



# 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

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Chartered 1998

President Taro Tonegawa	Club President Theme 「Return to the starting point and support Kawagoe YMCA.」
Vice President Atsuko Matsukawa	
Treasurer Kimiyo Yoshida	International President: A. Shanavaskhan (India)
Secretary Katsusaburo Yoshino	Theme: Together for a better world Slogan: Arise and Shine
	Asia Pacific Area President Joan Wong (Hong Kong)
	Theme: Make a big impact!
	Japan East Region Director Kohei Yamada (Utsunomiya)
	Theme: Determine the direction of Y's Movement.
	Kantotobu Director Goshiro Yamamoto (Kawagoe)
	Theme: We may be small, but we are not helpless

### The scripture of the month

“Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions. If *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, *there* you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know.

(John 14:1-4)

### November Attendance (Nov. 4 & 23)

Participants 9 Attendance Rate 90%

### Kawagoe Club November Meeting Report

Taro Tonegawa  
Club President

The season is entirely in the mood for Christmas, but the days are still warm during the day, and the temperature difference between morning and evening is puzzling.

Thanks to all of you, the Kawagoe Club held its 25th anniversary meeting on December 1st with magnificent success. I will leave the details of the anniversary meeting to Keiko, the executive committee chairperson, and here I would like to report on the November meeting held on Saturday, November 23, one week before the anniversary meeting.

#### 1. Kawagoe Y's Men's Club 25th Anniversary Meeting

- We made a final check and assigned roles for the anniversary meeting, which is coming up in a week.

- The 51 members who have signed up for the meeting will receive the final notice the day before.
- Program confirmed.  
The video message from DBC Kitakyushu Club. The video message is scheduled from the Hyderabad Club, which is considered an IBC. Let's Sing Together: “Do Re Mi,” “Joy to the World,” and “Silent Night.”
- Check the seating chart and decide the seats by lottery except for the honorable guests. We will prepare “Imo Matsuba,” a sweet potato snack from Kawagoe, as a souvenir.

#### 2. Charity “Kawagoe Imo” (sweet potatoes)

- We have set the end of November as the closing date for orders, but we will distribute flyers at the anniversary meeting and accept more purchases.

#### 3. Christmas meeting on December 21 (Sat.)

- The Christmas meeting will be held at Kawagoe YMCA. Participants will be about 10 junior high school and high school students.
- 14:00~16:00 Christmas party will be held with Kawagoe Y's Men's Club, and participants will interact with each other. Souvenirs will be prepared, and Mr. Yamamoto will tell a Christmas story.
- 16:00-16:30 Youth Volunteer Leaders Forum reporting session. Mr. Shintaro Kimoto, who participated in the forum, will report his participation to the Y's Men's Club members.
- 16:30 to 17:00. Kawagoe Club will hold a regular business meeting

#### 4. Bus trip on March 29 (Sat)

- We are planning to invite a wide range of participants, including children who attend YMCA, their parents, and those who are interested in YMCA and Y's Men's activities.
- Due to the rising cost of buses, a YMCA bus (27-seater) will be used. Committee Chair Yoshino will be in charge of planning the event.

#### 5. 26th Earth Day Kawagoe in Showa no Machi to be held on March 9 (Sunday)

- We have decided to exhibit at the 26th Earth Day Kawagoe in Showa-no-Machi to be held on March 9 (Sun.) and have applied.

The above is the main contents of the report. The next meeting will be the Christmas meeting at Kawagoe YMCA on December 21 (Sat.) at 14:00.

### Report on the 25th Saitama YMCA Charity Run

Katsusaburo Yoshino

The Kawagoe Club participated in this event, both as a club and as individuals, at Tokorozawa Aviation Park on Monday, November 4 (holiday), and we report the main points below.

We were blessed with fine weather and were delighted to participate in this event. Katsutoshi Onozuka, the mayor of Tokorozawa City, signaled the starting pistol, and the competition began. I was impressed that the mayor took off his jacket and tie and participated in the preparatory exercises with the participants before the race. As you may know, Mayor Onozuka is a member of the Tokorozawa Y's Men's Club.

The photo below shows participants from the Kawagoe Club on the day of the event are shown in the photos below. Those who ran, walked, and observed enjoyed the event in their own style.

The Kawagoe Club provided two 5-kg boxes of Beniaka Sweet Potato, three boxes of assorted sweet potato snacks, and three bags of Y's coffee as prizes. We registered two teams. We left the venue hoping to participate again next year.

The total number of participants was over 160, and the number of sponsors and organizations was 30.



全体集合写真



Participants related to Kawagoe Y's Men's Club



Participant's heroic appearance ( ? )

### Kawagoe Y's Men's Club 25th Anniversary Meeting Report

Kawagoe Y's Men's Club 25th Anniversary  
Committee Chair  
Keiko Tonegawa

Kawagoe Y's Men's Club held its 25<sup>th</sup>-anniversary meeting on December 1.

We had 51 members, including Mr. Kohei Yamada, Japan East Region Director, in attendance, and although the meeting was short, it turned out to be very lively and enjoyable. The participants' smiling faces and enthusiasm for the meeting made us feel their love for the Kawagoe Club. I would like to thank you again.

Kawagoe Club was chartered on October 24, 1988, with 18 members, with Tokyo Y's Men's Club and Saitama Y's Men's Club as parent clubs. Therefore, this year is the 26th anniversary year, and we were able to hold an anniversary meeting and publish a memorial magazine as a milestone of the 25th anniversary. We want to express our gratitude to all of you who have supported us.

The meeting started with a Bible reading and prayer by President Hirosuke Shibuya of the Tokorozawa Club, followed by a greeting by Director Kohei Yamada. We were also able to present a video

message from the DBC Kitakyushu Club and a video message from the IBC Hyderabad Club.

Although it was a short time, Mr. Goshiro Yamamoto guided us through the progress since the 20th anniversary. Five years have passed in a flash, but it was a time when I realized how many things have happened, including the 20th-anniversary meeting, the passing of Y's Man Masatoshi Kamata, who was a pillar of the club, the 28th Asia Pacific Area Convention in Sendai, the Corona disaster and the IBC exchange through Zoom during the pandemic period, and the 30th Asia Pacific Area Convention which I was the Asia Pacific Area President and you all attended. It was a time when I realized that we are here today thanks to the support of the Kawagoe Club members and many other people.

Kawagoe Club has been active for 25 years with smiling faces. We would like to continue to move forward "with a smile and a Niko Niko(smile smile) smile into the future." I want to conclude my report on our anniversary meeting and request your continued support for many more years.



**Yw. Sundhamala, President of the Hyderabad Club (India), sent a video of her congratulatory message.**



**Photos of all participants of the day**



**Guests of Honor**



**Congratulations from the DBC Kitakyushu Y's Men's Club President, Ym. Hisashi Sogabe and Mr. Shoji Matsuda**



The memorial program book was published this time.

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

### **Two significant anniversaries of the Y’s Movement Founders’ Day**

**Keiko Tonegawa**



December 8 marks the birth of our first International President, Judge Paul William Alexander, in 1888. To commemorate this event, Y’s Men International has designated December 8 as **Founder’s Day**, a day to reflect on our organization’s precious legacy and the enduring values that have guided us for over a century. Events and celebrations are held worldwide to commemorate our Founder’s birth.

#### **“Y’s Day,” unique to the Japan East and West Regions**

In the Japan East and West Regions, November 10 is designated “Y’s Day” to commemorate the first Japanese Y’s Men’s Club to be admitted to the International Association.

These anniversaries continue to reflect on the origin of the Y’s movement. Kawagoe Club held its 25th-anniversary meeting on December 1 and reviewed its history. When I think of the birth of our founder and the origin of the Y’s movement in Japan, I am reminded of the weight of 102 years of history.

Although this year has already passed, I believe that planning activities to commemorate this anniversary in the future will also help revitalize and develop the club.

## [YMCA Report](#)

### [Participating in the Kawagoe Y’s Men’s Club 25th Anniversary Meeting](#)

Congratulations, Kawagoe Y’s Men’s Club, on its 25th anniversary.

I want to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for your kindness and support. It was a pleasure to be a part of this milestone and to celebrate with you.

Many people from as far north as Hokkaido and as far south as Hyogo Prefecture gathered for the anniversary meeting. We received congratulations from everyone we met at the reception desk, which made us realize everyone loves Kawagoe Y’s Men’s Club. Thank you very much to everyone who came to the event.

During the meeting, we enjoyed a delicious meal. We also had a rich time with participants’ introductions, the singing time, etc. Through the commemorative meeting, I learned more about Kawagoe Y’s Men’s Club. I was touched by the banner, the charity potatoes, the history up to now, and everyone’s thoughts and feelings.

I want to continue to walk with everyone in the Kawagoe Y’s Men’s Club, so please keep up the good work with a “smiley face and a smile for the future.” I wish you all the best for your future development.

PS Thank you for the sweet potato snack you provided as a souvenir. I enjoyed them very much. **[Haruna Kinoshita (R Leader) ]**

### **(Editor’s Note)**

I am pleased to be able to publish another content-rich bulletin. In particular, our club’s 25th-anniversary meeting on Sunday, December 1, was a great success. The venue restaurant generously accepted 52 people when it was said that the maximum number of participants would be 50. I want to thank everyone who attended.

There is only half a month left to 2025. What a year it has been for all of you. It has been two years since I was hospitalized for knee replacement surgery and bowel obstruction. Fortunately, I recovered well and was able to climb a mountain for the first time in a long time in the summer. I also made two business trips to India and visited Paris and London for eight days. I am looking forward to 2025.

However, I am saddened to learn of the passing of a close friend of mine who helped plan our wedding this past December.

Please, everyone, have a good holiday season and New Year’s holidays. (KY)