



The Bulletin Board

December 2010

Newsletter of the Hawai'i Region of Y Service Clubs International

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Hawai'i Region Clubs:

Metro District:
Central, Kaimuki, Kalihi,
Nu'uuanu, West O'ahu,
Windward

OVG District:
Maui, East Kaua'i, Hilo

Leadership Team:

RD: Russ Lynch
Regional Sec./Treas.:
Bob Kuwahara
Metro DG: Bill Stone
Metro Lt DG:
Marion Liu
OVG DG: Donna Jones

Club Presidents:

Central: Garret Ho
East Kauai: Robert Sims
Hilo: Lance Niimi
Kaimuki: Keahi Kaawa
Kalihi: Jaunette Quiroz
Maui: Donna Jones
Nu'uuanu: Maurice
Shimonishi
West O'ahu: Walter Osakoda
Windward: Joe-Ann
McCarthy

Important Links:

Hawaii Region Website
<http://ysmenhawaii.org>

U.S. Area:
<http://www.ysmenusa.com>

International:
<http://www.ysmen.org>

Convention 2011 Details Are Taking Shape

The 2011 for convention of the Hawaii Region of Y Service Clubs International is shaping up into a great event and all who make to the May meeting in Hilo will surely gain from it and be entertained. Details are almost complete for what promises to be an enjoyable event. Registration forms will soon be ready and the details will soon be finalized. Keep an eye out for information from Convention Chair **Duke Chung** and other Hawaii Region officials.

Here's what we know so far: The 75th Hawaii Region Convention will be held at the Hilo Hawaiian Hotel on Banyan Drive, close to downtown Hilo, starting with registration in the morning of Friday, May 20. There will be a golf tournament Friday at the Banyan Golf Course; local tours, such as to Volcano and the Tsunami Museum, during the day Friday. Official business starts with meetings of the outgoing cabinet and the awards committee on Friday afternoon. The convention will really kick off with a dinner on the Friday night and business sessions will get under way Saturday morning after breakfast. There'll be lunch with a guest speaker and more business in the afternoon, probably breakout sessions. There will be an awards dinner on the Saturday night. Attendees are on their own for breakfast Sunday morning, after which a devotional session will be held. Then comes Regional training, followed by an aloha brunch.

At several times during the convention a hospitality suite will be open at the hotel. Outside of convention business, there will be a lot of activities for members and spouses to choose from, all of them typical of the charm and culture of the Hilo area. A couple of examples are Hawaiian flute making and Hawaiian quilt making. There will be Hilo Town excursions and at any time there is the beautiful walking area in Queen Liliuokalani Park on the Hilo waterfront, next to the hotel.

Don't forget the added attraction: The nightly Coqui Frog Chorus, available entirely free of charge. Keep alert for final information on this great convention.

Important Dates

JANUARY 5, Wednesday - Metro District Meeting

6:30 p.m., Mililani YMCA (dinner provided)

MARCH 25, Friday - Induction/Endowment Dinner

Manoa Ballroom, Japanese Cultural Center, Moiliili

APRIL 6, Wednesday - Metro District Meeting

Central YMCA, Atkinson Drive, Honolulu (details to be announced)

MAY 20-22 - Hawaii Region Convention

Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, Hilo

JULY 7-10, Thursday-Sunday - U.S. Area Convention

Missouri Athletic Club, St. Louis, Missouri

DECEMBER FOCUS: Christian Emphasis

RSD: Lanny Neel (Hilo).

JANUARY FOCUS: YMCA Service

RSD: Phil Sammer (Central)

Regional Director's Corner by Russ Lynch, RD 2010-2012

Service with Spirit

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

I want to start by thanking the Regional Service Directors, many of them former RDs themselves, who have been working so hard for Y'sdom in Hawaii and helping me get the hang of being Regional Director. The most obvious, of course, are **Duke Chung** (West Oahu), doubling as membership/conservation director and chair for the 2011 Convention, and **Larry Hiranaka** (Nuuuanu), assisted by wife Mae-chan, handling the scholarship funds that help Y Service Club members and YMCA employees. But others have been active too, such as **Phil Sammer** (Central), attending YMCA of Honolulu board meetings as YMCA Liaison and director of YMCA Service, and **Lanny Neel** (Hilo), Christian Emphasis RSD, digging into his resources to apply Christian thought to the activities of our clubs and our people, and **Brad Ishida** (Kaimuki), plugging along for Endowment. Everyone else has been helpful too and have had much need of the hard work of Secretary-Treasurer **Bob Kuwahara** (West Oahu) and the solid voice of experience from Immediate Past Regional Director **Rick Lau** (Central).

It has been a busy but rewarding time. In July I had the pleasure and the solid learning experience of attending the U.S. Area Council Meeting in Hot Springs, Arkansas, seeing old friends such as our Hot Springs host and Hot Springs resident, former U.S. Area President **Fred Leonard**. Just a month later I was in Japan, with the Hawaii delegation to the 69 International Convention of Y Service Clubs International. It was my first international convention and a remarkable experience. I'll be telling you more about it as time passes.

I believe it was important for me to learn the full international scope of our movement and see it first hand, meeting so many delegates from India, Asia and Africa as well as the European countries and others. The theme of the convention was the environment and it was surprising and a bit shocking to learn how badly off some of our countries are as a result of the devastating effects on human lives of global warming, lack of water and food, environmental destruction in the name of commerce and out-of-control health issues.

The extent to which the Y Service Clubs around the world are plunging in to help, with personal service, money and other resources, is truly amazing. It was also great to join our other Hawaii delegates in meeting with representatives from the International Brother Clubs that are tied in with Hawaii clubs.

At home I have barely begun visiting the clubs and my first year is half way done. I was able to go to a social meeting of the Hilo club in June and administer the oath of office to Hilo's officers — except President **Lance Niimi** who was stuck at home with the flu. In mid-July I joined other guests from around the state at a luncheon on Kauai to celebrate the East Kauai Club's 60th anniversary.

I hope to pop in on other clubs when time permits.

Membership is an issue, and we have lost a few in 2010, but plans are being made to do something about this regrettable trend, which is affecting many other regions as well.

I am glad to be entering 2011 with such a great band of helpers.

Russ

A footnote on terminology: You will find me, wherever possible, using the term "Y Service Clubs", without totally dropping "Y's Men" and "Y's Women." Our international organization has approved the use, as an acceptable alternative, and it is being adopted increasingly, particularly in the U.S.A. Some clubs have formally changed their names. It removes any idea that we're a men-only organization, far from truth since so much of our hard work is done by our women members, and it makes it easier to explain who we are without always explaining the phonetic "wise." When we were founded in Akron, Ohio, in 1922, that's exactly what we were, a Y's Men's Club, but that is no longer true.

Presidents and Editors, Please Note:

There hasn't been an issue of "The Bulletin Board" since February and that is entirely my fault. I sincerely hope I am out of the rut and will get it out regularly from now on, at least four times a year. To do that, I need your help and will be directly asking for it. When I see a club bulletin, I will email you and ask you send me at least one picture and a short write-up, specially for this publication, on your club's activities. Regional Service Directors will also be asked to write when the regional focus for the month of an issue coincides with their work, the way Christian Emphasis Director Lanny did for this issue. Please cooperate when asked. *Russ*



New Leader, Big Changes are here at Isle YMCA

The arrival of former Family Court Judge **Mike Broderick** (right) as the new chief of the nine-branch YMCA of Honolulu in early December comes right as the Y nationally is launching a "new Y," with a new emblem and a new approach to what the Y does and how it does it. In the few short and casual encounters he has had with Y Service Clubs people, Broderick has expressed real enthusiasm at having our organization play a bigger role. The main thrust of the new Y is on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. To best meet those goals, Broderick says he plans to boost the Y's use of volunteers and that's certainly where we enter the picture. We can look for a stepped up role for Y Service Clubs. The holiday rush made it impossible to get together but Broderick says he is keen to meet with us early in 2011. Fitness centers will still be a big part of the Y because the organization needs the income to carry out its goals. But in Hawaii and the rest of the nation, the Y will be reaching out into communities more than it ever has. We've already seen the new "Y" logo at our branches and in the coming weeks and months many more changes will become apparent.

Meanwhile **Larry Bush**, who retired from the Y leadership post after 40 years of hard work for the YMCA, including the last six years as Hawaii head, was sent off in style at a big retirement bash at the Dole Cannery Ballroom in December. He'll be staying in Hawaii. Several Y Service Clubs people were at the party. One thing the event showed clearly, from the range of familiar faces, was the extent to which Y staffers and Y board members and the Y Service Clubs already are heavily involved in each other's activities. Keep an eye on our Regional website for more information on the changes coming to the Y, the result of years of research into how it can best revitalize itself and carry out its responsibilities to its many and varied communities.



Mike Broderick, new president and CEO of YMCA of Honolulu. *YMCA Photo*



Regional Director Russ Lynch was at the party thanking Larry Bush, right, for his many years of service to the Y. *David Livingston Photo*

Hawaii Shows its Strength at International Convention in Japan

A strong delegation from Hawaii participated fully in the 69th International Convention of Y Service Clubs International in Yokohama, Japan, in early August. In the environmentally themed convention, attendees absorbed revelations about the hardships of global warming, famine and disease in many Y'sdom countries. In that context it was rewarding to



learn that our International Council had voted to extend its support of the Rollback Malaria (UN) program until 2015. Of course there was a lot of fun too, particularly socializing with Hawaii's International Brother Clubs. At left is the Hawaii group. Seated from left, RD Russ Lynch (Windward), Jim Kanehira (Windward) and Rick Lau (Central) Standing are U.S. Area President Phil Sammer (Central) and Nuuanu President Maurice Shimonishi. At right, Sammers donned a kimono for a bon dance.



Club Corner: Club and Member News from Around the Region



Central members open their array of food for the Thanksgiving dinner they provided for residents of Central YMCA.



Hilo members were among volunteers at the Ironman Triathlon, Kona.



The Kalihi members and friends had a great time singing carols for seniors at two care centers in their area.

Central: "Y's Observer"

For the first time, the Central Y Service Club took on the task of providing Thanksgiving dinner for the residents of the Central Y and ended up feeding 40 people. The club members were joined by five volunteers in this highly successful venture, which was made necessary by the residential YMCA's inability to fund it this year. Other assistance came in the form of grocery gift certificates, help with the turkey supply and cooking, and monetary donations. The club's focus is now on helping the Y and another project was preparing a wall for repainting. The club also helped out with the Manoa Jaycee Christmas parade.

East Kauai: "Y's Informer"

The club celebrated its 60th anniversary with a luncheon in July that honored two members, **Nato Mikasa** and **Champ Ono**, for their 50 years of continuous membership. Club activities this fall included looking after parking at a big rodeo, running the refreshment table at the Alzheimer's Walk, assisting with flu shots at Kalaheo Elementary School and helping with registration at "Make a Difference Day" at Kamalani Playground. East Kauai Y's Men's Club is also looking into possible joint ventures with County Mayor **Bernard Carvalho**, who was a guest at the anniversary luncheon.

Hilo: "Y's Cracks"

The Hilo Y's Men and Women Service Club has had another busy year. Aside from helping the Hawaii Region prepare for its 2011 convention in our town, activities have included hosting a Mongolian cookout to honor our local YMCA staff and, of course, the club's big annual Christmas tree sale. President **Lance Niimi** and wife **June** trekked over to Kona on October 9 to join 5,000 other volunteers, including YMCA board members **Byron Moku** and **Frank Ogin** handing out cups of ice to participants in the Ironman Triathlon.

Kalihi: "FYI"

The Kalihi Y's Men's and Women's Club had a tremendous turnout of 44 people to sing at the club's annual Christmas caroling project at the Avalon Care Center and Liliha Health Center. Club members were joined by past members, friends, family members and members of a Scout troop. The audiences at the two centers were also out on force and heartily joined in the singing. The house and yard cleanup *(Continued opposite)*

work, which the club does for donations, continued with members putting in five hours to clean screens and louvers at a house on Mahiole Street.

Kaimuki: "Lima Hana"

The Kaimuki Y's Men's Club slowed down a little because many members were making adjustments to the schedules in their lives. But that didn't interfere with a number of projects, including helping the Kaimuki YMCA "No Limits" teen program with their first Halloween "Haunted House" in some years. The club also had a very successful fund-raiser selling Krispy Kreme donuts. The club also planned to keep to its traditions of adopting a worthy family during the holiday season and joining the Kaimuki Y teens in Christmas caroling at the Maunalani Nursing Center.

Nuuanu: "Y's Up"

The Nuuanu Y's Men & Women's Club participated in its 36th annual Seniors Thanksgiving Dinner at the Kalanihua Seniors Center. More than 125 seniors enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner with the help of club members and other volunteers. The club also helped out at the Nuuanu YMCA "Turkey Swim" at Ala Moana Beach Park. Earlier, members of our club and participants from the Nuuanu Y's Club Mid Teen had a fun time in a bowling event at Fort Shafter, planning a bowling day for youth, with our club paying for the games and shoes for the youth group. The Nuuanu club also had another very successful chicken sale in the parking lot of the Y on September 19, with sushi packages as usual being a successful add-on sale.

West Oahu: "Y's Words"

West Oahu Y's Men's Club members donated enough cash to buy gift cards covering complete Thanksgiving meals for three needy families. The club had a similar project for "Ready To Eat Christmas Meals." for needy families in the local community. The West Oahu club's volunteers also handled all the registration for the 2nd Annual Reindeer 5K Fun Run at Mililani District Park on December 19. On October 4, a special Time of Fast dinner was held at **Bob and Jeanette Kuwahara's** home, with guests donating \$10 a head for a menu that included Japanese "okonomiyaki," a pancake style egg, meat and cabbage concoction that was very popular.

Windward: "Windward Y'er"

In December, Windward Y Service Club members were once again manning the "fishing" booth for kids at the "Breakfast with Santa" event for Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii. Earlier, the club provided the food booth for the annual YMCA Family Night Fair, and co-hosted and provided food for the Teen Night at



Chicken sale time for Nuuanu. From left, members Albert Lee and James Oishi with President Maurice Shimonishi at Nuuanu Y's Men's & Women's Club's chicken sale at Nuuanu Y, September 20.



Right: Ken Kadomoto was one of several Windward club volunteers helping out at Breakfast with Santa, a major fund raiser for Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii.

Windward YMCA, which also included a program on the Meth Project. Once again we helped out at the Y branch's successful "Hallo-Wine" wine-tasting fund raiser, participating in the event itself and providing items for the silent auction and gift baskets. Our members also served hundreds of bento lunches at an event at the Y staged by Assisted Parent Inc. with the additional backing of Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii. The club is also committed to helping the Windward Rotarians pick up and deliver hot meals from Castle Hospital in their Meals on Wheels program starting early in 2011.

Editor's Note: These stories were plucked from club-bulletins and club reports to the Hawaii Region Mid-Year Cabinet meeting. Complete editions of Hawaii club bulletins are available at the Hawaii Region Y Service Clubs website, <http://ysmenhawaii.org>

Clubs are urged to submit short stories and pictures of their activities to Bulletin Board editor Russ Lynch, russlynch@mac.com

**Hawai'i Region
Y Service Clubs
International
US Area**

"The Bulletin Board"

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Some Y's Words:

"When I get to heaven, I shall see three wonders there. The first wonder will be to see many there whom I did not expect to see; the second wonder will be to miss many people who I did expect to see; and the third and greatest of all will be to find myself there."

- John Newton, 1725-1807,
English evangelical minister
and hymn writer/

*To acknowledge the duty
that accompanies every
right.*

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://ysmenhawaii.org>

District Meeting Jan. 5

The next Metropolitan District Y Service Clubs meeting is set for Wednesday January 5, at 6:30 p.m. at Mililani YMCA, 95-1190 Hikikaulia St.

The West Oahu Y's Men's Club is hosting and providing dinner. District Governor **Bill Stone** urges members to attend. Subjects for discussion will include plans for the Induction/Endowment Dinner on March 25, Healthy Kids Day at Bishop Museum April 16, Meals on Wheels and other matters of concern to the Oahu clubs.

Service - the Christian Thing to Do

By Lanny Neel

Hawaii Region Service Director for Christian Emphasis

As we pass the midpoint of another club year as Y's Men and Women and head into a new calendar year, it is good to consider what it is that we are trying to accomplish as an organization. It is fair to say that a large part of our reason for being comes under the category of SERVICE, and so I want to reflect just a bit on that.

Jesus told his disciples that He had come to earth not to be served, but to serve, (Matt. 20:28). When I was a youngster, each summer I went to camp at YMCA Camp Sequoia, in the Sierras east of Fresno. When I was 14, I learned a poem at camp that echoed those words of Jesus, which I still remember and try to put into practice. It went like this:

"O Lord I pray, that from this day no love of ease or pride prevent my good intent; not to be pleased, but to please. And this, too, today I pray; that I might not swerve by foot or hand from thy command—not to be served, but to serve"

As we celebrate Christmas, the birth of Jesus, let us remember and be grateful for the countless sacrifices made by all of those who have served in our armed forces and their families as well, who, though not in the field of battle, were making sacrifices back home for our country. In the words of the second verse of our National Anthem, "Blessed with victory and peace, may the heaven's rescued land praise the power that has made and preserved us a nation...in God is our trust."

When we serve, we give of ourselves. Jesus himself reminded us that it is more blessed to give than to receive. With these thoughts in mind, let us recommit ourselves to our call to service in whatever capacity we are able in the years to come. Lanny Neel.

Christian Emphasis is the Hawaii Region's focus for December.

Lau Wins National Henry Grimes Award



Rick Lau, Hawaii Regional Director for 2008-2010, was awarded the prestigious Henry Grimes Award by the U.S. Area of Y Services Clubs International. Rick was recognized as the outstanding regional director for the whole Area. Rick, received the plaque from Regional Director Russ Lynch at the region's mid-year cabinet meeting on November 20.

Hawaii Gets DFS Awards for Big Island

Thanks to the efforts of Y's Man **Bobby Stivers-Apiki** and Dollars for Scholars Regional Service Director **Larry Hiranaka**, two employees of the Island of Hawaii YMCA each received \$500 DFS grants to help them attend the 2010 Leadership Symposium and Hawaii Early Childhood Conference in Honolulu in November. **Dean Currie**, U.S. Area Service Director, said in letter to Bobby: "Y's Men from all over the U.S. Area donate to the cause of helping YMCA professionals develop skills, training, certification and continuing education so Y's can continue to succeed at serving the needs of their communities." The recipients were **Rockelle Augustin** and **Raymond Souza**.