



Grand Rapids Y Service Club

Y Service Clubs International - Mid East Region

September 5, 2014

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: Ethan Ray

Pres. Elect:

Secretary: Martha Beals

Treasurer: Ken Haines

Asst. Treas: Tom Johnson

Past Pres: Neil Topliffe

BOARD MEMBERS

Henry Capogna '15

John Carruthers '17

John Duiven '16

Chuck Marks '17

Bob Smith '16

Bob Williams '15

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](#)

Past President Neil Topliffe called the September 5 Service Club bi-weekly meeting to order at the downtown David D. Hunting Y. Jud Ross offered the opening prayer, followed by the pledge.

Birthdays: Al George (8/9), Bill Peterson (8/18)

Guests: Curt Weaver (Don McWortter)

Grateful Dollars were received with significant bucks paid for MSU football calendars passed out by Henry Capogna.

Club News

- **Bill Streeter** noted that three of the trailers are full with new merchandise donations. Items still are selling at M37 Auctions.
- **Neil Topliffe** displayed a gift from Elizabeth Schlosser, daughter of longtime member Fred Zwald. The paddle had dates, WES chairmen and dollar amounts of White Elephant Sales from 1939 to 1974. Two current members were WES chairs during that time. Who were they? Bill Streeter is checking past records to fill in names and \$\$ amounts through 1982.
- Santa Claus Girls – a report from Bob Smith confirms there is a site selected. He'll share more information at next meeting
- **Run Thru the Rapids** – (SEE more complete report on next page) Syd Baxter confirmed that the October 18 Run sponsor will again be **Bank of Holland** with a \$5,000 commitment.
- **Time of Fast** – **Bob Williams** reported two more donations arrived during the summer bringing the total to \$5,276

**NEXT MEETING – September 19, Noon: Lisa Verhil,
Experience Grand Rapids**

**Next Board Meeting – Thursday, October 16, 5:30 PM
-- Park Congregational Church**

Our Motto

*To acknowledge the duty
that accompanies every
right*

Happy
Birthday

Ron Nelson (9/22)
John Osbourne (9/25)
Mark Radtke (9/26)
Bob Smith (9/28)
Bill Smith (9/29)



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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
www.runthrutherapids.com

is a member of

Y Service Clubs International.

www.yservice.org
www.ysmenu.com



2014 Speakers List

Henry Capogna highlighted our plans for speakers at this fall's meetings, giving a bit of information about each guest. We are in for an exciting series of meetings well worth attending – to connect with member friends and to learn more about what makes Grand Rapids area so dynamic.

September 19 Lisa Verhil, Experience Grand Rapids,
October 3 Tennyson DeWitt, World Race. Org
October 17 Run thru the Rapids organizational lunch
October 31 Jay Follis, Gilmore Car Museum
November 14 Terri Demeter, Women's Resource Center
December 5 Harry Holwerda, African Missionary Work
December 19 Santa Girls Organizational Pow WOW

Club Events in 2014-15

October 18 Run Through the Rapids

Co-chair Syd Baxter reported a number of exciting things about this year's 5K, 10K, run held the day before the Grand Rapids Marathon

- 90 people have registered to date – same as last year at this time
 - YSC members need to be sure to recruit family and friends to be volunteers at the October 18 event
 - There will be no Friday advance check in/registration as in years past. That will increase the Saturday morning activity but will still be manageable
 - Meijer Foods has become a food sponsor, providing all the donuts, water and snacks this year
 - Gazelle Sports has picked up the pace this year with an advance training program and signed up 85 runners for the race
 - GR YMCA marketing is promoting the Run on their Facebook and web pages plus including it in the blast email distributions to several thousand Y members and friends
 - All YSC members need to join (LIKE) the GR Run Thru the Rapids Facebook page and promote it (SHARE) regularly to their own lists of friends.
 - Email messages have been going out to past participants and online registrations continue
-

Update on Camp Manitou-Lin: Summer Camps & New Exec Search

Ron Nelson GR YMCA CEO and club member updated us on the summer camping program this year and where they are in the search for a new camp executive director.

- Camp attendance was solid this summer with 200 campers from last year returning, a very encouraging sign
- A new partnership with Camp Coral, a fully paid program for kids of military personal from across the state added a very well received new experience and program with positive results
- Survey of families asking would they promote Camp Manitou-Lin to others registered a 100% approval rating
- The camp executive search committee interviewed a first candidate for Camp Manitou-Lin Executive Director on 9/5 and were greatly impressed with the quality of

the candidate. They expect to interview others before making a selection. The expectation is to have a new Executive Director in place yet this fall

- Karin Denman has done a tremendous job leading the summer camping program and is looking forward to working with new leadership.

Camp Manitou-Lin 100th Anniversary Capital Campaign

Bob Williams gave the membership an update on the capital campaign that has a goal of reaching \$1 million by the end of this year. Some highlights:

- Our YSC made one of the first gifts (\$50,000) and has made the largest gift total so far - \$100,000 with \$40-50,000 additional to be paid yet this year
- Syd Baxter and Don McWatters are two of the campaign team members
- Major Gifts donated to date are \$539,000 of \$800,00
- Community Gifts to date are \$74,960 toward goal of \$200,000.
- Total raised to date is \$613,960.

Hosting YSC US AREA Convention July 2015

Neil Topliffe and Bob Williams, co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee shared initial plans for the Convention we will host next July

- We expect to lock up a contract with Hilton Airport (28th Street & Patterson) for the event to be held July 7-12, 2015
- We expect 90-100 participants for the convention from other clubs across the US
- As hosts we are responsible for the planning, registrations and providing the programs and entertainment
- Friday Afternoon will be "Experience Grand Rapids Day" with events and tours planned for downtown and the evening banquet at the David Hunting Y.

New Southeast Y Ground Breaking September 24

Ron Nelson, enthusiastically announced the status for the new SE Y which received final approval for zoning this summer and will begin building the state of the art, LEED environmentally constructed facility to serve not only members but also the community. "This will be a national leader in buildings and facilities designed for accessibility," noted Nelson.