

Association of Syracuse Defense Comptrollers Newsletter

September 12, 2007

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ASDC News

Welcome to the first edition of the ASDC Newsletter. We plan to bring you news, updates and other tidbits from alumni spread throughout the community. For the 2007-2008 program year, we have planned events with guest speakers, socials, BB game and more – see page 4 for details! The success of our group will result from your ideas and participation. If you have any suggestions for improvement, please contact one of your Officers:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Incumbent Officer</u>
President	Ms Kathy Miller
VP for Operations	Mr. Jack Mutarelli
VP for Support	Ms Hettie Smith
VP for Membership	Ms Donna Torche
VP for Finance	Ms Cecile Batchelor
VP for Information Technology	Mr. Greg Goehring
Assistant VP for Info Tech	Mr. Alex Jacobs
VP at Large	Ms Mary Jo Rubino

The ASDC membership drive officially kicks off with this first edition of the Newsletter. For details about membership categories and terms, the ASDC Constitution and membership application are both posted on the web: <http://www.su-asdc.org>. The membership drive will run through the end of December 2007. We'll tally the applications "recruited by" and announce the results during the Winter Luncheon.

Message from the President

"Only through our connectedness to others can we really know and enhance the self. And only through working on the self can we begin to enhance our connectedness to others". **HARRIET GOLDHOR LERNER**



Hello everyone and welcome to the 2007/2008 program year for the Association of Syracuse Defense Comptrollers. One of the themes for this program year is expanding our connectedness; connectedness with fellow professionals, connectedness with the University; connectedness with our community and connectedness with fellow alumni. We are improving our connectedness and communication through the publication of this bi-monthly newsletter. We encourage your input and thank Ms Donna Torche for getting this new effort started. We also need your help re-establishing connections between the Association and alumni and will be seeking class coordinators to help update the association data bases. The SU vs. Georgetown game returns to the DC area in 2008 and I hope many of you will join us for the rare camaraderie of a pre-game party and block seating. We are still a nation at war, and as we mark the 6th anniversary of 9/11 I ask that you all take a few minutes to remember our fallen comrades and renew your dedication to financial management excellence in their honor. I am happy to serve as your President and look forward to the program year ahead.

Donna Torche is a DCP graduate from the Class of 2003. She has over 20 years experience in the Comptroller arena. Her current position is Chief of Industrial Operations Division, Business Resources Directorate, ASA(FM&C) and is serving as the ASDC VP for Membership.

Civilian Training: Donna Torche

The Senior Managers Course (SMC) in National Security is a four week foray into the interagency process. I had the opportunity to attend the course in June 2007. The daily classroom lectures were held at the George Washington University (GWU), Elliott School of International Affairs in downtown Washington, DC. The course included a session on Capitol Hill, a briefing at the Pakistan embassy, and a 4-day site visit to New York City, where we toured Ground Zero. Lecturers held a variety of positions, across the public and private sector, as well as, from Non-Governmental Organizations. This educational opportunity is available to both military and civilian personnel.

This program examines the full range of national and international security problems that defense officials will have to contend with in the 21st century. It analyzes traditional threats as well as new and emerging security issues, providing participants with the tools they will need to understand and manage these problems.

The following GWU website provides more information on this course: <http://www.gwu.edu/~nssp/>. If you're interested in attending and want to learn more about this course, you can contact me. Also, I recommend that you review the material on the Army's website: <http://cpol.army.mil/library/train/catalog/ch04smc.html>.

Training With Industry: MAJ Drew Hyatt

Part 1 of a 3 Part TWI experience.

MAJ Andrew Hyatt, Class of 2003, has served 14 years as an Infantry officer/Comptroller with assignments at HQDA, Fort Lewis, Fort Bragg, and Schofield Barracks, HI. He is currently working as special projects officer within the GE Transportation Controllers group.

For the past six weeks I have had the unique opportunity to participate in the FA45 Training With Industry (TWI) program at General Electric. One of the goals of this program is to expose Army Comptrollers to broad financial management operations by immersing them into a commercial industry. Already in my short tenure here I have seen and learned much. TWI is arguably the ideal setting to observe the practical application of the theories and concepts learned in the classroom at the Syracuse Defense Comptrollership Program. It has also afforded me the chance to directly compare and contrast many different aspects of the private and public sectors. Right now, the learning curve in this environment is undoubtedly steep; however, during the remainder of my year here I am confident I will become fully absorbed and consumed by this challenging and rewarding experience.

Contractor Corner: David Savold

David Savold, Class of 2002, served 23 years in the Army (Field Artillery Officer for 18 years and a comptroller for 5 years). His last assignment in the Pentagon was with SAFM-BUO as the OPTEMPO Budget Analyst. He is currently the Active Component Training Resource Model (TRM) Project Manager with CACI International Inc.

It is not only the Army and DOD that benefit from the Defense Comptrollership Program. After retiring from the Army I found the lessons learned at Syracuse were easy to apply to the world of government contracting. While at Syracuse I enjoyed the work of researching a company in order to provide them with recommendations for improvement. It gave me great insight into the business world and into what a financial manager can do for a company. My experience at Syracuse energized and broadened my thoughts about business and business principles.

I recently transitioned from wearing the Army Green to wearing civilian clothes as a government contractor. I help the Army determine what it costs to train and sustain the Army's operating force. My goal is to help the Army make quality decisions about funding for the program I support. I use the same financial management tools as corporate CFO's and Army comptrollers in order to benefit the Army and my company. Thus, every organization that hires a Defense Comptrollership graduate is benefiting from the varied lessons discovered while at the Syracuse program.

ALUMNI IN FOCUS

Member Profile: Kathryn Herhusky

Email from Baghdad, Iraq – Maybe I should make this a postcard to all of you and say “Wish you were here.” Here to enjoy: the 120 degree temperatures, the dust and dirt, the Brown and Root laundry and dining facility (DFAC), hours without water and electricity, hours with body armor and Kevlar, HMMWV convoys and flights in Blackhawks galore.

To meet the preparation requirements of my volunteer assignment to work in an Embedded Provincial Reconstruction Team, I had the opportunity to train with the State Department, and process through the Conus Replacement Center at Fort Bliss, TX, take all those shots and more training and receive and carry even more equipment issued in Kuwait. Who knew that, not feeling much like a princess (wearing ACUs and combat boots) I’d end up at the “Palace,” the American Embassy, for even more training?

Now you can find me, on a Forward Operating Base, working alongside the Second Brigade Combat Team, Second Infantry Division, providing advice in business development and economic issues as our team provides a “boots on the ground” effort, to assist the Iraqi government, to become more self-reliant while transitioning. Democracy is hard work! The MBA is paying off! Very rewarding to be able to interact and work with Iraqis who really want to see their country succeed.



Kathryn Herhusky is a Syracuse alumnus from the Class of 2002. She is the recipient of the 2006 Civilian PACE award. The Pace Award is presented annually in the name of the former Secretary of the Army Frank Pace to individuals whose personal efforts have made a contribution of outstanding significance to the Army.

In Remembrance: Greg Goehring

Greg Goehring, Class of 1992, served 20 years in the Army and retired as a LTC (Adjutant General Corps/Comptroller). His last active duty assignment was a Program Analyst in Army PA&E. Following a year as a commercial Data Warehouse Architect, he served as the Chief Information Officer for the ASA(FM&C) and now serves as a Senior Operations Research Analyst for the Army's Human Resources Command.

The Global War On Terror is not without significant cost to a relatively small body of professionals as ourselves. And in the minds of most, the threat of life to Comptrollers is perceived as relatively low. Yet, we lost two fellow graduates at the onset of this historical turn in events. On September 11, 2001, Mr. David Laychak and Mrs. Rhonda Rasmussen, were taken from us with the terrorist attack on the Pentagon. Both were graduates of the Class of 1992, both were comptroller professionals, parents, spouses and wonderful friends to so many of us. We were given a respite, until, on May 6, 2006, COL James W. Harrison, Jr. was killed by small arms fire while serving as a Detention Policy Expert in Afghanistan. COL Harrison graduated from the US Military Academy in 1981 and from the SU Comptroller Program, Class of 1989. He is survived by his wife and three sons. And again recently, on August 27, 2007, the war claimed yet another great colleague, MAJ Henry (Hank) Ofeciar, from the Class of 2005. Hank was serving with the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division in Afghanistan. Hank was privately married to Angali Medappa (SU MBA Dec 2006) in January 2007, just prior to his deployment. He is survived by his wife, his mom and will be buried in Guam.

We know there are classmates and colleagues that have passed away from other causes and hope to be able to acknowledge them in future newsletter editions. It is on occasions such as these that we can't help but reflect our wonderful relationships, one with another, that being a part of a small and select program of professionals affords us. Thanks to each of you for all that you do for our Nation, our Communities, and your families and for our World, at large.

What's Happening With ASDC?

Helping Hand

Are you looking to get involved in the community? Do you miss all those wonderful community service projects that you did as a requirement for graduation from the SU-DCP? Then you are in luck! We are in the planning stages to participate in a community service project to assist our service members and their families. Some thoughts include preparing care packages, visiting Walter Reed, or helping build houses for our wounded warriors. If there is a particular organization or event that you would like for our group to participate in, please don't hesitate to contact me, MaryJo.Rubino@dodig.mil, 703-604-8809.

Class Representatives to ASDC

Need volunteers to be the class representative to ASDC – the primary responsibility will be to connect to class mates and encourage updated web information. Provide information (Class number and contact email) to VP for Membership Donna.Torche@us.army.mil.

Applications for DCP Class of 2009

The applications for DCP Class of 2009 are due 16 October for both military and civilian employees. Our next scheduled luncheon/meeting on 14 November will be held in conjunction with the ASDC selection board. Applicants for the DCP class of 2009 will join us for the luncheon program.

SU-ASDC Social

We are also in the very early planning stages to hold an evening social for all SU-DCP graduates and family members. The event will most likely be held next year. Stay tuned for more information about this event and check the message board on the website for further updates.

SU vs. Georgetown Basketball

Yes, the SU basketball team is returning to Washington, D.C. this year to take on the Georgetown Hoyas! Per the Big East Basketball Schedule, the game will be held January 21st, 7 pm, at the MCI Center. Look for information on our website regarding a pregame/postgame get together. COL Todd Nethery, Class of 1993, has volunteered to garner interest for this event. If you are interested, contact him at Phillip.Nethery@us.army.mil.

Where Are You Now?

In future Newsletters, we would like to provide updates on members that have transitioned to new positions and locales. Provide information to VP for Membership, at the following: Donna.Torche@us.army.mil.

SEPTEMBER 2007

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Upcoming Events

The following events are planned for the upcoming program year. We hope that you can join us for most if not all. If you have a suggestion for speaker/topics or other ideas on social or morale events, please contact the VP for Operations, Jack.Mutarelli@calibresys.com or VP at Large, MaryJo.Rubino@dodig.mil.

September Luncheon	September 12
Fall Luncheon/ASDC Selection Board	November 14
Winter Luncheon	January TBD
ASDC Social	January TBD
Syracuse vs. Georgetown	January 21
Spring Luncheon	March/April TBD
Summer Luncheon	June TBD