

Torii Typhoon

Volume 5 Issue 4

July 2006

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ASA OKINAWA



Special Points of Interest

- *See how the reunion registrations are coming along in the cover story. If you haven't sent yours in yet, do it soon!*
- *You should recognize at least one of the twenty-three names under Welcome Mat on pages three and four!*
- *Mail Call on pages four and five has an example of how small our world really is.*
- *Read the bio of Hank Jarvey on page five.*
- *Read anecdotes about Okinawa on page six. We'd love to hear from some of you about your memories.*

REGISTRATIONS ARE COMING IN NICELY

At publication, we already have 40 members (plus spouses/guests) registered for the reunion. We had the first reservation less than 12 hours after the registration material was posted on the internet. Get your reservations in now, so you can enjoy all of the activities with old friends.

OK, PA guys and girls, here is the chance to show your stuff. There are nearly 150 former ASA Okinawa members residing in Pennsylvania, a couple in Harrisburg and at least one in Camp Hill where the hotel is located. Since Harrisburg is roughly in mid-state the reunion is just a short drive from anywhere in PA – and not a lot further from Maryland, New Jersey, and Ohio. As we've alluded to

before, this is expected to be one of – if not THE largest reunions to date.

You all should have registration packets until now. If you get this newsletter and have not received your registration material, be sure to let us know, or look on the internet at WWW.MLRSINC.COM/ASAOKINAWA. You can find the entire packet there, just download and print your own copy.

Since you already have the itinerary, we won't bore you here by repeating the schedule. Suffice it to say those who have already registered are participating in most of the activities. At this early date we have more than enough people for all of the tours to go – so

don't hesitate to sign up. If we run out of bus space we'll have to start a waiting list until we have enough for another bus. Don't get caught in no-man's land – register now.

If you read the itinerary – and at least one person did – you'll note that on Friday evening you are invited to an old fashioned stag bar. The announcement specifically says "men" are invited. Admittedly, "men" and "stag" were a poor choice of words because it appears to exclude women. That was not the intent; the intent was for old soldiers to get together for an hour and reminisce, remember, and perhaps have a toddy. Any female who is a former sol-

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

dier at Torii Station is most welcome. We apologize for the poor choice of words and sincerely invite all who served at Torii Station to be part of this soldier social hour.

The memorial service on Sunday morning is a very important part of the reunion. We try to keep track of deceased members. Paul Watson does a bang-up job using his sources, sometimes relatives will notify us, and sometimes mail is returned marked "deceased". But there are still others out there that we do not know of. So, if anyone becomes aware of a member's death, please notify ML & RS, Inc so he can be honored at the memorial service and placed on our Honor Roll.

See you in PA!

Larry Eckard
ML&RS, Inc.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim Norrbom

Guys, we have only a little over 3 months till our next reunion in Harrisburg, PA. It sure would be good to have an all-time record of attendees this year! We have a lot of things going for those of you who attend this year. Check out the reunion schedule and see all that there is going on. Let us know what you think at the meeting where we will be taking nominations for the 2008 reunion site and then voting on those nominations. Looking forward to seeing all you who have been to our reunions before and hopefully a lot of first timers also. See you all in Harrisburg, PA in Sept 2006.

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STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

The Torii Typhoon is the official publication of the Security Agency Association Okinawa. It is published tri-annually in March, July and November. The Newsletter is funded by voluntary contributions from the membership. Contributions should be sent to the treasurer. All members are encouraged to support the voice of ASA Okinawa. A financial statement appears annually in the November issue.

The newsletter is intended to be a vehicle for the members to express opinions, make suggestions and especially share experiences.

Unless otherwise stated, the views and opinions printed in the newsletter are those of the article's writer, and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Association leadership or the Editor of the Newsletter.

All letters and stories submitted will be considered for publication, except unsigned letters will not be published. Letters requesting the writer's name be withheld will be honored, but published on a space available basis. Signed letters with no restrictions will be given priority.

Letters demeaning to another member will not be printed; letters espousing a political position will not be printed.

The editor reserves the right to edit letters to conform to space limitations.

ML&RS, Inc. is not responsible for the accuracy of articles submitted for publication. It would be a monumental task to check each story. Therefore, we rely on the submitter to research each article.

You are encouraged to actively participate in the newsletter family, by submitting your stories and suggestions.

HARRISBURG, PA, HERE WE COME!

TREASURER'S REPORT ASA OKINAWA July 25, 2006

Beginning Balance as of March 1, 2006.....\$7775.84
Dues Received\$ 150.00

Disbursements

March 2006 Newsletter.....-\$330.94

Balance as of July 25, 2006.....\$7594.90

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(Continued on page 4)

ASA OKINAWA 2006 REUNION

SEPT. 28-OCT. 1

HARRISBURG, PA

RADISSON PENN- HARRIS HOTEL



WELCOME MAT

The following members have been located since the last newsletter. Welcome to the Association. We hope to see you at the next reunion and hear from you about your memories of your time spent in Okinawa.

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"Our Reunions Work So You Don't
Have To"

NEWSLETTER EXPENDITURES

FOR JULY 2006 \$437.06

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**TAPS**

The Typhoon learned of the following deaths since the last newsletter was published. The deaths are not necessarily recent, but they were just learned of. The entire membership extends our deepest sympathy to the widows, families and friends of the deceased.

Dewayne Smith

Died August 24, 2005

George Daly (1955-57)

Died 2002

Jerald Langston

Died January 9, 2005

Fred Ballin

Died October 19, 1997

Martin Blumenthal

Died November 12, 2003

Joseph Urbanski

Died December 30, 1993

Charles Rhodes

Died April 19, 2004

Lorin Jorgensen

Died May 25, 2003

Thomas Hodges

Died February 14, 2005

Bobby Hennington

Died January 27, 2003

Bruce Spotts

Died June 9, 2005

Allen Seiple

Died December 18, 2004

Lt. Dan Eilers

Died January 18, 2006

Dalbert McKey

Died January 28, 2006

Dean Ransburg

Died January 10, 2006

Thomas Ruth

Died January 29, 2006

John Tibbs (1952-54) E-4

Died March 21, 2006

Billy Woodruff

(1952)MSgt/E-4 Opns
Died January 18, 2005

Charles Wiseman

Died May 29, 2002

Walter Brown, Jr.

Died December 30, 2004

John Downey

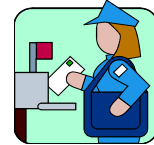
Died May 19, 2004

Arthur Franks

Died December 20, 2004

Perry Sparks

Died October 14, 2005

**MAIL CALL**

ASA Members,

I was at Sobe from May or June 1967 to May or June 70. Phil Carter (also a retired CWO living in Florida now) and I both went to Okinawa from Vietnam. He probably knows/remembers more from our time frame than I, so maybe he'll pass the info on. I see a lot of people I know at the Ft. Meade commissary, golf course, etc, but at my age it's sometimes difficult to remember just where and how long ago we met. We're definitely interested in the Harrisburg reunion depending on timing.

Long live ASA,
Bill Dudley

Mr. Watson,

I was searching the internet and came across the web site promoting the Reunion in Harrisburg, PA for those who served on Okinawa with the ASA. I have been trying off and on to research the ASA particularly on Okinawa. I believe my father served there sometime between 1961 and 1965. I don't know the exact period of time. My father passed away before I was born, so I don't know much about his service. Is it possible you have his name on a roster of those who served on Okinawa? His name was James Daniel DeVine. He was from New Oxford, PA. I do have a collection of pictures and slides he

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

took while serving in the military, and a coffee mug that has "Camp Sobe" on it. Based on the pictures, I believe he was working as an MP, but there are other pictures as well.

I am very interested in learning about his military service and would welcome the opportunity to possibly meet other men who served with him and might remember him. Would it be permissible for me to attend your function and meet some of your members who may have served with him?

If you need more information from me or would like to see some of the pictures I have, I could scan them and send them to you via email attachment. I just recently received from my aunt a collection of color slides. I have not yet been able to scan them in to digital format, but I hope to over time. The number of color slides is probably over 500 so that is going to take some time.

Thank you in advance for considering my request. I look forward to hearing from you.

James D Van Dyke
541 Bull Valley Rd
Aspers, PA 17304
rm308@yahoo.com

Update from Paul Watson on Mr. Van Dyke's letter:

I have put Jim in contact with Joel Neal who was a security guard at Sobe during the same time that his father was there.

Van Dyke called this afternoon and was looking at some pictures while we were on the phone. I told him that I thought that Joel Neal could have been at Sobe with his father. One of the pictures he was looking at had a person with a readable name tag—that name was **NEAL**. Small world!!!

Paul Watson

Torii Readers,

David Wayne May, 33, son of Dallas and Linda May, was fatally injured in a motorcycle accident on June 14, 2006. In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife Amanda and his four week old son Daniel. Dallas and Linda are frequent reunion attendees. You may send condolences to them at:

Dallas & Linda May
1840 Horn Lake Rd
Nesbit, MS 38651

BIO OF HANK JARVEY

In July 1947, I told the Sgt at the recruiting station in the US Post Office in Santa Monica, California that I wanted to join the army engineer corps. He sent me to Ft. MacArthur, Long Beach, Ca. There I was interviewed by M/Sgt Schultz and was asked if I would like to join the ASA. Basic Training was completed at Ft. Ord, Ca, and I was sent to Vint Hill Farms Station, Warrenton, Va. After one year of training I was sent to ASA Hq at 1st Tokyo Arsenal, Oji-Machi, Japan. After a short time at ASAPAC Hq, I transferred to the 111th Signal Service Company at Futema, Okinawa. This was April 1949. One year later I was transferred back to Oji, Japan. On June 25, 1950 the Korean War started. During this time I was promoted to S/Sgt. In Feb 1951, I was informed that I was being transferred to the ASA Training Center and School at Ft. Devens, Mass. I was sent there for 4½ years as an instructor. While being assigned as an instructor I was promoted to M/Sgt (E-7). Then I was sent back to ASAPAC in Jan. 1956. The ASAPAC Hq was being phased down and in 1957 I was transferred to the 3rd Fld Sta at Torri Station in Sobe Okinawa.

In 1958 I was transferred back to the school as an instructor for another 4½ years. In 1963 I was transferred to Hq ASA Europe, Frankfurt, Germany. In Germany for three years I was promoted twice. To M/Sgt (E8) and then

to SgtMaj (E9). In early 1966 I was transferred to the 9th USASA Fld Sta, Clark Air Force Base, Philippines. In January 1967 I submitted my request to retire from the army in July 1967. The request was sent to ASA Hq, Arlington, VA. The response to my request to retire from the army came back with the offer that instead of retiring, would I accept a two year active duty tour in the grade of Captain (O3). I accepted the assignment, took the oath of office and was transferred to Arlington Hall. After three months at ASA headquarters I was transferred to the Desert Training Center Ft. Irwin, CA. In January 1969 my two years was up and I again applied for retirement. On January 31, 1969, as a Captain, I was placed in the retired reserve and I was retired from the regular army in the grade of Sgt/Maj (E9). In July 1977 I was promoted to Captain, US Army Retired. I had entered the civilian work force.

After a short vacation I started work in industry, initially with Singer Company and later with Perkin-Elmer Corporation. I retired from Perkin-Elmer in 1993. Bought a home in central Oregon in 1994 and have lived here since.

During my time in ASA, while not at the school as an instructor, I was in maintenance of ASA type equipment which required a lot of traveling to where the equipment needing repair was located. As a result, I spent a lot of time traveling on TDY. During these travels I visited locations in Thailand, Korea, Viet Nam, Chitose, Itazuke, Kobe, Ashiya, Kyoto, Sasebo, Osaka, Japan, and several locations in Germany. There are many stories I could tell of these travel times. Let's sit down at a reunion sometime and talk about it.

Hank Jarvey

ANECDOTES ABOUT OKINAWA

SUBMITTED BY DALE BEASLEY

I'VE NEVER HANDLED A .45

Lew Williams included the following in his remembrances of his time on Okinawa:

Since we had only 4 or 5 officers, the NCO's were assigned duty as NCO. An officer was technically on duty, but the NCO did most of the regular duty. The duty uniform was Class A, with helmet liner, and he wore a loaded .45 pistol. I was in the operations office one day, just before going off duty as NCO. The operations clerk, John D. Peterson, said that he had never handled the .45. Since I had to clean it before going off duty, I let him clean it, showing him all the things to do and NOT to do. He finished, slipped in the magazine

and aimed at my helmet liner on the desk beside me. Just before he pulled the trigger, I realized what he had done. I ducked and yelled, but he blew my helmet liner away. The slug cut a groove in the desk top, and went out thru the thin wall of the building. Capt. Snyder came in, asked if everyone was all right, and unflappable as ever, calmly walked out to the outhouse to see if anyone in there had been hit. Fortunately, the worst damage was to my self-esteem... I was the training NCO.

WHERE DID I PUT THE COMBINATION?

Lew also told this story: Capt Joseph V. Snyder was the operations officer. There was an old field

safe in the operations office for keeping of classified documents. Once when Capt Snyder changed the combination on the safe, he locked the written combination inside the safe before memorizing the new one. The CID was called in to open the safe, but they weren't cleared for the type of classified information in the safe. Their procedure for opening the safe was not to be witnessed by anyone either. They compromised by putting up a screen so their work could not be seen, but Capt. Snyder could see that they didn't look at the material in the safe.

GETTYSBURG FACTS

- Gettysburg was the site of the largest battle ever waged during the American Civil War.
- The battle was fought in the first three days of July 1863.
- Historians have referred to the battle as a major turning point in the war.
- It was the bloodiest single battle of the war, resulting in over 51,000 soldiers killed, wounded, captured or missing.
- The Soldier's National Cemetery at Gettysburg was dedicated on November 19, 1863, when Abraham Lincoln delivered his immortal Gettysburg Address.
- The cemetery contains more than 7,000 interments including over 3,500 from the Civil War.

FIVE STAR GENERALS

The five star general rank was created in the midst of World War II to address the fact that several American commanders found themselves in the delicate position of supervising Allied officers of higher rank. Initially, the new rank was to be called Field Marshal, after the British military, but this was nixed due to stern (and quite understandable) objections from General George C. Marshall.

When General of the Army Omar N. Bradley died in April of 1981, the five star ranking was consigned to history. In all, four Army generals, four Navy admirals, and one Air Force general have held the rank of Five Star General.

The Army's five star generals were:

- General George C. Marshall**
- General Douglas MacArthur**
- General Dwight D. Eisenhower**
- General Omar N. Bradley**

The Navy's five star fleet admirals were:

- Admiral William D. Leahy**
- Admiral Ernest J. King**
- Admiral Chester Nimitz**
- Admiral William F. "Bull" Halsey**

General Henry Arnold was the Air Force's five star general.

Who beats a five star general? A General of the Armies of the United States—the highest military rank of all time, hands down. To date, only George Washington and John J. Pershing have held this position.

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION REMINDER

Please check the membership expiration date on the outside of this newsletter envelope. If the date is 12/31/06, you will need to send in your membership dues of \$10.00 to continue receiving The Torri Typhoon beyond that date. Dues are to be sent to Treasurer Tom Sturgeon, 12 Cherry Lane, Olmstead TWP, OH 44138-2916.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information contained in this letter is very important! Please read it very carefully and respond as necessary! **You must respond as indicated in this message to continue receiving information about your reunion through the US Postal mail!**

Big changes are going on here at ML&RS, Inc! They're not going to happen overnight, but the process has begun. As you are certainly aware, rising costs for hotel rooms, meal prices and fuel for autos and tour buses makes for a more expensive reunion! We are doing everything we can to keep our costs to a minimum. However, prices continue to rise, including postage (which has gone up again the first of this year). In an effort to offer you and your fellow attendees the lowest possible cost, we are going to make some changes to the way things have been done in the past. We hope you will work with us to implement these changes as smoothly as possible!

Due to the multitude of requests we have received over the last few years, we are going to now upgrade our web site to include a variety of information pertaining to your reunion. There will be a small web site within our company's web site for each of the reunion groups we work with. The main page for each group will contain basic information about the upcoming reunion, as well as links to several other pages, including but not limited to lists of those who have signed up, the actual registration packet as a web page, a link to the profiles that were previously printed in the Sentimental Journal, newsletters, and after the reunion a link that can be used to order copies of the memory books that will now be included as part of the reunion package. Also, we will not duplicate anything your group already has on their web page. We will do our best to keep personal information secure. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published. Email addresses will only be published with permission.

Beginning with the 2006 reunions, we will be discontinuing our memorabilia sales, including the Sentimental Journal. There are so many web sites out there now where hats, t-shirts, etc can be ordered, and the turn-around time is just a matter of days. When we first started this business, this was not

the case. We began offering these items as a service to the reunion groups who didn't know where else to order items. Due to the increased availability of memorabilia, our sales have declined over the last few years, and it is no longer cost effective for us to continue offering these items. Also, there are a lot of groups who prefer to sell the items themselves as a fund raiser for the association. We certainly do not wish to compete with your association sales!

In place of the Sentimental Journal, we will begin including a 2006 Memory Book as the memorabilia item given away at the reunion. This will replace the note cards, clocks, pens, etc that have been given in the past. However, they will not be given at the reunion, they will be sent to each attendee (who signs up for one of the Option Packages or orders one as part of their Individual Option) following the reunion. The 2006 Memory Book will contain photos from the reunion and "then and now" photos that have been submitted prior to the reunion each year. The very popular profiles will now be accessible from the web site.

Now that the group's web site is up and running we will discontinue the majority of the paper mailings we sent out. Newsletters, Surveys, Introductory Letters and Questionnaires, and the Registration Material will all be available on the web site. Your group's web site is www.mlrsinc.com/asaokinawa. Be sure to visit the site frequently and take advantage of the information that will be/is available there. If your profile is not listed in the Crew Profiles, then be sure to submit yours via:

www.mlrsinc.com/questionnaire.htm.

We do realize that there are still some people who do not have or do not want internet access. Because of this, we will continue paper mailings to those who let us know they want their info via the postal mail. **You must return the "coupon" at the end of this letter if you wish to continue receiving paper copies of the various materials we send out—newsletters, registration packets, surveys, etc.** If you do not mail in this coupon, we are assuming you have internet access and can obtain all the necessary reunion information off your group's web site.

At some point in the near future, we plan to add on-line registration capabilities to each group's web site. That probably won't happen this year, but I do foresee it happening soon. That is another feature we got a lot of requests for.

As we strive to provide you and your reunion group with the best possible value for your reunion dollar, it is sometimes necessary to change the way some things are done. Our ultimate goal is to offer each and every reunion attendee a great reunion at a reasonable price. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, comments or suggestions!

Respectfully,
Dina Coffey
Office Manager
M L&RS, Inc

Return this coupon if you want to receive all future mailings from us on paper via US Postal Mail:

Reunion Group: _____
(ship or unit name)

Your name: _____

Your mailing address: _____

Your phone number: _____

Return this coupon to:
ML&RS, INC
PO DRAWER 11399
HICKORY, NC 28603