



# Y's MEN INTERNATIONAL PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS' CLUB NEWS LETTER

DECEMBER 2019

## Our Motto: "To acknowledge the Duty that accompanies every Right"

Service Club to the YMCA

\*

Club de service des UCJG

Service Club fur den CVJM

\*

Club de Servicio para la ACJ

### CONTENTS

- Message from Chair Person Isaac Palathinkal
- Farewell to Poul-Henrik Hove Jacobsen
  - Condolence message from PIPs club
  - Reply received from his spouse Birgit Kirkegaard Jakobsen
  - On the funeral – by PIP Chr. Bach Iversen and PIT Erik Brume
- New IPE 2019-20 elected
- Message cum Biodata from IPE Jacob Kristensen
- What is our Legacy? by Rachelle R. Reeg, IP 1990-91
- An Annual Odyssey: by PIP Dale & Jean Fotheringham
- Good Memories: by Donna Ward
- News from Areas – Africa, Asia and Canada
  - Area Africa Convention Report: by Area Africa President Sherif Awad
  - Service activities in the Asia Pacific Area: by AP Hiroyuki Tanaka
  - Activities in CAC Area: by AP Murray Dunbar
- Reminiscence of 5th Korea Area Convention 2019, by PIP Henry J Grindheim
- Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries
- Glimpses of RDE Summit and Legacy Projects
- Christmas and New Year Greetings

## Message from Chair Person Isaac Palathinkal



Isaac Palathinkal

Dear PIP Club members,

It gives me immense pleasure to bring out December 2019 issue of our PIP Newsletter.

We have had mixed feelings of happiness and sorrow during this reported period.

On the negative side, we lost our IPE Paul Hendricks and IPE candidate P.Vijayakumar from amongst us. It is God's will and we accept His Will with prayers.

On the positive side, we have had the first ever RDE

Summit at our birthplace in Toledo, USA, which is reported to be a very big success. During the summit, we could pay our paramount respect to our founder Judge Paul William Alexander through initiation of our legacy projects.

Let us move on with prayers.

Thank you all.  
PIP Isaac

*(Note: Hope you will appreciate that the views expressed in the articles that follow are those of the authors. You may contact them directly, if you need any further information on the article.)*

## Farewell to Poul-Henrik Hove Jacobsen



Poul Henrick

It was with a big shock that Y's Men around the world received the terrible news that our IPE Poul Henrick passed away on 4th September 2019.

His article "Look for and use your opportunities. Acknowledge the duty" in September 2019 issue of our PIP club Newsletter, was probably his last published article. On behalf of PIPs club, the following condolence message was sent to his spouse Birgit Kirkegaard Jakobsen.

## CONDOLENCE



### ***Poul-Henrik Hove Jacobsen***

*Dear Birgit,*

*We, the members of the PIP club of Y's Men International wish to convey to you and family our grief and heartfelt condolences on the sudden demise of Poul-Henrik Hove Jacobsen. It was with a big shock that we received the terrible news that Poul had passed away in Jerevan, Armenia, on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019, while on a visit there, together with members from his local Y's Men Club in Denmark.*

*Poul-Henrik was a well-known, intelligent and active Y's Man, with an enormous knowledge of YMI. He had an extremely high working capacity besides always holding a high ethical standard. He was an expert on economic and financial matters. We always listened to his advices and he always gave his best for YMI. Poul-Henrik had friends all over the world and at all levels within our Movement.*

*He leaves an endless void, not only for you and family but also for all the members of the PIP club. He was kind enough to have shared an article "Look for and use your opportunities. Acknowledge the duty" in September 2019 issue of our PIP club Newsletter, which was probably his last published article. We had great expectations on Poul-Henrik as he was supposed to be installed and take over as International President of the Movement he loved most, at the IC 2020 in Odense, Denmark next summer.*

*May God Almighty give you and your family strength and solace in the challenging time that lies ahead of you.*

*Please receive our deepest compassion.*

*8<sup>th</sup> September 2019*

*Members of the PIP club*

## Reply received from his spouse Birgit Kirkegaard Jakobsen

Dear Isaac,

Thank you very much for your heartfelt condolence.

It has been a very difficult time. The days at hospital where we still hoped he was getting better. Then this last day where everything suddenly went very wrong.

Our two kids came to Armenia to help me with the paperwork. Here again we struggled with the communication problems. The next problem was waiting for his coffin to come home. His funeral, 23 days later, was a good and comforting day for all of us.

It is so hard to understand he is no longer here with me.

He (and we) had been looking so much forward to his IPE and IP period.

I hope to meet you in Odense.

Thank you for your concern.

Birgit

## On the funeral – by PIP Chr. Bach Iversen and PIT Erik Brume

The funeral was at Aulum Church, Friday, Sept. 27, at 1 p.m. The functions, both at church and at the subsequent gathering, were very solemn. The church was largely filled to the last place by almost about 400 people. Family, Y's Men, friends and work colleagues stood in line to express their thoughts and thanks to Poul Henrik.

From the Y's Men's International, ISG José, AP / Europe Ulrik, RD / DK Bjarne, Past IP Poul V. Thomsen and his wife Bodil, Past IT Erik Breum, ICM Bjarne Sønderskov, Past ICM – now RD in Region Central South Europe - Walley from Bristol, England, Past ICMs and ISDs Anne Marie and Carl Hertz Jensen, a number of Danish past RD's and other former leaders attended the funeral.

ISG Jose Varghese, PIP Henry, Club President Jens Byskov as well as a few other friends and colleagues gave great and warm speeches paying tribute to Paul.

Also Birgit and their two children and many other family members spoke paying tribute to a beloved husband, father and friend.

To all that came a moving memorial service in the church, where the pastor delivered an excellent sermon.



## New IPE 2019-20 elected



Jacob Kristensen

Following the International Constitution, ARTICLE V, Section 2 D, **Jacob Kristensen** of Denmark is elected as the new IP Elect for 2019-20. PIPs club congratulates Jacob and wish him well and Godspeed in all his endeavours.

## Message cum Biodata from IPE Jacob Kristensen



Randi & Jacob

Dear PIP Club members,

As desired by Chair of PIPs Club, I am presenting a message cum bio data of mine for your information.

### IC 2008 in Herning

In connection with IC in Herning 2008, the PIP Club members visited Randi and me at our home. We enjoyed the food (fish) in the garden. It was really summer. Good memories. Many things have happened since that day. New PIPs have come and gone and a few PIPs passed away. This is life.

After the sad demise of Poul Henrik Hove Jacobsen on 4th September 2019, I was elected to shoulder the responsibility of leading our Movement as IPE 2019-20. I pray to the Almighty to guide me and help me in all that I do.

### My family

I am living together with Randi – married in 2011. We are both retired and enjoy the life with children and grand children.

Randi has two children and two grandchildren and I have three children and one grandchild.

I was a principal/head teacher and Randi was a nurse for children upto 18 years.

I belong to Ringkoebing Y's Men's Club, where our main activity is raising project funds through a Second Hand Shop. Every year we donate about 700.000 Dkr (100.000 US dollar) for our community service.

Ringkoebing Y's Men's Club is a mixed club of Men and Women and has 40 members.

### Østhimmerlands Y's Men's Club

In 1979 I was asked to help creating a new club. We were 5 people at that time and we succeeded in 1981 to charter Østhimmerlands Y's Men's Club. Today there are only two persons remaining from that little starting group and one of them is PIP Lasse Bergstedt. Our two families have enjoyed much time together since 1979. In 1998 I moved from Østhimmerland to Ringkøbing where I became member of Ringkøbing YMC.

### My interests

We have a garden with 75 fruit trees and I take care of a little forest with different sorts of trees. I use wood from the forest for heating our house. Both of us spend time on the water in sea kayaks. I use my bike every day and we both love and enjoy the beach, sun and water for swimming.

Best regards  
Jacob



Our Second-hand Shop



Kayaking

## What is our Legacy? by Rachelle R. Reeg, IP 1990-91



Rachelle R. Reeg

In laymen's terms, legacy refers to property and money handed down usually to other family members.

Yet, as members of Y's Men International, our legacy rests in the projects enhanced or built with funds and income from club projects.

Our legacy sustains the progress made in a community from Time of Fast projects initiated by clubs and YMCA's around the world. The effect of innumerable local efforts by club members cannot be calculated easily.

Having seen first-hand a great number of these examples of Y's Men International service has been

a great part of our activity as Past International Presidents.

The legacy that is less easily defined is the effect of our service, both physical and financial. Imagine and recall the eyes of the children and adults in places we visited where our projects were installed. Beyond the occasion of the presentation is the lasting effect, possibly a lifesaving one. Our members share along with us in providing care, education, and hope for those involved with our service projects.

As past leaders we inherit the legacy of those who have gone before us. Their motivation upholds us as we are called upon to share with new leaders the legacy of inspiration, encouragement, and cooperation.

Who among us cannot recall the deep involvement with the work of Y's Men International at the time of our leadership opportunities? Not one of us deems that

this was ours alone. The work we shared is the fruit of our joined membership and involvement across the years and within the places where we have had the opportunity to improve the life and health of those whom we may never meet.

The privilege has been ours to provide leadership and example for the good work of our clubs and members.

Rachelle R. Reeg



PIP Rachelle Reeg— Ballantyne Award  
Recipient 2011

## An Annual Odyssey: by PIP Dale & Jean Fotheringham



Dale Fotheringham & Jean

As one of our retirement activities Jean and I make a road trip to visit sisters living in Adelaide, Broken Hill, Donovans and Melbourne.

It's a journey of some 5,000 kilometres and takes almost 4 weeks to complete, but we love the open spaces, enjoying the amazing landscapes our wide brown land has to offer.

Our first stop was Adelaide and, after spending time with Jean's 96 year old sister, we visited our good friends, Jennifer and Russell Jones, spending a pleasant afternoon sharing recent experiences and being brought up to date with YMI events.

From Adelaide we travelled to Broken Hill, our place of birth and home prior to our move to Terrigal in 1975. Whenever we're in Broken Hill, I always visit the YMCA, an organisation which significantly influenced my early growing years.

I joined the local "Y" as an 8 year old, moving through primary school and high school clubs, finally becoming a member of the YMCA Board of Directors.

In 1975 I was offered a teaching appointment on the Central Coast of New South Wales, so Jean and I moved from "The Silver City" to our new home in Terrigal.

At that time there was no YMCA on the Central Coast, but, in 1978, we were visited by old friends from the Broken Hill Y's Men's Club, on their way home after attending the Melbourne International Convention. They were so enthusiastic about their involvement in the programmes of Y's Men International, that a few of us became so inspired that we decided to establish a YMCA here, and to form a Y's Men's Club to manage the operation.

Subsequently, the Central Coast Y's Men's Club was chartered In 1979 and as a first step towards the establishment of a YMCA, we applied for, and were successful in procuring a Government Grant which enabled us to appoint a Youth Worker, and begin a mobile YMCA operation using school halls as venues.

Unfortunately, after many years of Youth Club activities, there was a significant decrease in the number attending our programmes, making the operation untenable, so it was decided to close down the programmes.

Without a YMCA to support, our Y's Men's Club continued giving more attention to local communities and becoming more involved in the structure and programmes of Y's Men International at all levels. Unfortunately, in June this year, because of changing membership circumstances, it was reluctantly agreed to surrender our charter.

Most of the remaining members have joined other Regional Clubs and remain committed to upholding the programmes and mission of the YMCA and Y's Men International.

I was reminded of those inherent values when recently talking to a former member of the Broken Hill YMCA who asked if I remembered the quote written above the gymnasium door. I didn't, so he reminded me of it. A quote by Grantland Rice:

**"For when the One Great Scorer comes to mark against your name, He writes not if you won or lost, but how you played the game".**

And, as I was thinking about this quote, it brought to my mind the motto of the YMCA, "*that they all may be one*" and the original emblem, the three sided triangle, "*symbolising Spirit, Mind and Body*", centred by the star of Bethlehem, with Jesus represented by the Greek letters PX.

The YMCA and YMI are long-standing Organisations offering life changing programmes.

Organisations built on the cornerstone of Jesus Christ and faithful to His new commandment:

*"that you love one another as I have loved you".*

So, as I think about my involvement with YMI, I'm reminded of how the membership has always, actively, responded to our mission statement:

*" ..... to build a better world for all mankind".*

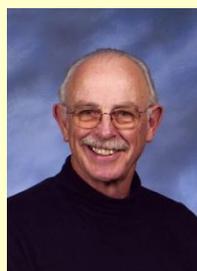
There are so many stories which we could tell regarding the impact YMI programmes have had on the lives of so many people, so, as we reflect on our history, the relevance of the quote remains a valid and ongoing challenge for all of us

Dale & Jean Fotheringham



Dale family

## Good Memories: by Donna Ward



PIP Bill Ward



PAP Donna Ward

Many happy memories with Y's Men make me glad to write a few words for publication. I have been recalling time spent with friends around the world. It started out right here in Southern California as Bill and I were active in our Gardena Valley Y's Men's Club. We were each blessed with Brotherhood Grants (Bill's to Asia Area and mine to Norway and Denmark). Following those experiences, we were each elected to a term as US Area President, giving us a chance to visit Y's Men and Women throughout the USA.

It was amazing to witness the various ways each club was serving its community.

During Bill's term as International President, not much travel was allowed, but through various methods of correspondence, he was kept well aware of activities throughout the world. We remained active until Bill's health did not allow it. He died of gastric cancer in 2010.

Sadly, our home club disbanded a few years ago. Following a membership high of 50 members, in the 1990's, we slowly dwindled to a very small group of faithful workers. Part of our demise was caused by aging (we can't change that) and part of it was due to little to no encouragement or acceptance by our Y directors. The small core that remains regularly gathers for fellowship.

I remain in our home, but not alone. Our third son, Bob, a gastric cancer survivor, and his son, Elliot, a strapping

14-year old in his grandfather's image, both live with me. Bob's daughter, Opal, is a sophomore at UC Merced where she is an outstanding student and soccer player. Our second son, Doug, a colorectal cancer survivor, lives nearby with his wife and son, Hayden. I see them often. Our first son, Ray, lives farther away and occasionally visits.

I keep busy but have time for church activities, meals with friends, reading and YMCA workouts. I've got to keep this aging body moving!

I send my thanks to all of you who are a part of my Good Memories.

Donna Ward



Opal, Elliot and Hayden

## News from Areas – Africa, Asia and Canada

### Africa

#### Area Africa Convention Report: by Area Africa President Sherif Awad

Egypt hosted the 13th Y's Men International Area Africa Convention, from the 31st of August till the 3rd of September, 2019, with the collaboration of the National YMCA of Egypt. The theme of the convention this year was; One Family, Ready to Serve.

Seventy Y's Men and YMCA delegates attended the convention with an elegant opening ceremony on the morning of 31st of August at the Steigenberger Hotel, Cairo.

Fifteen countries participated;

From Africa Area: Kenya, Zambia, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Ethiopia and Egypt.

From International Areas: USA, UK, Estonia, Denmark, and South Korea.

With Cameroon, Ghana, Uganda and Nigeria failed to participate due to sudden cancellation or inability to obtain visa.

The International President Sang Bong Moon honored the convention by his attendance.

The official opening ceremony was held at Diamond hall on second floor of Steigneberger Hotel in the Center of Cairo with stage chaired by: IPIP Sang Bong Moon, Africa Area President Sherif Awad, YMCA Egypt CEO Samy Nashed, Area Treasurer (AT) District Governor (DG) Akram Iskander, PAP Alisala Mulambia and APE Tom Waka.

With all delegates standing up, AP and APE entered the hall with Bible and Y's Men Emblem, while the Y's Men song was chanted and the AP officially declared the start of the Africa Area Convention.

Bible readings from Philippians 2, in English and Arabic, were read by Patrick Kapway and Samia Adly. Then the National Anthem of Egypt was played.

The first speech was provided by Samy the YMCA CEO about the positive collaboration between the YMCA and The Y's Men, followed by IPIP Moon with international view of the movement and AP Sherif delivering a welcome message and pointing at the noble values of Y's characters; Idealism, Initiative, Interest and Industry and the treasure of Y's fellowship. Then Keynote speaker Eva Botros provided her speech entitled New Beginning and how to be Flower Men and Women to the world.

An open buffet Lunch was served at the hotel first floor and then second session started with APE Tom speech about YMCA and Y's Men relations and Akram AT/DG provided a welcome message, followed by a special leadership training session by Tom and Lori of the USA Y. Afterward, a Community service experience in Africa was provided by guest Amal Hanna, followed by in Memory session chaired by PAP Alisala talking about our Y Legends who departed in the last 10 years.

Y's Men Africa Plaques of gratitude were delivered by AP Sherif to the following ; IPIP Moon, AT/DG Akram, APE Tom, YMCA CEO Samy, and guest speakers Eva and Amal. A coffee break was served and followed by a third session where BF delegate Sven Erick spoke about his BF visit and Denmark experience, then a special session entitled Sustainable Development was provided by Mina Karam followed by an interactive workshop.

On the evening, participants took a ride in bus to the Nile crystal cruise dock in Maadi.

Dinner was served on the ship with fantastic show of singers and belly dancers and of course IPIP sang his lovely own Korean song to us too. The ship cruised the Nile to downtown and returned to its dock at 10 PM and bus drove us back to hotels.

On the second day and after breakfast, buses drove towards the Pyramids area in Giza at 9 am. A tour guide lead the visit with instant touristic information about the visited sites provided to the group. Great Pyramid of Cheops and Sphinx were the main targets of the visit and of course some camel riding and photo sessions followed by Perfume shops and bazaar visits. Returning to Cairo YMCA at 3 pm where Lunch was served.

Then, work sessions started in the main hall of the National YMCA building where IPIP provided a talk about the Legacy Project. Some contribution were immediately provided by attendees for the legacy project and total sum was delivered to APE Tom for transfer to HQ account. IPIP Moon also provided special generous gifts for the active dedicated host committee members including Maha Yousef, Reham Lamee, Marco Magdy, Makar Makram, Mina Karam, Baha Micheal, and Milad Magdy who worked desperately to ensure lovely visits for the foreign delegates. IPIP Moon also delivered gifts to the key leaders in Africa Y's Men.

Jared Musima then provided an interactive session about how to start a new Y's Men's club. A coffee break was served then session by Tibor, USA was given followed by Piia from Estonia both speaking about their Y's Experience. The workshop of Sustainable development was continued at the end of their sessions. At night, free time was given for the participants for the sake of shopping and touring the downtown Cairo afterward.

Aside of the convention, special dinner was provided by IPIP Moon for key persons in the area at a Korean restaurant in Zamalek to promote extension in Area Africa.

On the 3rd day buses were ready to go to the Red Sea. About 2.5 hours drive and we reached the Piacerra resort. Lodging was completed and lunch was served on the swimming pool area.

Work Sessions continued on the Red Sea meeting area; Endowment fund presentation provided by Adolf Olomi and Constitution of Y's Men, a talk and discussion by Morris Kimuli, also another session provided by Piia about service done in Estonia and more pictures provided from Denmark activities by BF Sven.

At night and after dinner was served, music and culture night started with delegates in their national costumes. Lots of dancing and songs were performed for hours before a late go to bed.

In the morning of the fourth day, a bible reading from 2nd Timothy and devotion was delivered by Phyllis Mutua. After breakfast Lori and Tom of the USA Y, provided another leadership workshop with spaghetti and marshmallow and how to build a tower, and of course without eating it.

After Lunch a council meeting was held attended by AP, APE, AT, and AS with Olomi attending as observer. During this meeting Daniel Mutua was appointed as Area Service Director for the Paul Alexander Legacy Project. Also an award was delivered to IPRD Musenze for net increase in membership of SE Region. APE received it to hand over to him due to his absence.

During the intermittent breaks and the free time, delegates enjoyed swimming pools and beach under the bright sun of Egypt, that was a great fun.

Before the sunset, delegates checked out and buses took us to Porto Sukhna resort and climbed the mountain to show us a spectacular view of the Red Sea at sunset.

Final Dinner was served on Porto Sukhna resort before the bus drive us back to Cairo.

Some delegates went directly to airport for their flights and others went back to their hotels to enjoy few more days in Egypt.

That was a briefing of the actual activities of the 13th Africa Area Convention held successfully in Egypt 2019. Thanks be to the Lord and his grace.

You can check all convention photos on the Y's Men Africa FaceBook.

Area Africa President  
Sherif Awad

## Asia Pacific

### Service activities in the Asia Pacific Area: by AP Hiroyuki Tanaka



In the Asia Pacific Area, the Clubs in each Region conduct a variety of CS projects that match the characteristics and the needs of their local communities. I would like to introduce

some of the activities.

The Y's Men's Clubs in Japan commemorate November 10th as 'Y's Day'. It is because that Osaka Y's Men's Club, the first Club in Japan, was chartered on this day in 1928. Many clubs hold

various events in the hopes of the development of Y'sdom around this day. For example, this year, on October 27th, Kyoto District of Japan West Region challenged the Guinness World Record. It was a competition of the most people who signed each other's T-shirts back for 1 minute. As a result, 919 people, most of them were publicly invited guests, were able to sign and the challenge exceeded the current record. This event was picked up on television and in newspapers, raising awareness of Y's Men's Club to the general public and provided an opportunity to acquire new members.

In Taiwan Region, blood donation charity activities are the popular charitable events on island-wide basis. The majority of clubs in Taiwan Region have their style of blood donation activity annually. For example, Y's Men's Club of Taoyuan prepares a blood donation vehicle with the support of the local authority and offers small gifts to every blood donor to express appreciation for their charitable deed. The slogan of blood donation is "Donate one bag, Save one life".

In addition to these CS activities, each Region in the Asia Pacific Area is making efforts to support victims of natural disasters such as earthquakes and typhoons which frequently occurs in the Area.

Most recently, Japanese Y's Men have been working with YMCA to relief the victims of the typhoon that caused significant damage to the eastern and northern parts of Japan on October 12th, and the Regions other than Japan have also been supporting by raising funds. In addition, a quick grant was provided from the Natural Disaster Emergency Relief Fund of the Asia Pacific Area which consists of the annual donation by all the members of the Area.

Hiroyuki Tanaka  
AP, ASP Area



Tanaka family



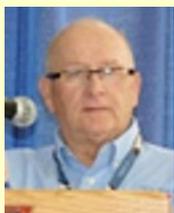
Guinness Challenge



Relief activity by Y's Men

## Area Canada/Caribbean

### Activities in CAC Area: by AP Murray Dunbar



Murray Danbar



Carol Danbar

My name is Murray Dunbar and I am the Canada / Caribbean Area President. I am Married to Carole Dunbar and we have 5 children and 7 grand children. I belong to the Pictou County Y Service Club in Maritime Region for 47 years.

My local club has been involved in After school programs, Bikes for youth program, YMCA youth support, Food bank, fuel fund, Bicycle rallies, Baseball programs, Youth Retreats, Strong Kids Program,

Equipment for YMCA, Book Sale, Christmas tree sales and many more over the years.

### Current Status and Plans - Membership trends & Service activities in Area Canada:

Area Canada has 26 clubs 440 members in three regions. Our numbers have decreased over the years. But a revival in our members who are now very active with all regions working to promote through media, promotional material, internet, planning: short- long-term goals, contacting and building better relationship with YMCA and communities through there work. A successful Join Canada /Caribbean and USA YMI and YMCA convention has opened doors and better relationship with YMCA the first in North

America. I see Area CAC and USA growing over the next few years. It will take time but is starting to happen now. Increase in members in clubs, work in new communities to form new clubs through Strategic Action Plan - Objectives and Tasks with Regional Directors.

Volunteering is a fundamental act of good citizenship and essential in our society. Fewer Canadians volunteered in facing a revolving door of volunteer recruitment, training and management as a result of the deepening time crunch. Canada is a large area with a low population, Volunteers are changing as they have higher/different expectations and have less time. Many organizations are facing difficulties finding volunteers who are available and interested in doing the work that needs to be done.

Unfortunately, it seems that just ordering up more volunteers is not an option. It becomes clear YMI organization will need to make changes to the kind/amount/nature of the work that volunteers do to achieve the overall goals of the organization. By extension, this means re-thinking the kind of volunteer

opportunities they create. By exploring job design theory and thinking in new ways about the work of the organization and how it is achieved.

I believe we as YMI members need to raise awareness and build understanding of who we are but not lose on what we are about. We need to understand the differences in each country and culture and let the Areas do what works best for them. YMI to me is a wonderful organization which is trying to build a better world to live in, have global interest as well as local interest helping Community and YMCA. Support our Paul William Alexander Legacy, support our Global Projects for in that we become a global partner with the world. Bring new members to your club, start new clubs and have fun along the way. organized and described, charities and non-profits will be better prepared to reach out differently to existing volunteers and, more importantly, to new ones.

Respectfully yours,

Murray Dunbar

YMI AP CAC



Midland Y Service Club violence against women Project Awareness



Epsilon Y Service Club Canteen to support YMCA Project Awareness

## Reminiscence of 5th Korea Area Convention 2019, by PIP Henry J Grindheim



**Date and place:** 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August, Changwon Exhibition Convention Center, Changwon

**Number of participants:** About 1200 participants, mostly Korean but also international guests from Japan, Singapore and India besides me as the only European. IT Philips Cherian, ICM TM Jose, PISG Nishi and ISD LTOD Edward Ong also attended the convention and the programme after the convention.

The day before the convention took place, a welcome dinner was held for invited guests from abroad, leaders in Korea Y's dom and local authorities. At the dinner

greetings from local authorities, International guests and leaders in Korean Y's Men were given, besides music entertainment.

The opening ceremony took place on 24th with a flag parade. The opening of the Bible and candle lighting before the convention was officially opened by AP Kim-Sang Che. The participants sang the Korean National Anthem which was followed by an opening prayer, thereafter the International guests were introduced.

The ACHCC gave his opening welcome address, followed by the opening speech given by AP Kim. Congratulatory messages were read by Governor of

the Province, Chief of Local council, AP India and AP Asia Pacific, YMCA President and IPIP Moon Sang Bong.

A memorandum of agreement between Area India and Area Korea was signed by the two APs, Thankachan and Kim.

Fund delivery ceremony and honoring of Y's Men entitled to the Elmer Crowe Award was followed by the Key Note Lecture (The Program Stated the Former UN secretary general, but he did not attend).

Leaders from all Regions in Korea were presented, and the evening ended with a delicious dinner banquet, (The AP night) and entertainment by well known Korean entertainers.

Second day started with a devotion, followed by four forums in separate rooms. The subjects were:

- How to implement Y's Men's Identity Partnership with YMCA**
- Extension and membership conservation**
- Y's Menettes**

Afterwards a famous Korean priest held his keynote speech before reports were presented from the various forums, as well as a presentation and a report from the AYR.

After lunch there was a two hour concerts where famous Korean artist performed great hits from the 1970s and 1980s, which was very well received by the Korean participants. Korean National TV was present, and the concert shall later be shown on Korean National TV, where Y's Men also will be presented as a part of the TV program. The show ended with a big lottery drawing.

After singing the Y's Men song, the convention closed. Korean Y's Men then invited foreign guests to a tour to visit famous places in South Korea combined with visits to various Korean Y's Men Regions, where we met local Y's Men and shared the famous fellowship with them. On the first night after the convention IPIP Moon Sang Bong and his wife hosted a wonderful barbecue party in his summer house for the international guests and some Korean Y's Men. We stayed at various hotels and guesthouses for four nights and we were brought around in a lvery comfortable limousine bus, driven by an excellent driver.

Our last night was spent at a hotel in Suwon, about one hour and a half from Seoul Incheon airport. We drove to the airport early in the morning the next day, where our ways separated: The Indians left with a Malaysian Air flight to Kuala Lumpur and then onwards to their Indian destinations, and I took a Lufthansa flight to Frankfurt, Germany, before my final connecting flight to Oslo, Norway, where I arrived late in the evening after a long return journey lasting for 17 hours.

A special thanks to Kyun at the Korean Y's Men Office, who organised the successful trip after the convention, IPIP Moon Sang Bong, Jin and AP Kim for hosting us and for arranging such a wonderful programme.

Asker, Norway 22. September 2019  
Henry J Grindheim  
PIP



Henry with Korea leaders



Indian and Korean delegates



Children's choir

## Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries (January to March 2020)

Name	Birthday	Name	Birthday
Rolando Dalmas	Jan 1	Erick Kim	Feb 12
Marilynn Linkletter	Jan 13	Carol Friss	Feb 15
Tatsue Satoh Pacheco de Castro	Jan 17	Bruce Price	Feb 19
Arvid Malme	Feb 2	Stuart Wilson	Feb 22
Joan Wilson	Feb 9	Brynhild Vethe Grindheim	Feb 25
Benson Wabule	Mar 4	Henry Grindheim	Mar 25
Clare Graham	Mar 21	Jacob Cherian	Mar 31

Couple	Wedding Anniversary
Finn a Pedersen and Ragnhild	Feb 21
Rolando & Gloria Dalmas	Feb 27
Kim Bong – hee & Lee Dong - in	Mar 10

*PIP Club members wish all of you many more happy returns of the day.*

**Pictures of the first ever RDE Summit at Toledo held from 14-17 November 2019 and Paul William Alexander Legacy Projects initiated during RDE summit. For details, please refer to Press Release - IHQ/19/01**



Participants at RDE Summit



Summit delegates gathered at Judge Paul William Park at Toledo, Ohio, USA



New head stone at the grave of PWA, a legacy project by us.



Y's Men/YMCA leaders at the new head stone



PIP's Club wishes all its readers  
A Merry Christmas  
and  
A Happy New Year.

The PIP Newsletter is a quarterly publication of and for Past International Presidents providing information as well as serving as a vital link between PIPs and Y's Men International.