

RELAY FOR LIFE

The "Color's for a Cause" Niceville Relay for Life Event is **May 6-7th, 6 p.m.** at Niceville High School football stadium. The ASMC team Comptrollers for a Cause is looking for volunteers to help out in all areas for the event.

Current fund raisers: The team is currently selling the Fund Ray's coupon books for \$15. Please contact Amy Tolar, Nicole Smith, Maika Andrew, Kristen Pedro, Pretrece Richards, or Dedra Hickman to get yours today.

Plans for a April Origami Owl jewelry party are in development. Please let one of the team members know if you would like to attend so we can include you when the invite goes out.

If you have not become a team member this year but would like to help support this great cause by joining the Comptrollers for a Cause team please sign up at the website below:

http://main.acevents.org/site/TR/RelayForLife/RFLCY15National?pg=informational&fr_id=72044&ty=pe=fr_informational&sid=128433&headerlogin=true

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is available to individuals who are actively employed in military comptrollership, as active duty or civilian personnel for DoD or USCG.

Associate membership is available for those who don't meet the qualifications but are currently employed in a defense related financial management field.

Employees of private sector companies who are interested in ASMC membership may join under the corporate membership program.

New military members E1-E4 and civilian GS1-GS7 can be reimbursed for half of their yearly membership fee. *New members only.* I will be providing information about upcoming membership drives and other activities as they are planned. To register to become a new member, please visit the ASMC Website (Pg 8).

Chair: Heather Long, 884-2806, heather.long.7@us.af.mil



Education/CDFM



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- Coming down to the wire for this year's scholarships! There are two different ones: one for high school seniors/undergraduates and one for member's only. If you know anybody who is pursuing a business career, please send them the application. **Deadline 6 May**
- To view a list of Gulf Coast Chapter CDFM awarded go to <http://www.asmconline.org/certification/cdfm-information/cdfm-awarded/> and search by chapter.
- CDFM Reimbursement: <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/cdfm.html>
(New rules and form dated 13 May 2015)
- Purchasing a CDFM Test Module:
<http://www.asmconline.org/certification/cdfm-information/testing-resources/>
- Forgot your CDFM Candidate number:
<http://www.asmconline.org/certification/get-my-candidate-id/>
- EDFMT Course Details/Schedule:
<http://www.asmconline.org/educationtraining/classroom-training/enhanced-defense-financial-management-training-course/>
- We have Module 4 Acquisition Business Management training guides available, contact POCs listed below:

Education POC: Lisa Gamon, lisa.gamon.1@us.af.mil, 883-5336

CDFM POC: Edwina Freeman, edwina.freeman.1@us.af.mil, 883-5317



Websites



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We're on FACEBOOK!

We are pleased to announce that our Chapter's **Facebook** page is up and running! We will utilize this venue to share announcements of events and praises going on throughout our chapter. If you would like to submit a picture to share on the Chapter Facebook page, please email it to, gulfcoast.asmc@gmail.com, and be sure to include a caption. Pictures must be related to Chapter members/events. Be sure to like our page! <https://m.facebook.com/gulfcoast.asmc>.

ASMC WEBSITES

ASMC National Headquarters website is: <http://www.asmconline.org/>
Gulf Coast Chapter website is: <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/>

We are looking for new ideas to include on our webpage. Please contact our webmasters Jason Guzzardo (882-7595) if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions on chapter website issues.

NATIONAL NEWS

National PDI 2016 - held in Orlando, FL.

Please take advantage of other opportunities to fulfill your required CDFM CPEs to include local chapter training events, programs offered through the Online Learning Center, PDI 2011- 2015 recorded sessions, and Armed Forces Comptroller journal articles.

Use the link found on www.asmconline.org to register and take tests as applicable to get your credit.



Pentagon Begins Enrolling Civilians in New Personnel System

by Eric Katz, Apr 1st, govexec.com



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The Pentagon began evaluating thousands of employees' job performance on a new system Friday, the first step in a massive overhaul of performance management across the Defense Department.

Defense rolled out to about 14,000 employees the first phase of its New Beginnings system, which will eventually change the appraisal process for virtually all of the department's 750,000 civilians. The initial group will serve as a pilot for a program six years in the making, and comes after some pushback from labor groups.

Congress first required Defense to create a new way to measure the performance of civilian workers when it abolished the National Security Personnel System in the 2010 National Defense Authorization Act. The law required the Pentagon to craft what became New Beginnings in conjunction with federal unions, which led to a struggle between labor and management. Representatives from the American Federation of Government Employees said Defense was not being as collaborative as it had claimed, and the department rejected many of the proposed changes drafted by "design teams" made up of union representatives and agency management.

The Pentagon settled on a three-tier performance evaluation system -- rather than the pass-fail proposal put forward by the design teams -- and at least three appraisal meetings each year between supervisors and their employees. The ratings will determine performance awards, step increases and other elements of employee evaluations.

In a February memorandum, Brad Carson, outgoing acting principal deputy secretary of Defense for personnel and readiness, called New Beginnings a "collaborative process" that will institutionalize a "culture of high performance."

Defense has been preparing for this rollout for months, with the department holding a "train the trainers" session in January to instruct representatives from various components and activities on providing information on the new program to managers and employees. Labor and management have worked collectively on building out a website to support New Beginnings, as well as guides and tip sheets available to assist with implementation.

Still, AFGE last month asked the department to delay its April 1 launch date, saying the plan to use primarily non-union employees as guinea pigs would lead to incomplete data stemming from the program's first phase. Defense limited the rollout to mostly non-bargaining units due to its ongoing negotiations with the labor group over implementation details.

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While AFGE and the National Federation of Federal Employees have endorsed the overhaul generally, AFGE remains opposed to the timing. AFGE officials have said the department dragged its feet in putting forward its final guidance -- which it issued in February -- making it impossible for labor and management to finish negotiations before Friday's launch.

Also, while the Pentagon issued detailed instructions spelling out specifics of the new performance evaluation system and held training sessions for employees, labor and management alike are concerned about the consistency with which the program will be installed across Defense's wide web of branches, offices and activities.

"We didn't put out a comprehensive enough instructional guide such to maintain the consistency we are looking for," said Pete Randazzo, president of an NFFE local in Monterey, Calif., and a co-leader on a New Beginnings design team. "Agencies going into it aren't getting the right message. We are already realizing the work we have ahead of us."

Randazzo said the Pentagon and union representatives have moved into an "analysis kind of mode," forming a "post-implementation working group" to assess the program as it kicks into gear. Part of the problem, he explained, stems from the whisper-down-the-lane nature of the rollout.

"When something leaves the Beltway," Randazzo said, "it's not the same guidance" when the message gets to outposts across the country. Some initial installations, for example, have opted to put the training sessions called for in New Beginnings on the Web, while the intent was for the guidance to be delivered in person.

Getting everyone on the same page, Randazzo added, will require a financial investment from Defense. The Pentagon has to show it is "able and willing to commit the necessary resources for a successful implementation," he said.

On Friday, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, civilian human resources at the Army and Navy, the Defense Information Systems Agency and other small offices became the first to place employees under New Beginnings. Those agencies were required to complete a readiness checklist before the launch.

Defense will roll another small group of employees into the system in October, preceding the first large swath of civilians -- hundreds of thousands of them -- joining the program in April 2017. All Defense civilians to be included in New Beginnings will join by 2018.



Info from Becker Professional Education



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Becker is adding new courses constantly and many of them apply to the Government. They have both Yellow book and Green Book courses as well as soft skills that everyone needs. Below is information on CPA and CPE courses:

Becker's CPA and CPE courses are aligned to fulfill DoD FM Certification competencies.



Becker Professional Education is proud to announce that select Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and Continuing Professional Education (CPE) courses offered by Becker are now aligned with the Department of Defense (DoD) Financial Management (FM) certification program.

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For more details and pricing: Visit becker.com/dodfm or call 877.BPE.8238

*These courses have been aligned by the DoD, Office of the Under Secretary of Comptroller, to the DoD approved Financial Management and Leadership competencies for the specific area of study. The DoD course alignments serve neither as an advertisement, endorsement, or a recommendation of any privately developed and maintained courses for continuing education.

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