

ASMC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
14 Jan 09

The meeting was called to order at 1100 by Capt Genest.

ATTENDEES:

Capt Dan Genest, President
Lisa Regulus, Hurlburt Vice President
Dedra Hickman, Tenant Vice President
Brenda Dininger, Secretary
John Dininger, Education
Laura Gamble, Newsletter
Leah Hodge, Programs
Ron Millis, CDFM
Pat Brown, Enlisted Advisor for Eglin
Pati Galvan, Publicity
Troy Brown, Membership
Woxie Williams, Membership
Lewis Williams, Awards
Debra Washington, RPDS
MSgt John Slingerland

Special Guest: Ms. Jennifer Sizemore, Associate Director for Membership and Chapter Development, National Headquarters, American Society of Military Comptrollers.

Capt Genest introduced Ms. Sizemore who was here to offer her expertise and advice concerning chapter management. We are honored to have her visit our chapter. Ms. Sizemore remarked that the Gulf Coast Chapter is one of the largest active chapters within the American Society of Military Comptrollers. Ms. Sizemore asked “what issues or challenges does our chapter encounter”? She suggested a few areas:

Volunteerism is always one of most chapters’ biggest challenges. It seems we always have the same people volunteer to support various committees and functions.

Command/Executive Support is an issue with some chapters. However, the Gulf Coast Chapter has always had tremendous support from our senior FM leaders.

Jennifer explained that one chapter used government funds to mail out a letter. The letter was sent back and now they have problems with commanders supporting the local ASMC chapters for fear of retribution.

Capt Genest asked the question “where do we cross the line between using government resources such as computers, printers, e-mail services, phones to support our local chapter?” Jennifer remarked to use common sense. She also stated that there are 2 articles available on the ASMC web site concerning ethics. One is found under “Frequently ask Questions” and the other may be found under “Professional Development”.

Lisa Regulus commented on chapter sponsorship. She stated that she has tried unsuccessfully to reach out to smaller, less active chapters that might require mentoring. She stated that she contacted the Black Hills Chapter, but they had chosen to get with the Mile High Chapter in Denver as their sponsor. Jennifer commented that the Mile High Chapter may be disbanding. She continued that to mentor another chapter some of the requirements would be to offer “seed” money, officer training and assist in setting up the officer structure, joint luncheons, and service advisors.

Jennifer asked about our enlisted members. What do we offer our enlisted members? Capt Genest commented that this year we established two new positions on the executive committee, enlisted advisors for Eglin and Hurlburt. Our Eglin advisor is a retired military person who is now civil service because we were unable to recruit an enlisted person to participate. Capt Genest continued by saying we are going to the commander’s call at the 96th Comptroller Squadron in an effort to recruit and find out what the enlisted would like from the chapter, what would interest the younger, enlisted members. Pat Brown, the Eglin Enlisted Advisor commented that she continues to promote the chapter to the enlisted, provides them with our newsletter and any other information that is available. She stated that many enlisted have high work demands, with CDC’s, deployments, and a drawn down workforce. Capt Genest continued by saying that over the past year, we have offered free memberships and reimbursement for CDFM, but only one person has taken advantage of the reimbursement for CDFM.

Jennifer asked about our chapters CDFM program. She suggested that we bring the EDFMT week long training course here to Eglin. We would have to contact SAF to get our base on the schedule. ASMC has no control over the scheduling. This would be a great opportunity for the enlisted to take the CDFM training without having to go TDY. Ron Millis and Capt Genest will talk with Maj Thompson, the 96th Comptroller Squadron Commander to find out how many people would be interested.

New Member Orientation and mentoring new members is very important. Troy Brown and Woxie Williams, Membership Chairpersons, stated that we offered paid memberships, a new tri-fold that explains about the benefits of ASMC. Troy and Woxie continue to actively recruit members. Jennifer stated that phone calls made directly to possible new members is very beneficial and better than an e-mail. She continued that an active orientation program creates higher participation by new members. Capt Genest remarked that for “membership appreciation” the Gulf Coast Chapter has held several events during the year. In July we have a free membership lunch and at Christmas we have another luncheon. We also provide care packages to every deployed FMer even if they are not a member of ASMC.

In closing, Ms. Sizemore then asked if anyone had any other topics they would like to discuss. Leah Hodge asked if she had any tips on recruiting volunteers, it always seems to be the same core group who volunteer. Jennifer remarked that this is true for most chapters. She continued by saying, look at the officer structure, “is it working”, look to possibly modify your committee structure. She also suggested targeting people who would be good leaders and mentor them. Jennifer also stated that verbal contact with individuals is always more effective.

The Gulf Coast Chapter RPDS plans are well under way and is scheduled for 6 Mar 09 at the Emerald Coast Conference Center. Jennifer asked about how many people we had in attendance last year and it was approximately 400 people from several different chapters. Jennifer asked how we do our registration, and we do our registration on line. She stated that there is a new program available for people to pay directly on line with their credit cards and costs about \$500. Mr. Doug Craighead has been handling our on line registration.

After a group photo with Ms. Sizemore, the meeting was adjourned at 1155.

Recorded by: Brenda J. Dininger, Secretary, Gulf Coast Chapter