



IP e-NEWSLETTER

Y's Men International February 2020



Dear Club Member,

Welcome to the February e-letter. 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. In this edition, we will hear about one of our very important programmes, "Time of Fast", an article about the work of the Korea AP, other exciting information about extension and an important request for your help.

Standing Out in the Crowd!

In Australian Rules Football, a game of four quarters, it is often said that the "third quarter" is the time in which the game is won or lost. We are in that "third quarter" now, with more than half of the YMI year behind us already. I am sure that in your work, you are experiencing various challenges now or have had challenges to work through before: some not expected and others that could be predicted. What makes you "stand out in the crowd" though, is your attitude towards tackling those challenges and the way you handle your new set of circumstances. None of us are strangers to difficulties in life, but they do have a habit of promising to develop quiet patience, encourage creativity and shape character. It is often said that a person's character shines more readily through life's darker moments.

It is evident to me that some of you are holding your heads high as you strive to achieve the targets and goals set for this year. Area Korea set their bar high with the charter of the Gimhae Helpers High Club, with 153 members. What an amazing result and congratulations to the leadership in Area Korea for showing amazing vision and fortitude. Read about this later in this e-letter.

Leaders in Area India have been leading the way with the number of new clubs chartered there recently. They continue

**"WHAT SETS YOU
APART CAN
SOMETIMES FEEL LIKE
A BURDEN AND IT'S
NOT. AND A LOT OF
THE TIME, IT'S WHAT
MAKES YOU GREAT."**

- Emma Stone

to be the Area that provides the strongest base for YMI and we are very grateful for the leadership of AP Thankachan.

Leaders and members in Area Africa have faced many challenges in recent times. The declining membership prompted a planned visit to Ghana for "**movement strengthening**", led by Nigerian leaders – RD Jatau Dilli, PAP Clara Adetuyi and DGE Tunji Makinde. Through presentations, meetings and encouragement, great results have been achieved. Read about their success on page two. It is heart-warming to the rest of the YMI world that there are good things happening in Africa.



With the assistance of the Central Southern Europe RD, Alan Wallington, two more countries have been added to the YMI family. The Y Service Club of Catania, in Sicily, Italy, has been meeting regularly for a while now but is being chartered officially in April. Another new club in this southern part of Europe, is planned in Thessaloniki, Greece. Congratulations and a big, hearty welcome to all of these new clubs who enrich and strengthen our YMI family.

Thank you to all leaders for the inspiration and vision which has gone into creating new clubs and bringing in new members. You are the ones who "**stand out in a crowd**"! It takes courage and persistence to make sure that everything falls into place in searching for and motivating new members. We should all be thankful for the privilege of helping YMI to face the future with hope and expectancy.

IP Jennifer Jones

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and fervent in prayer", Romans 12:12

February Emphasis!

TIME of FAST

The Time of Fast (TOF) fund came out of a real response to human suffering in the late 1960's. It is an annual fundraising programme of YMI which began as monetary assistance made available to areas of developing countries by arrangement with the World Alliance of YMCAs.

It has now become a popular programme where members all over the world traditionally give up at least one meal, usually during this month, and donate the cost of that meal to the TOF fund which, in turn, makes the money raised available to projects sponsored by both Y's Men and the YMCAs all over the world.

Since its inception in 1972, TOF Fund has raised more than USD 7 million for development projects and disaster relief through the YMCA and community projects worldwide. Some of the projects approved at ICM 19 included:

- *Accommodation for adolescents at risk in Jamaica*
- *Training for rural entrepreneurs on agricultural techniques in Senegal*
- *Empowering youth to help other youth in Cambodia*
- *Setting up a charity shop to provide job training and affordable goods in Kosovo*
- *Providing a range of vocational training for unskilled women in India*
- *Providing care and therapy for people with disabilities in India*
- *Organising a variety of learning experiences for children in Latin America*
- *Setting up a summer school for disadvantaged children in the USA*
- *Providing funds for YMI Doctors to cover some of the medical services in Laos*

Your support of this worthy international programme is encouraged so that even more projects can be funded. It is a great way for YMI and the YMCA to work together in a very practical way, making many differences in the lives of many people around the world.

**Help YMI and ISD Peter Kim
(Han-gyu) meet set targets!!**



New Ghana Central Club

REVIVAL in AFRICA.....

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR GHANA TRIP



Warm greetings from Accra, Ghana after a successful trip by Africa North West RD Jatau Dilli, PAP Clara Adetuyi and DGE Tunji Makinde, all from Nigeria. Great achievements have been recorded during these few days of our visit here and some highlights of this success story are:

- The purpose of the visit was for “*movement strengthening*” – reviving the inactive clubs and inspiring members
- Presentations were made by the visiting team on partnership with the YMCA, benefits of membership, running successful clubs, the Toledo experience and fundraising
- The Ghana District is now back fully integrated with six clubs being revived
- New members were inducted, including Mr Kwabena, the NGS/CEO of Ghana YMCA, with good working relationships being established between YMI and YMCA
- A new club, Ghana Central, is being established
- Funds to start payment of international dues were initiated and raised
- New District leaders were elected and relationships between members were re-established with a healthy outlook on the horizon for this Region. This initiative will be repeated in Sierra Leone, Senegal and Gambia when time and money permits

SDS support has been gratefully received, and along with extra funds from members, we were able to record this unprecedented result.

**Jatau Dilli
RD-Africa North West**

Meet one of our leaders on International Council:
AREA PRESIDENT—Korea—Kim Sang-chaе

The following shows the busy life of Korea Area President, Kim Sang-chaе, as he attended events recently over a two-month period in December and January. As part of the Korea Bu-UI-Gyeong Region, the Busan District Convention was the first event for that month held on 7 **December** in Korea.

Not long afterwards, on **9 December**, the Gim Hae Helpers High club was chartered with 153 members. This new club is also part of the Korea Bu-UI-Gyeong Region, and Kimhae District and was sponsored by the Gim Hae Jang Yu club. The club comprises mostly medical staff, including doctors and nurses and is currently the largest club in YMI. The number 153 was significant for the members as they were inspired by the story of Peter in John 21 in the Bible, where a miraculous catch of 153 fish was recorded. The Ulaanbaatar City club in Mongolia was chartered on **12 December** under Kimhae District and sponsored by the Gim Hae Seven club.

On **17 December**, a renowned Korean Christian minister and ambassador for Y's Men Korea, Jang Kyung-dong, was invited to hold a forum with the Korean leaders. Discussions were centered around membership growth and expansion with Area executives, APE, APEE, RDs and RDsE at a forum entitled "Y's Men Save Korea". Minister Jang Kyung-dong promoted Y's Men to other groups of people at revival meetings in 11 Regions throughout Korea.

On **10 January**, Mid-Year Council (MYC) was conducted with all 11 Regions and associated committees taking part. There was ample time to benchmark and share good examples of activities taking place. On **11 January**, a 'New Year's Ceremony' was held with the Korea Area leaders, among which all Area executives, APE, APEE, RDs, RDsE, DGs and even CPs were in attendance. Expansion results and club charters were reported on along with the RDE Summit report, PWAL project promotion and 2020 IC promotion. Prizes to the DGs and to the sponsor clubs' Presidents who worked hard for club chartering, were given out too. As part of the awards ceremony, a time of harmony was held to encourage our leaders to reach their new club and membership-expansion goals. Members appreciated that ISG Jose Varghese attended the MYC and New Year's Ceremony to promote the PWAL project.

On **15 January**, Korea Bu-UI-Gyeong Region invited Minister Jang Kyung-dong again to give a lecture entitled '**Service, the joy of sharing**'. Many local people came to hear the lecture and Minister Jang was also able to spend time with them.

From **22-27 January**, YMI Doctors travelled for overseas medical service in Sayaboury, Laos. Much preparation work was needed before leaving by all those involved. The YMI doctors and the doctors from the new Gim Hae Helpers High club joined this medical service trip giving them an excellent opportunity to see medical service at close hand in another

COMING UP SOON!!

- MYM in Bendigo, Australia 26—29 February



AP Kim Sang-chaе on right with (L-R) IP Jennifer Jones, AP Sonja Marly Müller (Brazil), IPIP Moon Sang-bong (Rep. of Korea) and PIP Henry Grindheim (Norway)

country! A work team will also build a computer room and donate 10 computers to the Suan Luang Orphan School near Luang Prabang. Other supplies of books, uniforms, sports equipment and shoes were given. All were looking forward to having a successful time in Laos.

In preparation for the Korea Area Convention in 2021, APEE Park Sung-chul, is working with the other leaders to make sure that this event will be even more successful than AC 2019.

As Co-Chair for the Paul William Alexander Legacy Project, AP Kim Sang-chaе reported about progress so far. It was helpful that ISG Jose Varghese visited Korea in January and made a presentation on this topic, with explanations and promotion of the project. After his presentation, many Korean Y's Men have promised to support the project. The Korea Area will highlight the PWAL Project at all Y's Men events and encourage increased participation. Korean members have now pledged to support this project with \$10 per year, for the next three years. In addition, Korean leaders will also raise other money separately and APE Hong Yong-seung is planning a donation fundraiser by holding a Y's Men golf tournament for the project. It certainly has been a busy time for **AP Kim Sang-chaе** over these two months, balancing his medical work commitments along with his responsibilities as Area President.

New club, Gim Hae Helpers High, on Charter Night



PRESERVING OUR HISTORY

What is our Legacy? There is no doubt that YMI has become an important part of your life. You have your personal reasons to join. My reason for joining was because of the “Greater Good” that was demonstrated by Service to the YMCA, the Community, and International Programmes. That is indeed our Legacy. Let us record this Legacy and share it with future generations.

In two years time, the International Association of Y’s Men’s Clubs will turn 100. While we need to celebrate Y’s Men International and all its achievements, we also need to celebrate our clubs, Districts, Regions, and Areas too. Do you have charter photos or photos of early meetings of your club? Do you have District or Regional Meeting photos too? In order to preserve them, we need to have them and thus, these special parts of our organisation can be preserved too. The Y’s Men’s Archives has many files but not too many photos. This anniversary should not just be a celebration of one club or Area but about all of it. We need information about the individual clubs, Districts, Regions, and Areas AND we need photos to document them too. Search your files and see what you can find. The more we have, the more we will be able to share and tell about our rich history and move forward to the next 100 years. If we don’t have your photos, then we don’t have that part of the History. If we don’t have your Club Legacy story, then we can’t preserve it for others to see. There will not be a book written for the 100th Anniversary, there will only be videos and many photos to be shared.



As International Historian and Paul William Alexander Legacy Project Co-Chair, I want to include everyone in our celebration and not just the bits and pieces of our founder and early leaders. Each club (past, present, and future) is important to our movement and needs to be celebrated regardless if it is 1 year old or 90 years old. The only way to celebrate that is to have the information and photos. If you don’t want to part with your treasures, at least scan them and share it with us. One thing I truly admire about YMI is the fact that each club is separate and special with their own ways to raise money and serve their community. We should celebrate our diversity and commitment.

Photos can be scanned and sent to Debbie Redmond at moscholar@gmail.com or if something needs to be mailed, send me a note and I will give you the address and the contact information.



Thank you for reading this e-letter. Let’s continue to work together for the betterment of this world and our organisation. No matter what challenges crop up, 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 - www.ysmen.org

PHOTO on front page: Standing Out—artwork at Hilton Hotel, Dallas