



Yoked to You ~ News from YPM Executive Director

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BOARD NEWS

Since early December, the YPM Board has been meeting bi-weekly to help quicken our transition into our new regional structure. The meetings are via telephone conferencing at 9:15 PM and last 1-1½ hours. The current board consists of: David Manos, Chairman; Jay Flanagan, Vice Chair; Mary Clouser, Sec; Sue Wiseman, Treasurer and SW Region Chair; Keith Groves, SE Region Chair; Eleanor Derr, NC Region Chair; and Paul Ilyes and Wes King, at-large directors. Eleanor Derr replaced Donna Vile and Paul Ilyes replaced Steven Boyd who both submitted their resignations recently with regrets.

The Board approved an YPM Organizational Chart.

Finances – Giving was down \$10,000 in 2011 from 2010. An end-of-year appeal brought in an additional \$600.

Other activities are included under specific headings.

Any questions or to request copies of documents, call Larry.

REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL NEWS

The Board recently decided to refer to Regional Advisory Councils as RACs to avoid confusion with Area Councils.

The next RAC meetings are tentatively set as follows: SE, Jan 21, 2012, 10 a.m. at Fellowship Church; SW March (TBA); and NC Jan 28th Conference call and April 14, 2012, 10 a.m., 1200 Almond St., Williamsport.

A job description for the RAC Chair has been approved. Essentially, the RAC Chair supports the Regional Director in their duties, chairs the RAC, and serves on the YPM Board.

Planning - The current goal is for each RAC to help ACs develop a list of strengths and weaknesses which will be used collectively to develop a strategic plan for the region.

Regional Annual Conference – Though this sounds ambitious, each RAC is encouraged to hold a regional event this year. This may be scaled down or a mini conference in this transitional year. Regional Directors will work with the RAC to define and coordinate this event.

AREA COUNCIL NEWS

The AC Manual is in the process of being revised.

The Three Rivers AC has split into three ACs: Three Rivers AC, Indiana County Area AC, and Tri-State AC.

YPM WEBSITE

This is a long overdue task. As one AC director pointed out, this is crucial for our volunteers and local ministries. Kathy Kolb, President of Kolb Net Works, Inc. has donated her staff's time to help us in this endeavor. Changes will be made over time so we will not have to wait for the final product to be complete before posting. Each AC will also have a page on the website where they can enter AC specific information.

YPM LINGO

AC – Area Council, RAC – Regional Advisory Council.

VOLUNTEER TRAININGS

The YPM Volunteer Handbook has been revised. Hard copies are available and it will appear on the website.

The following volunteer trainings are scheduled:

AC	Location	Dates
Berks	Christian Fellowship Ch. Banquet “	Feb 19, 3-5 May 19, 6-8
Central Lehigh	Strodes Mills Mennonite Bethany Church	Feb 25, 11 March 3,10,24 April 14, 21, May 5, 19
NE AC Schuylkill	Bethany Wesleyan Church Hosses, Pottstown	April 15, 1-5 March 19, 6-9

Volunteers from other ACs are welcomed. Call Larry.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PREVIEW

The YPM Annual Conference will again be held in Lewisburg at the Best Western Country Cupboard. The dates are set for Oct 12-13, Fri Night and Sat. Plans are being generated, set aside those dates for this annual event which will include our annual Membership Meeting.

MEET THE STAFF

The function of the Regional Director is to strengthen and support ACs and to develop new ministry opportunities within the region in which they are assigned. They are the primary interface between the ACs and the Executive Director. They are:

- NC - Nessie Whaley smileynessie@yahoo.com
- SE - Alma Maldonado-Colon colonalmacolon@aol.com
- SW - Ron Calabro Revcal@comcast.net

Carl Geissingering was hired to assist Larry in special projects. luvgod@centurylink.net

LARRY'S CORNER

I want to commend the work of our Regional Directors who will help with training, recruiting of volunteers, fund raising events, and other things that Area Councils need as they can be scheduled. This will be a growing area—all of those of us who are “part-time” staff working together.

I, again, refer you to the Heather Zempel Interview, referred to in the handout at Annual Conference. See what we call “people problems” in a new context - those problems are opportunities for Christian growth. See:

www.smallgroupnetwork.com Click on Group Talk, Oct 4, 2011). Check it before you need it!

The YPM Brochure has also been revised and is available.

Call me and/or your Regional Director as needed.

Collegially, Larry