



Nuda Veritas

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

Monday, October 30, 4:45 pm,
Lions Bowling League, Northfield
Lanes

**Tuesday, October 31, Recycling
Center Closed due to Halloween
– no lunch or dinner**

November 5 – 2:00 am – Daylight
Savings Time Ends – Set your
clocks back 1 hour when you go to
bed

November 5-10, Vision Mission
Trip to Jamaica

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

**Tuesday, November 7, Hearing
Loss: Impact on Healthy Living,
Terry Alsum**

November 10-12, Lions Leadership
Institute at Higgins Lake

November 11, Veterans Day - *Say
Thank You to Veterans You Know*

Tuesday, October 31

**Recycling Center Closed for Halloween
No Lunch, No Dinner**



Tuesday, November 7

**Hearing Loss: Impact on Healthy Living
Terry Alsum**

Hearing loss is one of the most common conditions to affect aging adults. Hearing impairment can happen to anyone, at any age, including newborn babies.

Communication and exchange of information is an important part of everyone's lives. Having a hearing loss can significantly impact a person's ability to communicate with others, and lead to a reduced quality of life. Since older adults are living longer, there is an increased number of people that are living with hearing loss. It is important to understand the impact of hearing loss on quality of life. According to the National Council on Aging, hearing aid technology and hearing instruments can improve individual emotional, social and physical well-being.

Terry Alsum, AuD, our speaker today, says “I’m passionate about audiology and about helping individuals with hearing loss learn to make the best use of today’s wonderful technology. My belief is that this is a process, not an event.” She continued, “There are exciting new technologies available.”



Dr. Alsum, AuD, is board certified in Audiology. She is a Calvin College graduate and received her Master’s degree in Audiology from Michigan State University in 1985. She earned her clinical doctorate in Audiology from Central Michigan University in 2007.

Dr. Alsum has enjoyed broad clinical experience in a variety of settings. She has practiced at Spectrum Health and Michigan Medical PC. Her experience also includes teaching and clinical supervision of students at Calvin College. Other than hearing loss, a specific area of interest has been balance function testing.

Jamaica Vision Mission Trips Updates from Scott Brady

Our club supports two mission trips each year to Jamaica. Our host is the ISSA Foundation with our primary goal of meeting the vision needs of the children of Jamaica - one in September and the other in November.

Our September mission trip in Negri, Jamaica was headed by Dr. Adam Carlson along with Dr. Mark Kosciuszko from Cherry Health and Adam’s parents, Rich and Joan Carlson from the Muskegon Northside Lions Club. They saw 922 kids over five days and dispensed 113 pairs of glasses. One of the kids, a four year old boy that Dr. Adam saw, was truly in need of glasses. To see anything, he had to hold his stickers at the end of his nose. After fitting him with a pair of -11.50 glasses, he didn’t get a big smile on his face rather he just scanned around the room. What a difference the team made in this 4 year olds life.



The first week of November, we have a team of nine club members going to Ocho Rios, Jamaica: Dr. Gary Anderson Dr. Heather Killingbeck, Dr. Mary Beth Tupper, Brent Spoelstra, Bill Fleetham, Cheryl Anderson, Anne & Jim Baird and Brian Killingbeck. Their plan is to see 1,200 kids from two schools in Ocho Rios and 400 employees of the hotel that hosts us for all of our mission trips in Jamaica.

On our trip last November, when we examined the school children for four days, the team noticed that the employees working at the hotel seemed to be squinting a lot to see us or to just do their jobs. So, Gary met with the Director of the Foundation and the owner of the hotel to introduce a plan to take care of their employees. We don’t have the inventory in Grand Rapids to ship down 5000 pairs of adult glasses to cover all the possible prescription we “might” need, so we thought outside the box.

The plan for the employees is to examine the health of their eyes and vision needs and if they need glasses, we will fit them with frames. The frames will not have corrective lenses in them. We will bring the frames, with the exact prescription the doctor wants them to have, back to Grand Rapids where

Bill Reese's company, Optical Supply, will create and install the lenses into the frames and then we will ship the completed glasses back to Jamaica for the employees.

We have never done a mission trip this way, but the outcome should be that the employee gets the exact prescription that they need instead of the closest/best pair of donated glasses that we have in the inventory on site.

One might ask if this works, why we don't do this for all mission trips. Well on a regular mission trip people come to see the team from all around the region and we would have no easy way to find them again. And, trying to get the shipment through customs is a problem and expensive. In Jamaica, the ISSA Foundation has the resources / connections to move equipment and supplies across the borders easily. In addition, with the employee-employer relationship, we hope that within the month or two to create the glasses and ship them back to Jamaica, they will still be employed at the hotel. Getting the glasses to the individual should result in the best glasses we could ever supply to a large group.

The impact that our vision missions has is not possible without the countless volunteer hours you put into our club's project. Yes, we have the support of a lot the clubs around the state collecting glasses for this project, but the hours of sorting, washing, measuring and packing is where the real commitment is done. We record, on average, about 160 volunteer hours each month. That is just an awesome commitment to the project!

I hope, someday, that everyone one working on the project gets a chance to see a patients face light up when their vision is helped and their world is changed for the better, and you get to feel you were part of something life-changing.

Meijer Kids Shopping Day
Reserve the Date: December 2
More Lion Volunteers Needed This Year!

Every December, we help children who live in the urban-city in Grand Rapids (Saboath Ministries) or who are visually impaired (who qualify based upon financial need) shop for holiday gifts of their families. The event this year will be held on Saturday morning, December 2, 2017, from approximately 7:30 – 11:00 am.

Lion Anne Baird says that this year Lions need to “*step-up*” to help, especially since the GVSU Campus Lions Club has fewer members this year. It is a good opportunity to get family, prospective members, colleagues and friends involved. It is a good event to show how we, Lions, serve the needs of young people in our community.

While the club donates funds for gift cards (collaborating with Cascade Meijer's Store) we will be “passing the hat” again this and signing up volunteers. We join the kids for one-to one shopping (maybe two for the visually impaired kids) and driving. Drivers pick kids up from Saboath Ministries and take them home after shopping is done. For visually impaired kids, parents drop them off at Meijer in the morning, but drivers are needed to take them home.

This event rewards all who participate. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, please sign up at the meetings or contact Anne Baird (baird@surfree.com) 616-446-9496 or Don Jakel (donaldjakel@aol.com).

Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – July - September 1946

Remembrances of Downtown

Carl Voigt was asked to write stories of old Grand Rapids. Here is a portion of the third article (4-9-1946).

Next door to the Houseman building [the whole block along Ottawa between Lyon & Pearl – now a parking lot being transformed into a multistory building] were A.P. Johnson Co. and the Clark-Jewell-Wells Wholesale Grocery Co. Where the Walgreens Drugstore is now on Monroe across from Steketees was the Voigt Herpolsheimer Dry Goods Store (Carl notes he and his brother worked there in their spare time.) Carl's father sold his interest in the store before it moved to the location on Division & Monroe.

"I remember many old time hotels which catered to the public way back when." He mentioned several: 1) Rathbone House on Monroe & Waterloo [now Market], which was replaced by the Widdicomb Building – a prominent office building before it was removed for the Kreske store; 2) Eagle Hotel at Market & Louis "was well patronized for a number of year." "It was famous for its fine meals, which cost t guests 25 cents", noting it would cost \$2 today [1946]; 3) On Ottawa & Louis was the Michigan House; 4) On Market & Fulton, "there was the old frame hotel called the Barnard House; 5) On East Bridge [changed to Michigan] at Bond was the East Bride Street House; 6) "Where the Rowe Hotel stands [1946] was the Clarendon" (previously the Rasch House); 7) "Another old frame hotel called the Kalamazoo House was located at the corner of South Division & Oaks Street. There was an old well on the Oak Street side of this hotel with a wooden pump with a big tin cup chained to it. It was good water, but why someone did not catch some ailment drinking from that old cup is more than I can figure out. Perhaps there was not as much to catch those days as now." [Note: There were many springs along the bluffs to the Grand River]

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 some of the earliest Nuda Veritas editions that we have in our archives from July - September 1946.

Here are a selection of thoughts and activities from this time. The Tuesday weekly luncheons continued at the Pantlind Hotel. Here are a few programs:

- Meetings were every other week in July & August.
- The Lions hosted the Grand Rapids Chicks for lunch in July.
- Rep. Barney Jonkman, returning from Washington, gave his report "on what's going on in Washington" since as a member of the Military Affairs Committee, he is in a good position to know.
- Back to weekly meetings in September, Dr. Eddy Asirvatham, Madras University, India and visiting professor at Boston University, spoke at the first meeting. He was an able, discriminative interpreter of India's political, social, religious and economic problems.
- Charles Ziegler, State Highway Commissioner spoke to the club (thanks to Senator Greene – a Lion) about trying to keep the roads in good shape while planning for the future.
- John Fetzer, managing director of Fetzer Broadcasting in West Michigan, talked about "Russia, The International Enigma." He spent the wartime in government service as a military censor and during that time he was in constant contact with top Washington officials, the highest military authorities and foreign embassies. General Eisenhower invited him to tour the European Theater after the fall of Germany to advise on setting up Allied facilities throughout the continent.

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

- "The Henry Voet Award" was established, to be awarded next July after the upcoming year. He was a Director and President, "the most active and well-liked member, serving on dozens of committees and never

missed a single activity.” [The award, chosen by the Past-Presidents, has been presented ever since then.]

- Helping blind individuals: Ten Lions contributed to the purchase of a hearing aid for a 70 year old blind lady. Also, the club paid for the groceries, collaborating with the local Blind Association, so that a teacher could teach blind individuals to cooking. After the lessons, they invited a few Lions to a luncheon “cooked by two young blind girls, aged 14 years of age. They had set the table themselves, planned the menu and served the luncheon . . . Everything was perfect.”
- An article urged that the Fulton Street Park be renamed the Veteran’s Memorial Park to honor Veterans of all wars, especially since the Veterans Counseling Center was in the building that once housed the Tourist Office. “All of our patriotic parades end at this Memorial and why not rename the park right now.”
- Lion’s members at the Highlands Country Club were thanked for being good golf hosts. On August 7, Lions had another golf outing in Silver Lake that year. Green Ridge Country Club was the last golf outing in 1946.
- Riding the Pere Marquette – a few impressions of the trip to Detroit on the new line: “. . . perfect air conditioning . . . elegant coaches – reclining chairs that adjust to your pleasure and they really fit . . . a diner that you must use to appreciate – comfort and service new to people of these parts . . . wide windows you can really see out of – a speed of eighty-five miles an hour you don’t even notice.” In September, the Lions arranged a trip to the ball game – with breakfast on the train – price was \$9.00 for the train and ballgame, but not meals.
- Bowling League would run from September 16 – December 23.
- The Lions Classified Directory in the Nuda Veritas covered much of the publishing costs. \$20 per year bought advertising for 52 issues - \$.39 per issue. A survey showed there were 4 readers per issue with the membership [at the time] being 225 – a good value with a friendly public.
- Boy Scout Building Fund: a campaign to build the main building at Camp Lion netting close to \$9,000, giving the fund over \$10,000 to get building underway.

Other Lions News

You are invited to join the **Grand Rapids Lions Club 100th Anniversary Planning Committee** at its 3rd meeting on November 28. Members who are interested in serving on the committee should confirm with Ed Thauer at ed.thauer@designunderwriting.com or 616-957-3380. This committee is planning the celebration for our 100th anniversary as a club, which will likely be a series of activities or events in 2019.

November Birthdays Happy Birthday Lions!

Mary (MP) Chelsky	November 1
Brent Spoelstra	November 3
Lynn Francis	November 4
Boyd Griswold	November 9
Erik Anderson	November 10
Rick Walker	November 14
Mary Beth Tupper	November 16
Raymond Weidenfeller	November 29

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