

Torii Typhoon

Volume 8 Issue 1

July 2008

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF ASA OKINAWA



Special Points of Interest

- *Find the President's & Vice President's messages and the Treasurer's Report on pages 1 & 2.*
- *Larry Eckard shares a humorous experience with the readers in his "Our View" on page three.*
- *See what Jerry Lee Lewis has to say about Charlie Hoover's piano playing. Mail Call on page three has the story.*
- *Gerald Mueller, who designed the flag and shirt logo, is profiled on page five.*
- *On page 6, read a copy of the letter thanking all of you for the phone cards for the troops.*
- *Shirt & flag order forms are on pages 7 & 8.*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Lonnie Frampton

Soon it will be time to gas up the car or airplane, depending on your mode of transportation, and head to Charleston, SC, for the 2008 ASA Okinawa reunion. The Association has been busy since the last reunion attempting to spruce up the Association and provide a little more camaraderie. To this extent Tom Sevits has procured a Unit Flag. An appreciation thank you to Tom for his efforts and hard work in this endeavor. An appreciation thank you also goes to Gary Duenow for procuring unit shirts. I know Gary spent considerable time and effort in obtaining these shirts. And a great big THANK YOU to Larry, Brenda and

their staff for all their hard work in keeping on top of all the goings on required to make a reunion a success. When you see Tom, Gary, Larry and Brenda at the reunion, let them know you appreciate what they do for all of us.

In my previous President's Message, I asked all reunion attendees to try and get at least one person they knew that served with the ASA on Okinawa to attend the reunion. I sent e-mails to seven people. I did not receive a reply from anyone. So I know you may receive similar results, but don't be discouraged. I am going to continue to try to get at least one person to attend. If we cannot get someone to attend, they will be passing up an opportunity

to meet old comrades and have a good time and an enjoyable vacation. See you in Charleston, South Carolina, September 10-14, 2008, at the Sheraton Hotel.

**ASA OKINAWA
2008 REUNION**

**CHARLESTON,
SC**

SEPT. 10—14

SHERATON HOTEL

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Tom Sevits

I am happy to announce ASA Okinawa Association now has a unit flag. Elsewhere in this newsletter is a picture of the flag. There is also a picture of a garden flag with the same logo. You will find an order blank in which you can order either flag or both. The order for the 3' X 5' unit flag will not be placed until after the reunion, so we can get the largest number of orders in so the cost for each individual will be the lowest possible. The garden flags can be ordered before the reunion and either shipped to you or available at the reunion. There will be a limited number of the garden flags available for purchase at the reunion.

You will notice that the logo on

the flags is not quite the same as what appeared on the lap blanket that was shown at a previous reunion. The design came from a logo that appeared at Torii Station in the 1960s.

If you have any questions concerning either of the flags before the reunion, please contact me! I will try to answer them!

I am really looking forward to this reunion. I think Larry's group has put together a fine itinerary for us, and I am surely looking forward to seeing a large turnout of old and new attendees!

See you in Charleston!
Tom Sevits, VP

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***Note change of address.**

TREASURER'S REPORT ASA ASSOCIATION AS OF JUNE 1, 2008

Beginning check book balance Feb 29, 2008.....\$7877.88
Dues Received.....\$330.00
Income from Tee Shirt Sales.....\$630.80
Total income Feb 29, 2008 to June 1, 2008.....\$960.80

Disbursements:

Newsletter March 2008.....\$371.33
Expenses for ASA Okinawa Flag.....\$583.22
Hospice of Central Ohio, Memory of Bill Vernau..-\$50.00
Total Disbursements.....-\$1004.55
Adjustment.....+\$67.58

Check book balance June 1, 2008.....\$7901.71

Miscellaneous

Reserve Change Fund.....\$50.00

Adjusted Balance June 1, 2008.....\$7951.71

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas A Sturgeon, Treasurer

BBQ RULES

As we enter the important BBQ season, it is important to refresh your memory on the etiquette of this sublime outdoor cooking activity. It is the only type of cooking a 'real' man will do, probably because there is an element of danger involved. When a man volunteers to do the BBQ the following chain of events are put into motion:

Routine:

- The woman buys the food
- The woman makes the salad, prepares the vegetables, and makes dessert.
- The woman prepares the meat for cooking, places it on a tray along with the necessary cooking utensils and sauces, and takes it to the man who is lounging beside the grill-beer

(Continued on page 3)

OUR VIEW

By Larry Eckard

Greetings and Salutations from beautiful and sunny downtown Hickory, North Carolina where every day is a picnic and every meal a banquet – just like it was at Sobe Camp.

I know that when you saw the price tag to this year's reunion you were surprised at how expensive it was. As we've said before, Charleston is no longer the sleepy little southern town that some people perceive it to be. It is a major tourist destination and now that it has become a cruise line destination costs have increased even more – especially tours. I truly wish I had a magic answer on how to reduce this year's cost, but I don't. Now, if that sounds negative, it isn't meant to be; in spite of the reunion cost and

gas prices, it appears that our attendance will be about the same as usual. I say that based on the number of registrations we have now compared to previous years at the same time. We already have more than enough people for all of the tours to go – all three days and the dinner cruise. Like always, we are going to have a great time. So you still have plenty of time to register and there are still plenty of seats left on the busses. As a reminder, you do not have to participate in anything you don't want to.

Most of you know that Brenda and I have a military reunion planning business. The reason for bringing up that subject now is simply to say that we were in Chicago with a reunion group the week-end of July 4th (actually July 3-6) and I feel obligated to share this with you. On Saturday morning I noticed that my watch had stopped—and I am one

of those people who is absolutely lost without my watch, so one of my high priorities was to get a new battery as quickly as possible. While on tour with the group I spied a little business Mecca where I found a shop with a big watch sign/display hanging in the window. I happily walked in and was quite surprised to see a very clean and sterile looking office and not a watch or clock in sight. I asked the receptionist how long it would take to get a new battery in my watch. She sort of giggled and said, "We don't repair watches. This is a male medical facility where we only do circumcisions." I was astounded and blurted out what I thought was a reasonable question, "Then why do you have a watch sign hanging in the window?" The receptionist giggled some more and said, "Just what kind of sign would you have us hang??" Yes, later I got my watch fixed.



MAIL CALL

Larry,

You will remember me as the guy who plays the piano for sing-alongs etc. at the reunions. I don't know if I wrote to you before about my putting a song that I had written about Jerry Lee Lewis on Youtube or not (I think I may have, but you know how memory is in the senior years!). Anyway, a couple of days ago, I received the following message in my e-mail from Phoebe Lewis, his daughter and manager:

Mr. Hoover,

I wanted to write and let you know that I watched your Youtube video with you doing the song about my daddy. I showed it to him too. We both really enjoyed it so much!! You rocked it!! Great song and you played the heck out of that piano. My daddy said, "Take a look at him, he's rockin'!"

So thank you for the wonderful

tribute song to the Killer. Like you said, "His music will live in the memory of us all." Well put.

Take care of yourself and keep rockin'.

Most sincerely,

Phoebe Lewis

"The Killer's Baby Girl"

Now when Jerry Lee Lewis says, "He's rockin'" that's about the highest compliment I could get as far as I'm concerned! Then, this morning, when I went to the JerryLeeLewis.com web site to check Phoebe's blog on the news about his concert in Washington, DC for the 4th of July celebration (which I saw on PBS), I happened to scroll down the Comments column and saw my name at the bottom. When I clicked on it, they had posted a link to my video on their site! Waaayyyy cool to this old guy! Maybe not an Emmy, but the next best thing!

Charlie Hoover

BBQ RULES

(Continued from page 2)
in hand.

The Important Part:

THE MAN PERFORMS THE SECRET ANCIENT RITUAL TO THE FIRE GOD TO LIGHT THE GRILL, AND PLACES THE MEAT UPON THE GRILL.

Routine:

- The woman goes inside to organize the plates and cutlery.
- The woman comes to ask the man how the meat is doing. He says fine and asks if she will bring another beer.

The Second Important Part

THE MAN TAKES THE MEAT OFF THE GRILL AND HANDS IT TO THE WOMAN.

Routine:

- The woman prepares the plates, salad, bread, utensils, napkins, sauces, and brings them to the table
- After eating, the woman clears the table and does the dishes.

Most Important Part

EVERYONE PRAISES THE MAN AND THANKS HIM FOR HIS COOKING EFFORTS

And Finally

The man asks the woman how she enjoyed her "night off," and upon seeing her annoyed reaction, concludes...There is just no pleasing some women.



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.

Jack Summers (1967-68) SP4
408 Wrigley Field Dr
Guyton, GA 31312
912-667-5368
marjak@planters.net

Glenn Berger (1971-73) SP4
USASAFS SOBE
2013 Arrow Wood Cir
Clayton, NC 27520
gberger990@aol.com

Daniel Graf (1959-61) Spec5
650 Chesapeake Pt
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
757-486-5337
dgraf2@cox.net

Jesse Chaney (1966-1967)
jandschaney@sbcglobal.net

Larry Webb (1958-59) SPC5
110 McGlothin Rd
Conowingo, MD 21918
410-378-3563
idwebb22@gmail.com

Paul Niemeyer (1964-68) SP4
51st USASA SOC
2703 Richard Ave NE
Roanoke, VA 24012
540-580-6426
phna2@cox.net

Norman Brooks (1960-70) MSG
16315 11th Ave NE
Arlington, WA 98223
360-654-1816
nlbrooks@verizon.net

Thomas Finnegan (1961-63) SP4
973 Westwinds Blvd
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689
727-741-1113
tfinnegan@tampabay.rr.com

James Stone (1957-59) E2
113 Fisher St
Sikeston, MO 63801
573-667-5156
stony4j@yahoo.com

John Jencik (1966-68) SP4
372 St. Francis Ave
Smyrna, TN 37167
615-427-9637
cougarcarman@juno.com

James Bean (1950-52)
496 Connemara Crossing
Lawrenceville, GA 30044
770-564-0225
sydbean@netzero

David Lightowler (1967-68) Sgt E-5
253 Saginaw Ln
Stanley, VA 22851
540-778-1775
the-lighthouse@msn.com

Cliff Way (1956-58)
1708 Sea
Oceanside, CA 92056
760-730-5597

Jerry Morrison (1960-63) Spc4
134 Garden Crest
Del Rio, TX 78840
830-775-3535
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NEWSLETTER EXPENDITURES FOR JULY 2008 \$307.24

The Torii Typhoon is Published By:
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"Our Reunions Work So You Don't Have To"

APHORISM

There are worse things than getting a call for a wrong number at 4AM...it could be a right number.



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.

Robert Fritz (1953-55)
Died September 20, 2005

Clarence Thompson (1957-60)
Died April 11, 2005

William Bosia (1957-59)
Died March 20, 2005

Donald Buckingham (1957-59) SP4
Died April 17, 2007

Richard Coshow (1950-53)
Died January 15, 2008

Chandler Goodrich
Died January 19, 2007

Roger Johnson
Died February 16, 1999

Ellsworth Kanne
Died December 6, 2006

Gordon Lund
Died February 21, 2005

William Martin (1954-57) SP2 Co D
Died November 4, 2006

Arvid Holt
Died April 14, 2008

Lewis Williams (1950-53)
Died January 9, 2008

Leo Toombs
Died July 3, 2007

Robert Bruce
Died June 11, 2007

Andrew Holenko
Died February 10, 2008

Dan Cambern
Died September 12, 2007

GERALD MUELLER PROFILE

Editor's Note: Gerald Mueller is the person who came up with the design for the logo on the ASA shirts and flag. We asked Mr. Mueller to send us a profile of himself for this issue of the Torii Typhoon.

To start, I was born in Wisconsin 70 years ago. I am the third oldest of 8 boys and 5 girls. Graduated high school in 1956, enlisted Army in July 1956 for MP school. A bad eye kept me out of there, but my test scores sent me to the ASA recruiter in Milwaukee. I took basic at Fort Leonardwood, MO and then schooling at Fort Devens, then to Morse code training and shipped to Okinawa in June of 1957. I was on Trick 3 under Sgt West and Michaloto (sp), "Little Joe." Spent the first two months building a model airplane in the craft hut with Jim Moody. Later we two bought Frank's 1951 two-door slant back Chevy for \$500.00. I did not do much on Okinawa but travel the island when free. For about the first year we were short manned and worked seven days a week until man power picked up. I left Okinawa in June 1959. I separated from Fort Sheridan, IL. I kicked around at home for a couple months, then got a job making bowling pins at the "Be Seated by Bemis Co." They also made toilet seats and still do. In 1962 I received a telegram from the CIA in Washington asking me if I was interested in trying for a job with them working as a code sender and receiver. Of course I wasn't much good at sending and apparently my physical kept me from being hired. Would have been my luck to have ended up in the Bay of Pigs invasion. After four and a half years I got a job in a plastic factory here in Sheboygan molding pot and pan handles for Regal Ware and Mirror Aluminum Co., also fuel cell plates for a 200 kilowatt fuel cell, a company in South Windsor, CT and retiring 36 years later in April 2000. Was married, had four sons, divorced, mar-

ried Sandy in 1982. She had four children also.

I got involved in politics in 1992 with Ross Perot. I am a founding member of the original Reform Party and United We Stand America of which I am the Wisconsin State President since 1996. I was the state chairman of the Freedom Party of Wisconsin for a short time, unseating the corrupt Wisconsin Reform Party at the Presidential convention in Aug. of 2000 in Long Beach, CA. I headed a 12 member delegation to Long Beach. We were seated at the convention as an affiliate of the National Reform Party. Sandy and I ran the county presidential campaign for Ross Perot twice and Pat Buchanan twice. I have many good memories of both candidates and pictures with Pat and his wife Shelly. Presently I'll be retired 8 years in April 2008. I'm still UWSA-WI state president and we have been in many parades supporting our organization and our troops. The past 15 years we decorated our conversion van with our 8-foot banners, flags, military pictures and military flags. We put a 2 X 4 on the front bumper with all the flags stuck in it, American, Wisconsin, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and POW-MIA and played marches and military music from roof top speakers. One parade we even played polkas and has some people dancing in the street.

The largest parade we were in was the Flag Day Parade in Appleton, WI, America's largest Flag Day parade. We never had such a warm welcome as we did for that parade. The Coast Guard Commander was the parade marshall and upon approaching the reviewing stand the Coast Guard theme song just happened to be playing on our speakers. We got a very grateful note from the Commander as we passed by the stand. Whenever we saw a soldier in uniform along the parade route, I would point to him/her/them and salute them with a "mouthed" thank you. They would snap to attention

and return my salute. What a great, warm feeling that always gave us! We were invited back this year, but due to my April knee replacement surgery I cannot make it. At present I am on the Sheboygan County Veterans' Memorial committee. I also am in charge of half staffing the flag when one of our state soldiers gets killed in war or am ordered to by executive order from the Governor or U.S. President.

For pass time I keep hounding government officials about the good and bad they are doing to Wisconsin and America. I also help any veteran who needs it to get his proper and earned benefits from the VA or put him/her in touch with the right people. I also talk up about the things our elected officials are doing to destroy our America as we have grown up to know it. They keep talking away, or trying to, our Constitutional rights and I DON'T LIKE IT AND ALSO TALK TO THE PEOPLE TO LET THEM KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING TO US.

I got the idea about a ASA flag one day back in 2007 while looking at a picture I took of the wall hanging that was raffled off at the Colorado Springs reunion. I asked a sister, who is in photography, if she could lift the printing off the wall hanging. What you see for the logo for the shirts and flag is the results. This was voted on in Tucson at the business meeting. I wish to thank the committee or ASA organization officers and fellow members for their efforts in pursuing my idea and making it a reality. I am honored and very pleased. I wish we could make the 2008 reunion, but with my surgery coming up and weeks of rehab, plus the price of gas, I don't think we will be able to make it. For those who do, have a ball. We have only been to three reunions, but we enjoyed each and every one and seeing old friends and making many great new ones, thank to all for the memories and you know who you are.



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND CENTRAL
7115 SOUTH BOUNDARY BOULEVARD
MACKELL AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 33621-5101

March 12, 2008
ASA Okinawa Association
Attn: Larry H. Eckard

Dear Mr. Eckard:

I have received the 182 phones cards and will be taking them to theatre this week for disbursement there in time for the Easter Holiday. They will be distributed among the soldiers of Special Operations Command Central (SOCCENT).

I would like to thank you and your brothers on behalf of the Command for your efforts in supporting the morale of our troops that are currently serving our country in theatre and away from their families. I know your intent was for the Christmas Holiday Season, but thanks to the efficiency of the U.S. Postal Service and Exchange I have just received the cards. You can be assured that the troops will be just as surprised and grateful to receive them in time for Easter calls home.

On behalf of SOCCENT and all card recipients, I thank you and your brothers for your support and patriotism.

JAMES L. KNIGHT
MSG, USA
NCOIC Intelligence Directorate

RYAN J WHITTINGTON
LTC, USA
Director Intelligence Directorate

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.

Gerald Mueller's parade van.



Association Offers Shirts, White & Light Blue With or Without Collars

(Picture of collared shirt not available)



DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS AUGUST 16, 2008

To go along with the hat you ordered last this year, the association is offering shirts with and without collars. Shirts are available in two colors, white and light blue, with and without a pocket and the logo shown above will be above the pocket. For those attending the reunion, the shirts will be available for pick-up there; for those ordering a shirt but not able to attend the reunion, the shirt will be mailed to you. Please use the order form below.

<p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____</p> <p>State: _____ ZIP: _____</p> <p>Mail your order to:</p> <p>ASA Okinawa Association Gary Duenow 6090 Indian Dr NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52411</p>	<p>Size: Small _____; Med _____; Large _____</p> <p>XL _____; XXL _____; XXXL _____</p> <p>Color: White _____ Blue _____</p> <p>With collar _____ without/collar _____</p> <p>With pocket _____ without pocket _____</p> <p>Cost w/collar: S thru XL \$18.00; XXL \$19.50 XXXL \$21.00</p> <p>Cost w/o collar: S thru XL \$15.00; XXL \$16.50 XXXL \$18.00</p> <p>Postage and handling (if not attending reunion) \$5.00</p> <p>Total Enclosed: \$ _____</p> <p>Make checks out to: ASA Okinawa Association</p> <p><u>Dead line for ordering is August 16, 2008</u></p>
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Flag and Garden Flag



Flag is 3' X 5'



ASA OKINAWA FLAG AND GARDEN FLAG ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip Code _____

Phone number _____

E-mail address _____

3' X 5' ASA Okinawa Flag **Quantity** _____

Type **Circle one:** **with Grommets,** **with Sleeve (fits over pole)**

12-24 cost \$75.00 per unit plus \$5.00 shipping = **\$80.00 each**

You will be billed at the time the order is placed. Please include e-mail address and/or phone number above!

ASA Okinawa Garden Flag **Quantity** _____

Size is 10" X 17"

Cost is **\$18.00 each**, shipping included. Please pay in advance!

If we get enough orders before hand, garden flags will be available at the reunion.

Send checks to:

Tom Sevits
25703 McCutcheonville Rd
Perrysburg, OH 43551

Cutoff date for order of 3 X 5 flag and garden flag is August 2, 2008.