

October Newsletter

INDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER

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President's Message

Thank you to everyone who worked hard to put together an exciting October. In October, we had our first luncheon at the Garrison with Mr. Ron Cox, who spoke about accountability. We also had the awesome opportunity to hear Dr. Mary Sally Matiella, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Financial Management and Comptroller. Community service events included Coats for Kids and assisting at Our Lil Bit of Heaven Animal Rescue.

The fall PDC will take place on November 2nd and will feature speakers on Organizational Behavior, Economics, Accounting, and Leadership and will be worth 8 CPEs.

The next audio conference will take place on December 14th and will cover Fraud. There are plenty of ways to get involved in AGA! Opportunities in November include the AGA/ASMC Christmas Food Baskets and the Angel Tree in December. In December, we will have our annual holiday luncheon. I look forward to an exciting holiday season! For information on upcoming events and opportunities, check the website (www.againdy.com).

Laura Jankovich, President
AGA, Indianapolis Chapter

*From the top
Want to read about what
the Assistant
Secretary of the Army
has to say about audit
readiness? Check out
Page 4!*

AGA Indianapolis Articles

These articles were picked for the AGA Member Audience:

Know any other good articles? [Submit to the Newsletter Committee!](#)

Statement on Iraq by Defense Secretary Panetta—10/21/11

The United States and Iraq affirmed today that the U.S. will fulfill its commitments under the current U.S.-Iraq Security Agreement and withdraw all of our military forces by the end of 2011.

Today's announcement means that at the end of this year, there will be a clear end to the U.S. combat presence in Iraq. I wanted to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude and appreciation to our men and women in uniform who have served in Iraq since 2003. Our troops and their families have borne a heavy burden during more than eight years of war, and paid a great price. Yet it is a testament to their strength and resilience that we are now able to bring this war to a responsible end. Thanks to their service and sacrifice, Iraq is ready to govern and defend itself and to contribute to security and stability in a vital part of the world.

We will now turn our full attention to pursuing a long-term strategic partnership with Iraq based on mutual interests and mutual respect. Our goal will be to establish a normal relationship similar to others in the region that focuses on meeting security and training needs. Iraq is a sovereign nation that must determine how to secure its own future. Going forward, we will work closely with the Iraqi government and their armed forces to help them continue to build a stronger and more prosperous country.

[Read More](http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2011/0711_message1/)  http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2011/0711_message1/

US, South Korea Warn Against North Korean Aggression

Yahoo.com — SEOUL, South Korea--The U.S. and South Korean defense chiefs declared Friday that any North Korean aggression "is not to be tolerated," following two deadly incidents last year, and pledged to jointly develop more effective means of responding to future provocations by the North.

U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and his South Korean counterpart, Kim Kwan-jin, told a news conference at the Ministry of Defense that they also decided to increase "combined watch activities" in advance of an international summit planned for Seoul next spring. They did not elaborate, but the statement appeared to mean they would boost intelligence gathering and surveillance.

[Read More](http://ebird.osd.mil/ebfiles/e20111028851096.html)  <http://ebird.osd.mil/ebfiles/e20111028851096.html>



Defense Cyber Chief: The Cloud Is The Military's Next Internet

by Aliya Sternstein

Military networks and software must be tied to the cloud to defend Defense Department computers against adversaries, the Pentagon's cyber chief said Wednesday night.

Currently, Defense data reside on three main systems that cannot be centrally secured, creating disparate levels of protection that serve as entryways for ever evolving malicious software, according to military officials. The top brass envision fixing this setup with a cloud -- a common network infrastructure capable of spotting and blocking threats remotely for all the military's databases, PCs and other electronics.

Gen. Keith Alexander, chief of U.S. Cyber Command, called the cloud approach "active defense," adding that "hunting on our networks has got to change." He was speaking to computer security officials from the public and private sectors at a conference organized by the Security Innovation Network. "We have to find a way to communicate dynamically and pass those signatures around," Alexander said, referring to the digital fingerprints of malware that are loaded into anti-virus software to detect threats.

So far intruders have caused more economic than physical pain -- but that may change soon, he said.

Exploitation of sensitive data has generated "the greatest transfer of wealth that's gone on in history," Alexander said. Cybercrime saps about \$114 billion worldwide annually, according to security firm Norton. In 2007, Russia was sus-



AGA Indianapolis Announcements

AGA Audio Conferences

AGA will host several upcoming Audio Conferences, please see list below. (2) NASBA Certified CPEs will be offered for each event. FREE for Members and \$25 participation fee for Non-Members. NOTE: An SF 182 does not need to be filled out unless you want it on your training history or it is being funded by your department.

December 14, 2011 - Fraud

February 8, 2012 - Financial Management

March 7, 2012 - Data Mining

April 18, 2012 - Find Strength in Numbers - Sampling Techniques to Improve Financial Audit, Control and Program Performance

To self-register, contact Sally Thelen at 212-5535, sally.thelen@dfas.mil; Lynada Peeples at 212-8939, lynada.peeples@dfas.mil; or Kinzie Kiser at 212-6182, kinzie.kiser@dfas.mil.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the September CEC have been posted to the website. To read them visit www.againdy.com/minutesbudget.aspx

CGFM Program

Do you need an extra incentive to apply for the CGFM Program? AGA is offering a \$20 rebate (application fee is \$85 before rebate) to all CGFM applications received with the assistance of AGA chapters from September 1 until December 31, 2011. For more information on CGFM CHAPTER PROMOTION, please go to www.agacgfm.org/cgfm/promotion.aspx

A CGFM Module 3 Study Group will be starting on Monday, November 7th. In addition, the new 2011 edition CGFM books are also available now as well! The Indy chapter has 13 FULL SETS of the 2011 edition. If you would like additional information on the Module 3 Study Group or borrowing a CGFM module please contact Dan Neumann, CGFM at 212-3120 or daniel.neumann@dfas.mil

Defense Cloud: continued

pected of orchestrating a network overload in Estonia that disrupted government and commercial systems for two weeks.

But "what I'm concerned about is destruction," where, for example, malware directs industrial systems controlling dams to explode "in the not too distant future," Alexander said.

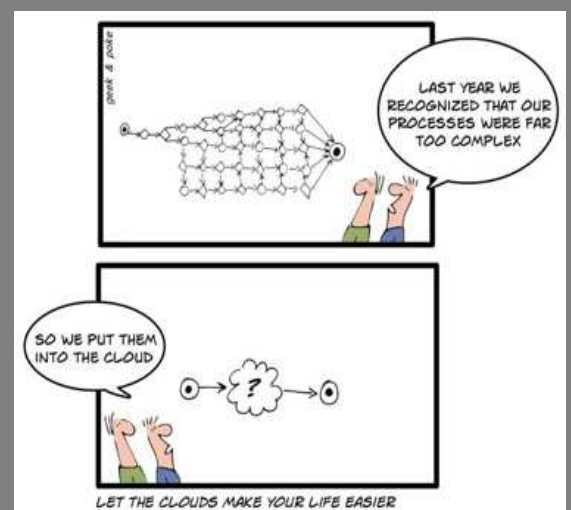
He said the cloud can serve as a shield against such attacks by more quickly identifying signs of network manipulation. Statistics indicate most intrusions are discovered by personnel between six and nine months after an initial breach, Alexander said. Automating surveillance through a central service, or in the cloud, would speed response times, he explained.

"How do we create the next set of architecture that is more defensible and can ensure the integrity of our data? I think it's in the cloud," Alexander said.

Estonian officials in attendance backed the U.S. commander's faith in the cloud for national security.

Read more about the cloud:

<http://ebird.osd.mil/ebfiles/e20111028850969.html>



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Member Spotlight

NAME and Job:

Jeff Hicks
Accountant, Interfund team,
Accounts Payable

HOW WOULD SOMEONE DESCRIBE YOU?

Witty, wise, wamazing and often sarcastic

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU AREN'T WORKING?

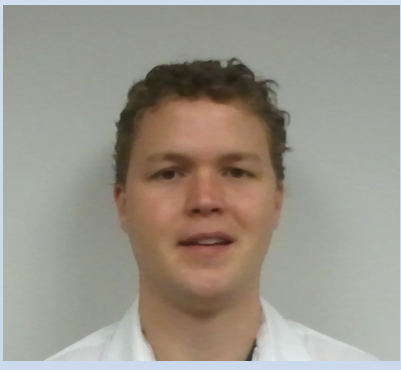
Basketball, reading, home improvement, hopefully hiking and camping a few times a year.

HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH AGA?

I heard about it from a co-worker and attended some early career events.

WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT WOULD SURPRISE US TO KNOW ABOUT YOU?

That I am not 20 years old, as I am frequently told. I have also lived in Indiana my entire life, and I still enjoy watching the Hoosiers play every basketball game even during the last three years.



MEMBERS PAGE!

This page is dedicated to our members. Please contact Heather Crews or Carlton Carley if you have any articles you would like to write and have posted.

Dr. Matiella Brunch on 10/23/2011 - Cathy Van Hoesen

The Association of Government Accountants (AGA) and the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) hosted a brunch for the Honorable Dr. Mary Sally Matiella, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller (ASA, FM&C) on Wednesday, October 23, 2011. Dr. Matiella brought a wealth of knowledge and experience in Financial Management to her lecture.

Dr. Matiella held various positions at DFAS from 1989-1998 including the Director of Accounting at DFAS San Bernardino, CA from 1995-1998. From DFAS she went to work at OUSD (Comptroller) and then entered the Senior Executive Service (SES) in December 2001 with the Forest Service. Under her leadership, the Forest Service received its first ever "clean" audit opinion. Her final SES position was with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as the Assistant CFO for Accounting, where under her leadership, HUD earned an "unqualified" opinion. On November 23, 2009, President Barack Obama



nominated Dr. Matiella as ASA, FM&C and she was confirmed by the Senate on February 11, 2011.

Dr. Matiella opened her talk by stating how impressed she was that so many DFAS employees came to hear her speak, noting that "it shows how much DFAS cares about the partnership with the Army." During the talk Dr. Matiella

commented that she believes that Congress' intent is on DoD gaining a clean audit opinion and with the help of the very talented DFAS workforce, it is achievable. Employees need to have a customer service attitude awhile understanding challenges will be faced. Leaders must set expectations, and put them in writing, so that employees know exactly what is expected of them.

The Army, like all the DoD components, is facing significant challenges in Financial Management. The DoD is reducing budgets across the Future Years Defense Program (FYDP) by \$600B with the possibility of that total increasing to \$1.2T if the Congressional Super Committee does not identify enough reductions. The Army could be facing a 25% reduction to their annual budget and they must balance priorities in order to provide a balanced program at any budget level. For example, in FY12 the Army must reduce their civilian workforce by 8,740 employees and end strength could be further reduced depending on the final top line reduction received by the Army.

Dr. Matiella emphasized that the Army is working to develop a cost culture that will deliver required capabilities while reducing redundant, out-dated and low-risk activities. The Army intends to achieve this by issuing guidance stating their

AGA Indianapolis Articles

Dr. Matiella, Continued

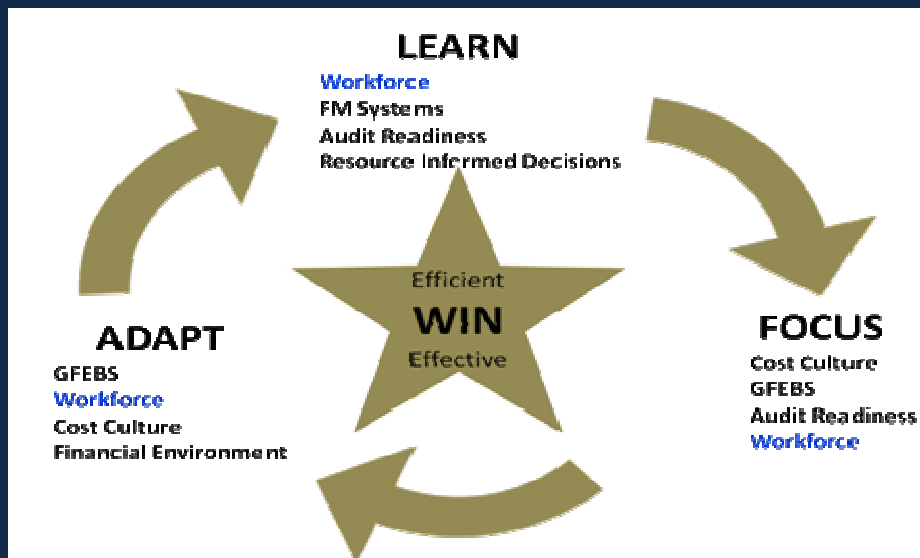
intent to “...instill a culture of savings and restraint so that we can maintain critical operational capabilities, sustain force structure, and invest in needed modernization” (2011 Army Strategic Planning Guidance). The Army will also provide education and training to their functional operations and financial managers, and provide tools to use for managing cost in order to institute this new cost culture.

The Army is planning a wave approach to audit readiness. This includes the full deployment of the General Fund Enterprise Business System (GFEBS) by July of FY12 and a growing number of installations being audited in each wave to ensure the Army has the Statement of Budgetary Resources (SBR) audit ready by FY14. GFEBS is an auditable financial system so users must learn the new system and adapt to it which will make it work for the Army, noting, “If something does not work, be very specific when providing issues, identify exactly what does not work and include screen prints if possible.”

Dr. Matiella’s speech about the future of the Defense Budget, the Army cost culture, and audit readiness was well received by the audience and the clear message being



sent was through collaboration and moving forward in a positive partnership, DFAS and the Army can be successful in the future. Dr. Matiella closed by reiterating the importance of continued learning and education. Formal education and professional certifications help demonstrate to auditors that the DoD workforce has the skills necessary to successfully maintain clean financial statements.





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Questions about Sponsorship?

AGA Corporate Sponsors support the Chapter for an entire program year. The benefits and engagement opportunities run from January through December. Between October and January, we solicit Sponsors for the upcoming program year.

We currently have four sponsorship echelons ranging from Bronze to Platinum, each with increasing support levels and engagement opportunities. All Sponsors receive advertising space on our website and in our Chapter Newsletter which publishes six editions per year, with distribution to over 300 members.

Several other benefits are offered depending on your giving level, including complimentary access to our Holiday Party, Awards Banquet, & monthly luncheons for employees from your company. Speak with an AGA Corporate Sponsorship representative for more details.

Contact Andrew Tyler at
andrew.tyler@dfas.mil

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Newsletter Articles

The deadline for submitting articles and updates for the next newsletter is the end of each month. Please email submissions to:

Heather Crews
Carlton Carley

heather.crews@dfas.mil
carlton.carley@dfas.mil

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