



ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter Newsletter

Aug
2021

**ASMC Gulf Coast
Chapter**

P.O. Box 1756

Eglin AFB FL

32542

www.gulfcoastasmc.org

ASMC Newsletter Committee:

Amy Tolar

gulfcoast.asm@gmail.com

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www.asmconline.org



Danielle Hindel

President's Corner

Written by Danielle Hindel, Eglin Vice President

Hello fellow ASMC Members:

What a time to be alive, right? Over the last 17 months we have all experienced living in a world that is completely new to all of us. We have had to learn to adapt and adjust at a speed many of us have never dealt with. Yet here we are over a year since the first quarantine and we are still getting the mission done.

Many of you have been lifetime comptrollers. For some of us, however, this is an entirely new world. I served on active duty from 2002-2011 as a Personnel Specialist. When I separated, I started in the civilian sector in the general administrative series (0300). I always had the goal of one day making it into the accounting and budget series (0500), I just never knew when or how I would make the jump.

Fast forward several PCS moves and different 0300 positions to February 2020. Utilizing my professional network I was able to secure my very first 0540, Budget Analyst position here at Eglin AFB in the 96th Range Group. I was so excited. Not only was I finally in the job series I had always wanted to be in, but I was going to be working within a unique organization that manages Research, Development, Test & Evaluation funds. Unfortunately, before I could even swear in we were under mandatory quarantine. I was worried this may affect my start, but luckily, it didn't.

I have spent the bulk of my first 18 months in this brand new career field working remotely.

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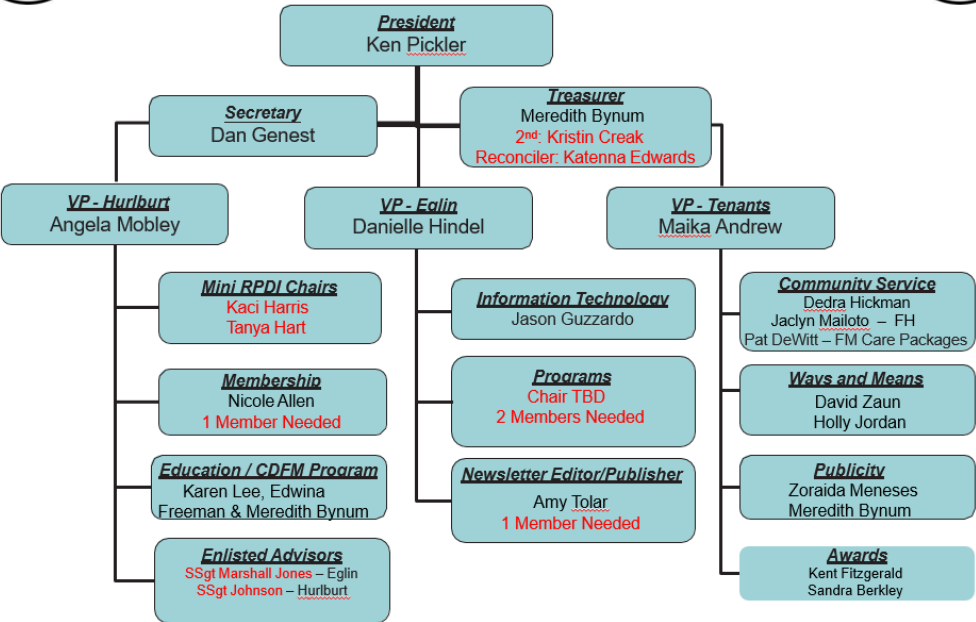
In total I have worked approximately 10 weeks in my physical office on base. I have gotten to meet my co-workers face to face a handful of times. Most of my training has been completed via TEAMS meetings with shared screens. I have sent more emails in the last year than I probably have in the 10 years prior to that. I even joined ASMC and co-headed a committee without ever meeting any of my fellow members face to face. We all laughed when we had our first face to face meeting in June 2021 and I was able to recognize everyone by their voice.

I tell you my story to emphasize this: the dynamics of our work force are changing and we all need to stay abreast of those changes. Utilize the tools that the DoD are providing to you to keep learning. Have a bit of grace when you receive an email asking for assistance. We are all in uncharted waters and the only way to stay afloat and keep the mission moving forward is our ability to reach out and depend on each other.

I look forward to serving as the Eglin Vice President of our Gulf Coast Chapter and cannot wait to see what we all accomplish in the coming year.



2021-2022 Gulf Coast Chapter



Announcements

Professional luncheon will be virtual – 22 Sept ASMC Teams.

Award winners are on page 3 thru 6.

Please shop our Amazon Smile link to support our GC Chapter!

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2139423>



New to the Eglin AFB FM team? Visit the below link to enroll to be an ASMC member. Select Gulf Coast Chapter or log into your account to transfer to our chapter.

Contact Nicole Allen, membership chair, for more information or to be added to the ASMC distro.

<https://asmconline.org/membership/>

AWARDS

Congratulations to the ASMC 2020 Gulf Coast Chapter award winners!

Accounting Analyst of the Year – Ms. Lori L. Dolce, AFRL

Ms. Dolce led the CCaR Working Group, analyzed system requirements and partnered with 10 Air Force Research Laboratory Technical Directorates to develop a streamlined approach, implemented in under 2 months. She developed the FY20/21 spend-plan for Vanguard program, Golden Horde, securing \$109M for critical technology supporting Dr. Roper's Science and Technology vision.



Auditor of the Year – Mr. Ederick D. Taylor, AFAA

Mr. Taylor conducted enterprise-level Ground Training Munitions audits across two wings, identifying unjustified ground munitions requirements and excess rounds requests, inflating future costs by over \$7M over the FYDP. Mr. Taylor's rapport with munitions custodians contributed to better understanding and better documentation of requirements going forward.



Contractor of the Year - Mr. William G. Johnson, AFRL

Mr. Johnson is vital to the CCAR working group for the Air Force Research Laboratory. He analyzed system requirements, developed a streamlined process, implemented in under 2 months. Mr. Johnson established the Munitions Directorate's first-ever distributed budget, streamlined workflows by 65% and standardized the approval process, reducing certification time by over 5 days.



AWARDS Continued



Junior Budget Analyst of the Year – Mr. Max Miller, AFLCMC/EBD

Mr. Miller fully modernized the corporate bill process for a complex division portfolio worth over \$7.7B+ across the FYDP. This resulted in savings of \$3M, allowing scarce RDT&E funding be reallocated, protected Total Obligation Authority across 4+ branches and ensured support to the USAF & War Fighter.



Senior Budget Analyst of the Year – Lt Col Stuart Churchill, AFSOC

Lt Col Churchill partnered to build AFSOC's \$1.6B FY21 Execution Plan supporting 19,000 Air Commandos and \$20B in specialized combat airpower platforms strategically positioned around the globe. His team developed comparative tool for DEAMS execution data and out-year positions, identified disconnect resulting in a \$320M plus-up across the FYDP.



Comptroller of the Year – Maj Lisa C. Kempker, 1 SOCPTS

Maj Kempker closed out a \$183M multi-appropriation budget. Her advocacy for the Wing Commander's priorities won an additional \$18M, resulting in all 108 of the wing's unfunded requirements being purchased before FY20 end. These efforts supported mission operations training, 5,100 flight hours and 507 enemies killed in action.

AWARDS Continued

Intern of the Year – Mr. Michael Bricker, 96 TW

Mr. Bricker assumed the role of the Eglin Base Level Software Support point of contact for software purchases. He processed 20 BLSS task orders, totaling over \$7M in 2020; 238 customer funding documents for software requirements; and 28 cost entries and re-sequences to ensure proper and timely payments.



Resource Manager of the Year – SSgt Jermane N. Whyte, 1 SOMXG

SSgt Whyte tracked the execution for the 1st Special Operations Maintenance Group's five squadrons and successfully closed out the FY20 \$3.6M budget. SSgt Whyte was crucial to the successful execution of the 1st Special Operations Wing's \$71M FY20 flying hour program that produced 3,606 combat and training sorties totaling 15,638 hours.



Acquisition Cost Analyst of the Year – Mr. Jason W. Stafford, AFLCMC/EBS

Mr. Stafford managed a \$35B+ Lifecycle Cost Estimate for DOD's #1 Priority ACAT 1D high ops-tempo joint weapon system. Mr. Stafford developed detailed analysis to verbalize Acquisition Program Baseline criticality to senior leaders; PAUC/APUC thresholds at risk due to major program growth and schedule slips--critical what-if drills for SAF and OSD



Large Team Achievement – 96 CPTS Financial Management Analysis

Small Team Achievement - Air Force Cost Analysis Agency - Eglin

AWARDS Continued

AFLCMC 2nd Quarter Award Winners (ASMC Member)

Civilian CAT III of the Quarter: Ms. Mandy R. Chapman, AFLCMC/EB, Eglin AFB, FL

Ms. Mandy Chapman a Financial Management cost analyst's that supports the Aerial Targets Branch. During the second quarter she accomplished the following:

- Work'd crit task w/ EBA CFO; revis'd \$1.3B AFSAT/\$2B QF-16 LCCE--align'd 4-ltr FY24 POM rqmts--rdy for SER
- Ran 5 FY22/23 cut drills; analyzed 3--resulted in 4-ltr path forward--bal'd to bdgt, decreased year rqmts, saved \$50M
- Drove portfolio revamp; ID'd, analyzed 3 COAs, balanced branch bdgt over 3 FYs--enabled 34 add'l tgt buys in FY21
- Led Item Cost Estimate update for AFSAT/QF-16 prgms; rephased \$9.5M inventory redux in FY23--protected prgms
- Provided constrained portfolio CEs; ID'd \$13.6M bdgt shortfall -- averted \$10M cut as source to \$207M High vis Bill
- Easter Egg hunt vol, 350 kids; school events, seniors yard work; donated plasma/platelets for COVID/cancer patients
- Secretary/Treasurer MLRA/manages bdgt/min utes; RBCS b-ball team vol/gate ticket sales/scoreboard clock/kept stats



Fisher House Volunteers Needed!

Fisher House volunteers are needed to provide meals for their guest! Get your team together and contact Jaclyn Mailoto for available dates and information!

Aug Professional Development Recap

From the Pentagon to NWFSC

Written by Daniel Genest

For those that weren't able to join us on 24 Aug we were fortunate enough to have Col (ret) Randy White present virtually at our monthly chapter luncheon via Zoom. Col (ret) White is currently the VP of Business Operations and CFO at Northwest Florida State College (NWFSC) here in Niceville and discussed the many similarities between academic and DoD finance.

Col White credits his two military assignments dealing with Working Capital Funds as well as his time working at the USAF Academy that helped ease the transition into his current role. However, he also believes that many of the skills we learn as DoD FMers prepare us well for any finance related position as the basic financial structure remains the same even if terms and systems typically vary. Col White likened his current position to a mixture of a Mission Support Group commander and a base Comptroller.

While 40% of the revenue at NWFSC is generated through student tuition and fees, the remaining 60% is appropriated through the state of Florida. As a result, state laws/guidelines often dictate the proper/improper uses for those funds. Much like federal appropriations, academic funds are broken down into fund types. Fund 1 monies are for operating expenses, similar to O&M. Fund 2 consists of restricted funds that generally come in the form of grants. Fund 3 is made up of self-generated revenue from on campus activities such as the bookstore and cafeteria, similar to Non-Appropriated Funds on base. And Fund 7 monies are state-controlled funds for any Capital projects over \$1,000, analogous to MILCON funds.

Another similarity is everyone's favorite topic, audits. With state mandated audits on everything from general operations, to grants/federal awards, and IT operations, it is a safe bet that there is almost always an active audit or two taking place on campus. Ugh.

Lastly, you can rest assured that many of our favorite stalwart finance issues such as antiquated finance systems, slow bureaucratic processes and challenging customers (think of faculty members like fighter pilots), there are many similarities between the two career fields.

Thank you Col White for sharing your time and experience with us!



September Professional Development Event



Closing the Books on FY21

Closeout Knowledge Sharing Session

Panel Discussion Hosted by Ms Angela Mobley, Hurlburt Vice President

DEAMS Expert from Hurlburt will share lessons learned and tips/tricks to help you successfully close out FY21 and start FY22 right!

ASMC Teams Event

22 September 2021; 1130 Hrs

Registration will be sent out via ASMC GC email.

National News

Government Executive

Lawmakers Send Biden Bill to Enhance Transparency of Federal Spending

By Courtney Bublé

August 24, 2021

The House passed a bipartisan bill on Monday evening to boost transparency of federal spending, which now goes to the president to sign.

The Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act would amend a 2006 law to increase the public's access to federal agencies' congressional budget requests by putting them on various federal websites. During the last session of Congress, the House overwhelmingly passed the bill and the Senate committee reported it favorably to the full chamber in March 2020. This session the Senate passed it by unanimous consent in June and then the House voted 423-1 to pass it on Monday. Rep. Ralph Norman, R-S.C. was the only "no."

"The American people must be in the driver's seat when it comes to their government, especially how it plans to spend their money," said Rep. James Comer, R-Ky., ranking member of the House Oversight and Reform Committee, in a statement on Monday night. This bill "will make the budget process more transparent and accessible."

The legislation would require all federal agencies to post their congressional budget justifications on their websites. The Office of Management and Budget would have to create a public website to house all links to budget justifications and the Treasury Department would be required to post the agencies' budget documents on USAspending.gov.

Currently, OMB only requires executive branch agencies to publish their congressional budget justifications online (although others do so voluntarily), and its website includes information just from the White House. "The lack of a designated and structured database to access congressional budget justification reports makes it difficult to determine where a particular budget justification for a particular year may be located," said a Senate committee report on the bill. "USAspending.gov currently hosts some agencies' congressional budget justifications, but the collection is not exhaustive."

Nick Hart, president of the Data Foundation, a nonprofit think tank that champions data transparency and use, said in a tweet on Monday the bill is "a long overdue plan for improving how the American people and [government] officials alike access federal budget details."

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee Chairman Sen. Gary Peters, D-Mich., and ranking member Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, applauded the bill's passage.

"Finding out how federal agencies are spending taxpayer dollars can be extremely difficult. This lack of transparency is highly concerning and Americans and Michiganders deserve to know how these funds are used to improve their lives and livelihoods," said Peters in a statement on Tuesday. "[I] urge the president to sign it into law as soon as possible."

<https://www.govexec.com/oversight/2021/08/lawmakers-send-biden-bill-enhance-transparency-federal-spending/184803/>