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**Save the Date:**

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

The Monthly Luncheon will be featuring Anne Goodman, CEO of the Cleveland Foodbank. The luncheon will be held at Tavo, located at 815 Superior Avenue Cleveland, OH 44114 on Wednesday, 12 December from 11:45 until 1:00 pm.

**Future Meeting Announcements:**

ASMC Board Meeting  
Tuesday, 18 December 2012  
9:00 am - 10:00 am  
Room 2911G

\*\*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

In the spirit of the season, I would like to begin by thanking all of our members for their commitment to this organization. On behalf of the entire board, thank you for instilling your trust in us - we encourage you to continue to provide feedback as to how we can enhance the Chapter. I would also like to thank all of our board members, who selflessly dedicate their time to promoting and advancing our Chapter. I am truly grateful to be part of such a fantastic team!



We have many exciting upcoming events, including our December luncheon at Tavo, as well as our Winter Social at the Cavs game. We also have a few Community Service Initiatives that benefit our troops as well as local underprivileged children. The board has been overwhelmed by our members' generosity in the past and I would like to wholeheartedly thank you in advance for participating in whatever capacity you are able to this year. More details will be forthcoming about all of these events.

Finally, many of us will take time off work and spend it with our families in the coming weeks. I genuinely hope each of you can spend some quality time with your loved ones and enjoy your time away from the office. Please remember the men and women who serve in the military to protect the freedoms upon which this country is predicated. They are not always able to be with their families, so let's do what we can to show them how much we appreciate the sacrifice they make for us. As we assemble packages for our troops, we are missing one key item: cards from children. It was brought to my attention by a board member who spent the holidays overseas that cards and drawings from children are especially morale boosting. We will be graciously accepting cards/artwork from children. I humbly ask those who have children to consider making the time to create a card for one of our heroes who will not be spending the holidays with his/her children.

Wishing you and your families Happy Holidays!

Respectfully yours,

Jaclyn

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Giving Thanks to our Deployed Servicemembers

In this season of giving, ASMC would like to do something to show our appreciation and gratitude for military members currently deployed overseas protecting our freedoms. While it is always a difficult time for Servicemembers when they are deployed away from family and friends, it can be especially tough during the holidays. To help bring these troops some cheer we will be collecting various items and donations to send them "Thank You" care packages. While every deployed service member is undoubtedly deserving of a Thank You, we wanted to try to reach out especially to those servicemen that are deployed from right here within our community. If you have a family member or a co-worker currently deployed overseas this holiday season and have contact information for their unit please contact: Amanda Preis at [Amanda.preis@dfas.mil](mailto:Amanda.preis@dfas.mil).



So, as you spend time laughing and creating holiday memories with your friends and family this season, please be mindful of our Troops and their families who are sacrificing these special moments to protect our freedom! Through your donations, we hope to bring a smile to their faces and remind them of all the people thinking of them here at home! If you would like to contribute, you can drop off items with the following individuals:

Federal Building:

Frankie Denmeade Room 1429

Amanda Preis Room 2387

Cathy Furr Room 3051

#### ITEMS MOST NEEDED OR NEVER ENOUGH FOR OUR TROOPS:

Health and Wellness:

Men's Deodorant  
Toothbrushes  
Mouthwash (travel size/no glass)  
Batteries (specifically AA and AAA)  
Dental floss  
Zip-lock bags (all but gallon size)  
Chapstick  
Disposable cameras  
Eye drops, ear drops and cough drops  
Toilet paper (travel size)  
Bug Spray (OFF Deep Woods towelettes)  
Body wipes (10-15 count)  
Sunscreen  
Dryer sheets  
Puzzle books/Crosswords/Word Searches  
White cotton socks  
Playing cards (nothing offensive)  
Books (nothing offensive)  
Shaving cream (travel size) Men and Women's

Male disposable razors (dark colors)

Food and Snack Items:

Chicken, tuna, Vienna sausages, sardines, etc. (small cans)  
Dry power drink mixes (small or individual)  
Jelly (small/no glass)  
Peanut butter (small packs/no glass)  
Protein bars  
Any type small can goods with pop top lids  
Tea bags (all varieties), coffee packs/bags (individual)  
Fruit snacks (Roll-ups, raisins, dried fruit (small))  
Peanuts, trail mix, etc, small packs

Last, but not least because there is never enough:

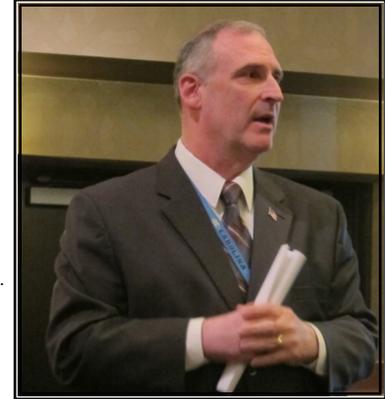
Slim Jims/Beef Jerky

## CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

## October Luncheon

By: Shayna McCauley

The featured speaker for the November luncheon was Mr. Bob Edwards, Deputy Director for DFAS Cleveland. He manages the day-to-day operations conducted by more than 2,100 accounting and finance personnel for the Department of Defense. Mr. Edwards was the Director of DFAS Japan from May 2010 to July 2012. He led 250 U.S. civilian and local national employees providing a range of accounting and finance support to all U.S. military branches of Service located throughout Japan and the Western Pacific. Mr. Edwards joined DFAS in September 2005 after serving for over 28 years in the U.S. Army. He has held every noncommissioned officer leadership position within the U.S. Army Finance Corps. He was assigned to a wide variety of stateside and overseas locations including Fort Carson, Fort Hood, Fort Meade, Fort Ritchie, Germany, Panama, and Saudi Arabia. Additionally, Mr. Edwards served combat tours during both Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom. He was also awarded the Distinguished Member of the Regiment Medallion and earned numerous awards including the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star. Mr. Edwards entered the Senior Executive Service in July 2012.



Mr. Edwards

Mr. Edwards' presentation for the luncheon was "Leadership in Uncertain Times." "We all have leadership roles, either supporting a leader or we are the leader," said Mr. Edwards. The first topic of his presentation was "The Framework." Some points were adapting strategy, managing fundamentals and the new normal. He then discussed some of DFAS's strategies for telework, training, and leadership development, just to name a few. One question one might ask themselves is: "Is what I am asking really important and connecting to strategy?" Mr. Edwards brought out many excellent point for leaders and those who support leaders. One of the points was to make it where the issue or solution is understood. Also, make it real for the people you are leading, so that it will inspire people to get behind your idea and want to do it.

The second topic was "Fundamentals". Some points he covered were indentifying growth opportunities and accountability, and defining success through measures, such as training and career development.. "Techniques and Lessons for Improving" was the next topic. Some points were know your and others role and responsibilities, don't settle and don't get distracted and become disengaged. More interesting points that stood out were:

- Follow-up and Follow Through.
- Don't Over Complicate.
- Walk the Talk.
- Speak Less, Listen More.
- Don't Prejudge.

Don't prejudice was one of the many points that stuck out the most, because Mr. Edwards also included a clip about a judge prejudging and underestimating the talent of two singers and was quickly rendered speechless after hearing these singers. The singers were Jonathan and Charlotte from Britain's Got Talent 2012 and they are very talented but would have been passed over because of unconscious bias and prejudging.

The last topic was "Uncertain is the New Normal." Leaders and those who support leaders should set up strategies for the worst case scenarios to be prepared in advance. Mr. Edwards had plans and strategies in place for the earthquake that happened in Japan in 2011 while he was the director and those plans made a difference.



L to R: Jessica Rust, Jaelyn Donadio, Mr. Edwards, John Smits, Karen McLaughlin, and Michelle Hoffman





### Panetta urges Congress to act on sequestration during lame duck session

Congress should act quickly to avoid sequestration when it returns in November after the election, Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta [told reporters](#) yesterday.

Panetta said "Congress is on the clock" because there are only 70 days left until sequestration goes into effect on January 2, 2013. The Secretary and other senior DoD civilian and military leaders have consistently warned of the "devastating" effects the across-the-board cuts required by sequestration would have on defense capabilities.

Deputy Secretary Ashton Carter [told](#) a congressional committee in August that the more than \$50 billion cut required in FY2013 would disrupt DoD's investment programs, lower flying and steaming hours, reduce readiness levels, and cause a civilian hiring freeze and potential unpaid furloughs. DoD Comptroller Bob Hale [testified](#) last month that the \$490 billion cuts required under sequestration over the next nine years would double the reductions required by the Budget Control Act and already included in DOD's budget plans (\$487 billion).

See more *Defense and Budget Financial Management Highlights* on the ASMC website ([www.asmconline.org](http://www.asmconline.org)), including the following:

- DoD's acquisition chief describes continuing efforts to improve buying power
- Congressional lame duck session begins November 13
- OMB directs agencies to clarify chief acquisition officer roles and responsibilities

Communication from National: As we welcome Al Runnels as the new Executive Director of ASMC, I wanted to take this opportunity to share the Mission Statements, Vision Statement and Core Values with our members.

#### Mission

*To provide professional development and promote ethical behavior in all aspects of Military comptrollership.*

#### Vision

*ASMC will be the premier organization advancing professionalism in the national security financial management community.*

#### Values

**Integrity** - We will always act in an ethical manner holding ourselves accountable to each other and to the Society for integrity of word, deed, and signature.

**Professionalism** - We will conduct ourselves with a focus on responsibility; accountability; effective communication; and performance in support of DoD and US Coast Guard financial management.

**Teamwork** - We are most effective when we work collaboratively as a team, recognizing "there is no "I" in "teamwork." "None of us is as good as all of us."

## 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. Stay tuned for information on future onsite testing opportunities!

### 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](http://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.

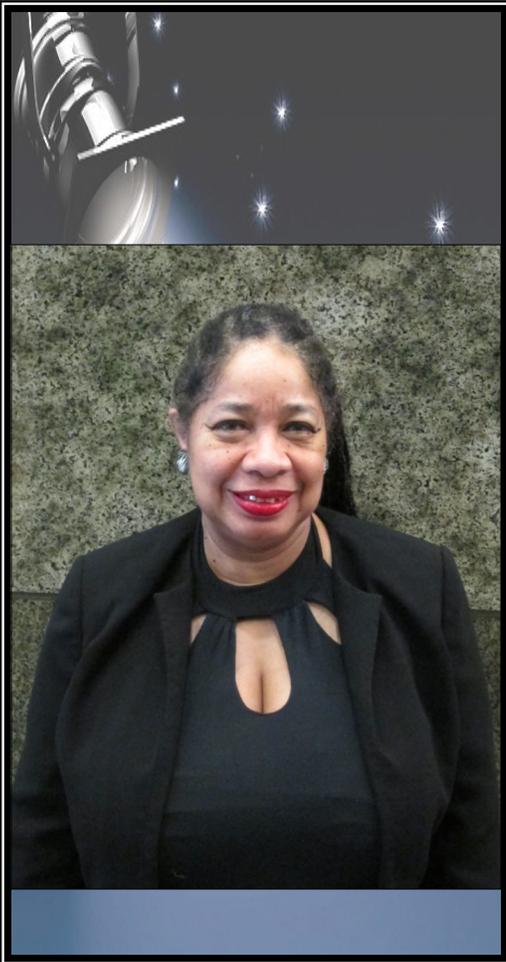
**Q: Will passing the CDFM exam get me a promotion?**

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

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

## Member News Member News

### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - Jan Walker



Jan Walker lives in Cleveland, Ohio. She is married to a tax accountant/mathematician and he is a member of MENSA. They have a 22 year old daughter who as of this December, will have a bachelors and masters degree in Architectural Engineering from the Pennsylvania State University. Jan is an avid pet lover and currently has 4 cats.

Jan is an accountant with BS/MBA accounting and finance degrees and she also holds an accounting certification. Jan has been at DFAS since its inception in Washington DC. Prior to DFAS, she worked at Defense Logistics Agency HQ, Cameron Station, Alexandria, and Virginia Finance Systems Branch, where she was a systems accountant and project manager for the redesign and implementation of the MOCAS system. Jan reported to and briefed admirals/generals and the comptroller weekly on the status of the project. The system is currently being used in Columbus, Ohio. While at DLA she merged into the DFAS organization when all accounting was removed from the services and placed into the new agency DFAS.

In 1991, she came to Cleveland and transferred major functions and systems to Cleveland, which included the stock and industrial funds which are now working capital funds. Jan was the supervisor of the entire stock fund and industrial accounting. She was supervisor in Accounting Policy and Accounting Systems here at DFAS. When the ships stores were a part of the industrial activities, Jan had the opportunity to travel to all activities and was able to visit the carriers to physically audit the ships stores at Norfolk and Charleston. "The ships were amazing and to see them filled with 5,000 plus troops was breath taking", said Jan. She has worked all facets of accounting here at DFAS. Jan also worked in Accounting Operations (JA), where she was an FMFIA/internal control coordinator for Accounting operations. After the reorganization, she was assigned to Accounts Receivable Marine Corps Accounting where she currently resides.

Jan has traveled extensively throughout the world including: Asia, Africa, Europe, Middle East, Paris, London, and Egypt to name a few. Some of her special interests are accounting, finance, and donating to the Animal Protective League and the Salvation Army. Jan has been an ASMC member for nine years and she finds it very rewarding.

### Welcome aboard new members!

ASMC Cleveland Chapter  
welcomes the following  
members for October:

Robert Kubec  
Thomas Novak

Matthew Seyler  
Josh Schering

Carole Vaszily  
Peter Petretich

# Member News

## Member News

The Cleveland Chapter of ASMC would like to extend our condolences to Herb Sill who lost his son, Warren Sill, who was missing in British Columbia. Our thought and prayers are with him and his family.



Warren Sill

### ASMC Cavs Game

ASMC is excited to inform you that in lieu of a Holiday Social, we will be attending a Cavs game on Friday, December 14. The Cavs are playing the Milwaukee Bucks and we have secured a suite so we can all enjoy each other's company as we cheer the Cavs on to a victory! Tickets will be \$75 per person, which will include admittance to the suite, appetizers and beverages, including beer and wine. There will be 40 tickets available on a first-come-first-served basis.

\*Payment will be required at the time of registration to Shana Gronostaj. Her email address is [shana.gronostaj@dfas.mil](mailto:shana.gronostaj@dfas.mil).

We would like to thank Kearney & Company for sponsoring the event, which enables us to offer these tickets to our members at a rate below the market value of over \$100. To align with the spirit of the holiday season, this event will also benefit a local women's shelter.

Looking forward to seeing you there!



### Scholarship Money Available!

**What:** One \$1,000 Scholarship Awarded by ASMC

**Eligibility:** Current High School Senior or 2012 High School Graduate, G.P.A. of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, and Letter of Recommendation from a teacher or guidance counselor

**Deadline:** Application packets must be submitted by Monday, December 3, 2012

**How to Apply:** For complete details on scholarship requirements, please visit: <http://asmc-cleveland.org/members/scholarships>

American Society of Military Comptrollers  
Cleveland Chapter



[www.asmc-cleveland.org](http://www.asmc-cleveland.org)



## ASMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday November 01, 2013

9:00-10:00 2911G

**Attendees:** Elena Baykal, Kyle Boehnlein, Kim Carpenter, Bryan Conway, Frankie Denmeade, Jason Denmeade, Jaclyn Donadio, Laura Farrell, Lawrence Felts, Cathy Furr, John Giammo, Shana Gronostaj, Cheryl Halsey, George Harris, Safa Khaleq, Joel Lawwell, Monte Mitchell, Tonya Peterson, Amanda Preis, Francisco Rivera-Hernandez, Jessica Rust.

**Vote:** ASMC Holiday Social to attend a Cavs game on Friday December 14.

Passed with a majority officer vote

#### President

Cards sent to Lou, Cheryl and Jaime  
Breast Cancer awareness raffle earned \$40  
Agency Fair, talked to a lot of potential members

#### Strategic Micro-application Development

Introduced new micro-app tool for CDFM study session

#### CDFM

CDFM Module 2 on-site testing on Wednesday, 5 December at 9:30 am in room 331.  
Joel introduced new micro-app study tool for the workshop sessions

#### Community Service:

Find local women's shelter and start collecting goods and send basket  
Collect goods and send baskets to troops in Afghanistan

#### Military Liaison:

Put together a list of units around the area  
New plane on the Air Force Base, maybe set up the show,  
Open house at base on Fridays  
To do joint luncheon and invite commander as a speaker

**ASMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Membership:**

To check if we can recruit college students to become members  
If member recruits 3 people get \$100

**Programs:**

Working with AGA on Local PDI, in March or April based on the available venues, looking for speakers  
Looking for new places for luncheons  
November speaker and place reserved

**Newsletter:**

If anyone wants anything published in the monthly newsletter please send it to Shayna

**Website Committee:**

Working on updating the website

**Treasurer:**

Taxes filed  
Financial report posted in the newsletter

**Scholarship**

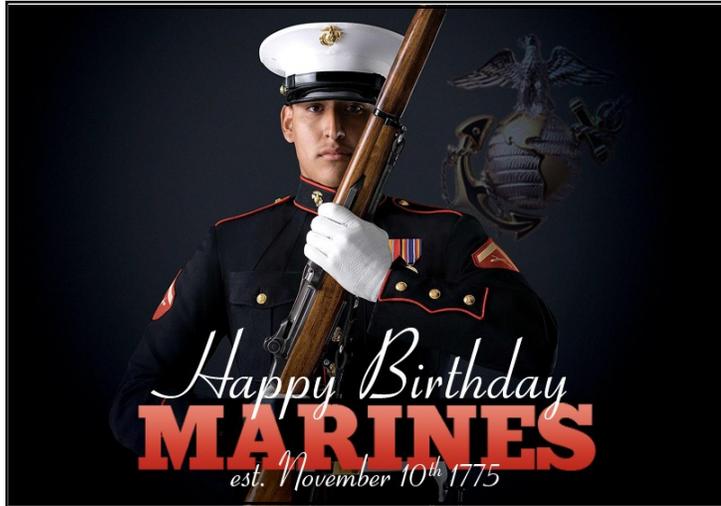
Scholarship on fastweb.com and posted on the Chapter website  
Due date is coming up for the selection

**Secretary**

Newsletter is in the final stages of completion and approval  
The website still needs updating

## THE MARINE CORPS CELEBRATES 237TH BIRTHDAY

By: Shayna McCauley



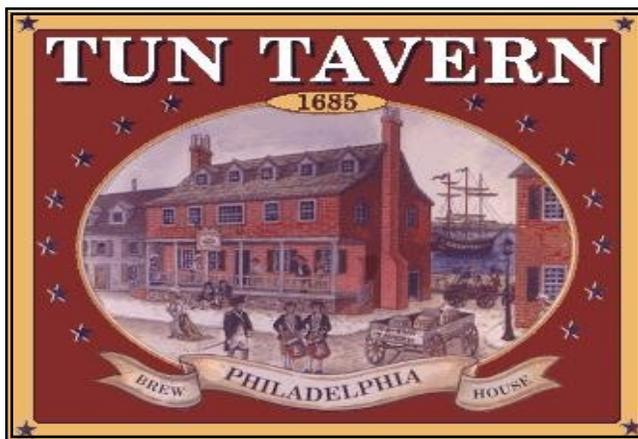
The Continental Congress passed a resolution that “two Battalions of Marines be raised” during the American Revolution. These Battalions were to serve as landing forces for the recently formed Continental Navy. The resolution for this was drafted by future U.S. President John Adams and adopted in Philadelphia at Tun Tavern. This created the Continental Marines and 10 November is observed as the birth date of the United States Marine Corps.

The original U.S. Marines distinguished themselves in a number of important operations during the Revolutionary War, as well as serving on land and at sea. The first Marine landing was in 1776, on a hostile shore in the Bahamas, where they captured New Province Island under Captain Samuel Nicholas. Captain Nicholas was the first commissioned officer in the Continental Marines and celebrated as the first Marine Commandant. After American independence was

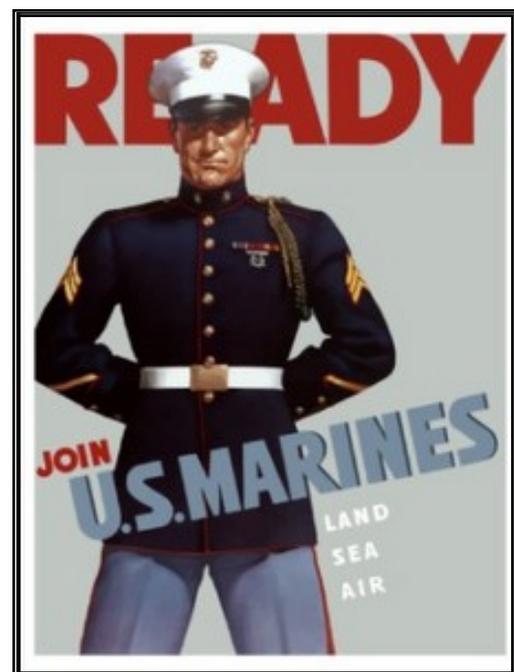
achieved in 1783, the Continental Marines disbanded.

On 11 July, President John Adams signed the bill establishing the U.S. Marine Corps as a permanent military force under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Navy. The Marines have participated in all the wars of the United States and in most cases were the first soldiers to fight.

Today, there are more than 200,000 active-duty and reserve Marines, divided into three divisions stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; Camp Pendleton, California; and Okinawa, Japan. Each division has one or more expeditionary units, ready to launch major operations anywhere in the world on two weeks' notice. Marines expeditionary units are self-sufficient, with their own tanks, artillery, and air forces. The motto of the service is *Semper Fidelis*, meaning "Always Faithful" in Latin.



Birthplace of the Marine Corps



Sources: [www.history.com](http://www.history.com)  
[www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil)

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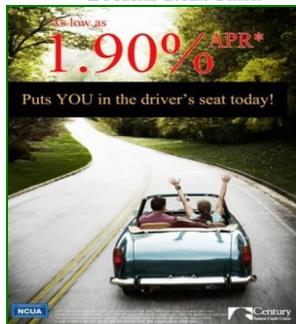
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ASMC Cleveland Chapter

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Vice President—Nominations  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Past President's Advisory Board

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Jessica Rust  
Jamie Kudary  
Monte Mitchell  
Cheryl Halsey  
Shana Gronostaj  
Elena Baykal  
Jason Denmeade  
Jeff Hayden

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Membership  
Membership  
Local PDI  
Education/Scholarship  
Education/Scholarship  
Treasurer  
Marketing  
Strategic Committee  
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Luncheon Committee  
Special Events  
Special Events  
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