

News letter April 2014

I am pleased to present News letter for April. While the response for the previous issue was not earthshaking, it was encouraging enough to want to continue.

In this issue you will find reminiscences of Mr. K V Banavalkar, our past President (1997 to 2002) I am sure all members would want to know that part of our history.

You will also see some old photos such as that of the 1st committee, and also new ones covering INBP course.

As usual Events, Miscellaneous columns are updated and we do hope to see a large number of you all for seminar on Mobile banking by ever popular Dr. Shroff.

To all the friends in the Industry we hope the closing year was good and the next one will be better.

Best Wishes

Prasad Patwardhan

President & Editor

Reminiscences of Mr. Banavalkar

I recall the early days of our Association, sometime after my return from Japan in , Mr. S R Sarkar broached the idea of AOTS alumni meeting informally. We met at Churchgate Railway station and proceeded to Garden for a cup of tea. With Mr. Sarkar's transfer out of Mumbai our activities ceased.

Sometime in late seventies as Alumni meeting Dr. place at Nirlon Goregaon, though they had informally decided their office bearers, they were gracious enough to go one step lower to accommodate me as Vice President. We had a few meetings and quite a few activities like seminars etc., Dr. Gehani migrated to USA and the activities was revived only after Mr. Ghista came back to India in 1995.

Mr. Rusi Ghista & Mrs. Midori Ghista started the alumni activities right in earnest. The Association, originally ABK Dosokai, then AOTS Alumni Association Bombay was finally named AOTS Alumni Association of Western India (AAAWI) and a trust registered with the Charity Commissioner. The Office operated from Mr. Ghista's Residence, Executive Committee Meetings were held in the office of Electronics Enterprises at Sewri and Annual General Meeting was held at Yacht Club.

During Mr. Ghista's Presidency considerable fillip was given to AAWI activities. AAWI sponsored a number of candidates for AOTS training in Japan, held training courses in Mumbai with visiting experts from Japan. Japanese Language classes training were held at Davars College, Hutatma Chowk. There was a number of social activities like get-togethers, picnics, cruises etc.,

Mr. Ghista secured a grant for AAWI from Sasakwa Foundation (later named as Nippon Foundation) for a training Centre. Unfortunately Mr. Ghista suddenly passed away in Japan in 1997. AAWI office was shifted to premises of Prayog Electricals, Vidya vihar and was manned by a part timer. Executive Meetings and Annual General Meetings were held in the premises of DPYA school, Five garden.

After quite a few hassles, the grant money finally came through. Premises for AAWI were purchased at 3rd floor, India Printing House, Wadala. The premises was remodeled and refurnished with active participants of AAWI Members; Mr.

Paresh Pargaonkar was the Architect. The premises provided for an office, a library, a conference hall which could be subdivided to create a conference room and all activities were conducted with a manned office.

AAAWI played an important role in imparting training in India to participants from developing countries viz. Nepal, Bangladesh, Sudan, Ghana etc., firstly under Neighbouring Country Training Scheme and later under World Network of Friendship(WNF) Scheme. When the demand for training surpassed WNF allocation, training was imparted on the basis of understanding with sending Associations.

All along a need was felt for a Members Directory for AAWI. With dedicated efforts of Mr. Goliya and others the need has since been fulfilled.

AOTS Japan has over the years wound down its activities passing a new challenge to AAWI to pursue its activities in the changed circumstances. AAWI with its dedicated members, will surely meet this challenge and pursue its activities more vigorously, now through HIDA which has come into being through amalgamation of AOTS & JODC
