

# Wright Flyer



November 2024

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**Website:** <http://www.asmc-aviation.org/>



*Chapter President*  
*Thomas Giovino*

Greetings SDFM Aviation Chapter,

November has gone by in a whirlwind. Christmas is fast approaching. I want to thank everyone that came out for the holiday party at Kohlers this year. I had a great time. The food was fantastic, and the company was exceptional. I want to thank all those that helped make it a great celebration this year.

We are continuing to work details for the mini-PDI for 2025. We are looking for members to volunteer to help put on this great training event. Please contact me if you would like to help out in any capacity.

Ms. Fast as sent out details for this years awards program. You should be seeing some information through your VP. I am hopeful we will get a bumper crop of award submissions from our Chapter highlighting all the great work that is accomplished at WPAFB and the surrounding areas. Please take the time to recognize those outstanding folks in your work area.

If you have not signed into the SDFM web site to update your information, please do so soon. If you have not signed in in a while, you will be prompted to redo your profile. I have heard the Mr. Shawn Kain is retiring in February of 2025. He has served as chapter Secretary for a few years. If you see Shawn around the shop, thank him for his service to the Nation and to your Aviation Chapter.

Travel safe, watch out for each other and being happy is a choice.

## MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING

The SDFM Aviation Chapter celebrated the holidays on 19 Nov 2024. Congratulations to all the door prize winners and thank you for those who donated socks for Shoes 4 The Shoeless.



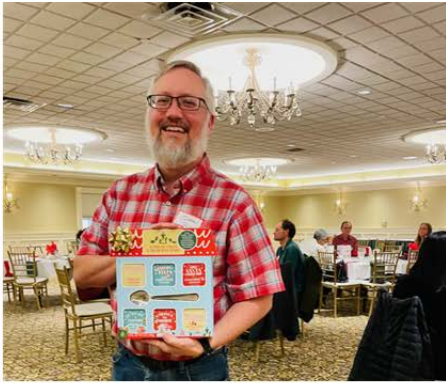


# MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING





# MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING



### Augsburg Memorial Scholarship Call for Applicants

#### **History**

The Augsburg Memorial Scholarship was named for Fred and Susan Augsburg by the members of the ASMC Aviation Chapter as a lasting beneficial memorial to their friends. The couple was vibrant, outgoing, fun-loving individuals, and true professionals in their jobs. Tragically, in February 1987, they were killed in a traffic accident in Lexington, Kentucky. A drunk driver crossed the centerline and struck Fred & Susan while they were jogging. Both died from their injuries.

#### **About the Scholarship**

The Augsburg Scholarship is funded by both CFC and individual donations and managed by the American Society of Military Comptrollers, Aviation Chapter, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. 100% of contributions go towards the scholarships, with no administrative costs.

The Augsburg Scholarship Fund promotes education and training through scholarships for graduating high school seniors and continuing college students who live in or attend school in Southwest Ohio, and are majoring in accounting, financial management and related courses of study.

The two High School scholarships awarded at the local chapter are \$1,000 per year for a total of \$4,000 to deserving high school seniors graduating each year, who plan to pursue a college degree in the specified areas of study. The two College Continuing Education scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$1,000 each to deserving continuing college students pursuing a degree in the specified areas of study.

#### **How to Apply**

Applications can be downloaded from the ASMC Aviation Chapter's website: <https://www.asmc-aviation.org/augsburgscholarship/>

For Augsburg Memorial Scholarship information, contact Mrs. JoAnne Wills at (937) 904-3939.

#### **Mail applications to:**

ASMC Aviation Chapter Scholarship Committee  
ATTN: JoAnne Wills  
1269 Ponderosa Ct  
Fairborn, OH 45324

**All applications must be received by 28 February 2025**





## Congratulations

### Promotions -

Maj Gen Frank Verdugo, HQ AFMC/FM

Kyle Keegan, SAF/FMN

Anne Yellin, SAF/FMN

Crayons to Classroom - On 8 Nov 2024, several ASMC Aviation Chapter members volunteered at the Crayons to Classrooms. Crayons to Classrooms is committed to providing tools to at-risk children in the Greater Dayton Region, including Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, and Warren counties. Their vision is to ensure every student in need has the tools for success everyday, in every way. Their mission is to secure and distribute school supplies at no cost to teachers of students in need. They encourage community donations while also leveraging an extensive collection of supply chain partners to secure essential school supplies at significantly reduced costs. Then distribute those items at no cost to teachers in their Dayton store. This committed collaboration between business leaders, individual donors and volunteers helps to assure equal access for students in our community and fuel their love of learning.



### CY24 SDFM Achievement Awards - Nominations due 24 Jan 2025

It's that time of year again - to nominate outstanding individuals and teams for the Society of Defense Financial Management (SDFM) (formerly American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC)) Aviation Chapter Calendar Year 2024 Achievement Awards! Forms and information can be found at <https://www.asmc-aviation.org/professional-development/>. **Please submit all award nominations to sheena.fast@us.af.mil by 24 January 2025.** She will respond to all submissions to verify receipt, so if you don't hear back within 1-2 business days, please follow-up.

Please encourage your leadership teams to prepare and submit deserving individuals for one or more of the award categories (see "CY2024 Awards - Info" attachment). Nominees do NOT need to be SDFM members. All nominees will be reviewed by a panel for our local awards and will also be submitted for the SDFM National Achievement Awards competition.

There are 4 different nomination forms, depending on what category the nomination is for:

1. Digital Transformation (Teams and individuals use this form)
2. Intern/Trainee (Individual only)
3. Team Award (Both Small and Large teams)
4. Individual Award (all other categories of individuals)

### SDFM MEMBERS -- additional opportunity!

SDFM National Essay Contest -the author may choose to write on one of two current topics -see attached rules for the essay and submission. The essays must be **submitted to National by 28 February** - the member may submit the essay on the website, or may provide the essay in a Word document to sheena.fast@us.af.mil by 22 February for submission. She will respond to all submissions to verify receipt, so if you don't hear back within 1-2 business days, please follow-up.



## FROM THE DESK OF MR. MIKE SMILEY, SES, SAF/FMF

(Reprinted from SAF/FM Air Force Comptroller - Fall 2024 - Vol 57, Issue 3)

Supporting the Department of the Air Force (DAF) continues to be an incredible experience. As I have become more acquainted with the DAF's Financial Management (FM) community through my time with the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Financial Operations (SAF/FMF) and my new position, I am continually impressed by the caliber of FM professionals across the DAF. It is an honor to share my thoughts with you all, and I am eager to continually modernize our operations to prepare for the FM of the future.

As we conclude our SEVENTH full financial statement audit, I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations to our colleagues in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics (SAF/AQ), DAF Judge Advocate General's Corps, and Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) FM for their (highly anticipated) remediation of the General Fund (GF) Military Equipment material weakness, the GF Contingent Legal Liabilities significant deficiency, and the Working Capital Fund (WCF) Fund Balance with Treasury (FBwT) material weakness. I am sincerely thankful for your long hours, hard work, and perseverance that have brought us to this point, moving us even closer to achieving a clean audit opinion by 2028.

As we transition into FY25 and beyond in our audit journey, I challenge each of you to consider the bigger picture of the audit. The audit is not a never-ending compliance drill—it helps the DAF identify cyber vulnerabilities, it leads to efficient use of taxpayer dollars, and it supports Airmen and staff in the field with resources they need to achieve the mission. Achieving an audit opinion is critical for the DAF and it will require us to think creatively about solutions that address our most pressing issues related to GF and WCF. FY25 and FY26 will be particularly busy for the GF, with many roadmap targets leading up to the FY26 goal for an audit opinion.

As we pursue the DAF FM Strategic Plan and advance our intentions and goals, the DAF will make sure to align with the Secretary of Defense's audit priorities as we progress towards broader Department of Defense (DoD) goals. The DAF is a leader within the DoD—the first service to remediate our GF FBwT material weakness— and I have no doubt we can continue to lead. We are committed to these priorities and with the addition of the Procure to Pay (P2P) priority for FY25, I am confident we will deliver.

How we deliver today must continue to evolve. Across SAF/FM, we have put processes in motion over the last few years to ensure greater integration and oversight across the FM community. We must now work to inculcate these changes as part of the FM culture. We can do this by encouraging and emphasizing change management activities that drive innovation and growth for our mission. To aid the progression of change management activities, we will enhance our focus on the following key areas:

**LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE** – Active involvement of senior leadership provides direction, support, and accountability to our FM community. We have made great strides in establishing the Executive Steering Committee as the overarching governance body for audit. We should continuously evaluate the level of executive oversight provided to ensure sufficient buy-in across the Department and to ensure that future decisions align with our goals. I challenge all leaders across the DAF to think about sound financial management as you make informed decisions.

### DAF Audit Roadmap (FY25 & Beyond)



**COMMUNICATION STRATEGY** – Providing informed and transparent updates that address expectations, concerns, or changes across the Department. These updates should be recurring and should also leverage a variety of communication vehicles (i.e., email, in-person meetings, video calls, etc.). I commit to sharing our audit progress regularly with the workforce, through the quarterly audit newsletter. I also challenge leaders at all levels to communicate our audit strategy regularly.

**TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT** – DAF’s auditor has noted the FM workforce is hampered by a lack of sufficient training in key topics such as internal control concepts and accounting topics, which is a growth area for DAF. Adapting to change requires equipping all teams with the necessary skills and knowledge to be successful in their respective roles. For instance, we are organizing audit focused site visits and road shows to provide ongoing opportunities for hands-on or virtual experiences. Such activities are a creative example of enabling our teams to better understand new processes, procedures, or requirements through on-the-job learning.

**PROCESS STANDARDIZATION** – The DAF has become a standard-bearer across the DoD in how we have standardized audit processes through our Integrated Master Schedule and Enterprise Governance, Risk, and Compliance (eGRC). Standardizing and documenting audit-related processes creates consistency, clarity and ensures that all teams are working from a baseline understanding. We are implementing best practices across DAF to enhance audit efficiency and effectiveness by leveraging technology such as automating repetitive tasks and streamlining workflows. We must ensure that our processes are part of a lasting culture and create enduring changes—this is something all of us, regardless of title or tenure, must support.

As we can all see in the audit roadmap, we have little room for error. Let’s remain focused on the bigger picture and identify opportunities to collaborate with our partners across the DAF to drive progress. We continue to welcome new ideas and ways to leverage technology for DAF. In conclusion, thank you for welcoming me as the Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary (Financial Operations). As we continue with our audit activities, let’s focus on the future and drive towards achieving results that minimize risk and enhance the integrity of the DAF. I have no doubt that with continued hard work and forward thinking, we can achieve our FY25 goals and continue to be an audit leader for the DoD. Remember, “ALL ROADS LEAD TO AUDIT;” embrace the changes!





# TREASURER'S REPORT

## October 2024

**Treasurer: Rebecca Wilkins & Lucas Compton**



	WPFCU - Chapter General Funds	Fidelity - Chapter Investments	Fidelity - Augsburg Scholarship
Beginning Balance	\$22,050.46	\$201,442.04	\$171,793.56
+ Income/Expenses	\$0.00	(\$1,346.19)	\$970.43
+ deposits	\$2,494.12	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$24,544.58</b>	<b>\$200,095.85</b>	<b>\$172,763.99</b>

Note: The Fidelity ending balances are 31 October 2024.  
The Fidelity account balances are investments and fluctuate with the market. This causes unrealized gains and losses, which are captured in the Income.



**PowerPoint Designer**

PowerPoint Designer is a feature within PowerPoint that automatically generates multiple slide design ideas based on the slide's content. When a slide is selected, a variety of design suggestions will be provided to visually enhance your content. Designer will even provide suggestions, which can be used to convert text to visuals and improve the slide's readability. To use the Designer feature, go to the Home tab of the ribbon and click the Designer button to open the Designer pane. More details of Designer can be found here <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/create-professional-slide-layouts-with-designer-53c77d7b-dc40-45c2-b684-81415eac0617>.

**Excel's XLOOKUP Function**

Users of the VLOOKUP function may be interested in one of Excel's newer functions. In short, the XLOOKUP works mostly the same way as the VLOOKUP function, but it supplies more options, versatility, and is easier to use. This article, <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/xlookup-function-b7fd680e-6d10-43e6-84f9-88eae8bf5929>, provides details on how the function works. XLOOKUP is a dynamic function which uses lookup and search columns instead of relying on the confusing Column Index Number like VLOOKUP. This enables XLOOKUP to search vertically, horizontally, and to the left or right. Since it does not use the Column Index Number, the function does not break when new rows or columns are added to the search table. Finally, the new function has a built-in argument for creating a custom error message. A detailed comparison of XLOOKUP and VLOOKUP is available in this article, <https://www.makeuseof.com/xlookup-vs-vlookup/>.

**Word's RAND Function**

While rare, instances of a user needing to generate random text. For example, a user may need to practice various styles or formatting. Word contains a feature which enables users to generate random text of a specified number of paragraphs and sentences per paragraph. To use the feature, open a Word document. On a new line type the following without the quotation marks, **"=rand(3,4)"** and press Enter. Word will generate three paragraphs which are four sentences in length. In other words, the function's structure is Rand(# of paragraphs, # of sentences).

As a bonus, you can do the similar in Word to generate random Latin text. The LOREM function will do the same using the same arguments. For example, **"=lorem(2,5)"** will generate two paragraphs of Latin text which are five sentences in length.

Note: Both functions will also work in Outlook emails and PowerPoint slides

**Outlook's Color Categories**

In Outlook, you can use Categories to organize your emails. When you select an email, there is a Categorize dropdown option in the Home tab of the ribbon. Categories are basically a color-coding system that you can apply to your emails. In the Tags section of the Home tab click on the Categories icon. Click on "All Categories". This will open the "Color Categories" window where you can create and edit categories. After you have setup the categories, you can right-click on the box when you select an email, and it will bring up a list of categories that you can apply to the email. Alternatively, you can use

**Ctrl+F2** through **Ctrl+F12** as a shortcut if you assigned it when you created or edited the category. This is a very useful way to visually organize your emails.





**ASMC – Aviation Chapter  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
13 Nov 2024 (1200-1218 hrs)**

I. **Call to Order:** Thomas Giovingo at 1200 hrs

II. **Attendance/Reports**

**Treasurers:** Lucas Compton (A), Rebecca Wilkins (A)

**Secretary:** Shawn Kain (A)

**President-Elect:** A1C George Walton

**Vice-Presidents**

**AFAA:** Jonathan Pepples

**AFLCMC:** Julie Louthain

**AFMC:** JoAnne Hutchison (A)

**AFRL:** Tammy Pendergast (A)

**At Large:** Rhonda Pepitone

**Contractors:** Shawn Coil (A)

**88th CPTS:** A1C George Walton

**Committee Chairs:**

**Audit:** Stephanie Burd, Michelle Bahan (A)

**Augsburg Scholarship:** JoAnne Wills

**Awards and Recognition:** Sheena Fast, Amie Satterfield

**Chapter Competition:** Heather Brodess (A)

**Communications:** Colleen Robinson

**Community Activities:** Jennifer Caplinger (A), Jessica Pauley

**Health & Wellness:** Fernando Mason

**Membership:** Jaime Iaquina, Edward Jackson

**Professional Development:** Trent Harpest (A), Andrea Hamilton

**Early Careerist:** Sandra Moncree (A)

**Programs:** Shawn Coil (A)

**Tickets:** Vacant

**Ways & Means:** Sarah Garrette

**Historian:** James Davis

Other Attendees: Tracey Hearn (A)

(A) = In Attendance

III. **General Business**

A. OLD:

i. Holiday Party

- a. Room change to Washington room from Kohler Hall
- b. Reserved for 35 places (minimum to reserve the room)
- c. Current count is approx 31 - closes on Friday
- d. Raffle for a turkey dinner, \$100 Kroger gift card
- e. Accepting donations for Socks for the Shoeless
- f. Gifts, games throughout the evening
- g. Buffet Style - Prime Rib, Chicken Piccata, Italian Stuffed Shells



- ii. Volunteer Opportunities - Jen Caplinger update
  - a. Dayton Food Bank, 28 Oct - Went well
  - b. Crayons to Classroom, 8 Nov - Went well
- iii. Lunch & Learn - Shawn Coil: 31 Oct Session with Col Stephen Gray, AFMC HQ/FMA, was very well received.
- iv. Retirement of Patrice Solorzano created an opening on Board for VP Contractors. Shawn Coil will assume that role.

" NEW:

Revive the monthly networking gatherings in person at a local establishment (rotating venues). We're looking for ideas and for someone to lead this effort.

- ii. Volunteer Opportunities – Jen Caplinger update
  - a. Wreaths Across America, Dec 14 – – We will lay wreaths at Dayton VA Cemetery. It's a 30-minute ceremony.
- iii. Upcoming Lunch & Learns – Shawn Coil. We will start up again in January. If you have any ideas for speakers, please contact Shawn.
- iv. VP's/Committee Chairs - Shawn Kain announced he will retire at the end of February. We will need a new Recording Secretary starting in March.
- v. Around the room - We will support Tammy Pendergast's Christmas Angels project with a collection point at Kings Table on a Friday in Nov/Dec. Please reach out to Tammy directly if interested. This project involves making donations to the angel tree. Tammy needs everything by 6 Dec. She has several angels that need sponsors.

IV. Meeting Adjourned: 1218





**Program/Budget Summit (P/BS)**

Join us in-person OR virtually this year!

Register Now & Get Ready

Be one of the first 50 to register and receive a gift voucher

In its third year, SDFM's Program/Budget Summit (P/BS) [ <https://sdfm.org/professional-development/program-budget-summit/> ] will dig into five key imperatives for defense financial management professionals in 2025.

- PPBE Reform
- Audit Readiness
- Budget Transitions
- Financial Management Strategy
- Defense/Veterans Healthcare Financial Management

This year's event will bring P/BS to more defense financial managers than in the past as we've added a virtual livestream registration option. Let's make it the more the merrier January 16, 2025!

If you're in the greater DC area, we hope you'll join us in-person and stay for the networking reception immediately following P/BS, included in your ticket.

Special thanks to this year's presenting sponsor, Lynch Consultants.

Register for In-Person

<https://sdfm.org/ams/event-reg/#/simpleevent/a15782ae-d7a5-ef11-8a6b-000d3a32a21f>

Register for Virtual

<https://sdfm.org/ams/event-reg/#/simpleevent/c00f69c0-b8a6-ef11-8a6a-000d3a32a151>

Thanks to registration sponsor, RMA Associates, the first 50 people who register to attend P/BS in-person [ <https://sdfm.org/ams/event-reg/#/simpleevent/a15782ae-d7a5-ef11-8a6b-000d3a32a21f> ] will receive a \$5 voucher for the Mark Center Market. Should you need a little afternoon boost, hydration, or otherwise – they've got you covered. Details on the voucher redemption will be communicated to those select 50 shortly before the event.

Questions? Reach out to our education team at [Education@sdfm.org](mailto:Education@sdfm.org) [ <mailto:education@sdfm.org> ] .

Sponsorship Opportunities are Available. Contact Sabrina Sheth at [Sponsorship@sdfm.org](mailto:Sponsorship@sdfm.org) [ <mailto:sponsorship@sdfm.org> ] .



## 2024-2025 Executive Board

President	Mr. Thomas Giovingo
President-Elect	A1C George Walton
Secretary	Mr. Shawn Kain
Treasurers	Mr. Lucas Compton, Ms. Rebecca Wilkins

### Organizational Vice Presidents

88th CPTS VP	A1C George Walton
AFAA VP	Mr. Jonathan Pepples
HQ AFMC VP	Ms. JoAnne Hutchison
AFRL VP	Ms. Tammy Pendergast
AFLCMC VP	Ms. Julie Louthain
At Large VP	Ms. Rhonda Pepitone
Contractor VP	Mr. Shawn Coil

### Committee Chairs

Audit	Ms. Stephanie Burd, Ms. Michelle Bahan
Augsburg Scholarship	Ms. JoAnne Wills
Awards and Recognition	Ms. Sheena Fast, Ms. Amie Satterfield
Chapter Competition	Ms. Heather Brodess
Communications	Ms. Colleen Robinson
Advertising/Publicity	Vacant
Newsletter Editor	Ms. Colleen Robinson
Photographer	Ms. Tracey Hearn
Webmaster	Mr. Jonathan Paden
Community Activities	Ms. Jennifer Caplinger; Ms. Jessica Pauley
Health & Wellness	Mr. Fernando Mason
Membership Professional	Ms. Jaime laquinta, Mr Edward Jackson
Development	Mr. Trent Harpest, Ms. Andrea Hamilton
Early Careerist	Ms. Sandra Moncree
Programs	Mr. Shawn Coil
Tickets	Vacant
Ways & Means	Ms. Sarah Garrette
Historian	Mr James Davis

