

August 2017

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### Save the Date:

ASMC Fall Social : TBD

October luncheon : TBD

### Future Meeting Announcements:

ASMC Board Meeting on  
Wednesday August 30, 2017 at  
3:00 pm 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. 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



Welcome to another exciting program year for ASMC! It is a privilege for our Board to serve the outstanding ASMC Cleveland Chapter members. I am thrilled to take on this leadership opportunity. First of all, congratulations to Past President, Bryan Conway, and his leadership team for earning three awards at the National PDI in San Diego:

Five Star Recognition – Chapter Award  
Community Service – Chapter Award  
Recruiter of the Year Category “A” – VP of Membership, LCDR Bradley Brunaugh, USCG

National PDI chapter results can be viewed at: <http://www.asmonline.org/national-awards-program/2016-17-award-winners/chapter-award-winners/>

Wags 4 Warriors has been selected as the designated charity for the ASMC Cleveland Chapter for the program year. Our Chapter is proud to donate \$100 in the name of each luncheon speaker to support this tremendous cause, which is described in more detail on Page 6 of this issue.

This program year we also are volunteering at Laura's Home, a women's crisis center located on the west side of Cleveland. We will continue to assist St. Herman's and St. Patrick's in Ohio City by serving meals to the homeless and preparing senior care packages at the Cleveland Foodbank. In addition, the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure, Make-A-Wish Foundation's Walk for Wishes and Front Steps 5K Walk/Run will also be supported.

I am proud to announce that October 12, 2017 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Cleveland Chapter's inception. We are planning a special event in October to commemorate this occasion.

Finally, I encourage you to be involved and serve on a Chapter committee. Thank you all for your commitment and continued support. See you at the next ASMC-CL event!

John

*"Individual commitment to a group effort-that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." -Vince Lombardi*

## NATIONAL NEWS

### An Analysis of the President's 2018 Budget

"Under the President's proposals, budget deficits from 2018 through 2027 would total nearly one-third less than those in CBO's baseline projections, ranging between 2.6 percent and 3.3 percent of GDP, down from 3.6 percent in 2017."

Read the source and summary [HERE](#)

[FY2018 MilCon-VA Appropriations Bill Approved with Bipartisan Committee Support](#)

[Compendium of Open Office of Inspector General Recommendations to the DoD](#)

[H.R.244 - Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017](#)

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



#### CDFM

The CDFM remains a prestigious credential, as only 14% of the 54,000 defense financial managers currently possess it; only 3% also possess the CDFM-A (Acquisition) credential. For those of you considering pursuit of the CDFM, I urge you to take the steps to achieve this goal now! The demands of the fiscal environment over the past few years certainly indicate that knowledge and analytical skills across the range of FM disciplines is beneficial. The CDFM certification is fundamental to establishing a broad set of financial management skills. It also enables DoD and USCG leaders to be confident in hiring CDFMs or CDFM-As, knowing they have demonstrated initiative and drive in achieving a certification focused upon knowledge and skills directly applicable to requirements of positions within our profession.

Now that the DoD FM Certification Program (DFMCP) has reached its first major milestone and over 32,000 FMers have achieved it, the shift from earning to maintaining the certification has begun. As a reminder, the DFMCP "recommends" and "strongly recommends" that FMers at Level 2 and Level 3 respectively, also obtain a "test-based" certification. The CDFM is among the group of test-based certifications recognized by the DFMCP, and, obviously it is the certification most closely related to the profession of defense financial management. Achieving a test-based certification and maintaining mandatory CPEs, are key-stones of demonstrating professionalism and commitment to high standards.

Whether you are at the journeyman level or an experienced defense financial manager, the CDFM Certification Program offers the type of recognized and prestigious credential that remains relevant, provides a solid foundation supporting professional development, identifies you as an individual with the initiative to enhance your skills, distinguishes you as a respected professional with knowledge across all areas of defense financial management, and increases your employment opportunities within the public and private sector.

## 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 Jason Ward at Jason.L.Ward53.civ@mail.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 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.

## CDFM INFORMATION CONT.

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

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

**Q: What are the educational requirements to sit for the exam?**

A: You must have a high school diploma or equivalent.

**Q: What is the financial management experience requirement to sit for the exam?**

A: You do not have to satisfy the experience requirement in order to sit for the exam. However, after you pass the exam, you must satisfy one of the following experience requirements BEFORE being issued your CDFM certificate: Complete 4 years of federal government related financial management experience (with an associate degree or higher) - OR- Complete 3 years of Defense related financial management experience (without a degree) -OR- Complete 2 years of Defense related financial management experience (with an associate, bachelor or higher degree).

**Q: If I do not have any financial management experience, can I still enroll in the EDFMT class?**

A: Yes.

**Q: What are the fees associated with obtaining and maintaining a CDFM?**

Enrollment Fee for Non ASMC Members	\$75.00
Enrollment Fee for ASMC Members	\$40.00
Extension of Enrollment Fee for Non ASMC Members	\$85.00
Extension of Enrollment Fee for ASMC Members	\$75.00
Module One Examination	\$99.00
Module Two Examination	\$99.00
Module Three Examination	\$99.00
Module Four Examination	\$99.00
Re-examination per module	\$99.00
Renewal of Certification (Every 24 months after obtaining CDFM)	\$25.00

**Q: How do I receive reimbursement for my CDFM Examination fees?**

A: You must first fill out a SF1164 with supervisor's signature in Block 8. Along with this form, verification of payment of the exam and verification of passing the exam must be emailed or faxed to [DFASCERTIFICATIONREIMBURSEMENT@DFAS.MIL](mailto:DFASCERTIFICATIONREIMBURSEMENT@DFAS.MIL) or 317-510-2116/2195.

**Q: Are CDFMs required to earn a certain amount of CPEs per year?**

A: CDFMs are required to renew their certification with ASMC every two years. CDFMs must complete at least 80 hours of CPE in every 2 year period once the certification has been issued.

**Q: As a CDFM, are you required to be a member of ASMC?**

A: Members who earned their CDFM are encouraged to maintain their membership with ASMC.

**Q: What is the latest version of the Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Class Textbook?**

A: As of 2/29/2012, the latest version of Textbook for Module 1-3 is 2013A and for the Module 4 textbook is March 2011.

For more information, please email either Jason Ward at [Jason.L.Ward53.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Jason.L.Ward53.civ@mail.mil) or Kira Swanson at [Kira.Swanson.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Kira.Swanson.civ@mail.mil)

# Member News

## Member News

### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT - Shana Rose

By: Dan Goliat

Ladies and gentleman, meet Shana Rose, our new ASMC-CL Secretary. She began her career with DFAS in June 2007 in the Leaders in Motion (LIM) program. She was initially assigned to Accountants Maintenance and Control, and was part of the Charleston BRAC transition team. When she completed her LIM rotations, she decided to stay in her final rotation with the Site Support office. During my time in Site Support she spent time in Budget as the budget analyst for the Site Support Office, in Facilities & Logistics, and then Training & Development. While in Training in Development, she had the opportunity to in-process the R&A employees from Lockheed Martin, as well as lead the Site Wide Innovation fair back in 2012. In 2013 she returned to Accounting and am currently in Departmental Reporting, serving as a Lead on the Navy General Fund Audited Financial Statements team. On a quarterly basis her team compiles Financial Statements for the Navy.

Ms. Rose obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Accounting & Master's Degree (MBA) from Cleveland State University. She is also a Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM).

She joined ASMC in 2008, as a way to network and to gain additional knowledge on Government projects and activities outside of DFAS. ASMC has also given her the opportunity to participate in many volunteer activities, such as the Cleveland Food Bank, and the Walk for Wishes at the Cleveland Zoo. She has served on the Treasurer Committee, as well as Treasurer. She currently serves as the Secretary, so you'll see her name on many e-mails!

Outside of work she plays volleyball (both indoors and outdoors). Also, her and her husband foster animals through the Cleveland Animal Protective League. She also love collecting vintage board games, and working on the several home improvement projects she has lined up for the winter.

Favorite Quote:

"The woman who does not require validation from anyone is the most feared individual on the planet." -Mohadesa Najumi



## Member News

### WAGS 4 WARRIORS

Wags 4 Warriors has been selected as the designated charity for the ASMC Cleveland Chapter for the current program year. Our Chapter is proud to donate \$100 in the name of each luncheon speaker to support this tremendous cause.

The mission of WAGS 4 WARRIORS is to unite veterans whom upon returning home from war suffer with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) with an appropriate dog, and to provide all of the training, equipment and support for the dog to become the veterans service dog at no cost to the veteran. The ultimate goal is for the service dog to take away the struggles the veterans face every day.

Wags 4 Warriors provides all of the training for the service dog, the cost of adoption fees, all equipment, routine veterinary care (vaccinations, spay/neuter, monthly heartworm and occasionally other veterinarian visits that are required for the year they are in training with Wags) and the costs associated with public access outing trainings. The estimated cost per veteran and service dog team is roughly \$5,000.

Once a veteran and dog are paired, they begin their training and must complete 120 hours at the Broadview Heights training facility and 60 hours of public access training at places including restaurants, malls, museums, zoos, VA hospital, etc. The service dog must learn a minimum of three tasks to perform for the veteran and they must pass the three phases of testing throughout the training. This process can take up to one year to complete.

Wags is a family-oriented organization, which has multiple family picnics and veteran outings throughout the year. For more information, please visit: <http://www.wags4warriors.org/>.



# Member News

## Member News

Greeting Members!

Please join ASMC on Thursday, September 7th or Thursday, September 28th to help those in need at St. Herman's House of Hospitality, just a short distance from DFAS in Ohio City. We will meet at 5:00 PM at St. Herman's located at 4410 Franklin Blvd in Cleveland. We will plate and serve meals, as well as clean dishes and tables afterwards, ending by 6:30 PM. For September, we can have up to four volunteers for each session. If interested, please email Jessica Huff at [jessica.l.huff20.civ@mail.mil](mailto:jessica.l.huff20.civ@mail.mil) with the session you would like to attend so you can be added to the list.

Please consider joining in the 35 year tradition of serving the poor and homeless population in the Ohio City community.

Thank you,  
ASMC Community Service Committee

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Note: Original event scheduled for 8/30/17 has been moved to 9/13/17

Greetings members!

Please join us on Wednesday, September 13th from 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm at Laura's Home, a women's crisis center that is part of the City Mission, located at 18120 Puritas Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44135. We will assist with serving dinner at 4:45 pm. We also will assist the staff in a clean-up and a deep cleaning of the dining room. If you are interested in volunteering, please RSVP with Lynn Zieslaskiewicz ([lynn.r.zielaskiewicz.civ@mail.mil](mailto:lynn.r.zielaskiewicz.civ@mail.mil)) by COB on Tuesday, September 12th. Please ensure that you complete and bring the attached volunteer waiver form with you the day of the event. For more information on Laura's Home, please visit: <https://www.thecitymission.org/lauras-home-womens-crisis-center/>.

Thank you,  
ASMC-CL Community Service Committee



# Member News

## Member News

### PHOTO GALLERY FROM RECENT ASMC EVENTS



DFAS Director Teresa McKay takes a picture with the attendees at the ASMC/AGA May luncheon.



Past President Bryan Conway (right) presents incoming President John Giammo with the ASMC-CL Charter.



New Officers sworn in at the July luncheon.

# Member News

## Member News



Cleveland Customer Care Center Director Jason Denmeade speaks at the July Luncheon.

### MEMBER NEWS BULLETIN BOARD

- Most recently **Kari Vescio** and her husband built a house in Columbia Station . She is also pursuing a Master's degree in Business Administration expecting to graduate spring of 2019. When not at work or school, she enjoys spending free time with her daughters, ages 2 & 5.
- **Erin M. Fousek (Laughlin)** got married on May 12, 2017 (pictured right).
- **Sandra Morgan** recently passed her Security + exam in March 2017 and earned her CompTIA Security Plus certification. Additionally, she just recently finished her last course towards her Bachelors of Science Degree (B.S.)- Business Administration/Finance and will be graduating this August.
- **Jonathan "Yoni" Niknam** received his CDFM in July.
- **CWO2 Matthew M. Pfarr** had a baby on May 25, named Corbin Edward Pfarr .



## ASMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**ASMC Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 26, 2017**  
Last Wednesday of the month, 3:00-4:00PM 2911G

**Attendees:** Shana Rose, Lillian Powell, Lance Jones, Kira Swanson, John Giammo

### President

Program year kickoff meeting

Initiatives

Website - Getting information out on the website in a timely manner, and removing all old content

Charity of the Year - Wags for Warriors (provides service dogs to Veterans)

Each monthly speaker and PDI speakers

5 Star Requirements

### Membership

Goal for this term is 50 members.

Lillian will provide John listing of new members for 2016

2 Coffee/Donuts Membership drives in the Cafeteria - TBD

Volunteers from membership to assist

### Programs

Confirmation of target dates for all Socials and Luncheons

Confirm guest speakers for upcoming quarter by the beginning of the quarter

Next month luncheon - August 24 (Thursday)

Room C1; Speaker James Gant

Picnic - Touched base with Jackie Hall-Carrillo (AGA President)

Giveaways (ASMC related)

Prize Wheel

Social - October time frame - Possibly Hilton Hotel (32<sup>nd</sup> floor), Time/Date: TBD

50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ASMC Cleveland chapter - 10/12

### Secretary

Website needs to be updated.

CDFM Committee - Nov/Dec - EDFMT Class - followed by Modules 1-3



ASMC - Cleveland Chapter  
 Finance Report  
 Chapter Year 2016/2017  
 Fourth Quarter Report  
 April 01, 2017 - June 30, 2017

**Earnings/ Receipts**

Interest Earned	\$	40.73
Luncheons	\$	963.00
Social Events		
Office Expenses		
Conferences/Seminars	\$	16,453.15
Membership Rebates and Dues Collections	\$	1,600.00
Sponsorship		
Miscellaneous		
Total	\$	<u>19,056.88</u>

**Expenses**

Membership Dues & Subscriptions		
Luncheons	\$	1,339.33
Social Events	\$	52.72
Conferences/Seminars	\$	12,489.46
Scholarship	\$	1,250.00
Gifts		
Office Expenses	\$	82.21
Charitable Contributions		
Promotional	\$	77.82
Miscellaneous		
Total	\$	<u>15,291.54</u>

Beginning Balance: 1 April 2017	\$	<u>25,240.70</u>
Add Earnings/Receipts	\$	19,056.88
Subtract Expenses	\$	<u>(15,291.54)</u>
<b>Ending Balance: 30 June 2017</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>29,006.04</u></b>

## ASMC CLEVELAND TIMES STAFF

Daniel Goliat – Editor  
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### Visit Us Online At:

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

ASMC Cleveland Chapter

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

ASMC National

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	John Giammo
President-Elect	Elena Baykal
Vice President—Membership	Lillian Powell
Vice President—Programs	Lance Jones
Vice President—Nominations	Jessica Ciccolini
Treasurer	Matt Pfarr
Secretary	Shana Rose
Past President's Advisory Board	Lou Ockunzzi      Frankie Denmeade
	Jessica Rust      Jason Denmeade
	Jaelyn Donadio      Bryan Conway

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Membership Committee	LCDR Brad Braunaugh
Membership Committee	Jim Caywood
Membership Committee	Jane Mullins
Membership Committee	Perlita Arnold
Membership Committee	Lucinda Holden
Membership Committee	Seung (Jay) Choi
Education/Scholarship Committee	Julie Coghlan
Education/Scholarship Committee	Kari Vescio
Education/Scholarship Committee	Kelsey Zifzal
Treasurer Committee	Kristen Bendzuck
Treasurer Committee	Gerald Whitsett
Luncheon Committee	Stan Foster
Luncheon Committee	Paul Cotton
Special Events Committee	Paul Cotton
Special Events Committee	Ashley Platko
Community Service Committee	Jessica Huff
Community Service Committee	Ryan Serne
Community Service Committee	Lynn Zielaskiewicz
Community Service Committee	Frankie Denmeade
CDFM Committee	Kira Swanson
CDFM Committee	Brenda Banks-Hammonds
CDFM Committee	Jason Ward
Military Liaison Committee	Dominique Bray
Marketing Committee	VACANT
Local PDI	Lance Jones
Webmaster Committee	LCDR Brad Brunaugh

