



Being Installed as President of Takarazuka Y's men's club 2014-15

Kazuyo Sugitani

July 9, 2014



The new term 2014-15 has started. The July kick-off meeting was held on July 9 with many guests from other clubs which I appreciated very much.

The meeting started with the new President's greeting, goals and activity plans, and other committee chairpersons' plans. We all anticipated much hope and success for a new term.

I joined Y's men's club three years ago, working positively and enthusiastically in various kinds of activities. Recently I have felt the joy of sharing my time with members, communities, and people who need some help. The time spent was very

precious for both sides. We all feel the joy of sharing. We must widen the circle of this club to include other people who have never experienced this sharing in their lives. I made the decision to make Takarazuka Club's Annual Theme, "Feel the joy of sharing, widen the circle of it !"

We must make monthly meetings interesting to get the attendance of not only members, but guests from other clubs, and non-members in order to make planned activities successful.

The following suggestions are what I would like to have the club members decide on:

1. The meetings must have-interesting programs and speakers that will generate higher attendance.
2. Those attending must feel friendship, and a close relationship with us and each other. This will also increase attendance.
3. Build a public relations program that will reach many outside people, also increasing membership of the Y's Men's Club.
4. Orientation for new members and visitors is needed.
5. Encourage youth programs which everyone has an opportunity to participate in, which will be good for future activities

In conclusion, members must make their own time to be available, and to plan their own

priorities. Let's remember that our theme is "Feel the joy of sharing, widen the circle of it!" and that all members plan to participate, and to take action to work together to accomplish our goals.

I am dedicated to being a pleasant and strong president during my time in office.

By Kazuyo Sugitani, President of Takarazuka Y's men's club 2014-15

### Welcome Banquette (Convention Eve)

Welcome banquet was held at a very historical Japanese Inn “Hangetsu An” in Iwakuni, Yamaguchi Pref. hosted by RD Toshihiko Takase on June 13, 2014. There were almost 100 Y's men , women and menettes gathered. The place had inaugurated as a tea ceremony house 143 years before.

We enjoyed their traditional cuisine and secretly well-known local SAKE going with it. Not only the food and beverage, the scenery of the location was also greatly fantastic.

The famous Kintai Bridge over the river and the Iwakuni Castle on the top of the hill illuminated lightly were another wonderful dessert of the evening. (Yumi Ishida)



Big thanks to my colleagues !

I am extremely happy to announce that my task as a club president has smoothly finished at the end of June, 2014. Your support and co-operation to me were very much appreciated. “Joyful Club Meeting Committee” was started to improve our regular club meeting that is a basis of Y'sdom , co-working with EMC and Exchange committee under the presidential theme, “Exchange is the very enjoyment of Y'sdom.”

This action activated our club as it led to the fact welcoming more visitors and guests than before. Then we shared the happy moment having a new member in July, 2013.



The 17<sup>th</sup> Japan West RC was an unforgettable convention in Iwakuni, June 14-15, 2014. it

was hosted by a three-years-old club, Iwakuni-Minami Club with 21 younger members. In spite of several limited conditions, such as small city, accommodation, convention facility, access, manpower and etc., they operated the most wonderful performance I've ever seen. There is a very special word, which is Hospitality. When I think of the big success, I can not stop thinking toward their efforts and challenge for the purpose of showing Hospitality. The convention was closed with a standing ovation lasting quite a long time. I was so much moved to tears.

Ms. Kazuyo Sugitani will take over the role as a club president from July, let's enjoy Takarazuka Y's Men's Club with her new principle.

Yumi Ishida(PCP)

### Report on The 78<sup>th</sup> Hawaii Region Convention



When I heard of the information of the convention last year, I had no hesitation to go and instantly said, "I will go". Thanks to three Y's men of Osaka Tosabori Club that is an IBC with Hilo Y's Men Club, I was able to share a wonderful time with them at Kilauea Military Camp in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, May 30 – June 1, 2014.

Hilo has been the most relaxing town to me since my first visit over the ten years before as

its nature, landscape and people are nothing but beautiful.

Upon arrival at Hilo Airport, we met three Y's Men showing the Y's flag with lovely welcome leis.

In the evening, Hilo club hosted an IBC night dinner at Sky Garden Restaurant, my favorite place.

It was a very friendly dinner time exchanging small gifts with each other.

Next day, the convention program was started by the kick-off luncheon party at Nani Mau Garden and after that, we proceeded to Kilauea Military Camp as high as 4000ft. in the park.



There were two sessions after the call to order at 4:00p.m.

The most unforgettable experience we had was that we went up to Halemaumau crater which is now active at night. We couldn't see the flame, however pretty big smoke was reflected by the flame to show us the tremendous energy of the earth. Pele, the Goddess of the volcano must have welcome us, I believe.

On the second day, we went to the crater again after breakfast. What a beautiful weather we were given ! Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa, the two high summits were clearly seen under the blue sky. Halemaumau had a different face in the day time, looked rather calm.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> dinner was a BBQ party. Everybody enjoyed the food, chattering, taking photos with each other and so on.

At the end of the time, I was given a wonderful surprise by RD Bobby Stiver-Apiki. On behalf of the all local committee members, he presented a beautiful photo book showing the Big Island's beauty, such as landscape, nature and plants. He told me that the gift would be an important string to get Hawaii Region and my club closer from now on.

It was only 4days at the place, however I had a great experience and warm hospitality here and there. Yes, this is Aloha, this is ALOHA. (Yumi Ishida)



Opening Ceremony of Kobe YMCA Family Wellness Center was held on Aug.30<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon at Wakahama,Kobe and 140people gathered to celebrate. Tom Hosley who was a long term friend and former vice General Secretary of Seattle YMCA gave us a warm Congratulate Speech. Over 2000 new members are already registered and we are hoping this center can serve the community of all ages and play the important role of YMCA mission. We all the Y'sMen will support this new project.

