

Spring 2020

# Sam Schreiner Chapter

Serving Southern Arkansas, Louisiana, Eastern New Mexico and all of Oklahoma and Texas



www.YRetiree.org Late Spring Newsletter 2020

## Chapter Leadership

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## Now More than Ever!!!

The mission of YMCA Alumni is to enable members to promote a nurturing worldwide Christian fellowship that provides educational, social, and charitable opportunities. YMCA Alumni helps members Connect through gatherings for the purpose of fellowship and socialization. It also provides opportunity for Travel both domestically and abroad, giving the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of journeys that help us meet and experience new and different cultures. And finally, it allows us to Serve by providing service project opportunities around the globe that will enhance our understanding of others, while at the same time, giving others a better sense of who we are and what we do. All these things help us live out the mission of YMCA Alumni.

## Emergency Assistance Fund a Message from Chuck Dandridge

EAF is the charitable part of our mission, education, and social are the other two pillars. We as members, have the opportunity to do all three of these things. For me, the most rewarding is the charitable part of the mission, being able to support an effort that provides financial assistance who one of our colleagues is going through a difficult time in their life. Through your contributions to EAF, the grants made can often be a lifesaver. So, remember to set aside your gift to EAF. You will enrich the lives of our members, while also making it a little more stress free especially during these trying times. You can easily donate by going to the YMCA alumni website ([www.ymcaalumni.org](http://www.ymcaalumni.org)) and click on the donation tab. There will be a link to the EAF donation site as well. Be sure and scroll down the list of chapters till the end where you will find the AYR chapters and then Sam Schreiner

## Patrick's Pen A Message from our Chapter President

Since our last newsletter, things on this planet have really changed with the worldwide Pandemic. We do hope everyone is staying safe, and healthy. We will all get through this together. Let's stay in touch with one another. We need each other. Now more than ever. We are trying to put together a gathering in Oklahoma City, Sept. 29-Oct.1. God willing.

## Fall Gathering is in the Planning stages for Oklahoma City, Sept. 29– Oct. 1.

Your Executive Committee has met via Zoom and have talked about a gathering in Oklahoma City during the last week of Sept. Hopefully by then, we can gather, although we will have to make arrangements to socially distance and stay safe. Plans will be to see the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum, Bricktown and river walk and other points of interest. There are over 31 museums in Oklahoma so there will be many options. There will also be two meals together included in the registration fee.

We are still in the planning stages, but we will try to keep all arrangements safe, and thoughtfully planned to insure our members safety. We certainly are living in a different world.

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## SERVE:

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To: World Fellowship of YMCA Retirees members and friends

From: Philip Dwyer, WFYR Chair Re: Challenges during the COVID 19 pandemic Date: April 23, 2020

Let me start first with a question, then a challenge and finally some updated information.

First, how is everybody doing? Each of us are facing different levels of medical, mental and emotional health during this COVID pandemic. Reaching out to friends and colleagues around the world, and asking that simple question lets people know they are not alone, have not been forgotten and that people are ready to help. Please, let us know how you are doing, and continue to send us names of retired YMCA colleagues who need help.

Second, a challenge being issued by all living chairs of the World Fellowship of YMCA Retirees. Pres Johnson, Don Anderson, Jerry Prado Shaw, Norris Lineweaver, and myself met by ZOOM and are asking you to, once again, rise to the challenge of leading the YMCA movement by helping it through these challenging times. We would ask each retiree to do one, or all of the following:

1. Offer to help your local YMCA or national movement: A simple email or phone call will be appreciated. Cris Caparosa of the Philippines organized a food pantry for 27 students stranded in the YMCA dormitory, who were attending University at the time of his country's lockdown. My local YMCA, because of our work with affordable housing, was asked to help set up a quarantine living center for people with COVID 19, who do not need hospitalization but cannot go home. They needed bedding, towels, etc. for 120 residents. My wife and I organized our church members to donate the supplies.

2. Make a donation, as individual members. Determine how much you want to donate and then decide who, or how to apportion it among one of three causes: a. Your local or national YMCA, or Emergency Assistance Fund - all will appreciate, and need, extra donations at this time. b. Secours Speciaux is receiving more requests for help and will need extra gifts c. Solidarity Fund: The World YMCA has created a Solidarity Fund, to provide grants to struggling YMCAs, whose survival will depend on getting extra help through a grant.

3. Challenge your Fellowship of YMCA Retiree Chapters (FYR) to look at what financial resources they could dedicate to helping their world or national movements. YMCA Alumni (FYR in the USA) made a gift of \$200,000 to Secours Speciaux to help them at this time. WFYR will donate \$ 5,000 to the Solidarity Fund from our general operating funds that remain from prior years activities. What can your FYR do?

NO GREATER TIME TO SERVE OUR YMCA MOVEMENT

**Tyler Gathering Postponed until Spring of 2021** We pray that we will be able to gather and enjoy the dogwood trails, the rose gardens and perhaps the flea market.

## CONNECT:

### Caring Connection in the Sam Shreiner Chapter:

Elizabeth Seth has been appointed to serve as our Caring Connection Committee. She sends out birthday cards etc. to our members. Thank you Elizabeth for making us feel connected.

Please continue to pray for Tina Carter who is battling pancreatic Cancer. Her new email is [53tinacarter@gmail.com](mailto:53tinacarter@gmail.com).

## IN MEMORIAM

Pete Thiry, one of our chapter members passed away. He retired in 2017 and had been with the YMCA for 36 years. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Jerry and Pat James responded to the last newsletter request for updates on Happenings. They visited Pat's brother in Mission Texas in March and visited South Padre Island for beach walking. This of course was before all the issues with this pandemic.

Thanks for the picture.



Pam Power and Granddaughter Eden enjoy spending time together during the stay-at-home orders.. They are watching the clouds on a beautiful day.

The request is still open for our members to stay connected with pictures of what is happening in your lives.

Please send pictures or articles to [pajasso7@aol.com](mailto:pajasso7@aol.com).

## Welcome New Members to the Sam Shreiner Chapter:

Ramona and Charles Wofford from Arlington, Tx.



Picture on left is from our Waco gathering last Fall. Picutred from L-R:

Vaada Ellisor, Pat James, Laura Johnson, Janet and Patrick Murphy, and Jerry James. Having fun together at our opening ice breaker.

The quote to the right was sent in by Ellie Cumings



Oklahoma City National Memorial

## C.S. Lewis 1942

Satan: "I will cause anxiety,  
fear and panic.  
I will shutdown  
business, schools,  
places of worship  
and sports events.  
I will cause economic turmoil".

Jesus: "I will bring together neighbours,  
restore the family unit,  
I will bring dinner back  
to the kitchen table.  
I will help people slow down their lives  
and appreciate what really matters.  
I will teach my children to rely on me  
and not the world.  
I will teach my children to trust me  
and not their money and material resources."

## Stay In Touch: 'Like Us' On Facebook

Alum-  
and

There's lots going on with YMCA ni 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. Click on the link.