



Yankee

Financial *Matters*

17 January, 2014

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- President's Message, Joyce Ingrassia
- United We Serve, Education Partnerships that Change Lives, *by Audrey Suker*
- Meet your member, Ms. Holly Beavers, CDFM-A, *by Joyce Ingrassia*
- Membership Benefits
- Community Events

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: JOYCE INGRASSIA

Team Hanscom:

Welcome back to the Yankee Chapter Newsletter! As the New Year 2014 kicks off we are looking for a bigger, stronger, and healthier New Year for our members and for our Chapter. We have successfully maintained our Five Star Status for more than two years now. The Yankee Chapter is all about you! With your support and participation we will grow and continue to provide educational services and training for your professional development. Check out this month's article about the Benefits of Membership.

As you know, we've been struggling to find a replacement for someone who will put together the publication of our monthly newsletter. Hopefully we now have a solution. Elisa Allen has graciously volunteered to help out for a couple of months until SrA Matthew Goforth assumes this task. Airman Goforth, has just changed positions and while he is getting up to speed in his new role Elisa will work with Andrade Haughton to get this published.

Thanks to everyone for your support and dedication.

United We Serve

The President is calling on all Americans to participate in our nation's recovery and renewal by serving in our communities. There are many ways to get involved. America's new foundation will be built one community at a time - and it starts with you.

[Education Partnerships that Change Lives](#) by Audrey Suker

As AmeriCorps celebrates its 20th anniversary, it's exciting to reflect on what the authors of the National Community Service Trust Act imagined for the power of national service. They believed that service should be an innovative public-private partnership, and Minnesota Reading Corps is bringing that vision to life.



[Reading Corps](#), a strategic initiative of [ServeMinnesota](#) and [AmeriCorps](#), is an early literacy program that is changing academic outcomes for thousands of students in urban, suburban, and rural settings. This breakthrough program began in 2003, serving just 250 children. Today, it is one of the nation's largest AmeriCorps programs, with nearly 1,200 members serving 30,000 children annually – large enough to move the needle on improving third-grade reading proficiency on a significant scale.

AmeriCorps members use the most effective literacy practices to provide hands-on support for struggling readers. Reading Corps consistently delivers impressive results. Preschool participants outperform their peers in kindergarten readiness assessments, and kindergartners-third graders make more than a year's worth of literacy progress. Perhaps most importantly, students who have Reading Corps are three times less likely to be referred to special education.

These achievements wouldn't be possible without public-private partnerships. From the beginning, individuals, businesses, and nonprofits joined together to ensure that this proven model was available to more children every year. With extraordinary partners like [Target](#) and United Way, we are advancing thought leadership, policy, and philanthropy focused on third-grade reading. Thanks to their investments, the program has helped more than 100,000 students advance their literacy skills.

“I'm no good at reading”



One such student is Garrett, a quiet third grader, who was anxious about his reading abilities.

“On the first day of school, he came to my desk and said, ‘I just want you to know that I’m pretty good at math, but I’m no good at reading.’” said Emily Nebben, his teacher. “It was heartbreaking for me.”

Garrett’s parents had placed him in several different programs and worked with him every night – but didn’t see improvement until he started working with his Minnesota Reading Corps tutor. Then there was no holding him back. Everyone saw the transformation – especially his teacher.

“I just saw him bloom from that first day, like you would not believe,” said Nebben. “His

confidence, his demeanor, the way he held his whole body -- He was a different kid. Like caterpillar to butterfly.”

Program Spreads to Other States

More than two-thirds of fourth-grade students nationwide -- as many as 6 million children -- do not read at their grade level. By harnessing the power of national service and public-private partnerships, Reading Corps benefits thousands of children just like Garrett. It is an integrated part of Minnesota’s literacy strategy and has been adopted in seven additional states and Washington, DC.

A recent study from the University of Chicago’s Opinion Research Center found that Reading Corps is highly replicable and “can be transformed into a model for other successful reading tutoring programs.”

Bolstered by private support, Reading Corps illustrates the bold vision for AmeriCorps service and is poised to meet the growing needs of students and schools nationwide

MEET YOUR MEMBER

Holly Beavers, CDFM-A



Holly's career began on February 7, 2005. She was part of the recruitment process through USA jobs based on the outstanding scholar program. Holly had been working as a contractor for AFRL at Eglin AFB and converted to a civilian position. Holly said she had never envisioned living here in New England but when the opportunity came up she decided it was time for a change and now loves the four seasons. This was quite an adventure for me, she says since she has no family in the northeast. Holly supports HBD Theatre Battle Management as Division Chief of FM for 2 branches within the division. The Battle Control Systems Branch has multiple programs and 3DELRR (3 Dimensional Expeditionary Long Range Radar) Branch, which is a new

radar to replace one of the antiquated radar systems in the Control & Reporting Center (CRC) program in the BCS branch.

Important dates that have significance to Holly would be May 2008. She graduated successfully from the three year FM training program. Holly recalled her first mentor, Mary Natches, who was her immediate supervisor from day one. Holly said Mary supported, believed, and encouraged her to grow and learn as much as she could as a trainee and as a new analyst to the world of acquisition. Some other mentors that have left an impression on Holly are, Sandy LaPlante, her first CFO, Terry Currier, Mary Ellen Heider, Grace Burke, Vince Siwicki, Michelle Rogers, and her current CFO Tommy Appleby, who have all provided an amazing amount of encouragement in her career growth. "There's just too many to name," she said, "I have been very fortunate and lucky to have worked with these people. From the beginning I learned there were no stupid questions any help I needed I received and never felt uncomfortable asking any questions." One of the best things that happened to Holly, so far, she said, was when she was hired and moved to Hanscom "this move met a lot of personal and professional goals for me."

Some of Holly's favorite things to do lean towards the more creative side, she has studied music her whole life. "I played the piano since I was six, have participated in vocal training and coaching. I am classically trained as a singer for more than 25 years. In my previous life, I studied art history and architecture as a major. Photography is also a big love of mine. I study at Brandeis with a local coach for singing, and when they have local recitals for students I participate in those as well. My goal is to find a group where I can sing." A time that Holly will never forget is when she was at Georgia Tech studying architecture and art history. Although she did not complete that degree

Holly said it was a really enjoyable experience. "I had an opportunity to work more on the creative side, working my hands, drawing, model building, painting. I really enjoy that and I miss it, a small part of me wishes I had continued."

One of Holly's biggest influences in her life is her sister. Holly says that as they've gotten older, her sister has become her best friend and someone she knows she can rely on for advice, lend an sympathetic ear, and provide a voice of reason when she needs help.

Holly is most proud of coming from a very extensive military family. She's very proud that her father served for many years, both grandfathers, uncles, cousins have served as well. "It gave me a huge appreciation for having lived overseas and coming back to United States, it made me appreciate being an American and growing up in an American military family. I still feel that I'm contributing to that by the work that I do here."

Holly says growing up all over as a military brat was interesting. "I was born in New Mexico, lived in Arizona, Texas, and in Okinawa, Japan for four years. While in Japan I visited China, Hong Kong and the Philippines. We moved to Virginia, and then to Florida where my dad retired at Eglin AFB. I went to school in Atlanta, Georgia then I moved back to Florida where I worked for several years -- you get adaptable to change pretty easily, learn how to make friends easily, and get a little adventurous, i.e., moving to New England on your own."

I asked Holly what inspires her. She said growing up as a military brat, my father, and both grandfathers were in the Air Force, this

is my way of serving as well. I have cousins in active duty, so supporting the military was a non-partisan issue. I feel like this is me doing my part."

I asked Holly if there was anything she'd like to do over or accomplish in her life that she hasn't done yet. "No, I've learned to not have regrets. I think at this point I've realized to embrace the path that led me here, right or wrong I'm very thankful for it."

When asked what qualities Holly values in a person, Holly was quick to name, respect, kindness and compassion. She went on saying, "people make mistakes, but I make the assumption that people are doing their best and you have to give people room to grow to be their best. Being compassionate to other people, letting go of things you can't control, and have faith things will work out for the best in the end, is key for a successful relationship, both professionally and personally." Holly went on saying she tries to have a positive attitude towards life itself and loves to laugh. "Most people can hear me laughing down the hallways, as I try to bring laughter into the workplace."

Like many of us, Holly also has a "bucket list" she wants to travel to Western Europe and Australia. She also wants to travel and see the beautiful country of ours, U.S.A, in particular the Midwest and Northwest.

One of Holly's goals is to complete her Master's Degree. "That's one of my very near term goals. I have less than a year to go. I attend Boston University here on base."

I asked Holly that if she took out a full page ad in the New York Times and had to describe herself in only three words, what would it be? Holly quickly came back and said, "Happy, Resilient, and Creative".

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

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.

University of Phoenix Online

ASMC is pleased to announce a new member benefit. Members who meet University of Phoenix Online student qualifications may now receive a significant discount on tuition. For more information or to register, call 800-366-9699, ext. 7131287 and ask to be transferred to the military team, and identify yourself as an ASMC member. For more information, contact: Gary D. Harrah, M.A., M.B.A., USAF Retired Regional Director, National Defense Relations phone (602) 713-1287 toll free (800) 366-9699 ext. 7131287 Email: gary.harrah@phoenix.edu

Becker Professional Education

Becker will provide the discounted rate of \$1930 for CPA Exam Review full four-part course to ASMC members who are federal employees or a \$300 discount off the list price of \$2,890 for all other ASMC Members who are not federal employees (discounts cannot be combined). Becker will provide all ASMC members the rate of \$350 per person per year for any ASMC sponsored direct bill CPE Distance Learning Unlimited Use Subscription program. Course content can be found at www.becker.com/cpe. (discounts cannot be combined). *(Example of a combined discount: Belonging to multiple societies offering Becker discounts.)* Visit the [Becker Web site](#) for more information

WAY TO GO!!

Special Congratulations to our very own Diane Grant who received a \$50 Amazon Gift Certificate from ASMC National. Diane's name was entered for renewing her membership during May 1 – June 30, 2013. ASMC entered all names for new members as well as renewals during that time and offered a drawing of \$200 or \$50 Gift Certificates. Diane was one of the lucky ones. It pays in more ways than one to be a member of ASMC!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

December Jamie's Joy was a HUGE SUCCESS! We had several donors (who would like to remain anonymous) that spread a tremendous amount of Joy to many children last month. Our Community Events Committee purchased (or received donations) for every single gift on their list. They served five families and ten children in total. Each child's list had a dozen or so items

ASMC YANKEE CHAPTER

listed, so the generosity displayed by the Yankee Chapter was more than admirable and quite overwhelming. Check out our pictures below:



Coming up – Future events for the Community Committee will be coming soon. We are in contact with the Cradles to Crayons (organizing donations of books, toys, clothes, etc. for underprivileged children) and the New England Center for Homeless Veterans (providing a dinner service to the veterans). Emails for the January event will be going out soon, stay tuned!

Programs Committee - This month our meeting will be held on Thursday, January 23rd at 11:30 in the Chapel Annex. Our guest speaker, Ms. Avery Beal, Health Promotion Specialist, will address Civilian Health Promotion Service. This will be an overview of the CHPS Program, whereby information will be provided on preventing chronic disease.

A very important, interesting and timely presentation given the current environment we all work in. As a nation, 75% of our health care dollars goes to treatment of chronic diseases. These persistent conditions—the nation’s leading causes of death and disability—leave in their wake deaths that could have been prevented, lifelong disability, compromised quality of life, and burgeoning health care costs.

Mark your Calendars Now! You don’t want to miss this presentation.