



Nuda Veritas

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UPCOMING EVENTS

**University Club
Downtown Grand Rapids
Luncheon Meetings begin at 12:15
p.m. unless otherwise noted.**

----- **We Serve** -----

Friday, August 25, 4:30 pm, Lions Club Golf Outing, Wallinwood Springs (see more detailed in this newsletter)



Tuesday, September 5, First Lions Luncheon Meeting of the New Season

Tuesday, September 5, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, First Eyeglass Recycling Workshop of the New Season

News!

The Lions Club's Annual Meeting

Socializing and a great dinner preceded the Lions program for the forty-nine Lions and guests at the Grand Rapids Lions Club's Annual Meeting on the evening of Tuesday, June 6, 2017. President Shawn Eyestone chose a new location, Stone Water Country Club in Caledonia, to celebrate his first year as our President.

President Shawn, serving as Master of Ceremonies, led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Innovation before allowing the hungry guests to be served dinner (tangerine balsamic glazed salmon, spinach & artichoke chicken, pasta primavera or vegan with house salad, asparagus & rice pilaf, fresh baked rolls and rhubarb pie).

After dinner, President Shawn remembered the death in July 2016 of a **former Lion James LeRoy**, who was stalwart of the club from 1987 to 2007, when illness caused him to resign from the club.

President Shawn then recognized his wife, **Lion Mary Beth**, who was the lone new member this year. [Note: 3 more were approved after the annual meeting]

President Shawn reported on our service projects and fund raising events for the year. The **service projects** included the *Meijer Kids Shopping event* helped 42 VI & disadvantaged kids shop for their families. *Regular eyeglasses recycling sessions* were held every Tuesday night, with *two mission trips* held this year – one with a partner organization to Jamaica and the other to Rio Verde in the state of San Luis Potosí in Mexico (NNW of Mexico City). Back by popular demand by VI students this year, the Lions Club sponsored another *VI field trip* to Camp Tuhsmeheeta with 28 students and 9 parent-chaperones & paraprofessionals from 25 different schools across Kent County. On June 10, *VI Sports Day* was held at Wealthy Elementary

School. Lions' luncheon programs took place every noon from September to last week.

With several Club **fund raising events**, President Shawn noted that the *Calendar Raffle* sales netting over \$7,000; the *Blind Dinner Date*, presentation sponsor RX Optical, was the most successful ever with over \$32,000 for our charities and Bill Robinson, the new Director of the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons, describing his journey from vision loss to independence; a successful *White Cane Drive* at only one location this year, and an expected good year from the Grand Rapids Ophthalmology *Drive for Vision* on June 19. In addition, the Grand Rapids Lions Club Fund (at the Grand Rapids Community Foundation) generated over \$30,000 that the club distributed to our primary charities and other charitable causes.

Past International Director (PID) Lions Gary Anderson and President Shawn presented videos from Lions Clubs International (LCI) which were developed to honor the **Centennial Anniversary of the founding of Lions Clubs (1917 – 2017)** and the long worldwide history of service to our communities and vision & related issues around the world. Lion Gary also described the founding of the LCI Foundation in 1968 to further the mission of LCI and its clubs throughout the world. For more information about our 100 years of service, go to www.lionsclubs.org and click on "Lions 100" at the top.

President Shawn opened the Awards part of the program by presenting **Awards from LCI**, including:

- ◆ **Silver Centennial Membership Pins: Lions Sharon Barton, Mary (MP) Chelsky, Keith Crittenden, Scott Embree, Shawn Eyestone & Lynn Francis.**
- ◆ **Membership Keys: Lions Shawn Eyestone & Brent Spoelsta**
- ◆ **Builder Key: Lion Mark Oberlin**

PID Lion Gary announced the next three awards. Two **Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards** (from the Lions Clubs International Foundation, were given to **Lions Dave Delorm and Shelley Irwin**. [Since Lion Shelley was not present at our Annual Meeting, PID Lion Gary surprised her by presenting the award on her radio show - WGVU's Morning Show - on June 14. One could say, "She was almost speechless."]

The third award, the **Ken Kautzenheiser Fellowship Award** from the Lions of Michigan Foundation, was presented by PID Lion Gary to **Lion Cheryl Anderson**. This recipient of this award is selected for outstanding service and leadership on a District and State level in Lionism. Lion Ken Kautzenheiser was a Past International Director from Michigan and one of the founders of our Lions of Michigan Foundation.

Turning to the **Grand Rapids Lions Club Awards**, President Shawn presented several awards.

- ◆ **President's Appreciation Award: Lion Fred Martin** for serving as secretary of the club's Bowling League. (Since Lion Fred was unable to be present, it will be given to him at the start of the bowling season next year.)
- ◆ **Joseph M. Trenshaw Memorial Rookie of the Year Trophy:** The awardee is Lion who has joined the club within the past 2 years and has demonstrated good attendance, shown initiative, motivated others by setting a good example and participated in club projects. Last year's recipient, **Lion Benjamin Eavey**, was given a replacement plaque for the *Rookie of the Year Trophy*. This year's Rookie of the Year Award was presented to a Lion who stepped to participate in many activities, **Lion Anna Clifford**.

- ◆ **Lion of the Year Award** was presented to an individual who chaired the Blind Dinner Date and has guided the upcoming changes to our website to make it more user-friendly, **Lion Benjamin Eavey**. Note: **Lion Rick Stevens** was awarded this honor last year.
- ◆ **Henry Voet Award for Outstanding Service to Lionism** is the highest award that the Grand Rapids Lions can bestow. The recipient of the 70th annual Henry Voet Award was selected by the Past-Presidents of the Grand Rapids Lions Club by secret ballot. Last year's recipient, **Lion Scott Brady**, was presented with a replacement plaque. Lions Chairperson Don Jakel, described the dedication to Lionism and the many contributions that the person has made to our club. This year's recipient was . . . **Lion Brent Spoelstra!**

Past-Chairperson Lion Scott Brady recognized the current 2016-17 Board of Directors and retiring board members:

- ◆ Lion Gary Anderson
- ◆ Lion Richard Boland
- ◆ Lion Erik Anderson
- ◆ Lion Bill Fleetham
- ◆ Lion Colleen Mulder *
- ◆ Lion Ryan Smith **
- ◆ Lion Scott Embree, Membership**
- ◆ Lion Jeff Kraai, Treasurer
- ◆ Lion Craig Nobbelin, Secretary
- ◆ Lion Ed Thauer, Vice-President
- ◆ Lion Shawn Eyestone, President
- ◆ Lion Don Jakel, Chairperson

** Term Ending or **Retiring Board Members*

Past Chairman Lion Scott Brady installed the **2017-18 Officers and Directors** of the Grand Rapids Lions Club:

- ◆ Lion Colleen Mulder
- ◆ Lion Benjamin Eavey
- ◆ Lion Kyle Travis
- ◆ Lion Richard Boland
- ◆ Lion Erik Anderson
- ◆ Lion Bill Fleetham
- ◆ Lion Gary Anderson, Membership
- ◆ Lion Jeff Kraai, Treasurer (annual)
- ◆ Lion Craig Nobbelin, Secretary (annual)
- ◆ Lion Ed Thauer, Vice President
- ◆ Lion President Shawn Eyestone
- ◆ Lion Chairperson Don Jakel

President Shaun made closing remarks to conclude the 2017 Annual Meeting.

Lions Club Golf Outing Friday, August 25

The Lions Club social committee is hosting a golf outing and picnic on Friday August 25th, with the ***golf starting at 4:30 pm*** for those who want to play golf. The ***picnic will follow around 7:00 pm*** at Lions Cheryl and Gary Anderson's home.

The golf outing will be a casual, fun event and all members, spouses and friends are invited. We will play a scramble . . . so all golf abilities will be welcome. Cost for 9 holes of golf is \$25 which includes a cart and prizes. Golf will be at Wallinwood Springs Golf Club, 8152 Weatherwood Drive, Jenison 49426.

Dinner will be a casual cookout at a cost of \$10 per person. If you don't golf, then come for dinner. *If you don't show, you will be talked about.* Lions Cheryl and Gary's address is 1045 Lumina Dr, Jenison, MI 49428.

In an email earlier this month, Lion Rob Lalley sent Lions a notice about this outing. For questions and to reserve your spots, contact Rob Lalley at rl@vwlst.com or 616-450-7968.

About the Wallinwood Spring golf course**:

The front is in the Scottish style, which means it is somewhat open by appearance. The Scots believe in letting nature be a golf ball's worst enemy. Berms and mounds pervade the course and are coupled with over 30 sand traps to create a very unpleasant penalty for anyone unfortunate enough to explore their ridges or depths. Every hole has a large, undulating green that is challenging. Water comes into play on three of the nine holes.

The back nine features a 26-acre, man-made lake which creates a watery grave for misguided shots on five of the nine holes. The Grand River runs parallel to the 10th, 11th and 12th holes. The most difficult hole on the course just may be #16 - a par 4 which plays over 400 yards.

** Drawn from Wallinwood Springs Golf Club website

VI Sports Day – Another Successful Morning

The 15th annual Visually Impaired (VI) Sports Day was held on Saturday, June 10, 2017 at Wealthy Elementary School. The day was a beautiful day again this year.

Led by Lion Scott Embree and his wife, Amy, Lions members arrived first thing in the morning to set-up and get things started in the kitchen. Other early morning shift volunteers were: Dr. Pat Droste, Shelly Irwin, Mike Murphy, and Bob Winchester (*probably a couple others – let your editor know to give you credit*). Later shifts included Anne & Jim Baird, Dave Delorm, President Don Jakel, Craig Nobbelin, Brant Spoelstra and Bob Winchester.

Another Lion, Jana Kim, managed tasks inside the school. She made the process hum, aided by Ashley Tiefertal (a potential Lion recruit) working in the kitchen the whole time as they really took after Scott and Amy Embree had left. Teacher Consultants for the VI students were Jana Kim, Carol Lilly, Nancy Ozinga, Shannon Spittel and her associate from the KISD. Grand Rapids Lions, GVSU Campus Club Lions and other volunteers helped with the kids, but several of our members helped to provide lunch for everyone who attended.

Participants and families from this area and beyond enjoyed themselves and to ate heartily. It was fun for the volunteers to see the kids and families having such a good time. Star Wars characters showed-up, but without the menacing behavior from The Empire displayed in the movies. Thanks to Mark Oberlin, with help from Mary Beth and Sean Eyestone, for bringing Star Wars to VI Sports Day.

Other Lions News

Lion Sharon Barton: The word is that Sharon Barton left Cherry Health as the Director of Development on June 8 to become Director of Development with the Grand Rapids Symphony (as of July 10). She says, "My new position at the symphony is Director of Development, which is a leadership role in ensuring philanthropic support of the Grand Rapids Symphony and the significant role it plays in our community." We wish her the same kind of success that she had helping the Lions in our fundraising!

Lion Shelley Irwin:

Shelley Irwin hosts the Morning Show on WVGU radio. Once a month, she has PID Dr. Gary Anderson on her show to talk about vision and related issues. On June 14, he talked about the Lions International Foundation and the good things they do regarding vision and the prevention of blindness throughout the world. (available as a podcast at WVGU) Gary totally surprised Shelley by presenting her with her Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. Congratulations and thanks for your hard work on behalf of Lions, Shelley!!!

LCI Entrance Fees Waivers: Based upon initial success of the LCI entrance fee waiver, the LCI Board extended the waiver through June 23. A message from LCI President Bob Corlew proclaimed, "Lions' response to the entrance fee waiver, in honor of our 100th anniversary, was truly remarkable. In fact, in just the first 10 days of June, we added more than 23,000 new members, bringing us just 3,500 members shy of setting a new Lion membership record of 1,445,591!" He added, "Thanks to you, we are positioned to enter our second century of service stronger than ever before. Thanks to you, Lions clubs are serving in more communities around the world. And thanks to you, we are helping more people than ever before." **An important note:** Under this program, 3 new Grand Rapids Lions Club members were approved!

Grand Rapids Ophthalmology Drive for Vision: A partial report from our golfing fundraiser at Quail Ridge Golf Club shows that the net proceeds will be around \$30,000. About 130 volunteer hours helped make the day a happy one for the 112 golfers who participated. A new event held on the course was a ball drop raffle. At a cost of five dollars per ball, about 350 golf balls were dropped on the practice green. The first in the hole, or closest to it, was the winner of \$200 cash. Our own Vice President Ed Thauer won the event and promptly donated the funds back to the event! Way to go, Ed!

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