



ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter Newsletter

Winter
2021

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Chapter**
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Sarah Carroll

President's Corner

Written by Sarah Carroll, Hurlburt Vice President

Hello ASMC Members! I am your Hurlburt Field VP this year! Although I have been an AFSOC budget analyst since 2019, most of you probably know me from my 7 years in the 96 Comptroller Squadron. I have also been your ASMC programs and community service chairs in years past. If we haven't somehow met already, I very much look forward to it in the near future.

With the 2022 CDE cycle underway, I want to use my President's Corner to encourage you all to search for opportunities to grow this year, personally and professionally. Financial Management is an ever-evolving career field as we must meet the constantly changing needs of our programs, customers and nation all the while maintaining compliance with our many regulations and systems. Seeking out opportunities to expand your skills and knowledge base will not only improve your ability to keep up and do your job as effectively as possible, but it will increase your value to your workplace (hello promotion opportunities!) and the Air Force.

Don't know where to start? Read those mass emails! ASMC offers incredible opportunities every month to learn from leaders near and far. I mean, we got to hear from the CFO of the Department of Homeland Security this month! Explore CDE courses available to you and apply! As Wayne Gretsky said, "You miss 100% of the shots you never take", so show leadership you are interested and write that application. I met with an AFPC representative last year, and he suggested applying for everything you are interested in and qualify for – it can't hurt. Can't find anything still? Talk to your peers and leaders! There is probably something locally (ahem...AFSOC policy training this month Hurlburt Field!) or they may have even taken a course you didn't even know existed.

Finally, I encourage you all to always look for ways to work beyond your own desk.

continued on next page

Program News

Written by Ken Pickler, Programs Chair

When we began this chapter year, I penned a note that recalled a book I was assigned to report on during my active duty days. The title: “Thriving On Chaos.” I forecast a sunny chapter year because I knew we could excel despite the ongoing pandemic pandemonium. Well, I have to brag on this chapter—because you’ve far exceeded my high expectations back in August!

First, I need to give a shout out to two people that have truly mastered the art of planning and executing first rate virtual events. Jason Guzzardo and Dan Genest have repeatedly stepped up to help my programs team set up superb connections with our speakers. Want to know why these have repeatedly run so smoothly: it’s because of them. I’ve known these men since their first days as Airmen and they truly personify the concept of wingmanship.

Second, I’d like to thank Jenna and our Executive Council team, who have been flexible with my programs team. They have also been repeatedly willing to be my test audience when Jason, Dan and I have set up dry runs with our superb speakers. When the COVID-19 posture changed at inopportune times, they helped me reset the plans and the potential negative impacts to the chapter were avoided.

Next, I need to thank the wonderful speakers that took the time to connect with us. They didn’t talk AT us...they talked WITH us! From Ms Gleason to Ms Hodge and Ms Bryant, they all delivered messages to challenge and inspire us to reach higher highs in both life and career. When chapter alumni Mr Herrera and Mr Rodgers couldn’t speak to us in January, they invited us to join their D.C. chapter on their Zoom event with the Department of Homeland Security Chief Financial Officer. They also personally welcomed and “introduced” us to their current chapter membership.

Last, but certainly not least, I want to recognize you, our loyal chapter members. You have energetically embraced my programs team, encouraging Amy and Stefanie to keep plugging away despite the lack of in-person programs thus far. You showed up in great numbers...I tracked over 100 people signed on for each of our 3 local events...more than I used to see at in-person programs in the past. You are literally the wind beneath our chapter’s wings...and I look forward to continued success in 2021!

Presidents Corner continued

Ask your requirement owner to explain what you’re fighting for to get funded, talk to your leadership about stepping in to new roles and, if you’re interested, inquire about that position in another division, organization or MAJCOM. You’ll not only understand your job better, but it just might be the growth you didn’t even know you were looking for!

I hope to see you all very soon! Stay safe!

Announcements

- 18 Feb Virtual Meeting
- RPDI 15 April 2021
- Please shop our Amazon Smile link to support our GC Chapter!
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2139423>

amazon smile

Community News by Mara Costabile

Happy New Year, Awesome ASMC members!! Here is what you all helped make happen...For the 2020 holiday season our ASMC chapter not only supported the Gulf Coast Treatment Center (GCTC) again, but also the Niceville Emerald Coast Children's Advocacy Center (ECCAC). Both of these organizations are homes to Angels on Earth and we, ASMC, went all out to help make 2020 very merry for 33 kids in our area, since we all know that 2020 was a very hard and trying time for all...we raised over \$3,000 for these children!

The GCTC is an all-girls inpatient residential facility for young ladies ages 12-17 located right here in our area. The GCTC focuses on the treatment for the mental, physical, and emotional well-being of their young lady residents, who have complex mental, emotional, and behavioral issues. The treatment is done in a medically supervised, structured, and therapeutic environment. Many of the young ladies are considered 'Ward of the State' and do not have families. This year, again, we adopted all the girls who were residing at the GCTC residential facility: 26 girls total: 6 - 13-14 yr olds, 7 - 15 yr olds, 6 - 16 yr olds, and 7 - 17 yr olds! We received their lists and pretty much made all their gift desires come true...everything from wanting hygiene products such as a bottle of Dove soap to nice smelling body soaps, hair gels, and ties; to Nike Slides, Crocs, and Vans; to books, puzzles, art supplies, playing cards, and stuffed animals; to sport bras, underwear, football jerseys, other clothes, and more! You all made it happen for these girls! If you want to learn more about the GCTC go to www.gulfcoasttc.com



The ECCAC supports local families and their mission is to prevent child abuse and neglect, protect children, and restore the lives and futures of impacted children. The Centers in Walton and Okaloosa Counties house a multidisciplinary team of child protection personnel, prosecutors, law enforcement, DCF, therapists, staff and volunteers. Services are provided at no cost by the 501-C-3 non-profit organization. If abuse is suspected, call the anonymous Florida Abuse Hotline at 1-800-96-ABUSE. Our family, #82, had 7 children with 4 girls ages 7, 7, 11 and 12 and 3 boys ages 1, 5, and 10. And these children's wishes were brought to life too...from Fat Brain toys, wooden train and tracks, Blokus, Qwirkle, plush toys, winter clothes, and even a Nintendo Switch for the boys and the girls got their wishes too with winter clothing, dresses, easy chapter books, Kids Against Maturity, fashion design activities, Lego friends, Apple gift card, Hiking backpacks, and more! If you want to learn more about the ECCAC go to www.eccac.org/



Community News Continued

A special thanks goes out to Ms Tanya Hart and Ms Angela Workman, because without their dedication and love for the girls at the GCTC, and help in the purchasing and delivery of the gifts for the GTCC girls, it would not have happened as smoothly as it did, so thank you lovely ladies!

Another special thank you goes out to all the ASMC members who donated money via Zelle, Vemo, or cash, to help make the purchase of all the gifts possible AND to the ASMC members who bought gifts from the lists, which also added hugely to the success of having all the gifts for these children!

Thank you all very much!



I hope that we can do this again next year, without the burden of a pandemic like we have with COVID-19, but also hope that there will be a bigger team for purchasing, organizing and wrapping presents! It was a way cool experience for me and to share this with my daughter, so she could see the generosity of our great organization in helping those in need! For over a month, our dining room dining room and dinner table proved to be a great staging ground to collect and organize all the gifts! Thanks again and Happy New Year!!!

I have not had time to focus on volunteer and community events yet but will have something out soon so we can get 2021 off to a great start! If you have a favorite volunteer opportunity that you'd like to share with me, email me.





Tentative Program/Speaker Lineup

18 Feb – Lt Col Amy
Justus, 96CPTS/CC

18 Mar* – Brig Gen
Heath Collins,
AFPEO/WP &
AFLCMC/EB

15 Apr* – RPDI

20 May – CMSgt Eva
Rodgers, AFSOC/FM

17 June – Bill Rone,
SES, Retired, Former
AFSOC/FM

22 July* –
Scholarship
Presentations

*Tentative Dates

Education

Education Grant Opportunities

Education grants are a sum of money given by a specific agency for a specific purpose. Education grants are for a student attending school and can be from an University or College, Federal or State government agency, or even a nonprofit organization. These types of grants are unlike loans because they don't have to be repaid – it is free money available to the student under their specific requirements. Students are able to research multiple grants to see if he/she qualify and apply for any grants he/she might be eligible for within the application deadlines.

For example, the Gen. Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program is open for applications before the March deadline. Details for this opportunity and qualifications go to: <https://afas.org/application-procedures/>

There are so many grant education resources out there and these are just a few that a student can research:

Scholarships.com

Moolahspot.com

Scholarship Monkey

afas.org

Military.com/education

Studentaid.gov

Careeronestop.org

RPDI

RPDI Save the date!

The virtual RPDI is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, 15 Apr 21. The RPDI Committee is still seeking feedback from our ASMC members. If there's a topic you'd like to see presented or a specific speaker you know would love to join us, please pass that info to Ms. Tanya Hart and Ms. Kaci Harris. Thank you!

The Lazy Worker

by Dane Manfredi

I was at the gym one day and was in discussion with a Veteran and retired gentleman that I always enjoy passing the time on my HIIT stationary bike workouts with the wise words he gives me in discussions. Within this particular conversation he presented to me the term the “Lazy Worker” in any work field. My first thought is imagining that “Lazy Worker” as one that either doesn’t put the effort into his/her job or a worker that just doesn’t care to advance beyond the status quo of their work. However, as our conversation went on within this topic of discussion, my initial thought of the “Lazy Worker” added another definition to my thought process that I wanted to share with you all.

What about that worker that is very efficient in his/her work? What about that worker that always excels beyond his/her DPMAP or Lab/Acq Demo ratings? What about that worker that continuously advances outside the job with degrees and certification achievements? Considering all these aspects would seem to lead us to the upmost “Efficient Worker,” no? Yet what if all this achievement is at the detriment of not growing others along the way..... Could this fault be in fact a trait of a “Lazy Worker?”

Thinking this through as I “enjoyed” the HIIT workout, I re-assessed my “Lazy Worker” definition and realized that one can possibly become equally at fault of being “Lazy” if not willing to train and be a servant leader amongst their peers. Taking the Time, the one finite thing we all cherish a lot, and using that time by taking the effort to grow others to excel to greater heights than even our own. After all, the three Air Force Core Values are the following:

Integrity First,
Service Before Self,
Excellence in All We Do



Having had this discussion with my good friend at my gym, I realized that within these Core Values I would be unable to achieve any of them if I act like the “Lazy Worker” I first described, but even more so if I act as the “Lazy Worker” unwilling to take the time to grow, mentor, and be a servant leader to others within my career. Now I will raise my hand that I have had the later description of the “Lazy Worker” moments within my career, but having this conversation allowed me to understand that if I am to reign true to our Air Force Core Values, I must not be a “Lazy Worker,” and rather one that can achieve a continuous HIIT workout by advancing in my career, but more so, advancing the careers of others.

Tips of the Week—CHROME and FMS

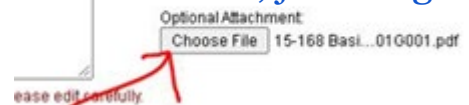
by Amy Tolar

Chrome – drag and drop – what a game changer!

Did you know if you are in Chrome you can drag and drop documents for “attachments” I tried it out in FM Suites (FMS) and it’s a GAME Changer with the DARQ!! Internet explorer does not have that option.

If you download a file and it pops up in the bottom left of your monitor, you can drag it to an attachment. (Notification of download will be on the bottom left)

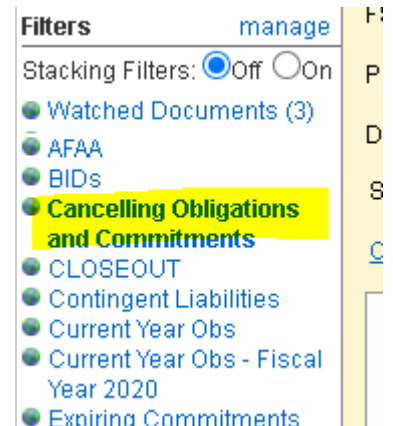
Not only downloads but emails and email attachments. In Chrome, just drag and drop! (any program not just FM Suites)



TRY IT OUT!!! Take an email in your email box and drag to the attachment file in FMS!

FM Suites – quick reports

In FM Suites, the FY15 cancelling Obs are listed in the right – for quick list FMers are working right now. In there, you can find the document number and drag and drop your email correspondences, make remarks and then save. Just check out the all the “global” items that are in there for quick listings. You can also create your own filter based on your PEC/BPAC/LOA you need.



Fisher House News

Although Fisher House has suspended their dinner service program for the time being, there are still ways to help out! House managers are accepting pre-made or restaurant-provided meals to be dropped off for guests. Fisher House provides military & veteran families with no-cost lodging while their loved one receives medical treatment in the Eglin area. Volunteering is a great way to give back to our community! Please contact Arielle MacKendree to sign up or for more info.



← Last meal ASMC cooked at Fisher House.

Now we can bring them prepared meals. →



National News

Pentagon to field low-collateral, counter-drone interceptors in FY22

By: Jen Judson

DefenseNews

2 Feb 2021

“WASHINGTON — The Pentagon aims to field a low-collateral effects interceptor — part of its evolving and enduring solution to countering small drones — by fiscal 2022, according to the joint office in charge of the effort.

The Defense Department established the Army-led Joint Counter-Small Unmanned Aircraft Office, or JCO, a little more than a year ago. The office laid out a path for how it will develop a system to counter small unmanned aerial systems, releasing a strategy earlier this month and approving a set of requirements last fall that guides industry to develop technology to plug into a single command-and-control system.

The JCO also identified a group of systems that make up an interim C-sUAS solution last year.

The first opportunity for industry to demonstrate technology (there will be roughly two demonstrations a year) will take place the first week of April at Yuma Proving Ground, Arizona, according to Col. Greg Soule, the JCO’s director for acquisition and resources, who spoke to reporters during a Feb. 2 press event.

The Air Force Research Laboratory and the Army’s Rapid Capabilities and Critical Technologies Office, or RCCTO, will run the demonstration.

“We wanted to provide this as a recurring opportunity for industry to be able to show us the latest and greatest that they’re working on so that we can make a decision as a department on what solutions look promising to either evaluate further or roll them into our system-of-systems approach,” Soule said.

The office is currently combing through industry whitepapers to decide who will receive an invitation to give an oral presentation. From there, the JCO will make a final decision on who will be invited to the first demonstration, Soule said.

The technology demonstrated in April will be compared to similar low-collateral effects interceptor solutions that are already under contract with the government, Soule said.

Then the JCO will carve out a path to a second demonstration in late FY21. Then, in FY22, the office will select an initial capability for procurement and fielding to the force, according to Soule.

But the office will not stop there, Soule noted. It will continue to look at follow-on efforts, future solutions and payloads that could be incrementally rolled into the system as part of a low-collateral effects interceptor package.

Rapidly fielding a low-collateral effects interceptor could answer Congress' call in the FY21 National Defense Authorization Act for the Pentagon to field a C-sUAS system as early as next fall. Congress added \$47 million to the effort to develop, test and begin production "as early as" FY21 to meet immediate operational needs in this area.

"We don't see the counter-UAS problem set as one enduring solution," Maj. Gen. Sean Gainey, the JCO director, said during the same press briefing. "We see it as a range of capabilities integrated into a common C2 that gives you the ability to address threats across the range of threats out there and the ability to keep the pace of this threat because if there is a game-changing technology out there. You are going to find yourself consistently adjusting to the threat out there."

The JCO's approach is to address identified gaps in capability and integrate technology that could fill those gaps as it becomes available in order to provide an enduring capability, Gainey said.

The low-collateral interceptor, Gainey said, would provide the ability to handle "a range of effects with a kinetic capability" and can be introduced relatively soon.

Another example of a possible quick win is a directed-energy capability since high-energy lasers are already fielded and have proved successful in contingency environments, Gainey added. "We're building off of that capability to where you will see high-energy lasers integrated into our architecture. Some of them are integrating now, and it's a matter of scaling up to the ultimate scale that we want to," he said.

The JCO is also working through the Air Force's effort on high-powered microwave capability development that "will also be deployed pretty soon," Gainey added."