

From Our President

Dear Members,

This newsletter's message has emerged after admittedly much struggle. Numerous ideas briefly surfaced; unfortunately, nothing of substance managed to stick. However, after a particularly stressful day that ended with, to my great embarrassment, a shared email reveal of a [pretty dumb] blunder on my part, I decided to be kind to myself and end the struggle to write something profound, clever or insightful.

I won't relive the details, but my mistake involved overlooking a procedure fairly basic to contract administration. To make matters worse, I work with folks that love a good "cc" and "reply all," so my gaffe was shared with my director, my director's director, a few other directors, and plenty of people who surely didn't need to witness my momentary incompetence. Fun times, indeed.

Why am I sharing this (aside from my hopeless writer's block), and what has this to do with NCMA Jacksonville chapter activities? Well, the chapter is made up of wonderful individuals—driven, committed, mission-focused professionals, who are also fallible. It's made up of competent, innovative and proficient members, who also have challenging, stressful and trying periods. As you may be dealing with the trials and tests of work, life, COVID effects, etc., I share this to encourage you to simply **be kind to yourself**. We are not the sum of our mistakes and difficulties. Let's always seize opportunities to grow and learn and become better versions of ourselves.

All the best,

Calendar

03/11/2021

NCMA HQ Webinar:

[Terms and Conditions: Which Do You Really Need?](#)

03/23/2021

NCMA HQ Free Webinar:

[CMLDP Info Session](#)

03/29-31/2021

NCMA Florida-Wide Chapters
National Education Seminar
(Registration Info Pending)

New Members

Welcome to our newest
chapter member:

- Petite Jacque

Member Milestones

Congratulations to NCMA JAX
members celebrating
membership anniversaries:

- Tom Brownfield (28)

**Wanda Wallace; CPCM,
CFCM**
Chapter President



- Jason Centrella (8)
- Lisa Haggerty (11)
- Teresa Lind (1)
- Marian Mobley (7)
- Andrew Rabuse (1)
- Susan Thibodeaux (24)

COMING SOON: Florida-Wide NCMA Chapters National Educational Seminar

March 29, 30 and 31, 2021, 1:30PM - 4:00PM

SAVE THE DATE for the Florida-Wide NCMA Chapters National Educational Seminar, a series of 1/2 day training sessions hosted by the three Florida NCMA chapters on March 29, 30 and 31 from 1:30-4:30.

The main instructor is Michelle Currier, Contract Management Professor at the Defense Acquisition University and a member of the NCMA Norfolk Chapter. Other instructors are being arranged as well. You may register to attend one day, two days or all 3 days. Pricing and registration will soon be determined, but a portion of the fees will go to each respective chapter based on attendance. For those attending who are not affiliated with a chapter, the funds will be donated to local food banks.

HQ CMLDP Information Session - 03/23/2021

Join this 60 minute Zoom webinar as CMLDP coaches and alumni open the floor to perspective students and anyone wanting to learn more about the program. The structure of this webinar will be mostly conversational; be prepared to have your questions answered.



NCMA JAX Membership - Not Just for Locals

This month's honoree is Ross Thomas, who has been an NCMA member since 2018. He is Chief Operating Officer of ANAMAR Environmental Consulting and lives in Gainesville, FL. He spent ten years as a Naval Aviator flying maritime strike helicopters (MH-60R) with duty stations in Hawaii and Jacksonville before leaving active duty in 2017. He continues to fly with a Navy Reserve squadron based out of NAS Jacksonville, but will relocate to the Pacific Northwest later in the year with his wife and daughter. As he was unable to find an active NCMA chapter near his new home, he will keep his JAX Chapter membership. He is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Environmental Science.

Ross is a strong supporter of NCMA who values the excellent network of contracting professionals that provided resources and guidance as he developed his personal skillset and expertise in the field. He credits NCMA as a great resource for training and government perspectives not readily available to industry professionals (and vice versa).

He serves as liaison between the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) and NCMA, which entails cross-promotion of events and encouragement of joint activities between local NCMA, NDIA, and SAME chapters such as the February 2020 two-day seminar.

Ross offers the following career and professional advice to newer employees: Pursue formal training in contract management and be proactive in understanding contract vehicle specifics. This career field is ripe for innovation in how contracts are solicited, managed, and awarded, and is constantly evolving; organizations that under-resource procurement and contract management do so at their own peril. Individuals should look for ways to innovate and champion improvements within their own organization and professional