

Wright Flyer



August 2025

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Chapter President
Thomas Giovino

Greetings SDFM Aviation Chapter,

August is upon us, and it seems cooler weather is creeping in, and fall may be here sooner than most would like.

The August Lunch and Learn was presented by Ms. Vanessa Sims, Deputy SAF/FMB talking about executive core qualifications. Ms. Sims provided great ideas on how to organize your accomplishments into concise – Context, Challenge, Action, Result (CCAR) to quantify your accomplishments. The video is on teams, go check it out. Our next Lunch learn is October, be on the look-out for the link. If you do not get the invitation, please contact me, or your VP so you get on the e-mail list. Our mass e-mail list only includes the SDFM e-mail you used to sign up. If you do not check that regularly, then you are missing out on some great information and the CPE.

Please remember the Air Force Marathon, September 20th. Go out and cheer them on. SDFM has a Charity Golf Scramble on the 9th of October, at the Sugar Isle golf course benefiting the Augsburg Scholarship.

With September upon us and close-out in the air, we will not have lunch and learn this month. Enjoy the famous FM pot-lucks, take care of each other, happiness is a choice.

See you next month.

Twitter: @asmctweets

Facebook: [www.facebook/pages/
American-Society-of-Military-
Comptrollers](http://www.facebook/pages/American-Society-of-Military-Comptrollers)

Website: [https://www.sdfm-
aviation.org/](https://www.sdfm-aviation.org/)



On 26 Aug 2025, Ms Vanessa Simms, SES, Deputy of Budget, SAF/FMB, presented Executive Core Qualifications. Ms Simms discussed the SES application process, focusing on recent changes to streamline the process. Historically, applying for an SES position required a 17-page document, including a 5-page executive resume, 10 pages of executive core qualifications (ECQs), and 2 pages of technical qualifications. The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is moving towards a more efficient government process, now requiring a 2-page executive resume with embedded ECQs and technical qualifications. This shift aims to reduce the hiring process from 180 days to approximately 80 days.

What is a Tier One SES?

A first SES position is considered a tier-one SES position. Tier-one SES positions within the Air Force are posted on USA Jobs. A screening panel, chaired by a Tier 3 SES and including Tier 2 and Tier 1 members, reviews applications to identify the best-qualified candidates. This panel conducts interviews and the panel chair then makes a recommendation to a selecting official (usually a Tier 3). The selecting official can accept the recommendation or conduct additional interviews. The entire package is then sent to the SES Qualification Review Board (QRB), which reviews the process and qualifications. Every SES within the Air Force must be approved by either the Under Secretary or the SECAF, with Tier 3 positions requiring SECAF approval. The approved package is then sent to OPM for a standardized, structured interview with the selected candidate, focusing on the ECQs.

Historically, the five ECQs were:

Historically, the five ECQs were: Leading Change, Leading People, Driving Results (or Results-Driven), Business Acumen, and Building Coalitions. As of May 2025, the ECQs have changed to:

1. Commitment to the Role and Principles of the American Founding: Serving the American people with knowledge of the American system of government and commitment to the Constitution and the rule of law.
2. Driving Efficiency: Managing resources, budgeting effectively, cutting waste, and implementing technological upgrades. Similar to historical business acumen.
3. Merit and Competence: Demonstrating knowledge, ability, and technical competence to reliably produce exceptional work.
4. Leading People: A core competency for executives.
5. Achieving Results: Similar to historical results driven.

Tips and Resources:

- Start early: Gather stories and impactful results throughout your career. Aim for 10 stories, with two examples for each of the 5 ECQs.
- Utilize the CCAR (Context, Challenge, Action, Result) model to structure stories.
- Seek feedback from mentors inside and outside the organization.

Recommended resources include two books on the SES application process (though noting they may not be updated for the new resume process) and the OPM website, which defines the five executive core qualifications and what each qualification is getting at. Pair these documents with ones that define the levels of strategic impact for developing that vocabulary with which to do these exercises.

CCAR Model:

The CCAR model helps structure ECQ narratives by describing the:

- Context: Situation and individuals involved.
- Challenge: Specific problem or goal.
- Action: Direct actions taken to address the challenge.
- Result: Specific, quantified outcomes resulting from the lead ship.

In crafting your CCARs start with crafting the Result paragraph first. You're then using your narratives and stories in your interview process. When sharing accomplishments or answering a question, consider the target audience and the message that you are conveying

Ms Sims was presented a certificate of appreciation and a donation to Make a Wish.

The full presentation and slides can be found at <https://www.sdfm-aviation.org/luncheon/chapter-luncheons/>

Upcoming Member Meetings: Stay tuned for Oct and Nov Lunch & Learn announcement and SDFM Holiday Party

Sep - None



Volunteers Still Needed

USAF Marathon Hydration Station volunteers, 20 Sep 2025, 5:45 am - 11 am. We will be setting up drink station, handing out water and hoist, pick up trash thrown by runners, tear down station and best of all we get to CHEER LOUDLY for all the runners.

To sign up: <https://raceroster.com/registration/daf7c314-2302-4c45-80ef-be9d6f7f4cf8/entry?team=821537&teamEntryToken=S9BSN29BJ4>

After signing up please make sure you complete your registration at the Race Roster - Race Roster link: <https://raceroster.com/registration/daf7c314-2302-4c45-80ef-be9d6f7f4cf8/entry?team=821537&teamEntryToken=S9BSN29BJ4>

Feed the Creek - Thank you to our SDFM members who volunteered at Feed the Creek on 15 Aug.



Charity Gold Scramble - Time to dust off those golf clubs for the annual SDFM Aviation chapter Charity Golf Scramble benefiting the Augsburg Memorial Scholarship fund on 9 Oct at the Sugar Isle Golf Course. Details are below.

CHARITY GOLF SCRAMBLE

THURS. 9 OCT. AT THE SUGAR ISLE GOLF COURSE: 2469 N DAYTON-LAKEVIEW RD, NEW CARLISLE, OH 45344

PRESENTED BY THE SDFM AVIATION CHAPTER TO SUPPORT THE AUGSBURG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

(AWARDED TO LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS MAJORING IN ACCOUNTING OR FINANCE)

- HOLE ASSIGNMENTS BEGIN AT 8:30AM WITH A SHOTGUN START AT 9AM
- 4-MAN SCRAMBLE FORMAT (SINGLES WELCOME)
- 18 HOLES WITH CART & ACCESS TO THE DRIVING RANGE PRIOR TO START
- ENJOY DRINK TICKETS, BOX LUNCHES, DOOR PRIZES, RAFFLES, GOLF CONTESTS, AND MORE!
- SIGN UP HERE:
<https://www.sugarsislegolfcourse.com/charity-golf-scramble>
- \$75 PER GOLFER ; PAID THROUGH VENMO QR CODE
- QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT
• JONATHAN.PEPPLES@US.AF.MIL

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Department of the Air Force Information Technology and Cyberpower Education and Training Conference (DAFITC) 2025 by Shannon Wheeler

The 2025 Department of the Air Force Information Technology and Cyberpower Education and Training Conference (DAFITC) recently took place August 25th-27th in Montgomery, AL. The event brought together government, industry and academia IT and cyber professionals in a collaborative environment meant to foster innovation and address the emerging IT challenges the DAF encounters.

This year's theme was "Lethality, Readiness, Efficiency" and focused on how big data and new cyber technologies can help change the world around us. The event was chaired this year by Leona Lynn, Branch Chief of the Capabilities and Processes and is the only military/government education and training event of its kind. In explaining DAFITC, Lynn said, "The Department of the Air Force Information Technology Training and Education event brings lots of military and civilian organizations together as well as our industry partners...Our IT environment is forever changing daily, so to learn all the latest and greatest about what's going on in IT, this is the place that you should be."

DAFITC's theme featured four training tracks:

- 1) A Zero Trust Lens on Warfighter Capability: A focus on the implementation of Zero Trust principles within the Air Force and Space Force through "architectural alignment, portfolio management, investment analysis (capturing system duplication and overlap, and greater return on investment), and innovation."
 - 2) Securing the Lifeline: A focus on securing IT and communications supply chain. Topics inherent to this track include the new Software Fast Track program (SWIFT), vulnerability assessments, secure acquisition practices, and the development of secure, trustworthy systems.
 - 3) Data and Artificial Intelligence: This track focused on the relationships between data and AI. It included AI strategies, AI literacy, and breaking down barriers to increase data accessibility and integration with AI.
 - 4) Cultivating the Next Generation of Cyber Warriors: A focus on the recruitment, training, and retention of a skilled cyber workforce through training sessions on professional development and a focus on innovation in training programs to its workforce.
- Over the course of the 3-day event, there were more than 100 breakout sessions that aligned within these four training tracks available to DAFITC attendees.

DAFITC's emphasis on collaboration and innovation impacts the Financial Management (FM) community by focusing on the latest technologies that directly impact FM professionals. Several breakout sessions included up-to-date information on artificial intelligence, data analytics and cutting-edge business solutions that improve efficiency within the FM scope. These breakout training sessions allowed attendees to learn how DAF is incorporating AI into FM to increase accessibility to data and improve analysis and execution through enhanced decision-making support. With an event focused on innovation, DAFITC also provided an innovative platform for FM leaders to visualize new, effective capabilities and financial tools within its financial systems. Other sessions focused on critical cybersecurity needs within FM, such as understanding the latest threats and strategies for securing sensitive financial data systems. This area is crucial for ensuring compliance with federal regulations and enhancing rigor within FM that integrates technology with internal controls.

Our AFLCMC/GBQJ Service Manager for ITSS attended DAFITC with her team and had this to say, "Attending DAFITC 2025 proved to be a highly enriching experience for our team, offering a dynamic blend of technical training, strategic insight, and professional networking. The event's focus on cybersecurity, digital modernization, and emerging technologies aligned directly with our operational priorities, particularly in areas like zero-trust architecture and AI-driven defense systems. Team members participated in targeted breakout sessions, engaged with leading vendors in the exhibit hall, and returned with actionable ideas to enhance our current workflows. Notably, the exposure to new tools and frameworks sparked internal discussions around automation, cloud migration, and threat detection strategies. Beyond the technical content, the opportunity to connect with peers across the Department of the Air Force and industry fostered valuable relationships that we plan to build on. Overall, DAFITC 2025 not only reinforced our mission readiness but also inspired forward-thinking approaches we're eager to implement in the months ahead."



TREASURER'S REPORT July 2025

Treasurer: Rebecca Wilkins & Crystal Veselik



	WPFCU - Chapter General Funds	Fidelity - Chapter Investments	Fidelity - Augsburg Scholarship
Beginning Balance	\$21,772.50	\$224,100.97	\$194,397.80
+ Income/Expenses	\$0.00	\$5,548.31	\$5,012.32
+ deposits	\$0.11	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending Balance	\$21,772.61	\$229,649.28	\$199,410.12

Note: The Fidelity ending balances are 31 July 2025. The Fidelity account balances are investments and fluctuate with the market. This causes unrealized gains and losses, which are captured in the Income.



Automatically Connecting with Wireless

Automatically connecting to a Wi Fi network or a Bluetooth device is a great convenience, but that convenience often clashes with security. When a device is set to “always on,” it continuously broadcasts its presence and scans for familiar networks or peripherals; this constant searching creates an opening for attackers. Connecting automatically to a trusted home network or to a car’s Bluetooth is generally safe, yet the same feature can be hazardous on public Wi Fi. A malicious actor can clone a legitimate hotspot, presenting a counterfeit network that looks identical to the genuine one. Once your device joins the counterfeit network, your traffic and personal data can be intercepted. To reduce exposure, avoid enabling automatic connections for public networks, turn Bluetooth off whenever it is not needed, and only pair with devices you trust. Periodically reviewing and deleting old or unused network entries, especially public SSIDs you no longer use, helps keep your device’s list of automatic connections clean and minimizes the chance of unintended exposure. By applying these simple habits, you retain the ease of auto connect while protecting yourself from common wireless attacks.

Select Discontinuous Text in Word

By default, Word will select highlight all continuous text when you click and drag the mouse and release. Sometimes, we may need to select discontinuous sections of text for formatting purposes. Some users may select each piece of text, format and repeat multiple times. While this works, it can be time consuming. Fortunately, Word offers two different ways to accomplish this. The second option enables the user to select text vertically, which is helpful when editing lists.

First, holding the Ctrl key will allow the user to make multiple text selections with the mouse by clicking and dragging the cursor. Second, holding the Alt key will allow the user to create a box by clicking and dragging the cursor. All text within the box will be selected. The Ctrl method is useful when needing to select multiple pieces of text throughout a document. Use of the Alt method is best when text needs to be selected based on where it is located within a single page. Ultimately, both options can make it easier to format discontinuous text in a document.

Word Shortcut to Jump to Specific Pages

Navigating large Word documents can be a challenge. Even more so when editing a large document. To quickly jump from one page to another within a large Word document, follow these steps:

Press **Ctrl+G**

Input the desired page number

Press Enter

Press Esc to exit the window

This shortcut is a little more involved than most, but it is still a quick way to navigate a large document.



**ASMC – Aviation Chapter
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
13 August 2025 (1200-1253 hrs)**

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

II. **Attendance/Reports**

Treasurers: Rebecca Wilkins, Crystal Veselik (A)

Secretary: Shannon Wheeler (A)

President-Elect: Jonathan Pepples (A)

Vice-Presidents

AFAA: Jonathan Pepples (A)

AFLCMC: Shannon Wheeler (A)

AFMC: George Diehl Jr. (A)

AFRL: Tammy Pendergast

At Large: Rhonda Pepitone

Contractors: Shawn Coil (A)

88th CPTS: Vacant

Committee Chairs:

Audit: Michelle Bahan, Co-chair Vacant

Augsburg Scholarship: Jonathan Pepples (A)

Awards and Recognition: Sheena Fast (A), Co-chair Vacant

Chapter Competition: Heather Brodess (A)

Communications: Colleen Robinson (A)

Community Activities: Jennifer Caplinger, Jessica Pauley (A)

Health & Wellness: Fernando Mason (A)

Membership: Jaime laquinta (A), Edward Jackson

Professional Development: Jenifer Klump, Andrea Hamilton

Early Careerist: Saundra Moncree (A)

Programs: Vacant

Tickets: Vacant

Ways & Mean: Sarah Garrette

Historian: James Davis

Other Attendees: Tracey Hearn, Jonathan Paden (A), Jeri Evenden

(A) = In Attendance

III. **General Business**

A. **OLD:**

- i. **SDFM SharePoint:** If you have a document on how-to or a brain book, or something like that, go ahead and upload it there. It would be a good starting point for new board members to get an idea of what going on with each particular job. All board members should have access to it, but if not, please let Jonathan Paden know. ASMC Aviation Chapter (Executive Board) - <https://usaf.dps.mil/sites/11702/00-FM-IP-AV/default.aspx>

B. **NEW:**

- i. **2025-26 Budget** - Mr. Giovingo shared that the budget summary goes back to 2017. Last year there was a net income of almost \$20k and the balance as of June 30th, the general fund has about \$21k in it. Chapter Investments has \$224k in it and the Scholarship funds are at \$194k. There was a discussion on the amount of funds in the Chapter Investments and how it's been growing since COVID- especially since there was not a PDI this year. There was continued discussion what some of the amounts were in each committee's budget, why not spent and how we can spend this year. Proposals to spend were:



1. **Mini PDI:** Proposed to have it off Base and Chapter pay for the food (landing fee). Discussed if off Base can we be co-sponsored or get Comm Support? Do we need to rent equipment and what would be the cost.
2. **Augsburg Scholarship Fund:** Proposed upping the scholarship amount to \$2K and focus on promoting. Use the golf outing to increase the funds account. Possibility of taking some of the Fidelity Funds and moving it to Scholarships.
3. **CDFM:** Discussion on promoting CDFM and possibly using some funds to help with this through buying study material or supplement the training. There was an idea about paying for the first test but Ms. Iaquina reminded everyone that the CDFM tests are centrally funded and reimbursable. More discussion on if we could host an in-person class through an authorized provider and how that would work. Discussion was tabled for later.
4. **Christmas Party:** Proposed the Chapter pays for dinner. Discussed people could donate to the Augsburg fund at the door. Also, get Kohler to cater again. Sheena suggested rather than having it completely chapter sponsored that we'd make it some nominal fee. When you say something's free, lots of people are gonna RSVP and show. She suggested \$10. Mr Giovingo agreed.
 - a. Need to look at dates and do it quickly. Discussed November like last year's.
 - b. Need a committee - Jessica Pauley volunteered to help with planning committee.

ii. **T-Shirts** - Mr Giovingo said he got good feedback. The consensus for having "volunteer" on the back was no. There was also discussion on two shirts. Could do a deal with multiple colors, sizes and polos with a simple design. Additional discussion on if we wanted to have additional shirts available for purchase when we do events. Need more research.

iii. **Volunteer Opportunities:** Feed the Creek is this Friday. Sign-up is full. Still need volunteers for the Air Force Marathon water station. We're normally out there by Bass Lake area. Arrive about 5am, set up and there until about noonish. We're at mile 7 and as soon as the last runner goes through, we start tearing down.

iv. **Upcoming Lunch and Learns** - Miss Simms, SAF/FMB, ECQ Development at the end of Aug. Tony Swain is Oct, but working to figure out a date. Shawn said then we have two for five people that I've sent requests out to, Robert Lymongrover, LCMC, Chief Zaisaka at HQ. Karl Urbanis, AFMC/FMFW, Justin Clark, AFLCMC/FZA, and Col Masa, 88th AFW FMR. Shawn asked if anyone has any ideas, please e-mail. There was some discussion on how the invites for the Lunch & Learns were sent. Mr Giovingo said we normally send out the the dates along with the the link to get onto the the teams invite to the whole membership. Sheena suggested maybe the VPs could send it out or to a org email. Heather suggested add the teams link into the newsletter.

v. **Newsletter:** Mr Giovingo proposed \$15 gift card for submitted articles by non-VPs. Thomas is looking for more member participation in contributing to the newsletter. Heather pointed out that we get points for our Chapter competition for that, but it has to be a FM related topic.

vi. **Around the Room:**

1. Jonathan Paden mentioned that the website and links we pass around are still ASMC-aviation.org. He has set up a new web server for SDFM, but he can't get the Base to unblock the new domain. It has been sitting with Com and hoping they see and get it unblocked so that we can get to it from our work machines. Jonathan will have it redirected from old link to the new one once it is unblocked.
2. Jonathan Pepples mentioned the Golf Outing is 9 Oct. He is hoping to get the flyer sent out soon. Mr Giovingo said he will send Jonathan the file with all the names to send out. Jonathan is looking for someone who can help out with getting lunch and then maybe before the event help with meet and greet. We have 40-80 slots available for sign-up. Should not have a problem getting at least 40.

IV. Meeting Adjourned: 1253



Looking for your Digital PDI 2025 Certificates?

View and download your CPE certificates directly from SDFM's Learning Management System. Access the Learning Management System by selecting My Learning under the Professional Development tab on the website or access it here (<https://www.pathlms.com/asmc/profile?tab=certificates>). Simply log in using your SDFM login credentials.

Want to Access your Purchased On-Demand Recordings?

Watch sessions and earn CPEs in the Learning Management System. Just navigate to My Activity – Purchased Content and click on Digital PDI 2025 – On Demand or go straight to the Learning Catalog and choose a session to get started (<https://www.pathlms.com/asmc/profile?tab=history>).

This year's digital learning experience will empower defense financial professionals with the knowledge, tools, and strategies to innovate, improve efficiency, and build resilience in a rapidly evolving landscape. Join us for cutting-edge sessions, expert insights, and practical solutions to shape the future of DoD financial management!



2025-2026 Executive Board

President	Mr. Thomas Giovingo
President-Elect	Mr. Jonathan Pepples
Secretary	Ms Shannon Wheeler
Treasurers	Ms. Rebecca Wilkins, Ms. Crystal Veselik

Organizational Vice Presidents

88th CPTS VP	Vacant
AFAA VP	Mr. Jonathan Pepples
HQ AFMC VP	Mr. George Diehl Jr
AFRL VP	Ms. Tammy Pendergast
AFLCMC VP	Ms. Shannon Wheeler
At Large VP	Ms. Rhonda Pepitone
Contractor VP	Mr. Shawn Coil

Committee Chairs

Audit	Ms. Michelle Bahan, Co-Chair Vacant
Augsburg Scholarship	Mr. Jonathan Pepples
Awards and Recognition	Ms. Sheena Fast, Co-Chair Vacant
Chapter Competition	Ms. Heather Brodess
Communications	Ms. Colleen Robinson
Advertising/Publicity	Ms. Jeri Evenden
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	Ms. Jaime laquinta, Mr. Edward Jackson
Professional Development	Ms. Jenifer Klump, Ms. Andrea Hamilton
Early Careerist Programs	Ms. Sandra Moncree
Programs	Vacant
Tickets	Vacant
Ways & Means	Ms. Sarah Garrette
Historian	Mr James Davis

