

# American Society of Military Comptrollers

## Hampton Road Chapter Newsletter



### Crab Talk

#### WELCOME OUR NEW CHAPTER PRESIDENT



Ellen Helmersen, President

ASMC Hampton Roads Chapter

It is a great honor and privilege to serve as our ASMC Hampton Roads Chapter President. My goal, as your President, is to increase participation and expand membership this year. I am confident that by bringing in topics of interest and increasing the number of professionals we will improve both our chapter and our community. I want to work together on ways and means to strengthen our engagements with active, inactive, and future members – sharing insights in the value of our chapter and what we offer our community and members.

As most of you know, AMSC promotes education, training and professional development in all aspects of Military Comptrollership. It is a non-profit educational and professional organization for persons (military and civilian, DOD and US Coast Guard, and contractors who provide Financial Management support to DOD and US Coast Guard), in the following disciplines: Accounting and Finance, Acquisition, Auditing, Budgeting, Comptrollership, Cost Analysis, Financial Management, Manpower Management, Management Analysis, Program Analysis, Resource Management, Statistics, and all those providing Administrative Support to all the disciplines.

Many ask – “Why join the American Society of Military Comptrollers - a professional association?” I believe, that if you are interested in furthering your career – this is a step in the right direction and an investment in your credibility and future.

- Broaden your network – Creating and expanding professional relationships is important, it demonstrates your commitment to excellence in your profession.
- Take Charge of your Career. Providing insights on jobs, opportunities and mentors. Offering continuing education scholarships to ASMC members and recognition awards for persons achieving excellence in the field.
- Expand your knowledge – Participating keep your current on trends, developments and opportunities to enhance your career. Providing insight and knowledge, and offering a means to connect with others and share ideas and obtaining new knowledge with access to information, studies, articles, books.

Finally, I encourage each of you to stay involved and serve on one of our Committees. I also welcome your feedback and ideas on how we can improve our Chapter, and the best ways to encourage other professionals to join our Hampton Roads ASMC Chapter.

Ellen

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## U P C O M I N G   E V E N T S

### **Community Service:**

- ⇒ 1 December: Deadline for Stocking Stuffer Submissions
- ⇒ February/March: Honor Flight Fund Raiser

### **Professional Development Luncheons:**

- ⇒ November: Coast Guard Hosting; date and time TBD
- ⇒ December: Army Hosting; date and time TBD

### **Monthly Meeting:**

- ⇒ 17 October, 1130: Speaker– COL Jack Gardner; Leadership Lessons and Pitfalls

### **Awards:**

- ⇒ 31 December: Deadline to submit nominations for local awards
- ⇒ 31 January: Deadline to submit nominations for national awards

## A S M C   C H R I S T M A S   S T O C K I N G S T U F F E R

ASMC will be participating in the Annual Salvation Army Christmas Stockings for the less fortunate children on the Peninsula. The Christmas stockings are for children - newborn to 12 yrs. Each stocking must be for a specific gender and age group. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact your respective ASMC service POC:

Army - Audra Lemme, [audra.a.lemme.civ@mail.mil](mailto:audra.a.lemme.civ@mail.mil), 757-501-6605  
Air Force - Chantele Dow, [chantele.dow@us.af.mil](mailto:chantele.dow@us.af.mil), 757-764-2714  
Coast Guard - LT Adam Stanek, [adam.j.stanek@uscg.mil](mailto:adam.j.stanek@uscg.mil)  
Navy - Anna Foye, [anna.foye@nmci-isf.com](mailto:anna.foye@nmci-isf.com), 757-341-5965

Stockings must be filled and returned to your respective ASMC POC at the beginning of December in order to return them to the Salvation Army NLT 7 December 2017. Thank you in advance for your support!

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MILITARY COMPTROLLERS  
CRAB TALK  
HAMPTON ROAD CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

HAMPTON ROADS CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

New Members since June:

Nicole Monet Haydon, CDFM-A Army  
Alethia Lisa Jokines Air Force  
Ann Ward Navy  
Dallas Rose Wilkerson Navy  
Phillip G. Wooden Navy  
Diane Michelle Griffin Air Force  
John D. Hagley Air Force

Jack McCullough, Jr. Navy  
Alison J. Vaughan Navy  
Jacqueline Danielle Jones Coast Guard  
Kimberly Melin Navy  
Angela FAY Moody Coast Guard  
Joseph Ruybe Coast Guard  
Cherryl B. Sullivan Coast Guard

Gennica  
Rose Ma-

HIGHLIGHTS

SALVATION ARMY SCHOOL  
SUPPLY DONATIONS

In late August we completed our Salvation Army school supply drive. Thank all of you who generously donated to the Salvation Army School Supply. We had the pleasure of having a young school ager delivering a car full of supplies to the Salvation

Army. According to the Salvation Army Coordinator, Mr. Colston, 350 applications for supplies were received within the first day of the application process. They plan to give out 500 backpacks this year. Our donations made a huge difference and Sal-

vation Army team was extremely grateful. Thank you again for helping such a worthy cause and making a difference

*Come, let us put  
our minds together  
to see what kind  
of lives we can  
create for our  
children.*

Chief Sitting Bull  
Lakota Indian Chief

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September Meeting was held 19 September at Naval Station Norfolk.

Speaker: Ms. Betsy Teig, BAH Consultant

Topic: Best Practices for a Successful Migration

Speaker topic and discussion was well received and beneficial to the audience.



Heavy Lifting for  
Cheerful Hearts

## INTERVIEW TIPS

Paul S. Hilton, ADCS, G-8 TRADOC

Every job interview you have will be a new experience, but there are many similarities which, when you think them through, will allow you to prepare yourself better. The following is not intended to be an exhaustive list, nor a simple recipe for success; but is based on hundreds of interviews where some common themes have emerged.

1. Preparation. Look at the job announcement, the position description, and the organization's website with a critical eye and you can gain insight into the questions you are likely to be asked. Then go through your resume, and all your other work experience, to ascertain how you can refer to the experience you have as being relevant to the job you are interviewing for. It is likely you will be asked a situational question; or questions which require you to demonstrate how you have approached a certain technical or other challenge. As you look back through your work history, keep that in mind and find a few examples which you think highlight a particular accomplishment or skills you have. Also, think about your competencies and strengths and be prepared to include those talents in your responses to questions. Finally, practice, practice, practice! Use a colleague, family member or friend to ask you the kinds of questions you think might come up. Have them critique your responses and provide you tips.

2. Interview. It goes without saying, dress appropriately and be on time. Bring a pad to jot notes in case you are asked multi-part questions (more likely as you get more senior). Be calm and project confidence (see "practice" above). Make eye contact with interviewers (if in person.) Answer each question to the best of your ability, but don't ramble on – be responsive, complete yet succinct. Many interviews will start with an intro which tells you "in x minutes tell us..." and when that is the case the panel is measuring your ability to manage time and condense facts – basic staff skills for any job. Don't be afraid to toot your own horn. Don't claim that you solved world hunger single handedly, but do describe how your contributions to the team were critical in getting the problem solved. This is especially true if you developed a novel solution to a long term problem. Everyone is looking for innovation now and it will be a big plus for you if you can show that you can deliver in that regard. If you are interviewing with another command or agency you may well be asked a question about your familiarity with one of their systems or procedures which you don't know. Rather than simply saying, "I don't know," say something like, "I am not familiar with that system but I have worked with similar systems in other commands..." or highlight how you have quickly learned new processes in the past. If you have the opportunity at the close of the interview to ask questions, be prepared to do so. This is the ultimate free lunch if you have prepared yourself. If the panel has not asked you a question which allowed you to highlight your best strength, then you should ask them a question which will allow you to bring that up. Have three or four relevant questions ready to go and ask the ones which might get you to that point. Also, in the closeout of the interview – take the time to restate your interest in the job and what you have to offer the organization. Like many things in life, preparation is key to success. Know your strengths and know how to articulate them. Ask yourself why you want this job before the panel asks you. Be confident!

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Please consider assisting any of the following committee chair members if you are interested

Professional Development: Tina Svaranowic/Susan Anthony

Publicity / Website: Mary Jo Dotson

Competition: Deanna Morinec

Membership: Tanya Gilliam

Scholarships: COL Stephen Lockridge, Mr. Paul Hilton

Awards: Laura Sorensen and Mary Jo Dotson

Community Service: Audra Lemme

C R A B B U C K E T



U P D A T E S

- ⇒ \$66 donated through our Crab Bucket since June
- ⇒ Goal by December's luncheon is an additional \$150

Funds from this donation source support our local foodbanks