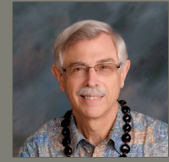




AP'S ANGLE



Notes and Information From US Area President Phil Sammer

October 2009

SPREAD Y'SDOM

Through

Membership Development, Leadership Development, Publicity, Embracing Change

Aloha!

I had the pleasure of attending the 62nd annual Pacific Southwest Regional Convention in Brea, California from September 26 to 27 representing the US Area. Convention Chair **Eldon Thorp** did a wonderful job of organizing the event which Regional Director **J.R. Holdeman** themed “An Opportunity For Service” reminding attendees of the roots of our great movement. The convention program included an excellent presentation by **IPRD Bruce Trent** about why we pay dues. Quite often we get so involved in our local projects that we forget that Y Service Clubs is a national and international movement that has a direct impact on the lives of people across the globe both in the YMCA and in the community. Current Time of Fast projects include Health Services in Peru, HIV/AIDS Awareness and Rehabilitation in India and Youth Community work in Colombia. There was also an underlying theme of the importance of membership development and extension which was also the main subject of my talk and the single most important issue that faces our Area. The convention concluded with a worship service on Sunday led by **Amos Johnson Jr** of the Jackie Robinson Y's Men's and Women's Club who challenged us to “avoid burnout” yet continue to do the important work of Y'sdom. I enjoyed the convention very much and appreciate the invitation to represent the US Area.

The Regional Director-elect training will take place in Torrance, California from November 12 to 15 and preparations are well underway. Participants will learn the basics of the job with particular emphasis on membership development and extension. YMCA relations will also be a key subject and we are fortunate this year to have as guest speaker Mr. **Larry Rosen**, CEO of the YMCA of Greater Los Angeles. The meeting will also provide the opportunity for all the RDEs to get to know each other better and to find ways to cooperate in spreading Y'sdom in the US Area.

As I mentioned in my last *Angle* we will be electing a new Corporate Secretary for the US Area this year. Candidates must be nominated by a club and must sign a declaration of willingness to serve. The term is two years with possibility of two renewals for a total of six years. The duties of the corporate secretary are included in the Area By-Laws that may be found on our website: <http://www.ysmenusa.com>. I will be sending nomination forms to the Regional Directors shortly.

I recently received the schedule for the new Y's Men International fiscal year that was sent out to all Regional Directors. Essentially this will be a shortened year ending on March 31, 2010. The “Second semester” will be January 1 to March 31 with club reports due on February 10 and dues based on 8.75 Swiss Francs per member due February 28. The new regular fiscal year will begin on April 1 with club reports due on August 10, 2010 and February 10, 2011 and payments due on August 31 and February 28.