



## 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

November 1, 2013

Ethan Ray called the meeting to order at Kent Records Management, where Al and Greg George hosted the club for the meeting and a tour of this very impressive company near Meijer headquarters in the old Michigan Bulb building. Opening invocation was given by Al George.

## Club News

- Syd Baxter gave a positive, glowing report on an outstanding Run Through The Rapids with congratulations all around. He told us that approximately 585 runners took part and that the comments from them afterward were very good.
- **Don McWatters** mentioned that Don Kern has a new book, "And the Adventure Continues." We should all "run right out" and get it!
- **Bob Williams** talked about the importance of Camp Manitoulin's ongoing fund raising campaign and he also encouraged all of us to bring a guest to an upcoming meeting as a way of enhancing our membership building efforts. "Let's get to 50 members" was his battle cry.
- **Santa Claus Girls** sorting and setting up of deliver routes work for our club members will begin November 8 at the Spaulding Ave. Amway warehouse. Contact Bob, 531-0199, for schedule and directions to site.
- **Next board meeting** Thurs., Nov. 21 – Pinnacle Insurance.

### NEXT MEETING

**NOVEMBER 15 12:00 PM**

**Karyn Boyd, ITC Energy**

**At David C. Hunting YMCA, downtown**

International Transmission Company (ITC) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ITC Holdings Corp., the nation's largest independent electricity transmission company. Learn about the advantages a robust transmission grid brings to Michigan. [Visit their web site.](#)

## Our Motto

*To acknowledge the  
duty that accompanies  
every right*

*Happy  
Birthday*

Don McWatters 10/13



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

### Grand Rapids Y Service Club

475 Lake Michigan Dr NW  
Grand Rapids MI 49505

[www.gryserviceclub.org](http://www.gryserviceclub.org)  
[www.runthrurapids.com](http://www.runthrurapids.com)

is a member of  
Y Service Clubs International.  
[www.ysmen.org](http://www.ysmen.org)  
[www.ysmenusa.com](http://www.ysmenusa.com)



## Kent Records Secures Millions of Documents Safely

Al George introduced his son, Greg, to our group and they both spoke about some of the particulars of the facility that has nearly 1,000,000 square feet and approximately 700,000 boxes in storage.



Every box has a bar coded label to help in identification and retrieval. Kent Records Management (KRM) was started by Al in the early 80's as he saw the need for such a storage facility service. It all began with Al, his wife and a third person on the staff at the very start. Today,

KRM has 120 employees, with offices in Lansing, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, and Benton Harbor to go along with headquarters in Grand Rapids.

Greg is president of the company and he said that hospitals, medical facilities, physician practices, law firms, accounting firms and related professional organizations make up a big part of their business. Corporate back-up tapes are stored at the facility and a shredding operation is



part of the facility. Additionally, KRM has a private cloud hosting site for its clients and their data retrieval needs.



We also got a look at an impressive scanning system that can process 600 pages per minute. For more details on the company, please go to [www.kentrecords.com](http://www.kentrecords.com)

[Editor's note: Thanks to Gary Mescher for these meeting notes.]

## We Celebrate the Life of a Y Service Club Pioneer

Y Service Club member Gary Mescher's father, **Carl E. Mescher**, age 91, died last Saturday, November 2. Carl had labored for the past three years following a sudden stroke. A 10:30am Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> memorial service is scheduled at **Edgewood United Church**, East Lansing. Carl was a remarkable Service Club member in East Lansing for many, many decades and a tireless community volunteer. In fact, for several decades he directed and supervised a number of Lansing Area non-profit organizations that would clean Michigan State University's Spartan Stadium every Sunday morning

following a Saturday Michigan State home game.

Carl was the finest of gentlemen, a WW II veteran who championed many causes for the YMCA of Greater Lansing. Little wonder why his son Gary is such a faithful club member. Hail Carl!

Carl is survived by wife, Ruth and two children, Gary and Susie, a resident of South Carolina.

We miss Carl already for he was a relentless source of energy and inspiration to all of us who had the good fortune to know him.

Notes of condolence may be sent to Gary and Susie at 3891 S. Rosebud Dr. SE, #3, Kentwood MI 49512-9414, 616-975-9106 or email [gary.mescher@gmail.com](mailto:gary.mescher@gmail.com).

- Henry Capogna.

### **Projected Y Service Club Speakers 2013-14**

December 6	Brian Edwards, editor MBIZ
December 20	Bob Smith - Santa Claus Girls
January 10	2013-14 Camp Manitou-Lin Program Highlights
January 24	Mary Ann Weaver, President Michigan Disability Alliance
February 7	Rick Stevens & Larry Dodge, ABVI
February 21	Cheryl Cox, Scoutreach
March 7	Rev. Randall Bertrand, Street Kids on the Edge
March 21	Dan Gaydou, GR Press / MLive