



Yankee

# Financial *Matters*

August 2014

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: JOYCE INGRASSIA

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### President's Message

#### Joyce Ingrassia

Welcome Yankee ASMC Family Members to what we expect to be another successful, educational and fun Chapter year. As I enter my third term as your President along with my Vice President, Ken Sweeney; I can comfortably say for us both, that we take our position's responsibilities very seriously. In addition to Ken and I, Stephani Fisher and Janet Foster will be rounding out the Officer Position as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. They are both seasoned and excellent at their job so we feel extremely fortunate to have them on our team again.

Our Committee Chairs are also devoted to bring you the "best of the best" for FY 14-15 -- they are lining up the speakers and events as I speak! Our first meeting is likely to be held in September. I know this is a tough month for many of you with year-end close, but you will definitely want to carve out some time to attend. More details will be coming soon.

## ASMC YANKEE CHAPTER

As always, we are seeking motivated, energetic, creative team players to join our Committees. We currently have two critical Chair positions open, **Community Service** and **Training & Education**. As you know we have been so very fortunate to have had Bill Gurney and Sarah Higgins co-lead the Community Service for several years and they did an outstanding job – overachieving the required hours every year with events that helped out the homeless, children in need, blood drives, etc. I can't begin to tell you what a "Good Feel" one has when you participate in these events. Our Training and Education Committee is in need of a Chair as well. There is so much opportunity here to promote and coordinate the CDFM training within Hanscom. Why not rise to the challenge? Expand your horizons! Take a step outside of your comfort zone! You'll grow professionally as well as personally, I guarantee it!



Check out the Yankee's CDFM's distinguished members in this month's Newsletter. I want to encourage everyone to update your profile information on the ASMC website (see link below). Some of our members have not added their designation of CDFM or CDFM-A. Keep your data current, we don't want to not have you included.



## ASMC COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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**PRESIDENT** JOYCE INGRASSIA

**VICE PRESIDENT** KEN SWEENEY

**SECRETARY** JANET FOSTER

**TREASURER** STEPHANI FISHER

### COMMITTEES

**COMMUNICATIONS** SrA MATTHEW GOFORTH

**COMMUNITY SERVICE** OPEN

**MEMBERSHIP** RODNEY ARNDT

**PROGRAMS** SMSgt. LYNETTE SCOTT

**TRAINING & EDUCATION** OPEN

**AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIP & FUND** LINDA HOLAHAN & CATHY SCHULZ

**AWARDS** KATHERINE BRADSHAW

### **NEED ASMC - YANKEE CHAPTER - VOLUNTEERS**



**ALL MEMBERS OF THE YANKEE CHAPTER WE ARE  
LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE DIFFERENT  
COMMITTEES. THIS IS A GREAT EPR/OPR & CIVILIAN  
AWARDS BULLET. PLEASE CONTACT JOYCE INGRASSIA  
OR KEN SWEENEY IF YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER.**

## (UPDATED) MEET YOUR MEMBER, DIANE GRANT

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In 1979, Diane's husband Barry joined the Air Force. In 1983 he separated from the AF and they moved to Connecticut. In 1986 Barry rejoined the AF and was stationed in Florida at Patrick AFB. Almost immediately, the young family was transferred to Hanscom AFB on a Humanitarian transfer. Diane started working at the Commissary stocking shelves, then cleaned houses, then worked as a home daycare provider. In 1993 the Grant family PCS'd to Eglin AFB. Diane got a job at the BX, then again became a home day care provider, and then worked in the Commissary as a cashier. When they moved back to Hanscom AFB in 1997, Diane was the operation's clerk at the Officer's Club. In 2000 they moved to South Carolina for a short time then returned to Hanscom. At this time, Diane took a NAF position as an accounting technician, in a very short time she became the Purchasing Agent, then a few years later Diane was promoted to NAF Accounting Office Manager. In 2006 Diane moved to the ABG Budget Office and is

currently the Deputy Chief of ALO (Accounting Liaison Office).

When I asked Diane if she recalled any mistakes that may have helped or hurt in any way, she recalled a time when she was working at the Officer's Club. She left a voicemail concerning sensitive information to a customer, but instead of calling the customer who was a Jr. she had called the father—they were both in the Hanscom listing. This taught her to pay closer attention to detail. What is Diane really proud of and why?

She readily responded that she was proud of where she's gotten in her career. Her initial goal was to be a Mom, but, "I'm proud that I am where I am in my career", she said. "Setting a great example for her children", is what inspires her to excel.

On April 20, 1979 Diane married Barry, her high school sweetheart. Diane recounts her marriage to Barry as one of the best things that ever happened, and having him as the father of their children stating that "he is a good man". Diane and Barry have 5 wonderful children, 4 of whom are in the Air Force. They also have 6 grandchildren, and numbers 7 and 8 are on their way.

One of her most favorite things to do is to spend time with her family, children, and grandchildren. This is getting harder and harder to do, because of the different locations everyone lives at. "Whenever we get together with as many as we can or we'll go and visit them, it's a really special event" Diane said, "and very exhausting as well".

A special time in her life that Diane will never forget is when they celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the kids and grandkids in Disney World. It was spectacular!

What brings Diane joy? Well by now I'm sure you all know, it's her children. "Just being

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around them, seeing them happy and succeeding”. She recalls her son received the John L. Levitow award when he graduated from ALS and she was very happy and so proud. She also has a daughter that was coined by President Obama, and another daughter who went to Afghanistan.

When I asked Diane if there was anything in particular that she wished she could do over she responded that she wished she had joined the military when her husband was recruited. “I

wish I had served some active duty time in the Air Force”, she said.

How does Diane describe herself in three words, “Very Proud Mom”!

Qualities that Diane values in people are honesty; to live by the golden rule. “I try to live that way and teach my children to live by the golden rule as well.” Another value that she believes in is to “give all you can to what you believe in, help other people”. Well said Diane!

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## WHITE HOUSE ESTABLISHES U.S. DIGITAL SERVICE

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Thursday, August 14th, 2014

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) [announced](#) this week the establishment of the U.S. Digital Service. OMB called this initiative a key component of efforts to improve and simplify the government’s delivery of services through information technology (IT).

This initiative follows on the successful efforts last fall by a group of IT experts brought into government to fix the HealthCare.gov. Website.

According to a blog posted on the OMB website, “the Digital Service will be a small team made up of our country’s brightest digital talent that will work with agencies to remove barriers to exceptional service delivery and help remake the digital experience that people and businesses have with their government.”

The first administrator of the Digital Service will be Mikey Dickerson, who was an integral part of the group that worked to fix HealthCare.com. Dickerson, a former Google site reliability engineer, will also become the Deputy Federal Chief Information Officer. He has described himself not as a policy expert but as one who knows “how to make big distributed systems work technically.”

The new team expects to hire people who “have talent and expertise in a variety of disciplines, including procurement, human resources, and finance.”

[OMB expects the Digital Service to achieve its mission](#) by: 1) establishing standards to align the government’s digital services with best in the private sector; 2) identifying common technology patterns to scale services effectively; 3) collaborating with agencies to fix gaps in their ability to design, develop, deploy, and operate top-notch customer interface services; and 4) to provide accountability to ensure results. Concurrent with this announcement, OMB released two critical components of the IT toolkit to support the work of the Digital Service. The [Digital Services Playbook](#) will guide leveraging private-sector best practices and the [TechFAR Handbook](#) will help ensure agencies get the right technical tools to buy digital services consistent with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR).

OMB will fund the Digital Team in FY2014 with existing funds and “will scale in 2015 as outlined in the President’s FY 2015 Budget.”



**ASMC YANKEE CHAPTER  
2014 FIVE STAR CHAPTER  
CDFM AUGUST 2014**

**The Sign of Distinction**

<p><b>The Certified Defense</b></p> <p>Michael Alexander Elisa Allen Tommy Appleby, CDFM-A Rodney Arndt, CDFM-A Holly Beavers, CDFM-A Susanne Bradley Barbara Briand Victoria Brown, CDFM-A Glenn Campbell, CDFM-A Dale Champagne Ethel Churchill, CDFM-A Pamela Coit Pamela Condino Constance Confer Tim Cram Roger Cruzan, CDFM-A Margaret Donahue Catherine Dowling, CDFM-A Jacquelyn Foster, CDFM-A Janet Foster, CDFM-A Jean Galib Charles Gisondi Terry Goodwin, CDFM-A Diane Grant Bill Gurney Andrade Haughton Russell Henry Vincent Hodges Barry Hogan, CDFM-A Dean Hollembaek Michale Jesson Marilyn Keeter, CDFM-A Louis Krueger Lissa Lalonde, CDFM-A</p>	 <b>YANKEE CHAPTER CDFMs</b>	<p><b>Financial Manager</b></p> <p>Jennifer Lemay, CDFM-A Sharon Littlejohn Manuel Lomba Adam Macksoud Molly Magee Daniel McCarthy Kathryn McCorkle, CDFM-A Carol Anne McGowan, CDFM-A Mary Medeiros Jason Moore Jason Newman Kevin O'Connor Dorethea Ogarro Michael Olivera, CDFM-A Jason Pennino Lisa Perregil, CDFM-A Linda Pettes Alex Rabasco Thomas Regan Dawn Rooney, CDFM-A Frederick Schomburg Lynette Scott Carolann Sharbutt Vincent Siwicki Stephen Smith Jonathan Spooner Patricia Teferian Tina Vetreno Frank West Pauline Whalley Carolyn Wright Michael Yensz Sara Zakrzewski</p>
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## KENDALL WANTS ACQUISITION RESERVE ACCOUNT, BUT DOESN'T PLAN TO GET IT

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Pentagon acquisition Chief Frank Kendall would like to have a 'strategic reserve' to help prevent taking money from one program to ease shortfalls in another. (Glenn Fawcett/US Defense Department)

### **Kendall Wants Acquisition Reserve Account, but Doesn't Plan to Get It**

**WASHINGTON** — The US Defense Department's top procurement official would like Congress to create a reserve spending account that the Pentagon could tap when a weapons program runs into costly development issues. Such a fund could prevent the snowball effect caused when money is taken from one program to ease shortfalls in another. Still, Pentagon acquisition chief Frank Kendall does not expect to get one anytime soon.

“What I would like to have is a management reserve that when I do have a problem, I could apply it efficiently and I don't have to go penalize some other program that is executing well or just kill another program that I actually need in order to fix the problem I have with the one that's getting in trouble,” Kendall said in a speech Tuesday at an AFCEA-sponsored conference. He noted that program managers usually budget for some problems, so this would be more like a “strategic reserve.” Asked how big it should be, Kendall said: “I don't have a number for that and I don't intend to ask for it in the budget. I don't think it's possible in the current climate.” Kendall acknowledged that budget pressures are forcing DoD officials to cut needed items, so he does not expect lawmakers to create such an account. Kendall proposed the reserve account in a [June 13 letter](#) to Sens. Carl Levin, D-Mich., and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz, chairman and ranking member of the Senate Homeland Security permanent subcommittee on investigations. “While Congress would need to provide the department this authority, I believe there is great value in exploring how a transparent and flexible account could address the inevitable problems that some development programs will encounter,” Kendall wrote. “It likely would be of great utility to the department and would improve warfighter and taxpayer outcome.

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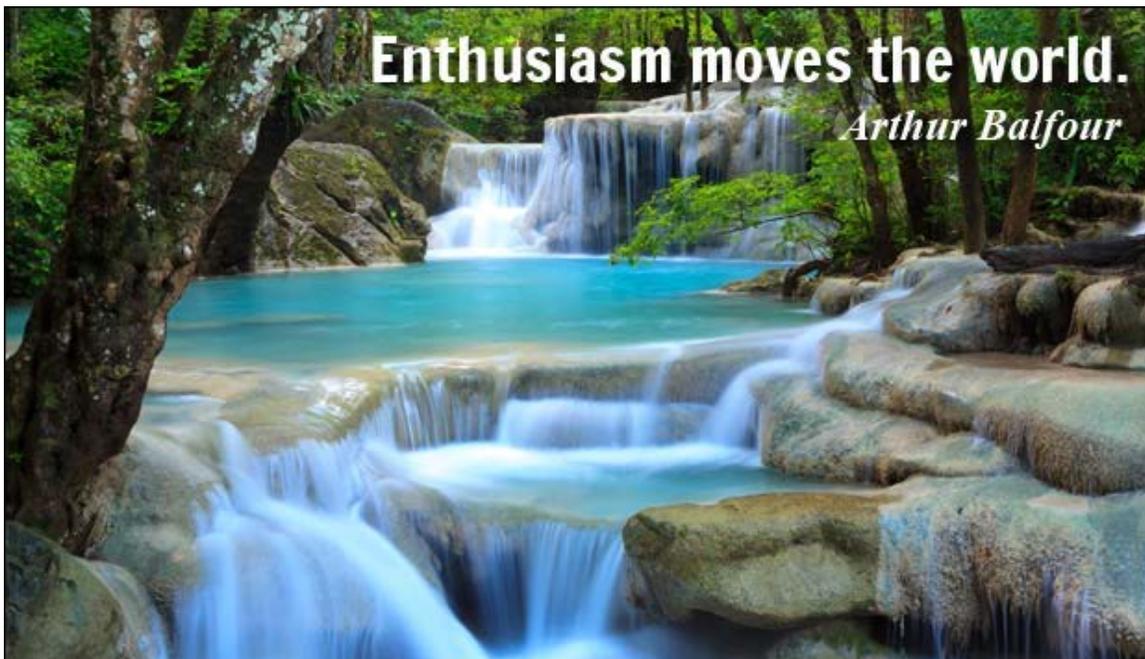
In his letter, Kendell also listed six other actions Congress could take to “help the department”:

- Ending the threat of sequestration, the defense spending caps put in place by the Budget Control Act.
- Continuing to fund the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund, which is used for training and providing experience to DoD’s acquisition workforce.
- Simplifying acquisition rules. Kendall and his staff are working on a legislative proposal with Texas Republican Rep. Mac Thornberry, House Armed Services Committee vice chairman.
- Avoiding “highly restrictive rules which particularly limit our ability to make the best decisions about risk management actions or business arrangement.”
- Reducing the incentive for program managers to obligate funds even if they are not needed. Kendall has long talked about how program managers are punished for not spending budgeted money.
- Helping DoD improve the professionalism of its acquisition workforce and “find creative ways to recruit, retain and incentivize” the government workforce. ■

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### QUOTE OF THE MONTH

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## UPDATED MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

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### ASMC membership allows you to:

1. Gain insight to information on current trends and developments in the financial management of the Department of Defense and U.S. Coast Guard.
2. Receive a subscription to the [Armed Forces Comptroller](#), the quarterly professional journal of the ASMC, and the ASMC Connection, the monthly e-newsletter. These publications, as well as the ASMC website, contain articles, organizational news and updates on current trends and developments within the financial management community and the ASMC.
3. Receive discounts for registration at the national Professional Development Institute, a three day educational event that provides valuable CPE and networking opportunities.
4. Have access to online educational opportunities, where members can participate at their own pace, start and stop sessions, and download presentations.
5. Join in one of the more than [140 chapters worldwide](#). Chapter benefits could include monthly luncheons, local education activities, chapter publications, philanthropic endeavors and more.
6. Receive discounts on enrollment and renewal in the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) Program, which is one of the key certifications identified by the DoD for financial managers.
7. 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.
8. Gain access to the CPE management tool, which allows members to manage, track and record their continuing education experience.
9. Have an opportunity to demonstrate leadership as a chapter officer or committee member.
10. Network with military comptrollers/financial managers and other business organizations interested in military comptrollership.

### Affinity benefits include:

#### Pentagon Federal Credit Union

PenFed is proud to partner with the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) to offer superior financial service products at superior rates. As a member of ASMC, you and your family are eligible for PenFed membership giving you exclusive access to award winning products and services.

Opening a PenFed account will directly support ASMC in pursuit of its mission. Choose any award winning ASMC branded credit card or take advantage of competitive rates on savings products.

Support ASMC with [PenFed](#) today!

*\*Federally insured by NCUA*

#### GEICO

Thanks to a special arrangement with GEICO, you can save even more on all your insurance needs simply because you're a member of ASMC. Use the [online quote generator](#) or call GEICO at **1-800-368-2734** and mention your ASMC affiliation for exclusive savings.