

what's inside

- 2 ➤ Awards Ceremony
- 3 ➤ CLO Connection
- 4 ➤ Management News-HR
- 5 ➤ Management News
- 6 ➤ Public Affairs/ Commissary News
- 7 ➤ Upcoming Events
- 8 ➤ Upcoming Events
- 9 ➤ Community Events
- 10 ➤ Photo Gallery
- 11 ➤ Advertisements & Announcements

Mission Awards Ceremony



The Employee Appreciation and Awards Ceremony is an opportunity for all to come together as a mission and recognize the hard work and achievement of many of our colleagues.

Congratulations to all the award recipients at the Semi-Annual Awards Ceremony which took place on April 27, at the Chief of Mission residence with an additional ceremony on May 8, in the Spiers Room at the Embassy.

Pictured from left: Damon Campbell, Shipping Assistant; Pauline Darling-Coleby, Voucher Examiner; Anne Marie Bain, Commercial Assistant; Bonita Johnson, Information Systems Officer; Wesley Kane, Systems Administrator; Daniel Trujillo, Information Mgt. Specialist

Marines Receive Awards

Congratulations to Sgt. Steedly, Sgt. Combs, Sgt. Bae, and Staff Sargent Taylor who received Awards last Wednesday, May 2, 2007, in the Charge d'Affaires' Office. Staff Sargent Taylor received the Navy and Marine Achievement Medal. Sgt. Steedly, Sgt. Combs and Sgt. Bae received the Meritorious Mast Award. Embassy employees gathered to witness the award ceremony and congratulate the Marines. We are all very proud of you!

Awards Ceremony Photos



Katherine Stewart-Gibson
Public Affairs Specialist
"FSN of The Year"



Dorothy St. Claud
Custodian,
Cleveland Goddard
Shipping Supervisor



Carol Clowes
Embassy Nurse



Sophia Rolle
Cashier

Those who received awards were:

Tanya Storr, Belgin Vanderploeg, Oreste Octavien, Sophie Rolle, Calvin Davis, Carol Clowes, Livingston Davis, Daniel Trujillo, Reuben Forbes, David Hazarian, Clinton Burke, Barbara Wallace, Catherine McSherry, Kristal Vera, Joseph Smith, Anthony Cartwright, Eugene Arnold, Shelitia Kemp, Patrice Campbell, Dorothy St. Claud, Damon Campbell, Dwayne Campbell, Melanie Miller, Pauline Coleby, Lisa Ferguson, Antoinette Rolle, Wesley Kane, John Cargill, GSO Group Award, Leslie Pyfrom, Cleveland Goddard, Herman Rolle, Ann Marie Bain, Agatha Pennerman, Katherine Gibson, David Foran, June Lunn, Elizabeth Moxey, Mavis Ewen, Ian Mills



“Bloom where you are planted”

CLO
CONNECTION

For more information about items on this page,
please contact Jeanne Dennis at 322-1181 Ext. 4254
or DennisJA@state.gov

Tips on Being a Great Sponsor

As a sponsor, you are the first contact the new arrival has with the embassy and with Nassau. Sponsoring newcomers is your chance to make a difference, one individual or one family at a time. Think about how you felt when you arrived, what did your sponsor do that was so effective? What do you wish your sponsor would have done to make the transition easier. Here are some tips from the Sponsorship Guidelines:

- Send a friendly email introduction and/or phone call.
- Throw out a lifeline! Invite them to ask you questions about Nassau; find out if they have any special needs (e.g. accompanying children, pets), and items they will need immediately after arrival.
- Check with GSO to determine the employee’s housing assignment, its location, if it is ready, and information about keys. If possible, take photos of the house and send them to the new employee. Other digital photos you have of Nassau would help to orient them to their new environment.
- Think Food, Water, Shelter: Stock small quantities of basic food and beverage items. Save the receipts for reimbursement by the new arrival. Send them the list of suggested items in the sponsorship guidelines to see what they would like you to purchase. About 2-3 days before scheduled arrival, confirm from GSO, or your agency, if the Hospitality or Welcome Kit has been delivered to the residence. Check the Welcome Kit for appropriate items, and contact the agency if something is missing, e.g. towels, sheets for a king size bed. Purchase a bottle of water and leave information about water delivery.
- Personal touches mean a lot - a personal note, fresh flowers, a bottle of wine, toys on loan until their shipment arrives.
- Meet newcomers at airport!! Escort them to their quarters. A warm but brief welcome, offer to get anything they might need, and a strategically placed dinner they can heat by themselves, can be the kindest thing you can do the first day.
- First day of work: Arrange for pick-up of newcomers to come to the Embassy. Tour embassy/office with newcomers, and escort them to the RSO and Management Sections for their check-in procedures.
- Use all available opportunities to introduce the newcomer to their community, and if possible, with other mission employees with similar family situations. Point out areas of interest - shopping malls, restaurants. Make sure they are familiar with emergency procedures, where the Health Unit and Doctors Hospital Emergency is located.
- Introduce them to the CLO early, as CLO can help with much of the orientation, and provide resources, particularly for the family members.
- Stay in touch with the newcomer!

Attend the Sponsors: “A Lifeline to Newcomers” Brown Bag facilitated by the CLO
Monday, May 14th, from 12-1pm, in the Spiers Room.

Houses For Rent

The CLO is receiving notices of houses to rent (owned by foreign service officers) in the Washington, DC area. Please contact the CLO if you would like to take a look at the listings.

Vacancy Announcement



Vacancy Announcement Number: 05-07

Open To: Appointment Eligible Family Members (AEFM) - All Agencies and US Citizen Veterans who possess residence and work permits in the Bahamas

Position: NAS Program Assistant in the Narcotics Affairs Section

Opening Date: April 30, 2007

Closing Date: May 14, 2007

Work Hours: 40 hours/week

Salary: *AEFM: US\$32,062.00 p.a. (Starting Salary)
(Position Grade: FP-7 to be confirmed by Washington)

Basic Function of Position:

Manage budgets for Projects and Program Development and Support.

Provide financial support for implementing the Letter of Agreement with the Government of the Bahamas.

Produce yearly Program Development & Support budget for submission to INL.

Procure equipment, training and travel in support of the Letter of Agreement and maintain financial files.

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties and responsibilities is available in the Human Resources Office, (Tel: 322-1181 - ext: 4288 or 4293).

Family Member Employment Opportunities:

For family members who desire to work here in Nassau, embassy employment carries many benefits. Appointment eligible family members are U.S. citizens, spouse or child, who is at least age 18, and listed on the travel orders or a Foreign or Civil Service or Uniformed Service member permanently assigned to a USG agency under Chief of Mission authority. Family Member Appointments are State Department local hire positions which support on-going work for the mission, both part-time and full-time.

Family Member Appointment Benefits:

- It is a five-year limited, non-career appointment.
- Benefits are Annual Leave, Sick Leave, Federal Employees Retirement System, Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Employees Group Life Insurance, Thrift Savings Plan, and Executive Order Eligibility (noncompetitive status for federal positions in U.S. for which you are qualified).
- If the job ends before the five year appointment expires, the family member is put on inactive work status, and benefits will be frozen, and the security clearance, if any, may be revalidated upon entering a new position within five years; benefits will also resume at that time.

Hurricane Season starts June 1st!

As hurricane season starts on June 1st it is a good time to begin preparing for the season. Over the course of the next few months every issue of the Junkanoo Journal will contain information about how to prepare for a hurricane. We are starting out with the basic ABC's of hurricanes. If anyone has any follow-up questions about the information below, please email Margo Pogorzelski, Mission Disaster Relief Officer at pogorzelskim@state.gov

What is a hurricane?

A hurricane is a powerful, swirling storm that begins over a warm sea. Hurricanes form in waters near the equator, and then they move toward the poles. The winds of a hurricane swirl around a calm central zone called the eye surrounded by a band of tall, dark clouds called the eye wall. The eye is usually 10 to 40 miles (16 to 64 kilometers) in diameter and is free of rain and large clouds. In the eye wall, large changes in pressure create the hurricane's strongest winds. These winds can reach nearly 200 miles per hour. Damaging winds may extend 250 miles from the eye. (From: "2004 Hurricane Frances over the Bahamas." Credit: NASA)

How do hurricanes form?

Hurricanes only form over really warm ocean water of 80°F or warmer. The atmosphere (the air) must cool off very quickly the higher you go. Also, the wind must be blowing in the same direction and at the same speed to force air upward from the ocean surface. Winds flow outward above the storm allowing the air below to rise. Hurricanes typically form between 5 to 15 degrees latitude north and south of the equator (this includes the Bahamas!)

When does hurricane season start?

The Atlantic hurricane season is from June 1 to November 30.

Where do those names for hurricanes come from?

Originally, all storms were named for women, but, starting in 1979, men's and women's names were alternated. An international committee of the World Meteorological Organization now creates and maintains the annual lists. Names are used on a six-year rotation, meaning the 2006 list will come up again in 2012. Names of especially damaging and deadly storms are retired. From the 2005 list, Dennis, Katrina, Rita, Stan and Wilma will not reappear.

The 2007 hurricane name list is as follows: Alberto, Beryl, Chris, Debby, Ernesto, Florence, Gordon, Helene, Isaac, Joyce, Kirk, Leslie, Michael, Nadine, Oscar, Patty, Rafael, Sandy, Tony, Valerie, William.

How do we know how strong a hurricane is?

The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale was developed to rate hurricanes of the scale of 1-5.

Category	Winds (MPH)	Storm Surge (Feet)	Damage
1	74-95	4'-5'	Minimal
2	96-110	6'-8'	Moderate
3	111-130	9'-12'	Extensive
4	131-155	13'-18'	Extreme
5	>155	>18'	Catastrophic



Hurricane Season and Pets

Have you...

- ✓ Made arrangements for your pets in case of an **evacuation**?
- ✓ **Called your vet or kennel** to make advance arrangements?
- ✓ Made sure your pet's **papers are in order**, import and export?

**Review the Embassy
Hurricane Action Plan**

Public Affairs

The Embassy's Volunteer Reading Program continues on Wednesday, May 16, from 12:45 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. at Woodcock Primary School. As usual volunteers are asked to meet in the lobby at 12:30 p.m. for transport to the school. We are now into the last term of the academic school year - school closes the third week in June. Let's continue to make a positive difference in the lives of the youth!

Please contact Katherine Stewart-Gibson at GibsonK@state.gov or 322-1181 Ext.4251, if you plan to participate.

Whit Monday... A brief history

Whit Monday gets its name for following the day of Pentecost, otherwise known as "Whitsun" or "Whitsunday", in English speaking countries. The origin of the term comes from "Wit" or "Wisdom" Sunday - which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and the followers of Jesus on that day. Pentecost, a movable feast in the Christian calendar, is defined as the fiftieth day after Easter. Whit Monday is a Bahamian National Holiday celebrated on May 28 this year.

Commissary News

Hours of Operation
Wednesday 10:00am-2:00pm
Thursday 2:00pm-6:00pm

For comments or to suggest items for future commissary orders, please contact your board members at nassaucommissary@state.gov

BFS Order this week:

Salmon Steaks, Chicken, Beef Patties
and much more.

◀ ◀ Changes Made Regarding Submission and Distribution Dates ▶ ▶

Submission Guidelines

Submissions are to be made by email to Sue Minor at junkanoonews@yahoo.com or by phone at 327-1631. The Junkanoo Journal will be published on *Thursdays*, every other week and all submissions must be made by *COB on the Monday* before distribution. Some submissions may have to be reformatted due to program conversion. If you're sending a picture and know how to make it a smaller file, please do. Submissions may be edited for length, clarity, or security. All content will be reviewed and approved by the Community Liaison Officer and RSO.



“Sponsors: A Lifeline for Newcomers” - May 14, 12:00 noon - 1:00pm
Brown Bag Presentation in the Spiers Conference Room, US Embassy

A successful Sponsorship Program is the “gift that keeps on giving”. The pre-arrival phase and first several weeks after arrival can set the tone for the rest of a new arrival’s tour. Learn how you can make a huge difference in the adjustment of our new arrivals to post. Have you served as a sponsor before? Please come and provide some feedback and tips. All sections and staff who are welcoming/sponsoring new arrivals this summer, and those who will be available to serve as Community Sponsors, are urged to attend. We will be reviewing the Sponsorship Guidelines, as well as learning about a model of cross-cultural adaptation known as the “adjustment curve”. All American employees and families are welcome to attend. Bring your lunch, your questions and ideas. Please contact the CLO for more information at 322-1181 Ext.4254 or DennisJA@state.gov

Luncheon in honor of Carol Clowes - May 15, 12:00 noon - 1:00pm

British Colonial Hilton (buffet bar) restaurant. Low key - no speeches, just a get together.

- The costs are:
- Soup and salad buffet: \$12.00 (water included)
 - Entire Buffet: \$24.00 (1 drink is included)

Please RSVP to David Elmo at 322-1181 Ext.4285.

Presentation on Occupational Therapy Services - May 15, 12:30pm

Shannon Floyd, an Embassy spouse, and Andrea Moss are going to be presenting information regarding Occupational Therapy Services at Sandyport Park on May 15, at 12:30pm. They are Occupational Therapists at Rehab In Motion on Mt. Royal Ave., in Nassau. They provide services to children who have difficulties with fine and gross motor skills, handwriting, Sensory Integration Dysfunction, delayed achievement of developmental milestones, self help skills such as dressing, grooming etc. and Dyspraxia (difficulty with motor planning). They also provide vision therapy to children who have difficulty reading and copying from the chalkboard. For any information needed about this in-service, please contact Shannon Floyd at laxbouche@yahoo.com or 327-4427.

“Departure: How to Plan and Prepare Ahead” - May 21, 12:00 noon - 1:00pm
Brown Bag Presentation in the Spiers Conference Room, US Embassy

Are you scheduled for a transfer or re-entry to the US this summer? Attend this presentation to understand how to make the departure process go smoothly. Topics will cover Outgoing Shipments, Air Freight, Packing of Household Effects, and a review of the Departure Checklist, which involves mandatory actions and procedures by departing employees. GSO specialists and others from the Management Section will providing short presentations and will be available for questions. CLO will also have reference materials from Family Liaison Office for those returning to the Washington, DC area. Bring your lunch, your questions and ideas. Please contact the CLO for more information at 322-1181 Ext.4254 or DennisJA@state.gov

*Upcoming
Events:*

May 24 - Ichiban Restaurant Night

7:00pm

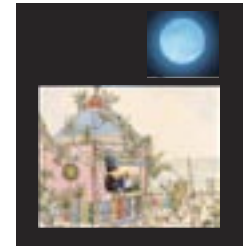
This new restaurant is quickly becoming a favorite in Nassau. The manager has created a 3 course dinner for us including miso soup, appetizers of tuna sushi, salmon sushi, white fish sushi, and shrimp tempura; Entrée of Steak Teriyaki, and desert of green tea ice cream. Cost per person is \$35.00, including gratuity. Ichiban is asking for a one-third deposit, so a deposit of \$12.00 will be needed to hold your space. **Please RSVP to the CLO at Ext.4254 by May 21st.**



June 1 - Compass Point Restaurant Night

7:00pm

There is a full moon this evening (actually it is a "Blue Moon" month) and we will have a great view from the oceanside deck of Compass Point. The new owners, Skip and Linda, have arranged a special dinner for us, consisting of Caesar Salad, Choice of 3 Entrees: Grouper Almandine, Sirloin Steak or Seafood Pasta, and Desert of Carrot Cake. The price is \$40 per person, including gratuity. **Please RSVP to the CLO at Ext.4254 by May 29th.**



June 9 - Stingray Adventure

9:00am - 4:00pm

A favorite excursion for families and singles alike, on the island of Blackbeard Cay. The excursion on the 65 foot catamaran leaves at 9:00 a.m. from the Prince George wharf and returns at 4:00 p.m. (There is also an earlier departure at 12noon). Hand feed and snorkel with the Southern Atlantic Stingrays, which are gentle and de-barbed. Relax in lounge chairs, have a drink at the Bacardi Beach Bar, play volleyball, and check out their souvenir shop. This all-day outing includes lunch. Prices are \$25.00 for adults and \$21.00 for kids 3-12, with under 3 years old free. (Regular adult price is \$49.00) You can pay for your ticket when you arrive to the cay. They have a great website at www.stingrayadventure.com which includes additional information, and a photo gallery. **Please RSVP to the CLO at Ext.4254 by June 5th, and I will call in the group reservation.**



COMMUNITY EVENTS

May 8-12 - National Dance Company Performance

8:00pm nightly, Matinee 1:00pm Friday, May 11

The National Dance Company of The Bahamas celebrates 15 years in concert at The National Centre for the Performing Arts with artistic director, Mr. Robert Bain. 8:00 pm nightly. Special matinee on Friday May 11 at 1:00 pm. Adm: \$25, matinee \$10. Box Office: Dance Bahamas School, #7 Base Rd Business Ctr, Nassau St. and The National Center For The Performing Arts. T: 328-7588.



May 12 - Open House at Cosmos Observatory

6:30pm - 8:30pm

See the facility and sign up for the Summer Camp.

Summer Camp for Astronomy by Astro Club: June 19 - August 24

The Astro Club is designed to explore the wonders of the Cosmos with students through the use of their eyes, binoculars and telescopes. We believe that science can be fun. This summer camp will introduce them to an adventure with the stars. The camp will appeal to students 7 years and older. Once weekly for 10 wks.: Mon.,Wed., or Fri. Fee: \$9.90 per visit (\$99.00 paid in advance) 10% off for siblings. Fees include membership fee for the whole year. (\$10.00 value) Pick up /drop off service on request. Cosmos Observatory at the Medical Arts Building, Dean's Lane, Fort Charlotte. For inquiries, contact Dr. David Sands at sands.dc@gmail.com or 323-8879/427-1420.



May 12 - Film Tribute to Viveca Watkins

7:30pm

The Bahamas International Film Festival honours Actress Viveca Watkins with a special showing of "Eye of the Dolphin" starring Viveca Watkins, Carly Schroeder, Rudy Levarity, Adrian Dunbar, George Harris and Chris Herrod and directed by Michael D. Sellers. This film was shot in Freeport. Free of charge in Rawson Sq, downtown at 7:30 pm. Children are welcome. www.bintlilmfest.com



May 15-19 - Bahamas on Stage Youthatre: Beauty & The Beast

The National Centre for The Performing Arts

Live Broadway performance. Showtimes: May 15-10:30am; May 16-10:00am & 12:20pm; May 17-9:30am, 11:30am, 1:30pm; May 18-10:30am. 1:00pm, 7:30pm; May 19-2:00pm, 8:00pm. Daytime shows: Kids under 14 \$10, Adults \$15; Evening shows: Kids under 14 \$12, Adults \$17. T: 323-5589



May 16-25 - Professional Pastry Workshop Series

Presented by COB's Culinary & Hospitality Management Institute. Series offers rare development opportunities in pastry making. Open to professionals, students, entrepreneurs and pastry enthusiasts. Features Certified Master Pastry Chef Bo Friberg of California with over 40 years of professional experience. T: Monique Butler 323-5804 or 6804.



May 19-20 - Marlin Marine Fishing Tournament

Marlin Marine's 13th Annual Fishing Tournament invites Bahamian boats and fishing fans to compete and enjoy this famous tournament and festivities. All proceeds go to BASRA. Prize money values exceed \$30,000. The top prize is a 2007 Sea Doo Personal Watercraft with trailer worth \$12,000+. On Sat, or better on Sun, see the boats come in with their catches at 4 pm at the Royal Nassau Sailing Club. On Thursday, May 24, the public is invited to the awards dinner & presentation at the Nassau Yacht Club with \$20 tickets in support of BASRA. Entries and rules are available at Marlin Marine or BASRA, East Bay St. Call Loran Pyfrom: 393-7873, Chris Lloyd T: 322-3877 or Sue Pyfrom 424-4379.



PHOTO GALLERY



Fish caught by Ashley and Ryan.
Good Job!



Send in your photos to be featured in the Photo Gallery!

Advertisements



Announcements

It's A Boy!

Congratulations to Staff Sargent and Maha Taylor on the arrival of their baby boy, Adam! He was born on Saturday and weighed in at a very hearty 9lbs. 12oz. Mother and baby are doing well.

▶ Housekeeper

Housekeeper looking for work. Hard working and has work papers. Recommended by an Embassy employee spouse. If you are in need of someone, please call Jeta at 393-3630.

▶ Housekeeper/Nanny

Housekeeper/Nanny looking for work. Will require a Bahamian visa and work papers. If interested, please contact Vilma at the Foran's 327-1439 or by cell 426-9608.

Check this out...

Dicky Mo's Seafood Restaurant

An outdoor bar and restaurant with a fabulous "Jimmy Buffet" type atmosphere, located on Cable Beach. Open Monday through Saturday from 5:00pm-12:00am. Closed on Sundays. Special requests taken to close off areas for birthday party or a private meeting. Call 327-1300 for Manager-Jeff Hall.

Mission Family Book Group



The group will be meeting Wednesday, June 6th, at 6:30p.m., to discuss the book "Angels and Demons" by Dan Brown.

Our host for this discussion will be Linda Nigro. Anyone interested in joining the group for this discussion or for directions, please contact Linda Nigro at 327-1335 or Pat Wielkie at rpkailani@coralwave.com or 394-4575.

Coming up for June, "American Taboo (A Murder in the Peace Corps)". Look for more information in the next Junkanoo issue.

Happy Reading!




Hunter Xcite For Sale

New! Never been in the water - still plastic wrapped. 10' daysailer. Perfect training sailboat. Unsinkable. Get ready for the summer.... Asking \$3800.

Call Claire at 362-6027 or 427-1667 or email citrus@coralwave.com

Check out this link for specs: <http://www.whitebearboatworks.com/HunterXcite.html>



Westside Baseball Association (WBA)

Baseball Clinic
Saturday, May 19
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
St. Paul's Sports Field

All player levels welcome, beginner to advanced.
Boys and Girls ages 5 - 12 (5 by February 1, 2008)

Sign up by May 15

Send child's name, date of birth, parent's name(s) and phone number to westsidebaseball@gmail.com

BASEBALL

The clinic is FREE to attend and will be the beginning of a league for 2008.