



ASMC CLEVELAND TIMES

Inside this Issue:

President's Message	1
Community Service	2-3
National News	4
CDFM Information	5
Member News	6
Chapter Management	7

Save the Date:

CDFM Module 1 on-site testing on Wednesday, 26 April 2013 in room 1629 at 9:30 am.

ASMC Cleveland Chapter 2nd Annual 5K Race/1 Mile Walk on Saturday, 10 May 2014 at 9:00 am at the West Side Irish-American Club.

Future Meeting Announcements:

ASMC Board Meeting On Thursday, 27 March 2014 at 9:00 am in 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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, ASMC Members!

If you're like me, the harsh and unrelenting winter weather may be starting to wear on your mood. Whether or not you've been diagnosed with seasonal affective disorder or just have a case of the winter blues, there are some things you can do to improve the way you feel.

Exercise more often - physical activity increases your level of serotonin, the neurotransmitter associated with increased feelings of well-being. If you're looking for something to motivate you, now's the time to start training for the ASMC Cleveland Chapter's 2nd Annual 5k run/1 mile walk - details later in.

Eat nourishing, high-protein foods - the amino acid tryptophan, found in turkey, beef, chicken, eggs, and cheese, is converted into serotonin in the GI tract.

Avoid behaviors that decrease your natural serotonin levels - cut back on your caffeine intake, steer clear of aspartame, and don't skip meals. Get enough sleep so the winter doesn't feel like a long string of Mondays. Avoid chronic stress and take that vacation you've been putting off.

When the Farmer's Almanac and Punxsutawney Phil's predictions start getting you down, keep this in mind -



research shows that people tend to overestimate the impact of the seasons on their moods. As Dale Carnegie said, "it isn't what you have or who you are or where you are or what you are doing that makes you happy or unhappy - It is what you think about it." I encourage you to take care of yourself, appreciate the beauty of the season, and remember that it won't last forever.

Jessica Kearney Rust

ASMC Cleveland Chapter President

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Transitional Housing Drive

By: John Giammo

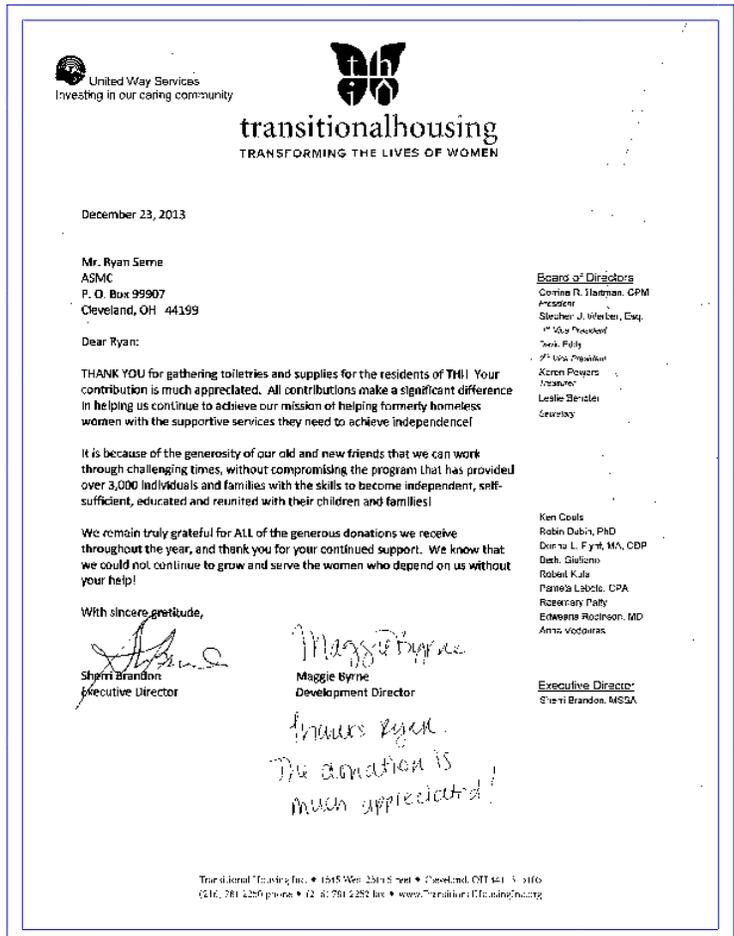


The ASMC Cleveland Chapter coordinated a collection of toiletries and supplies this past holiday season for Transitional Housing Inc. (THI). This Cleveland-based nonprofit provides homeless women with a safe environment, programs and services that promote self-sufficiency and independence, including follow-up services for those transitioning to their own homes. THI serves between 100-125 women annually and has served over 2,000 women since it opened its doors over 25 years ago.

Special recognition goes out to our Community Service Team members Ryan Serne, Cristie Shively, Jessica Huff and Kyle Boehnlein for their efforts in making this a successful project! The pictures below feature the items that were collected by our Chapter. Thank you to the ASMC POCs who volunteered to collect items.

Finally, a thank-you letter from THI was personally signed by their Executive Director, Ms. Sherri Brandon and their Development Director, Ms. Maggie Byrne.

For more information, please visit: www.transitionalhousing.org



United Way Services
Investing in our caring community



transitionalhousing
TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF WOMEN

December 23, 2013

Mr. Ryan Serne
ASMC
P. O. Box 99907
Cleveland, OH 44199

Dear Ryan:

THANK YOU for gathering toiletries and supplies for the residents of THI! Your contribution is much appreciated. All contributions make a significant difference in helping us continue to achieve our mission of helping formerly homeless women with the supportive services they need to achieve independence!

It is because of the generosity of our old and new friends that we can work through challenging times, without compromising the program that has provided over 3,000 individuals and families with the skills to become independent, self-sufficient, educated and reunited with their children and families!

We remain truly grateful for ALL of the generous donations we receive throughout the year, and thank you for your continued support. We know that we could not continue to grow and serve the women who depend on us without your help!

With sincere gratitude,

Sherri Brandon
Sherri Brandon
Executive Director

Maggie Byrne
Maggie Byrne
Development Director

*Thanks Ryan.
The donation is
much appreciated!*

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COMMUNITY SERVICE cont.

ASMC Cleveland Chapter to Host 2nd Annual 5K Race / 1 M Walk / Kids Run

The American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) Cleveland Chapter will host its second annual 5K Race/1 Mile Walk, The Essential Run, on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at the West Side Irish-American (WSIA) Club in Olmsted Township.

Registration fees are \$22 for the 5K Race and the 1 Mile Walk, which include a t-shirt. There is also a Kids Run for \$10 (free with a parent/guardian race registration). All event proceeds will benefit the Wounded Warrior Project and the St. Augustine Hunger Center. This event will also count toward The Director's Wellness Trophy.

Registration and t-shirt pickup will begin at the pavilion at 9:00 A.M. The 5K Race begins at 10:00am followed by the 1 Mile Walk at 10:20am, and the Kids Run at 10:45am. The WSIA Club is located at 8559 Jennings Road, Olmsted Township, Ohio, 44138, and is open to the public. For more information or to register for the event, please go online to <http://essentialrun.zapevent.com>

The ASMC is the non-profit educational and professional organization for persons, military and civilian, involved in the overall field of military comptrollership. ASMC promotes the education and training of its members, and supports the development and advancement of the profession of military comptrollership. The society sponsors research, provides professional programs to keep members abreast of current issues and encourages the exchange of techniques and approaches. Please visit <http://www.asmc-cleveland.org/> for more information on the Cleveland Chapter.

The Wounded Warrior Project seeks to raise awareness and to enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, to help injured servicemen and women aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs.

St. Augustine Hunger Center is an outgrowth of the ministry and service of St. Augustine Church. This parish has a long history of service from its beginning in 1860 when it welcomed an impoverished immigrant community.

The Essential Run
5 Kilometer Race / 1 Mile Walk / Kids Run
Saturday, May 10, 2014 - 10:00am

Registration Fee:
5K / 1M-\$22 (Includes T-shirt) (\$25 race day)
Kids Run-Free with parent / guardian race registration - \$10 without adult registration.

Race Start Times
5K Run - 10:00 am
1 Mile Walk - 10:20 am
Kids Run - 10:45 am

Course begins and ends at:
The West Side Irish-American Club
8559 Jennings Road
Olmsted Township, Ohio, 44138

Registration:
Online at: <http://essentialrun.zapevent.com>
or via mail to:
ASMC, P.O. Box 99907
Cleveland, Ohio 44199-0907
All forms must be received by May 5th.
Register the day of the race (cash or checks only)
Call (216) 752-5151 for additional information.

Awards:
Overall top 3 race finishers for Male and Female.
Top 3 Male and Female for each age category

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Gender _____ Age _____ Birthdate _____

Race:	5k Run	1 Mile Walk	Kids Run
T-Shirt Size:	S Adult	M Adult	L Adult XL Adult

Release: In consideration of the acceptance of the entry to the Essential Race, I do hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators waive, release and discharge the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC), the West Side Irish American Club, Olmsted Township, HMA Promotions, USATF and any additional host and sponsors, or their respective agents, representatives and employees from all claims, demands and rights of cause or action, present and future whether known or anticipated resulting from or arising out of either directly, my participation in the Essential Race. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained for the completion of this race. I have read and understand the foregoing assumption of risk and release.

Signature X _____ Date _____

Parent / Guardian (if under 18) X _____ Date _____

National News



FY2015 DoD budget will be \$41 billion lower than previously planned

The FY2015 DoD budget request will be \$41 billion lower than the estimate included in the FY2014-19 budget plan presented last year, according to DoD Secretary Chuck Hagel.

The reduction is necessary to meet the targets set in the [Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 passed by the Congress](#) and signed by the president in December. That budget deal, put together by budget committee chairs Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) and Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA), set total discretionary funding levels for FY2014 and FY2015 and provided \$65 billion in sequester relief, evenly divided between defense and nondefense.

[\(Read the full story.\)](#)

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

- [Congress passes debt ceiling increase and a “fix” to military retiree COLAs](#)
- [President nominates Robert Work to be Deputy Secretary of Defense](#)
- [Hagel salutes Marine Corps and other DoD organizations for audit readiness progress](#)

Message from the Executive Director From Al Runnels

ASMC National 2014 PDI

I am pleased to report that planning for conduct of the ASMC 2014 National PDI in Seattle is proceeding well. While momentum toward conduct of the National PDI is increasing, we will not know for sure until we receive feedback from the Services and other organizations regarding their conference participation approval packages (currently under development).

We will have the ASMC 2014 PDI Website up on the net by the end of this week; however, registration will not be open for another three to four weeks when we expect to know the results of determinations by Service Secretaries (and by leaders of other DoD organizations) on requests for PDI participation packages. The Office of the Under Secretary (Comptroller) recently revised DoD policy allowing for instruction approved (based upon certain specific criteria) as in alignment with DoD Financial Management Certification Program (FMCP) competencies to be presented in “professional symposia.” Requirements also include strict management of attendance (we’ll be using attendance scanning equipment) and the conduct of a course feedback survey at the end of the instruction.

The Professional Development Committee (PDC) met again the evening of 30 January to finalize PDI training content (subject areas, speakers, etc), toward our goal of structuring 50% of the PDI instruction into approved Mini-courses. This will provide the opportunity for PDI participants whose positions have already been designated (or will be designated) as Level 2 or 3 within the program to obtain direct credit toward meeting DoD FMCP requirements within certain FM competency areas (and also in the Leadership area at “Leading Teams” or “Leading People” levels. This direct credit toward DoD FMCP requirements will be in addition to obtaining Continuing Education and Training units, necessary to maintain other professional certifications. These Mini-courses will have specific learning objectives and a course syllabus. Want to also add my continuing thanks to Ron Lloyd (PDI Chair), Shirley Towne and Laura Sandy (PDI Co-Vice Chairs), and the leads of each of our six PDI committees (as well as their committee members) who are working on preparation for the PDI.

Lastly, congratulations to the Seahawks and to Seattle (12th Man) as Super Bowl Champions.

CDFM INFORMATION



Module 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 to 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.

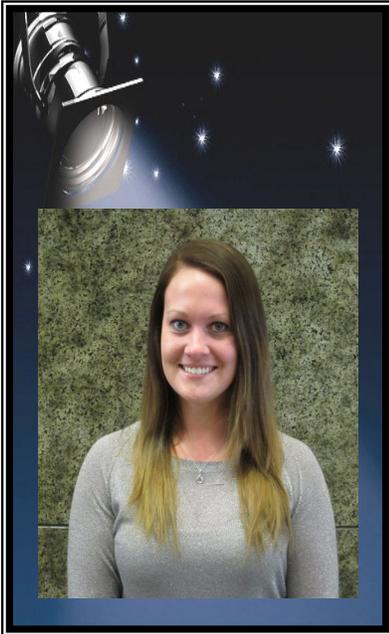
Q: Will passing the CDFM exam get me a promotion?

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

For more information, please email either Erin Laughlin (erin.laughlin@dfas.mil), Tonya Peterson (tonya.peterson@dfas.mil) or Jason Ward (jason.ward@dfas.mil).

Member News

Member Spotlight - Cristie Shively



Ladies and gentlemen, meet Cristie Shively! Cristie began career at DFAS-CL in June 2010 as a Finance LIM in the Customer Care Center. She currently is the Lead for the Military Pay SSAE 16 in the Audit Readiness Department.

Cristie earned her B.S. in Accountancy and Finance from Ferris State University. Her most recent accomplishment was passing all four sections of the CPA exam. She is anxiously awaiting her official certification. Cristie's next challenge will be passing the three modules of the CDFM, which she plans to complete this year.

Cristie joined ASMC in December 2012 to further her professional development, develop new professional relationships and become more involved in the community. Also, she believes that the members of ASMC are hardworking and dedicated individuals that seemed like a great group to be a part of! Cristie is currently on the Community Service Committee.

When she is not spending her time at DFAS, Cristie enjoys being outdoors. Some of her hobbies include camping, hiking, horseback riding and traveling. Cristie is always up for a new adventure! In addition, she loves to cook and try out new recipes.

ASMC - Cleveland Chapter
Finance Report
Chapter Year 2013/2014
Second Quarter Report
1 October - 31 December 2013

Below is the financial report for the 2nd quarter of the 2013/2014 chapter year

Earnings/Receipts	
Interest Earned	\$ 39.97
Luncheons	\$ 634.44
Social Events	\$9,115.76
Promotional	\$ 388.07
Total	\$ 10,178.24
Expenses	
Dues & Subscriptions	\$ 116.94
Luncheons/Other Meals	\$ 858.86
Social Events	\$ 9,761.12
Conferences/Seminars	\$ -
Gifts	\$ 8.08
Office Expenses	\$ 80.99
Charitable Contributions	\$ -
Promotional	\$ -
Total	\$ 10,825.99
Beginning Balance: 1 October 2013	\$29,957.65
Add Earnings/Receipts	\$ 10,178.24
Subtract Expenses	\$ (10,825.99)
Ending Balance: 31 December 2013	\$29,309.90

ASMC
Cleveland Chapter
Finance Report
Second Quarter
Report

ASMC Cleveland Chapter
Spring Social
Friday, 21 March 2014
@ The Q

ASMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**ASMC Board Meeting Minutes**

Thursday January 23, 2014

9:00-10:00AM 2911G

Attendees: Jason Denmeade, Jessica Rust, John Giammo, Larry Walton, David Rose, Tonya Peterson, Frankie Denmeade, Jason Ward, Bryan Conway, Jessica Huff.

Program

High school scholarship winner chosen
Member scholarship closes 2/28
February Luncheon:
Member appreciation luncheon tentatively scheduled for Wed 2/22
Fred Geis-owner of Geis Companies mentioned as possible speaker

Local PDI

Budget and Date TBD
Tentative date of event scheduled for late May/Early June
Jessica Rust to meet with Mr. Gant for details

Newsletter

ASMC received thank-you letter from Transitional Housing Inc. (THI)-will be posted in next Newsletter
THI article to be included in next newsletter
Cristie Shively will be ASMC spotlight feature
CDFM Module 1 reminder to be included

CDFM

Module 1 scheduled for 2/26; 7 people have signed up so far
Registration cut-off is about 2 weeks before exam

Treasury

Updated figures will be sent to Elena Baykal
Summary will be sent to Shayna McCauley for Newsletter

Community Service

9 attendees at last Foodbank event on 1/11; Still in conjunction with DFAS volunteer program

ASMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES cont.

Community Service cont.

Jason Denmeade proposed Community Service event-Prevention of Cruelty to animals; Facility is located in Medina County
5K Race for adults and children:

Being coordinated by Bryan Conway, Jason Denmeade and Frankie Denmeade

Event scheduled for 5/10/14 at West Side Irish Club

Children of participating adults are free

Children to have own course

Active Runner has donated \$600 in gift cards

Bryan Conway to ask local gyms and businesses for donations

“Couch to 5K” Training program to begin 3/10

9-week training program for runners

Free cell phone application available for download

HMA (similar to Hermes) will assist with Marketing; use electric timing for race for more professionalism

5K advertising to partner with FEB, Building Health Improvement Center, Cleveland Wellness Project, IDC, Eportal

DFAS Directors’ Trophy for Wellness

“Outstanding Site Initiative” is category for DFAS sites

Include in 5K race

Kearney & Company donated \$300 towards 5K race

Logo on t-shirt

5-Star

5-Star database creation in progress by Joel Lawwell

Joel has target date of mid-March for completion of the training session

Joel offered to conduct training session for the board once database is completed

Eportal

ASMC Portlet information needs updated

General

Operational Review at DFAS-CL from 4/15-4/17 (mentioned by John Luckas)

Opportunity for Chapter to network and request high-level DFAS speaker for future luncheon

**ASMC
CLEVELAND TIMES
STAFF**

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

John Giammo
John.Giammo@dfas.mil
216.204.2621

Kevin Spatz
Kevin.Spatz@dfas.mil
216.204.3248

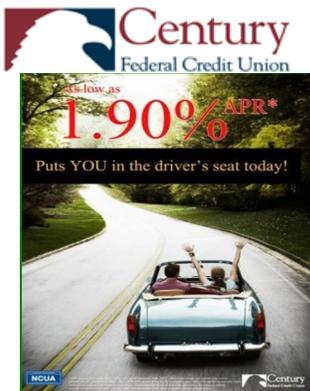
Visit Us Online At:

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

ASMC Cleveland Chapter

<http://www.asmonline.org/>

ASMC National



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SINCE 1854

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Vice President–Programs
Vice President–Nominations
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Elena Baykal
Jaclyn Donadio
Jason Denmeade
Jeff Hayden

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Membership
Membership
Membership
Local PDI
Local PDI
Local PDI
Education/Scholarship
Education/Scholarship
Education/Scholarship
Treasurer
Marketing
Corporate Sponsorship
Luncheon Committee
Special Events
Special Events
Community Service
Community Service
Community Service
Community Service
CDFM
CDFM
CDFM
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Military Liaison
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Kim Carpenter
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Zachary Bendzuck
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Sviatlana Alexander
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