



GULF COAST CHAPTER NEWS



Jun 08

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER **APRIL CHAPEL**

As I attended the National PDI in Orlando, FL, a couple weeks ago, I realized what a great accomplishment it is to have our own Regional PDS for chapters to attend. Although the National PDI was a huge event, there was great satisfaction in knowing that our Regional PDS not only allowed individuals the ability to get functional area training, but also for networking. Next year's National PDI is in San Antonio, TX, which I'm sure will be a great success, but let's start looking toward our own PDI for 2008. We received a lot of good suggestions on how to make our RPDIs better and more effective, so please contact me if you would like to volunteer for next year's Regional PDI.

On a separate note, I'd like to give a huge "thank you" to the number of interested individuals who volunteered for President, Vice President, and committee chairs. It's exciting to see the number of interested individuals who are willing to volunteer their time for the betterment of the chapter. I look forward to another year participating in our chapter and thank you again for all of your support while I was President.

Sincerely,
April Chapel, CDFM-A
President

Minutes: Executive Council & Regular Meetings

The ASMC Luncheon Meeting minutes and the Executive committee meeting minutes are now 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

Executive Committee

President	Ms April Chapel	882-3812
VP-Eglin	Ms Leah Hodge	882-3615
VP-Hurlburt	Capt Dan Genest	884-7289
VP-Tenants	Capt Christopher M Hill	883-4040
Secretary	Ms Brenda Dininger	882-3635
Community Relations	Ms Karen Williams	883-3808
	Ms Susie Matthews	884-2822
Education	Mr John Dininger	883-3542
Education (CDFM)	Ms Vanessa Fuentes	882-9841
Education Publicity	Ms Verna McBride	882-3346
Membership	Capt Angie Blackwell	882-0063
Programs	Mr Ken Pickler	883-2193
Publicity	Ms Dedra Hickman	883-6411
Newsletter	Ms Laura Gamble	884-2823
Regional PDI	Dan Harvey	883-0480
	Tim Bozoki	882-4138
	Ms Leah Hodge	882-3615
Treasurer	Ms Denise Wagner	883-0338
Ways & Means	Ms Jennifer Denega	883-4787
Webmaster	Mr Ken Kennedy	883-0870
	Mr Ron Millis	882-0936
Eglin Enlisted Advisor	TSgt Gina Rodriguez	882-3574
Hurlburt Enl Advisor	A1C Jillian Thompson	884-4110
Corp Vanguard	Mr Ken Bailey	729-5574

2008 Regional Professional Development Seminar

The chapter received two more thank-you notes for our donation from the RPDS.

Shelter House: "We would like to offer our sincerest appreciation for your recent donation to Shelter House. Sincerely, Shelter House Board of Directors"

and

Gerran Copeland Scholarship Fund: Thank you so much for your generous donation of \$500 to the Gerran Copeland Scholarship Fund. It's even more impressive that you make this gift in recognition of Susan Copeland for her service to your organization. Gerran was an incredible young man who searched to do good for others much like your organizations' effort with this donation. Some deserving young person will receive a scholarship in Gerran's name on your behalf. It's our intent to seek a local student who is pursuing a degree in accounting or finance. Again, thank you for the donation and please let your membership know this gift means so much to the Copeland family as they seek ways to honor Gerran's memory. I was touched by the life of Gerran so this has a special meaning to me personally as well. (signed) Michael S. Tinnon, Chaplain, Lt Col, USAF, Wing Chaplain

2008 Regional Professional Development Seminar



P.O. Box 220 * Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32549-0220 * (850) 243-1201 * Fax (850) 243-6756

ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter
P.O. Box 1756
Eglin AFB, FL 32542

March 31, 2008

We at Shelter House, Inc. would like to express our sincere gratitude for your recent donation of \$401.75.

Shelter House, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization (Federal ID# 59-2634092) and provides services to victims of domestic violence in Okaloosa and Walton Counties. Shelter House provides confidential emergency shelter, 24-hour crisis hotline, counseling and support groups, advocacy, referrals, community education, prevention and outreach services. These services are provided free of charge to the victims.

Each year, Shelter House provides approximately 5,746 days of emergency shelter to about 240 women and children, outreach services to over 250 individuals, and the 24-hour hotline receives approximately 900 calls. Without these much needed services, victims of domestic violence would have no choice but to remain with their abuser and be subjected to further abuse or become homeless.

We rely heavily on support from community partners like yourself to continue providing these essential services. We appreciate your continued support and we thank you for being a partner in Shelter House's efforts to end the cycle of violence in our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Sperzel".

Michelle Sperzel
Executive Director

*No goods or services were given
in exchange for this donation.*

Programs – Mr Ken Pickler

Wow! Where did the time go? It's hard to believe the three of us joined ranks 2 years ago, to help deliver quality chapter program events. Our goal has been to consistently offer topics and speakers that enhance your professional development—and have fun while doing so. We hope you have enjoyed our programs and taken a few life-long lessons away from them.

Our team's last program event is the annual presentation of scholarships and installation of officers on 16 July 08, at Coach & Four Steak House in Fort Walton Beach. This has become a great event that recognizes your contributions to the chapter's operations, puts some new faces in key leadership roles, and puts some big smiles on the faces of some very deserving scholarship recipients.

As a new team prepares to take the programs helm, please be prepared to give them feedback on the programs & speakers you'd like to see again, those you'd prefer not to see again, and your ideas for new topics & speakers. This is YOUR chapter, and you have a say into what we learn together.

Thanks again for your support!

Your 2006/2007 Programs Team
Ken Pickler
Maj Kevin McKinley
Joan Horn.

Ways & Means Ms. Jennifer Denega

Events

On-Going Projects

- Please bring items to our meetings for care packages for our deployed FM troops

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 883-4787

Many Blessings for a Beautiful Summer!



CDFM Study Group

On April 30 and May 1 of 2008, Gulf Coast Chapter participated in an intensive training for Module 2 of the CDFM examination by audio lines. .

ASMC is considering repeating this intensive training for other modules. Keep posted.

Vanessa E. Fuentes –CDFM chair
882-9841

Education Committee

Our local chapters' undergrad scholarship program received 17 applications before the 16 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:

Nanette Simmons

Annette Beard

Pati Galvan

Rebecca Ostrander

Susan Riedel

Sharon Pedersen

Patricia Brown

Ken Kennedy

Laurie Smith

Mary Ann Brocketto

Laura Gamble

Sandra Telemacque

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. Hopefully we can get the majority of our scholarship recipients to the July meeting.....see you there!

We received no applications for the membership scholarship program.

I received an email from ASMC National Headquarters notifying me that Whitney Schmieder, our chapters' nominee for the national scholarship program, is being awarded one of their scholarships. We should receive more information in the coming weeks. Whitney is the daughter of Shirley and Marty Schmieder, both ASMC members! Congratulations Whitney!

If you have any questions or concerns about our scholarship programs, please contact me at 883-3542.

John Dinger, Education Chairperson
883-3542

ASMC National Awards

The ASMC National Awards were recently announced.

TSgt Kerita Larkin (CDFM), HQ AFSOC/FM, was recognized as part of the "MAJCOM Level and Above Distinguished Team Award." TSgt Larkin was a member of the Financial Services Office Transformation Team.

This award was presented at the 2008 National PDI. Congratulations TSgt Larkin!

Guest Columnist

Did you know the first National Professional Development Institute training event was held May 1977 at Williamsburg VA? And did you know, ASMC was established as the Society of Military Accountants and Statisticians in 1948 in San Antonio, TX, and was open only to active duty officers? In May 1955, it was renamed American Society of Military Comptrollers (www.asmc-lol.org/hisAnnualHistory97-98.doc). The national headquarters was opened in 1991 in Alexandria, VA, and currently serves a growing professional society of 18,000 members with 140 ASMC chapters.

<http://www.asmc-online.org/national/history.shtml>

Okay, that's enough history for today. As a "newbie" to an ASMC National Professional Development Institute (PDI) training event, I was in awe of the number of participants at this year's event--rumor has it that over 4,200 attended! If you have ever tried to plan and organize such an event, you can just imagine the thought process and planning that had to go into this event. A daunting task to say the least! I applaud all those involved with hosting this year's PDI. When all was said and done, I was pleasantly surprised by many things to include training events offered, speakers, hotel accommodations, shuttle service, and participating vendors to name just a few.

As with any event, there will be positive and negative comments. I arrived two days early so I could participate in the Acquisition Module 4 training—yes, I passed (whew). Only two negative comments: 1) parking was not free during the two-day Module 4 training and no shuttle was available; and, 2) the internet café was not available until sometime Wednesday. I did learn that internet access fees charged by the hotels ranged from the \$7.99 I paid to \$14.99. Other than these two inconveniences, great PDI! I look forward to future PDIs: 2009 in San Antonio, 2010 in Nashville, 2011 in Minneapolis, and 2012 in Anaheim. Yes, you can never plan too early to attend. I highly recommend attending, and look forward to seeing some familiar and new faces at the next one.

Ruth M. Hughes, CDFM-A, 46 TSSQ/TSSF - *Ruth is a budget analyst and has worked at Duke, Eglin, and AFSOC for the past 24 years.*

Aces High Award

The Aces High Award is presented by SAF/FM to an outstanding enlisted financial manager in the USAF. In April 2008, the Aces High award was presented to Technical Sergeant Kerita Larkin, HQ AFSOC, Hurlburt Field, Florida.

TSgt Kerita Larkin is the NCOIC of Pay and Travel at HQ AFSOC, Hurlburt Field, FL. Born in Pensacola, FL, she graduated from Laurel (MD) High School. She enlisted in the Air Force in April 1997. Her first assignment was Paying and Collecting, 374th CPTS, Yokota AB, Japan, where she received a Below-The-Zone promotion to SrA. Her second assignment was the Civilian Pay section at Ramstein AB. She then went to Customer Support at Andersen AFB, Guam, where she was promoted to SSGT. Her next assignment was the NCOIC of Relocations at Moody AFB, GA.

In July 2006, TSgt Larkin was assigned to the HQ AFSOC staff. She's won numerous quarterly and annual awards and decorations and was selected as the ALS Leadership Award winner for her class. She's deployed twice in support of OPERATIONS ENDURING and IRAQI FREEDOM. She is one of only 3% of the enlisted force to achieve the CDFM designation and she is in her third year toward a B.S. degree in Accounting. Congratulations TSgt Larkin!

Current & Next Meetings and other ASMC events

UPCOMING ASMC LUNCHEONS –

Mark your calendars:

16 Jul 08 Coach & Four, FWB.
Present scholarships and install new officers

Please contact our Program Chair, Ken Pickler (x3-2193), 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 is <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/>

We are looking for new ideas to include on our webpage. Please contact our webmaster, Ron Millis at 850-882-0936 or Ken Kennedy at 850-883-0870 if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions on chapter website issues.

National News

Almost 4,400 registered for PDI 2008 in Orlando, Florida. Workshop slides are on the ASMC home page, “professional development / extended learning.”

This year, ASMC surveyed participants. 93% rated the PDI as good or excellent. ASMC is pleased to have served the community well.

participants’ top two speakers were Alison Levine (the mountain climber who spoke on motivational topics) and Marianne Jennings (who spoke on ethics).

- 87% felt that ASMC should repeat the silent auction and raffle at next year’s PDI.

All PDIs depend heavily on volunteers – ASMC thanks the host Tampa Bay chapter, ably assisted by the Central Florida Lightning and Space Coast chapters, for supplying outstanding volunteer assistance. Particular thanks to Colonel Fran Machina, chair of the PDI, and to Mr. Cameron Baumgartner, the co-chair.

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

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

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