



# Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2016-17, No. 13, March 4, 2017

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

Monday, March 6, Lions Bowling League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

**Tuesday, March 7, Urban Roots Community Farm, Levi Garner**

Tuesday, March 13, Recycling Center Open, 3:00 – 8:00 pm

Monday, March 13, Lions Bowling League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

**Tuesday, March 14, Barracks 616 Firearms, Jason Ambrose**

**Friday, March 17**  
**Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

Monday, February 20, Lions Bowling League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

**Tuesday, March 21, American Civil Liberties Union, Peter Armstrong**

**Wednesday, March 22, Social Event – See the article**

## Tuesday, March 7

### Urban Roots Community Farm, Levi Garner

The mission of Urban Roots is “to cultivate durable and resilient families, communities and ecosystems through urban agriculture. We are locally minded place-makers who believe that growing food is an invitation into being fully human.”

Urban Roots, LLC, was formed in 2013 by Levi Gardner to begin understanding and explore the potential of urban agriculture to use as a transformational tool in Grand Rapids. In the first two years, he visited numerous urban farms, social enterprise organizations and other holistic centers for social, ecological and community empowerment throughout the country.



In 2015, following two years of urban farming and teaching throughout the city of Grand Rapids, Levi and his team collaborated with the Madison neighborhood to begin their work. With the move into one of the most devastated and yet culturally rich areas of Grand Rapids, Urban Roots began the true process of learning from the neighborhood to develop this work in resilient ways. During this time, they established a board, crafted the guiding principles and received its 501(c)3 status. They are committed to the idea of building a regenerative organizational model to foster: 1) empowerment over charity, 2) stewardship over dominance and 3) community over privatization. Though sometimes challenging, we have remained committed to the idea that cultivation - stewarding that which already exists - is far more powerful than construction, i.e., imposing a set of ideas onto an already functioning system.

The Urban Roots’ website states that “we have been on the journey to establish our organization as one dedicated not only to

urban agriculture for the sake of growing food, but rather to engage in the fundamental act of what it means to be a human being. Today, we are convinced that urban agriculture has the capacity to cultivate resiliency in both social and ecological spheres. By building honest and rich collaborations throughout our neighborhoods and our city, we believe that urban agriculture can simultaneously be a platform for healthy food access, experiential pedagogy, economic development, ecological stewardship, community revitalization and social empowerment.”

Mr. Gardner, founder and executive director of Urban Roots, is a West Michigan native, lives in Grand Rapids and our presenter today. He has an M.S. in Community Sustainability and Ecological Food and Farming systems, experience in bio-intensive and organic growing and is a certified Permaculture Designer. He is gives frequent workshops and lectures on food systems, agroecology, and the pedagogy of place.

## **Tuesday, March 14** **Barracks 616 Firearms, Jason Ambrose**

Amendment II in the Constitution the United States of America states, *“A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.”* This Amendment has been the subject of a wide range of interpretations, but the basic interpretation has become to mean that citizens have a right to own firearms.

If you are going to own any kind of gun, you need to learn not only how to use to use the weapon itself, but also how to use it safely and responsibly. When your editor was young, he had to take and pass a safety course before he could go hunting with his father. I am sure many Lions and others did the same.

Our speaker today, Jason Ambrose, comes to us from Barracks 616, West Michigan’s newest, state-of-the-art shooting facility, firearms & accessories retail store and training/education training center. He will talk about current concerns about safety in public places and concealed & open-carry laws, in addition to describing the services Barracks 616 offers. They provide service for all skill levels, and specifically with the gun you select. The trainers/ educations are well trained, experienced and certified from multiple organizations. Mr. Ambrose has worked as the Sales Manager for Barracks 616 for four years. He manages and mentors a team of twenty employees in sales and customer service, manage incoming and outbound stock and works directly with government employees to train them on regulatory processes. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan.

## **Grand Rapids Lions Club Night at the “Drive”** **(also, see poster attached.)**

Everyone is invited . . . you, your families (Including kids & grandkids), colleagues and friends are invited to the Grand Rapids Lions Club Night at the Drive (NBA Pistons Developmental League Grand Rapids Basketball Team) on **Wednesday evening, March 22, 2017**. Our name will be up on the scoreboard and everyone will have the opportunity to shoot a free-throw after the game for prizes (if you want to). Let’s have a big attendance at the game and let them hear our Lions ROAR (Cheer).

Reservations are due by March 14. Tickets are \$8.00. Please send Gary Anderson an email ([ga@andersoneye.com](mailto:ga@andersoneye.com)) with your name and the number of tickets you want. We can collect your money at the game or bill the amount on your quarterly statement.

The game will be held at the **DeltaPlex** ([2500 Turner Ave NW, Grand Rapids 49544](https://www.deltaplex.com)). Parking is \$5

per car, so perhaps some will carpool. The Social Committee recommends planning to arrive there at 6:30 pm so there is time to park and get inside before the 7:00 pm tip-off. Remember a flyer for the event accompanies this newsletter mailing.

## **Lions District 11-C1 Convention: Endless Horizons Saturday, April 1, American Legion, Rockford**

Our Lions District Convention, *Endless Horizons*, will be held on **Saturday, April 1** (no April Fool's joke) at the American Legion Post in Rockford, located at 330 Rockford Drive NE (just off Northland Drive & south of 12-Mile) It is close by, so let's have a good representation from our club.

As usual, there will be morning breakout educational sessions, lunch (celebrating the International Convention in Chicago this summer), the business meeting, election of officers, memorial for deceased Lions and the 505 raffle). Our International Director from District 10, Jenny Ware, will be our guest speaker at the dinner. If you can't stay for dinner, at least come for the educational sessions in the morning and the business meeting in the afternoon.

Our Lions Club will cover your registration fee, but you'll need to cover the \$45 for full-day attendance (i.e., staying for dinner). The flyer does state what a partial day will cost. If you want to go and be a delegate for our club, contact Craig Nobbelin as soon as possible at [c.nobbelin@yahoo.com](mailto:c.nobbelin@yahoo.com).

### **Lions' Birthdays in March Happy Birthday!**

Phil Wood	March 3
Cindi Walker	March 4
Joshua Thorp	March 8
Davis Delorm	March 16
Jim Baird	March 18

### **News from Our Lions Board**

The Lions Board of Directors decided at an earlier board meeting that you should be better informed about the what the board is discussing and the actions it is taking. Here is a start, but it may come in different forms at times. Let's see how it goes. At the January Board meeting, here are highlights:

- Vice President Ed Thauer will head up planning for our celebration of our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Club founding in 1919 (Nov 14). We will try to get a "big name" speaker for the main celebration.
- The Annual VI Field Trip for VI students in Kent Country was approved. Because the excursion to Camp Tuhsmebeta, outside of Greenville, was such a success for the kids, Kent ISD asked if they could go back again this year.
- President Shawn Eyestone reported that Cheryl Anderson will assist Craig Nobbelin in the secretarial duties by reporting out club's activities to Lions Clubs International.
- LCI's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (1017-2017) will be celebrated at our Annual Meeting in June 2017.
- A survey of members will be developed and implemented this winter/spring to find out what each member thinks on several issues.
- The Social Committee reported adding some members to achieve a goal of having one social activity each month.
- Membership: Robert Clay resigned due to health issues.
- At its March meeting, the Board will make decisions on most of the donations the club will make this year.

- The Board received the final report from the Kids Shopping Event at Meijers. Due to increased donations and Anne's Baird's Use of Meijer M-Perks & coupons (over \$1,000 savings on purchases), the costs to the club were down this year.

## Saint Patrick?

How many of us know the history about Saint Patrick's Day or the Feast of Saint Patrick? It is a cultural and religious celebration held on March 17, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick. He is the foremost patron saint of Ireland.

Saint Patrick's Day was made an official Christian feast day in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century and is observed by many Christian denominations. This day celebrates the heritage and culture of the Irish in general. Celebrations generally involve public parades and festivals and the wearing of green, and is a holiday in some countries.

Patrick was a 5<sup>th</sup>-century Romano-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. He was born in Roman Britain in the fourth century into a wealthy family. His father was a deacon and his grandfather was a priest in the Christian church. According to the *Declaration (written by Patrick himself)*, at the age of 16, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland. He spent six years working as a shepherd and that during this time, he "found God". God told Patrick to flee to the coast, where a ship would be waiting to take him home. After making his way home, Patrick went on to become a priest.

According to tradition, Patrick returned to Ireland to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity. He spent many years evangelizing in the northern half of Ireland and converting "thousands". Tradition holds that he died on March 17 and was buried at Downpatrick. Over the following centuries, many legends grew up around Patrick and he became Ireland's foremost saint.



According to legend, Saint Patrick used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the Holy Trinity to Irish pagans. Christians may attend church services and the Lent, and restrictions on eating and drinking alcohol are lifted for the day. Perhaps because of this, drinking alcohol – particularly Irish whiskey, beer or cider – has become an integral part of St. Patrick Day celebrations.

The color green has been associated with Ireland since at least the 1640s. During the 1790s, green would become associated with Irish nationalism, due to its use by the united Irishmen. Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, the color green and its association with St Patrick's Day grew.

## Other Lions News:

**Update on Former Grand Rapids Lion Mike Luhn:** Our Lions Club members and Mike's hunting buddies raised about \$6,500 for Mike so that he could have a needed operation. He also received great support from his Church and the Veteran group in North Carolina. His surgery went well and has been very helpful in relieving his pain. God willing, he is planning on coming to Michigan in April and hopes to attend a one of our Club's luncheon. Mike thanks everyone who supported him! (information from Pat Mullen)

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