

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

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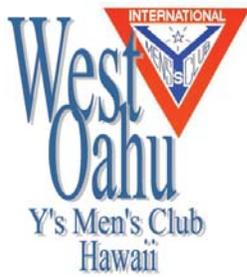
President Walter Osakoda
Vice President Jeanette
Nakano-Kuwahara
Secretary Linda Chung
Treasurer Kathy Ishimoto

Bulletin Editor Bob Kuwahara

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Duke Chung, Jr.
Maile Kanemaru
Dennis Kuwabara
Jean Matsuda
Alissa Taniguchi
Jennifer Townsend

Brother Club Affiliation
HIROSHIMA Y'S MEN CLUB



West Oahu Y's Men's

Y's WORDS

SEPTEMBER
2010

Other Website of Interest
www.ysmenusa.com
www.hawaiiysmen.org

Chartered
January 14, 1984



Walter Osakoda

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wasn't that a great "Japan Special # 3" edition of the Y's Word? We are truly fortunate to have Bob with his interest in photography and technology as a member of the West Oahu Y'sMen Club. I am looking forward to the final "Japan Special #4" on Nagoya.

Maile, Duke, Bob and I showed up at the Plantation Village bright and early to assist with the "Runners Refreshment" booth. We helped distribute water, bananas & cereal to runners at the end of the race. 450 people of all ages participated in the race. The race started at 7:30am and the first runners finished in about 15 minutes. Everyone runners and walkers were in by 8:00am.

The 75th Hawaii Region Convention Committee chaired by Duke Chung held it's 1st meeting on Aug. 21 at the Kalihi YMCA. Duke, Linda, Bob and I represented our club. All Metro District Clubs were represented and Lance Niimi of the host Hilo Y's Men joined the meeting via of speaker phone. The convention is scheduled for May 20-22, 2011 at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel. The Hilo Y'sMen sent information on activities (tours) and preliminary discussion they've had with the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel. Please mark your calendar because this will be a great convention.

CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETS

The next Hawaii Region Convention will be held in HILO! ... on May 20 - 22, 2011.

With great support and information from Bobby Stivers-Apiki and Lance Niimi, we have a great deal of information as the committee's first meeting. Information received are:

Convention Hotel: Hilo Hawaiian Hotel; rooms \$100 per night, \$119 per night for ocean view

Meal Package: being worked on ... preliminary estimated package of \$145 - \$150, unless you want ... then little more!

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

10 am

Golf
Tours
Volcano
Tsunami Museum
Imiloa Astronomy Center
World Botanical Gardens

5 pm Outgoing Cabinet Meeting
5:30 Awards Committee
6:30 Welcome Dinner @ Japanese Cultural Center

hospitality room in a suite - TBA

SATURDAY

Breakfast

9 am Business Session
12 nn Lunch
1:30 Quilt Making/Flute Making/
YMCA/UH Hilo Campus Master Plan
3:00 Downtown Hilo Tour/Open Market/
Big Island Candies
6:00 Dinner

SUNDAY

Breakfast??

8:30 Devotional
9:00 Incoming Cabinet Meeting/Training
11:00 Brunch



CALENDAR

September 13
(Monday)
BUSINESS MEETING

Mililani YMCA
7 pm

September 15
(Wednesday)
METRO DISTRICT MEETING

Kaimuki YMCA
6:30 pm

October 4
(Monday)
TIME OF FAST

Kuwahara's
6:30 pm

November 8th
(Monday)
BUSINESS MEETING

Mililani YMCA
7 pm

NAGOYA VISITED ... LAST STOP!

We arrived in Nagoya around 9:15 pm and were met at the train by our guide in Nagoya. She escorted us to our hotel ... on the other end of the terminal.

The next morning, with our guide directing us, we walked down to the local train platform and caught the train to Ise Peninsula. Our guide got the hotel staff to provide a wheel chair for Duke to the station turnstils. We walked down to the train level and caught the local going south. At a scheduled stop, we left our train, and were met by a taxi van, which would be our transportation for the tour.

Our first stop was the Ise shrine stop. Our guide said there is not specific shrine, but a series of shrines in the Ise area. Our taxi driver got a motorized wheelchair for Duke. The taxi driver directed the wheelchair (with Duke seated) and used a level for getting the chair to go! The bridges, torii, and temples are rebuilt every 20 years! The old bridges, torii and temples are dismantled and reassembled elsewhere. The wood for all these are NOT painted, but left natural.

Then we browsed through a little street of shops outside the shrine. (And a personal item ... I had to go for #2, and there was a public rest room outside the shrine. I checked the western accommodations, and noticed no paper. So I walked out and notice a dispenser. It sold little packets -- like tissue packets --- in the dispenser and sold for Y100! ... so its always nice to keep some change in your pocket!)

It was lunch on your own, and our guide showed us a cafeteria style. At the entrance, there was a dispenser. We selected the item we wanted, and put our money in the dispenser. We got a ticket. We then walked into the cafeteria and gave the ticket to a worker, who got your order.

The shops were interesting. They sold teas, little craft items and other food stuff.

Then we were taken to the Mikimoto Pearls Tour Factory. They were well organized, with a pearl exhibit with history, samples, and a large store for ... From a corner of the facility, a boat with women divers came around for a short exhibit of their diving skills. (I don't think they found any pearls, though.)

Later we visited the home of a diver. She and her friend were about 80 years old, and cooked a few shell foods for us.

The next day we had our first experience of a Japanese department store sale. In this case, they were selling handbags. One employee brought in a handful of bags to a large table. Another salesman stood next the table and shouted out like an auctioneer! ... we didn't know what he said. Women, five deep, surrounded the table and grabbed at the bags. Close by, there was a line of shoppers. They got a small shopping bag. The bag was used to stuff socks at a "must be" good price.

Our departure from Nagoya to the airport was interesting. The hotel staff was gracious and, using baggage carts, took our bags to the train platform to await our train. Now, imagine that the six of us had NINE large bags plus atleast one carryon per person. And the rule is ... the train is on schedule and will be at our station for only a few minutes.

When the train arrived, we hastily tossed the large bags in the car and only secured them in the baggage cage after the train started ... whew!

Our arrival at the airport went a little more smoothly, as we got the bags off the train onto the sidewalk, located the baggage carts and found our way into the ticket lobby.



TIME OF FAST GET TOGETHER

KUWAHARA's
2401 Aumakua St
Pacific Palisades

Monday, October 4th
6:30 pm

If we can convince the boss ... its Okonomiyaki (from Hiroshima Y's Men's recipe) plus stuff. (She needs to figure out the pans and how to flip it.) ... otherwise, hot dogs!!