

Torii Typhoon

Volume 14, Issue 2

July 2015

Official Newsletter of ASA Okinawa



2015 Reunion
Kissimmee, FL
Sept. 23-27
Ramada Gateway

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Here we are on the countdown to our upcoming reunion in Kissimmee, Florida, Sept 23-27, 2015 at the Ramada Gateway. Duane (Sandy), LouAnne (recently retired), Rusty and I are getting excited about getting together again with all of our older ASA Okinawa friends and hope to see some of the newer members and wives and/or significant others. I hope all of you have made your plans to attend and have gotten your application/deposit sent in to Premier Reunion Services so that they can make our tour plans, etc., so

everyone will have the opportunity to see and do all that is offered.

As this will be my last Presidents' Message to the Torii Typhoon, I would like to thank those that helped and supported us for our two year term. I am certain you will continue that help for our incoming president, Dave Merritt, for the next two years. I would also like to remind everyone we will be electing a new vice-president at the Kissimmee meeting. So, please be ready to nominate your favorite candidate for the next two years.

I also want to let you know that we have a few caps left, both blue and black, at the popular price of \$13 delivered at the reunion. I can also mail one at the \$13 + shipping of \$6. But, why would you not order it for delivery in Kissimmee and save the delivery fee. What a deal!!!! Hope to see you all there.

Thank you
all and God bless,
Gary Duenow

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HISTORY BOOKS FOR SALE

Tom Sevits still has ASA History books for sale for \$15.00 each. Make checks payable to ASA Okinawa Association and mail to:

Tom Sevits
25703 McCutcheonville Rd
Perrysburg, OH 43551

ON THE HORIZON

BY Larry Eckard

Kissimmee is creeping up on us, and it is time for us to start creeping down that way, especially Tom Sevits (sorry Tom I have to do this). Don't read anything into this, but I had a dream about Tom and he was headed to Allentown, PA to buy himself a mule. Dreams all have meanings and I interpret that one to mean Tom is riding a mule to Kissimmee. I have asked him about that and he of course flatly denies he is buying a mule. But I thought

it was worth alerting you to. If someone comes riding into the Ramada Inn on a mule, welcome him and pretend you don't notice he isn't driving a van or other wheeled vehicle.

Although we are not to the end of the registration period, things look good. We have some new members already registered as well as some of the "regulars" – and some "regulars" we still need to hear from.

This has been mentioned before so

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Treasurer's Report ASA Okinawa Association June 30, 2015

**Beginning Check Book Balance February 20, 2015--
\$3697.07**

Income

Income from Dues	\$100.00
Income from Newsletter	\$40.00
Income from Caps, History Book, etc.....	\$37.00
Other Income	\$0.67
Total Income	\$177.67

Disbursements

March Issue of Torii Typhoon	\$170.100
Other Disbursements	\$11.85
Total Disbursements	\$181.95

**Ending Check Book Balance June 30, 2015.....
\$4055.23**

Total Membership is as follows:

- 10 Life Time Members
- 12 Life Time Deceased Members Wives
- 120 Paid members for 2015
- 56 for 2016
- 15 for 2017
- 6 for 2018

If anyone would like a detailed list of Incomes and Disbursements email me at sandysands66@msn.com and I will email it to you.

Duane R. Sands, Treasurer

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

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it won't be a surprise to some of you, but there is a Torii Station Facebook group that many of us participate in. Those members are good sources to recruit from and some of us have done that. A lot of the group (the Facebook group) served in the later years – after ASA – but we are still brothers & sisters in arms – doing the same thing albeit years apart. Why don't you take a little time and go to that Facebook group and browse around and see who you can find. Invite the younger troops to join us. We need them to carry on the heritage of the Signal Service, Com-

munications Reconnaissance, Army Security Agency, and Inscom on Okinawa. One day the Inscom soldiers will outnumber ASA soldiers and let us hope that in spite of modern social media like Facebook they will see fit to come on board and continue to march. Some of them, including some women, are members of the ASA Okinawa Association, and we welcome you. Please try to be in Kissimmee, get to know your counterparts and vice-versa. Encourage your peers to join the association and participate in the business and social matters.

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One of the activities offered as part of the reunion is a visit to Al Capone's Speakeasy. I know everyone has different entertainment tastes, but I don't see how you cannot enjoy an evening there. I have been there and being the prudish, pious, and self-righteous person that I am, I enjoyed it and the food was OK too. Plan on making this trip. The rest of the tours are also good. You will thoroughly enjoy the swamp boat ride at a Wild Florida and the alligators at Gator Land.

All in all this is going to be a really great reunion and we hope to see a lot of new faces. Once you attend, we've got you. You'll come back.

As you know we're going to Buffalo in 2016 so be thinking of a place you would like to go the following year. Nominate it and tell us why it would make a good reunion site. The 2017 choice will be made at the 2015 Kissimmee business meeting. Don't sit back and be bashful, if you have a favorite place speak up.

See you in Kissimmee!!!!



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.

Loyd Sybert
3213 River Dr
Ft. Pierce, FL 34981

Timothy Clair
4910 La Nuez Ct. SE
Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Lex Jon Smith
3714 W Industrial Loop
Coeur D'Alene, ID 83815

Joseph Truhon
48 Gleason Dr
Thiells, NY 10984-1617



TAPS

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

Lawrence Moberly, Jr.
(1956-58) SP4
Died May 2015

Charles Kennedy
(1953-55) CPL E-4 Opns
Died June 24, 2015

James West
(1965-68) SP/5
53rd SOU Torii Station
Died May 18, 2014

BOB HOPE'S USO SHOW OKINAWA 1957

The following article was taken from the website of Joseph A Glockner, CTTCs, USN Retired. It was sent the Torii Typhoon editor by Jim Norrbom, who got it from Mort Miller.

Bob Hope brought his USO show to Okinawa, as part of the Far East Christmas tour in 1957. With him were regulars; Jerry Colonna, bandleader Les Brown and his band of renowned, and columnist Hedda Hopper.

The attention was focused upon his "guests". Jayne Mansfield and her husband, the former Mr. Universe, Mickey Hargitay. Knowing full well I'd probably never ever get to see this famous personality again in my lifetime, I made it a point to attend the show.

It was being held at the gym at the

Sukiran Army/Marine Base down the road a few miles from my base. To be certain I got a good seat, I arrived some 4 hours early, and occupied a coveted place in line, right at the glass doors. I would be one of the first dozen or so, to get in, and knowing this, would be assured a front row seat, if not second row. The crowds grew as the time approached for us to be let into the massive gym. Finally - the attendants were unlocking the doors. As luck would have it, the glass doors next to the doors I was standing in front of were unlocked and opened first. In horror, I saw dozens of people run for the coveted front row seats. Our doors were then opened, and I sort of moved along with this mass of humanity, who by now had worked themselves up to a very disagreeable

crowd of irate people. I think I could have lifted my feet off the floor and been easily carried along by the rush of people. It was not a place to fall down. I managed to get a seat, 10 rows from the front. It wasn't too bad, and I felt like I had a seat that would afford me an opportunity to take some excellent colored slides photos of the stars from Hollywood.

I do not recall much of the show. Erin O'Brian came out to sing songs. The newspaper clippings state that her name was Erin O'Brian. Hope's spoofing with his buddy Jerry Colonna was hilarious. Hedda Hopper, wearing her unfashionable but trademark large hats, quipped with Hope for a few minutes. Reading Hope's book, he reveals that he and Hedda never saw eye to eye. Hope didn't

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want Hedda along, but Hedda, being Hedda, went anyway. It must have been a stressful tour for all concerned.

Everyone wanted to see Jayne Mansfield, the very buxom, sexy lady of the silver screen. Her entrance is one never to be forgotten. Dressed in a skin tight, but tasteful one piece dress, she waited off to the right of the stage, while Hope told some jokes, and then introduced Jayne Mansfield, in his own personal style - "and here she is ladies and gentlemen - direct from Hollywood - the one - the only, Jayne Mansfield. Right here!!"

At this point, Les Brown's band began to play a very racy bump and grind number ala burlesque, to which Ms. Mansfield walked up about 10 steps to the platform (stage) and then, in perfect step to the grinding of the horn, and the beating of the drum, she actually bumped and jiggled all across the stage to Hope, to the hoopla and cries of the audience. The roar was deafening. Screaming and whistles. Flash bulbs popping everywhere. People on their feet- yelling. Hope, as only Hope can, positioned Jayne sideways to the audience, to be cer-

tain that everyone got a good look at her buxom body and then said to the audience, "and wait till Chrysler sees THIS model" (referring to the '57 Chrysler which had some really pronounced curves). The audience reacted to his sly remark with whoops and hollers and wild abandon. I don't recall now what Jayne did except stand there, but I think it was enough, because everyone was hoarse by the time the show ended. I used up all of my film - most of it on Jayne.

The show was to move to Japan to Itazuke Air Base, then to Yokohama, Japan, Korea, and back to the states.

When I received orders to transfer to the states in May of 1958, I flew up to Tokyo and boarded a military flight to California via Wake Island, and Honolulu, Hawaii. While at Wake Island, those of us on the bus that took time to eat, were bused over to the chow hall, but not before we were shown the now famous pool in which Jayne Mansfield, wearing only a mink bikini, swam for a few brief moments. She had put the Wake Island swimming hole on the map. I took slides of this now famous swimming hole.

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.

Premier Reunion Services 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.

NEWSLETTER EXPENDITURES \$664.30

July 2015

The July issue is mailed to all active members. All other issues are mailed only to those who sent in \$5.00 for a paper copy.

NCU 37 SOBE CAMP, OKINAWA 1956

BY NEAL P. GILLEN

(Continued from 03/15)

THE MEN

As the weeks went by the other nine Seaman arrived from Guam along with more from Adak, the Philippines and Hawaii. It would be over a month before a petty officer arrived in the form of CT1 "Holly" Hollinbach who proved to be a tough disciplinarian. He had problems with our working in dungarees and wanted us to wear undress blues. He relented, however, when Army NCO's in-

formed him that they considered the wool uniforms to be a higher dress requirement. They equated dungarees with fatigues and dungarees remained the uniform de jour during our stay on Okinawa.

Soon a slew of CT1s arrived to join Hollinbach, including R.R. Brown, Ed Crimmins, Robert Levering "Bad Sam" Bass, Bill "Ski" Szezepaniak, Bob Scodoris, and Reese the sports car enthusiast. Later, Chief George Machado, a consummate and unflappable gentleman, came on board. In matter of

months, Reese and Hollinbach made Chief. Along about May our Officer in Charge, Lieutenant Edward Leyman, a serious and studious man arrived from Washington. It was the occasion of our first and only inspection. Other than our initial days on the island, it was the only time I remember wearing a dress uniform until I was transferred.

*To be continued in later issues.
Next—"The Mission"*



ASA OKINAWA ASSOCIATION
Duane Sands
4331 Pine View Dr NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402-1712



For those of you who are members of the ASA Okinawa Association, please look at your address label from your last issue of the newsletter and note your membership expiration date and send in your dues before the expiration date.

To anyone who is not association members, please consider joining. Dues are only \$10.00 a year. Any former soldier who served in the 111th Sig Svc Company 327th Comm Recon Co, the 8603rd AAU, 3rd ASA Field Station, ASA Field Station Sobe, Army Field Station Okinawa, or any of the other units that fell under the Torii Station designation between 1945 and 1985 are cordially invited to become members.

Now, why should you join the Association? First, we were all elite soldiers that served without much recognition because of the nature of our work. We are part of a brotherhood and an organization that needs to be remembered. The Association is the vehicle to carry on the memory and tradition of the Signal Intelligence organizations that served on Okinawa. In order to do this, the help of every former member is needed. Membership gives you that opportunity! You will be able to participate in the management of the Association by attending the business meetings and voting on the matters brought up by the membership. The most important thing is comradeship that you will find by becoming a member and attending our reunions. This is something you will not find anywhere else, in any other walk of life. So often we hear the excuse, "Well, I won't know anyone." So what? It would be great to find that old friend that you ran around with, but an hour after you arrive, you'll feel like you've belonged there all your life. Ask anyone who has attended a reunion, they'll tell you the same thing. Give it a try: it'll only cost you ten bucks and it may possibly be the best \$10.00 you ever spent. Come on, we need you as a member!

Membership will also allow you to attend the business meeting, to bring business before the assembly, and to vote on issues brought up at the meeting. Among the recurring issues will be election of officers and selecting reunion sites. Every voice and vote is important and we'd like to have yours.

Our excellent newsletter, The Torii Typhoon is also available to be mailed by USPS for an additional \$5 per year. That is a bargain for three issues. If you are comfortable on the computer and able to subscribe to the ASA Okinawa E-mailers list, you can receive the newsletter by email and save the \$5.00. (Information on subscribing is on the reunion web site at www.mlrsinc.com/asaokinawa)

The Association needs your support, please join and be a party of keeping the memory of ASA Okinawa alive.

- D E T A C H H E R E -

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ e-mail: _____

Dues are \$10.00 per year. One year membership expires on 12/31/2016—(two years on 12/31/2017)

I wish to join the ASA Okinawa for: one year @\$10.00 _____ two years: @ \$20.00 _____

I prefer a paper copy of the Torii Typhoon. In addition to my dues I have:

Enclosed \$5.00 for the 03/2016, 07/2016 and 11/2016 issues _____

Enclosed \$5.00 for the 03/2017, 07/2017 and 11/2017 issues _____

Make checks payable to: ASA Okinawa Association

Mail checks to: Duane Sands, 4331 Pine View Dr NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402-1712