

Torii Typhoon

Volume 11, Issue 2

July 2012

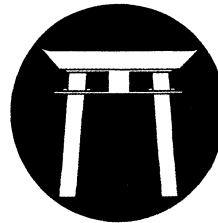
Official Newsletter of ASA Okinawa

ASA Okinawa
2012 Reunion

Sept. 12-16

Nashville,
TN

Holiday Inn
Opryland



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Dallas May

As I reminisce about the ASA Okinawa reunions we have attended since our first one in Virginia Beach, VA. I can't help but think about what a good time we have at all of them. My wife Linda has also seen parts of the country we probably would have not seen if not for the reunions.

It was also great to renew friendships with old friends that I had not seen since our Sobe days. It was also quite interesting to talk to some of the guys who served on The Rock before I arrived in 1956, and to some of them who served after I left in

1958. My how the terrain changed over the years. I also enjoy the stories some of the ASA retirees tell who served with us, including Larry, Tex, Lonnie, Marvin and Col. Roescher. The stories they tell about life in the ASA and how it evolved over the years was very enlightening. Thanks Guys.

I would like to give a well deserved, thank you to Jim Norrbom for his dedicated service to our organization ASA Okinawa, as past president, board of directors, and when our treasurer, Tom Sturgeon, became ill about two years ago, Jim volunteered to fill in as treasurer. Jim has done a commendable

job as Treasurer. He has also contacted several who served in ASA Okinawa and signed them up as dues paying members. Hopefully they will be at the reunion this year. Thanks again, Jim, and keep up the good work.

I would like to encourage all of our members to get your applications in for the reunion this year in Nashville, TN. Larry and Brenda have planned a great itinerary for us this year. Please join us for fun and fellowship.

Thanks and God Bless.

Dallas May

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MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION REMINDER

Please check the membership expiration date on the outside of this newsletter envelope. Dues are \$10.00 and are to be sent to **Jim Norrbom**, 11409 Christensen Ct, Burnsville, MN 55337.

From the Vice President

By Gary Duenow

Here we are looking at a two month countdown to Nashville. Look out "Country Music Capital" of the world, here we come. I don't know of any city in the USA that shows more respect to our military and its' veterans. We four (Sandy, Lou, Rusty & myself) from Iowa are eager to see all of you again this year.

Our weather here in Iowa, as is in most of the country, has been extremely warm and dry. I hope this pattern lets up by September for our Nashville adventure.

Please keep in mind the ASA shirts we have on hand

or can order to your specifications. Please let me know if you have any needs for a new shirt for yourself or your significant other. We can get them in white or light blue, with or without collars, and with or without pockets.

I certainly hope all of our current, reinstated and new members try to join us for a great time in Nashville during our stay in Sept. Rusty and I would certainly like to see all of you again this year and hope we find all of you in good health and good spirits.

God bless and see you all in Nashville !!

Treasurer's Report ASA Okinawa Association July 10, 2012

Beginning Check Book Balance 05/23/2012.....	\$3,696.39
Income from ASA Dues.....	\$880.00
Income from Newsletter Donation.....	\$10.00
Total Income.....	\$890.00

Disbursements

Military Locator & Reunion for Torii Typhoon March 2012 issue.....	\$275.33
Jim Norrbom Stamps.....	\$10.00
Total Disbursements.....	\$285.33

Final check book balance as of 07/10/12.....\$4,301.06

Total Membership is as follows:

- 159 Paid Members for 2012/I non-member donation to newsletter
- 8 Lifetime Members
- 7 Lifetime Deceased Members' Wives
- 74 Paid Members for 2013, 27 for 2014, 6 for 2015 and 3 for 2016

NEWSLETTER EXPENDITURES July 2012 \$337.89
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**"Our Reunions
Work So
You Don't Have
To"**

WWW.MLRSINC.COM/ASAOKINAWA



Welcome Mat

The following member has 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.

Ora Patrick Brumbelow
 SP4 (1976-77)
 814 Oak Ridge Rd
 Ellenville, NY 12428
 obrumbelow@yahoo.com

FRANCIS CARNS OBIT

Francis J. Carns, 79, of Hillcrest, NY, passed away on Sunday, April 22, 2012. He is survived by his wife, Ailene (Debbie) Carns, his children John and Patti Carns, Laurette Carns, Geoff and Lisa Carns, four grandchildren and other family members. He was a graduate of St. Paul's High School and St. Bonaventure University, Class of 1959. He attended Christ the King Seminary and was a member of the Army Security Agency during the Korean War. Frank was president of Carns Associate Insurance; a partner in Carnsie's Irish Pub and stockholder and salesman at Mike Carns Ford, Hallstead, PA. He cared deeply for his lifetime friends and



TAPS

The Typhoon learned of the following deaths since the last newsletter was published. The entire membership extends our deepest sympathy to the widows, families and friends of the deceased.

Leon Marquis
 Sgt Dog Co (1955-58)
 Died October 10, 2010

Ranzie Hoekstra
 Cpl Svc Co (1954-55)
 Died November 2, 2010

Jack Frediani
 Capt (1954-57)
 Died August 3, 2009

Elwood Morgan, Jr.
 (1953-55)
 Died July 2010

Francis Carns
 Korean War Era
 Died April 22, 2012

his unique Irish personality resulted in his making many new friends, especially in Olean where his ties to St. Bonaventure were strong.

Burial was in St. Bonaventure cemetery.

A STORY FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Guys and Gals,

This story was written by one of our twin granddaughters—Scarlet, a seventh grader. Olivia and Scarlet are in a writing club called the “Power of the Pen” at school. In the past month they competed in statewide contests with other students from around the area and statewide. Scarlet received first place in both district and regional contests. Olivia also received awards at those same levels. They both qualified for the statewide competition this past weekend. Although they did not win at that level, Scarlet qualified for the final round.

This story by Scarlet was written in school as a practice piece. Her teacher gave her the following comments on her story: “Spectacular! I would give this 100 points... a first for me, EVER!”

Judy and I thought that you all would enjoy the story. We think it is truly a fine addition for Memorial Day!

Tom Sevits

YOU WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED By Scarlet Sevits

Jessie bowed her head, trying to disguise the river of tears that streaked down her cheek. She stood in a sea of black: black wool, black cotton, and black satin. Not a spot of color remained amongst the tightly packed mob of mourners.

“We are gathered here today...” The priest had only said the words once, but they reverberated through Jessie’s mind like the toll of a solemn bell. Everything around her seemed blurry and vague, and all of the sounds seemed out of tune. She barely felt the slight drizzle of rain that almost comfortingly caressed her skin. She remembered the words from a book she had once read: “the sun was darkened in my eyes.” She clung to each word in here mind as if they might save her from drowning in sorrow.

Her brother was gone. Gone, forever, perhaps frolicking about in Neverland, like the young playful boy he used to be before he left for the marines, a boy that had always spoke in earnest to his family about serving his country. Jasper, a big brother that would never come home.

There was no casket, no body, and no pictures.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Just a white canopy with people crowded underneath like a flock of rain soaked birds, and an alter. There was nothing in the cemetery to remember Jasper by. No gravestone. No plaque. Just a monument carved out of memories that sank into her heart like a shard of glass. Jasper will be remembered, she thought, I'll find a way.

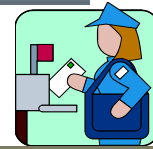
Jessie gently removed her mother and father's clenched hands from her shoulders and snuck out of the crowd memorial tent. She slipped her hand into her dress pocked and fingered Jasper's dog tag. It was blackened with soot and grime, the only sign of the battlefield that proved that Jasper had been there. Jessie turned and ran into the forest that bordered the cemetery. No one looked back, no one noticed her. Branches stung her face, like imploring hands reaching out to embrace her. The trees seemed to bend over, blocking out the sun that seemed like a cruel joke that day. The forest floor seemed to clear of leaves and pine needles before her, lending her safe passage through the woods,

At last, Jessie stumbled to a halt and collapsed against the wizened trunk of a tree. She gasped for air and closed her eyes, letting her tears wash the scratches that smarted on her cheeks. Finally her tears slowed and her stifled sobs ceased. The sun was shining again, sending hopeful rays through the now straightened trees. The dreary drizzle had stopped.

Jessie looked up, and saw that she leaned against a beautiful willow, that reminded her of a graceful lady, a goddess of trees. A knot protruded from the trunk right above her head. Jessie stood up shakily, resting her hand against the willow. She pulled her brother's dog tag from her pocket, slowly and painfully, like pulling an arrow from her heart. She hung it by the chain on the smooth knot, and immediately the weight on her chest lifted. The curtain of branches and leaves seemed to hang a bit more heavily, as if promising her to always guard her brother's monument, to always guard the small piece of her heart that she left behind with it. "Look Jasper," Jessie whispered. "You have a memorial now. It may not be stone, but I think you would have liked this better. You will always be remembered."

And then, Jessie turned around, and she started back to the cemetery. When she looked back, the tree seemed to glow in a ray of sunshine, and she left, knowing that her brother was in peace.

Always, to be remembered.



MAIL CALL

Guys,

I wanted to share some things from two of the guys who sent in their dues.

First is from James Bowling who started the ASA Reunion in Orlando, FL. He sent in his \$20, but I am sending it back with the letter that explains that he and all the group from the 1st reunion were voted in as Life Time Members. I have attached his letter to this e-mail. (See letter at bottom)

The second is from Norman L. Brooks, MSgt. I take it retired. Looks like he was a member of the 51st Soc. Okinawa from 1961-64 (Co. Col Wm O. Wyatt, Ex Lt Col Hammer).

Jim Norrbom

James W. Bowling Mailing Address

1680 N. E. 135TH Street
Miami, Florida 33181
(305) 895-3035
(305) 892-1260 (fax)

June 18, 2012

Jim Norrbom
ASA Okinawa Reunion Group
11409 Christensen Ct.
Burnsville, MN 55337

Re: [ASA Okinawa Membership/Renewal Application](#)

Dear Jim:

I am sorry that I will be unable to attend this reunion. My best memory of this organization was when I formed The Reunion Group in the middle 90's in Orlando, Florida.

I had hoped that someday, as a group, we would return to where we had been stationed and lived - during our tour of Okinawa.

The memory is still with me for several reasons:

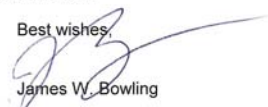
Mainly - it was my home!

Like all of you, I'm sure; once you accepted the reality that you would be there for a "long while" you proceeded to make the best of it and enjoy yourself. I did and I think it was my formative years that helped me in my later years.

Those of you who I was close to, and friends made later on, are all gone. Bless them!

And, all of you who are there at the reunion.

Best wishes,


James W. Bowling

JWB/bl

Enclosure - \$20 check to ASA Association

G:\RCB\Bowling\RCB-OFVASA Okinawa Association ltr.6.18.12.wpd

Residence Address
629 S. W. 8th Terrace, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33315
(954) 533-9115

Editor's Note: The article below, written by Larry Eckard, was originally printed in September 1973 in "The Hallmark," a publication of the United States Army Security Agency.

An Okinawan Revival

Here is a rusty dusty that ought to provide some pleasant memories for some "old timers" who see names they recognize; and perhaps a few snickers or snide remarks from the new guys who don't remember the "good old days." The "good old days" in this case, being Okinawa, circa '58-'60.

During that period (before time for the newbies), First Lieutenant Charles Schmidt was Processing OIC at the 3rd USASA FS, commonly known as "Sobe Camp" on Okinawa, with Staff Sergeant (E-5) Edward Blackadar as NCOIC. Section strength ranged between 40 and 45 men. Big deal, huh? Well the really unusual thing is that nearly half of that section is still serving in the Agency, either on active duty or in a civilian capacity.

Yes, there were civilians in those days, too. Mr. Willie Dinkins, Mr. Bruce Boyd and Mr. Harry Fagan worked with the section, contributing significantly to the social and operational functions. All three are still with ASA.

Several others who served in the section are still on active duty outside the Agency. SP5s Melvin Fanska, Wade Miller and Harold

Ireland married foreign nationals, so you know what.

On the humorous side, do any of these instances sound familiar? "The fellow who was taken to the new Camp Kue Hospital one night, treated for cuts and bruises and released; he promptly got lost and jumped the fence into the Armed Services Stockade. Right, he got caught trying to get back out. His former CO may recall that."

Or "the fellow (not a careerist but a prominent figure) who jumped from the second story window, landed on the sidewalk on his head, and after two weeks in the hospital was good as new."

Those days! Some of the more interesting tales are better left untold.

Our sincere apologies to any member of the section that may have been overlooked; after all it has been a few years. If you know of anyone omitted, let The Hallmark know. Get them on the elite list. At least one, SP5 Norman E. Smith, has retired (as a SP7) and is living in Fayetteville, N.C.

To LTC Schmidt and MSG Blackadar we say, you never had it so good.



CW2 Larry Eckard, then SP4, shows the times haven't changed that much.

Where are they now?

1LT Charles E. Schmidt, LTC, Unknown; SGT Edward E. Blackadar, MSG, Berlin; SP5 Stanley Piernick, MAJ, Ft. Meade; SP2 David Holder, CW3, Ft. Meade; SP4, Anthony Weiderle, CW3, Thailand; SP4 Gerry Sheneberger, CW2, Ft. Meade; SP5 Marvin Morrison, CW2, Ft. Meade; SP5 Larry Eckard, CW2, VHFS; SP5 Clarence Slusser, CW2, Ft. Meade; SP5 Jimmie Edwards, SFC, Ft. Meade; SP5 Robert Tomlinson, SFC, Ft. Meade; SP4 John Posz, SFC, Unknown; SP4 Charles Doughty, SFC, Ft. Meade; SP4 Don McLaughlin, SFC, Unknown; SP5 Jim Fagg, NSA CIV, Ft. Meade; SP5 Charlie Kingston, NSA CIV, Australia; SP5 Wayne Stram, NSA CIV, AHS; SP5 George I. Music, SFC, Unknown; SP3 Billy D. Davenport, SFC, Unknown; PFC Richard Filler, SFC, Unknown; SP5 Tom Brown, SFC, Ft. Bragg.

THE HALLMARK AUGUST 1973

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A WORD FROM LARRY ECKARD

Greeting friends and neighbors of ASA Okinawa. I know we are all looking forward to our gathering in Nashville in just a few short weeks. I hope we have a big crowd because it is going to be a great time.

As you know the 2013 reunion will be in Chattanooga, TN. Yep, it is in the same vicinity as Nashville, but they are worlds apart in terms of activities. It is also a place you will love, but we'll talk more about Nashville later.

But please be thinking of an area you'd like to go visit for the 2014 reunion. We are certainly open to your suggestion – just tell us why you think

it would be a good reunion site.

What has been your favorite reunion location so far – where have you had the most fun; what activities have you enjoyed the most? Conversely, what has been your least favorite location; what activities have you enjoyed the least? If I may be so bold, I'd venture to say the least favorite activity was probably the train ride in Branson where we rode up the track and saw trees and came back and saw trees on the other side of the track. Now for the favorite (for the guys at least) I'd guess was the visit to Ft Huachuca and the update on the collections

systems that replaced the R-390's that we knew. So, I've gone out on a limb with my prediction; what do you think. Come on, be a sport, blow forty-four cents on a stamp (PO Box 11438, Hickory, NC 28603) or send me a fax 828-256-6559; or e-mail at larry@mlrsinc.com tell us what you think.





ASA OKINAWA FLAG AND GARDEN FLAG ORDER FORM

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone number _____

E-mail address _____

2' X 3' ASA Okinawa Flag Quantity _____

Cost is \$35.00 each plus 5.00 shipping = \$40.00. I have only one of these left. Please make check out to ASA Okinawa Assoc. If not sold before the reunion, I will have it at the reunion to sell for \$35.00.

ASA Okinawa Garden Flag Quantity _____

Size is 10" X 17"

Cost is 17.00 each plus 4.00 shipping = \$21.00. I have 11 on hand. Please send check made out to ASA Okinawa Assoc. These will also be for sale at the reunion.

I also have three 2x3 US Army Field Station Okinawa flags printed by mistake last year. I have them on sale for \$10.00 each plus \$5.00 for shipping. These will also be for sale at the reunion.

There are also seven Garden Flags with the same US Army Field Station Okinawa printing on them. We are selling these for \$5.00. and will be available at the reunion.

PLEASE CALL OR E-MAIL ME: 419-874-7680; e-mail tom.judy@wcnet.org.

Tom Sevits 25703 McCutcheonville Rd Perrysburg, OH 43551



TORII PATCHES AVAILABLE AT REUNION

Jim Norrbom will have Torii Patches available for sale for \$1.00 each at the 2012 reunion. Get yours while they last.