



Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs

APAY eNews

Monthly eNewsletter of the Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs | August-October 2011

Inside Stories...

- Vacancy Positions at APAY p. 2
- Youth Assembly Shapes the Next 4 Years p. 3
- International Forum on Alternative Tourism p. 4
- Welcome New Executive Secretary p. 4
- Cambodia Appoints New GS p. 4
- 3rd Leaders Quadrennial Roundtable p. 4
- Updates on Advanced Studies Program p. 4
- General Assembly Highlights p. 5
- EASY Net Week Celebration p. 5
- Week of Prayer 2011 p. 5
- ICF Updates p. 6

UPCOMING EVENTS

14Nov - 10Dec: 29th Advanced Studies Program (Hong Kong)

23 - 30 Nov : Global Alternative Tourism Network Workshop (Cambodia)

17 - 19 Dec: 3rd Leaders Quadrennial Roundtable (Thailand)

APAY eNews

Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs
23 Waterloo Road, 6th floor, Kowloon, Hong Kong
tel. 852-2780 8347; 2770 3168, 2783 3058;
fax 852- 2385 4692
e-mail: office@asiapacificymca.org

At the General Assembly...

Council Elects New Officers for 2012—2015



NEW OFFICERS WITH THE GENERAL SECRETARY: (from 2nd from the Left-Right): Mr. Peter Malone (Vice President ~ Pacific), Mr. Yau Chung Wan (President), Mr. Babu Markus Gomes (Vice President ~ South Asia), Dr. Patcharawan Srisilapanan (Vice President ~ South East Asia), Mr. Song In Dong (Vice President ~ East Asia), and Mr. John Cherian Kandathil (Treasurer) with the General Secretary Mr. Kohei Yamada (outmost left).

Congratulations to the new APAY Officers who were elected during the Quadrennial Council Meeting last 9 September 2011 at the 18th General Assembly in Penang, Malaysia.

Mr. Yau Chung Wan (Hong Kong) was elected President of the Alliance. Other Officers elected were Vice Presidents representing the sub-regions: Mr. Song Indong (Korea, East Asia), Mr. Peter Malone (Australia, Pacific), Mr. Babu Markus Gomes (Bangladesh, South Asia) and Dr. Patcharawan Srisilapanan (Thailand, South East Asia) and Treasurer, Mr. John Cherian Kandathil (India).

Dr. Park Jai Chang, Immediate

Past President of APAY inducted the new Officers during the Closing Worship at the Assembly. Mr. Chim Hou Yan, former President of Asia Alliance presented the award of appreciation and recognition to the outgoing Officers after they administered a solemn investiture to the new Officers.

We express our deepest appreciation to the APAY Officers (2007-2011): President, Dr. Park Jai Chang (Korea); Vice Presidents: Rev. Jack Young (Hong Kong, East Asia), Mr. Paul Le Gros (New Zealand, Pacific), Prof. P.J. Oommen (India, South Asia) and Mr. Liew Mun Khai (Malaysia, South East Asia) and Treasurer, Takao Nishimura (Japan).

Assembly Mandate's Call to Action

- To make youth empowerment a key pillar in achieving YMCAs' desired goals;
- To nurture Global Citizenship as a means to break barriers and transform lives;
- To ensure gender equity and move toward achieving gender justice within the APAY and its member movements as well as the larger society;
- To change attitudes and behaviors toward achieving climate justice and promote awareness and advocacy on environmental issues in the community as good stewards of God's Creation;
- To promote the creation of alternative tourism throughout the region and facilitate the establishment of a global alternative tourism network;
- To encourage movement strengthening in all YMCA movements with good governance practices, effective resource mobilization and leadership development at the local and national levels.

(Photos of General Assembly Highlights can be found on p.5. / Full text of the Mandate can be downloaded from our website and is available at your National Secretariat)



From the desk of the General Secretary...

First, I would like to thank you once again for the very active and meaningful participation in the 18th General Assembly held in Penang last September.

Also, I would like to make special mention of our staff, Cristina Dalope, who has worked at APAY as Executive Secretary for Programs from April 2007 up to the end of this month, covering an entire quadrennial term. Her last work was to accomplish the General Assembly and Youth Assembly successfully, which she has done successfully. Her works in APAY focused on Youth Development, Gender Equity, Disaster Management, EASY Net, Advanced Studies Program, and APAY's eNews. This would be the last issue of eNews to be edited by her. Soon, she will be back to Philippines. Please all join me in thanking Cristina for her invaluable efforts these past 4 years and we wish her the best of everything in her future endeavors. We deeply appreciate the hard work, contributions, and harmonious relationship she built with us.



Cristina A. Dalope, Executive Secretary for Programs at APAY, (2007-2011)

Campus Y at Y's Men's Club Meeting

Last 20th October 2011, I attended our Y's Men's Club meeting here in Hong Kong. We invited young students who run YMCA activities in their university campuses. They call themselves 'The Council of Campus Y', which is an affiliate of YMCA of Hong Kong. Basically, Campus Y is the same with Uni-Y, College Y, and Student Y; they only differ in terms. The number of young people in several movements in Asia has been continuously growing. In each university, they have an organizational structure. Leaders and members of each Campus Y gather each time to plan and implement various community services. Sometimes they clean up beachside; some small groups visit poor communities for literacy trainings; some go to mainland China's poor villages and to teach English among children. Aside from that, they also travel to Korea, Vietnam, China, Philippines and other places to expose themselves and to further develop their projects based on the learning they acquired from those visits. Their projects are mostly supported by their fund-raising campaigns. The presenters were the key leaders in each campus. They did the presentation very well with pride and confidence in their activities and its accomplishments.

I felt that if we can further develop young people by intentionally forming various groups and activities with them; that could possibly empower more individuals. I sensed from the confidence of those young leaders, they would be the key leaders in their future works and/or can be a part of YMCA board or committees.

Now, APAY is preparing a new strategic plan for the next four years. I would like to focus our next four-year activities on youth development and participation in all YMCAs. All other works will be closely related and connected to this common goal. KOHEI YAMADA

Vacancy in APAY

Executive Secretary for Programs

Application is now open for the post of Executive Secretary for Programs in the Alliance for the work related to Contemporary Mission and Social Relevance/Building Community, Global Citizenship, Peace that will become vacant on April 2012. This position is to be filled by 1 March 2012 (which allows him/her one month for learning and handover). The appointment will be for a contract of 3 years.

Youth Intern

We are inviting applications for youth leaders/young staff that are committed to a continued leadership role in the local/national YMCA to participate in the APAY youth internship program for a one-year period from April 2012 to March 2013. Selected youth intern will assist in APAY youth related work and other program responsibilities. The new youth intern is expected to arrive by March 2012 in Hong Kong for a month-long learning and handover.

The closing date for both applications is 15 January 2012. Suitably qualified persons should submit their applications to the General Secretary of the Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs at 23 Waterloo Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong, SAR by registered post. All applications and correspondence related to this matter will be considered confidential. The application needs to be endorsed by the National Movements.

Documents giving particulars related to the positions have been circulated to the movements and can be downloaded from our website.

Youth Assembly Shapes the Next 4 Years

By Ms. Kristina Velez (Youth Intern, APAY)



The delegates listen intently to the Inspirational Message from YB Lydia Ong, a Penang State Official.

205 participants coming from 20 national movements gathered in Penang YMCA last September 3-6, 2011 for the APAY 2nd Youth Assembly. The event consist a variety of stringing activities such as: workshops, dialogues and discussions, exhibits, community service program, and formulation of the YA Statement.

The program kicked off solemnly with an Opening Devotion led by the Worship Team. Then, the assembly officially opened after the ceremonial unveiling of the Youth Assembly logo done by the Assembly Co-chairs Mr. Oliver Loke and Mr. Ng Yee Khai, Youth Participation and Leadership Development Committee Chair Ms. Cristina Miranda, APAY General Secretary Mr. Kohei Yamada, APAY President Dr. Park Jai Chang, and YB Lydia Ong Kok Fooi. Followed by a Keynote Address by Mr. Babu Gomes of Bangladesh.

As the assembly progressed, the participants were divided into several groups for the Parallel Workshop sessions held in two-runs simultaneously. The Workshops focused on 4 major topics and was presented by selected resource speakers.

Sub-regional Meetings followed for the participants to brainstorm and prepare their Input Presentation for the next day. Strategic Dialogues with APAY Leaders gave an opportunity for both sides to discuss on the hindrances and possibilities that the YMCA encounters. These Input Presentations were put forward and captured in a nutshell as the YA Writing Team drafted the YA Statement.

Fun activities such as Community Building, Local Night-Out, and Social Gala Night were also incorporated within the program components. These events allowed the participants to break free from the mind-boggling activities of the entire program.



The youth participants brainstorm with each other as one the group dynamics conducted in a Parallel Workshop.



The youth participants plant 2000 mangrove saplings on the mud-flats of Gurney Drive, Penang.

One of the highlights of the Youth Assembly was the Community Service Program ~ Mangrove Planting. The participants engagingly planted 2000 mangroves and threw 2000 EM (effective micro-organisms) mud-balls at the mudflats of Gurney Drive, Penang. This activity emphasized the essence of social responsibility of the youth toward their communities.

Concluding the assembly, Writing Team presented the YA Statement for amassed adoption. The event winded up with a Devotion underscoring COMMITMENT and DEDICATION on purpose of keeping the fire burning within each and every participant. Further, this YA Statement is meant shape the next four-year mandate for all the YMCAs within the region.

The Youth Assembly would like to acknowledge the significant contributions of the following: members of the Youth Assembly Preparatory Team, YA Writing Team, YA Worship Team, Host Organizing Committee of Penang YMCA ~ staff and volunteers, National Council of YMCAs of Malaysia, Penang government officials, Y's Men International, and all the participating movements.

(Full text of the Mandate can be downloaded from our website and is available at your National Secretariat)

International Forum on Alternative Tourism

From 24 to 30 November, the APAY with the support of EED and YMCA Victoria, Australia is holding an International Forum on Alternative Tourism in Cambodia. The forum will bring together staff / volunteers from YMCAs that are engaged on Alternative Tourism or have potential for developing Alternative Tourism initiatives in their communities together with YMCAs that have interests in mobilizing tourists to take part in such initiatives. The forum will then discuss the strategic directions for YMCA Alternative Tourism; impart training to staff on creating alternative tourism models, discuss guidelines for preparing tourist and certification of Alternative Tourism Models, explore ways for the establishment of a YMCA Global Alternative Tourism Movement as mandated by the 18th General Assembly of the APAY.

The forum will be held in Mittapheap Hotel, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Kindly send duly filled registration form to jose@asiapacificymca.org on or before 30 October 2011.

3rd Leaders Quadrennial Roundtable

The 3rd Leaders Quadrennial Roundtable (LQR) will meet from 17-19 December 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand. Around 30 participants including the APAY officers, the National Presidents, National General Secretaries and selected youth leaders will gather together to further study the mandates of the Assembly. The LQR is an important meeting to formulate the strategies and plans for the next quadrennial 2012-2015.

The Roundtable would be the time and space for open and frank discussions for all to explore the 'why' and determine the 'how' in doing our mission in the light of the Assembly the complexities of our context and times. It is an opportunity for envisioning our YMCA mission and the way forward.

Details of the roundtable have been sent to your National Secretariat. Kindly send your participant/s to office@asiapacificymca.org by 31 October 2011.

Welcome new Executive Secretary



Eloisa Borreo, New Executive Secretary for Programs and Resource Mobilization of APAY

We welcome Ms. Eloisa Dukha-Borreo, the new Executive Secretary for Programs and Resource Mobilisation. She is currently the National General Secretary of the YMCA of the Philippines, a position that she has held in the last five years. She has 29 years of working experience both at local and national YMCA as program secretary, local gen-

eral secretary and coordinator/secretary for special projects. Elsie as she is known to her colleagues and friends graduated with a bachelor's degree in Social Work at Centro Escolar University, Manila and post graduate Diploma/Masters degree in Community Development at the University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City.

Ms. Borreo shared that from a very enriching and challenging working life from her national movement in the Philippines, she's now ready to share some of her leanings while being open and willing to learn further as she encounters many new opportunities in working with different realities in the Asia and Pacific Region and beyond. Elsie is married to Allan and they have three children who are now working in their own field. She will officially join the APAY secretariat this November 2011.

Cambodia YMCA appoints GS



Deth Bunthok, Cambodia YMCA General Secretary

We congratulate Deth Bunthok for his appointment as the General Secretary (GS) of Cambodia YMCA. He was a member of the YMCA Board for two years prior to his selection as GS. Bunthok has 8 years of experience in leadership roles with Maryknoll International Organization and Hagar International Organization including Government Ministry. He finished his Bachelor's degree in Education and Masters of Education in Management and Plan-

ning. He also finished a short-term course at the National Australia Catholic University on "Strengthen Leadership". Bunthok is a young NGS at the age of 35 and is married with 3 children. He envisions strengthening the Cambodia YMCA through innovative relationship building towards the achievement of its goals and objectives.

Updates on 29th Advanced Studies Program (ASP)

To date, ten participants from China, East Timor, Hong Kong, Japan, Philippines, Taiwan and Sri Lanka will join this year's 29th Advanced Studies Program (ASP). This training program for YMCA professionals will be held from 14 November to 10 December 2011 in Hong Kong.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS



We would like to thank all the working committees/teams ~ GA Planning Committee, Writing Team, Worship Team, Newsletter Team, Host Organizing Committee of Penang YMCA - staff/volunteers, National Council of YMCAs of Malaysia, Penang government officials, all resource persons/speakers, moderators, coordinators and all the participating movements that made the 18th Assembly successful and meaningful.

A. Opening Ceremony—Youth Assembly Presentation, B. Opening Ceremony—Ceremonial Opening, C. Exposure, D. Bazaar, E. Worship Team, F. Strategic Dialogues, G. Witness Room, H. The GAZette—Newsletter team (Irene Tan, Malaysia ~ not in photo), I. Keynote Address by Max Ediger

Week of Prayer 2011

This year's YMCA/YWCA Week of Prayer will be held from **13 to 19 November 2011** with the theme: *A voice to influence: Young people speaking out for rights and justice*. This joint week of prayer is a tradition dating from 1904. It is a time when local YMCAs and YWCAs unite to consider their work in the context of the Bible and to find guidance and encouragement from Jesus Christ's teachings. And it is a time to pray.

YMCA Peace Day will be celebrated on 19 November at the end of the Week of Prayer (Source: www.ymca.int)

World YWCA and YMCA Week of Prayer and World Fellowship November 13–19, 2011



Bible Reading Plan 2011-2012

EASY Net Week Celebration

EASY Net ~ Ecumenical Asia-Pacific Students and Youth Network

This year, the EASY Net Week Celebration will commence on November 17 as it falls on the International Students Day. The weeklong celebration will focus on the theme, Justice & Peace Now! We encourage YMCAs to participate in these ecumenical initiatives and promote the spirit of grass-roots ecumenism among the students and youth to build a just society.

Kindly e-mail Bipul Alite Gonsalvez (bagonalvez@gmail.com), Coordinator for details of the program.

ICF Working Committee Will Hold December Meeting in Cambodia

By Bruce Van Voorhis

The six-member working committee of Interfaith Cooperation Forum (ICF) will hold its next meeting on Dec. 3 and 4 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, with ICF's staff members. Representatives of ICF's project holders—APAY and CCA—will attend the meeting as well.

During the meeting, the participants will review the work of ICF in the past year and discuss plans for the regional network in 2012 as well as their visions for ICF in the next three years. In addition, the working committee members will share with the group about future ICF activities in each of their six countries—Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, the Philippines and Sri Lanka.

YMCA World Challenge 2012



The aim of YMCA World Challenge is to tell the YMCA story by mobilizing 5MILLION people on the same day.

REMINDER: Nominations for Election as APAY Board Members

National Movements are reminded that the nominations process for the election to the position of 2 Board members for 2011-2015 will close on 8 January 2012. As recommended, gender and age balance should be given priority considerations. The existing Election Committee will conduct the election process.

Voting shall be conducted in accordance with the by laws to be held during the Executive Committee Meeting on 7-10 March 2012.

In Appreciation...



Thank you for all your support, friendship and love that you have provided me for these past few years in APAY. It's been a great pleasure working with you all. Please continue sharing your inspiring stories for the publication of this APAY eNews. THANK YOU SO MUCH! - Cristina Dalope, APAY Executive Secretary for Programs 2007-2011

Rev. Tan Chi Kiong, former General Secretary of the Asia Alliance of YMCAs (1986-1995) and an ecumenical leader in Asia passed away in Hong Kong on September 21, 2011 after a prolonged illness. He left behind his wife and three children.

Chi Kiong's active association with YMCA started in 1975 as a trustee and honorary general secretary of the Kuala Lumpur YMCA. After three years, he was appointed the General Conference treasurer of the Methodist Church. He remained in that position until he left for Hong Kong to become the General Secretary of the AAY. He traveled extensively in Asia during his tenure as the General Secretary with great ecumenical mission of the organization. The YMCA values many of his contributions – his visionary leadership and in shaping the identity and mission thrust of the YMCAs in the region. He has taken leadership for initiating many significant programs

IN MEMORIAM

Rev. Tan Chi Kiong

(31 July 1940 – 21 September 2011)

including the Advanced Studies Program.

Rev. Tan was born on 31 July 1940 in Klang, Malaysia. He attended the Anglo-Chinese Mission School in Klang, and completed the Senior Cambridge in 1957. He joined the Trinity Theological College in Singapore and took a Bachelor of Theology degree. In 1961, he was posted as a pastor of a Methodist congregation in Bentong Pahang, near Kuala Lumpur. During that time, he also served as a chaplain of the Methodist School in Bentong. After two years he became the pastor of the Trinity Methodist Church in Penang. He left for higher studies at the Perkins School of Theology in Texas, USA. But, he could not complete the studies, as he had to return home due to an illness in the fam-

ily. On his return from the USA, he worked part time in the YMCA and the church in Malaysia.

In 1995, he founded the Asian Migrant Center in Hong Kong and later he became the director of the Ecumenical Coalition on Third World Tourism (ECOTWT). He was also the founder-director of the International Community of Senior Volunteers (ICSV). In July 2005, Chi Kiong was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Wesleyan College in the Philippines for his contributions to the church and society.

He was finally laid to rest last October 17, 2011 after the funeral service at the Kowloon Union Church in Hong Kong.

We give thanks to God for his life of service to the community and the YMCA as we remember him and his work.