

ASMC

GULF COAST CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2017



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Executive Committee:

President	Ms Kathy Davis	882-6780
VP-Eglin	Ms Katenna Edwards	882-9886
VP-Hurlburt	Ms Kaci Harris	884-7643
VP-Tenant	Ms Amy Tolar	883-2745
Secretary	Ms Lindsey Stephan	882-3685
Treasurer	Ms Jenna Hyde	883-7322
2 nd Treasurer	Ms Mandy Chapman	882-5754
Reconciler	Ms Megan Liu	883-3452
Programs	Ms Verlyn Newby	882-0089
	Ms Kimberly Hill	882-4331
	Ms Sarah Carroll	882-0086
Publicity	Ms Mary Mabron	882-1902
RPDI	Ms Brianna Hoppel	883-4238
	Ms Dedra Hickman	882-9767
Membership	Ms Ivonne Caridi-Anderson	882-9768
Education	Ms Lisa Gamon	883-5336
CDFM	Ms Edwina Freeman	883-5317
Enlisted Advisors:	TSgt Steven Coover - Hurlburt	884-1548
	TSgt Aleha Danos - Eglin	882-0361
Ways & Means	Mika Gellinger	882-8650
	SSgt Crystal Brown	882-0865
Community Service	Mr Robert Turpin	883-5332
RFL	SSgt Scott Clark	882-2643
Awards	Mr George Joseph	883-2123
	Ms Kristen Moyer	883-2152
Webmaster	Mr Jason Guzzardo	882-7595
Newsletter	Ms Brianna Hoppel	883-4238

ASMC, P.O. Box 1756, Eglin AFB FL 32542



President's Corner



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ASMC Members,

A special shout out to Brianna Hoppel and Dedra Hickman for the fantastic RPDI! All the committee members work extremely hard behind the scenes to make a smooth event. The opening, lunch, and closing speakers were great as well as the breakout session speakers! I've heard nothing but positive talk about the event!! Great job!!

A big THANK YOU to SSgt Scott Clark, Captain of our ASMC Relay for Life Niceville, Valparaiso Team. We had a few bumps at the event... like the wind, the cold weather, and the LEGO display tipped over in transport. Mr. John Williams (AFRL) worked really hard building the amazing display and he had to rebuild it at the event. We had so many people helping us this year and some were not part of ASMC. I want to thank Chef Ernie for donating \$1000 to our Comptrollers for a Cause team - the cooking experience was awesome and a delicious meal! I want to thank Mr. John Williams for building the

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MINUTES: Executive Council

The ASMC Executive Committee meeting minutes are posted on the Gulf Coast Chapter webpage. To review them, please go to the website: <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/> and click on the tab marked "Minutes" along the top.



President's Corner



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display! I want to thank Mr. Daniel Soto of Café Rico for making and donating coffee and pastries for us to sell at the relay. It was such a great turn out - even a few people stayed and survived the whole night!

I have enjoyed being your Vice President of Tenants! I loved being part of the executive council. The meeting were great and a wonderful way to network! As we close out April, we welcome new committee leads in May! Welcome goes to our new chapter President Mr. Jeffrey DeCocker and the new Vice Presidents Rob Turpin, Yolanda Staley, and Lt Col Wildman. We have several new members and we invite you to sign up on one of our committees. Please contact Brianna Hoppel if you would like to volunteer.

Amy Tolar

ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter, VP - Tenants

Pictured below and to left:
2017 Comptrollers for a Cause
Relay for Life Team





More 2017 Relay for Life Fun!



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Upcoming Events



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JUNE LUNCHEON

When: 15 Jun 2017
Where: Officers Club, Eglin AFB
What: Mr. Carlos Rodgers, SAF/FM, Guest Speaker

<https://cs3.eis.af.mil/sites/OO-ED-AA-A2/AQ/Registration/Registration/Registration.aspx>

JULY LUNCHEON

When: TBD
Where: TBD
What: Scholarship Presentations

<https://cs3.eis.af.mil/sites/OO-ED-AA-A2/AQ/Registration/Registration/Registration.aspx>

WAYS AND MEANS

Welcome to **AmazonSmile**!

Thank you for supporting Gulf Coast Chapter of ASMC Armament Div Corp Acct. Remember, always start at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2139423> and Amazon will donate **0.5%** of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

POCs: SSgt Crystal Brown, 882-0865, crystal.brown.10@us.af.mil
Mika Gellinger, 882-8650, mika.gellinger@us.af.mil



Membership



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The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our Chapter had a successful year, as we met our increased goal of 10% growth.

From June of 2016 to April 2017, a total of 45 new members have joined our chapter. The majority are from Eglin, Hurlburt Field, and Duke Field; however, we're happy to also welcome members from other areas, like the Army 7th SFG, and Pensacola NAS.

If you know any of the newest members, please welcome them and invite them to get involved!

In addition, I would like to recognize recruiting efforts of many Chapter members. Without their help, we couldn't have reached the increased goal of 10% membership growth. **A huge "Thank You!" to the following for recruiting new members:**

Amy Tolar, Ashley Emrick, Benita Tucker, Bill Fowler, Brianna Hoppel, Cindy Weinstein, Connie Clay, Dave Zaun, Emily Day, Ivonne Caridi-Anderson, Joshua Sandler, Judy Davis, Karen Williams, Kelly Wise, Kent Watson, Mandy Chapman, Ron Millis, Susan Ashworth.

If you see your name listed as having helped recruit and you haven't received your ASMC Ceramic Mug, as a token of appreciation from the Gulf Coast Chapter, contact Ivonne Caridi-Anderson to pick one up.

Ivonne Caridi-Anderson, 882-9768

Newest	Members	Agency
Pamela	Alonso	Air Force
Tisha	Auricchio	Coast Guard
Lorelei	Berryhill	Air Force
Sharon	Brannon	Air Force
Alton	Brunswick	Air Force
Caryn	Burnett	Air Force
Brittany	Carlisle	Air Force
Andrew	Cipolla	Air Force
Scott	Clark	Air Force
Marleen	Cruz	Navy
Emily	Day	Air Force
Pamela	Denney	Air Force
Ryan	Dillaha	Air Force
Justin	Dockery	Air Force
John	Esposito	Air Force
Catherine	Forgue	AF, Naval Hospital
Ashley	Frisch	Air Force
Chirstina	Frisch	Air Force
Kyle	Gibbs	Air Force
Kerri-Anne	Grant	Air Force
Caroline	Griffin	Air Force
Olga	Guy	Air Force
Jacqueline	Heard	Air Force
Victoria	Howes	Air Force
Jennifer	Jackson	Air Force
Holly	Jordan	Air Force
Julie	Kessler	Air Force
Jae Yen	Kim	Air Force
Raveen	Kyles	Army
Michelle	Lebeauf	Air Force
Kirkland	Long	Air Force
Arielle	Mackendree	Air Force
Newest	Members	Agency (Continued...)
Jaleesa	Mccreary	Air Force
Sara	Mcneal	Air Force
Cantera	Moore	Air Force
Matt	Postulka	Air Force
Martha	Resto	Us Army Corps Of Engineers
Shelby	Robison	Air Force
Briana	Ross	Air Force
Jacqueline	Senior	Air Force
Michele	Siegfried	Air Force
John	Strickland	Army
Ricardo	Williams	Army
David	Zaun	DFAS



Community Service



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Fisher House:

Below are the next set of dates our ASMC chapter has committed to serve dinner at the Fisher House. A small team of volunteers (can be 3 or 4) prepares and serves a meal for the Fisher House guests. We volunteer a couple of hours, from 1700 to 1900 approximately. Maika Andrew coordinates with FH on guest count, menu or anything else that arises. This is a great way to give back to our community and can be a great team building activity.

- **25 Jul 17**
- **8 Aug 17**
- **22 Aug 17**
- **5 Sep 17**

If anyone is interested in volunteering to provide a dinner with the Fisher House, you may call Maika Andrew at 850-420-8893, email maika.andrew.1@us.af.mil or Mercedes Suarez at 882-0114.



JASSM
Team Members above
From left to right:
Rob Turpin, Doris Willis,
Ashley Frisch, Edwina
Freeman



EBD Team Members below:
Kent Fitzgerald
and Judy Davis





Education/CDFM



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- 2017 Scholarship info is published on ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter website!
- To view a list of Gulf Coast Chapter CDFM awarded go to <http://www.asmconline.org/certification/cdfm-information/cdfm-awarded/> and search by chapter.
- CDFM Reimbursement: <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/cdfm.html>
(New rules and form dated 13 May 2015)
- Purchasing a CDFM Test Module:
<http://www.asmconline.org/certification/cdfm-information/testing-resources/>
- Forgot your CDFM Candidate number:
<http://www.asmconline.org/certification/get-my-candidate-id/>
- EDMFT: Eglin ASMC will not host the EDFMT Course this year as we were unsuccessful in meeting the mandatory requirement (25 student minimum) for our May 2017 class. For those interested in taking the EDFMT course this year, you may register at <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/edfmt/>. Please contact Edwina Freeman at information provided below if you have any questions.
- We have Module 4 Acquisition Business Management training guides available, contact POCs listed below:

Education POC: Lisa Gamon, lisa.gamon.1@us.af.mil, 883-5336

CDFM POC: Edwina Freeman, edwina.freeman.1@us.af.mil, 883-5317



Websites



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We're on FACEBOOK!

We are pleased to announce that our Chapter's **Facebook** page is up and running! We will utilize this venue to share announcements of events and praises going on throughout our chapter. If you would like to submit a picture to share on the Chapter Facebook page, please email it to, gulfcoast.asmc@gmail.com, and be sure to include a caption. Pictures must be related to Chapter members/events. Be sure to like our page! <https://m.facebook.com/gulfcoast.asmc>. Be sure to look at the Facebook Page for the latest Giveaway!!



ASMC WEBSITES

ASMC National Headquarters website is: <http://www.asmconline.org/>
Gulf Coast Chapter website is: <http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/>

We are looking for new ideas to include on our webpage. Please contact our webmasters Jason Guzzardo (882-7595) if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions on chapter website issues.

NATIONAL NEWS

National PDI 2017 - held in San Diego, CA.

Please take advantage of other opportunities to fulfill your required CDFM CPEs to include local chapter training events, programs offered through the Online Learning Center, PDI 2011- 2016 recorded sessions, and Armed Forces Comptroller journal articles.

Use the link found on www.asmconline.org to register and take tests as applicable to get your credit.



The Pentagon Is Almost Ready for Its Close-Up

By Russell Berman, 17 May 17, govexec.com



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The Pentagon will spend the next several months gearing up for a mission so complicated that many officials doubt it can be pulled off, an undertaking so immense that the military hasn't once dared to try it before.

No, this isn't a story about deploying a fancy new weapon, or unveiling a new aircraft, or launching a military operation of any kind: The Department of Defense is preparing for its first-ever audit.

That the nation's most sprawling and expensive bureaucracy—and the world's largest employer—has yet to undergo a formal, legally mandated review of its finances is a source of embarrassment among budget watchdogs, and it has become a preoccupation for members of Congress intent on demonstrating their fiscal prudence even as they appropriate more than \$600 billion annually to the Pentagon. "Like Waiting for Godot," one Democratic senator, Jack Reed of Rhode Island, quipped about the absent audit at a recent hearing. The lack of formal accountability has left unanswered basic questions about how the military spends taxpayer money, like the precise number of employees and contractors its various branches have hired. Cost overruns have become legendary, none more so than the F-35 fighter-jet program that has drawn the ire of President Trump. And partial reports suggest that the department has misspent or not accounted for anywhere from hundreds of billions to several trillion dollars.

After years of missed deadlines, the mounting political pressure and a renewed commitment from the Trump administration might finally result in an audit. For the first time last year, both major political parties called for auditing the Pentagon in their campaign platforms. That unites everyone from Hillary Clinton and Elizabeth Warren to Ted Cruz and the House Freedom Caucus. And last week, Trump's nominee to serve as comptroller for the Pentagon, David Norquist, testified at his Senate confirmation hearing that he would insist on one whether the department could pass it or not. "It is time to audit the Pentagon," Norquist told members of the Senate Armed Services Committee in his opening statement.

As comptroller for the Homeland Security Department a decade ago, Norquist, the brother of the anti-tax advocate Grover Norquist, undertook the first successful audits of that much younger federal agency. The Defense Department is unlikely to meet a statutory deadline to be "audit-ready" by the end of September. But Norquist said he would begin the process even if the Pentagon's financial statements were not fully in order, and he committed to having the report completed by March 2019.

What has prevented the Pentagon from being examined this way before? The answer lies somewhere "between lethargy and complexity," said Gordon Adams, a distinguished fellow at the Stimson Center who was the top budget official for national security in the Clinton White House. "It hasn't been done ever," he told me, "partly because it's incredibly complicated to do and also because there's not a great, powerful will in the building to do it."

The complexity of the project dates back to the Civil War, Adams said, when the Army and the Navy set up their own separate accounting systems. The Air Force also went its own way after its creation following World War II, and the military build-ups of the last four decades scrambled the department's financial records many times over. The explosion of military contractors since 9/11 has made scrubbing the books harder still. Adams estimated that an audit would have to account for 15 million to 20 million contracting transactions each year. The Pentagon has spent several billion dollars over the last seven years just trying to



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consolidate its accounting systems in preparation for a potential audit.

Despite the ramp-up costs, the project has never risen to be a top priority; the Pentagon has simply been too busy fighting wars. "The military has repeatedly argued that they need to focus on the war effort and accountability can come later," said Kori Schake, a fellow at the Hoover Institution who previously served in a variety of national-security positions in the government. That excuse carried more weight with lawmakers in the years when the United States had hundreds of thousands of troops fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Now, top Republicans like Senator John McCain of Arizona, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, are pressing for an audit with more urgency. "This has been a very public continuing failure for the Department of Defense, in large part due to the failure of senior management to make this a priority for the department and invest the necessary time and will to get it done," McCain said at the outset of Norquist's hearing. "This must end with you," he told the president's nominee.

Yet those fiscal hawks hoping that the long-awaited report will spur substantial reforms to defense spending are just as likely to be disappointed. An audit by itself won't dismantle the "military industrial complex" that former President Dwight Eisenhower famously warned about, nor will it lead members of Congress to stop fighting to protect the bases and weapons systems that are manufactured in their districts—and the jobs that come with them. Several times in recent years, it has been congressional lobbying that has kept up production of weapons and equipment that the military no longer considers necessary.

"An audit does not raise the big issues," Adams said. "It doesn't tell you that we're not getting the right bang for the buck. It doesn't tell you anything about whether we're getting the right forces for the threat. It doesn't tell you how well the forces perform. It doesn't tell you where we are wasting capability that we don't need."

What it allows a member of Congress to do," he continued, "is to look tough on defense and spend a lot on defense at the same time."

Spending a lot on defense is what the Trump administration wants to do, even as it pledges its support for a Pentagon audit. The White House has asked Congress for a \$54 billion increase in the military budget over the next year and secured about \$15 billion of that in the recent spending deal. "It's harder when there's a big inflow of cash to focus on something like the audit," said William Hartung, director of the arms and security project at the Center for International Policy. "There's still that incentive to just push the money out the door."

There's some hope among audit advocates that the administration's demand for more money will give congressional spending hawks leverage to insist on progress toward the accounting milestone in exchange for a budget increase. But they also don't believe leverage should be necessary to demand that a department with a workforce pegged at more than 3 million people commit, at long last, to some basic bookkeeping. "We would never accept the argument that the Department of Education is too big and too complicated to be accountable," Schake argued. "Why do we accept that for Defense?"