



GULF COAST CHAPTER NEWS



Sep 05

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

PATI GALVAN

I want to start off by thanking everyone for the opportunity to serve as your 2005/2006 chapter president. I appreciate the confidence you've instilled in me and the chance to build upon the successes of the past administration. They left us in good shape with many great ideas for the coming year.

ASMC has meant many things to me over the years. Not only is it an organization that offers excellent training opportunities but it's also an avenue to meet and work with other professionals. The core of this organization and what makes it all work are the members. And as a member of any organization, a certain amount of dedication and giving of one's self is needed. We count on each and every one of you to help us ensure that our chapter continues on with the fine traditions of success this great organization has experienced over the years.

As we move into this new ASMC year my goal is to continue the chapter's solid record of accomplishments. I would like to focus on maintaining Five Star Chapter Award status, increasing chapter membership, and continue to find additional ways the chapter can inform, encourage, and assist members with educational and training opportunities.

I challenge each of you to lend your talents and time to areas of interest to you and encourage you to call or write any of our committee members with your ideas on any thing that would contribute to the further enhancement of our chapter.

I am looking forward to an exciting year!

Pati
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	882-4538
VP-Hurlburt	Ms Annette Beard	884-1728
VP-Tenants	Ms Dee LaGarde	883-6476
Treasurer	Ms DeAnna Morales	883-5907
Treasurer-Deputy	Ms Denise Wagner	883-0405
Secretary	Ms April Chapel	882-5456
Ways & Means	Ms Jennifer Denega	885-0303
Programs	Vacant	88x-xxxx
	Ms Debrah Pavlas	882-3635
Education	Mr John Dininger	883-3542
	Ms Amber Green (CDFM)	882-4261x3319
Newsletter	Ms Laura Gamble	884-2823
Membership	Mr Kent Fitzgerald	883-0571
Community Relations	Susie Matthews	883-6454
Webmaster	Ms Kathy Davis	882-6609
Regional PDI	Mr Dan Harvey	882-4686 x307
	Ms Deborah Washington	883-0290
Corp Vanguard	Mr Ken Bailey	729-5574
Publicity	Ms Dedra Robinson	882-3438

Eglin VP – Capt Eileen LaBrecque

I would like to begin by saying a big thank you to all those folks who voted for me to be the VP for Eglin. I am truly honored and excited to hold this role and I will do the best job I can while I hold this position. I would also like extend an open invitation to each and every one of you to help to contribute to the success of the Gulf Coast ASMC Chapter in maintaining our outstanding rating by volunteering for one of the many events in the upcoming year. The list of volunteer opportunities is endless ranging from being a lead coordinator for a regional PDI committee to assisting with putting together packets for the event. Every little bit helps! I realize everyone has a full plate but let's all do our best to help out the Chapter this year.

Being involved in the Gulf Coast ASMC Chapter is an excellent opportunity whether you are a new member or if you have been a member for years. We can all learn from each other by sharing old and new ideas. I encourage you all to utilize the Chapter to network and help each other to grow in our military comptroller world. Whether it is looking for help on an interview or needing assistance with a budget question we are all here to help each other out. I would also like to ask everyone to keep our military folks in your thoughts as many are deploying over the next few months.

I hope to see you all at our monthly luncheons. We welcome your feedback to ensure we are providing you with the types of guest speakers you want to see and hear. I look forward to a great year ahead serving as your Eglin VP!

Tenants VP – Dee LaGarde

Thank you once again for electing me as your Vice-President, tenant. Of course, when there is only one candidate, “election” is a strong word to use; but I am a willing volunteer to make this the best year. I am also the President of the Northwest Florida Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors. No, I don’t want to make you auditors, but I do think that we can learn from each other. Our chapter offers quality programs sanctioned and approved by the Florida Department of Business Regulations. I am hoping to be able to join forces to the point that some of the sessions offered in the Mini-PDI will be pre-approved for CPE credit recognized by the states. During the year, I will keep you informed of IIA events throughout the Panhandle. For example, we are working on a Gaming Fraud seminar in November discussing fraud issues in the casinos and state lottery. I attended the IIA conference in Chicago and learned that ALL finance, accounting, cost, budget, program, and resource personnel should be aware of fraud and should attend training. Since Enron and WorldCom, fraud has increased – perhaps because it is reported more by alert professionals. Here is hoping that we will *Seize the Moment* and have a very good year!

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

Hurlburt VP – Ms Annette Beard

I’d like to thank the Gulf Coast ASMC Chapter members for giving me the opportunity to serve as Hurlburt VP. I am honored to be in a position to give back to my profession, the Air Force, and our local community.

As financial managers and “strategic partners,” we should be clearly focused on supporting the warfighter. How? – by studying and understanding our missions and requirements; by learning to speak the warfighters’ language; by translating requirements into financial plans; and by fighting for dollars to support crucial unfunded requirements. It is our job to get state-of-the-art weapons, equipment, and software into the hands of the operators – in the air or on the ground. It’s our job to keep the Flying Mission funded. Deployed members of the United States Air Force are giving their all in the Global War on Terrorism. They shouldn’t have to worry about funding – it’s our job to make it happen for **them**.

Second, I’d like to encourage all of you to get involved. We have several committees and lots of work to do to prepare for the Regional Professional Development Institute (PDI) next spring. Find your niche and volunteer. Our chapter directly benefits the local community through scholarships and donations to local charities. But we can’t succeed without your time and skills.

My goal is for the Gulf Coast ASMC Chapter to help us grow and develop so that each individual is better prepared to serve the warfighter and to serve the community. Our monthly luncheons provide excellent opportunities to learn directly from operators – let’s invite more speakers returning from deployments to give us that first-hand perspective. Also, our Regional PDI allows us to broaden our perspectives, hone our financial management skills and support local charities. Let’s make the most of these events.

I look forward to working with all of you while serving as your Hurlburt VP.

Respectfully,
Annette Beard, CDFM
Hurlburt VP

16 June 2005 – Luncheon Meeting

Tim Bozoki, President, called the meeting to order and introduced the speaker. Mr Roger Bick is Director of Strategic Planning in the SAF/FM Transformation Office.

Major points in the Transformation effort:

1. The administration is set on changing the way we do business.
2. Need to transfer our assets to the warfighter.
3. Change from transaction work to decision support.
4. Protecting the warfighter is JOB ONE.
4. The Center of Expertise will stand up October 2005 in Colorado Springs.
5. To establish the call centers, the AF has given up 548 positions (mostly enlisted).

Tim reminded everyone that next month (July) will be the Officer Induction for the 2005-06 year. We will also have a CDFM induction.

2005 National PDI Briefings

Briefings from the courses are available at <http://asmconline.org/development/extendedlearning.shtml>. They will be adding more as they are received, so check back if the one you need is not yet available.

CDFM Certification Team

The Gulf Coast ASMC chapter would like to congratulate all those from our chapter that earned their CDFM certificates in the last year.

Kathi Baker	Robert Camden	Kimberly Lord
Shannon Barnes	Janet Chapman	Jodie Mustin
Amalia Bozoki	Nancy Elliott	Mark Norby
Pattie Brown	Jane Holland	Theresa Stinson
The Bui	Tracey Janssen	Gregory Williams

Amber Green
Chair, CDFM Certification Program

Ways & Means

Ms. Jennifer Denega

Ways and Means

Jennifer Denega

Fundraising Events

- Nov 05 – Belk Charity Sale (Date/Details TBD)
 - oWe will need volunteers to sell tickets and work the day of the sale
- Dec 05 – BX Gift-Wrapping at Eglin and Hurlburt (Dates/Details TBD)
 - oWe will need volunteers to wrap

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 Fall!

Guest Columnist – Cynthia Chavez

I was selected recently to attend the Professional Military Comptroller School (PMCS), a milestone in any Budget Analyst's career. I had heard many people talk about their time at PMCS and was excited to go. Two weeks before my departure, during our chapter's Regional PDI, I attended a workshop that discussed the changes in PMCS. First, the course is now called the Defense Financial Management Course (DFMC) at PMCS. Second is the selection process to attend. Finally, the PMCS leadership have a heightened desire for the course to be truly a joint experience. In previous classes, the majority of students were Air Force (military and civilian) and it was a six-week course. DFMC at PMCS is now four weeks long and less than half of the students belonged to the Air Force. My class had Marines, Army, Auditors, Navy, and Air Force military and civilians as students and instructors. (The previous class also had DFAS and Coast Guard students in attendance.) This diverse group of individuals encouraged me to look at the information provided in the seminars, classroom, practical exercises, and after-duty activities from "outside my Air Force box."

During the selection process I had to talk about why I wanted to attend DFMC and what I would do with the knowledge that I gained from attending DFMC. Insight on why these questions were asked came once class began. The teaching staff used our answers to ensure each class was a mixed bag of people with varying levels experience, military affiliation, military and civilian. Throughout the four weeks I was presented with opportunities to practice what I had put into words on my application, exercise my leadership style, being a valuable member at the decision maker's table, and present financial information in a format that was not just numbers and charts. I had the chance to listen to many FM and non-FM speakers who discussed what they needed from a financial manager as a strategic partner within an organization. The briefings provided were reinforced through practical exercises that allowed me to use the skills that are needed in the day-to-day operation of a busy office.

For those of you who are looking to attend a course that will give you a challenge and assist in your growth as a leader I would recommend attending DFMC at PMCS. As you prepare to advance in your career this course will provide you the stimulation to articulate your leadership style, hone your writing skills, and practice briefing at the senior leadership level. DFMC gave me the chance to develop new friendships with a diverse group of financial managers that has energized me to look for opportunities that will allow me to obtain my career goals. I hope that I have encouraged all those interested in attending this course. Good luck.

Cindy Chavez is a GS-12 Budget Analyst at HQ AFSOC/FMOO.

Hurricane Thoughts – Ms Annette Beard

Looking at the catastrophic events over the last year, I am overwhelmed. Many of us in the Hurlburt/Eglin area were affected by Hurricane Ivan, then more recently by Hurricane Dennis. The devastation from Hurricane Katrina, however, is beyond comprehension. I'd like to ask you all to find a way to help the communities and individuals who have lost so much – at a minimum, please keep them in your prayers.

2005 ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter Scholarship Recipients



The 2005 Scholarship winners were announced at the 2 August 2005 luncheon. Five of the recipients were present and are pictured at left. From left to right: Pattie Brown, Sonata Thomas, Jennifer Reed, Mai Tran, and Chantel Telemacque. Also receiving scholarships but unavailable for photo are Susan Copeland, Ericka Jones, Victoria Morrison, and Lisa Whittington.

MEET THE RECIPIENTS:

Pattie H. Brown of Niceville FL attends Troy University and maintains a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.18 of a maximum 4.0. Ms Brown is employed full time at Eglin AFB as a Budget Analyst in the 96 CPTS Financial Management Analysis office. She enjoys helping her co-workers whenever possible and has provided computer software training sessions that help improve their job performance. She is very involved in her teenaged children's dance and soccer team activities, and volunteers with Relay for Life and Combined Federal Campaign. Ms Brown is an independent consultant for a direct sales company which enables her to use her creativeness and bring joy to others who enjoy scrapbooking. Ms Brown is currently pursuing an Accounting degree with plans to complete her Master's degree and pursue her CPA and has completed the requirements to become a Certified Defense Financial Manager.

Susan A. Copeland of Navarre Beach FL attends the University of West Florida and maintains a GPA of 3.48 of a maximum 4.0. Ms Copeland is a member of Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society, a youth leader at the Hurlburt Field Chapel, and a Bible Study Group Leader. She has served on Mission Trips and serves young Airmen and Singles at the Munch and Mend through her church. Ms Copeland enjoys helping her children who will soon going to college. Ms Copeland will soon complete her undergraduate studies with a Bachelors Degree in Accounting. Ms Copeland in employed full time at Eglin AFB in the 96 CPTS Financial Management Customer Support office, and plans to complete the requirements to become a Certified Defense Financial Manager.

Sonata R. Thomas of Eglin AFB attends the University of West Florida and maintains a 3.68 of a maximum 4.0 GPA pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Professional Accountancy. Ms Thomas plans to pursue her Master's degree and find a position in the field of Governmental Accounting. Ms Thomas is employed part-time by at a CPA firm in Niceville. She tutors principles in accounting and help students with other problematic issues with their classes. She is an active member of Beta Alpha Psi (BAP) and the National Association for Black Accountants (NABA). She is a 4 year veteran of the US Air Force where she received an Accommodation Medal as a Senior Airman (E-3).

2005 ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter Scholarship Recipients

MEET THE RECIPIENTS (CONTINUED):

Ericka C. Jones of Crestview FL attends Florida State University and maintains a 3.63 GPA of 3.63 of a maximum 4.0. She is a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars through which she hosted the Back to School Festival and a seminar on Organ Donation Awareness. Ms Jones is a volunteer leader for tutors at Grace Mission Church, a Bible Study Assistant, and is responsible for monies at the concession stands for Project FSU. Ms Jones is employed part time by Target Corporation as a Collegiate Merchandising Association member. Ms Jones has also volunteered to support Seminole Futures and Merchandising Week as well as raised money for Walk America. Ms Jones is pursuing her Bachelors Degree in Economics and Merchandising with a minor in Business.

Victoria L. Morrison of Niceville FL attends Park University and maintains a GPA of 3.0 of a maximum 4.0 pursuing a BA in Business Management with an emphasis on Finance. Ms Morrison plans to pursue her Master's program upon completion of her undergraduate studies. Ms Morrison is employed by AFRL at Eglin and has also started her own business with a loan through the small business opportunities for women. She has also volunteered to serve meals at homeless shelters, to speak at Women's Prisons, and to support groups for abused children and survivors of child sexual abuse. Ms Morrison is an advocate for Pediatrics Aids Foundation and volunteers to support fundraising activities for the foundation. She is also on the Board of Directors for the PAL soccer association.

Jennifer N. Reed of Pensacola FL attends the University of West Florida and maintains a 4.0 of a maximum 4.0 GPA pursuing a B.S.B.A. degree in Professional Accountancy with a minor in Forensic Accounting. Upon completion of her undergraduate studies, Ms Reed plans to either pursue a Masters of Accountancy or a second Bachelors degree to enable her to take the CPA exam. Ms Reed serves on the "Meet the Firms Night" committee for the Beta Alpha Psi National Accounting Organization. She is employed part-time by the University of West Florida's Provost/Academic Affairs office. She volunteers to tutor accounting once week through Beta Alpha Psi, and participates in the college class at the Floridatown Baptist church.

Chantel K. Telemacque of Valparaiso FL attends Florida State University and maintains a 3.5 of a maximum 4.0 GPA pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Finance and Marketing. Upon completion of her undergraduate degree, Ms Telemacque intends to pursue her Master's degree in Marketing. As a Bryan Hall Alumni, she is an ambassador the Bryan and Broward Halls at FSU giving tours to visiting students to ensure each student is aware of the standards that must be met in order to be a resident of that particular hall. Ms Telemacque volunteered as a religious education teacher for three years where she received experience to be a project leader for H.E.L.P. (Helping Every Little Person), an organization that volunteers its services to numerous government-subsidized pre-schools. The members host theme parties such as Sesame Street parties and once a month visit the different schools bringing the children and their teachers new ideas and projects. She is also a member of the Caribbean Student Association and Catholic Student Union. Ms Telemacque is also involved in Garnet & Gold Guides, which is part of the marketing department at FSU which sells Florida State to prospective athletes.

2005 ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter Scholarship Recipients

MEET THE RECIPIENTS (CONTINUED):

Mai T. Tran of Navarre FL attends the University of West Florida and maintains a GPA of 3.3 of a maximum 4.0 pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with concentration on accounting. Upon completion of her undergraduate studies, Ms Tran plans to pursue her Master's and become a certified public accountant. Ms Tran works part-time in sales, participates fully in UWF student government, and volunteers with pet welfare. As a student government association representative, she is responsible for organizing and coordinating events and making important decisions about the student body and the campus. The Student government works closely with the deans of all departments to ensure student's concerns are heard.

Lisa R. Whittington of Eglin AFB FL attends the University of West Florida and maintains a 3.8 of a maximum 4.0 GPA pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Accounting. Upon completion of her undergraduate studies, she plans to pursue her Master's degree in Accounting and become a CPA to further her career. She is a member of Beta Alpha Psi Accounting Honor Society and employed part-time. She volunteers with VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance).

Education Committee

What a wonderful Scholarship program we had this year. Although our nominees for the National ASMC Scholarship were not selected, we wish them every success with their future endeavors.

I would like to take this opportunity to again thank the members of the 2005 Gulf Coast Scholarship Committee:

Gulf Coast Scholarship Publicity Chairperson: Ms Verna McBride

Gulf Coast Scholarship Evaluation Team:

Ms Kathy Allen	Lt Rebecca Ostrander
Ms Annette Beard	Ms Susan Riedel
Ms Beverly Bridges	Ms Allie Stanley
Mr John Dininger	Mr John Straughn
Mr Mike Napoli	Ms Karen Williams

We are very grateful to all of the chapter membership as you have once again provided funding for three \$1,000 scholarships and six \$500 scholarships. Keep up those great fund raising events!!!!

Ms McBride did such a terrific publicity job for us again this year. The evaluation team had their work cut out for them with 14 scholarship application packages to score. However, they made it work and I believe the excellent selection of scholarship recipients reflects their hard work. Of course, we all wish we could give every applicant some scholarship money as they are all working hard to complete their college work, but that is just not possible. However, thanks to our wonderful Gulf Coast Chapter, we were able to provide some financial assistance to 9 of the 14 applicants.

Pauline Saunders, Chairperson

Membership – Kent Fitzgerald

Our current official membership as of 1 July 05 is 335 regular members and 9 corporate members representing 3 companies. Membership has remained steady during the last quarter. Once again here are a few ASMC benefits:

Car Rentals

Car rental discounts, class upgrades and other specials are available to ASMC members through Hertz, National and Alamo. Rental codes: **Hertz** - CDP-71795, **National** - Recap No. 5134033, **Alamo** - BY 93945

Pentagon Federal Credit Union

As a member of ASMC, you and your family are eligible for membership in Pentagon Federal Credit Union, one of the best values offered to the Army, Air Force, and DoD communities. They've been providing financial services specially designed to meet the unique needs of the military community for almost 70 years.

No matter where you are in the world, you can access your account at Pentagon Federal and conduct transactions 24 hours a day via live-agent, toll-free telephone, or Internet service, through traditional branch offices, fax, mail, and more than 530,000 ATMs worldwide.

Wells Fargo Capital for Knowledge®

The American Society of Military Comptrollers has teamed up with the Wells Fargo Capital for Knowledge® program, making it easier than ever for you and your family members to obtain the education financing they need! You can borrow funds to cover all education-related expenses, including a current or previous year's tuition, room and board, books, fees, and even a personal computer. An instant credit decision is available over the phone or online, and rates and terms are personalized to meet your specific credit profile.

Funding is available for Undergraduate and graduate studies; vocational training and career advancement courses; IT certification; Private K-12 schools; Education loan consolidation. FREE online education resources are available, including scholarship and college search engines. Visit www.capital4u.net <<<http://www.capital4u.net/>>>

University of Phoenix Online

ASMC is pleased to announce a new member benefit. Members may now receive a significant discount on tuition with the University of Phoenix Online. For more information or to register, call 800-366-9699, and ask to be transferred to the military team, and identify yourself as an ASMC member. More information will also be made available here in the near future.



TREASURER'S REPORT **DeAnna Morales**

Current Chapter Financial Status
\$ 7,094.54

Each Committee Chair should now be preparing their FY2006 Budget Plans. Any member can submit ideas and funding requests to them! If you want new actions or want your ASMC Chapter to fund new initiatives, you need to contact the Program Chair, or one of the Vice-Presidents. We will be prioritizing and funding budget items an upcoming Executive Council meeting.

Deanna Morales

Current & Next Meetings and other ASMC events

UPCOMING ASMC LUNCHEONS

First luncheon of the fall will be in October but the date was not set at time of Newsletter publication.

Please contact our Program Chair (see Page 2) 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/>

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

Expanded Virtual Library of PDI 2005 Now Available

The ASMC Virtual Library includes digital streaming of select service day activities and multiple workshops. A CD-Rom set with a large number of PDI 2005 workshops is also available for purchase. This year we recorded more than 40 workshops plus Service Day activities. See the ASMC National website for more details. The Virtual Library Project Manager is Mr. Tom Boland, boland@asmconline.org or 571-214-1374.

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

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

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