



IP e-NEWSLETTER

Ys Men International September 2019



Dear Club Member,

Welcome to the next e-letter for this year. The IP e-letter is designed to keep YMI members informed through the articles and updates each month with a variety of contributors throughout the year. I am pleased that IHQ is now able to send this out on my behalf to each of you personally. In this edition, we will hear about one of our very important programs, Extension and Membership Conservation from ISD David Lua and a successful EBBA story and meet AP Hiro Tanaka, but first I must write about an event which has saddened our hearts.

Gone Too Soon!

I write with a sad heart as we mourn the passing of IPE Poul-Henrik Hove Jakobsen last week. Poul-Henrik died suddenly after medical complications while on a Y's Club visit to Armenia and the YMCA there.

Poul-Henrik was elected as the 2019-2020 IPE last year and then inducted into this position in July at Sendai, Japan at the Asia Pacific Area Convention. As long as we have known Poul-Henrik, he has always displayed an enthusiasm, willingness and determination to do his best to make sure that Y's Men International is well-placed to carry out its mission and serve its membership world-wide. His membership on the International Council as Area President for Europe, his commitment as Y's Liaison to the YMCA and his skills in financial management have displayed some of his unique qualities and passion. We were so looking forward to the special contributions that Poul-Henrik would make in high level leadership of YMI over the next three years. We will also miss his friendship and the ways he created an inclusive ring of fellowship wherever he was.

On your behalf, and YMI in general, I offer our love, expressions of deep sympathy and support to Birgit and her family at this time of terrible loss. I ask that the loving arms of God enfold the family and give them the comfort and hope needed at this difficult time. I am sure that the close YMI family in Denmark and further afield will do whatever is needed to help in every way possible. ISG Jose Varghese will attend the funeral of Poul-Henrik and will bring a condolence message on behalf of the IEOs.

The IEOs have met online already to consider the next steps needed to fill this unexpected vacancy. The Constitution states that in the untimely death of an IEO, the Nominating Committee will provide two to three names to be listed on a ballot which will then be voted on by the Regional Directors within 30 days of the ballot being issued.

We hope that this process can be completed with reasonable ease as the new candidate will need as much time as possible to "pick up the reins". Needless to say, the "troika" system works very well at the IEO level and there will be ample mentorship and support from the rest of us.



Poul-Henrik and Birgit in Japan

Life doesn't always turn out as we might expect. May we all be encouraged to more deliberately treasure those people who are closest to us and mean much more to us than we often express. May we use our precious time to make the most of the opportunities which crop up in our lives. Continue to look for God's purpose in the challenges which arise and seek His strength to see you through. We are very thankful for the Christian witness and faith of Poul-Henrik as the sun sets on this earthly part of his life.

IP Jennifer Jones

ISD David Lua has prepared an encouraging and informative newsletter for the RDs and ASDs for E and MC. He has allowed me to include part of that article in this e-letter.

In looking Towards 22 and Beyond, we are encouraged to engage in working towards the goals and targets set. ISG Jose recently launched the "100 Days membership Campaign" on 1st September so that we can make an effort in making progress in achieving considerable growth in membership. By having a more concentrated effort over a shorter period, we are looking forward to sharing the excitement of reaching these short term targets. See brochure at end of e-letter for target figures. This is an exciting time to be a member of YMI and we can be the catalysts to creating change and having a strong and well-equipped organisation for the future. Let's keep "building today for a better tomorrow" for all!!

September Emphasis!

Extension and Membership Conservation

Greetings from your ISD Extension (E) and Membership Conservation (MC) from Singapore. We are experiencing quite a dry spell here on this small island here along the Equator. Many of you are experienced leaders in your field and I am humbled by being appointed as ISD for this year. Congratulations to those of you who have been appointed to important portfolio positions in your Areas, Regions and Districts. You have a big responsibility ahead of you as we work very hard to achieve the goals set by ICM to mark the 100th Anniversary of our beloved and esteemed Movement.

My role, as defined in the Job Description issued by IHQ is to develop an annual plan for extension from the targets set by the IP and ICM, to share ideas and to work with you all to achieve the goals and targets for your clubs and Regions. You may or may not be aware that there is an ICM Mentor for EMC, PIP Isaac Palathinkal and ICM Coordinator Mr Svein Rødset who are appointed to work with a specific group of ISDs as sounding boards and advisors. I had the privilege of meeting them at the ASP Area Convention in Sendai in July.

Over the years, I have seen efforts in extension being nullified to some extent by clubs closing. While we need to accept the unavoidable losses arising as members age, every effort should be made in ensuring members are not lost through lack of interest in the club, or in its leadership or the movement. Thus, membership conservation is extremely important as a vibrant club would be better placed to attract new members. Newly chartered clubs need to be nurtured also to ensure that they continue to grow and add to their numbers. Their sustainability can only be assured through good leadership and interesting programs.

The worldwide paid membership as 1 February 2019 stands at 25,213 compared to 23,633 as at 1 August 2019, an increase of 1,580 (6.7%). Thanks to all those of you who helped to bring in new members and form new clubs. The IP's paid membership

targets for this year is shown below with a net increase of 3,337, as shown below:

AFR	ASP	CAC	EUR
250	4,400	5300	7,300
IND	KOR	LAM	USA
8,500	6,000,	470	1,100

Please note that IHQ is promoting a member-get-member program with spouses who join only having to pay 50% of international dues over the next three years. If all members put their hands to the plough, the targets can be easily achieved. Besides, there are reported members who have yet to pay their dues and it helps when they are paid on time.

In extension, emphasis is being placed in working with the YMCA to tap the big pool of volunteers helping in many of the YMCA programs. Our ISG Jose has very good connections with the worldwide YMCA network and is only too willing to assist if you find you need help. But beyond the YMCA, we should reach out to friends and associates to interest them in our Movement and to work with us in serving their communities. We are about to charter two new clubs in Nepal with the help of businessmen who were impressed in hearing about YMI. This is an Extension Beyond Border and there will an EBB award for the sponsoring club.

I am, encouraging ASDs to set up extension teams to work with RDs and RSDs to develop a long-term plan to achieve these goals so that we are proud of our achievements when YMI celebrates its centennial in 2022.



With my very best wishes and warmest regards,

David Lua—ISD Extension and Membership Conservation

Meet one of our leaders on ICM:

AREA PRESIDENT—ASIA PACIFIC, Hiroyuki Tanaka

My name is Hiroyuki Tanaka and I am the Asia Pacific Area President. I belong to the Y's Men's Club of Tokyo-Tama-Minami in the Japan East Region. Since I was born in a Christian family and my parents were involved with YMCA, I spent the summer vacation at the YMCA camp and the winter vacation at the ski school from the first grade of elementary school. I served as a youth volunteer leader when I was a high school student and during my university days, I worked as a prep schoolteacher and part-time staff member at YMCA. After graduating from university, I have supported the activities of the local YMCA as a lay man, and now I'm serving as a Counsellor for the National Alliance of YMCAs of Japan and as the Chair of the Fund Committee. So, I have been involved in the YMCA movement for nearly 60 years.

Through YMCA activities, I became acquainted with Y's Men's Clubs and joined a club in 2000. After serving as Club President, District Governor, and Regional Director etc., I have been an International Council Member and Area President since 2018. The Japanese Y's movement has an unwritten rule of "You can't refuse if you are recommended for a position", and I've been practicing it.

In terms of work, I have just completed my role as a general insurance company officer last year. IT and Commercial Insurance, especially Space Insurance, were my specialties.

This summer was very busy for me. In July, I presided over the 28th Asia Pacific Area Convention in Sendai. With over 800 participants, we were able to achieve the purpose of the convention which was to share the recovery situation and future challenges of the Great East Japan Earthquake that had claimed

COMING UP!!

- Elections for IPE, IPEE, ICMs
- RDE Summit—14-17 November, Toledo

many lives in March 2011. We also hosted the ICM held prior to the Area Convention.

During the first week of September, I worked as a member of the Host Committee for the preparation and operation of the APAY General Assembly that was held in Japan for the first time in 50 years. I am glad that many Y's Men and Women from the Asia Pacific Area participated in the Assembly.

What I felt again through my experience at these two conventions, as Area President and as an ICM member, is the difference between countries in various ways. We are an international organization and need unified policies and measures as YMI, but I believe that we should respect these differences rather than leading uniform measures from the top down, and that efforts should be made to support voluntary activities tailored to countries and regions.

Towards the 100th anniversary, various goals and plans have been announced as YMI, but I think they should be fully discussed, digested, and modified if necessary, in each club, district, region and country to be realistic and feasible.



AP Hiroyuki Tanaka, Asia Pacific

AN EBBA SUCCESS STORY!

The Y Service Club of Canberra members commenced meeting from 13 August 2016 as a designated Club under the guidance of Y's V. S. Radhakrishnan RD, Quilon Region. The Club was officially chartered on 28 April 2018 under the Australian Region by RD Bill Schmidt and celebrations attended by then IPEE Jennifer Jones, ICM Russell Jones and Y's Menette Raelene Schmidt.

The Club is led by Y's Sebastian Mathew (President), Y's Beenu Jacob (Menettes President), Y's Jilson Naduvathusserry (Vice President), Y's Joseph George (Secretary), Y's Mini Shaju (Menettes Secretary), Y's Rohith Radhakrishnan (Treasurer) and Y's Philip Thomson (Y's Guy).

Three years later and with membership of 20 plus families, the Club contribute to the local community through its many hours of work to feed the needy as well as internationally through its contributions for education and development of disadvantaged people.

The bi-monthly Club meetings are vibrant and involve strong youth participation. These gatherings form a vital part of the social fabric of the members. Members have supported all the International programs of YMI through their contributions. The Australian Region is delighted to welcome the members of the Canberra Club into its family.

RD Bill Schmidt, Region Australia



Thank you for reading this e-letter. It is exciting as we journey together and look forward to celebrate our achievements in the coming years. No matter what is going on in your life, remember that you are never alone! Keep hold of your vision and let's continue to be "on the move" together!!

Regards and blessings, IP Jennifer Jones

I can be reached using the contact form on our website ... ysmen.org

PHOTO on front page: Sunset at Normanville, South Australia

