



# The Seagull

Newsletter of Naval Officers' Spouses' Club of Okinawa (NOSCO)

Tanja Groesbeck, Editor

[www.noscokinawa.com](http://www.noscokinawa.com)

March 2008

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>:** Furniture Sale and Raymond Ko Jewelry at NFGS
- Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup>:** *Hina Matsuri* (Doll's Festival)
- Mar. 5-8<sup>th</sup>:** Donna Dominic Photography at NFGS
- Mar. 12<sup>th</sup>:** Double Opening and Uptight Linens at NFGS
- Mar. 14<sup>th</sup>:** *White Day*
- Mar. 17<sup>th</sup>:** St. Patrick's Day
- Mar. 19-20<sup>th</sup>:** Fong's Pearls at NFGS
- Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>:** *Shunbun No Hi* (Spring Equinox Day)
- Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>:** Day of Pampering at Cocok's
- Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Easter Sunday
- Mar. 31<sup>st</sup>:** NOSCO Scholarship Deadline
- All Month Long:** Women's History Month



## Join us for a Day of Pampering



Sponsored by the Dental Coffee Group

**Where:** Cocok's located on 23

**When:** Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 10 a.m. Pedicure

**11:30 a.m. Lunch at Cocok's**  
(Dental Coffee Group will provide lunch)

**Cost:** \$30, includes Pedicure (a \$7 discount), lunch, gift bag, and door prizes!

**Deadline for Reservations is March 10<sup>th</sup>**

Please RSVP with payment at the Navy Fleet Gift Shop. Space is limited to 20 appointments, so please respond quickly to secure your recliner. See you there!

### SOMETHING JUST FOR US!!



There's a whole new look for **Military Spouse** online!  
Check it out today!



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT...

Greetings NOSCO members!

I can't believe it's March already! When you are planning any upcoming travel, please keep in mind the important events we have scheduled. There are many things coming up that you will not want to miss!

Thanks to the USNH and Third Med BN Coffee Groups, we had a wonderful February event! Not only was the photography lesson with Nicole Gonzalez very informative, but there was a fabulous breakfast buffet, door prizes and a gift bag for everyone! It was a great event, thanks to all who were involved in the planning and execution.

Our March event is one not to be missed either, it is the Day of Pampering at Cocok's hosted by Third Dental Coffee Group on March 14. For \$30 you receive the full pedicure, a light lunch, a gift bag and there will be door prizes as well! There are only 20 spots so do not hesitate! Sign up at the Navy Fleet Gift Shop to be a part of this fantastic event!

Please be sure and mark your calendars for May 10, 2008, the date of our Annual Art Auction with Kanda's Gallery BOQ. This year promises to be the most exciting ever with the addition of Ansar's oriental rugs. We also will have contests of skill for our door prizes that will include several pieces of art and a rug donated by Ansar's. Watch the Seagull for additional details. As always, we will need help with our biggest event of the year. Please let me know if you are interested in participating at [morsechristine@hotmail.com](mailto:morsechristine@hotmail.com).

As I write this letter to you, Laina Bell and Sara Sladeczek are on the AWWA Off-island trip. I hope they are making memories and learning a lot to bring back and share with us. I look forward to reading about their adventures in the April addition of the Seagull.

We are currently in the process of filling the NOSCO Board for next year. We need you and your various talents to help NOSCO run smoothly and successfully. Please contact me if you are interested in serving on the Board and I can discuss with you the positions available. I can tell you from experience that you will not regret the time you give to serve this exceptional Board!

In March, the Navy Fleet Gift Shop is planning for two openings on one day (pending ship arrival of course). Look for Vietnam and the Philippines to open on March 12. As always, we will be in touch through email, website and the radio for updates on the date. We also continue to need volunteers for unload days as well as normal shop hours. If you haven't volunteered yet, please give us a try!

I'll see you around Okinawa!

Warm Regards,  
Chris

# SAVE THE DATE!

NOSCO is having an  
**Art Auction**

on the evening of

**May 10, 2008**

at the

**Butler Officers' Club.**

Come find one-of-a-kind art pieces for your home at a great value from Kanda's Gallery B.O.Q. A pre-sale and door prizes will be available.

This is NOSCO's annual fundraiser to help support on-island charities, military scholarships and NOSCO's operating expenses.

If you are interested in volunteering to work the event or being on this event's committee, please contact Rachel Broom at 646-8287 or [r.broom1@gmail.com](mailto:r.broom1@gmail.com).

## ALL BECAUSE OF YOU

A big thanks to the USNH and 3<sup>rd</sup> Medical Coffee Groups for hosting a fun and informative photography class with Nichole Gonzalez last month. The breakfast buffet was a nice touch, too!

*Thank You*

## BOARD NEWS

It's that time again! We are preparing to compile next year's NOSCO Board and  
**WE NEED YOU!**

Please consider serving as we have many openings. We know that getting involved is sometimes difficult to fit in your busy lifestyle; however, we ask you to consider giving a little of your time to serve this dynamic organization that helps our community in so many ways!

For more information, please contact Chris Morse at [morsechristine@hotmail.com](mailto:morsechristine@hotmail.com)

## LET'S GIVE A BIG, WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST NOSCO MEMBERS:

Nicole Applehans  
Kelly Byler  
Susan Chastain  
Steven Emerick  
Alexis Epperly  
Kathleen Hewitt  
Eun Hye Kim  
Karen MacDonald  
Leticia Macias  
Nancy McKnight  
Catheron Pate  
Rebecca Peterson  
Candice Pickens  
Tammy Stacks  
Heather Upp

For more information, contact the NOSCO Membership Chair at [noscomembership@yahoo.com](mailto:noscomembership@yahoo.com)

## CULTURE CORNER...



### **March brings a time of celebration to our host country...**

#### **March 3<sup>rd</sup>: Hina Matsuri (Doll's Festival or Girl's Day)**

*Hina Matsuri* is a festival celebrating families who have girls and wishing them successful and happy lives. Sets of dolls are displayed in people's homes along side peach blossoms. The set of dolls are dressed in pretty costumes. Many families pass these dolls from generation to generation. Other customs include eating red, white and green diamond-shaped *mochi*; and drinking *shirozake*, a white beverage. According to an old wives' tale, a girl who leaves her dolls on display after this holiday will be late to marry.

#### **March 14<sup>th</sup>: White Day**

On Valentine's Day in Japan, it is only the women who give presents to men, and then the men are supposed to return the favors received one month later on White Day (a Japanese creation). White Day is believed to have been introduced by a marshmallow manufacturing company in the 1960s. The color of sugar gave the day its name but other kinds of presents such as chocolates and flowers have become more popular over the years.

#### **March 20<sup>th</sup>: Shunbun No Hi (Spring Equinox Day)**

The spring equinox is a national holiday for the admiration of nature and the love of living things. Many people visit the graves of their ancestors, washing the tombstone, tidying up the site, and offering flowers. The first celebration of spring in Japan took place in 806.





## ~ REMEMBER TO MAKE A WISH ~

March 1st:	Candice Pickens
March 2 <sup>nd</sup> :	Stacy Suhre
March 8 <sup>th</sup> :	Megumi Lawler and Kelly Byler
March 9 <sup>th</sup> :	Tanja Groesbeck
March 11 <sup>th</sup> :	Mary Williams
March 14 <sup>th</sup> :	Melanie Hardy
March 17 <sup>th</sup> :	Crista Frank
March 20 <sup>th</sup> :	Mara Owens
March 25 <sup>th</sup> :	Heather Upp

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!!



## MEALS FOR NEW MOMS NOSCO Members Caring for One Another

The gift of a prepared meal during those few hectic weeks with a newborn is always appreciated.

Please contact Mindy Manuel at [jmmanual7@yahoo.com](mailto:jmmanual7@yahoo.com) and let her know if someone in your Coffee Group needs meals!

Include the new mom's name, phone number, and home address.

We will arrange a few weeks worth of meals to be brought to the family.

If you'd like to volunteer to cook for new moms, drop Mindy an e-mail and she will keep you in mind during the next baby boom!

## THE STORK'S NEST NEEDS MEALS!!

The Stork's Nest recently purchased a freezer to store the meals for their residents. This way, they would always have something for them.

Since a lot of families come in the middle of the night, this will help to provide them with food during their first few days until they can go shopping. In addition, sometimes it is difficult for the families to get out to shop since transportation is limited to taking the bus or taxi.

Main dish items that can be frozen and reheated are needed. The containers should be freezer quality and the item(s) marked as to what it is and the date made.

'Steam Works' veggies would also be great! They are small bags that can be heated quickly. Also, they provide something 'green' for the residents. These are nutritionally better than canned veggies.

Frozen Desserts (low fat) would also be welcomed.

The Director, Lilly Gaffud, is at the Stork's Nest Office during the following hours:  
Monday - Wednesday 10:00am - 11:30am  
Friday from 9:30 am to 10:30 am.

However, please call ahead to let her know that you will be coming for a drop off: 090-1942-3094 or 643-8009/2072.

If you are interested in assisting us with this project, please e-mail [storksnest@hotmail.com](mailto:storksnest@hotmail.com) and let us know what you can contribute.

### We appreciate your efforts in providing for these military families.



Bring a little bit of Asia home from the...

## NAVY FLEET GIFT SHOP

**Spring into our  
DOUBLE OPENING!  
Philippines AND Vietnam  
Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008  
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
(Pending Ship Arrival)**

*Due to circumstances beyond our control, the February Philippines shipment was delayed. Please accept our sincere apologies.*

*Come see all of the following new items at the 3/12/08 Double Opening:*

### **From Philippines:**

Easter Décor; Monkey Pod Picnicware; Pottery; Decorative Stacking File Boxes; Jewelry; Handmade Quilts; Soft Educational Toys; Mobiles and New Net Butterfly Styles; and Drink Basins with Stands!

### **From Vietnam:**

Easter Dresses; Hardwood Outdoor Furniture; Eggshell Lacquer Panels; Sparkly Children's Shoes; Silk Lanterns; Soapstone; Tribal Antiques and Textiles; Vietnamese Water Puppets; Musical Instruments; and Ceramics / Pottery.

### **OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Mar. 1<sup>st</sup> Spring Furniture Sale (20% off) and Raymond Ko Jewelry from Hong Kong  
Mar. 5-8<sup>th</sup> Donna Dominic Photography  
Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> DOUBLE OPENING (see above)  
Mar. 12-15<sup>th</sup> Uptight Linens from India  
Mar. 19-20<sup>th</sup> Fong's Pearls from Hong Kong

*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!*

**Home Store: Wed. 10-6, and Thurs.-Sat. 10-3  
643-7841**

**Kids Cottage: Wed.-Fri. 10-3, and Sat. 12-2  
645-8812**

**[www.noscokinawa.com](http://www.noscokinawa.com)**

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

**Water Aerobics** -- 50 meter pool (across from Mess hall on Foster-near the new GYM)

Tue/Thu 6-7pm and Sat 1000-1100  
Costs: Free

**Mah Jongg** -- Tee House on Kadena

Thursdays 9:00 – 12:00; optional lunch afterwards

Pam Caruso -- [PSCaruso@ao.com](mailto:PSCaruso@ao.com) or 633-3810  
Diane Hobbs -- [hobbs4ut1@yahoo.com](mailto:hobbs4ut1@yahoo.com) or 633-7316

**Indian Cooking** -- In the cook's home and you tell her what you want to learn.

Husband/wife teams welcomed  
Vineeta Chhugani - 090-7587-0467, or  
[indiancooking@hotmail.com](mailto:indiancooking@hotmail.com)  
Costs: call for pricing

**Pacific Patchwork Guild** -- Meet at Bob Hope on the 1st and 3rd Tues. of the month. On the 2nd Sat. of the month they hold an all day quilting workshop.

Helen Davis: (home) 956-2433 or  
(cell) 090-7165-3058

**Alpha Course for Adults** -- USNH-Okinawa in the Wardroom—Galley

Begins Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> thru Lent. 1700 each Thurs.  
Call USNH Pastoral Care Office at  
643-7572/7248 for information.

**MOPS – Mothers of Preschoolers** -- Koza Baptist

Twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Tues.;  
9:00 until 11:30am.  
Brandi Jobe at [bljobe99@yahoo.com](mailto:bljobe99@yahoo.com).

**Okinawa Women's International Club (OIWC)** –

Meets monthly for a luncheon and a welfare activity.  
Go to: <http://www.freewebs.com/oiwc/index.htm>  
for more information.



In honor of Women's History Month...

"Remember the dignity of your womanhood. Do not appeal, do not beg, do not grovel. Instead, take courage, join hands, stand together, fight together."

Christabel Pankhurst,  
Suffragette  
1880-1950, Britain

## RECIPE ROUND-UP

### St. Patti's Cupcakes

1 ¾ cups flour  
2/3 cup sugar  
1-3.4 oz. package of instant pistachio pudding  
2 tsps. baking powder  
½ tsp. salt  
2 eggs  
1 ¼ cups milk  
½ cup vegetable oil  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 container of cream cheese frosting  
Green food coloring

In a bowl, combine the dry ingredients. In another, bowl, beat eggs, milk, oil and vanilla; add to dry ingredients and mix until blended. Fill paper-lined muffin cups ¾ full. Bake at 375°F for 18-22 minutes or 'til done. Cool completely on a wire rack. Add food coloring to frosting to desired color and frost cupcakes. Enjoy!



## COFFEE TALK



**~CTF-76~**  
by Staci Hawley-Praske

February was an active month for the ladies of CTF-76. We welcomed two families to the island: Colleen and Sean Cooney (and their twin daughters), as well as Renee and Danny Jaffer (already here on Okinawa, but new to CTF-76). Welcome aboard!

Other activities last month included grocery shopping in town, as well as celebrating Amy Dahlin's birthday / Thanksgiving Anniversary at Marino's.

In March, Cathy Cho has graciously offered to take us to the local fish market for a fresh lunch.

We're also looking forward to the 3d Dental BT March event at Cocok's.

**~Dental~**  
by Suzanne Secrest

A huge thanks to Trudy Hutto for hosting a fabulous February Bunko. The theme "Pamper Yourself" was very fitting for February and we had some great gifts! Trudy's Italian food was delicious. We all had a great time! March Bunko will be hosted by Rachel Anderson. Details to come.

### **ATTENTION OFF-BASE RESIDENTS AND ALL CELL PHONE USERS!!**

The following telephone prefixes make it easier to dial on-base numbers from off-base phones because you can now bypass the base operator #:

- **(Courtney)** Dialing a 622 number = 098-954-XXXX
- **(Hansen)** Dialing a 623 number = 098-969-XXXX
- **(Chibana)** Dialing a 632 number = 098-962-XXXX
- **(Kadena)** Dialing a 633 number = 098-959-XXXX
- **(Kadena)** Dialing a 634 number = 098-961-XXXX
- **(Foster)** Dialing a 645 number = 098-970-XXXX
- **(Foster)** Dialing a 646 number = 098-971-XXXX

From cell phone to emergency 911, dial 098-911-1911.

From off base regular phone dial 911-1911.

To contact the base operator from an off base line, dial 098-911-5111 for Marine Bases / White Beach; or 098-938-1111 for Kadena / Camp Shields.

# NOSCO Scholarships

**DEADLINE IS APPROACHING!**



The Naval Officers' Spouses' Club of Okinawa (NOSCO) is offering scholarships to eligible Navy military family members stationed on Okinawa.

A full application package can be received as a PDF on the NOSCO website [www.noscokinawa.com](http://www.noscokinawa.com) or from the Navy Fleet Gift Shops at Camp Lester.

The applicant must meet one of the following:

1. **Graduating high school senior** who is a Navy dependent, entering an accredited college, university, or vocational/trade school; or
2. **Continuing student** who is an unmarried Navy dependent, presently enrolled in a degree program in an accredited college, university, or vocational/trade school; or
3. **Navy military spouse** in a degree or associate degree program at an accredited college, university, or vocational/trade school (enrollment may be in an undergraduate degree program, on or off island).

Scholarship selection will encompass; a variety of areas including academic merit, extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation, and a personal letter. This scholarship will be awarded without regard to gender, race, or creed of applicant, school to be attended (excluding military academics), and rate/rank of sponsor.

**Application Deadline:  
March 31, 2008**

Please direct all questions to the NOSCO Scholarship Chairperson, Elizabeth Biddle

Phone: 098-897-4914

Email: [ebidlene@hotmail.com](mailto:ebidlene@hotmail.com)

Mailing address: Elizabeth Biddle, c/o Navy Fleet Gift Shop,  
PSC 482 Box 2862, FPO AP 96362

## Scholarship Review and Presentation Schedule

Below is the tentative schedule for scholarship review and presentation. If you are interested in helping to review the scholarships, please let Elizabeth Biddle know by March 31<sup>st</sup> (contact info below).

**March 31<sup>st</sup>:** Deadline for all Scholarship applications

**April 1-6<sup>th</sup>:** Prepare Scholarship applications for Review (1<sup>st</sup> VP)

**April 10 & April 14<sup>th</sup>:** Review Committee to meet. Place and Time TBD. **We need 2 Advisors, 2 Board Members and 1 Member. If you are interested, please email Elizabeth Biddle.**

**April 30<sup>th</sup>:** Release information to applicants.

**May 15<sup>th</sup>:** KDHS Scholarship Awards Ceremony

**June 4<sup>th</sup>:** NOSCO Scholarship Awards Ceremony at Navy Fleet Gift Shop 4-5 pm

**Please continue to encourage students that you know, and please continue to shop, shop, and shop so that we have enough money to give!!**

Contact: Elizabeth Biddle at [ebidlene@hotmail.com](mailto:ebidlene@hotmail.com) if you wish to serve in this area!

# THERE'S A PLACE JUST FOR YOU WITHIN NOSCO...

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE CURRENTLY OPEN:

- NOSCO BOARD / COMMITTEES:  
 CFAO Coffee Representative  
 CFAO Advisor  
 Chaplains Advisor

If you are interested in filling any of the above spots, contact NOSCO President, Chris Morse, at [morsechristine@hotmail.com](mailto:morsechristine@hotmail.com).

- NEWCOMERS' ORIENTATION:

Do you make a great first impression? Then be the first to welcome spouses to the island!

If you love to talk to and meet new people, this just may be the right volunteer job for you!

Plus, you will earn Weekend Gift Shop Dollars!

Please contact our Hospitality Chair, Mindy Manuel, at [jmmanuel7@yahoo.com](mailto:jmmanuel7@yahoo.com) for more information on serving in this area.

## NOSCO 2007-2008 EVENT PLANNING

MONTH	COFFEE GROUP	EVENT
MARCH	DENTAL	A Day at the Spa
APRIL	NOSCO	TBD
MAY	NOSCO	Art Auction and Scholarship Reception
JUNE	NOSCO	End of the Year Picnic

## 2007-2008 NOSCO BOARD

### OFFICERS

Honorary President	OPEN
President	Chris Morse
1st Vice President	Elizabeth Biddle
2nd Vice President	Mike Toone
Treasurer	Vicki Lane
Secretary	Britt Clark
Parliamentarian	Paula Blivin

### COMMITTEES

AWWA	Laina Bell
Consumer Affairs	Steve Emerick
Gift Shop Director	Sara Sladeczek
Hospitality	Mindy Manuel
Membership	Louise Tower
Publicity	Shari Biery
Seagull Editor	Tanja Groesbeck
Ways and Means	Rachel Broom
Website Editor	Mike Toone

### COFFEE GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

3d MED BN	Sara Bailey
CTF-76	Staci Hawley-Praske
CFAO	OPEN
Chaplains	Stephanie Brooks
Dental	Suzanne Secrest
USNH	Melanie Hardy and Pam Caruso

### ADVISORS

3d MED BN	Debbie McCue
CTF-76	Lari Roberts-Howard
CFAO	OPEN
Chaplains	OPEN
Dental	Amy Colaianni
USNH	Cathi Cox and Carla Thorson

### The Seagull

If you have news for NOSCO, please e-mail it to [tanjalynn@hotmail.com](mailto:tanjalynn@hotmail.com)

Happy  St. Patrick's Day