

Jan 2026
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TEAM REDSTONE,

I Happy New Year – I hope everyone is off to a great start! I often talk about new beginnings, this is an opportunity for a fresh start, new growth, and achievement. What new goals are you setting in 2026, and how are you going to accomplish them?

Afterall, Dr. Maya Angelou said, "if you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude." It is not always that simple now is it? I believe in Peter Drucker's saying, "The best way to predict the future is to create it". What does your future will look like and are you ready to take it to the next level. So, ask yourself what are you waiting for?



JEFF BACON
President
Redstone-Huntsville Chapter

Chapter Resources

WEBSITE:

WWW.SDFM-RSA-HSV.ORG/

CHAPTER LINKEDIN:

[WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/COMPANY/SD](http://WWW.LINKEDIN.COM/COMPANY/SDFM-RSA-HSV)

FM-RSA-HSV

NATIONAL WEBSITE:

[HTTPS://SDFM.ORG/](https://SDFM.ORG/)

JOIN SDFM:

[HTTPS://SDFM.ORG/MEMBERSHIP/](https://SDFM.ORG/MEMBERSHIP/)

The Society of Defense Financial Management (SDFM) is a great organization and a way to better your professional goals. There are many ways in which you can get involved and a ton of ways you can serve! If there is something that I can do for you please don't hesitate to reach out to me at jeffrey.a.bacon6.civ@army.mil. We have a great community of financial management professionals here in the Redstone/Huntsville Chapter. Why not get to know them?

Continued on Page 2

Continuation of President's Message

This month, we had a Professional Development Event (PDE) in which there was a SDFM engagement with the membership and we had special guest Shannon Allen joining us. Our chapter continues to give back and provides support to our community. Upcoming volunteer opportunities include supporting the Greater Huntsville Humane Society (GHHS) Dog Ball on 7 February at the Von Braun Center. The Dog Ball is dedicated to advancing humane care and treatment of animals and providing adoption services for unwanted and homeless animals. If you interested in volunteering, please reach out to Debbie O'Neal at onealdeb25@gmail.com for more information. This is an excellent way to network and meet others in your profession while supporting a great cause!

We have monthly PDEs typically on the second Thursday of the month at the Redstone Federal Credit Union (Atrium). If you haven't been out in a while, I encourage you to set a goal to do so this year! It is an excellent way to receive Continuing Education Training (CET) credit towards your DoDFM certification and again to network with those in your profession! We are in the process of partnering with the National Contract Management Association (NCMA) to bring back the "Battle of the Chapters" in March. An event you will not want to miss out on that will be packed with trivia knowledge, fun, and prizes.

Also, in February in conjunction with National we will conduct the first ever Defense Financial Management Institute (DFMI) right here in the rocket city on 24-25 February at the Von Braun Center. This event will be replacing what was once known as the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) Professional Development Institute (PDI) that National conducted in May every year. The agenda will include 3 keynote speakers, 25 breakout sessions, corporate led thought leadership panels, and networking receptions and exhibit hall. This is another great opportunity to hear what our Senior Leaders and Industry are saying. Connect the dots by Connecting with Others. This is an information age, and you don't want to be left out. Get plugged in today! Information and registration can be found at <https://sdfm.org/dfmi/>. If you have any questions, please reach out to Tina Hinze at tina.c.hinze@usace.army.mil.

I want to thank the membership for being part of SDFM. Thank you to our outstanding board members and committee chairs for all that you do! I'm looking forward to all the great things that we can dream of and make a reality this year!

I hope to see all of you soon!

Jeff Bacon
Society of Defense Financial Management
Redstone/Huntsville Chapter President
5 Star Chapter

Leadership Discussion, Industry Specific Deep Dives February 12th, 2026

What: February SDFM Professional Development Event

When: February 12th at 11 AM

Where: The Atrium at Redstone Federal Credit Union

Speaker: Patrick W. Burden, Retired 2 Star General

Topic: Leadership Discussion, Industry Specific Deep Dives

Cost: \$20 Member / \$25 non-member

Contact: Daphne Turner, daphne.d.turner.civ@army.mil

Meal: Lasagna, Garden Salad, Broccoli, Corn on the Cob, Dessert Tiramisu.

RSVP with Eventbrite: [EVENTBRITE Link](#)

Fellowship and Networking

January 8th, 2026



EARLY CAREERIST



Inspiring individuals to continually strive for higher levels of performance through creative and strategic methods that are always focused to achieving their goals by offering professional development, mentorship, and community involvement opportunities for individuals looking to seek employment in the Government Financial Management Profession

Key components of Early Careerist program include:

- ✓ Scholarship Opportunities
- ✓ Community Involvement
- ✓ Mentorship
- ✓ Professional Development
- ✓ Networking
- ✓ Recognition and Appreciation
- ✓ Supportive Environment
- ✓ Volunteer Hours

Contact Us

 <https://m.facebook.com/sdfm.rsa.hsv/>

 earlycareerist.sdfm@gmail.com



SDFM Redstone Huntsville Chapter



**Society of Defense Financial
Management Redstone Arsenal
Huntsville Chapter**

High School Scholarship Opportunity

Society of Defense Financial Management (SDFM) Redstone Arsenal (RSA) Huntsville (HSV) Chapter is pleased to announce that applications are now open for our annual chapter scholarships. We are committed to supporting the next generation of financial management professionals and will award up to \$2,000.00 at the June 2026 SDFM Awards and Scholarship Recognition Ceremony.

The scholarship is offered to any graduating high school senior that has shown exemplary leadership and service in their community, received outstanding scholastic achievements, experienced financial hardship and is interested in continuing their education in STEM, Accounting, Acquisition, Business, or Finance disciplines during the 2026-27 academic year.

Applications will be evaluated based on demonstrated academic achievement, ACT and/or SAT score(s), and responses to the essay prompt in the application.

Please submit the following required documents via email as part of the application process:

- Most recent unofficial academic transcript
- Two academic letters of recommendation on official letterhead, signed and dated
- Copy of standardized test score(s), supporting score cited on application (ACT or SAT)
- College acceptance correspondence (acceptance letter or email)

Recipients of the High School Scholarship will be announced by April 30, 2026, via email to both the student and their counselor. Attendance at the June 2026 SDFM Awards and Scholarship Recognition Ceremony is mandatory for award recipients.

The scholarship application window will open 15 January 2026 and close on 15 March 2026 at 11:59 PM CST. Application and required documents must be submitted by submission deadline to earlycareerist.sdfm@gmail.com to be considered.

Please address any questions regarding the High School Scholarship to the Awards and Scholarship Committee Chair, Lauren Cunningham, (lauren.s.cunningham2.civ@army.mil).

We look forward to reviewing your submission and wish you continued success in your studies!



SDFM Redstone-Huntsville Chapter



DFMI

Defense Financial
Management Institute

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

DFMI: The Next Chapter in Defense Financial Excellence

The DFMI event series is undergoing several exciting changes. With a new name and branding for all events, participants can expect a refreshed experience that features targeted sessions and expanded networking opportunities. These updates are designed to better serve the evolving needs of defense financial managers and foster greater engagement across the community.

DFMI remains committed to delivering top-tier professional development. Attendees will continue to have opportunities to earn CPEs and connect with thought leaders, ensuring that the core value of career-long learning and expertise remains at the heart of every event.

THEME: RESILIENCE THROUGH INNOVATION – EMPOWERING NEXTGEN LEADERS TO DRIVE EFFICIENCY

February 24-25, 2026 (Tues/Wed)

Huntsville, AL - Von Braun Center

CPEs: 28 available through a combination of in-person (8) and follow up on-demand (20) opportunities included in the all-access registration.

For more information about:

AGENDA • EXHIBITORS • PRICING • SPONSORS • HOTEL • LOCATION



visit: sdfm.org/dfmi

For group registrations, please email the SDFM Education Team at education@sdfm.org for assistance.

Community Service Update



The Community Projects Committee would like to support the Greater Huntsville Humane Society (GHHS) Dog Ball.

The GHHS Dog Ball is dedicated to advancing humane care and treatment of animals and providing adoption services for unwanted and homeless animals. The Humane Society's main goal is to help find homes for at least 500 pets each year and to remain committed to furthering the humane treatment, education, and respect for animals.

Date: February 7, 2026

Time: Depends on what you volunteer for

Location: VBC South Hall

POC: Debbie O'Neal, onealdeb25@gmail.com, 256-783-4724

On the next page you will find volunteer slot with a brief description of what you will be doing. One of the volunteer slots we have supported before is the silent auction minders. Feel free to volunteer for other slots you would like.

Community Service Update

Boxed dinners will be available for all volunteers, and you are welcome to bid on auction items using your smartphones.

If you would like to help with this great event, please email Debbie your Name, chosen volunteer slot, personal email, and Phone number.

Below are the available volunteer slots.

1. Event Day Set Up & Decorating – 9:30 – noon – Help load in event-day supplies, decorate, and place items on tables. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes. Snacks & water & coffee are provided.
2. Very Important Dog (VID) & Volunteer Check In – Man, the check-in station, assign tasks, and show VIDs and volunteers to their places. Wear comfortable clothes & shoes. A box dinner & water are provided. 4:30 until 6:30 PM – you are welcome to stay for the event.
3. Very Important Dog (VID) Sitters – Mind an assigned dog during the event (likely to include taking the dog to potty). Must be at least 18. Comfortable clothes & shoes. Box dinner & water provided. You are matched with a dog upon arrival – we try to accommodate requests. 5 – 9:30 PM
4. Cubby Captains – 1 more needed. 2 of 3 slots filled. – Check on and relieve sitters. Bring water, snacks, and/or any other needed items, such as cleaning supplies. Address sitter questions. Wear comfortable clothes & shoes. A box dinner & water are provided. 5 until 9:30 PM
5. Very Important Dog (VID) Presentation Coordinators – Help locate and line up dogs & presenters for presentation. May also need to assist in getting the dogs on stage. Wear comfortable clothes & shoes. A box dinner & water are provided. 6 until 9:30 PM
6. Runway Entry & Exit Helpers – Dogs will start walking the runway approximately 8:15. You are welcome to enjoy the ball, silent auction bidding, etc., prior to the VID presentations! – Assist dogs and/or presenters on/off the runway. Wear dressy cocktail attire. A box dinner & water are provided. 6:00 until 9:30 PM
7. Silent Auction Minders – Mind the silent auction tables. Watch over silent auction items. Assist item winners in locating their items. You will be able to sit to perform this task. Wear dressy cocktail attire. A box dinner & water are provided. 5:15 until 9:30 PM
8. Guest Check In & Seating – Details will be provided closer to the event. A short training session will take place at 4:30. The process is very easy, and assistance will be on-site. Check in guests using an iPad (you will be seated) and/or show guests to their assigned table (standing & walking required). Wear dressy cocktail attire. A box dinner & water are provided. 4:30 until 7:30 PM – you are welcome to stay at the event.
9. Live Auction Runners – Live auction starts at 8 PM. I will provide more details to the participants closer to the event. (Tammie Berzett) – Help locate live auction bidders. Wear dressy cocktail attire. A box dinner & water are provided. You are welcome to attend the entire event from 6:00 to 8:30 PM.
10. Clean Up Crew – Help remove table decorations and load out event supplies. Wear comfortable clothes & shoes. A box dinner & water are provided. You do not have to arrive until 8:30 – you are welcome to attend the entire event. This task ends on or before 10:30 PM.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Date	Time	Location	Event
5 - Feb	1100-1200	TEAMS	Feb Board Meeting
12 - Feb	1100-1230	Atrium at Redstone	Feb PDE
24, 25 - Feb	All Day	Von Braun Center	National PDI
5 - Mar	1100-1230	TEAMS	Mar Board Meeting
12 - Mar	1100-1230	Atrium at Redstone	Mar PDE
2 - Apr	1100-1230	TEAMS	Apr Board Meeting
9 - Apr	1100-1230	Atrium at Redstone	Apr PDE
7 - May	1100-1230	TEAMS	May Board Meeting

Our next [Executive Board Meeting is 5 February 2026 at 11:00 AM](#).

Please make sure there is a representative from each committee present for the monthly board meeting if at all possible. If you or a representative from your committee are unable to make it, please send your committee updates ahead of time and let one of the officers know you won't be in attendance.



SDFM RSA-HSV CHAPTER MEMBER AWARDS

Kindly submit a nomination for an SDFM member whom you believe has demonstrated exceptional dedication and consistently exceeded expectations during the period of January through March 2026.

Let's Recognize Excellence, Dedication, and Outstanding Performance in our Local Chapter!

Member of the Quarter Criteria Checklist:

- A member in good standing of the Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of SDFM.
- Significant contributions to the "Spirit of Resource Management/Comptrollership."

This could include, but is not limited to, the following:

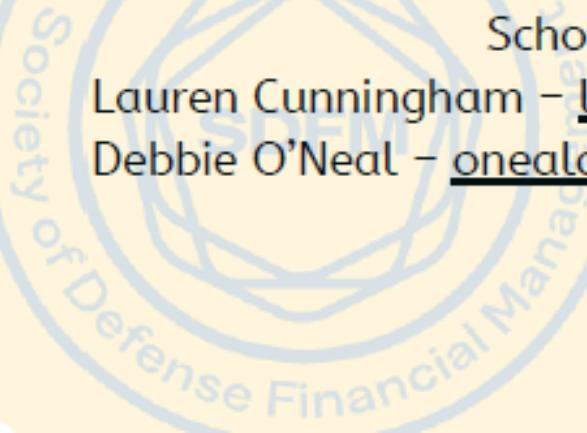
- Contribution to the Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of SDFM.
- Special recognition for acts of service.
- Publication of article(s) in Armed Forces Comptroller or other professional publications.
- Recognition by SDFM National for acts or service.
- Recognition for community service.

SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS TODAY

Send Nominations or Questions to the Awards and Scholarships Committee:

Lauren Cunningham – lauren.s.cunningham2.civ@army.mil

Debbie O'Neal – onealdeb@nehp.net



MEMBERSHIP NEWS CORNER

Today is a great day to review your SDFM Membership Profile! Please visit the SDFM website and update your contact information (email/phone/organization) today. Visit <https://sdfm.org>. We still have some members that have not changed their email address from mail.mil to army.mil. Please review and update your email address ASAP.

WELCOME to our new members that have joined the Redstone/Huntsville chapter! We are beyond excited to see what great things you do in your career and in our chapter.

:-) hello :-)

2025-2026 Redstone/Huntsville SDFM Membership Committee:
Jeff Bacon



NEWSLETTER NEWS CORNER



Want to volunteer to help with the newsletter?

Want to contribute articles, pictures or ideas?

Know someone that should be honored for their contribution?

Know someone retiring or that has passed on from our chapter that we should pay tribute to?

Send them to the Newsletter Committee Via Email:

Cynthia Johnson (Chair): cjohnson@bdo.us

Alex Roberts: aroberts@bdo.us

2024-2025 EXECUTIVE AND CHAIRS

Executive Board	Officer
President	Jeff Bacon
Vice-President	Debbie O'Neal
Corresponding Secretary	Laura Oliver
Recording Secretary	Gina Hranilovic
Treasurer	Tina Hinze
Assistant Treasurer	Stacey Williams
Committee	Committee Chair
Attendance/Facilities/Ways and Means	Daphne Turner
Audit	Nancy Howe
Awards/Scholarship	Lauren Cunningham
Certification Programs	Stephen Clark
Community Projects	Daphne Turner
Constitution/Bylaws	Laura Oliver
Early Careerist	Lauren Cunningham
Membership/Corporate	Jeff Bacon
Newsletter/Publicity/Photo	Cynthia Johnson
Nominating	Rebecca Hunt
Chapter Competition	Debbie O'Neal
Programs	Teasia Cunningham
Special Events	Rebecca Hunt
Training and Education	Tina Hinze
Webmaster	Thaddeus Blake

Redstone/Huntsville SDFM January 2026 Meeting Minutes

Date: January 6, 2026

Time: 11:00 AM - 11:36 AM (via Microsoft Teams)

Location: Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

- Laura Oliver
- Jeffrey A. Bacon
- Debbie O'Neal
- Cynthia Johnson
- Teasia Cunningham
- Tina Hinze
- Daphne Turner
- Rebecca Hunt
- Gina Hranilovic
- Stacy Williams
- Thaddeous Blake

Absentees:

- Nancy Howe
- Lauren Cunningham
- Stephen Clark

Agenda Items:

1. Opening Remarks
2. Review of Upcoming Meetings and Events
3. Financial Statements
4. Community Projects
5. Updates from Committees
6. Miscellaneous Discussions

Discussion Highlights:

1. Opening Remarks:

- Laura Oliver initiated the meeting and welcomed all attendees, asking if everyone had a good New Year. Participants shared their brief resolutions.

2. Review of Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- The next meeting with National was confirmed for January 12, 2026, at 3:00 PM.
- Jeff Bacon discussed the upcoming luncheon event on Thursday, at the RFCU Atrium emphasizing the need for final attendance numbers. Attendance was reported at 18, with room for additional participants as they are expected to pay for 30.

3. Financial Statements:

- Tina Hinze presented the budget status, expressing satisfaction with the financial balance between income and expenses.
- The Christmas party was noted as a success, generating approximately \$922.
- A correction was made regarding a donation to Madison County, which should be \$310 instead of \$300 to Special Olympics.

4. Community Projects:

- Discussion on the upcoming "Dog Ball" event at the VBC, where participants dress their dogs for a fundraiser benefiting animal shelters. The event is scheduled for early February.
- Debbie O'Neal outlined responsibilities for members during the event, including managing the silent auction.

5. Updates from Committees:

- Laura Oliver reported that she submitted paperwork to operate on Redstone and is awaiting confirmation.
- Tina Hinze provided updates on the Defense Financial Management Institute, confirming open registration and logistics planning.
- Teasia Cunningham mentioned that she would not be present at the next event and asked for assistance in purchasing gift cards.

6. Miscellaneous Discussions:

- Cynthia Johnson inquired about the "Dog Ball" and expressed interest in attending.
- Participants discussed the legal aspects of fundraising in Alabama, particularly regarding raffles and alternatives such as charity sweepstakes.
- The meeting concluded with a reminder for attendees to sign up for the upcoming event and expressed hopes for a successful year ahead.

Action Items:

- Laura Oliver to follow up on the approval status for operating on Redstone.
- Jeff Bacon to ensure that the final attendance numbers are confirmed for the Thursday luncheon event.
- Tina Hinze to send out financial statements to members post-meeting.
- Teasia Cunningham to coordinate gift card purchases for the Thursday event.
- Daphne Turner and Debbie O'Neal to finalize volunteer details for the Dog Ball event.

Next Meeting:

- Scheduled for January 12, 2026, at 3:00 PM.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:36 AM with well wishes exchanged among participants.

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