

## AYR JERRY PRADO-SHAW PASSION AWARD

### THOMAS V. SULLIVAN TRIBUTE:

Thomas Sullivan, a sea Captain and founder of the first YMCA in America (Boston) was inspired by the Y movement in Europe and brought this vision to the United States in 1855. His leadership and quest to impact community life and build the foundation of personal growth changed the face of non-profit organizations around the world. In his footsteps over the next century, many YMCA men and women across America followed Captain Sullivan's lead and ventured out into the world to share the YMCA Mission and Purpose and operational strategy to assist in the development of community, youth and family YMCA programs.

Today, the Sullivan Award will recognize a retired YMCA Director for his contributions and efforts in sharing the YMCA Community Development concept throughout the world. With the likeness of Captain Sullivan this nominee is a person of courage and vision to 'STAY THE COURSE' and to plant the seeds of YMCA discovery and growth.

### INTRODUCTION OF JERRY PRADO-SHAW:

Pres Johnson, in nominating Jerry Prado-Shaw for the John 17:21 Passion Award in the likeness and with the vision of Captain Thomas Sullivan said: "Jerry was instrumental in the founding of the Costa Rica YMCA as well as the rebirth of the Panama YMCA. During his years in the leadership role of the International Office of the YUSA he developed an extremely strong staff team that continues to be an exceptionally effective presence around the world. He is renowned throughout the World Alliance of YMCA's for his accomplishments on behalf of countless countries in developing their national "Y" movements.

Prior to serving as the Director of the International Division of YUSA he was the Senior Associate Director and the Director for Latin America & Caribbean YMCA relationships and development from 1985 – 1994. During his time with the YUSA International Group Jerry coordinated relationships with other worldwide YMCA movements with local "Y" in the USA, worked with the World Alliance of YMCA's and YMCA Area Organizations.

Jerry Prado-Shaw is recognized internationally as the founder and CEO of the YMCA's of Costa Rica and Panama and also served as CEO for the YMCA's of Rosario, Argentina and Guatemala and is a member of the YUSA National Hispanic/Latino Leadership Network. Besides these numerous responsibilities, Jerry has taken the time to share his expertise in developing and implementing annual and capital support campaigns in Latin and South America along with Board Development and training.

Jerry Prado-Shaw began his YMCA career in 1960 in La Paz, Bolivia where he was the Assistant to the Secretary General. He graduated from the YMCA College in Uruguay in 1965 and later became the General Secretary of the YMCA in Rosario, Argentina. In 47 years of service to the worldwide YMCA movement, Jerry has served in several esteemed international assignments throughout Central and

South America. He also served as a US representative on the global Staff Team of the World Alliance of YMCA's. In addition to his qualifications in management and organizational development he has extensive experience in youth work, community development and refugee work.

Upon Jerry's retirement in 2010 he has been the voluntary Chairperson of the World Fellowship of Y Retirees. Many of their leadership committee members are meeting with us during our Reunion Gathering here in San Diego. The World Fellowship of YMCA Retirees (WFYR) was formed in 1992 at Geneva Park, Canada in conjunction with that year's meeting of NAFYR. John O'Melia and Bill McAllister served as Co-Chairpersons of the body during its initial four years. In conjunction with meetings of NAFYR in subsequent years, WFYR conducted world meetings in 1996 at Blue Ridge Assembly, 2000 at the YMCA of the Rockies, 2004 on the NAFYR Caribbean Cruise and in 2010 in conjunction with the World Alliance meeting in Hong Kong. Jerry is the 5<sup>th</sup> chairperson for this group as of 2010. The other past Chairpersons of WFYR include: Bill McAllister, Pres Johnson, Adrian Moody and Don Anderson.

#### JOHN 17:21 AWARD STATEMENT:

In John 17:21 Jesus prays for his Disciples "THAT THEY MAY ALL BE ONE, FATHER! MAY THEY BE IN US JUST AS YOU ARE IN ME AND I AM IN YOU. MAY THEY BE ONE SO THAT THE WORLD WILL BELIEVE YOU SENT ME!" It is this application of unselfish giving and oneness for all humanity that was instilled in the Disciples that is also found in Jerry Prado-Shaw who has given of himself for the betterment of our movement, his community and for humanity.

We wish to recognize this INTREPID hero from our YMCA family who has not only excelled in his career but also in his retirement and has made significant accomplishments in developing, supporting and communicating his passion for others.

In summary, Jerry Prado-Shaw has "STAYED THE COURSE" and has followed the vision of Captain Thomas V. Sullivan "to venture out into the world to share the YMCA mission and purpose and to assist in the development of community, youth and family programs". In other words "TO BE ON WITH THE FATHER". This is the inherent vision of early YMCA leaders such as Thomas Sullivan and has been the inherent vision of Jerry Prado-Shaw.

#### RECOGNITION OF JERRY PRADO-SHAW:

Our Praise Song reminds us of Jerry's dedication and application: "I REFUSE TO SIT AROUND AND WAIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO DO WHAT GOD HAS CALLED ME TO DO MYSELF, OH I COULD CHOOSE NOT TO MOVE BUT – I REFUSE"!

Jerry Prado-Shaw has always REFUSED NOT TO MOVE AND TO FOLLOW THROUGH AND DO WHAT JERRY WAS MADE TO DO!

It is my privilege to ask Jerry Prado-Shaw to stand and receive the AYR REUNION 2011 JOHN 17:21 PASSION AWARD in recognition of his application of unselfish giving and oneness for humanity.