



希望の鐘 *The Bell of Hope*



The Y's Men's Club of Kawagoe

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Kawagoe Y's Men's Club Bulletin

No. 26-12

June Issue Issued June 18, 2024

Chartered 1998

President Goshiro Yamamoto CP's Theme: "Learn about the past and gain new ideas and knowledge from it. Meet new people for tomorrow!"

Vice President Atsuko Matsukawa CP's Theme: "Learn about the past and gain new ideas and knowledge from it. Meet new people for tomorrow!"

Treasurer Kimiyo Yoshida AP Keiko Tonegawa (Kawagoe) Theme: "Be the light for change"

Secretary Katsusaburo Yoshino Japan East Regional Director Kohei Yamada (Utsunomiya)
Theme: "Learn and discover now for the future! For the future, develop confidence and encounter true joy!"

District Governor Masao Nagao (Chiba West)

Theme: "YMCA and Y's Collaborate to Aim for Serving the Community!"

June Scripture

Yahweh is my shepherd: I shall lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul. He guides me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me. Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
Psalms 23:1-4

O my Lord, lead us now
Lead us to the fields of young grass
Protect us and nourish us.
We belong to Thee, redeem us to Thee

I don't want a long, difficult sermon, so just play this hymn and a couple more hymns at my funeral and I'll be fine. I myself don't like long sermons, long prayers, and long services, so I think it would be better if the whole service lasted about 15 minutes. Well, I can't order this or that for my own funeral.

May Registration (May 23, 31)

Participants 8

Attendance Rate 80%

Preface

Kawagoe Y's Men's Club President
Goshiro Yamamoto

Hymn No. 354, "Pastor, My Lord"

If I die, I would like you to play Hymn No. 354 "Pastor, My Lord" at my funeral. There are various hymns sung in churches, such as "Hymn," "New Hymn," "Hymnal," and "Hymnal 21," but I like "Hymnal" (1954 edition, Hymnal Committee of the Christian Church of Japan) the best because it is familiar, emotional, and simple. If I had to choose one of the hymns, I still like this song, No. 354, and I would like it to be played at my own funeral. The lyrics of that one verse are as follows, not to mention the fact that the lyrics are based on the 23rd Psalm of the Bible.

May Meeting Report

「Thinking about Non-attendance at School」

Date: May 25, Sat. 16:30~18:00

Place: Kawagoe City South Community Center Hall No.2

Table talk: Ms. Akiko Kimoto
Kawagoe Parents' Association for Non-Attendance at School Children)

「Think about Non-attendance at School」

Participants : (Kawagoe) Kyoko Kawai、Keiko Tonegawa、Atsuko Yamazaki、Goshiro Yamamoto、(Saitama) Teruo Kinugasa、Masato Kotani、(Tokorozawa) Kazuko Osawa.

We welcomed Ms. Akiko Kimoto as our table talker, who spoke on the topic of "Thinking about Non-attendance at School." Ms. Kimoto talked about how her eldest son (now 19 years old) stopped going to school from the second grade of elementary school, which triggered her to think about not attending school in various ways, and through trial and error, she established the "Kawagoe Parents

Association of Non-attendance School Children," a meeting place for parents with children who have stopped attending school, and "Rubato," a meeting where everyone can think about various aspects of not attending school children. She then explained what she had compiled in her own way about not attending school situations, which she summarized in her materials. Originally, the YMCA is an organization with youth development as its goal, and the Kawagoe and Tokorozawa clubs are also clubs with many former schoolteachers, so I was interested in this issue. Listening to Ms. Kimoto's talk this time, I felt as if I had been given a hint to think about the state of being out of school for these children and how the YMCA and Y's Men's Clubs should deal with this problem.

I think the illustration below of not attending school situations illustrates this very well. Especially in the truancy issue, I realized that it is not "whether the child goes to school or not," but "whether the child is in a good state or not" that really matters. That is why it was no wonder that in the illustration truancy, children who are going to school but are in a bad state, or in place C, are not forced to continue going to school but rather to evacuate to place D, which is not going to school, and from there to place B, which is not going to school but in a good state.

In any case, we do not know what causes truancy, which can happen to anyone. Truancy is not only a significant social loss, but it is also crucial for each of these children to have a good situation and a place of their own. I want to continue listening to the talk and would like to have other Y's Men's Clubs to talk about it in the future.

Future Plans

June Meeting

Theme: Rihito Kimura Lecture "If You're Happy, Clap Your Hands" Birth Story
 ~Participating in the Dagupan YMCA Work Camp (1959)

Date June 22, Sat., 2024 14:00~16:00

Place : Saitama YMCA Child Rearing Center
 (Next to Saitama YMCA Tokorozawa Center)

Organizer: Kawagoe Y's Men's Club

Co-sponsored by Saitama YMCA Foundation, Saitama Y's Men's Club, Tokorozawa Y's Men's Club

YMCAYMCA・ワイズメンズクラブ公開講演会

「幸せなら手をたたこう」
 誕生物語

参加無料

～ダグパンYMCA ワークキャンプ (1959年) に参加して～

講演者: 木村 利人 (きむら りひと) 氏
 国際的なバイオエシックス (生命倫理学) 研究者。早稲田大学名誉教授で、恵泉女学園大学元学長。博士 (人間科学)。
 1959年、農村復興のボランティア・ワークで初めてフィリピンに行きました。太平洋戦争中に日本がフィリピンに軍事侵襲し、約百万人の命を奪ったという悲惨な状況について何も知らなかった僕は、現地で初めてその事実を知り、言葉を失いました。ボランティア仲間の中には戦争で家族を失い、日本への憎悪の只中に入った人もいたのです。ところが労働奉仕などを通じて親しくなったラルフ君が、ある日「リヒト! お互いにこれから、絶対に武器を取って戦わないことを誓おう。平和な未来を作り出そう。ボクたちはトモダチなんだ!」と語りかけてくれたのです。
 【漫画 幸せなら手をたたこう 誕生物語 (いのちのことは社) より】

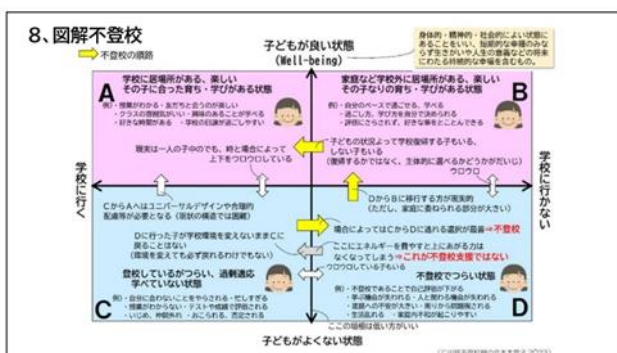
日時: 2024年6月22日 (土) 14:00~16:00
 場所: 公益財団法人 埼玉 YMCA 子育て子育てセンター
 所沢市小手指町 1-39-11
 (西武池袋線「小手指駅」北口から徒歩7分)

★会場の都合により、ご参加の方は調整さん (右 QR コード)、または Facebook「川越ワイズメンズクラブ (後列左端が木村利人氏)」から参加の申し込みをお願いします。(申し込みがなくても参加できます。)

1959年、フィリピン・パンガシナン州ダグパン市のYMCAワークキャンプ
 (後列左端が木村利人氏)

2024年1月20日、いのちのことは社より出版

主催: 川越ワイズメンズクラブ
 共催: 公益財団法人 埼玉 YMCA、埼玉ワイズメンズクラブ、所沢ワイズメンズクラブ



Participating 2023-24 Japan East Region 27th Japan East Regional Convention

Taro & Keiko Tonegawa

On June 1, we participated in the 27th Japan East Regional Convention held at Tokachi Plaza and Hotel Nikko Northland Obihiro in Obihiro City, Hokkaido.

We were very much looking forward to this convention because it was held in the vast Tokachi Plain, which is called Japan's food supply base, amidst the magnificent nature of Hokkaido. More than 320 Y's Men from all over Japan gathered to renew old friendship and have pleasant communication, and it turned out to be an enjoyable and delicious convention that far exceeded our expectations.

From Kawagoe Club, two members, Keiko and Taro Tonegawa participated. Sixty-four people from the Japan West Region also participated, making for a very lively convention. We participated in the event from the eve of the festival, and the fairly spacious Mexican restaurant was filled to capacity even though it was rented out, so we could meet and greet many people before the main event.

The potato snacks sold at the Kawagoe Club booth were so popular with everyone that they were sold out before the opening of the convention. The convention opened at Tokachi Plaza with a marching band from Obihiro Otani High School and rhythmic dancing by children from the Tokachi Obihiro YMCA. This was followed by a banner ceremony and the opening ceremony. In the Japan East Region Hour I, there were reports from the Board of Directors and the YMCA. The YMCA report reported the YMCA's activities in the Noto Peninsula earthquake, showing how the YMCA played a significant role at the government's request and the great support of the Y's Men's Club. The commemorative lecture was given by Mr. Atsushi Nishimura, an Antarctic chef, author, and leader of Aurora Kitchen, who spoke about his experiences as a member of the Antarctic expedition in 1989 (Expedition 30) and 1997 (Expedition 38), as well as about the various ways of communication through food under the harsh conditions of these experiences. It was a fast-paced one and a half hour talk.

In the Japan East Region Hour II, following the service directors' reports, awards were presented. The Kawagoe Club was given two awards, the first of which was the IBC Award, and was asked to remain on stage after receiving the award. The Kawagoe Club was named the "Best Club Award" at the end. The reason for the award was that "the Kawagoe Club was active in inviting a wide variety of people to its meetings and inviting other clubs to participate, and was proactive in publicizing its activities by frequently posting announcements and activities on Facebook. It is a pity that the president could not accept the award, as I believe that Mr. Yamamoto, the club president, did a great job, but I received the award instead. Afterwards, the installation ceremony of Regional Director was conducted by Ms. Keiko Tonegawa, President of the Asia Pacific Area, and the officers were introduced to conclude the main program of the convention.

The venue was moved to the Hotel Nikko Northland Obihiro, where the Grand Dinner Party was held. Many people from the Japan West Region attended the party, and it was a great success, with many old friendships being renewed here and there. The food was sumptuous, including delicacies of the sea and the mountains, and the all-you-can-eat asparagus was especially popular, with a long line of people waiting to try it. We enjoyed the food of Hokkaido to the fullest. We parted, promising to meet again at the Japan West Regional Convention next week.



[Participating 2023-24 Japan West Region 27th Japan West Regional Convention](#)

Taro & Keiko Tonegawa

Following the Japan East Regional Convention, we participated in the 27th Japan West Regional Convention held on June 8. The venue was Nagoya City Public Hall and ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel Grand Court Nagoya. Nagoya is now in the limelight as a location for NHK's morning drama "Tora ni Tsubasa." The Nagoya City Public Hall, located in "Tsurumai Park," one of the filming locations, is also a historic building and stately venue.

The Japan West Regional Convention was a great success with over 570 participants from all over Japan. Keiko and Taro Tonegawa attended from the Kawagoe Club.

Following the banner ceremony, the convention opened with an opening declaration by Japan West Regional Director, Satoshi Fukaya, followed by the annual report, District Governors' reports, and Service Directors' reports, and then awards were presented. The convention ended with the handover ceremony of Regional Directors and Regional officers.

The reception was held at the ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel Grand Court Nagoya. The country western band provided a lively performance, and everyone had a great time chatting with each other. The splendid dinner, which continued last week, has made me slightly concerned about my weight. Having participated in the Japan East and West Regional Conventions, I felt that they were each run uniquely. What they all have in common is the

organizer's desire for all participants to have an enjoyable and meaningful time. Greetings and ceremonies were brief, thoughtful, and lively, and I felt that time passed quickly!



[From the International Stage](#)
[“Keiko’s Monthly Briefing of YMI/ASP”](#)

[Participating in the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Manila Downtown Y's Menettes Club, the Philippines](#)

AP Keiko Tonegawa

One of the organizations of Y's Men International is the Y's Menettes Club. Article 3, Section 3 of the Y's Men International Constitution stipulates that "Y's Menettes clubs may be established in each club, area, district, region and at the international level, exclusively for women, which shall plan and carry out their own activities and projects in support of Y's Men's Clubs, YMCA and the community." It is stipulated that although often considered as a subordinate or annex organization of Y's Men's Clubs, Y's Menettes Clubs are independent women's organizations with the same objectives as Y's Men's Clubs and are partners of Y's Men's Clubs. Like Y's Men's Clubs, they are registered at the International Headquarters and pay a registration fee of 3 Swiss Francs per person.

There are clubs in Australia, Taiwan, and the Philippines in the Asia Pacific Area. Still, no clubs are registered as Y's Menettes clubs at the International Headquarters in the Japan East Region. However, we do make an annual donation as Y's Menett Contribution. The donation is used to support TOF projects voted by Y's Menett clubs around the world. The 2022-2024 support project is an educational and vocational training project for women in Nepal.

On a different note, on Saturday, May 17, the Manila Downtown Y's Menettes Club in the Philippines celebrated to commemorate the 50th anniversary of its establishment. The club now boasts 38 members, several charter members, and more than a dozen members who have served as president since the first president.

Aside from the commemorative celebration, I was particularly impressed to hear that this Y's Menettes club has continued its own service activities for many years, especially providing scholarships to 20 high school students yearly. Since many of the members have been successful in their projects, they can continue to do projects that require such a large amount of funds. Furthermore, in awarding scholarships, the club members interview the students and their parents to make decisions, rather than leaving it up to the schools to select the students.

Whether it is a Y's Men's Club or a Y's Menettes Club, a Y's Menettes Club is a group of people who want to serve their community, and it is an option to choose the proper organization for you. I would like to thank everyone in Manila Downtown for your service to the community and society over the past 50 years. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.



These are the presidents of the generations. The one in the middle (seventh from the right) is the Charter President and was in good health.

YMCA Report

<Parent-child group for parent-child fun >

In April last year, the "Oyakono-kai" was established to provide a place where parents can feel free to discuss their child-rearing concerns while their children are having fun playing.

"Oyakono-kai" was established with the aim of providing a place for such a "connection."

Parents and children attend this meeting together, but do not spend time together. When they leave, both parents and children can say with a smile, "That was fun.

Currently, we are asking for the cooperation of volunteers at Kodomo no Kai, and we are receiving generous support from Kawagoe Y's Special Education Support Fund for transportation expenses for the volunteers. The next meeting will be held on July 7 (日) (Oyano-kai: childcare consultation / Kodomo no Kai: water play). Please let us know if you know someone who is interested.



<A memorial service for Ms. Kyoko Ozeki (Bu Leader) >

On June 9 Sun. we held a "Memorial Service for Ms. Kyoko Ozeki (Bu Leader)" at the Child Rearing and Child Raising Center, and 84 people including online participants gathered. Ms. Ozeki has continued to support Saitama YMCA in various capacities as a board member, educational advisor, and Y's Men. It has been two months since Ms. Ozeki passed away, but we still remember her smiling face saying, "Domo~moo~, Ozeki desu! And full of smiles, we still feel that Ms. Ozeki would

come to Kawagoe Center. At the Shinobu-kai (memorial service), people involved with Ozeki Sensei shared their memories, and the reminiscing never stopped and the time was filled with smiles. (Kawai)

<Participating in a memorial service for Kyoko Ozeki >

June 9, 2:00 p.m. When I entered the venue, it was filled with people from small children to seniors. It reminded me of Ms. Ozeki's activities with people of all ages and her personality.

The meeting proceeded with Ms. Ozeki's background, numerous messages, and reminiscences. I always had a heartwarming feeling for the way they were there for each child and for each person.

Finally, the Y's Men's Club members began to reminisce. They were older than the others in the group, and their lives seemed to have more depth than the freshness of the young people and children. Mr. Asaba and Mr. Uematsu from Urawa, Mr. and Mrs. Shibuya from Tokorozawa, and Ms. Yamasaki from Kawagoe gave speeches. Ms. Ozeki is like a big sister to me; she is about two years older than me, and I feel at ease with her. I was happy to see her face at many meetings.

She always bought a lot of goods at the Kawagoe sweet potato fund activities, and when I asked her if she was okay with such a large quantity, she replied, "I'm fine. She seemed to have divided them into small bags of 2 or 3 kg and sold them to her acquaintances. I really appreciate her warm consideration.

Ms. Ozeki's younger brother, Mr. Chiba, is also a music store owner and a piano tuner. Our piano is always tuned by her younger brother, Mr. Chiba.

According to him, Ms. Ozeki is the second oldest from the top of the siblings and is a very strong older sister. And their aunt is a pianist, so all the brothers learned to play the piano. Every New Year's Day, all the siblings have a piano recital. It seems that they spent their childhood like that. In one of her memorable stories, she told us that all her children were taught to play the pianica well, and the whole audience said enthusiastically, "Oh, yes!

Even though you cannot see her, she is firmly in everyone's heart. I am sure that I will find Ms. Ozeki at the meetings as well.

I will remember her as the big sister of the Y's Men's Club from time to time and continue to be active in the Y's Men's Club.

Atsuko Yamazaki
Kawagoe Y's Mans Club



(Editor' Note)

I am pleased to publish No. 26-12, "The Bell of Hope" with your help. This is the last Bulletin of Chairman Goshiro Yamamoto for this term. President Yamamoto will assume the important position of Governor of the Kanto Tobu District of the Japan East Region on July 1. He will take on more and more heavy responsibilities at Kings Garden. He is also a new auditor of Saitama YMCA. Please care for your health and do your best for the YMCA and Y'sdom.

I am very much looking forward to seeing what new style Mr. Taro Tonegawa, as president, will bring to YMCA and the Y's movement in the new year.

Due in large part to your active contributions, we received the Best Club Award at the recent Japan East Regional Convention in Tokachi.

Furthermore, I believe that the Kawagoe Club is the only club that has even published an English version.

I will continue to serve as secretary for the next year, and I look forward to your continued support.
(KY)