



# 希望の鐘 *The Bell of Hope*



The Y's Men's Club of Kawagoe

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## Kawagoe Y's Mens Club Bulletin

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Chartered 1998

President	Goshiro Yamamoto	CP's Theme: "Learn about the past and gain new ideas
Vice President	Atsuko Matsukawa	and knowledge from it. Meet new people for tomorrow!"
Treasurer	Kimiyo Yoshida	IP Ulrik Lauridsen (Denmark)
Secretary	Katsusaburo Yoshino	Theme: "Let Your Light Shine"
		AP Keiko Tonegawa (Kawagoe)
		Theme: "Be the light for change"
		Japan East Regional Director Kohei Yamada (Utsunomiya)
		Theme: "Learn and discover now for the future! For the future,
		develop confidence and encounter true joy!"
		Kantotobu District Governor Masao Nagao (Chiba West)
		Theme: "YMCA and Y's Collaborate to Aim for Serving the Community!"

### February Scripture

The heavens declare the glory of God;  
 And the firmament shows His handiwork.  
 Day unto day utters speech,  
 And night unto night reveals knowledge.  
 There is no speech nor language Where their voice  
 is not heard.  
 Their line has gone out through all the earth, And  
 their words to the end of the world.  
 Psalm 19:1~4

My soul, praise be to the Great God, O my soul.

This hymn has a bit of a memory: in 1992, I climbed Mount Sinai in Egypt. If you are familiar with the Old Testament, you will know that this is the mountain where Moses is said to have received the stone tablets with the Ten Commandments from God. We took a bus from Jerusalem, stayed overnight at the Egyptian border, and then took a bus to a village called St Catharine at the foot of Mount Sinai, where we stayed. It might be a Japanese way of thinking, but I left the lodge early in the morning (around 3 am) and started climbing Mount Sinai in order to see the sunrise at the summit. I wrote that the idea of seeing the sunrise at the summit was "very Japanese", but I wondered if people in other countries also had this idea, and there were people from many different countries climbing with us. Then, when we reached the summit and the sun finally rose and the sun was rising, someone, probably a Korean, started to sing "When I look up at the shining sun". Then several other people sang along in their own languages. So I sang this hymn in Japanese too. Whenever I hear this hymn, I am reminded of that time.

### January Attendant (Jan. 27)

Attendance 7 Rate 78%

### Preface

Kawagoe Y's Mens Club President  
 Goshiro Yamamoto

### [When you look up at the shining sun]

Hymn 2, no. 161 (Chant 480, Hymn 21, no. 226)  
 contains the hymn 'When I look up to the shining  
 day'. The lyrics are as follows.

When I look up to the shining day  
 When I look at the moon and stars  
 When the thunder rumbles, I think of the true God.  
 My soul, praise be to the Father, Oi, the true God.

### January Monthly Meeting Report

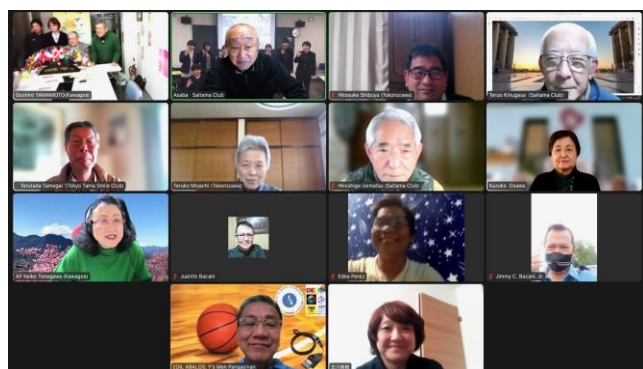
Katsusaburo Yoshino

This month, the three Saitama clubs jointly held a Zoom meeting with the International Brotherhood Club (IBC) of the Tokorozawa and Kawagoe clubs, the Pangasinan club in the Philippines. We concluded the IBC partnership at the recent Asia Pacific Area Convention in Hong Kong. The

Pangasinan YMCA and Saitama YMCA have been in contact for many years and have many memories for many people.

At the IBC exchange meeting, the Pangasinan Club proposed to realize another Youth Work Camp in the Philippines, which will be planned as a joint IBC project in the future. It was also suggested that adults should plan a study tour to accompany the Youth Work Camp. The IBC relationship in action is valuable, and we would like to consider making this a reality.

The main participants from the Pangasinan club were Jimmy Bacani (YMCA general secretary and club secretary) and EH Deal Robinol Abalos (club member and YMCA vice-chairman).



**February Monthly meeting**

**Date: Feb. 24, 2024 14:00~**

Place: Westa Kawagoe Meeting room 4

Table Talk: Hideki Kato, President, Astroscale

“Astroscale business => "Cleaning up the universe/. We'll be the JAF in space. !!”

This is a joint meeting of the three Saitama clubs. Please invite your friends and acquaintances as well as members to attend. The following article was published in the Nikkei newspaper on the 9 of February.



**Future plans for the Kawagoe Club**

**Date: March 30 (Sat), 2024**

Spring Break Gunma Bus Tour. This is a one-day charter bus trip from Kawagoe. Due to the Corona disaster, the tour could not be held for a while, but now it can be held for the first time in a while. The destinations will be the Usui Pass Railway Heritage Park, Konnyaku Park and Mentai Park. To make it easier for children attending the Kawagoe Centre to participate, part of the costs will be covered by the Kawagoe Club. We look forward to the participation of all Kawagoe Y's Men's Club members.

**From the International Stage  
"Keiko's Monthly Briefing of YMI/ASP"**

Int'l Council Member/AP Keiko Tonegawa

**Report on International Election**

International elections were held for the 2024-2025 year. The Kawagoe Club has been in existence for 25 years and is short of 15 members, but it applied for and received permission from the East Japan Regional Director and finally obtained suffrage. President Yamamoto voted on behalf of the club and the results were announced on the 2nd of February.

Unfortunately, the candidate for International President, Charles Redmond (USA), whom our club had supported, was not elected, and Shanabhaskhan Abdul Qadeer (Southwest Region, India) was elected as the International President-Elect for 2024-2025 and International President for 2025-2026.

The International President for 2024-2025 is Charming Shen from Taiwan, who is currently serving as the International President-Elect.

As there was only one candidate for the next Asia Pacific Area President, Tadashi Taue (Kumamoto Musashi Club), the immediate past regional director of the Japan West Region, was elected unopposed. Therefore, the Asia Pacific Area Troika for the coming year will consist of myself, the Immediate Past Area President, Ms Joanne Wong (Hong Kong), the current Area President, and Mr Tadashi Taue, the Area President-Elect. We look forward to your continued support and cooperation in the coming year.



Shanabhaskhan Abdul Kadeer(India)



Tadashi Tanoue (Kumamoto Musashi)

## 《Notice》

- ① In April, Hisayo Arai will join the Kawagoe Club. This brings the number of members to 10. We are very happy. Ms Arai is the younger sister of Keiko Tonegawa, who has been serving at the Urawa Centre for many years. She decided to join the Y's Men's Club after resonating with its activities through Keiko's work as International Council Member and Asia Pacific Area President, and her participation in the convention in Hong Kong this year. Let's give her a big welcome.
- ② Spring Break Gunma Bus Tour will be held on Saturday 30 March. This is a one-day charter bus trip from Kawagoe. Due to the Corona disaster, the tour could not be held for a while, but now it can be held for the first time in a while. The destinations will be the Usui Pass Railway Heritage Park, Konnyaku Park and Mentai Park. To make it easier for children attending the Kawagoe Centre to participate, part of the costs will be covered by the Kawagoe Club. We look forward to the participation of all Kawagoe Y's Men's Club members.
- ③ An interview with Ym. Taro Tonegawa was featured in the Tokyo West Club Bulletin. Please read it from the following link.

<https://ys-east.or.jp/club-news/club-news-area/cn-azusa/tokyo-nishi-ym/>

## YMCA Report

<Alumni group 'Up'.>

Saitama YMCA holds a group activity called "Up" once a month for members who have graduated from the Clover Club. Many members look forward to the "Up" activities, which change every month, and it has become a place for graduates to look forward to, with some even taking paid holidays in line with the annual schedule.

The following is a report from Hasegawa, who led the activity on 3 February.

A morning (breakfast) and bowling was held as an UP activity on Saturday, 3 February 2024. Some UP members are university students, and some are working adults. This time, nine members participated in the event. First, we went to Mos Burger for breakfast. Each member chose what they wanted to eat and placed their order. Some of the members wanted to eat so much that they had trouble choosing what to order. While eating their breakfast, they talked about what they had been up to recently and their plans for the March Up project. There was also a lot of conversation between members. In bowling, some members bowled for the first time and they helped each other by showing how to throw. When members got a strike or a spare, they were as happy as if it was their own, and the activity was full of smiles. (Yosuke Hasegawa)



## <Pink Shirt Day>

This year, YMCAs across the country will again hold Pink Shirt Day (28 February) with the aim of confronting bullying in society as a whole and creating a society where everyone can live in peace, rather than discrimination, prejudice, and division. The Saitama YMCA will make February Pink Shirt Day Month for each of its centres and projects. If you would like to join us, why don't you wear a pink shirt or something pink at the 24 February meeting of the Kawagoe Y's Men's Club?

<2024 Saitama YMCA's overseas exchange programme Dynamic Summer>

Summer Camp in Oregon Camp Collins Outline:

Date: July 27, 2024(Sat.) ~ Aug. 11 (Sun) 16 Days

Eligibility: 3rd grade to high school students (under 17 years old).

Programme training participation fee (arranged by YMCA): ¥ 650,000 yen

Trip cost (JTB plan): 250,000 yen

Other: Fuel surcharge

Activities: YMCA camp and homestay (planned)

Number of applicants: 15

[https://tokyo.ymca.or.jp/camp/program\\_abroad.html](https://tokyo.ymca.or.jp/camp/program_abroad.html)

<Start your English conversation at the YMCA >

With over 100 years of history and experience in English language education, the YMCA provides English language education with the aim of creating a society where people from all walks of life live together in harmony. At the Kawagoe Centre, there is a place where you can learn and interact with the language in a way that suits you.

We are always happy to accept visitors on a trial basis. Please come and visit us with your family and friends.

Adult English conversation : (Wed.)10:00 ~ 11:30 • (Thu.)10:30~12:00•(Thu.)12:30~13:30

Kid's English conversation:(Thu) and (Fri) 60 or 90 min. classes between 17:00~20:00.

Private lessons are also available.



(Editor's Note)

We are very happy to hear that Hisayo Arai will join our club. I heard that she has already paid the admission fee. I look forward to working with her in various activities in the future.

When will the war between Israel and Hamas be over? On Saturday 10 March, I had the opportunity to listen to a person who had been in and out of the region frequently over the past 12 years, showing me slides of his experiences. It is not a good thing to know that there are so many complicated factors, and that the situation cannot be solved in a straight line. 'Glory in heaven and peace on earth!' We pray and ask.

(KY)