

A Very Cheery hello to all members, associates and well wishers and a very special thanks to Kaneko San for changing the face of HIDA and for making it such a vibrant institution, in such a short time.

As usual October Newsletter is full of information (very important) news, photos and 2nd part of article,

“ Reminiscences by Past President Mr Wagle”. There is **rumour** for some of the dates Mr Wagle

had to do carbon dating. But seriously I would request all to go through this history.

He has requested all old members to fill in the gaps, Information news you could use.

Be sure to read new jokes, verses and miscellaneous

1. We have received as many as 7 applications for INBP. The deadline had to be extended by popular demand.
2. Two new courses namely INPT, PQPS have been announced. Please log on for more information, forms, costs and deadlines etc
3. Our entire managing team went to Delhi to attend a seminar and also for FAAA meeting. Kudos to our President Mr Premchand Goliya for being elected Senior Vice President of FAAA. Also as per a resolution about 50% of the sales proceeds of sales and property will be distributed to all FAAA members for the use of Objects of Trust
4. A strong 10 member contingent is getting ready to go to Tokyo for HIDA World Convention later this month. Their exploits will be covered in the December issue. More kudos to our President for getting the unprecedented honour of being invited to make a 15 minute presentation on WNF in Tokyo. Well begun is half done already.
5. Second batch of Japanese interns is expected to arrive by early next month. This will include one intern for IDEMI. In the meanwhile our Secretary Mr Purav has made great efforts to settle the first batch. However do contact Mr Purav, if you can organize something for the interns. It will be well appreciated by them and US as well.

Reminiscences by Past President Mr Wagle

HISTORY OF AAWI

PART 1 : Period Circa 1964 – 1992

Circa 1964 : ABKD Bombay was founded by Mr. S. R. Sarkar and his Japanese wife Mrs. Naomi Sarkar.

No records area available of ABKDB's activities.

1972-1983 : Mr. Sarkar moved out of Bombay. The activities were revived by Mrs. Sarkar with active support of returnees. Mr. Arun Wagle, Mr. J. D. Jadhao, Mr. C. V. Rao & group of 17 engineers of Eicher Marine Project.

The activities included recommending 2 names for ABKD and/or AOTS Technical Scholarships of duration 6 months to a year, receiving ABKD & AOTS officials. These visits used to be once a year as a follow up on returned trainees.

In around 1980 Dr. Gehani of Nirlon, a returnee, took the lead in organizing regular get-togethers, membership drive to enroll ex-trainees. Resident Japanese were

invited to share their experiences. These operations were in the name of AOTS Bombay Alumni (ABA), with Dr. Gehani as President, Mr. Banawalkar as Vice-President & Mr. Wagle as Secretary.



First committee Mr Wagle is second from left.

1984-1992 : On Dr. Gehani leaving Mumbai in 1984, Mr. Rusi Ghista took over as President. The office of ABA was shifted to Mr. Wagle's office premises – Electronic Enterprises, Sewri. The committee members included M/s.Banawalkar,Chakravarthy, C. V. Rao, M Ramamurthy, P. C. Goliya, Prasad Patwardhan, J. Jesia, B. Dabhoiwala, P. M. Katrak & Arun Wagle.

Under the able leadership of Mr. Ghista, the new committee further expanded the activities. Several seminars were organized with visiting Japanese experts. The system of selection of participants for AOTS programmes was streamlined. Membership drive was intensified. Meetings & get-togethers were organized regularly. A beginning was made for teaching Japanese language by Mr. Rusi Ghista & Mrs. Midori Ghista.

With the increased number of participants in AOTS programmes the membership steadily increased & crossed the 100 mark.

1992 : Vigorous efforts were made to give legal shape to the Association. This culminated in the formation of AOTS Alumni Association of Western India (AAAWI). This was duly registered as an Educational Institution under Society's Act & also as a Charitable Trust. AAWI was affiliated with the newly formed Federation of AOTS Alumni Association of India (FAAAI).

Note from the Editor: Old members are requested to send in their comments, corrections, additions deletions based on the archives in their possession.
