



# SPARKS

Grand Rapids Y Service Club  
Y Service Clubs International  
Mid East Region  
October 19, 2012

## OUR MISSION

As Y's Men International is a world-wide fellowship of persons of all faiths working constructively together based on the Christian teachings, in partnership with and supporting the YMCA, its mission is to strive through active service to develop, encourage and provide leadership to build a better world for all humankind.

## CLUB OFFICERS

**Pres:** Peter Chadwick  
**Secretary:** Ethan Ray  
**Treasurer:** Bob Smith  
**Asst. Treas:** Tom Johnson

## BOARD MEMBERS

Brad Howell  
Mark Radtke  
Harry Capogna  
Bob Williams  
Past Pres: John Duiven  
Pres. Elect: Neil Topliffe

## ACTIVITY CHAIRS

**Chaplin:** Gary Davis  
**Run Thru the Rapids:**  
Syd Baxter & Kent Mudie  
**Santa Claus Girls:**  
Bob Smith  
**White Elephant Sale:**  
Gregory Winer, Chair  
**Sparks Editor:**  
Neil Topliffe  
[Sparks Editor](#)

President Pete Chadwick called the club together and welcomed all to our biweekly meeting. Syd Baxter offered an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Guests:** Ellen Carpenter, Jessica Webster Huizen and Michael Harbaugh (all Bank of Holland staff – guests of Syd Baxter & Kent Mudie)

**Grateful Dollars** were given in abundance by a grateful membership.

## Club News:

- John Duiven encouraged members to donate to the Y Service Club Endowment Fund yet this year so we can reach the initial \$10,000 establishment amount. Once there we can invite other friends of the club to support this legacy fund that will provide annual income to Camp Manitou-Lin.
- Membership voted unanimously for Harry Capogna and Bob Williams becoming members of the Board of Directors.
- Pete Chadwick noted that we will NOT meet December 28 as was shown on our original meeting schedule.
- November 5 is when we begin our Santa Claus Girls sorting, Bob Smith announced. This year we are using the Amway facility at 315 Spaulding Ave SE, just south (across the tracks) of Fulton in Ada. Everyone who helped in the past is listed with security guard – give your name and Service Club ID info to be admitted to the building. Contact [Bob](#) if you have questions.
- Pete Chadwick asked for volunteers to work with Ethan Ray to review our bylaws and consider possible changes.
- **Reminder** - annual dues should be paid to Tom Johnson or sent to him c/o Devos Place, 303 Monroe Ave NW, 49503 - \$250 or ½ payment \$125.
- Board meeting dates for November & December have been combined to December 5, 5:30 pm at Pinnacle Insurance office board room, 1430 Monroe Ave., NW.

**Did you know?**

**Our Y Service Club Endowment Fund** is 3/5ths the way to being fully funded. Check with [Sara DeMann](#) in Y Development office to make your gift.

**SPARKS NEWS:**

If you have anything to put in the Sparks, email Neil at: [editor@gryserviceclub.org](mailto:editor@gryserviceclub.org)



**Find us on Facebook**

- [White Elephant Sale](#)
- [Run Thru the Rapids](#)

**Grand Rapids Y Service Club**  
 475 Lake Michigan Dr NW  
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[www.gryserviceclub.org](http://www.gryserviceclub.org)  
[www.runthrutherapids.com](http://www.runthrutherapids.com)  
 is a member of  
 Y Service Clubs International.  
[www.ysmen.org](http://www.ysmen.org)  
[www.ysmenu.com](http://www.ysmenu.com)



**Run Thru the Rapids Plans Paid Off with High Participation**

Syd Baxter and Kent Mudie once again stepped us through final plans for the Run Thru the Rapids 5K and 10K run. Syd praised the work of our corporate sponsor, [Bank of Holland](#), under the direction of Ellen Carpenter (left in photo) and Jessica Webster Huizen. [[Check news stories they helped generate](#)]



“More than 600 have registered as of Friday morning,” Syd announced, “with more expected by race time.” He also noted that this year they added a late registration session Friday afternoon at the Y in anticipation of increasing participation and lessening the number of Saturday registrations.

Kent Mudie, took the club through the outside volunteer assignments during the Friday meeting, noting that the course will provide a great scenic route for runners. In addition to Y service club members, Kent thanked the 60 plus students from area high schools and Camp Manitou-Lin that would be helping out.

**By Saturday morning registrations reached 684 with 604 runners actually crossing the finish line. That was a 20+ percent increase over 2011 runners completing the course and the highest number of runners in a decade, according to past race result totals.**



Camp Manitou-Lin provided cookies for the runners at the finish line. Post-event extra food was donated to Camp Manitou-Lin and God’s Kitchen.

**November 2 Speaker**  
**Phil Catlett, President**  
**Better Business Bureau in Western Michigan**