

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

San Diego Chapter COMMUNICATOR

Vol. 8 Issue 1



FROM THE PRESIDENT

The holiday season and 2014 is behind us now and as we reflect back on the past year, both the good and bad, try to take those experiences and learn something from them that will help you in future. This is the time of year many people set improvement targets, both professional and personal. 2015 will be both a challenging and rewarding year full of new opportunities to make a difference in your life and those around you. As a chapter we will face changes as well. Including meeting our membership goals, recruiting volunteers to help run the chapter, training the membership to meet the challenges ahead and to get them certified, continue to meet our requirements to be a 5-Star Chapter, and continue to represent San Diego well among other ASMC Chapters.

I wish you great luck and great success this year.

Ken Suazo, CDFM

Upcoming Events:

February Luncheon – Feb 25
Speaker: John Balestrieri, Deputy Comptroller of N7D, NAVSPECWARCOM. Topic: "Dancing with SEALS - Financial Management in the Special Operations World "

LOCATION:

MCRD Bay View Club



SAVE THE DATE

ASMC Training Day
July 29th 2015

Highlights in this Issue:

- ☞ Charity
- ☞ Meeting and Ship Tour
- ☞ News from National



2014 FIVE STAR CHAPTER





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Charity: Fisher House

The San Diego Fisher House needed assistance **decorating for the holidays** as well as baking holiday cookies and asked us to help. On **Tuesday, December 9th ASMC San Diego and Defense Acquisition University Alumni Association (DAUAA)** partnered for this wonderful opportunity to donate our time and help local military families by decorating The Fisher Houses at San Diego Naval Medical Center as well as by baking holiday cookies for their guests. The Fisher House Foundation is known for building houses at military and VA hospitals all around the world, providing a free, temporary home away from home for families to be with their wounded, injured, or ill service members. The Fisher House greatly appreciated our efforts; and the residents had a festive place to stay and delicious cookies to eat while visiting their military family members. The event was organized by Joanne MacDonald Morrow and was attended by Ken Suazo and family, NL Allen, Margarita Moberg, Bill Johnson and cookies were baked and delivered by Karla Horn.



Ready with the tree ornaments:
Ken Suazo & Bill Johnson



Decorating the bannister: Bobby Vannoy & Jan Marie Petramala

For more pictures, visit our website.



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News from ASMC National: (excerpt from a memo from Al Runnels)

"We have avoided increasing our certification program fees since the inception of the CDFM Program in the year 2000. However, the costs for maintaining the CDFM Program have increased over the years. Also, over the next six months, we are working with a contractor to update our CDFM exams—a complex and costly project. Therefore, we are increasing CDFM-related fees in the New Year by \$4 or \$5, depending upon the type of fee, as follows:

Type of Fee	Fee through December 31, 2014	Fee as of January 1, 2015
Initial Enrollment:	\$35 (members) \$70 (non-members)	\$40 (members) \$75 (non-members)
All CDFM Exams:	\$95	\$99
CDFM Renewal:	\$20 (members) \$40 (non-members)	\$25 (members) \$45 (non-members)

Even considering these minor increases, our CDFM fees remain highly competitive compared to other non-ASMC certification program fees."

www.asmconline.org **CDFM: The Sign of Distinction in Defense Financial Management**

ADDED NOTE: For the month of January 2015, CNIC is providing ASMC members a 50% discount (\$40 to \$20 for the two year initial enrollment) in their Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) Enrollment Fee. Less than a month remains—here's the link to take advantage of this opportunity:
<http://ASMC.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT00NDk5MjU1JnA9MSZ1PTEwMjEzMjE1NjkmbGk9MjY2MzI2NzU/idx.html>



Submit an article to:
patricia.finnell@navy.mil,
for use in a future newsletter !!
Your name will be put in a drawing
for a prize if your article is used!



CDFM CPEs:
50 minutes = 1 unit

For the December luncheon, Ms. Horn spoke 25 minutes = .0.5 CPE.

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ASMC MEETING and SHIP TOUR



ASMC San Diego had the privilege to tour the aircraft carrier **USS John C. Stennis** on Saturday, December 6th. Originally we were scheduled to tour the USS Ronald Reagan. But because the ship had some operational shifts, we were given the rare opportunity to tour the Stennis. The USS John C. Stennis was in port for the weekend taking a break from performing carrier qualification for pilots off the coast of Southern California, and wanted to give ASMC San Diego a tour. This especially was a great treat for me to tour this modern day nuclear carrier because while I was on active duty in the US Navy I was stationed aboard the carrier USS Ranger, a Vietnam-era conventional carrier.

The ship is named after Senator John C. Stennis who was referred to by President Ronald Reagan as "the father of America's modern Navy" because of his years of consistent and steadfast support. As Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee (1969-1980), Senator Stennis stood firm for U.S. military superiority. He fought and won many battles on the floor of the Senate on behalf of American service members. A strong Navy, second to none in the world, was always at the top of John C. Stennis' agenda.

In Washington, Senator Stennis had a sign on his desk that represented a part of his philosophy. It simply read: "Look Ahead." His own words and deeds articulated this personal conviction as it applied to the United States Navy. Today those words are the ship's motto.

Aboard the ship we toured the ship's three hangar bays, where aircraft are stored and maintenance is performed. We then proceeded to the ship's foc'sle for a tour provided by one of the boatswains. This is where the anchor machinery used to wind up the massive anchors is located, and the extremely large anchor chains are stored.

We were then lead through the ship's Commanding Officer's passageways to the flight deck which is over 4 ½ acres and where aircraft are both launched and recovered during carrier flight operations. The Air Craft Handling Officer, who is responsible for the arrangement of aircraft on the flight and hangar deck, provided this part of the tour showing us the arresting wires that are used to retrieve aircraft and the catapults used to launch them, as well as explaining what equipment is used to move the aircraft around.

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Ken Suazo, Juanita Suazo, Mark Zapp, Jerry Timms,
& Bobby Vannoy



Mark Zapp, Bobby Vannoy, Jerry Timms, Ken Suazo,
& Juanita Suazo

Continued...

He even raised one of the ship's massive aircraft elevators from the hangar bay to the flight deck during the tour. After the tour of the flight deck we went to Flight Deck Control, where he manages actual aircraft status as they take off, land and are moved on the flight and hangar decks, using scale model aircraft on a flight deck representation, commonly known as the Ouija board.

From there we were given a tour of the Navigation Bridge by the Officer of the Deck who is in charge of operations on the bridge. This is where the commanding officer (the captain) usually **cons** (controls) the ship from, in his chair surrounded by computer screens. The bridge was extremely impressive outfitted with an array of high-end monitors, including GPS receivers, many radar screens and the helm including the ship's wheel. Finally we walked out onto **vulture's row**, a balcony platform with a great view of the entire flight deck.

ASMC San Diego members, friends and family enjoyed an impressive tour of the USS John C. Stennis at Naval Air Station North Island. The ship's crew was friendly and extremely knowledgeable about their ship. One of the interesting facts we were told about the crew was that females make up 25% of the ship's crew while the ratio Navy-wide was much smaller (about 16%). Next time ASMC San Diego is afforded the opportunity to tour a ship like this I encourage you to go. It's fun, insightful and the ship's crew members are proud of their ship and enjoy showing it to interested people.

☞ Ken Suazo, CDFM



Captain Ken?



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WEBMASTER: Justin Tuyay**CONTACT THE PRESIDENT TO APPLY FOR ABOVE VACANCIES!!**

To the Command Reps,

Thank you for your service to the Chapter. We appreciate all that you do on behalf of ASMC; to post flyers, coordinate reservations and collect payments. If your Command does not have a Rep and you would like to volunteer please contact me.

Wishing you all a Happy and a Prosperous 2015.

☞ **Helen Profeta,**
National Chapter Rep.

MEMBERSHIP LINKS:

Join ASMC: <http://www.asmconline.org/membership/join-renew/>

Update your Profile:

<http://www.asmconline.org/membership/edit-profile/>

Renew ASMC Membership:

<http://www.asmconline.org/membership/renew/>