



GULF COAST CHAPTER NEWS



Jun 06

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

PATI GALVAN

This is my final letter to you as President and I want to express my appreciation to all of the membership for making this year a great experience for me. It has been a pleasure serving as your President. I have met some of the nicest people and have learned a lot from each and every one of them. I look back upon the year and am very proud to have been a part of the various events ASMC held. The Regional PDS comes to mind right away. The PDS was fantastic and the participation of the National Contract Management Association was an added bonus. It was truly a great event and I would like to recognize Mr. Dan Harvey and Ms. Deborah Washington for chairing the PDS committee.

I have also acquired a new respect for the officer and committee chairs of this organization. They spend countless hours of their free time toward making this chapter a success. Being an officer, committee chair, or a volunteer, is very rewarding and I admire the sincere commitment each of them has toward making the Gulf Coast Chapter one of the best chapters in the nation.

Another of our big events was to complete the Annual chapter Report to National Headquarters. This report documents all of your activities for the period of 1 Apr to 31 Mar each year. Points are assigned for chapter meetings, community service, publicity, executive meetings, membership, and education related activities. This one document is what ultimately decides our fate in terms of Five Star status. Our secretary, Ms. April Chapel, along with help from you, spent many hours ensuring that we documented all that we had accomplished during the year. Hopefully, you have all seen the e-mail stating that we have continued to earn Five Star status – the highest level in ASMC!!!! We were also recognized for our community service activities. Again, congratulations to all of you for your hard work.

And lastly, we are preparing the nomination process for next year's officers. Mr. Ken Pickler is running the Nomination Committee with the help of a number of you who volunteered. E-mails have already gone out searching for nominees. The newly elected officers will soon be looking for committee chairs and members so start thinking about what you can do to help your chapter. The July luncheon will be the installation of officers for next year.

I have enjoyed seeing you at our luncheon meetings and other various events, and I look forward to working with some of you in the future. I know you will continue to support the new officers and committee chairs (as well as those returning committee chairs) as they embark on their ASMC journey. You, the membership, play a vital part in the overall success of the Gulf Coast Chapter. Thanks again to each of you for making this a very enjoyable year for me!

Pati Galvan, President, Gulf Coast Chapter
American Society of Military Comptrollers

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

Executive Committee

President	Ms Pati Galvan	882-4538
VP-Eglin	Capt Eileen LaBrecque	882-5754
VP-Hurlburt	Ms Annette Beard	884-1728
VP-Tenants	Ms Dee LaGarde	883-6476
Secretary	Ms April Chapel	882-5456
Community Relations	Susie Matthews	883-6454
Education	Mr John Dininger	883-3542
Education (CDFM)	Ms Amber Green	882-4261x3319
Membership	Mr Kent Fitzgerald	883-0571
Programs	Ms Debrah Pavlas	882-3635
Publicity	Ms Dedra Hickman	882-3438
Newsletter	Ms Laura Gamble	884-2823
Regional PDI	Mr Dan Harvey	882-4686 x307
	Ms Deborah Washington	883-0290
Treasurer	Ms DeAnna Morales	883-5907
Treasurer-Deputy	Ms Denise Wagner	883-0405
Ways & Means	Ms Jennifer Denega	883-0303
Webmaster	Ms Kathy Davis	882-6609
Corp Vanguard	Mr Ken Bailey	729-5574

Tenants VP – Dee LaGarde

Can you believe it! It is once again the end of the year and it has been a great year. The Regional PDI was awesome with lots of credit to all those who worked. The Scholarship program continues to progress with lots of benefits to those who receive scholarships and those who make the selections. The monthly meeting programs have been professional and informative, while providing a pleasant format for dining with friends. So thanks, Patti, and the rest of the team. And, thank you to all who supported me. It has been a pleasure.

Dee LaGarde, MBA, CPA, CFE, Vice-President, Tenant

Hurlburt VP – Ms Annette Beard

This year has passed very quickly! Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as the Hurlburt ASMC VP. I also want to thank you for your contributions to ASMC and the work of our chapter this year. The Gulf Coast Chapter maintained 5-Star chapter status, earned special recognition for our Community Service activities, held the premier joint ASMC/NCMA Regional PDS, and helped many local students through our scholarship program. The National ASMC provided new professional development opportunities this year such as audio conferences and the CDFM Acquisition module. ASMC continues to be an outstanding avenue for Financial Management professionals to improve ourselves and our organizations through professional development and to network with others in the FM community. I encourage you to keep learning and to continue striving for excellence. Thanks for a great year!

Respectfully,
Annette Beard, CDFM, Hurlburt VP

CDFM Certification Team

CDFM

Congratulations

The Gulf Coast ASMC chapter would like to congratulate the following individuals for recently achieving the title of Certified Defense Financial Manager!

April Chapel	Carol Moore
Christy Demos	Shirley Price
Jennifer McPherson	Josephine Rivera
Donna Montoya	Sandra Telemacque

Correction to the March newsletter

Congratulations to James Thompson who should have been recognized in the March newsletter for achieving the title of Certified Defense Financial Manager on November 30, 2005.

Study Room Available!

The ABSS Computer Room in Bldg 350 can be reserved especially for those that would like to use it as their CDFM Study Room. In addition, several Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Course (EDFMT) Module 1-3 Manuals are available to use in the study room for your convenience!

Need Volunteers

If you would like to volunteer as a guest speaker in one of our upcoming CDFM Study Group Sessions, and are CDFM certified, we can use your help and expertise!

Please contact Amber Green via email at amber.green@eglin.af.mil, or by phone at 882-4261 x3319 if you would like to utilize the study room or volunteer as a CDFM instructor.

Ways & Means

Ms. Jennifer Denega

Recent Events

- Belk Spring Charity Sale

With ticket sales before and at the Sale, we raised \$397.00!

Thank you to all volunteers and ticket sellers!

Your suggestions are always welcome for the Ways and Mean Committee.

Please send ideas for future fundraisers.

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 Beautiful Summer!



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – 16 March 2006

- For April's luncheon, there will be an Internal Controls briefing at the Eglin Conference Center. It will probably be a brown bag lunch, chapter will provide soda and water
- Treasurer Deanna Morales updated us on the checking account balance after the RPDS deposit.
- Discussed forming the nomination committee
 - Reviewed charter on President nominations. We will have to do a nomination call-- only one of the current Vice Presidents will be available for candidacy
- National PDI is getting away from each chapter bringing a booth, this year is a carnival style theme, each chapter will man one of the games and will give away "chapter mementos." Our chapter will be giving away the chapter pins and possibly koozies with our chapter logo on them
- Next RPDS will be 2 Mar 07. NCMA has already said yes to co-chairing it with us again next year.
- Charity sale will be 31 March and 1 April at McRae's and Belks
- Other Upcoming luncheons:
 - June – BBQ/picnic theme
 - July – Installation of Officers – possibly at the Eglin Officer's Club

Minutes taken by April Chapel

AFSOC winners @ PDI

AFSOC is extremely proud of its winners recognized at the National PDI this year.

•The FY05 USD(C) Financial Management Awards program recognized Susan L Cooper, 16th Comptroller Squadron, Hurlburt Field, as winner of the Individual Financial Management Initiative Award (Below Major Command Level). This is one of only twelve USD(C) annual awards. AFSOC won two of the twelve awards in both 2003 and 2004, competing through USSOCOM to USD(C).

•Also, AFSOC's 347th Comptroller Squadron, Moody AFB, received an FY05 Air Force Financial Management and Comptroller Annual Award during Service Day. This Special Acts and Services Award was given in recognition of Moody's Hurricane relief efforts over the past year.

Gulf Coast Chapter recognition

Gulf Coast Chapter ASMC has been recognized for special achievement – we're listed on the National ASMC website.

The first recognition is for Community Service.

The second recognition is gaining 5-star chapter rating.

Kudos to all of us!

Data breaches raise more questions about computer security law

Recently reported breaches compromising sensitive data held by four agencies have officials looking at ways to improve federal information security laws. Security experts and former government officials started pointing fingers at alleged weaknesses in the 2002 Federal Information Security Act earlier this year. In recent interviews, some said they believe that the incidents could lead to changes in the law.

Alan Paller, director of research at the SANS Institute in Bethesda, Md., a nonprofit cybersecurity research organization, called the compromise of personnel records of 1,500 Energy Department employees, combined with last month's theft of personal data on 26.5 million people from a Veterans Affairs Department employee's home, "an indictment of FISMA." In two unrelated incidents, laptop computers containing the personal information -- including Social Security numbers, birthdates and names -- of about 200 employees at the Social Security Administration and the Internal Revenue Service were lost recently.

FISMA requires agencies to identify and categorize risks to their information technology systems and then implement security controls based on those risks. Paller said agencies are using their technology security funds to pay independent contractors to write FISMA-required reports as part of the certification and accreditation process, leaving little money for implementing actual security measures. A certification and accreditation process is necessary, but it should be continuous and automated, Paller said. "There was a thought that to check security, you had to check with people and talk to people, but because most attacks are done by systems, you need systems to check the security," Paller said. "The VA spent tens of millions of dollars certifying and accrediting these systems, and they are not secure."

A VA spokesman said that the agency received \$77 million for information security in fiscal 2006 and \$78 million has been proposed for fiscal 2007.

Clay Johnson, the Office of Management and Budget's deputy director for management, said last week OMB has 95 percent of the laws and policies it needs to hold agencies accountable for locking down their information systems, but "extra teeth" may be needed. He did not specifically refer to FISMA. Johnson said in testimony before the House Government Reform Committee that the administration believes it generally has good policies and laws for protecting data, but is "prepared to take more action as necessary."

In a request for comment on the matter, OMB gave no indication that changes to FISMA are being considered. OMB spokeswoman Andrea Wuebker said that FISMA was established to ensure that agencies meet consistent standards for security requirements for information systems. Agencies are responsible for ensuring that they are FISMA compliant and that their employees are trained to work with tough security measures. "Sound standards and policies are in place, and OMB works with agencies to make sure practices match these policies," Wuebker said.

*** Adapted from article *** By Daniel Pulliam, Government Executive

DECISION 2006 : Nominations Sought

DECISION 2006 : Nominations Sought for 2006-07 ASMC Chapter Officers

The nominating committee will accept nominations for Vice Presidents (Eglin, Eglin Tenants, and Hurlburt) through 20 June. Online elections will occur on the chapter home page from 22 – 30 June. We'll announce results 7 July and install officers at a 12 July chapter luncheon at Coach & Four restaurant in Fort Walton Beach.

I urge you to consider serving as a chapter VP this next year. If mission considerations or other reasons preclude you from accepting the automatic nomination for President next year, we will adapt. There are no ASMC Taliban troops standing by to force you into later service against your will!

If you would like to be a nominee, please contact MSgt Judy Griffin, Donna Montoya, Kent Fitzgerald, or me. We'll ensure you're on the ballot on 22 June!

Ken Pickler
Nominating Committee Chairman

Education Committee

Our local chapters' scholarship program received 21 applications before the 26 May deadline, and the evaluation team members are presently reviewing them. We will award three \$1000 scholarships and six \$500 scholarships at the July chapter meeting. Many thanks to the evaluation team members who took the time to help out on this worthwhile endeavor. Team members are:

Kathy Allen	John Straughn
Annette Beard	Pati Galvan
Nancy Elliott	Susan Riedel
Mike Napoli	Laurie Smith

I would like to thank Verna McBride for doing an outstanding job in getting the word out to both on and off base media outlets about our scholarship program, and Lt. John Eiler for assisting me in putting the evaluation packages together. Hopefully we can get the majority of our scholarship recipients to the July meeting.....see you there!

John Dininger, Chairperson
Education Committee
883-3542



TREASURER'S REPORT **DeAnna Morales**

Current Chapter Financial Status
\$ 8,008.71

Current & Next Meetings and other ASMC events

UPCOMING ASMC LUNCHEONS

Jun 29 Eglin NCO Club 11AM-1PM, MSgt Chris Crutchfield,
New Technologies for the Battlefield Airmen

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

ASMC Websites

ASMC National Headquarters website is <http://www.asmonline.org/>
Our chapter website: <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/>
I would like for the site to be a valuable resource for ASMC information, professional development, and communication. If there is something you would like to see and believe it would be beneficial to the chapter, please let me know.

Webmaster Kathy Davis 882-6609
Katherine.Davis@Eglin.af.mil

National News

July 18 Audio Conference on ADA Issues, 2 pm Eastern: a live, interactive audio conference on Anti-Deficiency Act (ADA) issues. A distinguished panel of senior DoD fiscal lawyers will discuss overall and service-specific issues. Our panel will include Bob Paschall (OSD), Anne Brennan (Navy), Don Fox (Air Force), and Matt Reres (Army).

Optional CDFM Acquisition Module. An optional fourth module of the CDFM exam is now available. It deals with the rules governing acquisition of major defense systems. Candidates enrolled in the CDFM Program will still take the basic three modules to become a CDFM. Those who elect to take and then pass the optional fourth module will become "CDFM with Acquisition Specialty." We think that this module will appeal to those wishing to demonstrate objectively their knowledge of defense acquisition. Passing the module also indicates a depth of knowledge that may help in winning promotions and jobs. You can prepare for the new module through self study (a textbook is available) or by taking a one-day intensive course. For more information and registration details, go to the ASMC web site (www.asmonline.org). Check the home page - click on "certification".

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

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

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