



BIRMA Bulletin October 2018

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

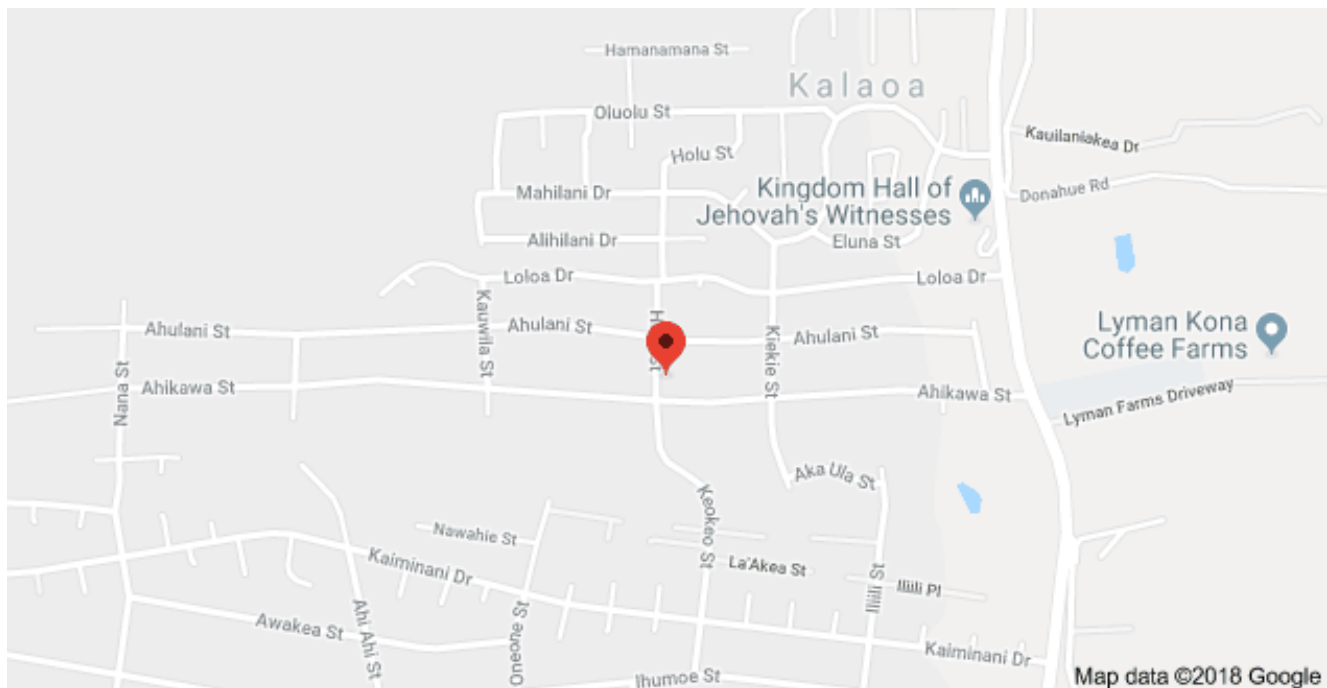


OCTOBER 27 LUNCH MEETING

Our next gathering will be on **Saturday, October 27** at the home of **Al and Jackie Lamke** in Kona. Board meeting starts at 1030; lunch at 1200. Lunch, provided by Big Island Grill, will include katsu chicken, hamburger steaks, rice, salad, pie, ice tea, soft drinks, beer. Cost is \$15...guests are welcome. Please contact Al and Jackie at jackieinparadise@aol.com or call 326-9286 no later than Oct. 22, please.

We will have an informative presentation on home electrical safety and **Mingxia Hawkins**, our 2018 BIRMA Mark Allen Traxler Scholarship winner, and family will be attending.

MAP TO LAMKE RESIDENCE 73-1137 Ahikawa St.



Hwy 190-Mamalahoa Hwy

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



AL LAMKE

Alohaaa Fall has officially started! This is not the weather I consider Autumn! It's supposed to be getting cooler, with a hint of snow! The humidity lately is almost unbearable! Hopefully it will cool down a little in the coming weeks. I trust all is ok with everyone, Jackie and I are doing fine. The project we have started in the back yard is taking longer than we thought especially with all the rain, might not be finished by the 27th. I guess it might go faster if we spent more than 3 hours a day, but with the humidity that is all the work we can take in a day. School is in full swing and the kids are waiting for the buses in the morning and leaving buses in the afternoon. Drive with extreme care and watch for the kids who aren't watching for themselves. Hope to see a large turnout for the meeting. We will be handing out the scholarship award this month as the recipient couldn't make it to our last meeting. See you all at the meeting! Al

NOTE FROM DAVID LEHMAN TO JIM TRAXLER

Thank you and **Antonio (Gaspar)** so much for attending my Mom's (**Margie**) celebration of life on Aug. 29 at the West Hawaii Veterans Cemetery, and your expressions of kind sympathy on the passing of my Mom. My family also enjoyed the wreath provided by BIRMA. Your actions made me very proud of the BIRMA organizations and I am happy to be counted as a member of this excellent organization.

DUES

It's time again to pay dues for the 2018-19 fiscal year. Currently, members under 71 owe \$20; those 71 or older pay \$12. You can mail checks payable to BIRMA to 224 Paukaa Dr, Hilo HI 96720, online at our web site (Donations) or at the next meeting.

MEMBER STORIES

When available, we like to publish a photo and short bio of our members and spouses, especially our newer ones. This helps us all get to know you a little better. So, don't be shy...email your story and picture to nfherbert@twc.com, or by regular mail to the above address...mahalo

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Our Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 8 on the east side...details will be in the next bulletin.

MEDICARE ADVANTAGE AND OPEN ENROLLMENT

Information has been coming out about Medicare open enrollment and transition to the new Medicare Advantage programs involving HMO and similar options. It's my understanding that if you currently have Medicare/Tricare, nothing will change with your coverage. But you may want to review all options.

TRICARE RETIREE DENTAL PROGRAM (TRDP)

TRDP is ending in 2018 and being replaced by the [Office of Personnel Management's Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program \(FEDVIP\)](#). You must enroll in FEDVIP dental during the 2018 Open Season, November 12 to December 10, 2018, to keep coverage that starts January 1, 2019. For more information, visit: <https://tricare.benefeds.com/>. Check also with USAA for their dental plans.

The last day to enroll in TRDP has been extended. You may enroll in TRDP until November 30, 2018 with coverage scheduled to end on December 31, 2018. If you enroll between November 1 and November 30, your coverage will begin December 1, 2018.