



American Society of Military Comptrollers Tampa Bay Chapter

December 2008

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Comptrollers Give Back	1
President's Message	2
Making a Difference	3
Program News	4
Program News	5
Health & Wellness	6
Feature Article "GTCC has new look"	7
National News	8
Interest items	9
Treasurer Report	10



GIVING BACK - TOYS FOR TOTS

On 22 December, sixteen ASMC Tampa Bay Chapter members and their families volunteered as part of the annual United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots drive. This year, as part of the last-minute distribution process, Tampa Bay Krewe members volunteered on site at the University Area Community Center, near the USF campus. The volunteer team engaged in a broad range of tasks supporting community center staff, including last minute "shopping" to fulfill late requests from local families, along with tracking gifts to ensure the right presents went to the right families, and organizing donations to make the days leading up to Christmas less stressful for community center staff and the families receiving the gifts.



American Society of Military Comptrollers Tampa Bay Chapter

Programs

DECEMBER 2008

Page 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Pamela Curtin, USSOCOM/SOFM-MI

Fellow Tampa Bay Chapter ASMC members,

We're at the midway point for this year's executive board, and halfway through the year I'm excited about the opportunities we've had, and looking forward to making the most of the next six months. One of the things I'm looking forward to in the new year is having a social for chapter members—we're still accepting recommendations for this event, which to date include attending a sporting event, a night at the dog track, or setting off on a day or night cruise from Tampa. Please feel free to share your recommendations with myself or with your chapter VPs.

With all the great speakers we've had this year, I'm hoping we continue to



build on these opportunities in the coming year by continuing to provide speakers and other educational opportunities that benefit our diverse membership. As we work to fill in topics and presenters for the coming months, I hope you will continue to share with myself and our membership chair, Royce Gentzel, the great suggestions that we've been receiving.

Wishing you and your families every happiness this holiday season, and in the coming year.

CDFM Audio Courses In Jan/Feb

In January and February ASMC Tampa Bay Chapter will sponsor audio conferences providing intensive review sessions for all three modules of the CDFM exam. For each module, there will be two four-hour sessions on consecutive days; each session starts at 12 noon Eastern. Participants must borrow or buy a textbook on their own.

Dates are as follows:

- *Module 1: January 7 and 8, 2009
- *Module 2: January 21 and 22, 2009
- *Module 3: February 11 and 12, 2009

If interested, please RSVP with Mr. Royce Gentzel at royce.gentzel@socom.mil or DSN 299-1233. Based on chapter member interest, we will sponsor some or all of the review sessions.

Leadership Skills Audio Conference

ASMC is sponsoring an audio conference on leadership on 28 January 2009, at 1400, which will provide practical tips on how to manage people and processes. The presentation will feature seven ways to effectively manage people and processes along with a discussion of each approach. The conference will provide a useful refresher for seasoned managers and great training for new managers. A handout will be provided and a live question-and-answer session will follow the presentation by Dr. John Kline. The conference will last about 60 minutes, depending on the length of the presentation and the number of questions. Attendees can earn CPE credit for participating.



American Society of Military Comptrollers Tampa Bay Chapter

Programs

DECEMBER 2008

Page 3

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Tampa Bay ASMC takes pride in our annual volunteering efforts. In recent years we averaged 3 events per year and we will certainly make that goal for this year. Our first event was a great success. Ten chapter members and family members spent an October Saturday volunteering at Teaching Tools. We spent most of our time in the warehouse, unpacking and sorting various supplies that were donated for the teachers and kids. We also did some dye cutting and sorted paper that will be used for journals. Working side-by-side with ASMC members for the good of the community is a rewarding experience.

Teaching Tools mission is to ensure students and classrooms in Hillsborough County have the basic tools for learning by transferring, at no cost, our community's surplus supplies and merchandise into the hands of teachers and school children in need. Teachers face the challenge of not having all the tools necessary in the classroom. Teaching Tools serves teachers because more than 95,000 (48%) of students in Hillsborough County cannot afford lunch, much less school supplies and other tools necessary for learning. As a result, teachers spend an average of \$1,000 out-of-pocket each year to help provide for their classroom and students.



Above photo: Tampa Bay ASMC members and their families open bags that will be used by Hillsborough County-area teachers "shopping" for supplies at Teaching Tools.



As a conduit to fill the gap that exists between the students in need and the amount of supplies in the schools, Teaching Tools works to propel future generations of leaders for our community. Teaching Tools currently serves 87 of the highest need Title-I schools and instructional sites throughout the district, which relays to more than 1,800 teachers who are eligible to shop monthly and 50,000 at-risk students receiving school supplies annually.

Thanks to our super ASMC volunteers for making a difference. Watch your email for more opportunities to get out and help.

Photo to left: Chapter member Vickie McDevitt cuts out figures that will be provided to teachers for use during in-class projects with their students.

Article provided by Fran Machina, CACI Program Manager and Tampa Bay Community Service Coordinator.



American Society of Military Comptrollers Tampa Bay Chapter

Programs

DECEMBER 2008

Page 4

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

On 10 December, the chapter held its annual Golf Scramble at the MacDill Bay Pines Golf Course. Over 30 chapter members and their guests hit the links for the event, which is an annual fundraiser for the chapter's scholarship fund.

Prizes were given out for the winning and losing teams at the conclusion of the day's play. The winning foursome consisted of Brian Potridge, Joe Josephs, Huz Joseph and Travis Green.; the lowest-scoring team of the day included Pamela Curtin, LtCol Shannon Meade, and Maj Greg Sawyer.



Top photo: MAJ Mac Tonsmeire and Capt Antwan Hopkins watch closely as fellow foursome member Col Todd Tyree sinks a putt.



Left photo: Maj Greg Sawyer gets off a great shot midway through the scramble.

Bottom photo: The fabulous foursome of Don Norton, Kermie Beasley, MSgt Kaci Duhart, and LTC Greg White pose for a shot.



After a barbeque dinner, a range of prizes generously donated by local businesses were raffled off. Highlights included two first-tier tickets to a Tampa Bay Lightning hockey game, a night at the Intercontinental Hotel, and a weekend at the Quorum Hotel, and a Tampa Bay Buccaneers mini-helmet signed by Mike Alstott.



American Society of Military Comptrollers Tampa Bay Chapter

Programs

DECEMBER 2008

Page 5

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

After a wonderful Country Buffet Lunch, Ms. Sisson began her presentation by greeting all of the ASMC members in attendance and acknowledging the various commands to which the members are assigned.

Ms. Sisson then began her discussion, and provided very insightful information about the CENTCOM J-8 mission, which she outlined as advocating for resources, authorizing policies, and implementing technologies. The CCJS also infers decision making through analysis, in addition to managing headquarters resources. According to Ms. Sisson, the guiding principles of the CCJ8 is to prepare CENTCOM to anticipate requirements, respond to changing environments,

ensure continuity across the command, and, when all else fails, to improvise.

As part of her presentation, Ms. Sisson discussed the Goldwater-Nichols Act and how its enactment in 1986 influenced the roles and missions of the CCJ8. Additionally, she discussed at length the linkages between the COCOMs flow of missions and resources within the Department of Defense, highlighting some key funding sources such as Operations and Maintenance, the Commanders' Emergency Response Program (CERP), and the Iraq Security Forces Fund (ISFF), and how these sources of funding have been used by the command to execute their missions in theater.

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Tampa Bay Chapter of the ASMC was held 25 Nov 08 at the Surfside Enlisted Club, MacDill AFB, FL. The guest speaker for the month was Rear Admiral Steve Branham, who currently serves as the Commander Seventh Coast Guard District Headquartered in Miami, Florida. The District responsibilities include all Coast Guard operations in the Southeast region of the United States, the Caribbean Sea, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Prior to this assignment, he served as the Coast Guard Assistant Commandant for Resources and Chief Financial Officer.



Throughout his 12 years of sea duty, he has been involved in a number of high-profile drug, migrant, search and rescue, and fisheries enforcement cases, including the 1980 Mariel Boatlift of Cuban migrants and the 1991 Haitian mass migration. Rear Admiral Branham also commanded the task force that successfully prototyped the use of armed helicopters to stop suspected drug-laden go-fast vessels, an initiative that continues today.

Rear Admiral Branham also provided insight to chapter members on a broad range of HQ Coast Guard organizations, as well as offices under the jurisdiction of the Seventh Coast Guard District Office. The Rear Admiral also walked members through the Coast Guard's Deepwater program. The largest of the Coast Guard's major acquisition programs, Deepwater is a 25-year, \$24 billion effort to deliver many assets and systems, including new air and sea platforms. Finally, before taking a range of questions from the audience, Rear Admiral Branham outlined for members the Coast Guard's overall funding, and discussed their recent growth in appropriated funding received from Congress.

Articles provided by Ms. LaTonya Byrd, Tampa Bay Chapter Secretary.



HEALTHY LIVING TIPS

Excessive body weight contributes to snoring and obstructive sleep apnea, in addition to being a major influence on general health and well-being. Obstructive sleep apnea occurs in about 50-60% of those who are obese.

A recent report from the National Center for Health Statistics concludes that seven of 10 adults don't regularly exercise, and nearly four in 10 aren't physically active. Lack of exercise can increase the risk of diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. About 300,000 people in the U.S. die each year from diseases related to inactivity.

Proper diet and exercise are the mainstays for a healthy lifestyle, although many Americans turn to costly fad diets and exercise programs that fail to provide

weight loss and a healthy lifestyle. The basic tenets to gradual weight loss and good health include developing healthy eating habits and increasing daily physical activity.

Weight Loss Tips:

1. Take in fewer calories than you expend. Few people understand this basic, simple concept.
2. Eat smaller meals 3-5 times per day.
3. Eat nutrient dense foods such as whole grains, lean proteins, fruits, and vegetables.
4. Eat slowly, and wait 10-15 minutes before taking second helpings.
5. Don't eliminate everything you like from your diet. Eat those things in small amounts (pizza, candy, cookies, etc.)
6. Avoid buffets.
7. Drink plenty of water, especially immediately prior to meals.

Mint Chocolate Chip Frozen Yogurt

Serves 4

- 1 ¾ cup skim milk
- 2 teaspoons powdered gelatin
- 1 cup Splenda
- 1 17.6 ounce container 0% Fage yogurt
- 1/2 teaspoon organic peppermint extract green food coloring
- 1 ounce 99% chocolate, unsweetened, very finely chopped or ¼ cup cocoa nibs

1. In a large mixing bowl sprinkle gelatin over 1/2 cup skim milk. Heat together remaining 1 1/4 cup skim milk with Splenda. When boiling, pour into the bowl and stir until gelatin is dissolved.

2. Stir yogurt into gelatin mixture. Whisk in peppermint extract and enough green food coloring for desired color.

3. Freeze in an ice cream machine according to instructions. Stir in chocolate and serve or freeze until desired consistency.





Government Travel Charge Card (GTCC) has new look

1. Not all states have recognized the new Citi card as being a Gov CC. Tax exempt letters are still pending of these states. You may use the link below to look up which states have and have not provided their letter of exemption acceptance to GSA. Be sure to verify the letter on file is for SmartPay 2.

Here is the link to the GSA tax exempt information: <http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/channelView.do?pageTypeId=8203&channelPage=%252Fep%252Fchannel%252FgsaOverview.jsp&channelId=-16881>



2. Please use the links below to access self registration and training for the new Citibank card.

Online statements for cardholders will not be available before the client receives their first paper statement. Go to <https://home.cards.citidirect.com>, and click on "Self-Registration for card holders" at the bottom. At that time, the cardholder must enter their card number, account name and address information in the exact format as it appears on the paper statement. For example:

- Words like Court, Street, or Road must be input exactly as they appear on the paper statement, either abbreviated or spelled out
- Cardholders will need their zip code + 4, as displayed on the paper statement

3. The below links are to reference materials for the cardholder to complete the registration process and best utilize the system's features.

- Click here for a Cardholder Self-Registration training presentation.
[http://email.transactionservices.citigroup.com/a/hBJPZ21B7Q687B7Z676\\$ZoR4HtR/citi4](http://email.transactionservices.citigroup.com/a/hBJPZ21B7Q687B7Z676$ZoR4HtR/citi4)
- Click here for the Cardholder Statement & Payments Guide.
[http://email.transactionservices.citigroup.com/a/hBJPZ21B7Q687B7Z676\\$ZoR4HtR/citi3](http://email.transactionservices.citigroup.com/a/hBJPZ21B7Q687B7Z676$ZoR4HtR/citi3)



ASMC National News—Defense Financial Highlights

Congress Passes and President Signs Continuing Resolution: Before adjourning to hit the campaign trail, the 110th Congress passed the financial rescue plan and a continuing resolution (CR) to fund the government until March 6, 2009. But the normal provisions of the CR will not apply to DoD because the bill includes full FY 2009 appropriations for Defense, both for DoD and the Military Construction appropriations.

FY 2009 CR Includes DoD Appropriations Bill: The FY 2009 CR includes the full DoD Appropriations Bill. The bill provides over \$487 billion, \$4 billion less than the President requested. You can find details of the bill in the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee press releases. To view a copy of the conference report including the bill, go to the Library of Congress' "[Thomas web site/](#). Click on "Appropriations Bills" under the heading "Find More Legislation." The details are included in the CR bill and report.

Congress Approves and President Signs FY 2009 Defense Authorization Bill: The President signed the FY 2009 Defense Authorization Bill last week. The bill authorizes a 3.9 percent military pay increase, .5 percent higher than the President requested. You can find a summary of the bill and the text of the conference report and bill by clicking on the House or Senate Armed Services Committee web sites (www.house.gov/hasc/ or www.armed-services.senate.gov/).

New Year, New Players in Washington: On Election Day 2008, both a new President and a new Congress were elected.

The new 111th Congress will be sworn in on 3 January 2009. The Democratic Party gained additional seats during the election in both the House and the Senate. This means that party ratios on the committees will likely change, which will lead to a broad range of new members being added to the committees. Among the changes that will be taking place with the start of the new Congress, a number of familiar faces on the defense committees will be departing. The ranking Republican for the Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, Ted Stevens of Alaska, was defeated in his re-election bid. Another long-time member of the SAC -D, Pete Domenici of New Mexico, retired. The ranking Republican on the House Armed Services Committee, Duncan Hunter of California, retired, as did two of the other five most senior minority members of that committee (Jim Saxton, New Jersey, and Terry Everett, Alabama).

President-Elect Obama will be sworn in on 20 January 2009. The President-elect has been announcing his nominees for key White House and Cabinet positions since shortly after the election. Among those nominations, the President-elect indicated he will nominate current Secretary of Defense Robert Gates to remain in office. Further, he has named retired Army Chief of Staff Eric Shinseki to lead the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Don't Forget — Feb 3, 2009 is Budget Day.



American Society of Military Comptrollers Tampa Bay Chapter

Interest Items

DECEMBER 2008

Page 9

PDI 2008 Online – Free CPE!

You can earn free CPE credits by listening to or watching taped workshops and Service Day sessions from PDI 2008 and PDI 2007. You can now access selected sessions online at the PDI extended learning page <<http://www.asmconline.org/development/extendedlearning.shtml>>, along with the briefing charts received to date.

LinkedIn Professional Networking

LinkedIn is an online network of more than 25 million experienced professionals from around the world, representing 150 industries. ASMC has created a group on LinkedIn as a forum for discussion of ASMC matters. Discussion and membership will be moderated to a limited degree, and the opinions expressed on the group are those of the individual members and not of ASMC. You may find our group here <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=953357>

ASMC Awards Nominations Due Jan 31

Do you have an employee who has done a great job over the past year? Consider nominating her or him for an ASMC award. Be sure to include specifics in the nomination form to increase the chance for selection. Nominations must be received at ASMC no later than January 31, 2009.

Award Categories <<http://www.asmconline.org/files/achawd.doc>>
Team Achievement <http://www.asmconline.org/files/tmawdnom.doc>
Member Continuing Education <http://www.asmconline.org/files/memcefrm.rtf>
Essay (due 28 Feb) <http://www.asmconline.org/files/essayawd.doc>
"What initiatives should the new presidential administration emphasize in order

to facilitate efforts by resource and financial managers at the base and installation level?"

Renew ASMC Membership Online – Join Online Prospective members of ASMC may now apply for membership online at the ASMC website. This method decreases the processing time by up to a week, so please encourage anyone you may be recruiting to apply online. Also, current members may renew online and update member information (new e-mail, address, job title, etc). Please read the instructions at ASMC Online Renewal <http://www.asmconline.org/membership/renewal.shtml> on how to determine your default username and password

Other items of interest:

Thrift Savings Plan 12 Month Rate of Returns: <http://www.tsp.gov/rates/factsheet.pdf>

Federal Savings Account (FSAFeds)
Open Enrollment Season is 10 Nov - 8 Dec 08
<https://www.fsafeds.com/fsafeds/index.asp>

2009 Leave Calculator
<http://www.govexec.com/pay/pay09/leavecalculator09.xls>

PDI 2008 Online - CPE Credits
<http://www.asmconline.org/development/extendedlearning.shtml>



American Society of Military Comptrollers Tampa Bay Chapter

Treasurer's Report By Janet Williams, USSOCOM/SCSO-S-BA

American Society of Military Comptrollers Tampa Bay Chapter					
STATUS OF FUNDS FOR: November 2008					
MACDILL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, MONEY MKT & IMPREST FUND ACCOUNTS:					
	Money Mkt	CD Account	Checking	Savings	Total MFCU
Revenues					
Dues -Chapter Rebates	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deposits - Nov Luncheon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dividend	9.56	10.03	0.00	0.00	19.59
Fund Raisers:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nov Luncheon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	9.56	10.03	0.00	0.00	19.59
Expenses					
Pd \$16.84 to Pam Curtin (Petty Cash) Stamps	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ck #798, MacDill Clubs, Nov Luncheon	0.00	0.00	480.20	0.00	480.20
Ck# 797, Postmaster for PO Box dues	0.00	0.00	42.00	0.00	42.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Expense	0.00	0.00	522.20	0.00	522.20
MFCU SHARE ACCOUNT SUMMARY:					
Balance - beginning of month			4,272.72	205.41	4,478.13
Plus Revenues			0.00	0.00	0.00
Less Checks Cleared:			0.00	0.00	0.00
Less Expenses			(522.20)	0.00	(522.20)
Balance - end of month			\$ 3,750.52	\$ 205.41	\$ 3,955.93
OTHER ACCOUNTS SUMMARY:					
		Begin Bal	Dep/WD	Dividend Income	Ending Bal
	MONEY MARKET	6,493.44	0.00	9.56	6,503.00
	CD ACCOUNT	3,986.66	0.00	10.03	3,996.69
TOTAL OTHER ACCOUNTS		10,480.10	\$0.00	\$19.59	\$10,499.69
GRAND TOTAL BALANCE IN BANK					\$14,455.62
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) FROM LAST MONTH:					(\$502.61)
TOTAL INCREASE/(DECREASE) FOR THE YEAR:					-\$423.70
		Begin Bal	Income	Expenses	Ending Bal
Cash on Hand (Imprest)		39.13	0.00	16.84	22.29
ASMC TREASURY BALANCE (Bank + Imprest)					\$14,477.91



Stevan Hollahan has been serving our country in Iraq since Sept of 2007. He is with the US Army Infantry, 101st Airborne, he is also on a 'Tactical Strike Team'. One of his jobs in Iraq was to kidnap 'high value targets'. Stevan joined the Army 2 years ago when he was 18.

WELCOME HOME!!