



# Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2017-18, No. 14, March 3, 2018

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**University Club  
Downtown Grand Rapids  
Luncheon Meetings begin at 12:10  
p.m. unless otherwise noted.**

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

Monday, March 5, 4:45 pm, Lions  
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

**Tuesday, March 6, Kent County  
Human Trafficking Task Force,  
Meaghan Pear**

Tuesday, March 6, 6:00 – 8:00 pm,  
Recycling Center Open

Thursday, March 8, 6:00 pm, *Blind  
Dinner Date*, Thousand Oaks Golf  
Club

Monday, March 12, 4:45 pm, Lions  
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

**Tuesday, March 13, Lions  
District 11C-1 District Governor,  
Julie May**

Tuesday, March 13, 6:00 – 8:00  
pm, Recycling Center Open

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

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**March 8, 6:00 pm  
Blind Dinner Date!**

## Tuesday, March 6

**Kent County Human Trafficking Task Force,  
Meaghan Pear**

We know that West Michigan is a great place to live for many reasons. Unfortunately, it is also a reality that human trafficking happens here. Some community characteristics can be easily exploited by traffickers, which is a lucrative commercial enterprise. Those living in precarious economic situations, are isolated culturally and socially or existing on the margins of our community fall victim to traffickers working to fill a seemingly insatiable demand for cheap goods and commercial sex.

Some of these characteristics are the region's agribusiness sector is huge and whose jobs are largely held by a migrant workforce (often with poor English skills, extreme poverty in countries of origin and fear of reprisals) and are particularly vulnerable to labor trafficking. Other characteristics are the transportation infrastructure with truck stops and rest areas, a growing hospitality industry that provides a convenient cover for traffickers looking to service sex buyers, and socio-economic conditions which can make people vulnerable to sex and labor trafficking, such as people who live in poverty which allows adults and children to be coerced into dangerous situations.

Our speaker today, Meaghan Pear, is a passionately curious professional marketer. Actively involved in the community, Ms. Pear is Chair of Kent County Human Trafficking Task Force. The purpose of the Task Force is to help victims and hold traffickers accountable. It is a community-driven organization focused on building awareness, collaboration and investigative capacity to address sex and labor trafficking. Prior to her work with the Task

*To paraphrase the words ascribed to a trafficker, "**Promise [a child] the world and they will follow you to hell.**" Human trafficking is real. It is here.*

*(Kent County Human Trafficking Task Force website)*

Force, Ms. Pear served as Board President and was one of the founding board members for Michigan Abolitionist Project (MAP), a nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming the culture that causes slavery to exist and thrive.

She is the National Business Line Marketing Manager for Advisory Services at BDO USA and spearheads the strategic marketing efforts for the firm's national Corporate Finance practice. Prior to joining BDO, Ms. Pear served as Chief Marketing Officer for a local accounting firm in Grand Rapids. She is a graduate of Grand Valley State University and was recently named one of Grand Rapids Business Journal's 40 Under Forty business leaders.

**Tuesday, March 13**  
**Lions District 11C-1 District Governor, Julie May**

Our District Governor (DG) is making the annual visit to the Grand Rapids Lions Club. This year it is Lion Julie May. She became involved with Lions in 2005 when PDG Lion Rod Prys asked her for her help with the 150th parade for the Berlin Fair. From there, she was invited to be a chairperson on the committee for the Marne Memorial Day Parade. Julie's first impression with the Marne Lions Club was how they supported the community and helped those in need.

It was an easy decision when PDG Rod invited her to join the Marne Lions Club in 2009. DG Julie loves working the annual Marne Lions fish fry, all the fundraisers and various activities in which the club participates to serve and give back to their community. She has held offices within the club and district level including membership chair, club secretary, club president, zone chairperson, 2nd VDG, 1st VDG, and now District Governor. She is a Melvin Jones recipient.

She has been employed within the dental profession for 39 years and currently is office manager at Midtowne Smiles in Grand Rapids. She is also involved elsewhere in her community: 4H clubs and activities, the Berlin Fair working with youth, and the Marne American Legion Auxiliary. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, attending an occasional auction or estate sale and golf.

Please welcome her with a standing ovation when she is introduced, as is the Lions protocol.

**Reminder: 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Blind Dinner Date – March 8**

You can still come to the Lions Club Blind Dinner Date on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at Thousand Oaks Golf Club, 4100 Thousand Oaks Drive, Grand Rapids, MI 49525. Help the event raise awareness and funds so we can help some of our visually impaired and blind children and adults.

We will recognize the achievements of several professionals within the eye care community in West Michigan. Funds raised will benefit the Vision Clinic at Cherry Health, the health of children with special needs through the Eyeglass Program at KISD and assist individuals with blindness or severe low vision through the Association for Blind and Visually Impaired.

**For more information or to make your reservation, please contact Lions Benjamin Eavey at 616-719-9799 or Rick Stevens at 616-458-1187. Don't delay!**

**Happy Birthday**  
**To our March Babies**

Philip Wood	March 3
Cindi Walker	March 4
Joshua Thorp	March 8
James Baird	March 18



## Check Out Our Lions Club's New Website!

- Do you want to find out information about our Lions Club?
- Do you need the phone number or email address of another Lion? How can you find out what meetings or events are happening?
- Do you want to check out your Lions profile if you've changed jobs or moved?

You can find all this and more on our club's new website. It has been LIVE at <http://www.grandrapidslionsclub.org> for a couple weeks now. Please check out the site and verify that you can log in. To log-in, click "Our Members" on the left, and then when the selections come up, click "Member Login" to access our member portal.

- You'll see a login dialog box that says "User Name or Email address"; Your user name is the same one used on the old website – first initial and last name.
- All members will need to create a new password to access the site for the first time. Click "Forgot your password?" to go through the password reset procedure prior to your first login. *Note that **your password is not the same as on the old site.***
- If you have any problems with the process, please contact Ben Eavey, Technology Committee Chair, or you can click on the "Contact Us" to describe the problem you are having and Ben will contact you to help you through it.

Once logged into the site, you'll see a screen with your profile information. ***Please check your profile information for accuracy!***

- If there are any errors, you can edit your information by clicking the "Edit Profile" button on the right hand side.
- Please upload a photo, too, if you get the chance - it helps (especially for new members) to put a name to a face in our member directory). *Note: If you don't upload your picture, the dreaded secretary may randomly upload one for you.*

After you're successfully logged in, you will notice a members-only toolbar that appears at the top of all pages:

- The "Member Directory" link in this toolbar is a members-only resource that allows you to look up full contact information for other Grand Rapids Lions Club members.
- Another item of interest is the "Committees" link, which will eventually house information about all of our club's committees and what's happening with them.
- Committee chairs have access to update the information for their committees, and this should be a good way to share information with members about the club's ongoing activities.

There's much more that could be said about the site, but this should get you started. Please check it out for yourself, and let us know what you think! Make suggestion! As problems are found, these will be fixed to make the website easy for you to use. Content will also be added as we go along.

Contact Information for Ben Eavey, Technology Committee Chair: [ben@eavey.com](mailto:ben@eavey.com) or 616-719-9799.

## Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club –1959

*As we approach our 100th anniversary in 2019, and as the club looks forward, this series of articles looks back on the activities of the club, this time drawing upon Nuda Veritas editions that we have in our archives from 1959.*

### **We Like That Girl**

(Excerpt from Nuda Veritas, May 12, 1959)

“A poem, received from a little gal who has been bedridden since an automobile accident about two weeks ago, makes us realize that all sunshine doesn’t come the heavens. In this case it came right from Room 232 in Blodgett Memorial Hospital.

Here is the verse:

Your flowers were lovely  
They brightened my day,  
But why are the people  
All staying away?

I have a bath daily  
And a clean hospital gown;  
I can even smile a little  
Now the swelling’s gone down.

So, if Lions or their ladies  
Are over this way,  
Stop at Room 323,  
I’m “at home” every day.

We know Ida Unseld [Lion Earl Unseld] is just kidding about visitors. Many have been in to see her, but frankly, up to now she hasn’t felt too much like having company.

. . . We appreciate Ila’s poem. It shows conclusively she’s on the road to recovery . . . We think she’s a pretty brave girl. And we her Godspeed.”

*The Tuesday weekly luncheons continued at the Pantlind Hotel. Here are a few programs:*

- Defense attorney, John VanderWal’s presentation, “Problems of a Trial Lawyer”, was well-received. John grew up in Grand Rapids and earned his Juris Doctorate at the University of Michigan.
- “Our speaker [this] week is Neal K. (Doc) Fenkell, who will come direct from Detroit to tell us the inside story of what’s happening within Bengal circles. And he should know for he’s the Public Relations Director for the Detroit Baseball Club . . .”
- Dr. John Visser, Grand Rapids Junior College Dean, spoke to the club on “Recent Trends in Higher Education.”
- Introduced by Lion James Ferguson, MD (of the former Ferguson-Droste-Ferguson Hospital), Lee Yothers, Administrator of the hospital, and Malcolm MacCoun, Assistant Administrator of St. Mary’s Hospital, talked about “modern hospital costs.”
- A new [Grand Valley Boy] Scout Council President spoke to the Lions about how scouting is . . .”helpful to the youngsters whose ambition it is to become proficient in scouting – thereby becoming better citizens of tomorrow.”
- Westley Rowland, Editor of the News Bureau at MSU, talked to the club about “real he-man’s stuff, interspersed with genuine humor.”
- Dr. Louis Orr, President of the American Medical Association and a distinguished urologist, stopped by upon his return from Brazil and spoke to the club.
- Real Admiral I.J. Van Kammen (Ret.) traveled the world, and, backed up by interesting pictures, described one visit, noting, and “The Island of Bali is a tropical paradise.”

*The Nuda Veritas also had numerous interesting comments, observations, and facts on Lion issues, including:*

- On January 1, 1959, Lion Dale Stoppels was sworn in as Judge of Probate Court. He was still around when a few current members joined the Lions.
- “Complement “No. 2 is for Jack Roberts of the Pantlind Hotel and his great staff of kitchen mechanics. The food he and his boys and girls are dishing up each week is out of this world and appreciated. The Lions, indeed, are a well-fed bunch.”

- Vern Parker, who many of us knew in the 1980's, joined the club in February 1959. He has long since passed.
- One article noted that three of the five principal hotels (Pantlind, Morton House & Manger Hotels) were managed by Lions. Jim Starr, who some of us knew, managed the Morton House.
- Three of the clubs members attended the Lions International Convention was held in New York City in 1959.
- The summer season started with biweekly meetings after golfing at the four usual golf courses. One article noted that "the greens fee is \$3.00" and that if you bring a guest, the host Lions would be billed \$4.50 for the roast prime rib of beef.
- As the weather turned cold in September, a lighter than usual crowd of Lions turned out to enjoy "the heralded ox-roast at Camp Lion."
- Practically every issue of the *Nuda Veritas* included updates on blind bottle collections and the bowling league (except in the summer, of course).
- New dads and grandfathers sent \$10.00 for each birth as a contribution to the Blind Fund. [Should we renew this practice to beef up our endowment fund?]
- Our club turned 40 in 1959. The *Nuda Veritas* saluted Dr. Schnoor, who was a founding member and has been an involved Lion since the club was chartered.
- Dr. Joseph Lentini sponsored Moses Hattem as a new Lion. [Many of us knew both Joe and Moses back in the 70's, 80's and 90's.]
- An article titled, "What Is Done With Your Blind Money", described things like: a new washing machine at Welcome Home for the Blind and requests for glasses for young children for studying and very small glasses for a dwarf.



## Other News

**Do You Like Chili?** Rockford Lions Chili Cook-off is Thursday, March 8 at 6 pm at the American Legion in Rockford. If you aren't going to the Blind Dinner Date (Oh NO!), head to Rockford and have some great Chili.

**Dinner on the Dark:** GVSU Campus Lions Club's "Dinner in the Dark" is scheduled for Monday, April 9, 2018, 7:00 – 9:00 pm. More detail will follow in future newsletters.

**Lions District 11-C1 Convention:** This year's District 11-C1 Convention will be on Saturday, April 14, 2018, Paws with a Cause in Wayland MI - 15 miles south of Grand Rapids down US-131. It starts with Registration at 9:00 am. More information will be forthcoming.

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