



Inside this Issue:

President's Message 1

Community Service 2-3

Chapter Activities 4

National News 5

CDFM Information 6

Member News 7

Board Meeting Minutes 8-9

Chapter Management 10

Save the Date:

CDFM Module 2 on-site testing on Wednesday, 5 December at 9:30 am in room 331.

The Monthly Luncheon featuring Karl Bernhart, Director of Finance, DFAS Cleveland, will be held at the Cleveland Main Library on Wednesday, 17 October 2012 at 11:45am.

Cleveland Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes on Saturday, 6 October 2012 at the Galleria Erieview. Opening ceremony begins at 10:15 am and walk begins at 10:30 am.

Future Meeting Announcements:

ASMC Board Meeting
Tuesday, 30 October 2012
9:00 am - 10:00 am
Room 2911 G

**The ASMC Times is the newsletter of the Cleveland Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers. Views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect those of federal agencies. Items for inclusion are welcome and should be sent to: ASMC Cleveland Chapter, P.O. Box 99907, Cleveland, Ohio 44199-0907. Phone number is (216) 204-7639. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content, length, grammar and spelling."

ASMC CLEVELAND TIMES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is that time of year when many of us are preparing for year-end close. For some, this may involve long days fueled by bottles of Mountain Dew, triple venti espresso concoctions from Starbucks, or some other energy drink. If only the vending machines offered motivation in a can, we would be all set! Until then, we have to determine what motivates us, since there is no magic potion or one-size-fits-all approach. I have had the pleasure of listening to some profoundly motivating speakers recently, one being our agency leader. Mrs. McKay visited Cleveland in August, at which time she addressed the graduating LIM Class.



L to R: Allen Fritz, Mrs. McKay, Jaclyn Donadio, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Edwards

She serves as an excellent motivating force and she exemplifies continued professional success. She imparted a message during the ceremony that I would like to share with everyone, as I found it to be very valuable. Mrs. McKay has six recommendations for continued professional success, which are as follows:

- 1) Hard Work
- 2) Positive Outlook
- 3) Self-Development
- 4) Leadership
- 5) Expand Horizons
- 6) Take Care of Self

I encourage you to leverage the opportunities this Chapter offers its members in order to address some of Mrs. McKay's recommendations. There are many opportunities to facilitate self-development. The Cleveland Chapter offers on-site CDFM testing, which is a certification that Mrs. McKay specifically mentioned during her presentation. Our monthly luncheons feature a variety of speakers who discuss topics that are relevant to some aspect of the federal financial arena. We also offer leadership opportunities ranging from participating on the Chapter Board as an elected officer to helping lead/organize one of our smaller events in a more informal capacity. We aim to offer a variety of services and events to our members that will enable them to network with colleagues and senior managers, thereby expanding their horizons. We also have ample opportunities to help our members take care of themselves. I encourage you to sign up to participate in the upcoming Diabetes Walk if you are able to walk for 4 miles. Exercise helps the body and the mind and your participation will benefit a very worthwhile cause. We will also host a Fall Social where our members can relax outside of the workplace, network, and have fun.

Good luck in the coming weeks and I hope to see you at one of our upcoming events! As always, if you have suggestions as to how the Chapter can better cater to its members, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I welcome your feedback and look forward to taking additional steps to further enhance our Chapter.

Respectfully Yours,

Jaclyn

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Navy Week

By: Shayna McCauley

The Navy made Cleveland a Navy Week destination, which ran from 27 August through 4 September. Navy Weeks are designed to educate Americans on the importance of Naval service and increase awareness in cities which might not otherwise see the Navy at work on a regular basis. This year's Navy Week ran in conjunction with the commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, and also hosted service members of the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard and the Royal Canadian Navy. The week kicked off with speeches from the NOSC Commanding Officer Cdr. Eric Johnson, U.S. Navy Capt. William Seaman, U.S. Coast Guard Rear Adm. Michael Parks, Commander, 9th Coast Guard District, and Mayor Frank Jackson. During the opening ceremony, the Navy presented the city of Cleveland with a commemoration plaque to thank the city for its hospitality. Also, the week started off with a free rock concert featuring the variety band Liberty Call, which was one of the 17 ensembles assigned to the U.S. Navy Band Great Lakes.

Three ships were featured at Cleveland Navy Week; USS De Wert (FFG 45), USS Hurricane (PC 3), and U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Katmai Bay (WTGB 101). These ships were docked at the Port of Cleveland. The ships were also joined by the U.S. Brig Niagara and two Canadian vessels, HMCS Moncton (MM 708) and HMCS Summerside (MM 711).

Other events included a U.S. Navy Divers demonstration at The Cleveland Aquarium, Sea Services Night at Progressive Field, Navy Band Performances, Navy Leap Frogs, Navy Suburban tour, Navy Simulator and the Cleveland National Air Show featuring the Blue Angels.



USS De Wert (FFG 45)



Katmai Bay (WTGB 101)



Blue Angels over Cleveland, OH



USS Hurricane



U.S. Navy Leap Frogs

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Please join ASMC at Step Out: Walk to Stop Diabetes! We're excited to be walking together in support of the American Diabetes Association's movement to Stop Diabetes!

When: Saturday, October 6th

Where: The Galleria at Erieview, Downtown Cleveland

POCs: Amanda Preis, Frankie Denmeade and Cathy Furr

Opening Ceremonies: 10:15 am

Walk Begins: 10:30 am

Distance: 4 mile walk, see the interesting sights throughout downtown.

Raise or Donate: \$100 to receive the 2012 Step Out T-Shirt

Activities: Enjoy a light breakfast, music, educational stations and information, healthy living pavilions, raffle prizes and more!

While we are always excited to come together to support a great cause, like the American Diabetes Association, the walk this year is especially near and dear to our hearts. We will be walking together in support of our fellow ASMC Member and co-worker Bryant Ealy, to support him in his personal fight against diabetes.

You can our join the team on our webpage at <http://main.diabetes.org/goto/ASMC2012>. Once there click on the "Join ASMC Cleveland/Team Bryant" button in the top right-hand corner of the screen.

To raise money to support the American Diabetes Association and this event, ASMC is conducting a fundraising raffle. If you donate \$5 to Team ASMC, your name will be entered into a raffle with the grand prize being a \$50 GAS CARD!

You can turn in your donations to:

Amanda Preis RM 2387

Frankie Denmeade RM 1429

Cathy Furr RM 3051

Donations must be received by COB Thursday, 4 October to be eligible for the drawing! Please remember that any donation amount can help the American Diabetes Association fund research to prevent, cure and manage diabetes. With that in mind any amount you wish to donate will be greatly appreciated and accepted by the above individuals.



We would like to take a moment to tell you about the Cleveland Congenital Heart Walk on October 6, 2012. This walk has personal significance to our President Elect, Jessica Rust, who will be walking in support of her niece, Natalie Campbell.

While this event is the same day as Step Out: Walk To Stop Diabetes, we wanted to share this information for anyone who wishes to show their support by walking or donating to this cause.

Below are links where you can make a donation in support of Jessica's niece, Natalie, and for general information on the event itself. Jessica will be available for those who wish to make cash donations as well. If you have any questions, please contact Jessica Rust at Jessica.Rust@dfas.mil.

General information (walker/team registration, general donations, etc.)...

<http://congenitalheartwalk.kintera.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=1027473&lis=0&kntae1027473=2F97042FC64B4744B5BE901BA54F80A6>

To make a donation in support of team "Natalie Campbell's Buddies"...

<http://congenitalheartwalk.kintera.org/fafsearchsearchTeamPart.aspievent=1027473&lis=1&kntae1027473=5C363F48E3D64AF88F6055A90D652CA7&supId=0&team=5264117&cj=Y>

or

<http://congenitalheartwalk.kintera.org/fafdonorRegdonorPledge.aspievent=1027473&lis=1&kntae1027473=5C363F48E3D64AF88F6055A90D652CA7&supId=367271592>

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

September Luncheon

By: Shayna McCauley

The monthly luncheon for September featured the Director of DFAS Cleveland, Mr. Thomas Murphy. Mr. Murphy was inducted into the Senior Executive Service (SES) in April 2009. Prior to becoming Director, Mr. Murphy served as Deputy Director for DFAS Cleveland from May through November 2011. He was Director for Component Solutions, Financial Management Center of Excellence (FMCoE), as well as Director for Strategic Business Management. He was responsible for providing support and oversight for the DFAS ERP Project Managers. Prior to that, Mr. Murphy was the Director of Store Accounting and Associate Vice President of Strategic System Management and Analysis for Things Remembered.

Mr. Murphy practiced public accounting for 13 years and owned his own CPA firm for six years. Mr. Murphy is a native of Chicago and earned his bachelor's degree in Accounting from Roosevelt University and an MBA from the University of Minnesota – Duluth.

Mr. Murphy's topic for the luncheon was "Conversations, Audit and Tidbits—Tying it All Together." The first topic of his presentation was "Conversations in Cleveland", where he discussed the upside down organizational chart, where DFAS' customers are at the top of the chart, employees are next and so on. Mr. Murphy discussed initiatives for FY13, focusing on customer care and efficiencies, and initiatives for career development for employees at DFAS Cleveland.

The next topic was about "Audit", which was broken down to the following points:

- Documenting what we do.
- Determining if we are doing what we say we are going to do.
- Providing what is needed in a timely manner.

Some of the lessons learned from the audit team are:

- Being proactive and having an interactive involvement.
- Review saves time and effort.
- Functional lead engagement.
- Collaboration is critical.
- Consistent coordination with service providers is critical to meeting goals and ensuring unity of effort.
- Clarify.

The last topic of Mr. Murphy's presentation for the luncheon was about "Tidbits from Japan." DFAS Japan is located at Yokota Air Force Base. It has 233 employees, the majority of which are local national employees with salaries paid by the Government of Japan. Their customers include Army, Navy, Marine Corps, DoDEA and the Air Force. DFAS Japan provides a full range of finance and accounting services, including vendor pay and disbursing services. Also while there, Mr. Murphy was able to climb Mount Fuji, which is Japan's highest and most prominent mountain.



NATIONAL NEWS



Impending sequestration could soon force defense industries to cut hiring and send layoff warnings

The across-the-board cuts set to go into effect under the impending sequestration and the uncertainty about how the cuts will be implemented could soon force defense industries to cut hiring and start issuing layoff warning notices.

Defense industry leaders have “serious concerns” about the effect of sequestration on the nation’s security as well as their companies and employees, according to Sen. John McCain (R-AZ). Sen. McCain cited responses from thirteen defense industry leaders to a letter he and several other senators sent asking them about the impact of the pending sequestration. In a [statement](#) on the industry letters Sen. McCain warned “the looming threat of sequestration cuts is forcing companies to delay hiring and capital investments.” ([Read the full story.](#))

See more *Defense and Budget Financial Management Highlights* on the ASMC website (www.asmonline.org), including the following:

- House passes a six-month FY2013 Continuing Resolution
- OMB estimates sequester cuts in report to Congress
- Per Diem rates for federal employees unchanged for FY2013
- OMB directs agencies to move to eliminate paper record keeping

New Executive Director Named to ASMC

The American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) is pleased to announce that Col. Fred A. (Al) Runnels, U.S. Army (Ret), has been named its new Executive Director, effective Monday, October 1, 2012. Mr. Runnels will assume the roles and responsibilities held currently by Mr. Alvin Tucker, CDFM-A. Mr. Runnels may be welcomed at runnels@asmconline.org and his bio [is available here](#).

Save the Date for PDI 2013!

PDI 2013 will be held at the Colorado Convention Center May 28 - May 31, with a theme of Peak Performance. Registration for PDI and the hotel reservation system will open in early February 2013, and the registration fee for members who register by May 1 will be \$495.

Social Media Updates: Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn

Do you follow ASMC on social media? If not, here's what you're missing:

Facebook: Trivia Tuesday winners in the past month have included Scott Durnell, Jr., Lori Markey and Diana Del Valle Garcia, each of whom won a \$10 Amazon gift card! We're also bringing back the memories with Flashback Friday, showing photos from ASMC's past - don't miss it!

Twitter: We don't want to overload you on Twitter, but there's a lot of good information out there. We've posted job announcements, sequestration updates, employee and veteran benefits news and more. Visit us at #asmctweets.

LinkedIn: This group is really starting to grow - the past few weeks have including notices about job openings, surveys regarding budget processes and of course, training!

We try to keep the news on each site consistent so that you can get what you need without having to visit each site individually, but if you have ideas for us or things you would like to see, [please let us know!](#)

CDFM INFORMATION



Module 2 Onsite Testing

On Wednesday, 5 December 2012, the CDFM committee will be hosting an on-site group exam for Module 2. The exam will begin at 9:30 am in room 331. If you are an ASMC member and interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, please email Laura Farrell (Laura.Farrell@dfas.mil) by COB Tuesday, 13 November. Seats are limited! Sign up TODAY!

Frequently Asked Questions about the Certified Defense Financial Management Exam

Q: What steps do I have to take in order to enroll for the CDFM exam?

A: You may enroll for the exam online, or by mailing the paper CDFM Enrollment form to ASMC Headquarters. If you are an ASMC member, you may complete the paper CDFM Enrollment form and send it to Tonya Peterson (tonya.peterson@dfas.mil). After your application is accepted, you will receive an Authorization Letter or email from ASMC with your candidate ID number and the procedures to follow in registering for the modules examinations. Enrollment forms may be found at the following website: www.asmc certification.com/certification/cdfmforms/program-enrollment

Q: How long do I have to pass the CDFM exam?

A: You will have two years from the date of your Authorization Letter to complete the three module examinations required for the CDFM Program. There is a fourth, OPTIONAL module that if taken and passed, you will earn a CDFM with an acquisition specialty (CDFM-A).

Q: Do I have to take all three modules at the same time?

A: No. You may take module examinations one at a time, in any combination, or in any order.

Q: What is the difference between the CDFM, CGFM and the Federal Financial Management Certificate Program?

A: ASMC offers the CDFM program to persons interested in displaying proficiency in the core aspects of defense financial management. The CGFM is more applicable to general government financial management – federal, state and local. The Federal Financial Management Certificate Program is offered through Management Concepts and involves taking a variety of courses in order complete.

Q: What are the benefits of obtaining a CDFM?

A: The Under Secretary of Defense, Robert F. Hale (CDFM) says “earning a CDFM proves that an employee has obtained the knowledge and experience to become certified and adhere to a code of ethics and professionalism.” Additionally, the CDFM may:

- set you apart from others
- lead to career advancement
- give you the opportunity to serve in leadership positions

Q: Is it required to take the Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Course (EDFMTC) in order to sit for the CDFM exam?

A: No, however, the course is a great way to prepare for the exam.

Q: What are the best ways to prepare for the exam?

A: The best way to prepare for the exam depends on your own personal studying methods. The Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Course (EDFMTC) textbook is provided to those who attend the one-week training course. ASMC-Cleveland has two copies of the EDFMTC textbook that may be checked out by ASMC members.

Q: Will passing the CDFM exam get me a promotion?

A: No, a promotion is not guaranteed after passing the CDFM exam.

For more information, please email either Laura Farrell (Laura.Farrell@dfas.mil) or Tonya Peterson (tonya.peterson@dfas.mil).

Member News

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



This month, ASMC is proud to present Donna Hardick as our member spotlight.. Donna became a member of ASMC in April 2012. Donna started with DFAS in January 2011 and she is in the LIM program. Her first rotation was in Accounts Maintenance and Control and her current rotation is in Audit Readiness.

Outside of working for DFAS, Donna enjoys traveling, volunteering and landscaping work. She has been doing landscaping work as a side business for 15 years.

A quote Donna would like to leave us with is from John Quincy Adams, who was the sixth U.S. President: "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."



Congratulations to Francisco Rivera-Hernández and to his wife, Jessica Rivera. They are the proud parents of a baby girl, MIA Raquel Rivera.

Welcome aboard new members!

ASMC Cleveland chapter welcomes the following members for September :

Terrell Williams

Do you have exciting news to share (i.e. marriage, engagement, birth announcement or degree completion) or would you like to recognize someone in the ASMC Times? Let us know about it! Please send an email to askasmc@asmc-cleveland.org, and tell us your story, we look forward to hearing from you!

ASMC Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday August, 28, 2012

Attendees: John Giammo, Amanda Preis, Laura Farrell, Jaclyn Donadio, Jaime Kudary, Frankie Denmeade, Cathy Furr, Zachary Bendzuck, Cheryl Halsey, Khemeo Sahye, Jason Denmeade, Keela Lawrence, Joel Lawwell, Shana Gronostaj, Jessica Rust, Monte Mitchell, Shayna McCauley, Diana Jin, Tracy Johnson

President

Golf Outing: We are targeting September 29th at Briardale for around \$60 per person.

Kearney and Co. provided corporate sponsorship of \$400 which will be used to subsidize some costs

We are targeting 60 people to attend

We are looking for sponsors for each hole at around \$100 per hole

Proceeds go towards the Wounded Warrior Project

3 charities tied for second place and will be considered for our charity of the year

Sea Services night tonight at Progressive Field, we will be meeting at City Tap at 5:45 pm before heading to the stadium

We submitted the vacancy announcements

Let Jaclyn know if you are directly in touch with someone who is interested in a position

The Board needs to be unified at all times. To help ensure this, please copy all officers of informational emails so everyone is in the loop.

Programs

Kim Hawley is targeting October 22 for a fall social

Jason Denmeade has a contact from the restaurant that was previously Cadillac Ranch

September 19 is the luncheon at the Doubletree with Mr. Murphy as the speaker

October 17 luncheon, idea is to target the library and cater lunch there

This will allow for a lower lunch price point

The new Director of Finance may be the speaker at this luncheon or John Luckas

We might do a joint luncheon with AGA in November

Target speaker is the CEO of the Cleveland Food Bank, which will be a good holiday topic

The December luncheon may be held after hours

It will be held earlier in the month since many people go on leave for the holidays

Will ask Mr. Edwards if he is available to speak at this luncheon

January will be the membership luncheon

We need to start planning the local PDI

Kim Hawley and Elena will be planning this

We have had members asking about CPE credits for luncheons

The education committee will email the National representative for information on the correct process

Community Service

Had an idea to give back to kids in the community

Will bring a healthy lunch and spend time with the kids in community children's homes

Cathy will contact local children's homes

The Diabetes Walk is next month

Will send an email out to the members soon

CDFM

Will host Module 3 test on September 19th

Perhaps purchase some books for Module 4 to rent out to those studying for it

Maybe reserve a room where everyone can study

People are asking about bringing Module 4 onsite

Marketing

There is new flyer protocol from GSA

- We can only hang flyers on DFAS floors

- Flyers must be the final version before posted

- GSA posts the flyers for us in the federal building but we can post ourselves in the vending areas and in NorthPoint

- John will handle all details for creating the flyers

- Whoever is responsible for the event will fill out the application and send to GSA; John will post a new application example

- Flyers can only stay posted for 2 weeks

- GSA needs to receive the flyers to be posted by 2 p.m. on Friday and it will be posted the next Monday

There are pictures from our Chapter in the ASMC Comptroller Magazine

Treasurer

Currently working on the taxes

2 committee spots are open

- Only received applications for treasurer committee but not for corporate sponsorship

Membership

\$25 gift card is being offered for quarterly renewals

Sent a survey to non-renewing members for feedback

- Feedback was: want more affordable luncheons, more CPE credits, better luncheon topics, and can't afford all the events

Held a member recruiting competition last year but it did not turn out so well

- Looking to do it again but required to recruit at least 3 new members

- Need to consider what the prize will be, perhaps a high-priced gift card

- This is open to everyone in ASMC

- When recruiting, use Jaime's member number

- Timeframe will be Sept - Nov, award will be presented during holiday luncheon

- An email will be sent with a form attached for new members to fill out and provide name of the person who recruited them

Departmental Reporting is letting us advertise in their newsletter

- Audit Readiness may as well if there is space

Thinking of giving a small gift to members on their renewal anniversary

- Want to do a coupon book but that would require us to get local businesses to donate coupons

 - Perhaps this can be combined with corporate sponsorship

 - Will create an official letter to take to the businesses

 - Maybe this can be limited to one month to make it more manageable; if you renew in the certain month then you get a coupon book

Newsletter

The newsletter is under review and should be out sometime this week

Website/Study Tool

Copy Dan and Joel on requests for anything to be posted on the website

For the study tool, Joel has the definition, multiple choice, and matching modules

- Needs help on the design portion

**ASMC
CLEVELAND TIMES
STAFF**

Shayna McCauley – Editor
Shayna.McCauley@dfas.mil
216.204.3286

Michelle Bloom
Michelle.Bloom@dfas.mil
216.204.7243

Donna Hardick
Donna.Hardick@dfas.mil
216.204.6681

Matt Sylvain
Matthew.Sylvain@dfas.mil
216.204.2784

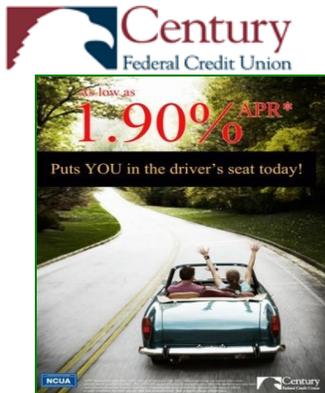
Visit Us Online At:

<http://www.asmc-cleveland.org/>

ASMC Cleveland Chapter

<http://www.asmc-online.org/>

ASMC National



Bryant & Stratton College
PERSONAL EDUCATION. LIFETIME SUCCESS.®
SINCE 1854

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
President Elect
Vice President—Membership
Vice President—Programs
Vice President—Nominations
Treasurer
Secretary
Past President’s Advisory Board

Jaclyn Donadio
Jessica Rust
Jamie Kudary
Monte Mitchell
Cheryl Halsey
Shana Gronostaj
Tracy Johnson
Jason Denmeade
Jeff Hayden

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Membership
Membership
Membership
Local PDI
Local PDI
Education/Scholarship
Education/Scholarship
Treasurer
Marketing
Strategic Committee
Strategic Committee
Luncheon Committee
Special Events
Special Events
Community Service
Community Service
Community Service
CDFM
CDFM
CDFM
Military Liaison
Military Liaison
Military Liaison
Strategic Microapplication Development
Project Management Committee
Webmaster

Diana Jin
Lance Jones
Shane Zigler
Elena Baykal
Kim Carpenter
Shellice Forrester
Charvez Forte-Walker
Safa Khaleq
John Giammo
Michael Ciccolini
Joseph Zachar
Zachary Benzuck
George Harris
Kim Hawley
Frankie Denmeade
Cathy Furr
Amanda Preis
Laura Farrell
Tonya Peterson
Jason Ward
Larry Felts
Keela Lawrence
Francisco Rivera-Hernández
Joel Lawwell
Bryan Conway
Dan Boss

