



Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2016-17, No. 17, April 29, 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

University Club

Downtown Grand Rapids

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

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

**Tuesday, May 2, Refugees &
Immigration in West Michigan,
Christian Hawkins**

**Friday & Saturday, May 5 & 6,
White Cane Drive, Wal-Mart
Alpine – VOLUNTEER!**

**Tuesday, May 9, NOON, Student
Recognition Day, Ryan Smith &
Shelley Irwin**

Tuesday, May 9, Recycling Work
Session, Eyeglass Recycling
Center, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

**Tuesday, May 16, Road Scholar,
Julie Karas**

Tuesday, May 16, Recycling Work
Session, Eyeglass Recycling
Center, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

**Tuesday, May 23, Program To Be
Announced**

*Note: The **Recycling Center** hours
are 6:00 - 8:00 pm through the
remainder of this year.*

Tuesday, May 2

Refugees & Immigration in West Michigan, Christian Hawkins

Each year, thousands of people arrive in the United States as refugees or immigrants. Some refugees are children who arrive as unaccompanied minors, having been separated from their families abroad as they fled violence or disaster. In partnership with local churches and community agencies, Bethany Christian Services welcomes refugee and immigrant families and helps them adjust to a new life in the United States.

Bethany Christian Services has supported refugees with resettlement services since the 1960s and, through decades of experience, has emerged as a strong advocate for refugees in West Michigan. Bethany's numerous programs have successfully assisted thousands of refugees become self-sufficient and thriving community members throughout the greater Grand Rapids area.

Bethany Christian Services remains committed to bringing and keeping families together, including refugee and immigrant families fleeing dangerous circumstances. It remains deeply concerned by proposed restrictions that will take the hope of safety and a future from families, women and their children. According to The Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, 51% of the world's refugee population are children. Bethany states that "immigration reform should support and strengthen families, not put innocent lives in peril."

Christian Hawkins is the Refugee Advocacy Specialist at Bethany Christian Services through the AmeriCorps VISTA program. He previously worked on political campaigns at the state and federal levels, and more recently spent two years abroad as a History teacher. After returning to the U.S., he has been actively engaged with promoting greater awareness and understanding of refugee issues. He graduated with honors from Grand Valley State University with a degree in History.

Tuesday, May 9
Student Recognition Day
(Note early start time at noon)

The annual Grand Rapids Lions Club’s Student Recognition Day is a long-standing tradition. At today’s meeting, Grand Rapids area senior students will be recognized to show what is positive about our community’s youth. We will celebrate their talents and achievements in the 19th year in this current format (previously, it had focused on sports).

Each school’s leadership selects two students based on the student’s all-round contribution during high school, not just in sports or academic achievement, but also for their leadership, and school & community involvement. The principal or guidance counselor from each school will usually present the students. Parents are Superintendents are invited and may attend.

Nine Grand Rapids schools will be represented:

- ☆ Grand Rapids Public High Schools:
 - Central
 - City
 - Ottawa
 - Union
- ☆ Two Catholic High Schools: Central and West
- ☆ East Grand Rapids High School
- ☆ Christian High School

Students will receive a Certificate of Recognition from the Grand Rapids Lions Club and a gift certificate from Schuler Books, paid for jointly by the bookstore and the Lions Club. **Lion Shelley Irwin** is typically available to interview students at the meeting, as in past years, for her Morning Show. Pictures will be taken with **Lions President Shawn Eyestone**. **Lion Ryan Smith** organized this event again this year.

Participate in the White Cane Drive
Friday & Saturday, May 6th & 7th

The White Cane Drive will take this coming Friday, May 6 & Saturday, May 7. This year, the fundraising event will only be at the Walmart Store on Alpine. Our club will concentrate our “people resources” at the Alpine Walmart for both days. We still need volunteers – either Lions or others who want to help visually impaired kids in special programs get eye glasses or others who often have many other challenges. We need to help these kids in developing these students’ full potentials at Ken-O-Sha. There is no cost to the families who are eligible for these eyeglasses

Sign-up at the meetings or contact or contact Lion Bill Fleetham (616-204-2421 or grpedopt@gmail.com) or Anne Baird (baird@surf.free.com) 616-446-9496 to sign up. Your fellow Lions need your help, even for an hour (perhaps 2 or 3) to solicit donations. The committee needs your help (one-hour segments) during the times below. Let’s have a good turnout!

Location	Day 7 Hours	Volunteers Most Needed
Walmart – Alpine NW	Friday, May 5 th : 9:00 am–6:00pm	12-1:00, 1-2:00, 4-5:00, 5-6:00
	Saturday, May 6 th : 9:00am-3:00pm	10-11:00, 12-1:00, 1-2:00, 2-3:00

Coast to Coast Raffle

All during May, you can purchase a 2017 raffle ticket for the Choose Your Coast Raffle! With each raffle ticket purchased, you will have a chance for two to travel to New York, San Francisco, Orlando or Seattle for a four day – three-night trip . . . your choice.

Tickets are \$20 each, or 6 for \$100. The proceeds of the raffle benefit ABVI, one of our major charities. The drawing will be held on June 2, 2017. Please contact Lion Rick Stevens at ABVI to order your ticket(s): 616-458-1187 or rstevens@abvimichigan.org.

Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – Summer 1944

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 – summer 1944.

We share some thoughts and list some activities from June through August 1944 editions. The Tuesday weekly luncheons continued at the Pantlind Hotel through June, but in July and August were held every other week until after Labor Day. Here are a few programs:

- Ben East of the Grand Rapids Press showed some motion pictures, and the stories that went along with them.
- Dr. Ferris Smith, a world leader in plastic surgery, talked about his work. The article told that he “is working day and night in the interest of plastic work in connection with our armed forces.” Also, that “By the direction of the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army, the Doctor has written the official Surgical Manual for Plastic Surgery for the U.S. Army.”.
- The leading headline for July 4 stated, “No Meeting this Week – We All Shoot Firecrackers on Tuesday”;
- The July 11 meeting saw the change in Lions leadership, noting several activities that would take place over the following: 25th Anniversary Celebration, hosting the District convention in June (1945), Boy Scouts and Blind Activities, another June cruise and selling War Bonds.
- John Gibson, American Red Cross, had returned from 26 months in the Pacific and gave a clear talk about the situation in the Pacific.
- Sgt. Dahmes talked about his many engagements serving in the Pacific theater.

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

- A great cruise on Lake Michigan departed on June 8 and returned on June 12.
- In the article, “The Editor Rambles” reported a special meeting of the Board of Directors. Lion Jack pitched a proposal, “. . . We hear all about the Chicago Orchestra being the finest in the whole country and how it has 95 musicians in the company. Jack mentions all these things to the Directors and while he is telling his story, he idly twirls a baseball behind his back. The Director listen with one good ear and look with both eyes at the ball bat, and decide it’s a grand idea – and they vote and run like the dickens.”
- The Lions back then even had a raffle with weekly drawings.
- “Want a Club Room?” The article said “May of the boys have requested that we again open our Club Rooms in the Pantlind. This can only be done with the payment of money . . . if 90 members want them

bad enough to pay a dollar a month toward the rent . . . your Directors have decided to put the matter up to the membership and that will be the last of it. We must have immediate action.”

- The Menu on July 11 consisted of chilled apple juice, roast prime rib of beef au jus, mashed potatoes, fresh vegetable salad, roll & butter, blueberry cake and coffee tea or milk. [*compares to the U-Club*]
- [We once had miniature milk bottles all over downtown to collect pennies for the “Blind Fund.” You can see one at the Public Museum.] With no meeting one Tuesday, a Lion visited the [old] Rowe Hotel, Fox Jewelers and the Pantlind [two bottles]. The Lion found the bottles overflowing. The take was \$18.20.
- Lion Bond Sales over 3 years (July – June) were: \$3,503,600, \$9,005,785 and \$1,304,275 (just beginning).
- Lions Golf Outing: With the onset of “world upheaval”, golfing took the back seat. But, the Silver Lake Lions to hole our 1944 Golf Jubilee at Silver Lake Country Club on August 2. “The offer was accepted in record time.”
- A line in one the August 8 articles, it was mentioned that “the Lions International convention was in Grand Rapids in 1934.” [Remember, the # of clubs was significantly smaller than it is today.]
- Grand Rapids Lion Perry Greene won his election to the MI State Senate. Hi place on the in our club, representing the City Commission was taken over by Lion Carl Richards.
- An article, “Lost in the Shuffle” reported “the Lions Club is out of the big ten of Lionism.” It explained that the club membership was up and down, “but now we are just an also ran. This doesn’t mean the Grand Rapids Lions have slipped – we just stay put. Our membership of two-hundred and two is the limit as set by your Board of Directors.” [Note: It seems that Lions members represent companies or professions back in those days.]

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.

Lions Annual Meeting: If you haven’t already, mark your Calendars for Tuesday, June 6, 6:00 – 9:00 pm when the 2016-17 Annual Meeting will be held. The location will be announced later. Our current President, Shawn Eyestone, will preside. The program will offer videos and commentary about the 100th Anniversary of the International Lions Club International’s founding this year.

VI Sports Day: Tentatively reserve the morning of Saturday, June 3 to volunteer for VI Sports Day. More information will be forthcoming.

Grand Rapids Lions Club, Website: www.grlions.org
Mailing Address: c/o Craig Nobbelin, Secretary, and 258 Morris Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Editor & Lions Secretary: Craig Nobbelin, 616-458-0471 or e-mail: c.nobbelin@yahoo.com