



MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

August 6, 2015

FROM: Misawa Military Retirees Association

SUBJECT: Minutes MMRA

1. The bi-monthly meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees Association (MMRA) was held on 4 August 2015 at 1700 hours in the Club Tohoku.

2. Paul Sayles introduced and welcomed two new members, Chris Swanson and Mike Poole.

3. Paul Sayles read the minutes of the 2 June 2015 meeting which were accepted and approved by the attending members.

4. OLD BUSINESS

a. Dave Barton said that The Exchange still does not have any information on whether or not they will have a "Still Serving" celebration this year, and said the Misawa manager will support the appreciation day, regardless of AAFES' "Still Serving" plans or lack thereof. Dave reported on the status of the impending event saying the date had been set at Saturday, 3 October with the same format as past celebrations. The Force Support Squadron will sponsor the breakfast which will be held at 0800 in the Enlisted Club ballroom. The festivities at the Exchange foyer begin at 1000 with the cake cutting and drawings for prizes until 1200 noon. The medical group will participate as in past years. Vendors such as AAFES 'Car Guys', NFCU are already committed, Commissary vendors are still pending. Col Rex, 35FW/CV, is slated to be the guest speaker but may be away on temporary duty in which case the base commander or the commander of the Support Group will be tapped. Invitations will be going out soon. (OPEN)

b. The inquiry as to why there was no official commemoration for Veteran's Day is still open as the leadership involved in these events is away on temporary duty. Dave Barton will follow up. (OPEN)

c. The inquiry on why the flag was not flown on some days is still being investigated. Public Affairs said that the All-Weather Flag was not flown on some of the days mentioned was because of maintenance on the flag poles. Cecil Hahn responded that there was a period of 10 days during the 4th of July holiday. Dave Barton will follow up on this as well. (OPEN)

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Misawa AB Air Show will be held on September 13th, and this year the MMRA will participate with a fund-raising flea market. Joe Roginski requested volunteers to work the booth and solicited donations which can be brought to the RAO office. Pick-ups can also be coordinated. Dave Barton suggest that we set up a list of volunteers and solicit by e-mail as well. Joe Roginski said flea market booths have always done well and we should clear at least a thousand dollars. Joe also request that donations of clothing be clean and wearable, not stained or torn. Military clothing and items are very welcome. (OPEN)

- b. Joe Roginski announced that Everett “Tony” Watkins was hospitalized again at the Red Cross Hospital in Hachinohe. He said that Tony was intending to travel to New Orleans to see his family on 1 July when he collapsed a few days before the trip and was taken to the hospital in critical condition. Tony really wanted to see his sister and asked for help to get her here. His sister is 78 and uses a walker but Joe and Dave arranged her transportation and lodging and she is here now on base until the 13th when she returns home. Joe asked for help with volunteers to take her to the hospital or get her around base. If you are free even an afternoon and can spare some hours to take her to and from the hospital and also visit Tony, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. If you can get some time to visit Tony as well, that would be very appreciated by Tony and his family. Tony’s wife is also quite ill and is unable to visit him at the hospital. (OPEN)
- c. Tobias “Toby” Fanelli’s wife Fumiko passed away on July 25th. Toby thanked those who were able to make it to the funeral and/or donated “Okoden” offerings for the deceased. (CLOSED)

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dave Barton read the financial report which was accepted and approved by the membership present.

- 7. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1745. The president announced that the next meeting will be on 6 October 2015 at 1700 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

///Signed///

Joseph Roginski, MSgt (Ret), USAF
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