



October-November 2019

Chapter Newsletter

ASMC – Gulf Coast Chapter

P.O. Box 1756

Eglin AFB FL 32542

<http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org>

<https://m.facebook.com/gulfcoast.asmc>

gulfcoast.asmc@gmail.com

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Join ASMC Today!!!

The current fee is \$40 for one year or \$114 for three years. The membership fee is non-refundable and non-transferrable.

Send your articles and upcoming events in to the newsletter team so we can share them with our ASMC Chapter!

ASMC Newsletter Committee:

Holly Jordan

Amy Tolar

President's Corner

Lindsey Stephan, Tenants VP

Hello and Happy New Year! I have to admit I hadn't even realized that we were in October except that Major League Baseball playoffs had started (R.I.P. Atlanta Braves World Series hopes!). Some of you may be wondering why and how EOY escaped me and the answer to that is: working Foreign Military Sales! While one of the main things you hear about FMS is that the funds never expire that is not totally true. We DO have "no year" funds, BUT the availability of FMS funds is dependent on the period of performance on the specific case, the lines in the case, and the customer country's own fiscal laws. Often times FMS financial managers are tracking PoPs on multiple lines for multiple cases for just one country working to be just as diligent and good stewards of their funds as US side FMers are with the tax payer's dollar.

I hope everyone has been taking advantage of the amazing speakers we have the honor to host at our local ASMC luncheons. I know my work schedule often conflicts, but luckily I was able to attend the luncheon with Major General Pletcher. He really had some great information he shared with us about the budget environment and future of the Air Force, but what really stuck with me was the insights he shared from a lifelong career in FM. I want to pass along some of that information to those who couldn't attend:

1. Our job is to be ready to manage through change
2. FM doesn't own programs, FM owns analysis
3. We must be forward thinking, build relationships, and be innovative and vocal about it
4. Leaders must empower and remove the fear of failure. There is a difference between a hustling mistake and lazy mistake. Hustling mistakes are okay

This short list of my takeaways only scratches the surface of what Major General Pletcher shared with us, but they are a few of the things that really resonated with me. I hope you find them useful as well!

Cheers!



Future meeting announcements:

- BX Holiday Gift Wrapping Volunteer: 9-12 and 16-18 Dec
- ASMC Christmas Social - Dec 4
- Fisher House - See dates below
- ASMC Dec Professional Development Luncheon - TBD
- ASMC Awards Nomination Packages - Due 6 Dec

ASMC OCTOBER 2019 LUNCHEON PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION



THANK YOU to Maj Gen Pletcher for speaking to us on Senior Leader Perspective during our October Professional Development Luncheon!



ASMC PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Thurs. Nov 7 at 11:00

Topic: "BEING READY FOR THE CALL"

Guest Speaker:
Joseph Prisella, Dep Chief
AFLCMC/EBJ



THANK YOU to Mr. Joseph Prisella for speaking to our members during our November Professional Development Luncheon!

Programs

WE NEED YOUR HELP! DO YOU KNOW OF A PERSON THAT WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK AT ONE OF OUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION? IF SO, PLEASE CONTACT RIETTA SYDNOR WITH THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION, TOPIC, MONTH AVAILABLE TO SPEAK AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT COULD BE HELPFUL.





Volunteer Opportunities

Thank you to all the volunteers this year that have supported Fisher House. The Fisher House provides military & veteran families with no cost lodging while their loved one receives medical treatment in the Eglin area. This can be stressful enough without worrying about what to cook for dinner. You can help by volunteering to prepare and serve dinner to the current guests. Opportunities are twice monthly, from 1600-1900 hours. If your team would like to volunteer, please contact Arielle MacKendree. Tues night open dates: 14 Jan, 28 Jan, and 25 Feb



Thank you
Team EBY for
volunteering
on 24 Sep!



*Volunteer Volunteer
Volunteer Volunteer*

Thank you
Team EBZ for
volunteering on
5 Nov!



Join the ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter as we support the Eglin Fisher House

The Fisher House provides no cost lodging to military and veteran families while their loved one receives medical treatment in the Eglin area. You can help by volunteering to prepare and serve dinner to the guests of the Eglin Fisher House. It's also a great team building activity!



**Sign up your FM team for the
following 2020 dates:
14 Jan, 28 Jan, 25 Feb**

For more information or to volunteer,
please contact Arielle MacKendree at
arielle.mackendree@us.af.mil
DSN 875-4593 or Comm (850) 883-4593



Thank you to our recent volunteers!
96 CPTS, 53 WG/FM, AFLCMC/EBY, Maika Andrew & David Herndon, and Hurlburt Field!
<http://www.gulfcoastasmc.org/community.html>

Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer

Volunteer Opportunities

EB FM and EB PK joined together to provide birthday bags filled with cakes, presents, and other party goodies for underprivileged children to be handed out at Sharing and Caring in Niceville. The FM team provided 22 party bags for Sharing and Caring. We delivered the bags on September 5th. Sharing and Caring loved the support that EB was able to provide.



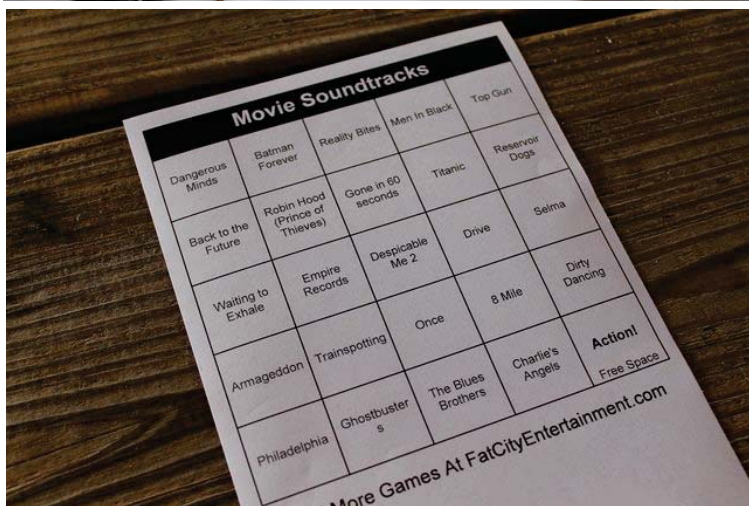
Thank you to all member who contributed!



Events

ASMC Brews Oktoberfest

Oktoberfest was a BLAST as always! Filled with prizes for Cornhole, Music Bingo, Jenga, Board Games, Dessert Competition and MORE!



ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter

“2019 FM Oktoberfest”

By Dane Manfredi

Greetings ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter! I hope you all are enjoying the new Fiscal Year 2020 and putting your “minimal” Continuing Resolution funding to great use. Speaking of putting money to good use, I think I can speak for all of those that attended the 2019 Financial Manager (FM) Oktoberfest event held at the Eglin CE Pavilion, hosted by your ASMC Gulf Coast Chapter, that our great CFOs that funded our lunch at this event put their money to great use and provided a great free lunch for all those that attended. A huge thank you to all our CFOs, volunteers, and Committee Members for putting on a great event.

If you weren't able to attend, you really missed out! Beyond the amazing lunch of hamburgers, bratwursts, and sides, we had an awesome dessert competition with many tasty treats. If you need any dessert advice heading into the holiday season, be sure to check with our Oktoberfest dessert contest winners, Brittany Bohannon, Holly Jordan, and Lorinda Rivero, as they surely can cook up some sweet tooth craving dishes.

Speaking of the dessert contest, this event's lunch speaker, General Genatempo, was an honorary judge within that contest and he surely sung his praises of the many great dessert submittals! General Genatempo, the Air Force Program Executive Officer for Weapons and Director of the Armament Directorate, Air Force Life Cycle Management Center, Air Force Materiel Command, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, spoke about the highly efficient FM work accomplished during this past FY19 closeout season and that FMs production showed that government FMs work is surely utilizing taxpayer dollars to the maximum benefit. So, great job team and don't forget that you can submit an hour of CPE credit for listening and learning from the great insight given by General Genatempo.

As for other events that occurred, we had a music/movie themed Bingo event, scavenger hunt, and cornhole tournament. Oh, we also can't forget to mention the great dance moves shown after lunch by some of our attendees enjoying the music! Obviously, we FMers have far more talent than shown just inside the office and during closeout season.

Again, I thank all of those that gave their funds, time, and efforts to make this a memorable 2019 FM Oktoberfest event for many. Be sure to be on the lookout for upcoming ASMC emails on events that we will have in the coming months. As we end one fiscal year and head into another, I wish you all the best and hope that you all get a kick start on the fast approaching holiday season!

Awards



American Society of Military Comptrollers
Gulf Coast Chapter



P. O. Box 1756
Eglin AFB, Florida 32542



Chapter Annual Awards Program

The Gulf Coast Chapter is set to kick-off its Annual Awards Program. The objective of the program is to recognize individuals for outstanding accomplishments within the chapter in one of the following areas:

- Accounting and Finance
- Auditing
- Budgeting
- Comptroller/Deputy Comptroller
- Intern/Trainee
- Contractor Support
- Resource Management
- Acquisition/Cost Analysis
- Financial Systems
- Team Achievement
(Small: 2-10, Large: 11-20 members)

The nominations are open to all members of the chapter, with one award winner selected per category.

Anyone may nominate a person who has demonstrated outstanding performance. Each nomination must be prepared using the award form shown on the following pages. The justification must be limited to the space provided, citing specific examples and factual details. Font cannot be smaller than 10pt and must allow for 1/2 inch margins. If an individual is nominated in more than one category, prepare a separate form for each category. For National Award consideration please state in email with attached award package and there is a 500 word limit in each of the following judging sections (see below).

Judging will be based on outstanding performance as evidenced by documentation of the following areas:

- **Resource Savings:** Focuses on the monetary and/or non-monetary savings; manpower, process improvement, time, year or execution savings, projected savings, etc. during the calendar year.
- **Complexity and Leadership:** Focuses on how difficult it was to develop and implement the efforts and what specific leadership skills were demonstrated
- **Impact:** Focuses on the impact of specific accomplishments across the organization and/or functional communities

A selection panel, chaired by the Awards Committee Chairman, will review all nominations received and make final recommendations to the Executive Council, who will approve the final award winners.

Nominations must be sent in by email by **6 December 2019** to be considered by the selection panel. Please send nominations to Christina.Frisch.1@us.af.mil, Ashley.Frisch.1@us.af.mil and Jennifer.Jackson.32@us.af.mil with "Annual Award Nomination" in the subject.



American Society of Military Comptrollers
Gulf Coast Chapter



Award Category: _____

Name:

RANK/GRADE FIRST M.I. LAST

Position/Title: _____

Office Address: *(Include Zip Code or APO/FPO #)*

Telephone: _____ **Facsimile:** _____
DSN/FTS COMMERCIAL DSN/FTS
COMMERCIAL

E-Mail Address: (Required)

Nominator Data

Name:

RANK/GRADE FIRST M.I. LAST

Signature Date

Position/Title:

Office Address: *(Include Zip Code or APO/FPO #)*

Telephone: _____ **Facsimile:** _____
DSN/FTS COMMERCIAL DSN/FTS
COMMERCIAL

E-Mail Address:



American Society of Military Comptrollers
Gulf Coast Chapter



**Achievement Award
Nomination Form**

Justification Data; Specific CY Accomplishments
Use a minimum of ¼ inch margins, no smaller than 10 pt. One page only – no attachments

Audit for 2019 Shows DOD's Progress

Nov. 18, 2019 | BY [Terri Moon Cronk](#)

The 2019 department wide audit of the Defense Department did what DOD needed, the department's comptroller said.

It tested all fixes that were made from the previous year and shows the department is making progress, Elaine McCusker said.

"Our first-ever consolidated financial statement audit in 2018 resulted in a disclaimer," which means it failed, she said. The 2019 audit shows the same, though, the comptroller noted, that result was expected.

We made progress in our priority areas while focusing on the importance of sustainable solutions."
Elaine McCusker, DOD comptroller

"To set the stage for 2019, DOD has 3 million employees in 160 countries, in more than 4,500 defense sites and close to 30 million acres of land," McCusker said. "We manage a \$292 billion inventory and 573,000 building structures. The 2019 consolidated audit covered the department's more than \$2.9 trillion in total assets, and \$2.8 trillion in liabilities."

During this years' audit, she said, 1,400 auditors visited 600 sites around the world and requested more than 100,000 samples. Auditors finished 24 stand-alone audits, in addition to the consolidated audit. They looked at buildings and property, military equipment, munitions and payment reports.



"We made progress in our priority areas while focusing on the importance of sustainable solutions," McCusker said.

"But as expected, we will receive an overall disclaimer again this year," she said.

"We are measuring progress by development and implementation of corrective action plans that are successful, closure of [notices of findings and recommendations], increased fidelity on root causes and interdependencies behind our material weaknesses, movement of individual organizations up the chain of opinions, but ultimately better performance and responsiveness to war-fighter requirements in support of the [National Defense Strategy]," she said.

DOD closed more than 23% of the more than 2,300 NFRs issued during its 2018 audit. "This is solid progress for our first year. We expect to increase the number of entities with unmodified opinions from six to seven. Two of the seven organizations with clean opinions maintained a sustainable history," McCusker said.



The military retirement fund will get its 24th consecutive unmodified opinion. And with close to \$900 billion in assets, it represents about a third of DOD's total assets, she added. "The Defense Finance and Accounting Service Working Capital Fund is expected to get its 20th consecutive clean audit opinion," she said.

The military retirement fund will get its 24th consecutive unmodified opinion. And with close to \$900 billion in assets, it represents about a third of DOD's total assets, she added. "The Defense Finance and Accounting Service Working Capital Fund is expected to get its 20th consecutive clean audit opinion," she said.

"DOD made progress in demonstrating our ability to support more in-depth auditing, supporting more extensive testing that will give us faster insights and allow us to identify more sustainable solutions," McCusker said.

We need continued focus on property accountability, inventory and property in the hands of contractors and our systems."

Elaine McCusker

"We have been driving positive cultural change for joint enterprise solutions. We have improved cybersecurity by tightening access controls and documentation. We have supported improved readiness through inventory visibility. And we have increased buying power through expanded use of accurate data and advanced analytics," she said.

DOD also sustained what it did well last year, McCusker said, adding there were no reported material weaknesses in civilian or military pay. "Auditors found no evidence of fraud. And we have existence and completeness of major military equipment," she said.

"But much work remains to be done as we continue to pursue an agencywide clean audit," McCusker said.



DOD will get a lot of new NFRs this year as auditors go deeper into systems and processes, she noted. "This is a good thing. We need continued focus on property accountability, inventory and property in the hands of contractors and our systems."

She added it was essentially balancing the checkbook with the Treasury Department.

"We will continue to strengthen our target system capability aggressively and work to retire old systems and support those organizations closest to positive opinions," McCusker said.

"This is an annual regimen where we expect continuous progress in terms of material weaknesses, emerging audit opinions and continuing to find and attack findings," she said.