



BIRMA Bulletin June 2018

Published Bi-Monthly for Members of the Big Island Retired Military Association
Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard

JUNE 23 LUNCH MEETING



MARCAR SOUZA

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday, June 23** at the Kenishi restaurant in Hilo. Guests are welcome. Board meeting starts at 1030; lunch at 1200. We will have a nice, tasty buffet:

**Korean BBQ Beef -Baked Salmon -Tossed Salad-Steamed Vegetables-Brown Rice
Dessert-Beer, Wine-Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks**

Cost is \$20 each, which includes service charge and tax. Please park in the County parking lot across from the restaurant, not next to Kenishi's located at 684 Kilauea Ave (next to Ace Hardware).

We will hold elections at this meeting and will have an update on veterans programs and benefits by **Maricar Souza**, Hilo Vet Center Outreach Specialist. This is something members at the last meeting and in the survey requested. She will also explain current ID card renewal policies for retirees and spouses and where to go for new cards.

Please contact call **Neal Herbert** at nfherbert@twc.com or 935-1946 if you will be attending...no later than June 15, please.

2018 BIRMA-MARK ALLEN TRAXLER SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Mingxia Hawkins was voted by the Board to be this year's \$2,000 scholarship awardee. She graduated from Kealekehe High with a 4.0+ GPA and an outstanding record of scholastic, leadership and community achievement. Mingxia will attend UHH this fall. She and her family will join us at our August meeting in Kona.

MEMBER SURVEY

Responses to the recent member were mixed, offer some good insight and suggestions. Regrettably, **only 15%** of our membership responded. While we did get some volunteers to help with a few assignments (see **Al's** comments below), no one as yet has yet volunteered to be an officer! BIRMA can survive only with better member involvement...spouses are also qualified and permitted to serve.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Wow, where has time gone! Here it is half way thru 2018. **Jackie and I** had a great time having all of the members who attended last meeting at our house. We hope everyone had a nice time and got plenty to eat. Last meeting the group discussed how BIRMA can improve, several items were discussed and some have some real merit. Several members volunteered to help with the scholarship program. Thank you all for the support and we will soon be in touch for your assistance. We still need members to step up and help with the bulletin as well as several other items that need to get done every year. Special thanks to **Bob Wilson** for volunteering to assist in the Memorial Day service at the vet's cemetery Kona side. This is the type of help we need to help show people what BIRMA does. If you can do only one thing a year, we can use your support! Hope to see a large turnout at the next meeting in HILO. **AI**

MEET THE MCCARROLLS



Kevin and Lorraine have lived in Hilo for the past six years. They moved here from New York where they met when both were living and working there.

Kevin was born and raised in New York City. He is always ready for a chat about all things New York – a great place to grow up and escape from! A US Army retiree who started the journey as an enlisted man and finished up as a LTC in Civil Affairs. Only in America! Lorraine grew up in Australia and has had an interesting career in education.

Together they love to travel, especially to favorite destinations in Asia. Exploring other parts of USA are also high on their travel agenda. When in Hilo, Kevin enjoys gardening and Lorraine loves planning their next trip!

Looking forward to making new friends through BIRMA and beyond.

NEW BROCHURE HOLDER



Bob Wilson made us some neat wood holders for our new BIRMA brochures. These and others have been placed at various locations and organizations to better publicize membership opportunities. **Mahalo, Bob!**

Contact Neal if you need some additional brochures or if you have a suggestion where these brochure/holders could be situated to attract new members.

APRIL 2018 LUNCH MEETING AT THE LAMKE RESIDENCE



Host Jackie, Sophie, Heide, Marilyn



Neal, Teresa, Host Al



New member John Hammerstrom



Jim T., Jim H., Bob, Martha

BIRMA MEMBER NORM STAHL STILL ACTIVE IN FALLBROOK, CA



BILL TILTON PRESENTING BIRMA BOUQUET AT VETS # 2, HILO



Veteran

2018 Events: Help Us Honor All Who Serve

29 Mar	Vietnam War Veterans Day (National/Local Events)	
26 May	Puna Interfaith Memorial Day Service(Kea'au)	10am
28 May	Memorial Day (Hilo Veterans Cemetery #1)	10am
25 June	67th Anniversary Korean War (Hilo Cem. #1)	10am
4 July	5K Salute to Veterans (Liliuokalani Gardens)	7am
4 Nov	23rd Veteran Appreciation Svc(HiloBetsuin.org)	9am
10 Nov	Hawaii Island Veterans Day Parade(Hilo)	start 10am
11 Nov	End World War I Centennial Celebration(Nat'l/Local)	
11 Nov	Veterans Day Ceremony (Hilo Cemetery #1)	11am
11 Nov	Veterans Day Service (W. HI Cemetery)	11am
11 Nov	Veterans Day Program and dinner (KMC)	3pm

Honor All Veterans

Celebrate Service

Inspire Us With Many Ways To Serve



Save the Date



Hawaii Island Veterans Day Parade

When: Saturday, 10 am Nov 10th 2018

Where: Downtown Hilo, Wailoa Park

Love to make a difference?... Volunteer, Join Our Parade, Give Generously - Time and Treasure. All donations welcome! Official sponsors: Platinum:\$500; Gold:\$250; Silver:\$100. Tax-Deductible when checks made payable to 'BIRCD' - note in memo line "HI Veterans Day Parade"

Email: support@HiVetParade.org Website: www.hivetparade.org
FB/[hawaiiislandveteransdayparade/](https://www.facebook.com/hawaiiislandveteransdayparade/)

BIRMA MINUTES
Al and Jackie Lamke Home
Kona, HI
April 28, 2018

The Board of Directors (BOD) meeting was called to order by President, Al Lamke at 10:45 AM.

Board attendees: Al Lamke, Neal Herbert, Dave Bateman, and Jim Traxler.

The Treasurer's report was approved with a bank balance of \$2,768.97 as of 04/28/2018. A check for \$1,000.00 from the Traxlers was received for the 2018 Scholarship.

Welfare: Nothing reported.

Scholarship: The scholarship submissions were discussed by the BOD and Mingxia Hawkins from Kealakehe High School was selected. There was a total of 18 applicants that met the criteria. The Scholarship will tentatively be awarded at the June BIRMA meeting.

Membership: There was a lengthy discussion about expanding membership and, more importantly, increasing active involvement in the BIRMA programs and activities. Presently we are seeking nominations for officers and Directors

Publicity: There was discussion about getting the trifold flyer to additional locations.

Legislative: No report

Faded Glory: No report

Programs: The June BIRMA meeting and luncheon will be held on the East side with location TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40.

General Membership Meeting/Luncheon

Al opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 1200. Lunch was provided by Al and Jackie.

After lunch, Al outlined the results of a recent survey with input from Members concerning the types of activities and things that might be done to increase membership and participation. He encouraged members to step up and be an officer, board member or take a role in activities such as the 4th of July Parade, the Mauna Lani Christmas Tree fundraiser, the annual Scholarship, etc. Election of Officers and Board Members will be on the June agenda. The Scholarship recipient was announced. Jim Traxler won the 50/50 and donated it to the BIRMA Scholarship. The total collected was \$52.00.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 PM.