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www.ysmenusa.com
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Y's Words

Newsletter of the West Oahu Y's Men's Club

MAY 2008



Chartered: January 14, 1984

Membership

April 1, 2008 8
Increase 2
Current Roster 10

Newsletter of the
West Oahu Y's Men's Club
of the Mililani YMCA,
Oahu, Hawaii

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Secretary Linda Chung
Treasurer Kathy Ishimoto

Bulletin Editor ... Bob Kuwahara

Members
Duke Chung, Jr.
Dennis Kuwabara
Jean Matsuda

Brother Club Affiliation with
HIROSHIMA Y'S MEN'S CLUB

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Walter Osakoda

Thank you to everyone for all of your support and hard work during 2007-08. As we start our new year of Service to the Mililani YMCA, the community and Y's Men, I am again asking new and former members for your support to make this new term bigger and better than the last.

We are starting this new term with two new names on our roster. Actually one totally new member, JEN TOWNSEND, our new Mililani YMCA Branch Executive, and one returning Charter Member, MAILE KANEMARU, who is responsible for the creation of the West Oahu Y's Men Club. I have invited both to our dinner meeting at Duke and Linda's home on June 9 at 6:30 pm. This will be a potluck so please call Linda at 421-1094 to let her know you are coming and what you will contribute to the pot luck.

We will be planning our annual Mililani YMCA Family Fair food booth activity at this meeting. The Family is scheduled for July 18, 2008 at the Mililani YMCA. For the first time we will use this event as a fund raiser for our club. We will need everyone and their family and friends to help us with this project.

AWARDS

OUR HERO ... DENNIS KUWABARA

Congratulations to DENNIS "DOC" KUWABARA for receiving the YMCA of Honolulu's Hero Award at the Key Leaders Conference. DOC has served on the Metro Corporate Board and Mililani YMCA's Board of Managers for many years.

ORDER OF THE RED TRIANGLE

Congratulations to WALTER OSAKODA for receiving the "Order of the Red Triangle" award at the Hawaii Region Convention. The award is presented to individuals who have shown outstanding service to the Y's Men over a long-long-long time.

HAWAII REGION CONVENTION

The just concluded 72nd Hawaii Region Convention was held at the Royal Lahaina Resort in Kaanapali, Maui. Representing our club were president WALTER OSAKODA and BOB KUWAHARA.



There was little business of the region. Some thoughts and observations:

- ☺ RICK LAU, of the Central Club, was installed as RD
- ☺ Had an eventful flyover, with the cancellation and delays of several Hawaiian Airlines flights on Friday. We eventually made it on a Boeing 767 about an hour late!

CALENDAR

June 9th (Monday) BUSINESS MEETING

At the Chungs
6:30 pm
Potluck

July 14th (Monday) BUSINESS MEETING

July 18th (Friday) YMCA Summer Fun Fair

At Mililani YMCA
Setup 12 noon
Program 2 pm—7 pm

- ☺ The Convention Golf Tournament was ... interesting ... with two participants, and they coming in tied for first???
- ☺ DG RUSS LYNCH extended a bid for the next regional convention by the Metro District.
- ☺ Friday's dinner was held on the lawn, under the stars. The major discussion during the meal was ... what are we eating? (It was a mixed vegetable salad and grilled salmon)
- ☺ There were approximately 20 Y's Men and family from Japan in attendance.

AREA REPRESENTATIVE

The US Area representative to our convention was DEBBIE REDMOND, the Area Corporate Secretary and her husband, CHARLEY. They come from the Carondelet Y's Men's Club in St Louis, MO. Their club fundraiser is a book sale that generates over \$100,000 in sales, and is held over a five day period on the the YMCA grounds. St. Louis will be site of the the upcoming Area Council Meeting to be held on July 9—11.

On the Area level, she reported that we currently have 125 clubs. Internationally, the organization continues to grow with the strength in growth coming from Europe, Asia and India. Our area leadership has attempted to seek support from the YMCA of the USA. However, YMCAs across the country are not interested in getting clubs. They find it too much work. They look for volunteers to work specific projects and activities. The Y's Men are also finding that there is a very small percentage that volunteer. Individuals have too much obligations and when they do volunteer it is to support a cause.



ENDOWMENT DINNER

The 13th Annual Endowment Dinner and New Member Induction was held at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii on Thursday, May 22nd.

There were approximately 60 in attendance to honor the eight (three tributes from the Orchid-Valley-Garden was read) endowment tribute honorees. Included was a tribute to MAILE KANEMARU by the Central Y's Men.

Then, EIGHT new members were inducted that night (Kaimuki, 5; Kalihi, 1; Central 1 1/2; Nuuanu, 1/2 ... One new member, TINA ALFRED joined the Central AND Nuuanu clubs.

CONGRATULATIONS ALL!!



UPPER ORGANIZATION EVENTS & NOTICES

NEXT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

Herning, Denmark
July 31 - August 3, 2008

Yokohama, Japan
2010

ALOHA, SHOJI FAMILY!!

The Shoji family, dad & mom, three daughters, one son-in-law, and three grandchildren, made a quick visit to Hawaii. They arrived on Saturday and took in the last half of our convention, and then a quick two day tour of Oahu before departing on Wednesday.

OSAMU was our guide in Osaka for the overnight before we departed Japan in October.

Knowing that he had a very tight schedule we discussed his schedule with SAM who directed us to his local tour guide (JIM KANEHIRA). JIM is kind of hard of hearing, so GLADYS was kind enough to intercede. Yup, his schedule was tight ... arriving late afternoon on Sunday, a tour of Hanauma Bay, Windward area on Monday; and Polynesian Cultural Center on Tuesday ... so we suggested a breakfast on Tuesday. And from there it kind of rolled ... and we ended up with 21 attending (JIM & GLADYS KANEHIRA, KAREL LING from Windward; LARRY & MAE HIRANAKA from Nuuanu; DUKE & LINDA CHUNG, WALTER OSAKODA; DAN & TRUDY

ZUKEMURA; BOB & JEANETTE KUWAHARA in addition to the Shoji group). Of course, there were some plus and minuses, with only the Pagoda offering a buffet breakfast on weekdays! But they had a senior citizen rate for most.

SAM will be returning with his grandson, to participate in the upcoming Honolulu Marathon ... so SEE YOU IN DECEMBER!