



OUR MISSION

Y Service Clubs International is a world-wide fellowship of persons of all faiths working constructively together based on 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: Neil Topliffe
Pres. Elect: Ethan Ray
Secretary: Martha Beals
Treasurer: Ken Haines
Asst. Treas: Tom Johnson
Past Pres: Pete Chadwick

BOARD MEMBERS

Henry Capogna
John Duivan
Mark Radtke
Bob Smith
Bob Williams

ACTIVITY CHAIRS

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

Grand Rapids Y Service Club

Y Service Clubs International - Mid East Region

September 20, 2013

It was a meeting of improvisation! The Downtown Y lost all electrical power so we set up tables outside and held our first half of the meeting on the front patio. Our president, Neil Topliffe, called the club together following a buffet lunch. Syd Baxter offered a brief meditation and invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Birthdays were recognized (Bill Petersen, Ron Nelson, John Osbourne, Bill Smith, Bob Smith).

Guests were introduced: Gene Gess (Bill Streeter), Harry Baxter (Syd Baxter). Grateful Dollars were received.

Club News

- **Membership Dues are payable now** to Tom Johnson. \$250 for the year or \$125 for half the year. Give your check to Tom or mail to him, DeVos Place, 303 Monroe Ave NW, 49503-2233.
- **Kent Mudie** and **Syd Baxter** emphasized the need for all members to help with [Run Thru the Rapids](#), October 19. Send an [email](#) to Kent telling him how many of you, your family and friends will be volunteers for the Run on the morning of October 19. "We need you to help out." Also, [check the website](#) and if you are on [Facebook](#), be sure to "Like" it.
- **Bob Smith** needs help on October 22 moving tables from our Plainfield WES site to the Amway warehouse where we will be working again this year for Santa Claus Girls. Call or [email](#) him – 616-531-0199

OCTOBER 4 MEETING – 11:30 AM

Cornerstone University

Lunch & Tour of new baseball facilities

CONTACT [HENRY CAPAGONIA](#) BY MONDAY 9/30

If you aren't already signed up to attend. (details pg. 3)

Our Motto

To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right

Happy Birthday

Bill Petersen 8/18
Ron Nelson 9/22
John Osbourne 9/25
Bob Smith 9/28
Bill Smith 9/29



Find us on Facebook

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

Grand Rapids Y Service Club
475 Lake Michigan Dr NW
Grand Rapids MI 49505
www.gryserviceclub.org
www.runthrurapids.com
is a member of
Y Service Clubs International.
www.ysmen.org
www.ysmenusa.com



Club News (cont'd)

- **Bob Williams** circulated our member directory, asking everyone to update any changes on their information so a new directory can be printed.
- **Next board meeting** Thursday, October 17 – Pinnacle Insurance. (NOTE: new day for monthly meetings)

Kids Food Basket Serves 6000 Meals Daily

Ashley Abbott, our speaker, knows what it's like on a daily basis how to improvise to make sure 6,000 brown bags get filled and delivered to the kids in our schools who would not have anything to eat for supper. She proved that last Friday, arriving as club members were setting up tables outside for our lunch. Then right before she was to speak, the YMCA lights came on and we moved everything back inside!



But the passion and energy was not lost one bit. Ashley painted a verbal picture for us of why Kids Food Basket is so crucial for kids without food in our Grand Rapids and North Muskegon schools and why volunteers to make sandwiches, pack lunch bags and deliver the food is so important to the effort.



“One in four kids in our schools struggle with hunger, not knowing where their next meal will come from,” Abbott told us. Eighty percent of children are at or near the poverty level in the schools served, whereas four years ago it was 72%.

The Kids Food Basket helps fill the gap by preparing a sack supper for those children/families that opt into the program. They serve kids in Grand Rapids public schools as well as some township schools in Grandville, Godwin Heights, Wyoming and North Muskegon.

They provide healthy food in all five food groups, drawing upon donations from food providers, cash donations, and Feeding America. The cost is \$1 per bag, \$6000 per day. They also provide weekend bags and special school break packs.

**CORNERSTONE
UNIVERSITY
OCTOBER 4
11:30 AM
MEETING
Details**

RESERVATIONS:

Contact [Henry Capogna](#) by MONDAY 9/30 if you have not already signed up to attend – we need to give a lunch count.

LUNCH: Meet at the Seminary Chapel, (see last page for campus map – building #19).

PARKING: available from Leonard St. only.

HOSTS: Dave Mitroff, baseball coach, Dave Grube, AD, & Bob Sack, VP of Comm.

PROGRAM: Tours of the new combined baseball stadium, dorms & locker rooms.

Food Basket (cont'd)

They currently serve 5400 meals a day to Grand Rapids area kids and 600 to Muskegon kids. “We currently have eight schools on a waiting list,” Ashley said. 100% of funding is private from community organizations, foundations, companies and especially individuals. They are a 501(c)3 organization making them tax exempt.

“What makes us unique,” Abbot explained, “is that we are solely dedicated to serving children pre-kindergarten through elementary school, who face hunger issues that will impact their lives because of the lack of nutrition.

Volunteers are needed to drive food packs to schools, sort and prepare food – “some volunteers love to make the peanut butter sandwiches” – and make donations. \$25 sponsors supper for a kid for a week, \$240 for a year. [Visit the web site for information.](#)

Highlights of Y Service Clubs Area Convention

John Carruthers, Mid East Region Director, and Bob Williams represented our club at the July Y Service Clubs International Area (USA) convention in Las Vegas.

John shared with us that one of the highlights for him was seeing the opening flag ceremony with flags representing every country where there is a Y Service Club, providing that reality of how much Y’s Clubs are spread across the globe.

Bob noted that 100 club members from across the US and some overseas countries participated in the convention. The event was sponsored by the Pacific South West Region that has more clubs than any other region. Workshops were offered on leadership, membership, public relations, collaboration. Forums included topics on self-improvement, communication, inheritance and family conflicts. A youth convention was held simultaneously with 8-10 youth participating.

Prior to the convention, the US Area Council met to receive reports, set goals, install new officers, including Debbie Redmond as president. The recommendation was made that the 2015 convention be hosted by the Mid East Region and held in Grand Rapids, subject to their approval.

CAMPUS MAP

MAP KEY

1. Ketcham Bldg. (Admissions/Financial Aid Welcome Center) (KETC)
2. Warren Faber Hall - Bookstore (FABR)
3. Bolthouse Hall (BOLT)
4. Gordon Hall (GORD)
5. Miller Hall (MLHL)
6. Gainey Conference Center (GAIN)
7. Corum Student Union (CORM)
8. Quincer Hall (QURH)
9. Pickitt Hall (PIRH)
10. Keithley Hall (KERH)
11. VanOsdel Hall (VDRH)
12. Cook Hall (CKRH)
13. Fuller Hall (FURH)
14. Knol Hall (KNRH)
15. Morris Hall (MORH)
16. Babcock Hall (BKRH)
17. Crawford Hall (CDRH)
18. Wood Seminary Bldg. (WOOD)
19. Matthews Auditorium (MATA)
20. Pirsig/DeBruyn Chapel (PDCH)
21. Theatre Storage Building
22. Hansen Athletic Center (BHAC)
23. Miller Library (MLLB)
24. Administration Building (ADMN)
25. Daverman Hall (DAVR)
26. Cornerstone University Radio
27. Professional & Graduate Studies Bldg. and Accounting Office
28. Theatre Costume Storage & Rentals
29. Campus Services - 2901 Bradford St.
30. Herald Office - 1128 Leffingwell
31. 1142 Leffingwell
32. 1158 Leffingwell
33. 1180 Leffingwell
34. 2830 Leonard
35. Shabach House - 2968 Leonard
36. I.S. House - 3014 Leonard
37. Faculty Office Building (FOB)
38. Softball Field
39. DeWitt Baseball Field
40. Soccer Field
41. Central Hall

