



Nuda Veritas

Published for Members by the Grand Rapids Lions Club
District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2013-14, No. 14, February 15, 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

February 15– 22, Lions Vision
Mission Trip to Mexico

Monday, February 17, Bowling
League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

**Tuesday, February 18, Business
Transition Strategies, Steve Deem**

Monday, February 24, Bowling
League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

**Tuesday, February 25, 6:00 pm,
Jamark Labs, Eyeglass Recycling
Work Session & Dinner**

Monday, March 3, Bowling League,
Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

**Tuesday, March 4, Melvin Jones
Awards & New Member Induction,
PID Gary Anderson**

Thursday, March 6, **Blind Dinner
Date**, Goei Center, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday Night, March 9, Daylight
Savings Time Begins – Set your
clocks ahead 1 hour at bedtime

Monday, March 10, Bowling,
Northfield Lanes, 4:45 pm

Tuesday, February 18

Business Transition Strategies, Steve Deem

In today's world, business owners have a growing need for advice that they can trust. ROCG Consulting is full services business consulting firm. They specialize in strategy, finance, operations and business exit planning for privately owned and family businesses (www.rocg.com).

Stephen Deem is a CPA and Senior Consultant at ROCG, in association with Wilber & Townshend, P.C., a company more than 20 years located in Jenison, Michigan. Previously, he was Director of Production Planning & Logistics at Nordic Products, Inc., a CPA and Partner at Deem, Huizing, Manager at Helmholdt & Company and a staff accountant at PricewaterhouseCoopers.

With over 20 years of financial, operational and management experience, he specialties with ROCG Americas in international professional service and consulting services in the areas of business transition strategy, finance and operations for privately owned and emerging growth enterprises.

He is a graduate of Grand Rapids Catholic Central and the University of Notre Dame.

Tuesday, February 25

**Eyeglasses Recycling Project & Dinner,
6:00 – 8:00 pm, Jamark Labs**

No Meeting at Noon at the University Club!

The Eyeglass Recycling Session/Dinner Meeting will be Tuesday, February 25, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. All Lions, spouses and guests are encouraged to participate. There are still many, many boxes of glasses to process.

If you have questions or want more information, please contact **Lion Brent Spoelstra** at bespoelstra@yahoo.com or 616-283-

0260, or one of the other committee members.

The Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center is at Jarmark Labs at 4282 Brockton SE, Suite D, Grand Rapids. It is approximately 1/2 mile east of Broadmore Avenue, about 1 block north of 44th street at the first traffic light and on the east side of Brockton. It is the northern-most suite in a series of connected businesses. Parking and entrances are available in the front of the building.

Note: *The Recycling Center will be open on every Tuesday from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.*

Blind Dinner Date – March 6, 6 – 9 PM
The Goei Conference Center
Make Your Reservations Now!

Your Blind Dinner Date Committee strongly encourages you to make your reservations NOW. If you know of sponsors, please make your contacts now. Information is attached or contact one of the event's co-chairs, Bill Reese or Shawn Eyestone.



blind
dinner date

Several sponsorship levels to raise funds are still available. Your company can reserve also a table for 8 for a discounted price of \$600. Individual tickets are also available for \$75 each for you, your spouse or significant other and your friends or colleagues. Introduce new acquaintances to the Lions Club and perhaps they may want to become members. [For sponsorship, ticket, or other information about the Blind Dinner Date](#), please email us at dinner@grlions.org or call either of our co-chairs Bill Reese at 616-361-6000 x 3016 or Shawn Eyestone at 616-777-5292. Also, please note the list of sponsorship levels and order form attached to this newsletter.

The Grand Rapids Lions Club is hosting the **8th Annual Blind Dinner Date**, “Life Without Limits,” to honor local programs and people serving those who live with vision loss and to raise funds to benefit the our major charities: Grand Rapids Lions Vision Clinic at Cherry Street Health Services, early vision program for children at Ken-O-Sha, the youth programs at the Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired and the Grand Rapids Lions Fund at the Grand Rapids Community Foundation.

The program for the event will feature a *new video* on the Lions Eyeglass Recycling program and mission trips, as well as award in up to 3 categories:

- * ***Dr. Mark Sheldon Lifetime Achievement Award***: The award is given to an individual who has made vision improvement and vision loss elimination their passionate life’s work both inside and outside their profession. Their dedication and unselfish contributions have made very positive impact in reducing avoidable blindness especially with those from economically challenged parts of our community.
- * ***Visionary of the Year Award***: Awarded to an individual within the medical profession who has made distinguished contributions during the past 1-3 years in their career and by significant volunteer activity that has led to major progress in the early detection and correction of vision problems in the greater Grand Rapids Community.
- * ***Vision in Action Award***: Awarded to a non-medical individual in the Greater Grand Rapids area who has made significant contributions in their career or through volunteer efforts to reduce avoidable blindness and/or provide quality of life support to those with vision loss.

Lions District 11-C1/11-E1 Convention

All members are invited to attend the annual 11-C1 Convention, a combined convention with District 11-E1. It will be held at the Doubletree Hotel by Hilton, Holland, MI from Friday, March 21 – Sunday, March 23. Some members go up for the whole fun weekend, while a number of Lions members go for the day on Saturday for lunch and for the business meeting. The Grand Rapids Lions Club will pay for the \$10 Registration Fee and the \$13 lunch. Our Lions Club has 10 votes at the business meeting, so let's make sure we have 10 members at a minimum. Any Lions member can be a delegate. Please contact Craig Nobbelin if you want to attend by March 7: c.nobbelin@yahoo.com or 616-458-0471. More information will be forthcoming in a future edition of the *Nuda Veritas*.

A Story of Hope

(Editor's Note: This brief story is brought to you because it not only involves our mission to help the blind and visually impaired, but because it is a story about hope for people who have made mistakes in our community.)

Ned is a participant in a Hope Network Reentry Village program who was released from prison last year. While he was incarcerated, he had learned how to transcribe the written word into Braille and wanted to continue this type of work. One of the terms of Ned's parole required that any computer use be supervised. Ross Lieffers, one of Hope's Workforce Development Staff, worked with his contacts in the community and arranged for the Reentry Village to provide Ned with office space, the use of a computer and the necessary supervision to make this happen.

Ned had been sentenced in February 1990 and was released March 2013. We don't have information on how long Ned's Braille training was, but Ned told the staff at Hope Network that he had been transcribing in prison for about 15 years. Hope Network staff said he can transcribe just about anything since he has the highest level certification, even transcribing graphs and charts. Michigan's Statewide Prisoner Reentry (MPRI) Program is a statewide program whose mission is to significantly reduce crime and enhance public safety by implementing a seamless system of services for offenders from the time of their entry to prison through their transition and community reintegration into their communities.

This is done through a variety of services and supervision developed with each offender, delivered by Hope Network's Reentry Village in this community. Hope Network's MPRI Vocational Program seeks to match the parolees with local employers that need their job skills and experience, and that are open to giving them a chance to become productive, wage-earning citizens. The services to parolees include: employer referrals, work readiness training, on-the-job evaluations, transitional work experience and on-going retention services.

(If your company is interested in learning more about Hope Network's Reentry Village, contact Craig Nobbelin and he will connect you with the right person at Hope Network. Information about Ned provided by Mary Benedict, MBA, GCDF, Career Development Services Manager, Hope Network, at the One Hope Business Advisory Council.)

Other Lions News

Reserve the Dates – White Cane Drive: Friday and Saturday, April 18th & 19th 2014. More information will be forthcoming as the date gets closer.

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



blind dinner date

Sponsorship Form (Please see reverse side for descriptions.)

Visionary Sponsor: \$10,000 **20/20 Sponsor: \$5000**
 Large Print Sponsor: \$3000 **High Contrast Sponsor: \$1000**
 Guide Dog Donor: \$200 **Mobility Donor: \$150**
 Glaucoma Donor: \$100 **Magnifier Donor: \$50**
 Table of 8 for Dinner: \$600
 Individual Dinner Ticket(s) x \$75.00 = \$_____
Total: \$_____

Company: _____ Contact: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

(Please Check One) Check Enclosed Invoice Please
 MasterCard VISA AmEx Discover Card

Credit Card#: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CCV# _____

Signature: _____

Event is Thursday, March 6, 2014 at the Goei Center (6 pm – 9 pm)

Table Guests

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |

Please make checks payable to the **Grand Rapids Lions Club**
and return with this form via mail to: ABVI - 456 Cherry Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Tickets will be mailed to you prior to the event.
Please call Rick Stevens with any questions 616.458.1187 or Fax 616.458.7113



blind

dinner date

Sponsorship Opportunities for the Grand Rapids Lions Blind Dinner Date Event

Visionary/Title Sponsor \$10,000.00

- Program listing and verbal mention
- Recognized as event sponsor on the Grand Rapids Lions Club website
- Title sponsor signage at the event
- Podium recognition at news conference
- News release announcing company as title sponsor
- Mention in other news releases
- Additional recognition at sponsors request
- Highlight company at Grand Rapids Lions meeting as a guest speaker and/or with a table top display
- One table of eight proudly recognizing the company as a sponsor

20/20 Sponsor \$5,000.00

- Program listing and verbal mention
- Recognized as event sponsor on the Grand Rapids Lions Club website
- Mentions in news releases
- Highlight company at Grand Rapids Lions meeting as a guest speaker and/or with a table top display
- One table of eight proudly recognizing the company as a sponsor

Large Print Sponsor \$3,000.00

- Program listing
- Mentions in news releases
- Highlight company at Grand Rapids Lions meeting as a guest speaker and /or with a table top display
- One table of eight proudly recognizing the company as a sponsor

High Contrast Sponsor \$1,000.00

- Program listing
- One table of eight proudly recognizing the company as a sponsor

Thank you for your support!