



GULF COAST CHAPTER NEWS



Dec 06

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ANNETTE BEARD

As we close the history books on 2006 and begin 2007, I'd like to again thank you for all that you do to make the Gulf Coast ASMC chapter the best it can be. Whether you serve in a committee or participate in the functions, you all play an important role in the success of this chapter. Every need of the chapter is quickly met by an eager volunteer.

We are fortunate to be a part of this active chapter. The events sponsored by this chapter so far this year directly support the purposes of this society. Our Programs Committee, for example, has done a great job providing us with quality topics for our monthly professional development luncheons. The Regional Professional Development Seminar (PDS) will be held on 2 March 2007 at the Emerald Coast Convention Center. We will again team with the Northwest Florida chapter of the National Contract Management Association (NCMA). Additionally, we will add the recently established local chapter of the Society of Cost Estimating and Analysis (SCEA) as a partner. The theme for our event is "Meeting Today's Challenges & Tomorrow's Goals." The program of distinguished speakers will definitely boost your technical and professional skills as well as enhance your personal life. The Ways & Means committee continues to organize events to raise funds for our chapter. The Education committee is actively preparing for the spring scholarship programs – benefiting local students and our own members in pursuing educational goals. Please contact me or a committee chair if you would like to learn more about ways to participate in one of the worthy works of this chapter.

Thank you also for your generosity this Christmas season! The donations for Airman's Attic have been overflowing the collection boxes. We will continue to collect non-perishable food items, baby clothes, and other items until 18 December. Finally, I'm extremely pleased to announce that the donations collected at the 7 December 2006 Christmas luncheon for the BX Angel Tree kids totaled \$358.50!

Please keep our deployed men and women in your thoughts this holiday season. May you all enjoy safe and happy holidays with your families. Happy New Year!

Respectfully,
Annette Beard, CDFM
President, Gulf Coast Chapter

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

Executive Committee

President	Ms Annette Beard	884-1728
VP-Eglin	Ms April Chapel	882-5456
VP-Hurlburt	Capt Steven W. Clark	884-2897
VP-Tenants	Ms Susie Matthews	883-6454
Secretary	Ms Brenda Dininger	882-2295
Community Relations	Ms Susie Matthews	883-6454
Education	Mr John Dininger	883-3542
Education (CDFM)	Ms Amber Green	882-4261x3319
Education Publicity	Ms Verna McBride	882-3346
Membership	Mr Kent Fitzgerald	883-0571
Programs	Mr Ken Pickler	883-2193
Publicity	Ms Dedra Hickman	883-6411
Newsletter	Ms Laura Gamble	884-2823
Regional PDI	Ms April Chapel	882-5456
	Mr Troy S. Brown	883-0839
Treasurer	Ms DeAnna Morales	883-5907
Treasurer-Deputy	Ms Denise Wagner	883-0338
Ways & Means	Ms Jennifer Denega	882-3525 x3175
Webmaster		
Corp Vanguard	Mr Ken Bailey	729-5574

Tenants VP – Susie Matthews

We make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give.

Winston Churchill

This is the season of giving and our chapter has the Christmas spirit as we kick off a holiday collection drive to benefit the Airman's Attic. The Airman's Attic is a bustling place open to military personnel E-5 and below and their immediate family. Whether it is help after a disaster, such as a fire, or just needing to make ends meet, the Airman's Attic is there for help in times of crisis by offering everything from furniture to baby clothes free of charge. Additionally, please remember to bring donations to our Christmas luncheon to buy gifts for children on the angel tree. For some of the kids, those presents will be the only Christmas gifts they receive.

As the season winds down our contributions to the community will not. The RPDS on March 2nd will not only guarantee captivating topics and speakers, but will feature fundraising for organizations that will benefit from our generosity. Last spring, the chapter sponsored several of our chapter members who participated as a team in the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" and if our team is walking this year, we will do so again. Also, with spring comes the Belk's Charity sale; the proceeds fund our chapter scholarship program.

So remember, it's the joy of giving that puts smiles on faces! Have a blessed and Merry Christmas and the brightest New Year!

Susie Matthews
Vice President-Tenants

Hurlburt VP – Capt Steven W. Clark

And we're off! Fiscal year 2007 is underway and I imagine we have all been able to catch a glimpse of where some of our common and unique financial challenges will be this year. One thing that has become obvious during our monthly luncheons is that there is a tremendous breadth of knowledge and experience in our Gulf Coast Chapter and I hope that everyone perceives the other members of our chapter as a resource that can be drawn upon when needed. That is a nice segue into another topic that is near and dear to my heart, the 2007 National PDI. As Chairman for this year's event, I will be looking to tap into some of your creativity and talent when the time comes. Things have changed over the last couple of years and it is still unknown at this time exactly what support we will be asked to provide, but I know we will rise to the challenge when the time comes. Finally, as we close out calendar year 2006, I hope everyone is able to slow down and enjoy a very happy and safe Holiday season.

Steven W. Clark, Capt, USAF, Hurlburt VP

Eglin VP – April Chapel

Thanksgiving has come and gone and Christmas is just around the corner! I'm sure a lot of you are busy buying and wrapping presents and the rest of you are waiting until December 24th to get started!

At this time of the year, we get into the routine of rushing around to find that perfect toy or perfect gift for the person who has everything. Although your family is important, don't forget the single airman or the spouse of a deployed serviceman in your office. Whether it's buying them lunch, a small gift, or just taking a few minutes out of your day to ask them how things are going, it will be appreciated and they will see how important they are to the success of your organization. It would be great if you can do this all throughout the year, but it's especially nice at the holidays when they are missing their loved ones!

Hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
April Chapel, CDFM, Eglin VP

Luncheon Meeting Minutes – 2 November 2006

The meeting was a Comptroller Professional Development Update. Our president, Annette Beard, introduced the speakers:

Mr. Bill Rone, AFSOC/FM; Col James Sisson, AFMC/FMA; Col Mike Shaw, AAC/FM;
Mr. Steve Herrera, AAC/FM; Lt Col Zeke Mora, AFSOC/FM-1;

Lt Col Paul Sinopoli, 96 CPTS/CC; CMSgt (S) John Writer 1 SOCPTS/FMS

All speakers discussed professional development and touched on Career Experience, Mobility, Education, Leadership, Career Broadening, College Degree, and Professional Certifications. All these are discussed in detail in the Development Plan Primer.

Significant Questions and Answers:

Q: Where can one obtain a copy of the Development Plan Primer?

A: A copy the Primer will be obtained and posted on the A3 website.

Q: Mobility – Can it be facilitated to go from Eglin to Hurlburt?

A: Yes, Eglin and Hurlburt leadership work together to provide opportunities to broaden individuals. It's a good idea and we will look at building more career broadening opportunities between the local FM communities.

Q: What types of cuts are expected in FM with the new consolidation?

A: AFMC is moving towards reducing redundancies. If we write duties vaguely then they can cut your position. We need to do a really good job describing responsibilities.

Mr Rone mentioned some Air Force FM changes that have occurred recently. These were not part of the luncheon topic, but do affect FMers. Specifically, he listed the opening of the Center of Expertise at Buckley (Denver) and the Financial Services Center at Ellsworth (SD), the Centralized Asset Management Program (CAMP), NSPS, AFSO21 & LEAN, SR&M Funding.

SAF/FM has eliminated the Professional Development Guidelines (Level I, II, and III). The Development Plan Primer has been published. It contains recommended organizational levels, education, and training for all grades (military and civilian). The depth of experience looks at the organizational levels such as Wing, DRU, MAJCOM, HQ USAF, and Joint. Breadth of experience concerns Budget, Auditing, Program Analysis, Financial Services, etc. Education and Training includes not only college degrees, but also technical schools and PME.

Leadership is encouraged. At work, ensure you work on teams and groups. Affiliate yourself in professional organizations, and be a leader in those! Also remember your community has needs – volunteer at your church or child's school.

The Civilian Vectoring is underway for GS 13s and above, an attempt to ensure senior civilians have the right mix of experience and education.

Also, remember there are professional certifications that will help you advance.

Annette Beard thanked the panel members for their participation.

Jennifer Denega thanked all who assisted with the Belk's Charity Sale. Volunteer wrappers at the BX are still needed for the weeks prior to Christmas. A notification e-mail will be going out soon with the schedule.

Ken Pickler informed the membership that future ASMC luncheons will be set up for the first Thursday of each month.

Upcoming luncheons were announced. 30 Nov 06 – VTC with Mr Vongolis. 7 Dec 06 – Christmas Pot Luck. Jan 07 – Guest Speaker. Meeting adjourned at 1310.

Minutes taken by Patti Galvan

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – 8 Nov 2006

Exec Committee Mtg was called to order at 2:35

- Annette Beard discussed the Genetti Award - whether or not we will be able to qualify. We are still looking into it.
- Also discussed offering Module 4 1-day intensive review @ the RPDS and/or offering the ability to take the CDFM test at the Emerald Coast Conference Center (ECCC)
 - Discussed speakers for the RPDS and status of RPDS details
 - MajGen (ret) Chedister has confirmed to be our lunch speaker
- Community Service:
 - Boxes will be put up for sharing and caring collecting canned food. Dates will be prior to Christmas and are TBD
 - Discussed possibility of doing an Angel Tree for Christmas (getting a few names of children and purchasing gifts)
- Ways and Means
 - Jennifer Denega has plenty of volunteers for the Gift Wrapping this year—now she's trying to set one up at Hurlburt
 - Gulf Coast ASMC should receive \$50-\$200 for participating in the Belk Charity Sale
- Holiday Luncheon is set for 7 December. Still trying to decide on potluck, catering, or a mixture of both. Discussed doing door prizes and how much funding is available for that.
- Audio conference will be 30 Nov from 1 to 3pm. John Dininger is still looking for a conference room to hold the conference. If you have one that will hold 30 to 40 people, please let him know, 883-3542.

Minutes taken by April Chapel



TREASURER'S REPORT

DeAnna Morales

Current Chapter Funds Balance

\$ 17,544.37

Education Committee

I want to take this opportunity to thank the numerous individuals who assisted me in this year's scholarship program. Since 1996, our chapter has awarded \$32,500 in scholarships to many deserving college students. The total annual award has increased from \$1000 in 1996 to \$6000 in 2004, and we have been able to stay at this level through 2006. I certainly hope that we can continue this tradition and be a source of inspiration to college students aspiring to become financial management professionals!

I would like to point out that ASMC's National Scholarship Program entry deadline is March 31, 2007. While this may seem far away, it will be 2007 before we know it! The national scholarships are given to outstanding high school seniors who are entering a field of study related to finance/resource management. I'm sure our chapter membership knows of some deserving high school students. More information can be found at: <http://www.asmconline.org/files/nspform.doc>. I will be contacting the local high schools in the near future to let them know about the national scholarship program.

ASMC also offers a Continuing Education Program that provides financial assistance for ASMC members who are pursuing higher education goals. The deadline for this program is also March 31, 2007. I know there are many members of our chapter that are working on degree programs and could use any help that's available. More information can be found at: <http://www.asmconline.org/files/memcefrm.rtf>.

I look forward to continuing as your Education committee chairperson...if you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 883-3542.

John Dininger, Education Chairperson

Christmas Party / Luncheon – 7 December 2006

Ken Pickler welcomed everyone. After a blessing, everyone served themselves with delicious barbecue, fixins, and dessert.

Annette Beard thanked everyone for coming and for a great 2006. She announced Col Mullins (AFSPC/FM) will be here in January and will be our ASMC guest speaker. Several charity opportunities are available right now, please contribute. Also, ASMC needs a secretary for the rest of the year.

Ken Pickler said the February luncheon speaker will be Col Dennis Yates. PDS speakers include Ms Sue Payton and Ms Glenda Shiner (Washington DC) and retired MajGen Chedister. Also there will be stress management and HAWC fitness/nutrition.

Susie Matthews explained we are currently accepting donations for Airman's Attic and the BX Angel Tree (2 boys, 2 girls).

Deanna Morales announced our treasury has more than \$17,000 and we're looking for ideas to spend money.

Door prize winners: Troy Brown (video game), Leah Hodge (DVD player), Cindy Weinstein (portable DVD player), Pati Galvan (DVD Trivial Pursuit), Kimberly Brantley (Hickory Farms gift pack), Leslie Ford (DVD movies), Capt Eileen Lebrecque (MP3 player), Rebecca Ostrander (DVD movies), and Mary Mikos (DVD movies).

Minutes taken by Laura Gamble

Programs – Ken Pickler

I'd like to thank you for the great response to the programs Maj Kevin McKinley, Ms Joan Horn and I have arranged to date. The comptrollership "Jeopardy" game was a lot of fun for me, and from the feedback I received, many of you liked it--and I agree I should keep my day job!

I'd also like to thank our chapter panelists who participated in the annual Professional Development Update. Over 80 people attended, and I think the panel/audience interaction was the best I've seen at any ASMC luncheon I've attended since joining in 1990.

Over the next few months, we'll be hearing from the AF Space Command comptroller, the 96th Civil Engineering Group commander, and heading for the 2 March 07 Regional Professional Development Seminar.

Speaking of the RPDS, I can share with you that the program will include a keynote presentation by Ms Sue Payton, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, and a luncheon presentation by Maj Gen (Ret) "Chedbob" Chedister, former Air Armament Center Commander and Program Executive Officer for Weapons. In addition to various sessions for specific technical and professional development topics, we'll have several "war stories" sessions with panels of chapter financial management and contracting professionals recently deployed to various theaters. You don't want to miss this!

As you enjoy Christmas and New Year's Day holidays the next few weeks, please remember our deployed wingmen and their families. Phone calls and e-mails from home are great, but they don't match hugs & kisses from loved ones. Take time to savor the blessing of being with those you love! And as Tiny Tim would say, "God bless you every one!"

Ken Pickler
Programs Committee Chairman.
883-2193
kenneth.pickler@eglin.af.mil

Ways & Means Ms. Jennifer Denega

Recent Events

Belk Holiday Charity Sale

\$100 raised from ticket sales (off-Base)

\$138 raised from Belk ticket sales (at Santa Rosa Mall)

Special thank you to all volunteers who worked at the Sale!

Upcoming Events

Holiday Gift-Wrapping at Eglin BX

Scheduled for 13, 19, & 21 Dec 06 from 1500-1800 each day

Thank you to all who have volunteered to wrap! Your suggestions and ideas for future fundraisers are always welcome for the Ways and Mean Committee. You can reach the Ways and Means Chairperson at: jennifer.denega@eglin.af.mil or at 882-3525 ext. 3175 (DSN 872)

Many Blessings for a Holiday Season!



GUEST COLUMNIST: Air Force Special Operations Command: Air Commandos

Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), headquartered at Hurlburt Field, Florida, is America's specialized airpower and the Air Force component of the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM). AFSOC evolved from events following 4 November 1979, when supporters of Ayatollah Khomeini stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and held 52 Americans hostage. The U.S. military was unprepared to adequately respond to this emergency due to the near-eradication of the Special Operations Forces (SOF) community in the 1970s. At that time, there was no Air Force counterpart to the elite Army counter terrorism unit. The rescue attempt of April 1980, code-named Desert One, failed and focused attention on the lack of resources and capabilities to counter the emerging threat of terrorism. "Desert One became the catalyst for reprioritizing U.S. SOF units within the Department of Defense (DoD)" (Koskinas, 2005).

The Cohen-Nunn Amendment to the Goldwater-Nichols Act of 1986 changed the management of special operations forces and established USSOCOM as a unified combatant for all assigned forces. USSOCOM acquires SOF-unique material as well as manages and executes its own discrete funding line, Major Force Program (MFP-11), created specifically for SOF operations. SOF activities include, but are not limited to counter proliferation, counter terrorism, special reconnaissance, direct action, unconventional warfare, foreign internal defense, civil affairs, information/psychological operations, and humanitarian assistance.

AFSOC has over 12,900 active duty, reserve, guard, and civilians as well as 122 specialized fixed and rotary wing aircraft. Despite AFSOC's relatively small structure, it retains a variety of low density, high demand capabilities to truly give military leaders more "bang for the buck". AFSOC Combat Controllers, Combat Weather, and Pararescue forces enable air power and tactically connect land SOF forces with Air support. These forces are highly skilled, mature operators who are regionally orientated, creative, and adaptable. They are culturally sensitive, proficient in a number of languages, and organized into small yet highly flexible joint teams. These diverse skill sets provide unique SOF capabilities to the combatant commander.

Current AFSOC issues include growth in the SOF mission area as directed by the 2006 Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR). As a result, AFSOC's Combat Aviation Advisory (CAA) or Foreign Internal Defense (FID) mission will expand in FY07 with a projected growth of over 100 percent of currently assigned personnel. This increase will improve future advisory capability encompassing a worldwide mission. Another of the command's top priorities is the recapitalization of aircraft inventory. AFSOC is in the process of acquiring the tilt-rotor CV-22, which will provide a new and unique capability. The 58SOW at Kirtland currently has four CV-22 aircraft, but the first operational aircraft is expected to arrive at Hurlburt Field in the first quarter of FY07. Meanwhile, the command is divesting the current inventory of MH-53s. Other QDR related mission changes include the creation of two new special operations squadrons, the 319 SOS at Hurlburt Air Field with the U-28A Persistent View mission and the 3 SOS at Nellis AFB with a UAV (Predator) mission. AFSOC is also reviewing alternatives for acquiring an installation in the western U.S. to support the growing SOF mission and reposition the command's capabilities.

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GUEST COLUMNIST: Air Force Special Operations Command: Air Commandos

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Financial Management plays a unique role at AFSOC due to the dual responsibility for both AF funds and SOF funds. The FM Directorate is divided into three divisions, AF Budget (FMA), SOF Budget (FMO), and Financial Services (FMF). In FY05, FM executed approximately \$1.2 billion in SOF and AF O&M dollars. Air Force O&M funds the base operational support structure and SOF support, while USSOCOM funds the SOF mission specific requirements. This is a continual challenge for both the command and units to ensure the appropriate source of funds are applied to a multitude of complex and often overlapping requirements. FM is an integral part of AFSOC: ready to finance the fight, anytime, anyplace.

Koskinas, Gianni, 2005. *Desert One and Air Force Special Operations Command: A 25-year Retrospective*. Air & Space Power Journal.

Capt Leota A. Hidalgo is a currently a command financial analyst in special operations at Headquarters, Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Florida

The above article appeared in the SAF/FM Newsletter, June 2006

Audio Conference

On 30 November 2006, 25 Gulf Coast ASMC members attended an audio conference with Mr. John Vongolis, SAF/FM. Mr. Vongolis touched on many FM issues, including:

- Strategic Objectives
 - Clean Audit
 - AFSO 21
 - Process Improvement
- Operational Initiatives
 - Initial Operations of FM Center of Excellence in Denver, CO – performs economic analysis – is currently hiring 501s
 - Air Force Financial Service Center (AFFSC) at Ellsworth AFB, SD – initial bed down is ongoing
 - ALO/FMA merger
 - FM Suite Dashboard provides web-enabled visibility of financial metrics – currently being tested at SECAF level
 - DEAMS – modernizing business systems and eliminating stovepipes
- Tactical Successes
 - Joint/FM development of portable E-44 – allows deployed FMers to access secure vendor lists quickly and reliably and to communicate with suppliers in six different languages
 - Joint Services one stop Kiosk – currently available at Pentagon, will be deployed in the future – epitomizes the core idea of transparent services and data accessibility

Minutes taken by John Dininger

Current & Next Meetings and other ASMC events

UPCOMING ASMC LUNCHEONS - planned

Mark your calendars for these upcoming luncheons:

9 January 07	Col Mullins, AFSPC/FM
8 February 07	Col Yates, 96CEG/CC
2 March	Regional Professional Development Seminar

Please contact our Program Chair, Ken Pickler, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions on program issues.

ASMC Websites

ASMC National Headquarters website is <http://www.asmconline.org/>
Our chapter website: <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/>

ASMC IS SEEKING A WEBMASTER. CONTACT ANNETTE BEARD IF INTERESTED.

National News

ASMC Welcomes a New National President

On November 5, 2006, the Honorable Richard Greco left government service. Mr. Greco served as the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller) and also as the ASMC National President. Mr. Greco was a great supporter of ASMC, and we appreciate all that he did for the Society.

Under the ASMC Constitution, Mr. Mark Easton – who was the ASMC Navy Vice President – takes over as the National President of ASMC through June 30, 2007. Like Mr. Greco, Mr. Easton has been a very strong supporter of ASMC, and we look forward to having him as our National President.

PDI 2007

Mark your calendars now for PDI 2007 in Kansas City! The event will be held in May 29 - June 1 at Bartel Hall Convention Center. Corporate sponsorship and exhibit booth registration is now open at <http://www.asmconline.org/development/pdi8.shtml>. Individual registration for the PDI will open in February 2007.

Remember our local website is <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/>

And ASMC national is <http://www.asmconline.org/>

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