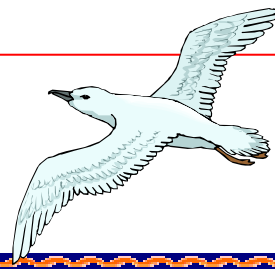


# The Seagull



May 2007

Newsletter of Naval Officers' Spouses' Club of Okinawa (NOSCO)  
[www.noscokinawa.com](http://www.noscokinawa.com)

E. Biddle, Editor



## Keep the Date

May 3	National Day of Prayer
May 6-12	National Nurses' Week "A Profession and a Passion"
May 13	Mother's Day
May 20	End of the Year NOSCO and Navy Fleet Gift Shop Volunteer Appreciation Picnic
May 28	Memorial Day

Ole!



**Bring La Familia  
and join NOSCO  
for our End-of-  
the-Year Fiesta!**

**Sunday, May 20, 2007  
1-3 p.m.**

**Marek Park on Kadena  
(Halfway up the big hill on Douglas Blvd.)**

**There will be door prizes, a piñata for  
the kids and great Mexican food catered  
by Doña Maria Mexican Restaurant!**

**RSVP by May 12  
at the Navy Fleet Gift Shop Home Store  
free for NOSCO members  
\$10 for non-member adults  
\$5 for children ages 3 - 10  
Ages 2 and under are FREE**

**This event is being co-hosted by the  
Navy Fleet Gift Shop. They will have  
presentations for the Volunteer of the  
Year as well as other awards for their  
volunteers.**

**if you have any questions, contact  
Stephanie Johnson at 633-0798.**

# ANNUAL ART AUCTION

## MARCH 31, 2007

The Annual Art Auction started on Friday morning with an on-air auction of a beautiful limited edition wood block print of Iris's by Namiki, Hajime. This was auctioned off to the highest bidder during the three hour broadcast on AFN. The final bid happened to be a call from the dental clinic at Kinser and the lucky winner was none other than the husband of NOSCO president Laina Bell.

On Saturday, the 2007 NOSCO Art Auction in conjunction with Kanda's Gallery BOQ was held at the Butler Officers Club.

Attended by over 150 guests it boasted a wealth of art work ranging from old friends like Norikane, Hiroto etchings to a few prized reproductions from Watanabe, Sadao as well as woodblock prints by Miyamoto, Shufu, and Kaneko, Kunio and many others. Guests could buy prints directly from the pre-buy selections or wait for their favorite to come up for bid. Guests dined on a wide variety of finger foods including yakitori, egg rolls, fresh fruit and hot crab dip. To soothe the sweet tooth there was a delectable selection of mini-pastries, chocolate dip and fresh fruit. In addition to the auction, six lucky individuals went home with a new piece of art compliments of Kanda's.

Proceeds from the event will support the NOSCO Scholarship fund and AWWA and its many charities.

## Message from our President

Dear NOSCO Members,

It hardly seems possible that a year has passed by, but yet it has. Being President of NOSCO has brought to me a great sense of pride and belonging. I have had an exceptional group of NOSCO members to serve with me on our NOSCO Board. On the Executive Board, we had Lissette, Stephanie, Debbie, Sara, and Melanie. These ladies impressed me more each and every month as I saw how hard they were willing to work for this group. Thanks ladies for your commitment.

As our Committee Chairpersons, we had Shyla, Sara, Cindy, Margaret, Elizabeth, Paula, Steve, Shannon, and Vicki. What a high quality group of people. Their tasks were run with absolute professionalism and I so appreciate each of you.

Our Coffee Group Reps were fantastic. Each month, Carrie, Vicky, Tami, Angie, Mimi, and Chris kept their Coffee Groups in the NOSCO loop as well as planning monthly events for their individual groups. Thanks ladies for your dedication.

Last but not least, our Advisors have been instrumental this year with their valuable time and input. Debbie, Vickie, Ann, Sandy, Cathi, and Lari, to each of you, I would like to express my gratitude for a great year.

I am fortunate in that being the President of NOSCO; I have the extreme pleasure of supervising our Navy Fleet Gift Shop. I would like to send out a huge thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers. Each month you truly make a difference. You are one of the major reasons that NOSCO is able to fulfill its charitable goals of providing College Scholarships to our Navy families, and supporting on island causes, both American and Japanese. To our Navy Fleet Gift Shop staff, Sara, Tina, Kelly, Mindy, Kelli, Susie, Tamra, and Erina, I would like to express deep gratitude, not only from me personally, but also from the membership as a whole. You keep our shop functioning each and every day. Your knowledge and commitment to Navy Fleet is admirable.

We are so thankful for all you do. I truly believe we have an exceptional team working toward one common goal. With volunteer hours at an all time high, and with the great leadership of our Director, Sara, there is nothing our shop can't accomplish.

Ok, now on to the business of the month of May. Come out and join us for our End of Year Celebration at Merek Park on May 20th. Remember, all NOSCO members are free, so bring your families out for a great time. RSVP at the shop so we know to expect you. Also, May brings our AWWA Friendship Social and our Scholarship Reception.

A special thanks to Chris Morse for accepting the Presidency of NOSCO for 2007-2008. She and the new board will do a great job. We do have a few vacancies for next year's Board. Please consider serving, you won't regret a moment spent. I look forward to seeing each of you soon. Thanks for a wonderful year.

Warmest regards,

Laina Bell, NOSCO President



## **Navy Fleet Gift Shop**

### **VENDORS AT THE NFGS**

May 2-12	Fongs
May 23-30	Uptight
May 23-26	Raymond Ko
May 30-June2	Lucas Sterling Creations & Jewelry by Loria

### **HELP US RE-DECORATE**

Come out and help us re-decorate (paint) shelving and walls to spruce up the NFGS  
May 7 and 8, 2007 10:00 am

### **NFGS NEEDS!**

Computer desk and office chairs for our NFGS Office. If you can help, call Sara Sladecsek.

### **TUESDAY IN THE STARS AND STRIPES**

Remember to check the Tuesday issue of the Stars and Stripes for our weekly ads.

### **VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED**

Volunteer Hours for March- 563! Thank you! NFGS welcomes NOSCO members to volunteer at the shops. It is an opportunity to make new friends, browse the merchandise early and earn "funny money" to spend in the store. Stop by or call for more information.

### **GETTING TO THE KNOW THE NFGS TEAM!**

Kelli Richardson has been volunteering and has now moved into the position of Buyer. Kelli has been married to Mike for seventeen years and they have three children Torie 12, Bailey 11 and Nick 9. They moved to Okinawa from Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. Her home town is Marietta, Georgia.

A graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, Kelli, was a corporate trainer for Chili's Restaurant and has been an image consultant for Mary Kay Cosmetics for more than six years. She loves to shop, eat and make crafts. Her favorite book is Ted Dekker's trilogy Red, Black and White. She finds her biggest challenge is raising children who are loving, spiritual, honest and motivated to go far in life. Kelli is a fan of Fukuryu Sushi and Chinese Food in general. A perfect day for her would be sleeping in, followed by breakfast in bed and a day at the spa. She says the strangest thing she has seen on this island is the crazy motorbikes!

## SHOPPING HOURS

Home Store: 643-7841  
Wed. 10-6, Thurs.-Sat. 10-3  
Kids Cottage: 645-8812  
Wed.-Fri. 10-3, Sat. 12-2

## BABY SHOWER FOR MINDY MANUAL



# Events and Things to Do

## Jazzy Jewelers Jewelry Show

Saturday May 5th  
10am– 2pm  
Girls Scout rooms on Courtney  
Near the Shoppette

This company has been established by three young ladies. One is working on her business patch for Girl Scouts. Please come join the girls as they display their jewelry designs. Items will be available for purchase and orders.

Can't make it to the show? Email us at [red Dahlia@hotmail.com](mailto:red Dahlia@hotmail.com) for a brochure or private viewing.

Thank you for supporting us!  
Your Jazzy Jewelers,  
Margaret, Summer and Marina

**This program has already started two libraries on the island – please continue to support it with your donations.**

**Army Community Group of Okinawa** with the cooperation of the American Women's Welfare Association, MOSC, KOSC and NOSCO

**Will be sponsoring an ongoing Book Drive to Benefit the Ryukyu America Historical Research Society**

Look for collection boxes located in various gift shops/thrift shops, libraries and BX's on Kadena, Foster and Torii Station. Please direct inquiries to Wendy Lundgren 633-9075



**YOU CAN MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE TO  
OUR MILITARY  
FAMILIES BY  
HELPING**

**The friends of the stork's nest**

Serving military families throughout Japan, Korea, and Guam, as well as on island, the Stork's Nest is a non-profit facility supported by the US Naval Hospital Okinawa and Friends of the Stork's Nest. The Stork's Nest provides free, temporary living accommodations for high-risk pregnancy patients, families of infants in the NICU and families of patients in the ICU or hospital. The Stork's Nest consists of cottages behind the USNHO: These cottages are designed for families, couples and relatives of patients in ICU. Each cottage has a communal living room, full kitchen, dining area, and laundry facilities. Cottages are decorated to provide a home like atmosphere and equipped for extended stays.

### What we need immediately:

- 4 Double Blankets for beds
- 2 Twin Blankets for beds
- 4 Blanket throws neutral colors for living rooms
- 2 Bath mats with rubber backing
- 1 Vacuum
- 2 DVD/VCR Player
- 1 TV and DVD Player for Living Area
- 4 Sets Sheets Double
- 2 Sets Sheets Twin
- 1 Microwave Oven

### What we need help with:

- One bath decorated in our new cottage 6063 (mats, shower curtain, towels, etc.)
- Kid's bedroom needs DVD player

### What we need on going:

Volunteers from the different military services to serve with the board in providing any items that will improve the livelihood of our residents. Our goal is to make it a "home away from home." We meet monthly to provide fund raising, fiscal oversight, facility beautification and publicity. If you are interested in helping us with any of the above items, please contact Elizabeth Biddle at Phone: 897-4914 or email: [biddlene@hotmail.com](mailto:biddlene@hotmail.com)

## Resource for Okinawa Sent from Kelly Garcia

My friend has a wonderful website called [www.okimama.wordpress.com](http://www.okimama.wordpress.com) that I wanted to share with you. It's written by her and a couple of other people on the island as kind of an island guide/discussion/advice site. It's really fun and would be an excellent resource for families PCSing to the island. We're trying to grow the site so that it can benefit as many people as possible. Enjoy!

## Torii Beach Jazz and Wine Festival Saturday, June 20

**Torii Beach  
3-11 pm**

Jazz Fest is FREE

Wine tasting is \$15/\$19 at door

Information: 644-4795



Hot stuff from our coffee groups

### Dental Coffee Group

Wow! We had another great bunko. Our April bunko was hosted by Rebecca Peterson. The theme for the evening was "Anything Asian." We had a lot of fun and some "gift stealing" during our Chinese gift exchange. Thank you Rebecca for hosting this function.

We are looking forward to our final two functions of this year. The first one will be May bunko hosted by Ann Leonard and the last one will be a dinner to farewell departing Dental Coffee Group members. The dinner will be hosted by

Samantha Babinec. More information about these two functions will be forthcoming via email.

It has been a great year. It has been wonderful to see so many members actively involved in our coffee group functions. Thanks to all of you for making this year so much fun.

### Chaplains Coffee Group

We got together and went shopping at the NFGS and then had a pot luck dinner at Ginger Warne's home. Also, during the month we attended a Paper Obi Making class at Kinser and some attended the Baby Shower for Mindy Manuel. Our May meeting will be a farewell dinner for those PCSing during the summer. We will not meet again until September!



### BIRTHDAYS

Meghan	Capp	May 1
Felicia	Ehrlich	May 2
Gretchen	Barnett	May 7
Julie	Cavancer	May 12
Denise	Loftesnes	May 13
Janet	Mercer	May 13
Ann	Stebbins	May 15
Nan	Yi	May 16
Lisa	Bass	May 21
Mindy	Manuel	May 21
Jodi	Ayers	May 21
Rachelle	Humble	May 24
Crystal	Hunt	May 24
Heather	Holst	May 27
Elizabeth	Biddle	May 29



Congratulations to Robie and Krista Herman  
Caroline Lynn Herman arrived on April 11th at  
6:45pm. The entire family is doing great and  
enjoying every minute with the new addition  
to the Herman family. Our best wishes go out  
to Robie and Krista on this special occasion.

Ron and Karina along with big brothers Pawel,  
Gabriel, and Gregory welcomed the  
newest member to the Dick family. Samantha  
Kiarra Dick was born on Sat. April 7th. The  
family has adjusted nicely and they are  
all cherishing this special time in their lives.  
Congratulations and best wishes to the Dick  
family.

### **AWWA On-Island Site Visit**

On Monday, April 23, about 22 women from  
AWWA, ACGO, KESC, KOSC, MOSC and  
NOSCO joined together to visit the three  
Okinawa sites. Each site had been the  
benefactor of donations from AWWA.

Our benefit for the day was all the smiles and  
hugs we received!

Our first stop was **Okinawa Christian School  
International (OCSI)** where Ms. Clainetta  
Jefferson took us on a tour of the campus.  
OCSI is a K-12 school which originated as a  
school for missionary children in 1957 in a  
Quonset hut on base. They expended rapidly  
and opened their doors to children of Christian  
and non Christian homes alike. Currently, the  
school has 370 students and is located in  
Yomitan. A majority of the student body is made  
up of international children as well as children of  
contractors who do not rate to attend base  
school tuition-free. In 2006 JPY 938,690 for two  
freezers (one has already been funded due to  
immediate health and safety concerns; the other  
freezer is approved and is on the list to be  
funded within a few months).



Our second stop was **Yomitan Kyugo-en** where  
Mr. Masuru Nakamura gave us a tour. Yomitan  
Kyugo-en is a welfare facility for persons with  
intellectual disabilities. This facility encourages  
residents to participate in handicrafts, pottery  
and agricultural activities. While all of the clients  
are residents at Yomitan Kyugo-en, the facility is  
trying to implement more day services in order  
to accommodate the government's push to have  
disabled persons cared for at home as much as  
possible. We have approved/purchased the  
following grant requests: In 2000, AWWA paid  
for a kiln; in 2003 AWWA paid for a minibus with  
wheelchair access. The residents had prepared  
a program of songs and dance for us. We  
reciprocated with the "Chicken Dance" and the  
"Hokey Pokey".





**Our third and last stop was at Ryokuju-en where we were treated to a tour** Ryokuju-en is an elder care facility servicing over 250 elderly. Their oldest resident was 106. On the second floor they have 120 residents. The first floor is for day service where the clients participate in a number of activities to include exercise, singing, crafts, and they also get a health check-up. Ryokuju-en is very active with a lot of community support by way of local groups visiting and performing at numerous festivals and events throughout the year. In the past, AWWA has approved/purchased a van with wheelchair access, a mini van, an economy car, and in 2005 we paid off a minibus. The residents had prepared a drum song for us and we sang two Okinawan songs for them and danced.



## 2006-2007 NOSCO Board

Honorary President	Vacant
President	Laina Bell
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Lisette Mize
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Stephanie Johnson
Secretary	Debra Bola
Treasurer	Sara Bailey
Parliamentarian	Melanie Hardy

### Committee Chairs

AWWA	Shyla Hale
Consumer Affairs	Steve Emerick
Gift Shop Director	Sara Sladeczek
Hospitality	Cindy Barrington
Membership	Paula Blivin
Publicity	Vicki Lane
Seagull Editor	Elizabeth Biddle
Ways and Means	Margaret Beaubien
Web Site Editor	Shannon GaNun

### Coffee Reps

CTF76	Vicky Reed
CFAO	<i>Vacant</i>
Chaplains	Carrie Wood
USNDC	Mimi Brenyo
	Chris Morse
USNHO	Tami Cooper
	Angie Ehle
3 <sup>rd</sup> Medical	Andrea McCoy

### Advisors

CTF76	Vickie York
	Lari Howard
CFAO	<i>Vacant</i>
Chaplains	<i>Vacant</i>
USNDC	Ann Leonard
USNHO	Cathi Cox
3 <sup>rd</sup> Medical	Debbie McCue

All contact information on website

# Board News

## **WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP ON THE NOSCO BOARD 2007-08**

Please consider helping on the board next year. We have the following positions opened.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Parliamentarian  
Publicity  
Seagull Editor  
Ways and Means  
Web Site Editor  
Coffee Representatives

## **END OF YEAR PICNIC**

Stephanie Johnson, 2nd VP  
End of the Year NOSCO and Navy Fleet Gift  
Shop Volunteer Appreciation picnic will be  
Sunday, **May20**

## **SCHOLARSHIP**

**Lissette Mize, First Vice President**

And the winners are...you will have to  
attend the Award Ceremony to find  
out!

## **Scholarship Award Ceremony**

**Thursday, May 24, 2007**

**5:30 pm**

**Butler Officer's Club**

RSVP to Lissette Mize via EMAIL to  
attend

## **SUPPORTING THE CORPSMAN BALL**

We wanted you to know that through your continued membership and "shopping" at our NFGS and Kids Cottage, we are able to support the Hospital Corpsman and their Birthday Ball during the summer. We have provided the funds for door prizes and gifts from our own NFGS for this event.

**SEAGULL**  
**E. Biddle, Editor**

**The Seagull will be on vacation  
until August! Enjoy your summer.  
Next Deadline is: July 30, 2007**



**Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service.**

Please take a moment to remember those who have given their all to our nation and our freedom!

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363) to ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays).

To help re-educate and remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed on Dec 2000 which asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans "To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a Moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to 'Taps.'"