

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

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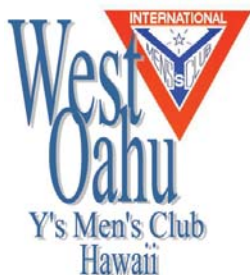
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Dennis Kuwabara
Jean Matsuda
Alissa Taniguchi
Jennifer Townsend

Brother Club Affiliation
HIROSHIMA Y'S MEN'S CLUB
KYOTO PRINCE Y'S MEN'S
CLUB



West Oahu Y's Men's

Y's WORDS

**JULY
2011**

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

Chartered
January 14, 1984



Walter Osakoda

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our new Y's Men year started off with a bang with WALTER and DOROTHY, JEANETTE, BOB, JERILYN (Jeanette's daughter), MEGAN and MIRANDA (Kuwahara's granddaughters) traveling to Japan for the Japan West Region Convention in Kyoto on June 11th -12th. The purpose of this trip was to sign the Brother Club documents with the Kyoto Prince Y's Men Club as part of the Convention activities. The Kyoto Y's Men

Club hosted our group during and after the Convention for fun and fellowship. Prior to the Convention we visited Fukuoka, Arita, Ureshima and Nagasaki. We had a great time!

We are now preparing to host our other Brother Club, the Hiroshima Y's Men Club. They are traveling to Hawaii for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the YMCA of Honolulu and the YMCA of Hiroshima Youth Exchange "Let's Get Together" Program. The Y's Men are also making a Brother Club visitation to be with the West Oahu Y's Men Club. The Hiroshima Y's Men will arrive in Honolulu on Thursday, July 28th, and depart on Monday, August 1st. The WO Y's Men will host the Hiroshima Y's Men with a dinner at the Prince Court Restaurant on July 29, Friday. We hope all of our members can attend this event. We could use some help in hosting them during that weekend.

In addition, on Friday, July 29th from 2-5 pm is the Mililani YMCA Family Fair. It was decided at the last meeting to provide home made snacks for sale. We are asking members to let Jeanette know if you can help make snacks and what kind of snack you can make.

We had 91 percent attendance (10 out of 11) and would like to see 100 percent at our July 14 club meeting at 7 pm at Mililani YMCA.

CALENDAR

**Our meetings are
held on the 2nd
Thursday of the
month**

**July 14th
(Thursday)
Business Meeting
7 pm
Mililani YMCA**

**July 28
(Thursday)
Hiroshima Group ar-
rives**

**July 29th
(Friday)
Family Fair
Mililani YMCA**

**Dinner
with Hiroshima Y's
Men
Prince Court
6:30 pm**

TENTATIVE ITINERARY

THU
10:00 Hiroshima grp take shuttle to hotel
___ Meet & Greet
___ Lunch
___ Picture taking
___ Mini Tour
___ Dinner on own

ERI
___ Pickup .. meet Mayor
___ Tours & Shopping In City
4:00 return to hotel
6:15 Pickup for Dinner
6:30 Prince Court Dinner

SAT
9:30 pickup
___ Tour of Central Oahu/North Shore
4:30 Luau - Lilehua High School

SUN
10:00 pickup
___ shopping - Waikole, Ala Moana
4:00 return to hotel
5:00 pickup
6:00 50th Anniversary Celebration - Nuuanu Y

HIROSHIMA Y's MEN are COMING!

As part of the 50th Anniversary of the YMCA of Honolulu Let's Get Together program, Mr. SHOJI KAMIKUBO, the General Secretary of the Hiroshima YMCA, and eight members and spouses will be coming for a short visit in late July.

They will arrive on Thursday, July 28th and will depart on Monday, August 1st.

During their stay, the West Oahu Y's Men will be primary hosts and I hope you will be available to help by being escorts on their daily excursions and attend the planned dinners.

Intertwined in their stay is a pending visit with the Mayor of Honolulu during Friday morning. We have a dinner planned with our club members on Friday, and Let's Get Together dinner function on Saturday (at Lilehua High School) and the 50th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday (at Nuuanu Y).

We wish to provide them with our AAA hospitality. So please plan to help.

WEST OAHU Y'S MEN SIGN IBC AGREEMENT



The West Oahu Y's Men's Club have a new International Brother Club affiliation. We are now brother clubs with the Kyoto Prince Y's Men's Club.

This is the culmination of some four years of discussion which actually began at our 2007 Hawaii Region Convention. At the convention were members of the Osaka Centennial Y's Men, the brother club to the Nuuanu Y's Men, including SAM FUJIWARA, and two members of the Kyoto Prince Y's Men, KOSEI WATANABE (also a member of the Nuuanu Y's Men) and SHINJIRO MORI and their wives. Members in our club had been planning on our Japan trip in June, and was talk-

ing to our tour coordinator, MAURICE SHIMONISHI, who approached SAM FUJIWARA for assistance in our stop in Kyoto. SAM got with KOSEI and SHINJIRO to arrange a tour by the three for a day in Kyoto. Then, we began e-mailing, and SHINJIRO asked us if we would like to join them for their tri-club meeting while we were there. We accepted to visit their tri-club meeting to get an idea of the strength of the Y's Men's movement.

So in June, we toured Tokyo, a stop in Hakone, and on to Kyoto for a three night stop before continuing on to Hiroshima to visit our brother club, the Hiroshima Y's Men. On the day we arrived, we joined in the tri-club dinner meeting. Lo and behold, they began with the signing of the Y's Men songs ... something that our region has not continued ... of course it was in Japanese. We met their members and spouses, as they escorted us to and from the dinner meeting. We got together for the tour ... Kyoto Tower, Kyodai Yuzen En and Kyoto Movie Studio. This was followed by a farewell dinner of many members in the Osaka and Kyoto area. During the dinner, the first comment of a IBC relationship was brought up, very informally.

From the Kyoto Prince members and spouses we met, we thought they would work well with us as many spoke and understood English (as we did not understand Japanese).

Since then, we welcomed HIROSHI and YOSHIKO NISHIMURA, KOSEI and JUNKO WATANABE, and SHINJIRO and SETSUKO MORI during several trips to Hawaii.

WALTER and DOROTHY OSAKODA, DUKE and LINDA CHUNG, and BOB and JEANETTE KUWAHARA visited Japan in 2010 after receiving an invitation from our IBC, the Hiroshima Y's Men's Club. On our way to Nagoya, we

stopped off in Kyoto to visit the Kyoto Prince Y's Men, where we had an enjoyable eight hour whirlwind visit.

In February 2011, HIROSHI and YOSHIKO NISHIMURA came to Hawaii for some golf and relaxation. We had a pot luck dinner. Hiroshi relayed a message from SHINJIRO MORI to come to the Japan West Region Convention to sign the IBC affiliation with the Kyoto Prince Y's Men.

And so, here we are ... the JAPAN WEST REGION CONVENTION. For many of you, you have not seen the magnitude of our organization. As Jerilyn commented ... "They HAVE Y's Men in Japan" with almost 1,000 in attendance at the convention dinner. It was an elaborate display of commitment to the Y's Men organization and the development of the fellowship among members and friends.

The convention opening ceremony lends one to see the formality of the organization. The region, districts and club banners are all paraded to show all present the pride in serving as leaders and members being a part of this organization.

The process for the recognition of the various awards is presented with pride, and received with humility. A great experience for Y's Men in a much smaller region.

Our thanks to the Kyoto Prince Y's Men for their great hospitality during our stay in Kyoto!

We did not make any goals as we planned for our IBC affiliation ... but let us plan to meet at least once a year! (So, its their turn to visit!)

15th JAPAN WEST REGION CONVENTION ... Nagahama City June 9-10, 2012

Nagahama City is just outside of Kyoto.

International Convention will be in STAVANGER NORWAY, August 2 to 5, 2012!



Below: Kyoto Prince and West Oahu Y's Men members pose with Kyoto's gift to West Oahu; presidents Shinjiro Mori of Kyoto Prince and Walter Osakoda of West Oahu after signing.

