

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS

San Diego Chapter **COMMUNICATOR**

Vol. 6 Issue 2



Upcoming Luncheons and Speakers:

February 13th -- CWO2
Elisabet Pagtakhan

April 17th -- Sheila Jackson
Comptroller for EWTGPAC

June 19th -- BSA-Benefit
Solution Advisors, Nick
Norton and Michael Ryan

LOCATION:
MCRD Bay View Club

Highlights in this Issue:

- 🌀 CHARITY INFO
- 🌀 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE
- 🌀 NEWS FROM NATIONAL
- 🌀 NEW LUNCHEON SPEAKER

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Members,

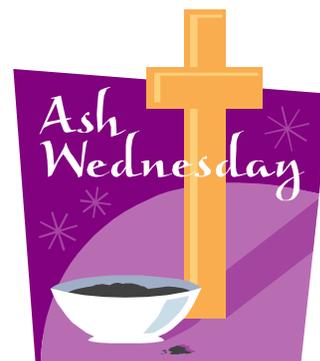
I am very happy about our year ahead. We seem to be moving forward with some interesting and very informative luncheon speakers. As always I encourage members to submit speaker suggestions so we may serve your needs and stay current with today's hot topics.

Our sponsorship program is progressing and if any of you out there are interested please contact Jonah or Kathy, (POC info is on page 5). We can keep our luncheon costs down by recruiting sponsors for training.

With the uncertainty of budgets, we again will be challenged to become creative and resourceful while attaining a quality of service in our jobs. I am hopeful that our membership will rise to these challenges as we have in the past. This is your chapter and I encourage you to become an active member.

Thanks as always and continue to do great things with your family, community and serving others. It matters!

🌀 **Sherry Major**



2012 FIVE STAR CHAPTER





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MEMBERSHIP LINKS:

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

Renew ASMC Membership
<http://www.asmconline.org/membership/renew/>



TRAINING

Attention CDFM-A Candidates!! The CDFM-A Brown Bag series is back! Please join us for an upcoming Brown Bag on Module 2: Budget and Cost Analysis. We will discuss the key concepts and competency areas that are covered and include a series of questions to test your knowledge. We will also offer information for those that are interested in setting up a study group in preparation for the exam. Please RSVP to Sandy Davis-Schiermeyer at Sandra.davis-schiermeyer@gdit.com and join us at SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific Bldg A-33, Point Loma San Diego, on Wednesday 27 February 1200-1300. Conference call capabilities will also be set up for those unable to attend in person. Looking forward to seeing/hearing you there!!

*** Looking to take the Enhanced Defense Financial Management course? Navy is offering to Government personnel April 1st – 5th here in San Diego. You can register online at: <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/edfmt/>.

~ Sandy Davis-Schiermeyer
CDFM Chair

CHARITY

February's Charity is the Fisher House,
"Helping Military Families"

We'll have a table at the February luncheon for donations being collected for this great charity.

Suggested donation items: napkins, paper towels, sturdy paper plates, plastic forks/knives/spoons, bottled water, individually wrapped toilet paper, Febreeze spray, dryer sheets, and laundry detergent.

For more information on the Fisher Houses, go to: <http://www.fisherhouse.org/>



One thing I like about stones
in my path is when I cross
them they become my
milestones.

Anonymous



NEWS from NATIONAL:

ASMC posted the recently issued DoD FM Certification Program Newsletter to their website. The newsletter, which you can access at the web link below, explains the eligibility requirements and benefits of the DoD FM Certification Program, along with quarterly trending statistics.

<<http://ASMC.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT0yOTA2Nzk1JnA9MSZ1PTEwMjEzMTMwNzUmbGk9MTQ5NTU0MDY/index.html>> .

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What is TIP?

The Department of Defense Instruction 1000.27 establishes a mass transit benefit program for outside the National Capital Region. In accordance with this instruction the Department of the Navy (DON) has implemented the Transportation Incentive Program (TIP) for DON employees to help reduce their daily contribution to traffic congestion and air pollution, as well as expand their commuting alternatives. Effective January 1, 2012, DON members are eligible for transit benefits up to \$125.00 per month (parking fees are not included) for specific pre-approved commuter mass transit transportation costs not to exceed actual expenses.

TIP is designed to pay for mass transit costs incurred by personnel in their local commute from residence to permanent duty station. Participants must accurately claim an amount that reflects their actual commuting cost (failure to do so will result in fraudulent certification on the application and is subject to criminal prosecution). This program is a benefit, not an entitlement; thus, there is no retroactive reimbursement for the program back to its inception.

For further details check the below link. Benefit increases to \$240/month effective on 04/01/13 and expires on 12/31/13.

http://www.fmo.navy.mil/Divisions/FMO3/transportation_incentive_program.html

🌀 **Mike Ortiz,**
Secretary

Speaker for February Luncheon is:

CWO2 Elisabet Pagtakhan

Topic: Humanitarian efforts in Cambodia, Bahrain, Philippines etc...



Elisabet hails from Loveland, Colorado. She is currently an active duty Mobility Officer stationed aboard the USS San Diego (LPD 22) as the ships Combat Cargo Officer. Elisabet is married to Phillip Pagtakhan a Network Engineer for the Defense Acquisition University (DAU). They have two daughters, Sienna age 5 and Angelica age 7. Previous assignments include Marine Aircraft Group 39, Marine Security Guard Battalion, American Embassy Tegucigalpa, Honduras, American Embassy Singapore, Singapore, American Embassy Tokyo, Japan, 3D Marine Aircraft Wing, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, and Combat Logistics Battalion 11.

🌀 **Brenda Meyer,**
Executive Vice President

"Buy yourself flowers whenever you can. You deserve it."

Deborah Roberts,
ABC News Correspondent

BE MY
VALENTINE!



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**ASK MAC!**

If you have a question you'd like to submit to "Ask Mac", email the Editor at:
patricia.finnell@navy.mil

Dear Mac,

Our program wants to send funding to an agency outside the Department of Defense and we are meeting some resistance. We were told we would have to use a non-Economy Act order, and it seems we have to jump through hoops to make it happen. Sometimes I think the Comptroller just likes making our jobs more difficult. Am I wrong?

Georgie J.

Dear Georgie,

Non-Economy Act orders are for intra-governmental support, where a DoD activity needing goods and services obtains them from a non-DoD agency by sending funds to that servicing agency with the understanding that agency will award a contract on its behalf.

The history of using the Non-Economy Act to place orders with non-DoD agencies have resulted in serious problems for DoD in past years. Congress became concerned about some interagency contracting actions initiated by DoD such as circumventing contracting regulations and appropriations law. Compliance audits were conducted by the DoD Inspector General's office and they found areas of significant concern. This is summary of the findings and not a total list:

- DoD organizations initiated requirements without determining whether it was in its best interest to make the purchase through a DoD or non-DoD contracting office
- DoD activities used other agencies revolving funds as places to "park" funds that were expiring. The agencies awarded contracts for their DoD customers using those expired funds, which violates appropriation law in DoD
- DoD paid surcharges to order goods and services that could have been obtained from existing DoD contracts.
- 100+ Antideficiency Act violations were identified

As a result of the IG's findings, there are tighter restrictions on the use of non-DoD agencies, but I'm sure you can understand why. Specific statutory authority is required to place an order with a non-DoD agency for goods or services and to pay the associated cost. If that specific statutory authority does not exist, the default will be an Economy Act order. Several of the more commonly used Non-Economy Act statutory authorities include, but are not limited, to the *Acquisition Services Fund*; *Government Employees Training Act (GETA)*; and the *Clinger-Cohen Act (CCA) of 1996*.

Non-Economy Act orders may be placed with another agency for goods or services if:

- Proper funds are available;
- The non-Economy Act order does not conflict with another agency's designated responsibilities
- The requesting agency or unit determines the order is in the best interest of DoD; and the performing agency is able and authorized to provide the ordered goods or services.

Each requirement must be evaluated to ensure non-Economy Act orders are in DoD's best interest so as long as you can meet the criteria and justify the need to go outside of DoD, then you'll be set. Although it might seem at times the Comptroller is trying to be difficult, I can assure you they are just doing their job and trying to keep the transactions legal. Thanks for a great question.

Sincerely,
Mac



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BE MY
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2013 Membership Drive

As we continue with our Chapter membership drive for this fiscal year, please remember if you sponsor a new ASMC member, to email Ken Suazo at Kenneth.Suazo@navy.mil. Then their membership can be verified and properly assigned to the San Diego Chapter and you will be entered in the membership drive for the quarterly drawing. As of the time this newsletter is being published no entries have been received for the 1st Quarter which ended December 31st. If you sponsored a new member during the 1st Quarter please let me know.

National Awards Program

ASMC membership allows you to have the opportunity to participate in the **National Awards Program**. This program includes achievement awards, an essay contest, corporate member award, members' continuing education grants, high school scholarships and many chapter program awards.

See ASMC Awards Online website, <http://awards.asmonline.org>, for information on nominations for all awards that will be presented at this year's PDI. This website permits you to review the criteria for each award, learn how to write better nominations, become a nominator, submit nominations and complete the chapter program report.

~ Ken Suazo, CDFM
Admin Vice President

Submit an article to:
patricia.finnell@navy.mil,
for use in a future newsletter.

