



# Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2014-15, No. 17, April 25, 2015

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

**Tuesday, April 28, 6:00 pm,**  
**Jamark Labs, Eyeglass**  
**Recycling Work Session &**  
**Dinner**

Friday & Saturday, May 1 & 2,  
White Cane Drive

**Tuesday, May 5, Mustard Seed**  
**Ministries, Aaron Christiansen**

**Tuesday, May 12, High School**  
**Recognition**

**Tuesday, May 19, To Be**  
**Announced**

Monday, May 25, Memorial Day –  
Honor veterans who died serving  
our country

**Tuesday, May 26, 6:00 pm,**  
**Jamark Labs, Eyeglass**  
**Recycling Work Session &**  
**Dinner**

Saturday, May 30, VI Sports Day

**Tuesday, June 2, Program TBD**

**Tuesday, June 9, Annual**  
**Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 26**

**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, April 26 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. We will meet again this Tuesday for dinner, hard work and fellowship as we process all the dozens of boxes of eyeglasses for the next mission trip. Come join us and bring a guest.

The Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center is at Jamark 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. If you have questions or want more information, please contact **Lion Brent Spoelstra** at 616-283-0260 or [bespoelstra@yahoo.com](mailto:bespoelstra@yahoo.com), or one of the other committee members.

**Note:** *The Recycling Center is open every Tuesday from 6:00 – 8:00 pm*

**Tuesday, May 5**

**Mustard Seed Ministries, Aaron Christiansen**

Mustard Seed Ministries began in 2005 as a Christian outreach organization whose goal is to help restore homes for those in need and in the process, help restore their lives. The local affiliate is based in Rockford to serve this region as well as nationally. Locally, it is helping individuals in need of home repair or home care when they are unable to do this for themselves.

Nationally, it is currently helping in the New Orleans area working on repairing homes in the Lower 9th Ward. Mustard Seed Ministries Mission House is located in Chalmette LA, and set up specifically for housing volunteers working on projects in the New Orleans area.

Aaron Christiansen, who is Co-Director of Mustard Seed Ministries and who is also blind, will talk with us about its work. Volunteers of all levels are always needed.



## **Last Call for Volunteers White Cane Drive – May 1 & 2**

The White Cane Drive is set for this coming **Friday & Saturday, May 1 and 2**. Many Lions have already signed up to volunteer. No additional volunteers are needed for the downtown location on Friday noontime, but spots are still available for volunteers at the two Walmart locations on 28<sup>th</sup> Street and Alpine Avenue on both Friday (3:30 – 7:00 pm) and Saturday (9:00 am – 1:00 pm).

Sign-up sheets will be passed around at Lions meetings this week. If you miss signing up at the luncheons, please contact Bill Fleetham at 616-204-2421 or [grpadopt@gmail.com](mailto:grpadopt@gmail.com) to sign up.

Whether or not you are able to volunteer, you can also make a donation as part of the White Cane Drive. (Send donations to Treasurer Jeff Kraai, Grand Rapids Lions Club, 2276 Old Domain Ct. SE, Kentwood, MI 49333) Letters will also be sent to companies asking for contributions.

## **Chuck Harris Awarded 60<sup>th</sup> Year Monarch Chevron**

Chuck Harris joined the Grand Rapids Lions Club in February 1955. Chuck was active with the Lions until about 20-25 years ago around the time he semi-retired. He an avid sportsman and participated in our Lions bowling league and summer golf outings. After golf, Lions would find him playing cards and smoking a cigar. He was a B-24 pilot in World War II and spent time in a German prisoner of war camp.

Since Chuck is now 93, is in hospice care and does get out much from his home at Porter Hills Retirement Community, several Lions visited him at Porter Hills. After this gathering, PID Gary Anderson pinned a Lions pin with the 60 year Chevron on his shirt. His niece, several caregivers and his personal representatives were present. His wife Zita was not able to join the festivities. Lions Lynn Francis, Jeff Kraai, Rob Lalley and Craig Nobbelin talked about old times and Lions that he knew when he was an active member.

## **Brent Spoelstra Awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> Highest Leadership Award**

At the Lions District 11C1 Convention, Lion Brent Spoelstra was awarded the International Presidential Medal by Lions Clubs International. This award is the second highest award given by Lions Clubs International, with only 1,000 Lions worldwide honored by the international president each year. The award is given to Lions members that make an outstanding difference in their local community and around the world. In addition to coordinating the eyeglass recycling center, Brent has participated in eight Lions International vision mission trips.

Brent is a 10 year member of the Grand Rapids Lions Club and is employed at Verdeir Eye Center on East Paris. Each week, Brent uses his skills as a Lions leader and an ophthalmic technician to coordinate weekly eyeglass sorting, cleaning, and labeling prescriptions for eventual shipment to Central America and the Caribbean. He teaches new volunteers the tasks that need to be done so only appropriate glasses are sent abroad. On the vision missions, Lions eye doctors examine the

patients, and the patients that need glasses are fitted with the recycled glasses that have been collected and cataloged and shipped to the mission site about three months before the tam arrives. This is an ongoing project for the Grand Rapids Lions Club, the Lions of Michigan Vision Mission team other Lion members and their families who put in countless hours preparing glasses for the mission trips. Brent, known as the man in the white hat on mission trips, modifies glasses recycling work enabling visually impaired Lions to take part and feel valuable so they feel that instant gratification being part of something great.

“It is very rewarding to help bring Lions and non-Lions together to work each week to prepare the glasses for eventual dispensing to a person in need. It is one small way that I am able to make a difference not only in the community but worldwide. I was totally surprised to receive this honor,” Brent said.

“He is very deserving of this recognition for not only the hours of service he provides each week but the countless hours of vacation and personal funding that goes into participating on a mission trip,” said Don Jakel. All of the volunteers on the trip work in the recycling center and then pay their own way to participate.

Our Lions Club and all the members congratulate Brent on his well-earned award!

*Editor's Note: This article draws upon the Press Release that the Lions District 11C1 distributed.*

## **Other Lion's News:**

**Eyeglass Recycling Meeting & Dinner:** The meeting and dinner at the Eyeglass Recycling Center on Tuesday, April 28 will include dinner. It was stated at the recent luncheon meeting that the lunch after the White Cane Drive downtown on May 1 would replace the dinner at our work session that week. That is not the case.

**Drive for Vision:** Mark this date on your calendar – Monday, June 15