



June 13, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR RETIREES

FROM: Misawa Military Retirees Association

SUBJECT: MMRA Meeting Minutes

1. The bi-monthly meeting of the Misawa Military Retirees Association (MMRA) was held on 7 June 2016 at 1700 hours in the Club Tohoku.
2. Dave Barton made a special presentation to veterans who served in-country in the Viet Nam War. The certificates were presented by the VFW Post 1054 Yokosuka, Japan. Bobby Battle, Richard Masoner, Fred Schuster and 'T' Tinnirella were honored for their service.
3. Dave Barton introduced the new VA Representative for Japan, Ms. Kathy Cabusao, who is also from the AFRC at Iwakuni, and reachable by the same contact procedures as the previous VA Rep. Ms. Cabusao introduce herself and gave a brief on VA activity and emphasized the new "E-Benefits" on-line access for filing and tracking applications, and making appointments.
4. Members discussed the three deaths of retirees in the past two months, Eric Redeemar, Jack Harlan and Edward Pearson. Joe Roginski asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of these three members and to honor their service to our country and the attendees held a moment of silence.
5. Paul Sayles read the minutes of the 8 April 2016 meeting which were accepted and approved by the attending members.
6. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Base Decals – Dave Barton advised the members that the base decal issue is still open. Dave said USFJ is still considering the issue as it applies to all Japan, and that the AFI applies it only to active duty and DoD civilians. Dave will advise as information comes available. There no change on this issue since the last meeting, but Dave also said that retirees could go to Pass and ID and get a regular vehicle pass if they wanted. (OPEN)
4. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. A member reported that now has a 72-hour requirement to respond to patient requests but that the Misawa MTF has a local requirement of responding within 24-hours. Users were advised to report any problems with MiCare to the Patient Advocacy officer who is Kevin Bosket at 226-6490. (CLOSED)
 - b. Joe Roginski noted that the annual MAB Air show is on September 11th this year. At the last meeting it was decided that we would again do the flea market and the MMRA leadership would apply for a stall independent of the meeting schedule because of time limitations. Joe Roginski stated that now knowing the date of the event, he, himself, would not be able to participate because of prior commitments and that if the organization wants to go ahead with this fundraiser, members would have to make a solid commitment. Dave Barton said that he would put out an e-mail when registration for the event opens and that if there were less than 10 solid commitments, he would not proceed. Chief Tinnirella re-emphasized the need for solid and dependable volunteer participation for the fund-raiser. (OPEN)

c. Paul Sayles announced that the MMRA received a request for a donation to support the upcoming Air Force Ball. It was noted that our constitution limits us to supporting retirees and their families. Paul said that the best way we could meet this request was to “pass the hat” which seems to be a very successful process which allows anyone to donate if he or she wants to without going against our constitution. The ‘hat was passed’ and Paul collected \$41 and 1000 yen (about \$52 total) for the Air Force Ball from members of the MMRA; not bad. (CLOSED)

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

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

6. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1745. The treasurer announced that the next meeting will be on 2 August 2016 at 1700 in the Club Tohoku Gray Room.

///Signed///

Joseph Roginski, MSgt (Ret), USAF
Secretary, Misawa Military Retirees' Association
Director, Retiree Activities Office
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