



'em up

Serving the YMCA and the Community since 1947
Home Club of International Presidents Bill Ward (2002-2003) and Jim Mueller (1976-1977)

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 2011

VOLUME 64 ISSUE 3



Our Prez Says



Echnoz's Notes

Time certainly passes by so very quickly and we are all looking at the end of another year. Thank you for serving and supporting the Annual YMCA Golf Tournament – it was a huge success and a great fundraiser for our YMCA. Congratulations to **Suzanne Hasegawa** for being recognized for her service as District Governor. By the time you are reading this article, we will have completed our Make A Difference Day – thank you for your gift of time and talent. Our club and family will be one member stronger and working side by side to contribute to our community. Looking ahead – we have our annual visit with the Southside Club and our Annual Christmas Party. But I wanted to take a moment and focus on the forgotten holiday – “Thanksgiving”. Thanksgiving is more than just a day to eat, watch football and eat again. Thanksgiving is an opportunity to reflect and look back.

Continued on Page 2

Hello YMCA Friends~

The cool air is upon us and the leaves are falling, gently reminding us that Summer has passed and the holidays are a whisper away. Golf has ended and the Halloween Carnival is just 5 days away as I write. From golf balls to goblins....in such a short time. Thank you all for your time, energy and support for a very successful golf tournament. We had 115 golfers on the course, a truly fun dinner, Cherry Stones and Leonard's Chili made its golf debut, and numerous friends came out to show support. Ed Russ attended and gave his stamp of approval for the tournament now named after him! What a joy. Again, thank you. Each and every one of you for your support and especially **Ray Harbold** for all your work you put in ahead of time as well as the day of.

Continued on Page 4

Prez Says From Page 1

I am thankful for each of you for you all are a “light” and your life as it touches others is making a difference. Thank you very much for being all that you are. May our Lord richly bless you and your families as we close out 2011!

Y’sly,
Amy

International Website
www.ysmen.org

US Area Website
www.ysmenusa.com



YMCA

Service Dates

November

December

Birthdays

November

24 Nancy Wood

December

3 Bert Dulac
12 Fred Davis
30 Jose Ojeda

Anniversaries

November

December



**Y’s Men International
70th Annual
Convention**

**Aug 2 to 5, 2012; Sta-
vanger, Norway**

The International Con-
vention host commit-

tee has announced that the registration for IC 2012 opens on the official website October 15th. Book early to assure the desired accommodations for the event are secured.

Visit the official convention website:
<http://www.ic2012.org>

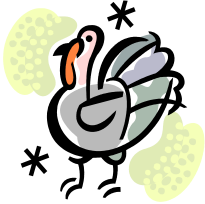
Next Deadline
December 15, 2011

Opinions expressed in this Publication are those of the authors and do not reflect official club policy.

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Photo Page



Pancake Breakfast



Henry's Fish Fry



Pancake Breakfast



Pancake Breakfast





Pacific Southwest Regional Convention in La Jolla

Only three members of our club were able to attend the 64th Annual Pacific Southwest Regional Convention in La Jolla September 30th, October 1st and 2nd. Suzanne & George Hasegawa and Donna Ward represented our club for the weekend.

Friday evening, after enjoying the Happy Hour in the lobby of the Embassy Suites, we were entertained by beautiful, talented hula dancers from Encinitas. It was an excellent show.

Saturday morning the Opening Ceremony was held followed by two breakout sessions. The speaker from Sea World told us lots about the birds they display and brought a penguin plus a small alligator to display at her session. Michael Bruner, Executive Director of the Jackie Robinson YMCA told us about his Y and the methods he uses in his successful work. Some of what he implements would also work well for our membership efforts. There were other sessions by a championship boxer, Paul Vaden; by an attorney about estate planning; by Doug Jones for Regional Training; by Sami Towne about our Youth Educational Exchange Program. That was a plus for the weekend as there were about a dozen youth in attendance and the interaction with them was good.

Continued on Page 5

Echnoz's Notes From Page 1

Last week I was honored to visit alongside **Bonnie Werts** and **Jim Mueller** at the President's Dinner. What a gift to be able to learn more about Jim and Audrey and their family and the pride and passion they share for the YMCA. My dear **Bonnie** was just a fun gal too I may say. I asked **Bonnie** how old she was and she replied 80 and a half! A half she said! Who says that? Just the greatest. It did not fall unrecognized that as I sat between the 2 of them, I was perhaps sharing a moment that would mark my time, my history in the YMCA movement. To learn from and be blessed with the friendship of these remarkable friends is a time thing. A time thing that only God can set up. I loved that night. I loved our talks. I loved knowing that the strength of the movement is made up of people like **Bonnie, Jim, Audrey** and Anna Stewer. Thank you all for being there that night and sharing your time with me.

The pancake breakfast yesterday was wonderful as well. Though not feeling well, **Ruth** continues to give her all and worked hard all morning. **Fred** supported all club efforts ensuring yet another successful event given by the Ys Men. Thank you all! Each and every one of you. For cleaning the grills, setting them up, filling the syrup containers, getting juice and sausages and pancake mix, washing dishes, cleaning everything up, and all the other numerous tasks it takes to make this happen. We have a big thank you posted on the Y marquee but thank you is nowhere near the gratitude the Y and our entire staff team, feels for your hard work. We realize it is not easy and takes more than just the morning to make it happen. It would not happen without each of you. Your service is continuing to effect lives of families in Gardena and we know you understand your impact.

I look forward to seeing all of you on November 17th at the Home Depot Center for the Gardena-Carson Family YMCA Annual dinner. Thank you friends for your service and your love.

Your Friend,
Audrie



Happy Thanksgiving!

PSR Convention Continued from Page 4

At lunch Michael Brunker was our keynote speaker and awards were given. Our Suzanne Hasegawa won the David Jacob Memorial Trophy (again) for being the Outstanding District Governor in our region. To her credit all but one club in our district was represented at the convention.

In the afternoon excursions were taken to The USS Midway and Birch Aquarium.

I was the emcee for the dinner Saturday night where more awards were made plus a Golden Book Citation was given for Anne and Jim Engert, members of the North Coast Y Service Club. Entertainment and dancing followed the dinner.

Sunday morning we held our church service after **breakfast with Rev. Amos Johnson bringing "The Word" to us. In a brief session following church** Arlo Pannkuk, PAP, brought us greetings from the US Area.

Everyone seemed to really enjoy the time together with "old" friends and "new" faces.

Donna Ward

Photo courtesy of Denny Grossman



Scott Williams

We were all saddened by the passing of our friend and Y's Man Scott Williams.

Scott joined our Y's Men Club March 30, 1991. His main contribution was to keep the Y building in good repair. He spent many weekends at YMCA camp work parties. Scott was also very generous financially to the Y program.

Scott was awarded the Golden Triangle for his many contributions to the Y. The highest award given to a volunteer at the Gardena YMCA. Due to his health problems he resigned his membership, but was made an Honorary Y's Man.



Pancake Breakfast





**YMCA OF
METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES
39TH ANNUAL
PRESIDENT'S DINNER**

On Wednesday evening October 19th, by way of the **Bill Ward** freeway 110 (ask me about about that), we headed towards the Coliseum complex and the California Science Center for the 39th Annual President's Dinner.

This is the dinner we all circle on our calendars and again we were not disappointed. The social hour was a time for visiting with club members from all over the region. Dinner was as always delicious and the service exceptional.

The Inspirational speaker for the evening, Jackie Duan, a young woman thanked her parents club and the YMCA for her wonderful trip to Japan last year.

On this very busy evening most of our club members were unable to come or were out of town. **Bonnie** and **Jim** and **Audrey Mueller** were seated at the Gardena table with our Exc. **Audrie Echnoz**, Lori Drenson with husband Steve who also work for the YMCA, and Anne Steuwer with a friend. It was a Grand evening and everyone seemed to have a good time.

**2012 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
STAVANGER, NORWAY**

Chaplain's Corner

Living for Jesus



As we sang this song at the 64th annual convention, I realized that this was the theme of our Y service organization. Living for Jesus in all that we do. First, we dedicate ourselves to Jesus. Then we our duty. What is our duty? Serving others at home and far away. Bring as many to know the real Jesus. Help those in need at home and away. Only by showing our love by true action, are we doing what Jesus wants of us. I pray that everyday of our lives we too show others what a true Christian is. When we pray, use ACTS. This is what Sunday school teachers use to help children pray. Lo, I found a bookmark of this in my book just before beginning this article. This is the sign from Jesus.

A—Adoration (praise him)

C—Confession (repent from sins)

T—Thanks (express your gratitude)

S—Supplication (ask in humility)

All my life Jesus has directed my life. From the time I was a child He has directed what I was going to do: teach; who I was to marry: George; where we were going to live: Torrance, CA; where I was going to teach: Christian Schools and Special Ed. The Lord led one of our Y's Men to get me the job in Special Ed. The Lord has watched over **George** and my retirements. In fact, He led **George** to his job with Xerox. He led **Jim Mueller** to call **George** to be a Y's Man. He knew I wanted to be a geography major, but that was not His Will. So now in retirement, we have gone all over the world. Whenever He does not want me to go in a direction, I get sick.

Continued on Page 7

Chaplains Corner from Page 6...

I want to THANK the Freeway District for the David Jacob Award. This award has nothing to do with me. This award is credit for what ALL Y's Men (Service) do for their club, their district, the PSW Region. Thank you. May the Lord Jesus Christ bless each and everyone of you for what you do for your fellow men.

Amen.

Suzanne

**New Member Induction**

Please welcome new club member **Janice Otsuji**. **Janice** was inducted at the October 27th dinner meeting at Gardena Baptist Church. **Janice** was born in San Diego and handles the front desk at South Bay Nikkei Pediatric Medicine. We look forward to getting to know and working with **Janice** in the days, months, and years to come!

From our Järfälla Brother Club...

Gooday to all our Y's Men's Friends in Gardena Valley Y's Club

Thank you so much for your Y's e'm Ups. The last one was Sept-Oct 2011 a net edition. A modern fast communication, sometimes too fast for us elderly Y's Men, growing up in the best case with a Bell's edition of a telephone and a manual operator at the switchboard but nevertheless we have to hang on and keep going in our new push button world. It is interesting to follow your activities with fireworks and meetings and your coloured photo page.

These days we have an early fall weather after a long warm and sunny summertime. It's a typical autumn weather varying with sun and rain showers and a comfortable temperature between 15-20 degrees C, a little cooler in the nights and sometimes foggy in the early mornings.

Continued next column...

Järfälla Brother Club continued...

The head local Swedish news to-day is that our Crown Princess Victoria married to Daniel last year is going to have a baby in March next year. This is interesting for most people as this baby will inherit the Throne and one day become the Swedish King or Queen depending on the sex. So she is now attended by the press to get information about the health and how the baby is growing.

Göte Wallenhammar

INTERNATIONAL EMPHASIS FOR NOVEMBER IS ALEXANDER SCHOLARSHIP FUND & DECEMBER IS CHRISTIAN EMPHASIS

Dates to Remember

NOVEMBER	10	Business Meeting 7:30 PM
	28	Southside Visitation
DECEMBER	8	Christmas Party

Gardena Y Service Club Roster

532-6036	Davis, Fred/Anita	2027 West 149th Street, Gardena	90249
832-7051	Dulac, Bert/Georgette	41 Avendia Corona, Rancho Palos Verdes	90275
523-3470	Echnoz, Audrie/Jeremy	1000 W. Artesia Blvd., Gardena	90248
324-5610	Ginder, Phyllis	15430 Atkinson Ave, Gardena	90249
324-0884	Harbold, Ray/Dolores	15015 Mariposa Ave, Gardena	90247
540-1055	Haroldson, Norm/Joanne	21606 Scannel Avenue, Torrance	90503
323-9356	Hasegawa, George/Suzanne	16126 Daphne Avenue, Torrance	90504
612-4096	Ikari, Amy	16948 Halldale Ave. , Gardena	90247
324-7693	Kawada, Martha	16417 Denker Ave, Gardena	90247
329-3805	Major, Ruth/Phillip	1469 West 187th Place, Gardena	90248
323-0173	Moler, Ann	15209 S. Gramercy Place, Gardena	90249
487-6887	Myers, Dave/Ruth	4891 Sharon Dr, La Palma	90623
679-5570	Ojeda, Jose/Laurel	13522 Cerise Ave, Hawthorne	90250
532-8510	Randall, Sue	1953 W. 185th St, Torrance	90504
329-4458	Vasquez, Lee/Betsy	15508 Parron Ave, Gardena	90249
329-7895	Ward, Donna	17909 Mahnattan Place, Torrance	90504
370-9136	Werts, Bonnie	21013 Ladeene Ave. #D, Torrance	90503
719-9767	Wikkramatilleke, James/Elaine	2521 Artesia Blvd., Torrance	90504
323-0173	Wood, Nancy	15209 S. Gramercy Place, Gardena	90249
523-3470	Gardena-Carson YMCA	1000 W. Artesia Blvd., Gardena	90248

All cities listed are in California.



- 1966-1968-1969
- 1970-1971-1972-1975-1976
- 1981-1982-1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989
- 1990-1991-1992-1993-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998-1999
- 2000-2001-2002-2003-2004-2005-2006-2007-2008-2009

'11—'12 Club Officers

President.....Amy Ikari
 Membership Chairman..Jose Ojeda
 Secretary.....Laurel Ojeda
 Treasurer.....Fred Davis
 Past President.....Laurel Ojeda

Directors

Bert Dulac
 Suzanne Hasegawa
 Donna Ward
 James Wikkramatilleke

Honorary Y's Men

Lou Cacia
 Alta & Floyd Chisam
 Steve Difani
 Sam Fujimoto
 Joey Haroldson
 Richard Hodges
 Hank Ishida
 Chuck Maciejewski
 Audrey & Jim Mueller
 Ray Seto

Brother Clubs

Järfälla Y's Men's Club, Sweden
 Jinja Y's Men's Club, Uganda
 Kaimuki Y's Men's Club, Hawaii
 Kumbanad Y's Men's Club, India
 Setagaya Y's Men's Club, Japan

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 2011

Gardena Valley Y's Men's Club
 1000 W. Artesia Blvd.
 Gardena, CA 90248

