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Subject: YMCA Alumni Chambers Chapter December 2021
Date: December 3, 2021 at 2:15 PM
To: Craig Altschul AYRNEWS@icloud.com

DC



Chambers Chatter

William S.
Chambers Chapter

December 2021 Newsletter

Serving: Ohio, West Virginia, N. Kentucky and W. Pennsylvania



HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!



Mike Frith
**Chambers Chapter
President**



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

I hope you and your family are doing well. I pray that this holiday period will be free of Covid and other diseases and filled with joy!

Don't forget to **renew your membership in the Chambers Chapter**. Remember that you can add additional chapters that you may also want to get information from or also get involved. The deadline for renewing is **December 31st**. We want to welcome our new members listed below in Dave's Membership Report.

If you were not able to attend the **Fall Reunion in Port Clinton**, you missed a great time of fun, fellowship, and a chance to meet other retirees. We had 30 registered which made it even better. Let me thank John Mack for all his efforts in putting together a great Reunion. Also, let me thank Mike Lieber for stepping up to chair the 2022 Spring Reunion.

As one of our goals, it is to **SERVE**. The YMCA Alumni has selected a **National Service Project** to build a strong community on the **Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Reservation**. Steve Gunn is our representative on the national committee leading this project. Also, Dick Fullmer has agreed to head the fundraising, Tony Delisio will work to secure volunteers and Wayne Uhrig will handle the marketing. We look forward to what this project can accomplish over the next three years. We already have twelve members of our chapter who plan to go work in South Dakota. Thanks to all of you that have already gotten involved and that have taken leadership roles.

The final plans for the **Reunion 2022**, January 12 – 15, in **New Orleans** are being finalized. You can still go to the ymcaalumni.org to get more information and register for the reunion. Don't miss out on this exciting time in New Orleans to fellowship with old friends and have an opportunity to meet new ones. If you have registered, you will continue to get updates.

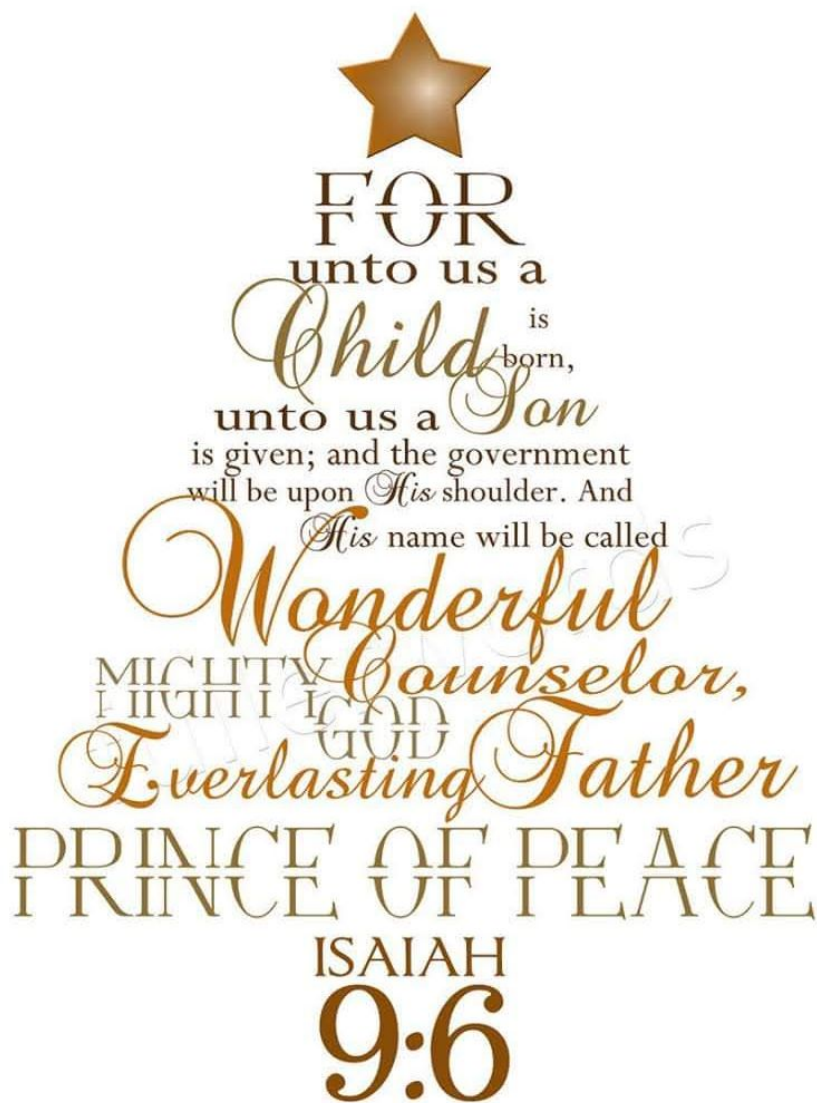
When you think of your **year-end giving**, consider giving to **World Service** and the **Emergency Assistance Fund**. Tony Delisio and Steve Gunn respectfully are doing a great job each year leading these fundraising efforts

If **TRAVEL** is your interest be sure to go to the ymcaalumni.org site and see all the

If TRAVEL is your interest be sure to go to the ymcaalumni.org site and see all the opportunities that are available to travel the U.S. and the world.

I want to wish you and your family a **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

MIKE



ALUMNI

nurturing Worldwide Christian
Fellowship that provide educational,
social and charitable opportunities.

Connect

Travel

Serve



Membership Chairman Dave Patterson Membership Details

NEW ALUMNI ~ Welcome to these new Alumni who have joined the Chambers Chapter since the last Newsletter:

Judith Goodpaster ~ Glouster, OH

Julie Kauffman ~ Middletown, OH

CHAMBERS CHAPTER ~ The Chambers Chapter currently has **89** membership units equaling **147** members.

- 14 LIFETIME units
- 20 INDIVIDUAL units
- 55 HOUSEHOLD units

65% of all Chambers Chapter members have already RENEWED.

Don't put it off... renew your YMCA Alumni membership for 2022. The quickest, safest way to renew is simply click the link below and renew on our website. Don't delay.

<https://www.ymcaalumni.org/renew>

Or mail your Name, Address, Phone # & Email address with your \$40 check (payable to YMCA Alumni) to:

YMCA Alumni

Attn: Cindy Koenig, Asst. Treasurer
PO Box 725
West Chester, OH 45071

Don't delay. Deadline is Dec. 31, 2021.



Steve Gunn

EAF Chairman

Hello Chambers Chapter:

EAF Caring committee has been very busy this year thus far. The pandemic has caused the needs to increase from both the Y Alumni need as well as the Y Actives. Y-actives have been forced to undergo lay-offs as well as some being released from Y employment. YMCAs all over the country have felt the effects of this dreaded virus. Y Alumni are not an exception. Many of our Y retired colleagues have had medical needs caused by the pandemic period but also the regular health care needs of just getting older.

As I tell my wife Nancy, things begin to wear!

EAF has been there for both the Actives as well as the fellow Alumni throughout the country. EAF nationally has awarded over \$70,600.00 to 15 grant awardees. The total EAF giving nationally is a little over 25,000.00 for 2021 with more to come in for 2021. Where does the difference come from, you might ask? Here is the answer! The National EAF Caring Committee is permitted to give the amount taken in for that year minus 10% that must be retained for future use along with the interest on the total EAF balance from all the previous years held by the Caring committee. These two amounts are available to use for grant submissions for the current year.

Thankfully, there is enough funds available for 2021 to give the 15 grantees the total amount needed for 2021. Thanks for giving!

This has been a tough year along with what we experienced in 2020 too! Two of the toughest years certainly in my life. Hopefully, 2022 will be better and the pandemic will finally be behind us for good and we can get back to a normal life!

The **William Chambers Chapter** has stepped up again and really has done its part for EAF thus far. To-date, we have had **27** givers that have given a total of \$4575.00 in 2021. Remember our goal for the year was \$6,000.00 and 45 givers. I am confident we will reach both goals for 2021.

A very special thank you to the William Chambers Chapter itself for its recent donation to EAF and to World Service of \$1,000.00 each. This donation goes a long way in helping us reach our goals for both EAF and World Service each year.

Lastly, I want to give you some information about where you can send your gift if you have not already given or if you desire to give a second gift. Here it is: **EAF, Y-USA: ATTN: Kathe Elwell, 101 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill. 60606** or on-line gifts to; [Ymcaalumni.org](https://ymcaalumni.org) (click on membership info/eaf/donate). If you would like, you can also send to me at; **Steve Gunn, 5475 Grasmere Abbey Ln. Columbus, Ohio 43230**. I will make sure it gets to the right place. Remember to designate the Will. Chambers Chapter!! We want to beat all other chapters nationally!

Some of our givers have decided to give monthly. This is fine and may help to level out your gift on a yearly basis. Whatever works for you!

We do appreciate each of you as well for being a Y person (I do not take that statement lightly). Y people are special people! We love each of you for being that person or a family member of a Y person either still here or one that has gone on. You all have sacrificed for the Mission and we appreciate all that you have done for the communities the Y served over the years.

Nancy and I want to say to each of you again during this time of year, a wonderful Christmas season. Please enjoy your family. Do something different for them this year if you can.

I know that Nancy and I have been blessed again this year with you our Y Alumni, friends and family. May this Season and the New Year bring you all that you want and need! Until next time...Steve and Nancy Gunn.



Tony Delisio World Service Chairman

Dear Friends,

“Love is inventive, even to infinity”

As I reflect back on the work and resiliency of YMCA's around the world during year two of the global pandemic, I am reminded of this quote from St. Vincent de Paul: **“Love is inventive, even to infinity.”** Covid-19 has tested the YMCA movement like never before. But YMCA's are resilient and continue to respond to the challenge. And like the YMCA, my fellow Y Alumni have responded to the call with a giving heart.

Many thanks to all Chambers Chapter members for your leadership and support. We are especially grateful to every individual, family and organization who contributed to YMCA World Service in 2021. To date, **20 donors** have contributed **\$4,300** to World Service so far this year. Your generosity is truly a blessing, but we still have more work to do. For those still looking to make an impact, we hope that you will consider a year-end gift this year and help us exceed our **\$6,000 goal**.

Total World Service support from YMCA Alumni: \$141,921 on a goal of \$200,000. Overall, \$1,028,500 has been given to the 2021 World Service Campaign. Thanks to the encouraging and generous support of donors like you, we are on track to surpass our \$1.2 million goal of the global YMCA movement. World Service impacts more than 1 million people every year to help strengthen Y's in more than 40 countries. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

What lies ahead for YMCA World Service?

THE CHALLENGES FACING YOUTH AROUND THE WORLD TODAY:

- Only 6% of elected government leaders are under the age of 35
- 25% of the world's youth are not in education or employment
- 30% of all global migrants are youth
- Over 50% of youth do not live under democracy
- 1 billion youth live in multidimensional poverty; 365 million out of the 1 billion live in **EXTREME** poverty

THE RESPONSE: WORLD SERVICE FUNDS TO SUPPORT KEY AREAS OF FOCUS

- Health
- Environment
- Civic Engagement
- Employment
- Movement Strengthening

As YMCA Alumni, we are members of a global movement of YMCA's at work in more than 119 countries, each helping people to reach their full potential for a bright future. Thank you for helping to ensure the future of today's youth through your generous support of YMCA World Service. We greatly appreciate all that you do to help others.

World Service gifts will be accepted through the end of 2021. You can visit www.ymca.net/world-service to contribute online or you can complete the attached pledge form.

If you have any questions about World Service, please call me at (614) 581-8417 or email me at tdelisia58@gmail.com.

Thank you for **Changing the World for Good!!**

Celebrating the Life of:

Prescott K. Johnson





Prescott K. Johnson died peacefully, July 21, 2021. Pres had just finished swimming laps at a local community center. He climbed out of the pool, sat down in a lounge chair, placed his hand over his heart and closed his eyes. His middle son, Scott, held him in his arms as he passed away at the age of 91.

On July 18, 1953 Pres married the love of his life, Darolyn Mooers. Shortly after he left for Korea as a second lieutenant and platoon commander with the Army Intelligence Division. Upon his return from military service, Pres pursued and received his master's degree from Springfield College.

Pres went on to serve the YMCA in a variety of positions. He served for nine years with the International YMCA in Uruguay. He worked with YMCAs in Milwaukee, WI, Portland, OR and the West Region field of the YUSA. After retiring from the Y Pres played a lead role in the foundation of the World Fellowship of YMCA Retirees.

A celebration of life was held at the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in Sahuarita, AZ.

JEANNE E. KELLY

Jeanne E. Kelly, beloved wife of the late Jim Kelly, cherished mother of Jim (Sarah) Kelly, Jr., Michael (Judy) Kelly, Karen (Jim) Cleveland, Chris (Pete) Kelsey, Diane (Jon) Borman and Dave (Cadi) Kelly. Devoted grandmother of 18 and great-grandmother of 12. Jeanne passed away on July 27th at the age of 92.

A memorial service was held on Sunday, August 1. In lieu of flowers, donations may be directed to either St. Saviour Church or the YMCA of Greater Cincinnati.



Stay In Touch: Like Us on Facebook

There's lots going on with **YMCA Alumni** and its **Chapters**. Events, People, Places, Newsletters, Board Decisions and much more. At least one-third of YMCA Alumni members visit our Facebook Page each week. **Give it a Look!**



Wayne Uhrig History Chairman

YOUNGSTOWN 1968 OLYMPIC SWIMMER Dick Bennett, Sr.

The 1968 Mexico Olympics generated much excitement for the the Youngstown YMCA due to one of their own winning a medal. Ross Wales won a Bronze Medal in the butterfly swimming event. Under the guidance of Dick Bennett, Physical Director, an official welcome reception was held that November. The reception was attended by Mayor A. B. Flask, AAU District Commissioner Roy DePaul, Coach Sherman Law, YMCA General Secretary H. H. Hunneke and YMCA President James Mitchell. Ross Wales is now a partner at the Law Firm, Taft, Stettinius and Hollister.

Connect

Chambers Chapter YMCA Alumni Service of the Year award





Left to right in picture above Steve Gunn, Dick Fullmer & Dave Patterson

Due to the Covid restrictions we were not able to give out our **Chambers Chapter YMCA Alumni Service of the Year Award** for the past two years. At our Fall Reunion we were able to give out all three of the awards for the outstanding member of the Chambers Chapter for the year.

2019 Recipient: Dave Patterson

Dave would like to accept this award for himself and in honor of his father, Bill Patterson who was so instrumental in Dave's life and career.

Bill started his career in 1955 at the Lima YMCA. He ended his career in the Marion YMCA in 1980. He honorably served YMCA communities for 25 years.

Dave started his career in the Spartanburg YMCA in 1973. He ended his career in 2012 serving on the YMCA of the USA staff as Regional Consultant to Central Pennsylvania and Maryland YMCA;s. Dave also served as Vice President in Cincinnati. He served the YMCA for 35 years.

With the Chambers Chapter, Dave served 2 years as President and since then as an active past President. He has been in charge of membership for our Chapter for 6 years.

2020 Recipient: Dick Fullmer

After graduating from George Williams College, Dick started his career at the Lima YMCA in 1970. After spending time at the Lake County YMCA, he returned to the Lima YMCA to end his career after 41 years of YMCA service.

Dick has served on the Executive Committee for the Chambers Chapter since 2011. He then served as Vice President for 2 years and President for 2 years. Dick had the honor of successfully leading our Chapter through the Covid experience. He is now our Past President

2021 Recipient: Steve Gunn

Steve started his career in the Ashland YMCA in 1975. He ended his career in 2012 as the Vice President of Central Ohio YMCA and also in charge of 4 branches and YMCA Development. Steve ended his career with 37 years of service.

In the Chambers Chapter, Steve has served as our EAF Chairman for 8 years. For the 3 years he has been working on the now National Service Project. He will also lead our Chapter involvement in this effort.

Congratulations to all three of these individuals for their fine and committed service to the Chambers Chapter and the YMCA Alumni.



Chambers Chapter Prayer Chain Tony Delisio Prayer Chain Chair

We recently received a new prayer request from Mary Tikalsky, Director of World Service for YMCA of the USA. Mary would like for us to pray for Dave and Joyce Mercer. As you may recall, Dave Mercer is the former CEO for YMCA of the USA.

Mary would like for us to pray for Dave and Joyce as they mourn the loss of their son Steve. Steve Mercer passed away on October 31st after an apparent heart attack. Please join us in sending prayers and love to Dave and Joyce. We wish them both strength in Christ as they go forward. Thank you.

If it's OK with you, I would like to share a short message that I heard just over a year ago on All Souls Day. May it provide strength and comfort for Dave and Joyce, and anyone who lost a loved one recently.

When we lose a loved one, it leaves a hole in our heart. Over time, as the years pass, the hole gets smaller. But the hole in our heart does not leave us for two reasons:

1. It reminds us to think about the loved one we lost.
2. It reminds us that God loves us and them.

Do you have a **need for prayer**? Whenever you, a family member or friend is in need of prayer, you can turn to your friends with the Chambers Chapter to help lift up your intentions to God in prayer.

You can email your prayer request to us utilizing the attached **Prayer Chain Request Card**. Phone calls and text messages are also welcome. Simply contact me, Tony Delisio, with your prayer request and we will send a message to all Chambers Chapter members

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(via email) asking for prayers and healing.

Please send your Prayer Chain Requests to: Tony Delisio
(614) 581-8417 or
Tdelisio58@gmail.com

My wife Sally and I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. And May God Continue To Bless You.

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<div>Chambers Chapter of YMCA Alumni Prayer Request Card</div> <div>Prayer Request for (please print): _____</div> <div>I have this person's permission to add their name to the prayer chain for: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 2 months <input type="checkbox"/> 3 months Daily prayer will include healing, comfort, strength and peace. Please keep us updated.</div> <div>Check appropriate box(s) <table><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Surgery _____</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Traveling _____</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Illness _____</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Military _____</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Death of loved one _____</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Injury _____</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Difficult relationship _____</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Guidance _____</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"><input type="checkbox"/> Challenges at home, work or school _____</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2"><input type="checkbox"/> Joy _____</td></tr></table></div> <div>Comments: _____</div> <div>Your Name: _____</div>	<input type="checkbox"/> Surgery _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Traveling _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Illness _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Military _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Death of loved one _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Injury _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Difficult relationship _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Guidance _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Challenges at home, work or school _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Joy _____	
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Spring 2021 Reunion had to be postponed to Spring 2022

We hope to have the **Spring Reunion** planned for in **May of 2022**.

Mike Lieber has agreed to chair the Spring reunion for 2022. If you would like to help Mike or serve on the committee with him give him a call. Also, if you have any ideas for the reunion please call him at 740.438.6618.

Fall 2021 Reunion



Thank you to John Mack for all his hard work in planning our Fall 2021 Reunion in Port

Clinton and Put-In-Bay. The group enjoyed making new friends and renewing old friendships. The weather cooperated and we enjoyed seeing the sights in our golf carts. Walking into a geode cave was both interesting and intimidating. If you have never attended an Alumni Reunion, I highly recommend it.

Jet Express to Put-In-Bay



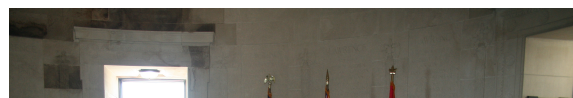
On our way to Put-In-Bay

Getting around the Island on golf carts



Taking a rest break before moving on

Visiting inside the



Port-in_Bay Lighthouse



Crystal Cave





Touring the Heineman's Winery



Visiting the Port Clinton Air Museum



"Laissez le bon
Temps rouler"
Come with us to the Big Easy
...
"let the good times roll"

We have been cooped up way too long. Now is the time to make plans to join us at **YMCA Alumni Reunion '22** in New Orleans, Louisiana, January 12-15, 2022.

We hope you will return to the YMCA Alumni webpage at ymcaalumni.org/reunion-22 often as plans are finalized and registration opens. But you do not need to wait to dream. Just make the decision to be with us in January in America's most unique city.

Connect again.....
.....and all that jazz.

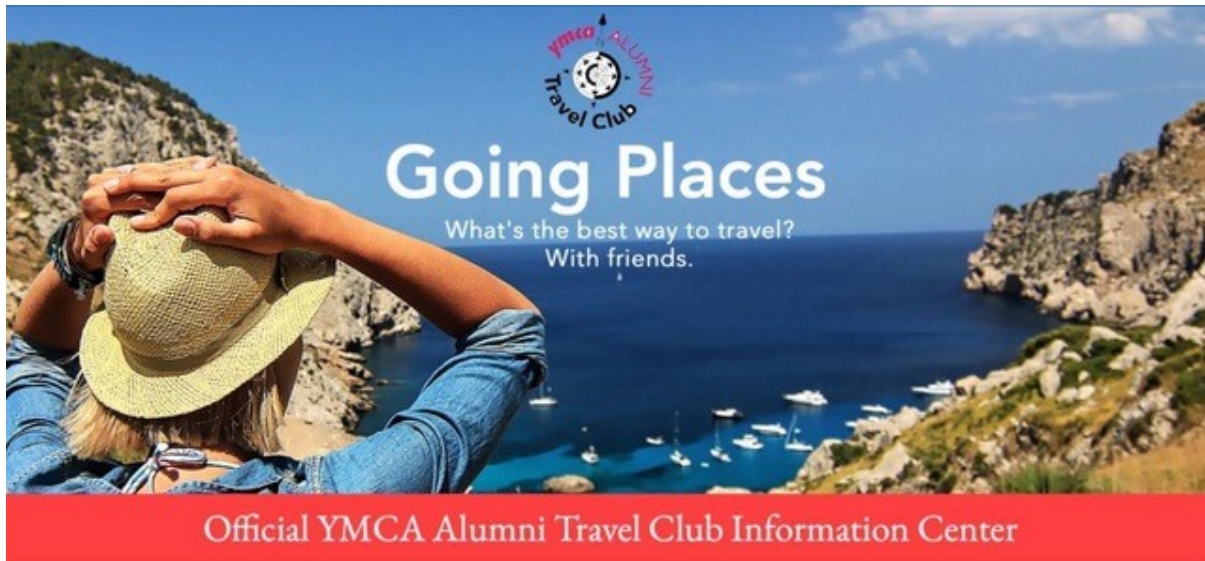
Travel



YMCA Alumni



Travel Club Chambers Chapter Representative Mike Lieber



You are invited to join the **YMCA Alumni Travel Club** on our 2021 and 2022 adventures. The Travel Club is designed to provide members, their families and friends, the opportunity to enjoy travel experiences at a reasonable cost, adding value and extended benefits to your YMCA Alumni Membership.

Travel Club experiences are hosted by YMCA Alumni members, experienced travelers, who have worked hand-in-hand with Go Travel, our professional consultants, to choose and refine their tour. Our programs are conducted by respected international tour and cruise companies or by carefully chosen local organizations.

All our trips are guaranteed to depart regardless of the number of members and guests who register (except during times like we are currently experiencing with the pandemic).

Visit the website for more details and trips.

Go to: ymcaalumnitavelclub.org

Below are a few highlights:



Caribbean Reunion Cruise



January 16-24, 2022

Join us in New Orleans after the Reunion. Sailing from the Port of New Orleans, just a half a mile from the Embassy Suites, our reunion hotel.

Aboard Norwegian Cruise Line Breakaway, we will cruise to Costa Maya, Mexico; Harvest Caye, Belize; Roatan, Honduras; Cozumel, Mexico and back to New Orleans.

Alaskan Family Cruise

June 24-30, 2022



Join your YMCA Alumni friends on our first family adventure in an exciting Alaskan Cruise on the ship dedicated to fun for all of us. Bring the kids and/or the grandkids.

From Seattle, we will visit Alaska, the last frontier, aboard Royal Caribbean's Ovation of the Sea, one of the world's most groundbreaking ships.

We'll be seeing astonishing scenery from the unrivaled perspective of the North Star to destinations from Juneau to Skagway.



Historic Trains of Colorado

August 5-13, 2022

Follow the historic routes of the old west with excursions on six different, incredible railroads, including tours of the three breathtaking national parks. The tour will start in Denver.

Colors of Provence



October 6-20, 2022



Intimate cruise to Paris, Lyon, Collonges, Vienne, Tournon, Tarascon, Arles, Avignon and Barcelona.

For more information on any YMCA Alumni Travel trip, please visit:

[**ymcaalumnitravelclub.org**](http://ymcaalumnitravelclub.org)

Serve



**National YMCA Alumni
Service Project
Sioux YMCA
Tiny Home Village and Twig Program**

Plans announced for six construction “waves” for National Service Project in South Dakota

The Project Management Committee (also known as *“Boots on the Ground”*) led by the YMCA National Service Project Chair George Painter has announced plans for six 2022 construction waves (work trips). All onsite work is at our planned Tiny Home Village adjacent to the Sioux YMCA Program Center in Dupree, S.D.

“Volunteers will improve and transform the neighborhood,” George says. “Construction of a new cluster of tiny homes will enable families, volunteers, and staff inhabiting the homes to achieve the stability, independence, and strength they need to build a more healthy and vibrant community.”

Steve Gunn of the Chambers representative to the Standing Committee says “plan to immerse yourself in a Lakota Tribe cultural exchange. The group size is between 10-20

immerse yourself in a Lakota tribe cultural exchange. The group size is between 10 - 20 volunteers per trip (or "wave")." All service trips include a mix of work, rest, and free time. A sight-seeing trip is included to experience Badlands National Park, Custer State Park, the Black Hills, Crazy Horse Monument and more.

Everyone who wants to contribute to the project is welcome. Previous construction experience is not required; however, manual labor is a part of the experience, so all participants should be in good health. A COVID vaccination is required. YMCA Alumni can bring family and friends, or come as an individual. You may sign up for multiple week-long trips if you would like. The minimum age is 16, however minors must be accompanied by and supervised by an adult.

Steve says all participants should be reassured the Project Management Team is working hard to ensure each wave is well-planned and coordinated, safe, fun and rewarding.



Newsletter Editor Dianne Clark

It's hard to believe the holiday season is upon us. My family and I are looking forward to celebrating Christmas together. I hope you all get a chance to be with your families as you celebrate this season.

One of my favorite thing about this season is the lights, the tree and all the decorations. I always feel a little blah after the holidays are over. Although I won't be able to attend the Alumni Reunion in New Orleans, that will be something others are looking forward to!

Don't forget to renew your Y Alumni membership by December 31, 2021. We want to keep you as part of our family!

Please send your March, 2022 articles to me by February 22nd at dclark5027@outlook.com

Blessings for the upcoming new year.

Dianne



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YMCA Alumni 2017 Members

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