



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](#)



Grand Rapids Y Service Club

Y Service Clubs International - Mid East Region

October 3, 2014

President Ethan Ray called the Service Club bi-weekly meeting to order at the downtown David D. Hunting Y with the announcement that the bell was missing. Managing to go ahead without the bell John Carruthers offered the prayer, followed by the pledge.

26 members were present.

Grateful and Birthday Dollars were received. Bill Smith celebrated his 85th birthday. Don McWatters also had a birthday last month.

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.
- **Run Thru the Rapids** – **Kent Mudie** gave an update saying they were ahead of last year with registrations. He circulated a sign-up sheet for members to volunteer for the event and reminded the group to let him know if they wanted a shirt this year.

NEXT MEETING – October 17 – Run Thru the Rapids Prep.

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

Our Motto

*To acknowledge the duty
that accompanies every
right*

Happy
Birthday

Gene Gess (10/29)



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
www.runthrutherapids.com
is a member of
Y Service Clubs International.
www.yservice.org
www.ysmenusa.com



Traveling to 11 Countries in 11 Months



Henry Capogna introduced our guest speaker, **Tennyson DeWitt**, a dynamic young woman with a story to tell of her work with **The World Race**, a faith-based movement calling young adults “out of your comfort zone and giving you exposure to what God is doing in the world before you commit to the American dream.”

Adventures in Mission, (click the underlined words to go to web sites from this emailed file) based in Gainesville, Georgia is the sponsor of The World Race program, providing a variety of options for youth ages 21-35, including how many months you want to sign up.

The cost was \$15,500 which included training, all travel, food, lodging and other expenses for ten countries in 11 months. Countries included Albania, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, India, Nepal, Thailand, Cambodia, Philippines, and South Africa.

During her time overseas Tennyson worked in teams (six in her team), and squads (seven teams to a squad). They started with 55 members and ended after eleven months with 40 members. (They went home – not lost somewhere in a country!)

Their mission tasks were quite different for each country – teaching, playing games with the children, witnessing to women on the streets and many others, building relationships, manual labor, serving food, aiding ill and old. Often they were in the ghettos and with the very poor. They partnered with an organization already present in the host country.

The experience was very God/Jesus oriented, Tennyson explained. At times it was very difficult and challenging, requiring a lot of personal and team prayer. When asked if she would do it again the response was, “yes” she would go again.

[Ed. Note: Thanks to Gary Davis for taking notes at the last meeting]