



Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2016-17, No. 15, April 1, 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

University Club

Downtown Grand Rapids

Meetings begin at 12:15 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

----- We Serve -----

Monday, April 3, Lions Bowling League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

Tuesday, April 4, Jewish Film Festival, Marisa Reed

Monday, April 10, Lions Bowling League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

Tuesday, April 11, Mel Trotter Mission, Dennis Van Kampen

April 16, 2017

Happy & Blessed Easter

Monday, April 17, Lions Bowling League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

Tuesday, April 18, State of the City, GR Mayor Rosalynn Bliss

Monday, April 19, Lions Bowling League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

Note: The **Recycling Center** hours will be 6:00 - 8:00 pm through the remainder of this year. No dinner will be served on April 24 due to the food served on Sat. April 29.

Tuesday, April 4 Jewish Film Festival, Marisa Reed



The 19th Jewish Film Festival is brought to the community by the Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids. The 19th Film Festival will be held from April 30 - May 4, 2017 at Celebration! Cinema North and will include: *Abulele*, *Dough*, *My Hero Brother*, *Fanny's Journey*, *Rock in the Red Zone*, and *Harmonia*.

The Jewish Federation of Grand Rapids was organized in 1947 as the Jewish Community Fund in response to the emerging needs of the newly founded State of Israel. From these roots, the Federation has grown significantly through the help and involvement of the Grand Rapids Jewish community. It evolved from primarily a fundraising organization that helps Israel to providing local programs and services, including in the areas of social services, senior assistance, immigrant assistance, cultural and community programming, singles involvement, youth and family activities, and summer camp for younger children beginning in the 1980s.

Today, the Jewish Federation works closely with other local, national, and international Jewish organizations to help assure the sustenance and strength of the Jewish people in West Michigan and around the world.

A new Executive Director, Marisa Reed, comes with her family (Adam & four children) from New York City. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Hofstra University School of Law. Marisa has a background in Judaic Studies and has a wealth of experience in areas of non-profit advocacy and fundraising. Very early in her career she developed a strong connection to Judaism, reinforced through a volunteer Kibbutzim mission to Israel as well as pursuing educational opportunities at The Jewish Theological Seminary and Hebrew University.

Tuesday, April 11

Mel Trotter Mission, Dennis Van Kampen

Focusing on ending homelessness, feeding hungry individuals and helping hurting people, Mel Trotter Ministries demonstrates the compassion of Jesus Christ in the greater Grand Rapids area. It exists for two reasons: seeking to end homelessness in West Michigan, one life at a time, and inspiring those without faith in Christ to find it and help all move forward on their life's journey.

Mel Trotter Ministries provides 7 programs: a food pantry, assistance in finding stable employment & housing, offers evening meals, provides, provides medically-supervised shelter for inebriants, women & children and men and a day-care center. In 2016, Mel Trotter provided 147,421 meals, helping 149 families and individuals find permanent housing and helped 135 individuals find employment.

Since 1900, Mel Trotter Ministries has helped restore faith and lives. On February 24, 1900, Mel Trotter and a group of community leaders opened a Mission at 95 Canal Street in Grand Rapids. Since then, hundreds of thousands of men and women have found Jesus, and restored their lives due to love and support they found there.

Dennis Van Kampen, President/CEO, will talk about Mel Trotter Ministries at lunch today. He feels that his life's experience over 20 years lead him to this position, providing him with a passion for serving the hungry, homeless, and hurting. He says, "I love seeing lives transformed in very practical ways through education, jobs and homes, but most important I love helping people discover the hope, love and restoration available in Jesus Christ."

Mr. Van Kampen brought a wealth of experience to Mel Trotter. He has led four camp and retreat centers, served as a pastor, and even served as a reserve and part-time deputy sheriff for 15 years. He currently teaches adults in Professional and Graduate Studies at Cornerstone University and serves as a lay pastor with a local church.

He came to Mel Trotter in early 2012 and has served as the Vice President of Programs, where his responsibilities included the Emergency Shelters, Residential Programs, Day Center, Food Pantry, and PI Center. He was selected and began as President/CEO 2015.

2017 Vision Mission Sees Record # of Patients And Continues to Make a Difference in People's Lives

Our Vision Mission Team returned from Mexico on February 17, 2017. This year's team consisted of 21 Lions from several clubs throughout West Michigan.

Our trip was to Rio Verde, San Luis Potosí, Mexico. The team of 8 doctors and 13 lay workers examined 2,401 patients during the 4-day clinic, dispensing nearly 1,800 pair of prescription glasses. They worked with a dedicated group of Lions from Club de Leones El Refugio, District B-3, which set up an extremely efficient clinic allowing the team to see 600 patients a day. This was a record number of patients since we took over the managing the project from the Muskegon Northside Club. Patients of all ages were examined for eye diseases and "refracted" (measured) for glasses.

These glasses would not be available were it not for the efforts of Lions throughout the state and all the work members of our club put in on the project of sorting, washing and measuring the glasses donated. The team thanks you and so do the patients we saw on the trip.

One team member said. "I know of three patients, all female – ages 18 to 32, who never have had glasses before and could not see clearly more than 18 inches from their face. What a difference we made in their lives!" They will benefit from this act of charity for a long time. And, I am sure other team members can tell you of other stories of the benefits of sight and the help we bring to those who do not have access to vision services.

Grand Rapids Lions Club Board Elections

The annual elections for our Board of Directors is upon us. Candidates are selected by the Board of Directors. Every Grand Rapids Lion Club can and should vote. You should be receiving your ballot email soon. Please indicate (check, x, etc.) on your ballot for your selection of candidates of choice and return the email to grlcsec@gmail.com. Votes will be tabulated until April 15. The new Board members will be announced soon after.

Lions Birthdays in April Happy Birthday!

Patrick Keenan	April 3
Scott Embree	April 6
Craig Maghielse	April 9
Diana Bergquist	April 15
Jean Kraai	April 18
Gail Junod	April 24
Jacqueline Smart	April 24

Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club

As we approach our 100th anniversary in 2019, as the club looks forward, this series of articles looks back on the activities of the club, this time drawing upon some of the earliest Nuda Veritas editions that we have in our archives – spring 1944.

The Club was meeting for Tuesday luncheons with programs, as we still do. We met at the Pantlind Hotel in the Grille Room until Amway bought and began remodeling it. We share some thoughts and programs from the April 1944 editions:

- The president of Herpolsheimers, C.O. Ransford, talked about the work of the GR Planning Commission in charting the course of the future of Grand Rapids;
- A double-feature this Tuesday teamed the movie star, Gene Autry, who spent 15 minutes with the Lions, with a speaker, George Gibson talking about the paper industry. Gibson was with the Mosinee Paper Mills Company;
- The local District Supervisor of the Michigan Conservation Corps, Earl Cornett, showed a couple of movies about Michigan;
- This meeting welcomed back Lt. Ed Hertel from WWII duty in the pacific, on his way to his next assignment. He was the son of Lion George Hertel. We also invited "the boys" who had just returned from New Guinea;

The Nuda Veritas was a 4-page newsletter published weekly. It was supported, in part by a "Lions Classified Directory." Here is a selection of the names (or their kids) or companies that Lions over 50, and maybe some others might recall:

- ✓ Dan Palmatier, Advertising Specialties
- ✓ Henry Voet & Company, Auto Body Service (Henry Voet Meritorious Service Award)
- ✓ Houseman's, men's & women's clothing
- ✓ Steketee & Sons, floor coverings at this department store

- ✓ Fox Deluxe Beer, Henry Fox
- ✓ Fox Jewelers
- ✓ Blodgett Parking & Storage Co, Leon Blodgett
- ✓ Bixby Office Supply
- ✓ Robinson Studio, photographer
- ✓ Wiedenfeller Engineering, refrigeration & air conditioning (Is John W a relation to current Lion Ray?)
- ✓ Kelly Shirt Company, shirts, hosiery & neckwear, Carl Showalter

Almost every addition had an article, “*Cruise News*” which reminded Lions hurry to reserve their accommodations on the S.S. North American for a June 8th cruise lasting 3 days and four nights.

War Bond Sales, collections from the Blind Bottles (you can see of these at GR Public Museum), report on the Lions bowling results & standings and “*Editor Ramblings*.” In the April 11, 1944 issue, Lions were reminded the end of 1944 would mark the Silver Anniversary (25 yrs.) of the club’s charter by LCI and continuous community service by our club.



Other Lions News:

LCI – 100 Years of Service, 200 Countries: Mark Your Calendars! Time is getting short for this once in a lifetime event. The Lions International Convention will be held on June 30 – July 4 in Chicago – where it all began and right in our own back yard. This is your most convenient chance to attend an LCI convention, let alone the 100th Anniversary of the organization. Registration cost is: regular \$180 from January 14 - March 31, and late registration will be \$200 from April 1 until convention. Special notes: *Michigan Night* is an Interactive Dinner Show at Tommy Guns Garage on July 2; *the Michigan Hotel* is The Hyatt Regency McCormick; *Amtrak* is cheapest form of transportation since parking is pricey.

White Cane Drive: Mark your calendars! The White Cane Drive will take place on Friday, May 5 & Saturday, May 6. This year, the fundraising event will only be at the Walmart Store on Alpine. The change is the result of a new manager at the Cascade Walmart denied our request and the poor collections in recent years in Downtown. Our club will concentrate our “people resources” at the Alpine Walmart for 2 full days in a concerted effort for exposure and where the site has always generated a lot of funds, but has been difficult to get enough help. Lion Anne Baird, co-chair with Bill Fleetham, said, “Hopefully, we will get more volunteers at that site with the incredible number of hours they have given us.” Sign-up at the meetings or contact To sign-up, sheets are being around passed at our meetings or contact Lion Bill Fleetham at 204-2421 or grpedopt@gmail.com to sign up.