



Nuda Veritas

Published for Members by the Grand Rapids Lions Club
District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2014-15, No. 8, December 6, 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

----- We Serve -----

Monday, December 8, Bowling
League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45
pm

**Tuesday, December 9, Social
Security Disability Law, Judge
Nick Ohanesian**

Monday, December 15, Bowling
League, Northfield Lanes, 4:45
pm

**Tuesday, December 16,
Holiday Raffle**

December 17 – 24, Chanukah or
Festival of Lights

**December 23, NO LUNCHEON
MEETING**

*Thursday, December 25, Christmas
Day - Merry Christmas!*

**December 30, NO LUNCHEON
MEETING**

**Thursday, January 1, 2015,
Happy New Year!**

In Memory of Clarence Anderson July 26, 1923 – November 29, 2014

Lion Clarence A. Anderson died suddenly at his home on Saturday, November 29, 2014 while waiting for his son, Lion Gary Anderson to pick him up for a Thanksgiving with the whole family. He was 91 years old. He was born on July 26, 1923 on the northwest side of Chicago, Illinois.

He became a member of the Grand Rapids Lions Club on October 1, 1996 after he and his beloved wife, Doris, moved from Chicago to Jenison, Michigan. His sponsor was his son, Gary. Clarence was awarded the Lions Club "Rookie of the Year Award" at age 75 (1997), was the recipient of the Henry Voet Lifetime Achievement Award (2011) and was given the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award (2014). Clarence was a 15-year Lions Monarch and served on the Lions Board of Directors. He was particularly proud that the two Lions he sponsored went on to become Presidents of our Lions Club, Lion Shelley Irwin and Lion Brent Spoelstra.

Clarence came of age during the Great Depression, which had a profound impact on his life. He was a veteran of WWII, the generation called the "Greatest Generation", where he served as a navigator on B-24s, flying 22 missions out of London, England. On December 24, 1944, Clarence was part of the biggest air raid of World War II, with over 2,000 B-24s and B-17s participating. His Army Air Corps service earned him three air medals, the Pathfinder Award and a Presidential Unit Citation for his group's precision bombing of a major oil refinery in Germany. He was discharged as a first Lieutenant.

When he returned to the States, Clarence attended college to become a Civil Engineer. After a rewarding career as a civil

engineer he changed careers, received his real estate license and worked as an Industrial Real Estate Broker. His family was always most important to Clarence throughout his life. He met Doris Berg and two years later, they married on October 28, 1951. Their lives were further enriched by the births of two sons, Gary and Carl. Clarence was very involved with his sons and traveled with his family, opening up the world to his sons. He also served his community his entire life, as a coach, singing in his church choir, YMCA Board Member, School Board Member and, later after he moved to Grand Rapids, volunteering at the Grand Rapids Art Museum, the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, and lastly by joining the Lions.

After their sons left home, Clarence and Doris continued to travel. On their trips to Sweden, they came to know several ambassadors and, on one especially memorable occasion, they were granted a personal meeting with King of Sweden, His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf. They also visited Australia (scuba diving on the Great Barrier Reef), New Zealand, Thailand, Greece, Belize and numerous destinations within the continental United States. After Clarence and Doris moved to Grand Rapids, Clarence continued his daily routine of swimming, living out the YMCA motto of "Body, Mind, Spirit". Both Clarence and Doris were very instrumental in creating and establishing the Swedish American Heritage Society of Western Michigan in 1997. It now has a membership of almost 300 strong.

Clarence was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 59 years, Doris, in 2011. He is survived by his two sons, Dr. Gary (Cheryl) Anderson and Carl (Diane) Anderson; five grandchildren, Kristen (Aaron) Plafkin, Erik (Stephanie) Anderson, Carla (Rick) Bolhuis, Luke Anderson and Rebecka Anderson; five great-grandchildren, Carter and Reese Bolhuis, Isaac and Naomi Claire Plafkin, and Zoey Anderson. It is notable that Clarence's family - Gary and Cheryl Anderson and his grandchildren here are all members of the Grand Rapids Lions Club (other than Gary and Erik, the others are part of the Branch Internet Club.)

A Celebration of Life will be held for Clarence at 2 pm on December, 21, 2014 at Heritage Life Story Funeral Homes, 2120 Lake Michigan Dr. NW. Friends are invited to visit with his family on Sunday from 12 pm until the time of the service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Swedish American Heritage Society of West Michigan or the Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation. Please visit www.lifestorynet.com to read his life story, archive a memory or photo, or sign the guestbook online.

Tuesday, December 9 **Social Security Disability Law,** **Judge Nick Ohanesian**

Administrative law judges who work for the Social Security Administration render decisions on Social Security disability claims at the [hearings level](#). There are many reasons why a disability claim is denied and gets to this level. Before the hearing, a judge reads an applicant's cumulative Social Security file, which contains the applicant's medical records, work history and why you were originally denied for benefits. At the hearing, the judge questions the disability applicant and, usually, a medical or vocational expert.

A medical expert, usually a physician, provides testimony about a claimant's medical records. Vocational experts provide input regarding the range of various occupations that an impaired worker could handle. In addition, the judge allows applicants, typically through their lawyers, to present new medical evidence, which could strengthen a disability claim and/or refute the expert's findings.

Nick Ohanesian currently serves as a United States Administrative Law Judge for the Social Security Administration. Prior to being position in 2010, Judge Ohanesian spent ten years with the National

Labor Relations Board in Illinois and later as the head of the Jacksonville, Florida Office. Along the way, he has held a series of adjunct professor positions teaching in a variety of locations, from a medium security prison in Illinois, to the Levin College of Law at the University of Florida and, later, as a Fulbright Specialist at the American University of Armenia as a Fulbright Specialist.

He earned his undergraduate degree in Public Law from Western Michigan University and his law degree from the College of William and Mary. He was born and raised on the Southeast side of Grand Rapids and graduated from Ottawa Hills High School. He lives in Ada and is married to Holly. They have two teenage children, Noah and Grace.

Tuesday, December 16 **Lions Holiday Luncheon/Raffle, Chevron Awards**

With December 23 being so close to Christmas, no luncheon meeting has been scheduled that day (as well as December 30). Instead, the Grand Rapids Lions Club will hold its annual Holiday Raffle on December 16. Bring extra cash to buy a lot of raffle tickets to increase your chances. Remember, the proceeds go to our charities!

In addition, Lions members who did not receive their Monarch Chevrons when the District 11C1's Region 2 Chair presented them this fall will be invited to receive their Chevrons at the meeting. Monarch Chevron Awards will be presented to recognize Lions for their longevity as Lions and as members who have served the community for many years. The Grand Rapids Lions Club makes these awards starting with 10 years of service and in increments of 5 years thereafter.

Other Lion's News:

Calendar Sales: Calendar Raffle Sales for 2015 have been underway since November. **Lion Jamie Junod** has been distributed many of the calendars at our luncheon meetings. Plan to purchase at least one for yourself and consider buying them for your valued clients or your friends. The prizes are the same as last year: \$25 gift cards for restaurants owned by Restaurant Partners or Gilmore Collection of Restaurants¹.

¹ Note: (*Restaurants Partner Restaurants* = Bagel Beanery, Beltline Bar, Boones Prime Time Pub, Sundance Grill & Bar, The Omelette Shoppe, Grand Coney, Bear Lake Tavern, Forest Hills Inn and El Barrio Mexican Grill. *The Gilmore Collection* = Mangiamo, Flat River Grill, Roses (Reeds Lake), Blue Water Grill, Roses Express, the B.O.B., Nick Fink", Bostwick Lake Inn, Red Jet Café and the Kirby House.)

If you haven't attended a meeting recently and you want to buy calendars, please contact Lion Jamie Junod at jamiemailjunod@yahoo.com or 616-224-1574 (work).

Kids Meijer Holiday Shopping Event: Anne Baird and Mike Thibodeau, Co-Chairpersons, of the event have sent their thanks to all who participated in the Kids Meijer Holiday Shopping Event last Saturday. It was a successful shopping experience for 43 kids (20 Saboath Ministry kids and 23 Visually Impaired kids from throughout Kent County Intermediate Schools). Those who contributed to "Pass the Hat" also made it possible for us to have the largest number of students that we have ever been able to have. Your generosity also needs to be acknowledged. It was a team effort and we appreciated everyone who supported the event in any way. Thank you!!!!

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