



William Ritchie

EO Washington, DC WEO President, FY1996/1997

YEO celebrated its 10th anniversary and hit the milestone 1,000 member mark during the 1996-1997 fiscal year.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The organization started the year with an international board meeting near Winnipeg, Canada; attendees represented Canada, USA, Mexico and Japan.
- YEO continued its global expansion with the launch of the Hong Kong chapter in July.
- During a trip to Australia by Dan Stevens and Dean Lindal, chapters were opened in Perth,
  Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane through events and forum training.
- The organization launched a Chapter Management System, thanks to secured contributions from IBM, Lotus, and The Kauffman Foundation. The system helped standardize communication between Global Headquarters, chapters and the members, in addition to providing easy resource access.
- The World Entrepreneurs Organization (WEO), YEO's official graduate organization, was initiated in July 1996. WEO was designed as an alumni organization for YEO members ages 40+ who wanted to continue their involvement in an entrepreneurial organization.
- The Asia Pacific Regional Conference was held 21-24 May, 1997 in Tokyo, Japan for 98 members. Chairperson of the event was Yoshito Hori.
- Caribbean Cruise University was held from 15-22 March, 1997 aboard the Sun Princess Cruise Liner for 72 members. Chairperson of the event was Jim Kenefick.