



Sparks

**Grand Rapids YMCA Service Club
Mid East Region
March 18, 2011**

OUR MISSION

As Y's Men International is a world-wide fellowship of persons of all faiths working constructively together based on the teachings of Jesus Christ, 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: Henry Capogna II
Secretary: Bill Phillips
Treasurer: Bob Smith
Asst. Treas.: Bill Smith
Chaplin: Neil Topliffe

BOARD MEMBERS

Dan Parks
Mark Radtke
John Carruthers
Pete Chadwick
Dan Miller
Past Pres: Bob Williams
Pres. Elect: John Duiven

ACTIVITY CHAIRS

Run Thru the Rapids:
Syd Baxter & Kent Mudie
Santa Claus Girls:
Bob Smith
White Elephant Sale:
John Lang
Sparks Editor:
Loyd E. Winer

President Henry Capogna called the meeting to order. The invocation was given by Brad Howell. The Pledge of allegiance to the flag was given by President Henry. We had 30 members present plus one guest - Mike Remo introduced by John Carruthers. Yea Dan Miller for the food.

Happy birthday dollars to Tom Johnson and most honorable president Capogna. Grateful dollars from Neil Topliffe, Butler win, Chuck Marks - UCLA put MSU out of its misery, Bob Smith, - daughter's Grandville cheer team won another State championship, Capogna, Jim Schneider, and Gary Mescher.

Business:

- Prayers for Bill and Judy Smith, Chuck Aldridge, Carleen Schneider (Jim's wife), and Gary Mescher's father.
- President Capogna reports Strong Kid's Campaign is lagging - 30% behind last year. Make your contributions.
- Bob Williams's reports Time of Fast is approaching. Be ready.
- WES update by Jon Lang - work crews on Saturday morning from now on. We need stuff to sell. Get the calls made; contact your family, neighbors, and friends.
- President Capogna pushed us again in shouting an old White Elephant cheer. Perhaps Bob Smith's daughter could help us out on enthusiasm and choreography.

PROGRAM - Greg Dodd - new director of Camp Manitou-Lin

He began by stating that 2012 will be the 100th anniversary of the Grand Rapids YMCA camping program. Next came an audio-visual made in 2010 for the 125th anniversary of the national YMCA camping program - great pictures and narration. The original goal in 1885 was Christian character development

Did you know?

When the Y's Men Clubs met in 1922 to officially form an International organization they adopted the motto "To acknowledge the duty that accompanies every right", a unifying and motivating theme for the world-wide movement.

Thought for the day.

The superior man is modest in his speech, but exceeds in his actions

Confucius

through a three way focus of program, the environment in which each camp is set, and group development. A fourth focus was later added through specialty camps, year around opportunities, and day camps.

Dodd then shared his future focus for the next two years will be more effective marketing and recruiting for (1) the overnight camping program through, and (2) retreats. He also wants to work on reconnecting people with the camp.

In questions he responded Day camps are going great, overnight camping has been down since 9/11, boy-girl enrollments are about 50-50, and they have about four or five international people on staff each summer.

Minutes by Gary Davis

Next Meeting

April 1, 2011

Stuart Ray

Director of Guiding Light Mission

If you have anything you would like to have in the Sparks or suggestions for the Sparks please let me know. I would welcome the information. *Loyd*