



Affiliated with Y Service Clubs International  
Pacific Northwest Region

# Y's Service News

Salem, Oregon

*"To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right."*

Volume 45

December 2020

No. 7



## Y's Service Club Of the Salem Family Y

685 Court St, NE  
Salem, OR 97301  
503 581-9622

### President Bruce Stock

3911 Seneca Ave  
Salem, OR 97302  
503 371-6109  
Brucestock@gmail.com

### Editor Fred Patron

1368 Meriweather St SE  
Salem, OR 97306-1413  
503 362-8995  
503-409-7405 (cell)  
[patronfred@gmail.com](mailto:patronfred@gmail.com)

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President, Bruce Stock  
Vice-President, Bob Severson  
Secretary, Carolyn Stock  
Co-Treasurers, Carol Keefe, Cliff Lawrence  
Directors:  
Fred Patron & David Painter (20)  
John Mistkawi (19)  
Anne Sondgroth, Joyce Lawrence (18)  
Past President, Delia Miller  
Staff Liaison, Kaitlyn Beals

## Committee Chairs:

Book Sale, Fred Patron  
Book Sorting, Steve May  
Brotherhood, Meredie Sheehy  
Bulletin Editor, Fred Patron  
Chaplain, Marthetta Severson  
Cheer,  
Historians,  
International Liaison, John Mistkawi  
Membership, John Mistkawi  
Nominations, John Mistkawi, Bob Severson,  
Programs, Executive Committee  
Public Relations,  
Scrap booking,  
Time of Fast, Bob & Marthetta Severson  
US Area & PNW Region, Bob Severson  
World Service,

## NEXT GENERAL MEETING FRIDAY, December 18, 2020

**Where:** Zoom Christmas Meeting\*

**When:** 6:30 pm

**What:** The Kawagoe Y's Men's Club, our Japanese brother club, has graciously invited us to join them for a Zoom meeting on Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>. Because of the 17-hour time difference, their club will be meeting at 11:30 am Tokyo time on Saturday! This will take the place of our normal Christmas dinner meeting.

## SPECIAL ZOOM MEETING WEDNESDAY, December 16, 2020

**Where:** SPECIAL Zoom Christmas Meeting\*

**When:** 7 pm

**What:** Information on and preparation for our December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting with our brother club in Japan. The Kawagoe club has asked us to join them in a "Gesture Game" similar to "Charades". We have been asked to select 5 people, couples or families who will perform gestures related to Christmas. Their club will split into two teams and compete to see which team will be first to correctly identify the gesture through the Zoom screen. *Similar to our annual Christmas meeting ALL, including club members, special volunteers and friends are invited to participate!*

## NEXT BOARD MEETING FRIDAY, January 8, 2021

**Where:** Zoom Meeting\*

**When:** 11 am

**What:** Regular board meeting, planning for 2021

\* Bruce Stock will send out emails with a link that will allow you to join our Zoom meetings. Please contact him if you have questions.

## **December Emphasis**

### **Christian Emphasis & History**

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

#### **December Birthdays**

Baby Jesus 25<sup>th</sup>

#### **December Anniversaries**

None

### **Willamette Master Chorus Virtual Holiday Concert**

3pm Saturday December 19th  
Watch live at  
[willamettemasterchorus.org](http://willamettemasterchorus.org)

Although safety concerns still prevent live performances, including singing at our annual Christmas dinner, the Willamette Master Chorus (WMC) has created virtual programs that are allowing us to continue enjoying their great talents. A concert of Holiday music including new arrangements of carols that will feature the WMC, Judson Middle School, and the Trail Band Sextet separately and combined on December 19<sup>th</sup>. You can also view a recording of their November Veterans Concert and future programs will be available in February and May.

### **CHAPLAIN'S CORNER**

Marthetta Severson

And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made Him known.

John 1:14, 17-18 NIV



### **Family Promise Update**

Thanks to all who responded to our request for furniture items in last month's newsletter. In fact, your response was so great that we are currently out of storage space and are only able to accept microwave ovens at this time. Family Promise has been able to provide temporary housing to more homeless families in recent months using special COVID grant funds. The funds will run out at the end of December and they are working hard to find permanent accommodations. If this is successful, our inventory should be put to good use.

## YMCA Happenings

Although multiple bids were received for the new Y building, the costs exceeded previous estimates by about \$3 million raising the new total to \$25.3 million. This is being addressed in several ways. First, Y staff are using “value engineering” techniques whereby they take a renewed look at construction plans looking for more economical ways to finish the project without sacrificing function or esthetic values with a goal of saving about \$1 million. So far, this has captured around \$300 thousand in savings. Second, they will utilize \$1 million of “contingency” funds included in the original estimate. They hope to cover the remainder with increased fundraising, keeping the goal of opening the new building debt free intact.

Even though the Salem Y lacks a physical space of its own at the moment, it has been very active in providing critical day care services to the community during the pandemic. They are currently serving about 110 kids at six sites and have the capacity to expand to additional sites if necessary. Many are from families of medical or other essential workers who are not able to work from home. About 60% of the families receive some level of financial aid, which has been possible through a combination of grants, corporate sponsorships, foundations and federal monies.

Y staff has developed a small “VICTORY ROOM” on the second floor of the IKE BOX. The space overlooks the Y construction site and includes photos and videos with information on the Y’s history, mission and impact on the community as well as details on the new construction. It is intended to provide background information for potential donors and other interested community members. After we get past our current COVID safety restrictions, our club will be invited to view the room and perhaps offer support.

## “Ask The Editor”

JEANNE WOLFF provided the following “trivia” items in response to a challenge by CLIFF LAWRENCE. Keep sending your items. They will be included as space is available.

### **TRIVIA:**

There is a funny story behind the inception of the term trivia. Apparently three roads met a point and three men were standing at the same location talking. A passerby apparently remarked, they are standing at the conjunction of three (tri) roads (via) chatting. Hence something that is of no or little importance came to known as trivia. In modern day etymology the term is used to describe tit-bits or facts with little consequence.

### **Ring Around A Rosie:**

Every child has happily joined hands with friends and recited the familiar nursery rhyme, “Ring around a Rosie, a pocket full of posies. Ashes, ashes, we all fall down.” Few people realize to what this seemingly happy little nursery rhyme actually refers. This nursery rhyme began about 1347 and derives from the not-so-delightful Black Plague, which killed over twenty-five million people in the fourteenth century. The “ring around a rosie” refers to the round, red rash that is the first symptom of the disease. The practice of carrying flowers and placing them around the infected person for protection is described in the phrase, “a pocket full of posies.” “Ashes” is a corruption or imitation of the sneezing sounds made by the infected person. Finally, “we all fall down,” describes the many dead resulting from the disease. There are a few conflicting explanations about this nursery rhyme, but it is mostly attributed to the plague.

### **Did you know? Christmas dinner used to be illegal:**

Yes, it used to be illegal to have Christmas dinner! Talk about a war on Christmas! The Puritans in England and the United States in the 17th century were not fans of the jolly celebration the holiday had started to become. They believed Christmas was frivolous, so they canceled it, literally: According to the United Kingdom's official site Historical England, no one was allowed to go to a special church service or even prepare a holiday feast during this period. In the United States, the pilgrims set up the same rules. A 1659 law from the Massachusetts Bay Colony states, "whosoever shall be found observing any such day as Christmas or the like, either by forbearing of labor, feasting, or any other way...every person so offending shall pay of every such offense five shillings."

### **What English Royal Introduced Christmas trees?**

Christmas trees didn't make their way into homes until the 19th century, when Queen Victoria's German husband, Prince Albert, suggested they have one in Buckingham Palace. Although evergreens had been used for winter solstice celebrations since Roman times, German Christians are said to be the first to use them for Christmas decorations, in the 15th century, says History.com. But when the British people saw a drawing of the beloved royals' Christmas celebration in the Illustrated London News in 1848, according to the BBC, they decided to adopt the German custom as well.

**DAVE PAINTER** offered the following as follow up to **CLIFF LAWRENCE'S** "Tinker to Evers to Chance" story that he shared last month.

"Tinkers to Evers to Chance," is the answer to baseball trivia from many decades ago. Joe Tinker, Johnny Evers and Frank Chance were members of the Chicago Cubs, a baseball powerhouse back in Teddy Roosevelt's day. The Cubs won the National League pennant in 1906, '07, '08, '10, and the World Series in 1907 and 1908. The three were the Cub infielders at shortstop, second base and first base, respectively, and combined for many double plays during their years together. Their fame arose from an eight-line poem written in 1910 by a New York sportswriter entitled, "Baseball's Sad Lexicon."

He wrote:        These are the saddest of possible words,  
                      "Tinkers to Evers to Chance."  
                      Trio of bear cubs, and fleeter than birds,  
                      "Tinkers to Evers to Chance."  
                      Ruthlessly pricking our gonfalon bubble,  
                      Making our Giants hit into a double.  
                      Words that are heavy with nothing but trouble,  
                      "Tinkers to Evers to Chance."

The poem made the trio lastingly famous and kept the player's names in the public mind for decades, and for some of us, more than a century later. (Definition help: Gonfalon, a banner, as in a World Series pennant.)