



SPARKS

Grand Rapids YMCA Service Club
Mid East Region
April 15, 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:
Lloyd E. Winer

Opening prayer was given by Jon Lang and pledge to flag led by President Henry Capogna.

Happy birthday dollars: Loyd Winer. The Club sang Happy Birthday to Loyd. Grateful dollars were given. Don McWatters reported that he had his heart shocked back into rhythm. Prayers were called for Judy Smith and Jim Schneider.

A big cheer was given for Al George for all the pick ups that he leads.

Business:

- Next Board meeting is April 20.
- Bob Smith led a rousing cheer for the White Elephant Sale. WES update was given by Jon Lang - work crew Saturday morning needed. We need stuff to sell. Get the calls made; contact your family, neighbors and friends. Al George is picking up a lot of stuff this week. Financial gifts were given to the WES by check from Meijer's, Lacks and others. Be sure and sign up to take a duty for the next two weeks. Connections have been made with the GR Press, TV and Radio to announce the Sale.

Program:

Neil Topliffe introduced Ginny Sielert, Donor Relations Coordinator with Paws with a Cause. She introduced Marilyn Boes and her service dog Argon.

The Mission with Paws with a cause is to train Assistance Dogs for people with disabilities. Their Vision is to encourage independence for people with disabilities.

Generally the dogs are Labs, golden retrievers. They are trained to serve 26 different disabilities. Marilyn demonstrated what Argo could do for her. He could fetch the phone, pick up a dime or a piece of paper off the floor, opens the door. He also will take the laundry out of the dryer, pulls bed sheet and covers, operates elevator buttons and many other special services. She told about how Argo had saved her life when she fell and could have died from bleeding.

Did you know?

How important the sale and its income are to the camp and the service clubs efforts to succeed.

Let's get out there and do our job. We need product.

Thought for the day:

Have you done your job?

Get those products and material for the sale now.

The sale is less than three weeks away.

Let's Go

It costs \$30,000 to train a dog over a two year period. Paws with a Cause are licensed in 44 states now. 100 dogs are in training at one time.

Bob Williams gave the closing prayer.

Next Meeting

April 29, 2011

**It's all day long at the White Elephant Sale.
Lets all try to be there and help with the sale.**

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*

*We need
Stuff for the
sale.*