

ALAMO GRAM

A Publication of the Alamo City Chapter
of the American Society of Military Comptrollers



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

Thanks to our retirees for hosting the September luncheon. They host every September so the rest of us can concentrate on EOY close. For those of us with the Air Force our first close date was Friday 18 Sep, and then 26 Sep was the DEAMS close and of course 30 Sep. This is my 37th EOY close so not much surprises me anymore. When I feel a little stress coming on I get up and walk around the office to get the blood flowing. I try and get 10,000 steps a day with a minimum of 6,000. I challenge each of you to walk more to help improve your health.

In the newsletter is the [email](#) ASMC President's received from Al Runnels, ASMC Executive Director on membership. He states that only about a third of FM'ers in DOD are members of ASMC. I think the Alamo chapter is closer to 50% of the FM'ers in San Antonio. We do have a hundreds of members on our roll whose memberships have expired. The Executive Board will discuss at the October Exec Board meeting how to reach folks so they'll renew and how to bring in new members. More to follow.

I know its September but start looking for those super stars to be put in for our local ASMC and national ASMC individual/team awards. I'll end by asking how close are you to finishing your DoD FM Certification? I need 9 more hours. The first of the FY is normally slow so that would be the time to make a push and complete that certification. For those that have already completed your certification, remember there is an annual CPE requirement. Attending the monthly ASMC luncheon is one way to get CPE credit.

Hope everyone had a great EOY close.

Vaughn E. Caudill
Vaughn E. Caudill, CDFM
Chapter President, 2015-2016

- **National web-site:** www.asmconline.org, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Linked-In](#)
- **Chapter web-site:** www.alamocitycomptrollers.org, [Facebook](#) (closed group)
- **Alamo Gram Editor:** [Ellen Hester](#), LN.hester@gmail.com



NATIONAL NEWS

Message From Al Runnels, ASMC National Executive Director to ASMC Chapter Presidents:

First, thank you for your contributions to the defense financial management community and for your dedication to ASMC. As you know, ASMC is proud to support the collective efforts of our membership in contributing to the effectiveness of defense financial management.

I'm reaching out regarding ASMC Membership Growth. As most of you know, only about 33% of the 54,000 total DoD and USCG defense financial managers are members of ASMC. I believe this percentage should be significantly higher. As a Chapter President, one of your most important responsibilities is to build your own chapter membership and foster the professional growth of our larger defense financial management network.

In addition to your and your Membership VP/Chair's extremely important activities in reaching out to potential "new" members, it is essential that you contact defense financial managers in your area whose membership in ASMC has lapsed. Please be aware that ASMC HQ transmits five membership renewal messages, one during each of the three months prior to expiration and one each during the two months following expiration, to individuals. Also, about once a year, I personally send a note to former members whose membership has lapsed for four months to two years. The last time I did this we had about 180 former members in the 4-12 month expiration category renew and 20 in the 12-24 month category renew.

By taking advantage of ASMC's many programs and services, members are benefiting their career and the defense FM community. Through ASMC, members have opportunities to support each other in finding solutions to challenges, sharing best practices, and networking across a community of approximately 18,000 colleagues many of whom share common interests and are also committed to their profession.

ASMC Benefits:

- ASMOnline.org. Your complete source for defense financial news, information, and online education.
- Chapter Membership. Network and connect with local colleagues, support community service activities, and take advantage of opportunities for professional development.
- Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) Certification resources and discounts in fees for CDFM program enrollment and renewal of the certification.
- CPE Management Tool to keep track of your CPEs.
- Armed Forces Comptroller Journal. Keep your management skills sharp with in-depth articles on defense financial management issues – also two CPEs per issue available with the online version.
- \$100 discount on registration fee for the ASMC National PDI – the premier professional development institute (PDI) for defense financial managers.



The annual membership investment is just \$26.00 and ASMC sends \$5 of it to your local chapter to help fund chapter activities. Members also have the option to renew for three years for \$75.00. From now through the end of October (31 Oct 2015) current or past members have the opportunity to be entered in a drawing for a \$50 Amazon Gift card if they renew membership online with a credit or debit card at www.asmconline.org/membership/renew or manually via mailing a check. One winner will be selected from each month, August through October. The date of their renewal transaction automatically enters them into the drawing for that month's prize.

Questions about membership renewal may be directed to the ASMC Membership Department at membership@asmconline.org.

I sincerely thank you for your efforts in leading your ASMC Chapters. Your continued service and dedication to the profession have aided in creating a strong network of defense financial managers prepared to meet the most demanding challenges.

***PS.** Related to ASMC membership benefits, at least for those approved by their organizations to participate in the National PDI, Mr. Bob Hale, former USD(C), was recently interviewed on FedNews Radio regarding the article he wrote about his perspectives on the value of the PDI in the Summer edition of our Armed Forces Comptroller. You can listen to the short interview at: www.federalnewsradio.com/in-depth/2015/08/bob-hale-conferences-benefits-money-cant-buy.*

Defense Financial Highlights. Due to the volume of late-breaking news, everyone should watch for updates on the ASMC website (www.asmcconline.org) frequently.

- [Congress passes CR to keep government running until December 11](#)
- [Senate blocks vote on proposed CR that excludes funding for Planned Parenthood](#)
- [President will nominate Eric Fanning to Secretary of the Army](#)
- [Association leaders press Congress to avoid an extended CR](#)
- [Congress has more on its plate than the Iran nuclear deal and a FY2016 CR](#)
- [We Will Never Forget](#)
- [Congress returns from recess to address the Iran nuclear deal and a potential government shutdown](#)
- [President recommends 1.3% pay raise in 2016 for federal civilian and military personnel](#)

Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training (EDFMT). The EDFMT is a forty-hour class designed to introduce participants to a spectrum of financial management topics, including DoD (rather than Service-specific) financial management policies and procedures. This course also prepares employees to take the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) examinations. Employees should check with the American Society of Military Comptroller (ASMC) to review all qualifying criteria for the certification. There are currently two Air Force-sponsored EDFMT courses scheduled for the local area: one at



JBSA - Fort Sam Houston from 26-30 October 2015 and one at JBSA - Randolph from 20-24 June 2016. For more information, go to <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/edfmt>.

Virtual PDI 2015. For those who attended PDI 2015, access to Virtual PDI was included in the PDI 2015 registration fee. For those who were unable to attend PDI 2015, Virtual PDI allows individuals to earn CPEs towards the CDFM program for \$99 (approximately \$1 per available CPE/CET) and is available [here](#). Participation in Virtual PDI allows you to self-certify CPE/CETs for the CDFM Program, however, based upon DoD policy, participation in Virtual PDI does not provide direct credits toward meeting DoD FMCP requirements.

Becker CPE Program Availability. ASMC is joining Becker Professional Education to bring you a new way of accessing the educational resources you need to help advance your career. Becker's Continuing Professional Education (CPE) courses can provide the professional development you need to earn the CET/CPE credits required to maintain DoD FM Certification Program (DFMCP), CDFM, CPA, CGFM, CMA, CIA and other professional certifications. Read more about this special offering [here](#). Please use Promo Code "ASMCCPE100" to get the special ASMC pricing when registering for the program [here](#).

CHAPTER MEETINGS

UPCOMING LUNCHEONS:

- **October Meeting.** The October luncheon will be hosted by **Terry Fomby**, VP for the 502 CPTS/OL-A at Lackland. Watch for more information about the luncheon in the luncheon flyer.
- **November Meeting.** The luncheon will be held on **10 November 2015** and hosted by **Victor Stansberry**, our MEDCOM VP. The speaker is tentatively scheduled to be **Ross Olfers**, of the IHC Financial Group. Watch for more info in the October Alamo Gram and the luncheon flyer.
- **December Holiday Social.** Our annual Holiday Social will be hosted by **Tanya Williams**, AFMOA VP. Watch for more info in future Alamo Grams and the event flyer.

RECENT LUNCHEONS:

- **September Meeting.** As usual, the Retiree/At-Large VP, **Ada Fromuth**, hosted the September luncheon so our active force could have sufficient time to enjoy their close-out activities. The luncheon was held on Thursday, **10 September 2015**, at the Parr (Officers') Club on JBSA - Randolph. **Mr. Richard Ure** (*spelling corrected from the August Alamo Gram*), from Federal Employees Benefits (FEB) (one of our PDS 2015 exhibitors), spoke about **"Retirement Plan: Maximizing Benefits."** The FEB is an independent group dedicated to helping Civil Service and Military employees maximize their benefits amid the ever changing rules and regulations.



Photos (from left to right): (1) Our Luncheon Host **Ada Fromuth**, Retiree/ At-Large VP greets attendees at the door; (2) **Ada Fromuth** introduces **Richard Ure**, our guest speaker; (3) Chapter President **Vaughn Caudill** (right) thanks **Mr. Ure** for his presentation; and (4) **Vaughn Caudill** (right) awards the “Free Lunch” certificate to a lucky attendee.



LOCAL NEWS

Chapter Executive Committee Members

PDS 2016. The **Chapter’s 2016 Professional Development Symposium** is scheduled for **11-12 February 2016** at the Education Service Center Region 20 facility near the Walter’s Street Gate for JBSA – Fort Sam Houston. If you’re interested in helping to plan the PDS, contact **1Lt Christian Leonard Belo** (christianleonard.r.belo.mil@mail.mil or 210-221-4897) or your organization VP. For the PDS, we will again be providing courses to support FM personnel working on their DoD FM Certifications, as well as those needing Continuing Professional Education credit for their jobs and/or certifications. Please submit any proposed topics and/or speakers to the PDS Committee, your Organization VP, or any member of the [Executive Board](#).

ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

Air Force Medical Operations Agency (AFMOA)

(Sources: [AFMOA web-page](#), [Wikipedia](#), and [AF Fact Sheet](#))



The Air Force Medical Operations Agency sprang from the ashes of the former flight medicine department of the Air Force Medical Service (AFMS) in 1992. Though it originally cared for operational matters under the direction of the AF/SG (Surgeon General) as a field-operating unit, as AFMS duties changed, so did those of the AFMOA. The AFMS moved to more of a proactive approach, managing population health rather than episodic care to improve the health and lives of Air Force members and their families. This in turn led to an increase in AFMOA responsibilities; the Agency expanded to optimizing medical resources, radiation protection, aerospace medicine, and clinical excellence, among other interests. Originally activated in 1992, AFMOA is now located at Port San Antonio (formerly Kelly AFB).



AFMOA oversees execution of the Air Force Surgeon General policies supporting Air Force expeditionary capabilities, healthcare operations, and national security strategy. It provides expert consultative leadership support to 75 military treatment facilities and eight major commands to ensure cost-effective, modern, and prevention-based healthcare continuum for 2.6 million beneficiaries worldwide. AFMOA directs and supports the clinical currency of 43,131 healthcare professionals providing 6.6 million visits and 133,500 bed days. It provides clinical and population health data and analysis to AF/SG and MAJCOM surgeons. The agency partners with the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), Secretary of the Air Force, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

HELP WANTED

Wanted: Volunteer treasurer for food pantry

A local emergency food pantry serving the Schertz, Cibolo, and Universal City communities is in need of a volunteer treasurer beginning January 2016. The position requires about 2 hours per week plus attendance at a monthly board meeting. They are seeking someone comfortable with keeping accounts, paying bills, preparing budgets etc. This a wonderful opportunity for a retired financial person to keep their hands in the "business" while serving their community, but the position is open to anyone with the interest and time. The volunteer must be affiliated with one of the nearly 25 sponsoring churches in the Greater Randolph area. If you feel called to serve in this capacity and would like more information please contact Roger Virost (USAF, Ret.) at sptr1@sbcglobal.net or Ms. Jessie Fisher, RACAP Director at racap@att.net. Below is further information about RACAP.

Since 1983, the Randolph Area Christian Assistance Program (RACAP) has been meeting the needs of local citizens in crisis by providing them with emergency food and financial assistance. Conceived by the ministers of area Christian churches, RACAP is sustained by food and financial contributions from sponsoring churches, individuals, organizations, and businesses. No government funding is received. The Schertz Housing Authority provides the RACAP facility at 307 Pfeil Street in Schertz. RACAP is incorporated in the State of Texas as a nonprofit organization and is exempt from Federal Income Tax under Section 501(a) as an organization described in Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

In 2014, RACAP provided emergency groceries for 1,170 families. The estimated value of the groceries provided to those families was \$96,215. RACAP also paid \$17,475 in rental assistance, \$30,359 in utility assistance and paid \$5,107 in prescription assistance. RACAP's Back-to-School Shoe program approved assistance to 438 children from 187 families. The 2014 RACAP Holiday Meal Basket program provided 267 families with a Thanksgiving Meal Basket and 343 families with a Christmas Meal Basket.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Alamo City Chapter offers a wide variety of community service opportunities throughout the year. You are not expected to participate in all of the events, but we hope you'll support at least one and perhaps several that enthruse you. Families and friends of ASMC members are also welcome to join us in any of our community service events.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES:

- **Juvenile Diabetes Walk.** The Alamo City Chapter is literally taking steps to help JDRF achieve its goal of improving the lives of all people affected by type 1 diabetes (T1D). By joining our Walk Team and/or making a donation, you will be helping us to raise funds to directly support research with the greatest potential to conquer this disease. This year's walk will be held at 7:30 am on **18 October 2015** at the University of Texas Health Science Center, 7703 Floyd Curl Drive, San Antonio. To join our Chapter team or donate on behalf of the Chapter, go to http://www2.jdrf.org/site/TR?fr_id=5415&pg=team&team_id=188409. This year's Team Captain is **Jenny Luvisi**, jennifer.mcgonnell-luvisi@us.af.mil, 210-834-8772.

JDRF is the largest nongovernment funder of T1D research. They are uniquely positioned to advance groundbreaking therapies through the research pipeline to better treat and, one day, even prevent and cure T1D. But they can't do it without us. We are motivated by the courage and perseverance of those facing the everyday challenges of T1D - they are the reason we challenge ourselves to give more, to do more, to achieve more. We challenge ourselves to make a real difference in the lives of those with T1D.

FUTURE COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES:

If you're interested in hosting any of these activities or have any other Community Service activities you'd like to have the Chapter support, contact your organization VP or **Corazon Gervacio**, our Community Service Chair (210-221-9513).

- **Raul Jimenez Thanksgiving Dinner – 23-26 November 2015.**
- **Great Turkey Challenge 5-K Run/Walk – 26 November 2015.**
- **HEB Christmas Feast of Sharing – December 2015.**
- **Chapter Holiday Social Charity – December 2015.** (normally a Toy Drive for CPS)
- **Boysville Birthday Bash – January 2016.**
- **PDS Charity – February 2016.** (Currently listed as a Baby Shower for infants supported by Child Protected Services like we did for the 2015 PDS.)
- **Prom and Tuxedo Drive – February/March 2016.**
- **Habitat for Humanity – April/May 2016.** (April is normally construction, and May is normally landscaping.)



RECENT COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES:

- **San Antonio Alzheimer's Walk.** The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. The Association's mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. This year's walk was held at The Park at River City Community Church (formerly the Verizon Amphitheater), 16765 Lookout Rd, San Antonio on Saturday, **19 September 2015**. The Alzheimer's Association provides free, easy-to-use tools and staff support to help each participant reach their fundraising goal. Our fundraising dollars fuel mission-related initiatives of care, support, and research. We raised \$100 and had two Chapter members and two family members participate on our team. If you were unable to participate in the Walk, you can still donate on behalf of the Chapter at https://act.alz.org/site/Donation2?idb=2054566611&df_id=27208&FR_ID=7841&PROXY_ID=288247&27208.donation=form1&PROXY_TYPE=22. This year's Team Captain is **Jenny Luvisi**, jennifer.mcgonnell-luvisi@us.af.mil, 210-834-8772.



Team members included:

Photo on left: Jenny Luvisi (left) and her daughter Savannah Luvisi.

Photo on right: Corazon Gervasio (left) and her mother.



- **Back to School Drive.** The Alamo City Chapter recently wrapped up its annual drive to collect school supplies for disadvantaged children of all ages who are supported by Child Protective Services (CPS) through the Dare to Love Rainbow Room. What better way to help our community to help provide school supplies to children that desperately need them! During our Drive from **1 July 2015** to **31 August 2015**, we collected 1,974 items and \$60 in cash donations for these children. CPS supports over 6,000 children in need of assistance through the Dare to Love Program. **(See photos below:)**



Photos (left to right): (1) **2Lt Brandie Boos** (in uniform) unloads a batch of school supplies assisted by **Mary Lou Rendon**, our CPS POC (by the car) and a CPS volunteer (left); (2) **2LT Boos** delivers the school supplies to the Dare to Love Rainbow Room at CPS; (3) **Corazon Gervacio**, Community Service Chair (left), joins **Ms. Rendon** (center) and **2Lt Boos** (right) in the Dare to Love Rainbow Room; and (4) **Bea Tuley**, Chapter Secretary (left) and **Vaughn Caudill**, Chapter President (right) with **KENS 5 Weatherman Bill Taylor** at the official CPS Back to School event.



We sometimes take so much for granted, but we've heard story after story in previous years about children under the care of the CPS, who for the first time, had backpacks and supplies like the other kids in their class. These children have to grow up with the reality that their parents couldn't or wouldn't care for them. Having their needs met by an anonymous donor like the ASMC Alamo Chapter lets them know someone cares. Let us send these underprivileged children to school with the essentials to help them focus on learning in school, as shown on the list below. Our sincere thanks to **Lt Brandie Boos** for coordinating this year's Back-to-School Drive.

- **PROJECT COOL 2015.** The Chapter is collected fans again this year and donated them to the Kirby Volunteer Fire Department for distribution to low income, needy senior citizens of San Antonio. We collected a total of nine 20-inch box fans and made our second delivery to the Kirby Fire Station on **21 August 2015** (see photo). Our thanks to **Corazon Gervacio**, our Community Service Chair, for serving as the POC for this year's Chapter Fan Drive.



COMMUNITY SERVICE NEEDS YOU: Do you feel overwhelmed? Please don't. We offer a variety of community service efforts and urge you to try each one at least once. Then please let your VP know which events you most enjoy supporting. We hope that through varying our community support, you will each find a niche that suits you so you can contribute too. ***Finally, if you have any suggestions for community service activities or would like to host an event, contact Corazon Gervacio*** (Community Service Chair, corazon.c.gervacio.civ@mail.mil, 210-221-9513, your organization VP, or any Executive Committee Member. **Thank you!!**

ABOUT FACES

Various Executive Committee Members



Welcomes: None reported.

Welcome Back: None reported.

Local Moves: None reported.

Farewells: None reported.

Promotions: None reported.

Retirements: None reported.

Congratulations: None reported.

Announcements: None reported.



2015-2016 CHAPTER OFFICERS

ELECTED OFFICERS:

President:	Vaughn Caudill	808-7552
Secretary:	Bea Tuley	671-2807
President-Elect:	Geoffrey Schurman	395-8802
Secretary-Elect:	Chad Garcia	395-8501
General Counsel:	Patrick Reynolds	221-0620
Treasurer:	Katherine Igyarto	221-6827
Alt. Treasurer:	Celeste Carrola	925-7160
VP 47 CPTS:	MAJ Jeffrey Garner	298-5330*
VP 502 CPTS (FSH):	Erica Lewis	221-5866
VP 502 CPTS OL-A:	Terry Fomby	671-9214
VP 502 CPTS OL-B:	Jacqueline Paugh	565-1322
VP AETC/AFSAT:	Capt Tarah Cotton	652-4733
VP AFAA:	Joan Navarro	652-0430
VP AFCEC:	Suzanne Meyer	395-8471
VP AFISRA:	Corrine (Ariel) Zurita	977-2570
VP AFMOA:	Tanya Williams	395-9236
VP AFPC/SV:	Rena Benjamin	395-7673
VP ARNORTH:	Jeffrey (Jeff) Musgray	221-0523
VP ARSOUTH:	PeTrina McIntyre	295-6036
VP Galveston COE:	Patricia McDonald	766-3122**
VP IMCOM:	Patty Cour	466-0815
VP MEDCOM:	Victor Stansberry	295-0914
VP Retiree/At Large:	Ada Fromuth	659-8642

APPOINTED OFFICERS:

Exec Officer:	2 Lt Brandy Boos	671-9234
Auditor:	Cynthia Fleming	395-8395
Awards:	Mike Snell Ross Olfers (Alt)	221-2331 253-9748
Budget:	Donald (Don) Brocker	295-2876
Certification:	Kathy Scott	295-2860
Chapter Competition:	Bernard Davey	652-2798
Community Service:	Corazon Gervacio (Corrie)	221-9513
Corporate Liaison:	Rose Saul	466-0866
Elections:	Louise Kefelian	565-5692
Historian:	Betty Ann Rosales	422-9017
Membership:	Ada Fromuth	659-8642
NAVMISSA Liaison:	LCDR Mary Graves- Harewood	808-0607
Newsletter:	Ellen Hester	663-9425
2016 PDS Chair:	1Lt Christian Leonard Belo	221-4897
Photographer:	Nicole Morrow Linda Steele (Alt)	654-6004 221-5699
Programs (Lunches):	Corrine Deane	221-3278
Programs (Training):	VACANT	
Publicity:	Leslie Amerson	925-5301
Scholarship:	William Pazeretsky (Bill)	659-6242
Web-Master:	Richard (Rich) Metcalf	295-2879

* - Area Code 830, DSN prefix 732

** - Area Code 409

