

BIRMA Bulletin

October 2014

Published Bi-Monthly for Members of the Big Island Retired Military Association

Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard

OCTOBER MEETING



Aloha BIRMA members, the year is fast coming to an end – are you ready for it? Now that I've made it through my first Newsletter, I've figured out it isn't as hard as I thought it was. Our meeting for August was Hilo side at the home of Harry & Marie Correa and was a total success. The food was great, the location was outstanding, one that I had never been to before, interesting and educational.

You may notice that once more I use an American symbol of our freedom as an 'opening statement' on my newsletter. I feel strongly about the rights of Americans and what our flag stands for. I firmly believe that we, as Americans, need to exercise our right to vote and do our part in securing the best government we can via that right.

I firmly believe that we will fail as a free country if we aren't able to convince our young voters that they NEED to stand up and be counted. Their VOTE will be what keeps us strong. I tell every young person I meet that it is THEIR DUTY to make educated decisions when it comes to who they honor with their vote.

**Our next meeting will be October 18th on Kona Side at the home of
Al & Jackie**

**The Board will meet at 10:30. The general meeting will be about noon and will
open with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

Presidents Corner



President's Corner

Our next meeting will be held October 18, 2014 at the home of Al and Jackie Lamke. The address is 73-1137 Ahikawa St., Kailua Kona 96740. Directions will be posted.

Our last meeting was held at the home of Harry & Marie Correa in Mt. View. What a lovely spot and the warm feeling from our hosts. All who came also met their son who was visiting from the mainland.

I conducted my first meeting with the help of members who attended. The meeting was a little longer than usual; plan to make the next one shorter. Since the last meeting the flags collected were cremated. We will discuss the ceremony plans at the next meeting.

We had a nice discussion on our newly established website. The site currently is public with plans to privatize portions of it. The Board members were given the name of the site in hopes to come to the next meeting with their impressions and suggestions. For the general membership, please check what has been published. The website is www.BIRetiredMilitary.org. Feel free to comment (Member Log In page).

We had a very informative discussion with the manager, Juan Anguira, of the PX in Hilo. He has brought in many more items. More can be ordered by individuals such as washers/dryers/automobile tires. This was followed by many questions and answers. Another invited guest was Ron Baptista from Post 3 of the American Legion, Hilo. He was basically there to see how our club differs from what happens at the National Organizations such as the American Legion. Ron was very pleased with what he observed.



Big Island Retired Military Association
Correa's Home- Mountain View
August 23, 2014

Board of Directors Meeting - Meeting was called to order at 1040.

Board attendees: Skip Hickey, Neal Herbert, Al Lamke, Jim Traxler, Harriet Owens, Joe Meszaros, Harry Correa, Wymond Wilds, Bill and Kathy Tilton.

A motion to accept the minutes dated 6/21/2014 as published in the June 2014 Bulletin was approved.

The Board reviewed and approved the Treasurer's Report summarized as follows:

Checking Balance	08/23/2014	\$4,162.15
------------------	------------	------------

Neal will pay the \$2.50 business license fee that is due.

Committee Reports

*Scholarship- There was an agreement that money will be available to support a \$2,000 Scholarship next year (\$1,000 will come from the Traxler's and \$1,000 from BIRMA). Harriet will insure that we advertise the scholarship through the Vet groups as well as the schools.

*Welfare- No report. Kathy Tilton agreed to be the Welfare Chairman. Neal pointed out that the responsibilities are outlined in the SOP he has put together.

*Membership- Kathy reported we have 110 members (No new members). There are still several members who have not paid their dues and members will be reminded when they pay for the luncheon.

*Faded Glory- There was discussion about a future flag retirement ceremony without any final decision. A possible approach is to follow the formal ceremony by disposing of a representative flag in a military steel pot and having a crematorium retire the remaining flags.

*Legislative-No report from Dave Bateman. There was some discussion about some recent meetings reference the \$300k for site selection/design of the West Hawaii Vet Center.

*Publicity-There was a discussion about establishing a BIRMA website. More information will be coming on this idea.

*Programs- Harry Correa discussed some details of the upcoming Christmas Party. There will be more information in the next Bulletin. There was agreement that a "Habitat for Humanity" presentation would be a good choice for the next meeting.

A motion was also approved to allocate \$200.00 for the Christmas Party. The upcoming programs are as follows:

October 18- Al and Jackie Lamke's home, Kailua-Kona

December 13- Christmas Party, Hilo, Nani Mau Gardens and Restaurant (Details TBA).

Other Items:

*There was open discussion about several items to include the excellent work Neal did on the BIRMA SOP. These items will be addressed in the next bulletin if deemed appropriate by the President.

The meeting was adjourned by Joe Meszaros at 1155 hours.

BIRMA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA
October 18, 2014

Call meeting to order –10:30 A.M.

Secretary –Read and discuss meetings of August 2014 meeting.

Treasurer—Treasurer’s report

Committees:

- Welfare -
- Scholarship
 - Report
 - Ask for further discussion as to advertising/brochure placement
 - Get information for contacting Military families
 - Approval of the \$2,000.00 amount from general membership
- Membership
 - Report and discussion
- Faded Glory
 - Discussion on Ceremony plans and report of burning gathered flags
- Legislative – Dave Bateman Reports if present
- Publicity
 - Getting the word out
- Programs
 - Hosts for remainder of 2014/Look into new year 2015
 - Habitat for Humanity speaker
 - Christmas Party for December 2014

Other items from the floor

Further discussion on Web Site

New business

Adjourn

Lunch: With Al & Jackie @ 73-1137 Ahikawa St – Kona – see map on last page.

LUNCHEON MENU

Home Made Chili w/fixings
Hot Dogs
Rice
Assorted Homemade Breads and Rolls
Chips
Salad
Pie
Assorted Beverages

Cost = \$10.00



Hawaiian Dance 10th of September With Jacki Lamke



Below is basic information about upcoming "Christmas Party" ! Hopefully, the info will give everyone a "heads up" to think about the party and participate in a gift exchange. Cost is \$20 per person

We hope we can get a tentative head count at Al and Jackie's luncheon in October.

In terms of RSVP for Christmas - members can email Harry at menehune.kahuna@gmail.com or call at 968-0995.

Deadline is December 2.

Christmas Gathering

Here is the menu for \$20 per person:

**PLUMERIA
Island Buffet Menu**

Rock Salt Crusted Roast Pork
pan style gravy

Grilled Mahi Mahi
caper lemon butter

Hibachi Boneless Chicken
pineapple relish

Steamed Rice & Vegetables

Garlic Mash Potatoes

Garden Salads

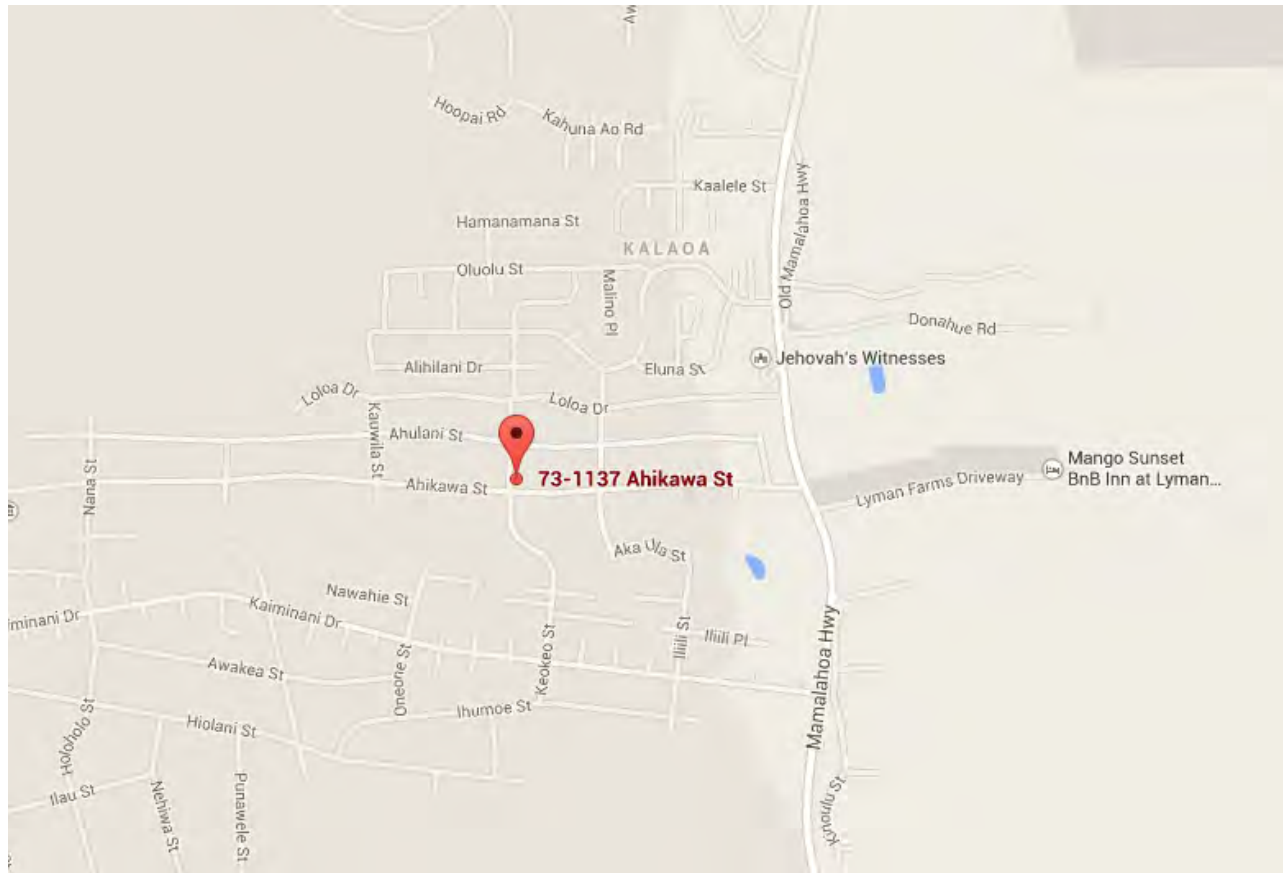
Beverage Service
coffee, ice tea, soft drinks

Note: Alcohol beverages available - members and guests are to purchase on their own.

Info from Harry regarding the entertainment at our Christmas meeting:

"Friends of ours, Dennis and Christy Soares are two local entertainers who are winners of the 2010 Hawaii Music Awards and 5 time winners of the Big Island Music Awards performing a blend of pop, slack key, and original material.

Besides the free entertainment, we would like to have members and guests to "Bring a gift and get a gift" (\$10 value) to the Christmas Party if they wish to participate. There will be little elf gifts under the tree and gift certificates to give away.



PLEASE – RSVP to me via email – franksnmail@aol.com
or
Phone – 327-9638 (leave msg)