



Windward Y'er

Bulletin of the Windward Y Service Club
Chartered April 5, 1980

Fishing for Fun in Community Service

By Russ Lynch

Six of us spent about five hours helping out — and having fun — at Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii's annual "Brunch with Santa" fund raising event on December 13th.

Russ Lynch, Karla Redding, Jim Kanehira, Joe-Ann McCarthy and Marion Liu, along with non-member **Tim Liu**, manned the "Go Fishing" booth, letting many dozens of kids "fish" for cookie bags.

This year the event was at the Dole Cannery and was spread throughout the Pomaikai Ballroom complex. That allowed games such as ours to continue nonstop for the whole time because they were in a separate room from the



Joe-Ann and Karla capture the Christmas spirit in their red outfits and Christmas hats at "Brunch with Santa."

dining/entertainment area. So we were busy pretty much the whole time. Russ took pictures for PCAH and they show how much of a good time everyone had.

This is always a nice event, one of our regulars. For us, it is simply another community service activity. For Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii it is the biggest fund raiser of the year and Executive Director **Aileen Deese** expressed her heartfelt thanks for our help.

Aileen is close to us as a member of the Board of Managers of Windward YMCA. Plus, she's Marion's niece.

This time, the 28th year the event has been held, about 450 people attended.

If you want to know more about this worthy organization and the good that it does check their website:

<http://www.preventchildabusehawaii.org>

President's Message from Russ Lynch

Half-Way There But More To Do

Well, here we are half way through the club year and we've achieved a lot. Our Zippy's tickets fund raiser was a 100 percent success and we've had a number of other successful activities that helped our YMCA and parts of our community.

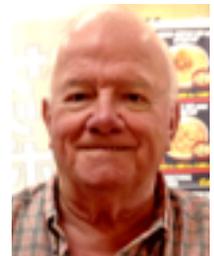
The problem is, these are our standard, year after year, activities and we're not bringing anything new to the process.

Plus, along the way we lost two members.

My goals when I started this year as president included adding new community activities and increasing membership by two. Membership has always been a problem I know that. It is very hard to get people interested in what we do.

But let's try and I am particularly interested in developing ways to reach the membership of our own YMCA. And please look around for new community activities in which we can become activities.

— Aloha, Russ



**Next Meeting:
Monday, January 5,
Windward YMCA**

Windward Y Service Club
2014/2015

Chartered April 5, 1980

President: Russ Lynch
Vice president: Karel A. Ling
Secretary: Joe-Ann McCarthy
Treasurer: Freda Nakamoto,

Members: Noa Hussey,
Kenneth Kadomoto, James
Kanehira, Makena Liu, Marion Liu,
Jack McCarthy, Karla Redding,
Donna Saito, Donald Scott,
Osamu Shoji, Bill Stone,
Wendy Tupper

Club Bulletin: Send items to

Editor Russ Lynch

russlynch@mac.com

Our club's web page has a new
address:

<http://www.ysmenwin.com>



Hawaii Convention

Arrangements are nearly complete for the 79th Hawaii Region Convention in Las Vegas in May.

Our club has been assigned responsibility for hospitality and mostly that means organizing a get-together with food and drinks on one night. Details will be discussed at our next club meeting,

As this issue went to press about a dozen members and spouses from our club had planned to go.

As of late December there were still air-room-meas; packages available from Vacations Hawaii. Hawaiian Airlines also had available seats and hotel packages for the time of the convention.

However, that may not last and if you haven't made your bookings now is the time to do so.

The convention is at the Main Street Station Hotel in Downtown Las Vegas on two days, Wednesday May 13 and Thursday May 14. There are Vacations Hawaii packages leaving Honolulu on the Tuesday and returning Friday.

Club Calendar

December Focus:

Christian Emphasis

Regional Service Director Joni Neel,
Hilo

January Emphasis:

YMCA Service

Regional Service Director Phil Sammer,
Central

December 1, Monday, 6 p.m.

Club monthly meeting
Windward YMCA

January 5, Monday, 6 p.m.

Club monthly meeting
Windward YMCA

January 19, Monday, 6:30 p.m.

Metro District Meeting
Kaimuki-Waiialae YMCA
(Includes dinner)

February 2, Monday, 6 p.m.

Club monthly meeting
Windward YMCA

May 13-14, Las Vegas

Hawaii Region Convention
Main Street Station Hotel

July 9-12, Grand Rapids, Mich.

U.S. Area Convention

International Visitors

President Russ had the pleasure of meeting visitors from one of our International Brother Clubs in a short but very pleasant chat on November 7.

Raul Rios, a past president of the Y Service Club Cochamba, in Bolivia, Central America, was in town on vacation with his wife **Charito**, as well as his daughter, son-in-law and a grandchild.

Russ met them at Kailua Beach while they were on their way to Lanikai.

The Cochabamba club as been our brother club for more than 20 years but we haven't had much contact until recently.

By the way, **Jose Kushner**, the Cochabamba president whose visit to Hawaii in 1991 led to our Brother Club relationship, is Latin America Area Service Director for Brother Clubs.

U.S. Area Convention

The U.S. Area of Y Service Clubs International will hold its next convention July 9-12 in the Hilton Grand Rapids Hotel, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Please think about going. These are valuable and informative events and you get to meet great people in Y'sdom.

Inspiration

— Psalm 27:14 (NIV)

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

It takes strength to wait for the LORD. We want answers now, but sometimes God is found in the delay. He uses waiting to form things in our soul that we won't get any other way. It is better to take heart and wait upon the LORD than to take things into our own hands.

by Dave Whitehead

From Joe-Ann McCarthy,
Club Service Director,
Christian Emphasis

Don on the Move: Traveling in Europe

By Don Scott

Aloha again Windward Y Service Club members from North Carolina. Well after our convention this year on the Big Island, I traveled half way around the world to Europe.

First stop was 14 July at Touet sur Var, a small town about 45 minutes by car up into the mountains, following a winding river down on one side and the rock wall on the other (unless going through tunnels where it was all rock) from Nice, France.

An old time Marine friend now lives there and after 18 years of just emails, it was so nice to get together again and spend ten days to meet the new family, and even practice my French, well the girls got me to count to three at least!!! We did find time to visit a mountain lake, and hike up to a castle, for exercise???

Then it was off to Germany, where I stopped in Dortmund for two days to meet the parents of my 4th exchange student!! Who by the way left for Vermont the day before I arrived to attend a student exchange Camp before coming to NC.

He had a busy week once I got home on 26 August, because he started school on the 28th, turned 17 on the 29th, then se "bowling" birthday party on the 30th. I then continued on to Berlin

A Little Humor

What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four-leaf clover?

A rash of good luck.

What did the rug say to the floor?

Don't move, I've got you covered.

where my 3rd "son" now lives. However all his plans to sightsee consisted of "daddy" cleaning his apartment while he went to work, because he moved in with his girlfriend and had to be out by 31 July!! At least her brother and a friend helped "me" get all his things moved to their new house, which was just down the street from where she was living.

Oh, did I forget to mention that this new house was under renovation inside?? Oh yes, I spent "my" vacation cleaning floors, plastering walls, installing a wood floor and working with his contractor while yes, Nico was at work!

They did take me out to Tony Roma's for ribs though for my birthday as a thank you and the strawberry daiquiris sure hit the spot, along with a new watch.

All this because he was leaving one job, to take a month's vacation with me, before starting his new job, until the old one made him stay and work that "free" month!! What we do for our kids.

On 3 August, it was off to the Czech Republic for three weeks

of "hiking" with my 2nd son Michael. As always, when I got off the train, he was waiting and all smiles, except this time he had Richard, his 13 month old son with him (November, number two is due).

After two days to settle in, we were off to Slovakia and the Tatras Mountain range with his 10-year-old step-

Windward Y Service Club member Don Scott at a castle in France. He's looking pretty fit after a good hike up to the top. We'll be hearing more from Don about his travels in coming issues of the "Y'er" because he's been on the move a lot since coming to the Big Island for the Regional Convention.

son. Okay, let me explain "hiking". In America, it means flat trails to walk on.

To Michael, our first trail was up at 4 a.m. to meet a guide at 5 a.m., tie a rope around our waists, taking only essentials (like food and water and warm clothes), crossing streams of ice water rushing down the MOUNTAIN, climbing knotted rope ladders, walking over a ladder spanning a very deep crevice, climbing a wood ladder to reach a higher ledge, and walking sideways facing a rock wall for 20 feet on a ledge only a foot wide, and hoping you did not fall because there was no bottom in sight!!

All this with shanking legs and lots of prayers. But I'm glad we did it first because all the rest were a breeze and the view from atop Lomnický štít (2634 meters) were fantastic, except no camera!!

Well, so much for Europe. It was back home, meet my newest son for two weeks, and then off to South America for a month. Which will be the next article!

Yours truly, Don.



News from Our YMCA

ASC is Almost Here

Windward YMCA, like the other Y branches across Oahu, will conduct its Annual Support Campaign through the month of February.

Planning meetings are under way and promises to be a vigorous effort that will bring much-needed financial help to people using Windward Y.

Our club as usual will be called upon to help and if our past record is any guide, our help will be substantial.

To start with, President **Russ Lynch** has agreed to be co-chair of the Windward campaign with the other co-chair, Y member **Shelly Geiter** who was co-chair of the successful 2014 campaign with **Gaye Sulkey**.

Island-wide, the campaign kicks off with a lunch for invited volunteers on February 7 but Windward's campaign will be on a roll before that.

Last year's goal of \$80,000 was handsomely surpassed. De-

tails for the goal and theme of this year's campaign have not been announced but we know we can achieve what is asked of us.

In the words of **Jim Kanehira's** song: "We did it before and we can do it again."

Free Y Membership

Many of our members have been strong and active supporters of the YMCA without actually being members of the Y.

Now you can get a free pass to enjoy the full facilities of the branch for seven visits through the month of January.

The seven-day passes can be picked up at the Y front desk.

Branch Open House

Windward Y will have an open house on Saturday, January 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with tours, games, prizes and other attractions to try to attract new Y members.

Other open houses are being held that day at Mililani and Nuuanu branches.

Hawaii Region

Peace Project Again

At the Hawaii Region Mid-Year Cabinet Meeting on November 8 in Waikiki it was decided to continue the well-liked Peace Project as a Region activity for another year. This time clubs will be asked to spread their reach to kids beyond those who are reached through YMCA programs.

That means going out to schools that don't have a YMCA connection. More details will soon be announced.

District News

Award to Eddie Miwa

Eddie Miwa of the Kalihi Y Service Club has received the international Elmer Crowe Award for outstanding service as a District Governor.

Eddie, who was Metro DG for 2013-2014, was the only awardee from all the districts in the U.S. Area of Y Service Clubs International.

He was presented with the award plaque at the Hawaii Region Mid-Year Cabinet meeting in November.



More pictures from "Brunch with Santa" on December 13.

At left, **Jim Kanehira** helps a young boy retrieve his bag of goodies from the fishing line. At right, **Russ Lynch** gets a side benefit of the volunteer work, a photo pose with a pair of pageant winners.



To see a "Brunch with Santa" photo album go to <http://ysmenhawaii.org/photos-27/index.html>

Happy New Year Everyone. 2015 is going to be great!