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# ASMC CLEVELAND TIMES

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**Save the Date:**

ASMC -CL Chapter's 50th Anniversary Celebration on Wednesday November 8, 2017 From 4-8 PM at the Clevelander Bar and Grill

November luncheon will feature Ms. Audrey Davis DFAS Principal Deputy Director  
Date: Wednesday November 8, 2017  
Time: 11:30 AM- 1PM  
Place: Doubletree-Lakeside

**Future Meeting Announcements:**

ASMC Board Meeting on Wednesday November 29, 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. We reserve the right to edit submissions for content, length, grammar and spelling.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### Veterans Day

November 11<sup>th</sup> is a celebration to honor America's living veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. It is set aside to thank those who served honorably in the military - in wartime or peacetime. In addition, the holiday provides an opportunity to educate civilians about the sacrifice service members and their families make year-round. Listed below are ideas for activities to try at home, school and work from Veteransunited.com.

#### Home

- Wear a red poppy or yellow ribbon to show support for veteran and active duty service members.
- Organize a care-package packing party. If you don't know someone currently stationed overseas, contact a nearby base or an organization like Blue Star Moms to identify troops in need.
- Visit a veterans' hospital. Chatting with elderly or injured veterans is a great way to brighten their day. Plus, you're likely to hear some highly fascinating stories about their time in the service.
- Get creative. For young children, a fun project is a great way to start teaching about the holiday and its importance.

#### School

- Encourage your child's teacher to develop a Veterans Day lesson plan. A timeline or short writing project is a great way for students to learn about the holiday's history.
- Invite a veteran – a parent, grandparent or faculty member, perhaps – to speak to students about what it's like to be in the military. If you don't know any veterans to invite, contact your local VA. Their Public Affairs Officer will likely be able to identify a good guest speaker. There are many veterans who work at VA facilities and would be happy to speak to students.

(continued on Page 2)

## President's Message (cont.)

### Find an event in your community

- Want to find a local Veterans Day event? Many communities hold parades and vigils. Contact your local VA for more information.

### Honor veterans year-round

- Celebrate with service. Show service members your gratitude throughout the year with a home-cooked meal or thank you note or day of volunteering.
- Support veteran-owned businesses. Websites like [buyveteran.com](http://buyveteran.com) can help you identify such businesses in your area. Express thanks. Whenever you see someone in uniform, extend a simple word of gratitude or small act of kindness to show how much their service means to you.

Happy Veterans Day to all!

-John



## 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 - Dan Goliat



By: Shana Rose

Ladies and gentleman, meet Dan Goliat, the current Editor of the ASMC-CL newsletter. He began his career with DFAS as a contractor through Lockheed Martin in 2008 working in the Retired and Annuity Pay Call Center. Mr. Goliat officially came on board with DFAS in January of 2010 when that contract ended. He is a firm believer that his time in the Call Center afforded him with a higher appreciation and respect for our customer base. He remained in the Call Center until 2011 when he was picked up by Civilian Pay as a Payroll Technician. Dan really enjoyed his time in Civilian Pay as it allowed to work more closely with teams outside of DFAS-CL on a collaborative effort including projects and TDY trips to DFAS-IN, Norfolk Naval Station, and a 6-week project with OPM in Boyers, Pennsylvania .

In January of 2017, after serving a few months as a Supervisor within Civilian Pay he accepted a LIM position as a Financial Systems Specialist in System Operations. He works as an ISSO for Navy SABRS. He is currently scheduled for a January 2018 rotation to Disbursing.

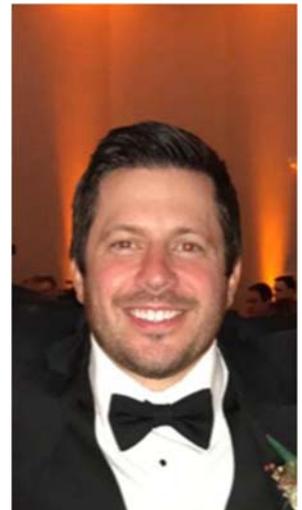
Mr. Goliat received his Bachelor's Degree in Marketing from John Carroll University. Along with his FM Certification, he is Lean6 Green Belt and Security+ Certified. He is signed up for the December 11-15 on site EDFMT training in preparation to obtaining his Certified Defense Financial Management certification.

Dan joined ASMC in 2015 as a way to network and to gain additional knowledge on Government projects and activities outside of DFAS. ASMC provided Dan with a great platform to meet people within DFAS that he normally might not get a chance to meet. It has also provided him with the honor of serving as your ASCM-CL newsletter editor for more than a year.

Outside of work, Dan enjoys his time as a member of the DFAS Sandbagger's golf league. Some of his hobbies include: spending time with his wife Jennifer, building furniture/woodworking, golf, watching tons of movies, and taking his dog to the park.

Favorite Quote:

"Keep your head up in failure and your head down in success." -Jerry Seinfeld



## 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

Greetings Members!

Please join ASMC and AGA for their joint luncheon in November. The luncheon's keynote speaker will be Ms. Audrey Davis, DFAS Principal Deputy Director. Her presentation is entitled: "The Department's New Vision and our DFAS Role."

Attendees can earn 1 Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit and/or 1 Continuing Education Training (CET) credit for applicable certifications. CPE forms will be distributed at the luncheon.

Date: Wednesday November 8, 2017  
Time: 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Place: Doubletree-Lakeside  
1111 Lakeside Ave. E.  
Cleveland, OH 44114



Cost: \$18 for ASMC and AGA Members/\$19 for Non-Members

The luncheon includes the Chef's Choice buffet consisting of hot entrees and side dishes, a vegetable side, rolls and salad. Beverages will also be provided.

Please RSVP with Lance Jones ([bertie.l.jones4.civ@mail.mil](mailto:bertie.l.jones4.civ@mail.mil)) and Paul Cotton ([paul.c.cotton.civ@mail.mil](mailto:paul.c.cotton.civ@mail.mil)) by Noon on Friday November 3rd, 2017 if you would like to attend. An email response will be sent to you confirming your RSVP.

\*\*\*Cancellation Policy: If a situation arises that prevents you from attending the event after you have made reservations, please email Lance Jones ([bertie.l.jones4.civ@mail.mil](mailto:bertie.l.jones4.civ@mail.mil)) and Paul Cotton ([paul.c.cotton.civ@mail.mil](mailto:paul.c.cotton.civ@mail.mil)) by Noon on Friday November 3rd, 2017. If you cancel after this deadline, you will be responsible for the cost of the meal. Thank you for your understanding.

We will be collecting the payment the day of the luncheon and accept Cash, Credit Cards and personal checks. \*Please note that Credit Card paying patrons will be assessed the transaction cost in addition to the luncheon cost, which is 2.75% of the luncheon cost.

Space is limited so please RSVP if you would like to attend.

We hope to see you there!  
ASMC/AGA Cleveland Programs Committee

# Member News

## Member News

Greeting Members!

Please join ASMC to celebrate the Chapter's success, longevity and 50th anniversary, which occurred on October 12, 2017. Appetizers will be provided by the Chapter, and all members are encouraged to attend what's sure to be a fun event! Non-members including spouses and significant others are also welcome to attend.

To assist us with our planning, please click on the email voting button (top left) to indicate your attendance by Monday, 11/6/17. If you are unable to utilize this option, please email your response to both Lance Jones (bertie.l.jones4.civ@mail.mil) and Paul Cotton (paul.c.cotton.civ@mail.mil).

When: Wednesday, November 8, 2017 from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

Where: The Cleavelander Bar and Grill  
834 Huron Road East (2nd Floor)  
Cleveland, OH 44115  
\*Located next to Panini's

We hope to see you there!

ASMC Cleveland Chapter



Greetings members!

If you're a DFAS employee who has been wanting to sit for the CDFM exams and you haven't already taken the EDFMT course, now is the time to self-nominate. The next annual class is scheduled for December 11-15, 2017. It fills up quickly as it's only brought on-site once a year, so don't delay!

To self-nominate, visit the DFAS Portal, click the "My DFAS Training Dashboard" link, and search for classes scheduled for Cleveland. Note that the class should be added to your Individual Development Plan (IDP) prior to self-nomination to increase your chances of making the class roster - those with the class in their IDP will receive priority.

Respectfully,

ASMC Cleveland's CDFM Subcommittee

# Member News

## Member News

### ASMC Volunteer Opportunities

Greetings Members!

Are you looking to get involved? Are you looking to make a difference within the ASMC-CL Chapter? Are you looking to network? Look no further! The ASMC-CL Chapter has plenty of openings for current members to jump on board and get involved. There are current openings for the following positions:

- Corporate Sponsorship Committee
- Project Management Committee
- Military Liaison
- Luncheon Committee
- Marketing Committee
- Newsletter Committee

If you are interested in joining any of the committee teams listed above, please contact ASMC-CL Secretary Shana Rose at [shana.e.rose.civ@mail.mil](mailto:shana.e.rose.civ@mail.mil) for more information.

Hello members,

Please join ASMC on Tuesday, November 14th 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. St. Herman's is a small place that can accommodate only eight volunteers, so if interested, please email Jessica Huff at [jessica.l.huff20.civ@mail.mil](mailto:jessica.l.huff20.civ@mail.mil) 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



## ASMC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

### ASMC Board Meeting Minutes

October 25, 2017

Last Wednesday of the month, 3:00-4:00PM 2911G

**Attendees:** John Giammo, Elena Baykal, Matt Pfarr, Lillian Powell, Shana Rose, Lance Jones, Jane Mullins, Lynn Zielaskiewicz, Dana Malone, Kira Swanson

#### Programs

10/31 Luncheon sold out  
11/8 - Luncheon with Ms. Davis at the Doubletree (Buffet style)  
11/8 - Fall Social at the Cleavelander from 4-7  
    Suggestions for Decorations (Balloons)  
    50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake (Elena)

#### Membership

Great Turnout at the Membership Drive  
    About 80 people stopped by  
    A lot of interest in the CDFM  
Since 05/2017 we have 22 new members  
LIM meeting went very well

#### Nominations

EDFMT Training Announced  
    14 spots remaining in class as of 10/25  
    Registration is 2 parts (Self-Nomination + Link)  
    If link doesn't work, please contact Jessica

#### Community Service

Upcoming event at St. Herman's in November  
Still waiting on Wags for Warriors to contact John/Lynn about donation pick-up

#### Treasurer

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report will be in November Newsletter  
Received ASMC check of membership dues

#### Secretary

Newsletter will be distributed week of 10/31

#### Other

DFAS Bridgelines: If you have an issue calling in please keep trying. It is a known issue.

ASMC - Cleveland Chapter

Finance Report

Chapter Year 2017/2018

First Quarter Report

July 1 2017 - September 30 2017

Earnings/ Receipts

|   |           |                 |
|---|-----------|-----------------|
| Interest Earned                         | \$        | 41.68           |
| Luncheons                               | \$        | 1,231.27        |
| Social Events                           | \$        | -               |
| Conferences/Seminars                    | \$        | -               |
| Membership Rebates and Dues Collections | \$        | -               |
| Sponsorship                             | \$        | -               |
| Miscellaneous                           | \$        | 14.01           |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>\$</b> | <b>1,286.96</b> |

Expenses

|                                 |           |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Membership Dues & Subscriptions | \$        | -               |
| Luncheons                       | \$        | 1,433.26        |
| Social Events                   | \$        | 34.49           |
| Conferences/Seminars            | \$        | -               |
| Gifts                           | \$        | -               |
| Office Expenses                 | \$        | 370.51          |
| Charitable Contributions        | \$        | 200.00          |
| Promotional                     | \$        | -               |
| Miscellaneous                   | \$        | 133.98          |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>\$</b> | <b>2,172.24</b> |

|                                |           |                  |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Beginning Accounts Balance     | \$        | 29,006.04        |
| Petty Cash On Hand             | \$        | 100.00           |
| Add Earnings/Receipts          | \$        | 1,286.96         |
| Subtract Expenses              | \$        | (2,172.24)       |
| <b>Ending Accounts Balance</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>27,894.76</b> |
| <b>Ending Petty Cash</b>       | <b>\$</b> | <b>326.00</b>    |
| <b>Quarter End Balance</b>     | <b>\$</b> | <b>28,220.76</b> |

**ASMC  
CLEVELAND TIMES  
STAFF**

Daniel Goliat – Editor  
Daniel.S.Goliat.civ@mail.mil

**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 Ciccolini      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      |
| Membership Committee            | Julie Coghlan         |
| Education/Scholarship Committee | Kari Vescio           |
| Education/Scholarship Committee | Kelsey Zifzal         |
| Education/Scholarship Committee | Kristen Bendzuck      |
| Treasurer Committee             | Gerald Whitsett       |
| Treasurer Committee             | Stan Foster           |
| Luncheon Committee              | Paul Cotton           |
| Luncheon Committee              | Paul Cotton           |
| Special Events Committee        | Ashley Platko         |
| Special Events Committee        | Jessica Huff          |
| Community Service Committee     | Ryan Serne            |
| Community Service Committee     | Rechelle Williams     |
| Community Service Committee     | Frankie Denmeade      |
| Community Service Committee     | Kira Swanson          |
| CDFM Committee                  | Brenda Banks-Hammonds |
| CDFM Committee                  | Jason Ward            |
| CDFM Committee                  | Dominique Bray        |
| Military Liaison Committee      | VACANT                |
| Marketing Committee             | Lance Jones           |
| Local PDI                       | LCDR Brad Braunaugh   |
| Webmaster Committee             |                       |

