

Naval Air Family Readiness Group Newsletter

January 8, 2010

NAFM CO, XO New Year's letters



Happy New Year everyone! As I look back at Naval Air Family Readiness Group (NAFRG)'s accomplishments in 2009, I am thoroughly impressed with all this group has done to support our mission and our families. Under the leadership of President Michelle Criss, Vice President Alice Wilson, and the other fine officers and chairmen, I have seen the NAFRG mature from an idea to an engaged, proactive, organization committed to enhancing Navy life in Japan. They got off to a great start last summer, providing a command picnic that was like a day at a state fair with tons of games, prizes and food, despite having to move to a hangar to escape the rain. The NAFRG made an impact on "quality of life" throughout the year by presenting ball caps to all our new Sailors and gift certificates to all our new parents. However, they took out all the stops for Christmas. The party at the Kizan Hotel was the best command Christmas party Daisy and I have ever attended. From the

food and entertainment to the incredible door prizes everything was first class! To follow that up the next day with a kid's Christmas party, double in size from last year, was an amazing feat and truly shows how much the NAFRG has grown over the last year. These NAFRG events brought the NAF community closer together, strengthened relationships, and have made us a stronger command, better able to meet future challenges.

It is now time to find the leaders who will take the NAFRG to even greater accomplishments in 2010! We will soon have elections for President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you are a Sailor or family member over 18 at NAF, PSD, or Public Works, you are in the NAFRG and eligible to run for office. If anyone is interested, I encourage you to contact Petty Officer Criss, Alice or myself. We need involvement from our families to stay focused on family priorities, so I am especially interested in finding spouses ready for this challenge. I look forward to continuing to work with this dedicated organization in 2010 to create an even better overseas experience for our Sailors and families. Daisy, Chris and I wish you all an awesome 2010!

NAF Misawa Sailors, Family members and Friends,

We've had a great year here in Misawa. My family has been welcomed to the neighborhood with open arms and has fully embraced life in Japan. A big part of that welcome was the outstanding efforts for the NAFRG. My introduction to the NAFRG was the summer picnic and sports day in the hangar back in June and I was very impressed with the set-up and the command participation, not to mention the food and events. As fun as that afternoon was, it was eclipsed by two fantastic Christmas parties. The NAFRG as many of you experienced put together a fun afternoon with Santa Clause for the kids and an amazing dinner, gifts and dancing the previous evening for the adults. What many of us didn't see was the hours of organization, meetings, and fundraisers that made those events possible.

In February the current NAFRG leadership will be stepping down and elections will be held for the 2010 NAFRG president, treasurer and secretary. I'd like to extend a heartfelt thanks and congratulations to YN2 Criss (La Presidente) and her team, and challenge a new team to take the helm. We had a great group this year and the only way it could be better next year is if more spouses and Sailors participate. Several of the best committee members last year were/are single sailors who dedicated hours of off duty time to plan, fundraise and execute these family events. When elections come in February, I hope that both Sailors and spouses rise to the challenge to maintain the momentum the NAFRG has built up and make 2010 an even better year here in Misawa. Happy New Year!



Letter From the President



NAF Misawa,

It has been a great pleasure serving as NAFRG's President. This year we have accomplished many major events from the command picnic to the command staff and children Christmas parties. I have enjoyed working with each of you and appreciated your support during numerous fundraisers. Your continual support of NAFRG will be required to ensure the future success of this organization. In February, NAFRG will holding its annual election of officers so please volunteer and/or encourage your family members to apply for a position. It has been a rewarding and challenging year as president of the NAFRG, I will not be running for re-election as I think it's important to get fresh ideas and perspectives. The rewards both personal and professional have been great and I want to

give another sailor or even better a spouse the opportunity to improve our fantastic organization.

NAFRG Elections

We will be holding elections for President, Treasurer and Secretary on February 3, 2010.

Location: Building 980 (Tanaka Room)

Each office is open to all NAFM military and their adult dependents. Voting will began at 10:00 and will secure at 11:00 a.m.

NAFRG needs your support, some come on out a cast your vote.

If you are interesting in running for office place send me a short blurb about yourself and what you will bring to the NAFRG team. All nominations are due to me by 4 p.m. January 27, 2010.



Your NAFRG Team

Michelle Criss, President

Alice Wilson, Vice President

Sachenia Molden, Secretary

Daniel Counselman, Treasurer

Charles Beckerman, Public Relations Chairman

Thomas Allen, Social Director Chairman

Jason Williams, Fundraiser Chairman

The New NAFRG Coin is now for sale Please contact YN2 Criss for purchase. We also have t-shirts, and ballcaps.



Want to Help?

NAFRG Meetings are held the first and third Wednesday of the month, at 10 a.m. in the Tanaka Room, located in Building 980. All Sailors and family members are welcome!

Dates to Remember

NAFRG Event

Jan. 15 Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday

Feb. 12 Lincoln's Birthday

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day

Feb. 15 President's Day

Feb. 26 Sailor of the Year Dinner

Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day



Congratulations to our newest members of NAFRG:

PSCS Gunsett baby boy delivered.

PS1 Espinosa baby girl delivered.

CE1 Thonnissen baby boy delivered.

CS2 Molden baby girl delivered.



CS2 MOLDEN EXCHANGING GIFTS



WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE



CAPT HAUGEN LOOKS FOR THE RIGHT GIFT

WAITING FOR SANTA CLAUS



HANNAH AND SANTA



SAY CHESSE



SANTA'S IS ON HIS WAY