



Nuda Veritas

Published for Members by the Grand Rapids Lions Club
District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2015-16, No. 15, April 9, 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

Monday, April 11, Lions Club
Bowling League, Northfield
Lanes, 4:45 pm

Tuesday, April 12, Raise the Bar from Struggle to Success, Robin Marvel

Monday, April 18, Lions Club
Bowling League, Northfield
Lanes, 4:45 pm

Tuesday, April 19, War Stories, Mideast Tension, Major General Bob Heine

Tuesday, April 19, Eyeglass
Recycling Center Open, 3:00 –
8:00 pm

Thursday, April 21, Social Event

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

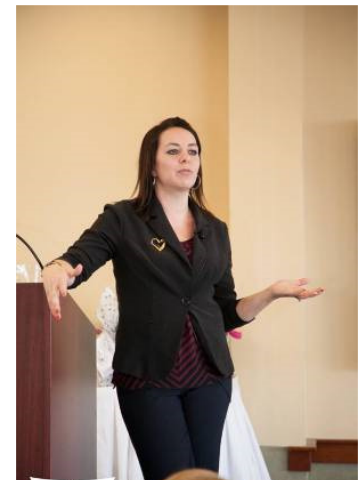
**Tuesday, May 3, GRCC: The
Second Hundred Years, Steve
Ender**

Tuesday, April 12

Raise the Bar from Struggle to Success, Robin Marvel

“In order to succeed, we must be ready to push the limits, overcome challenges and go after what we want. Your actions, choices, thoughts and the words you speak determine the quality of your life, your productivity and your prosperity.” - Robin Marvel

Our speaker today is Robin Marvel., a motivation speaker and author of several books in the field of self-development. Despite a childhood filled with abuse, homelessness and teen pregnancy, Robin has overcome many challenges to make her life one of purpose. Today, she has devoted her life to showing others how they can do the same. Using her story, books and workshops as tools, she tries to inspire others to break cycles and choose to live the life they desire.



“Life is made of choices.” We've all heard this statement at one time or another, but to her it's not just a saying — it's a way of life. She

writes that her childhood was peppered with domestic, drug, emotional and mental abuse, parental kidnapping and homelessness. At such a young age, she noticed the repetition in choices led to that same situation each night. She continued to see the same pattern even after her mother left her father.

As a teenager, she lacked the attention all kids need. She had no sense of self-worth or self-love and, to compensate, she turned to alcohol and partying. She notes that a reality check came along when she became a mother of a baby daughter at the age of 16. She realized she would have to become a great role model for her daughter. She ditched the wounded persona and traded

up for the life of a multi-published book author and presenter in the field of self-development. She writes, "I use the medium of authorship and speaking to show others that they are not [just] a product of their past," but can turn their lives around.

Tuesday, April 19

War Stories, Mideast Tension, Major General (Ret) Robert Heine



Major General (Ret) Robert Heine was commissioned in the Army Chemical Corps after earning his BA (1968) and MS degree from Auburn University. In 1974, he transferred to the Corps of Engineers where he served as a platoon leader, company executive officer and company commander in the 478th Engineer Battalion. After that, he served as an officer with several Engineering Groups and Battalions.

He served as Chief of Staff, 416th Engineer Command from 1996 through 1999 and, in May 1999 became the Deputy Commanding General for Mobilization and Training, U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center, Fort Leonard Wood. In December 1999, he was promoted to Brigadier General. He assumed command of the 416th Engineer Command and was promoted to Major General in June 2002. Under his command in 2003, the 416th was mobilized for Operation Iraq and again in 2005 and transferred to Multi-National Forces-Iraq. In addition, he served with the Army Reserve Forces Policy Board.

In the Army, he was also well trained, graduating from the Chemical Officer Basic Course, the Engineer, Chemical, Ordnance, and Quartermaster Officer Advanced Courses, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College. His awards and decorations include: the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (two oak leaf clusters), the Bronze Star Medal (oak leaf cluster), the Meritorious Service Medal (two oak leaf clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (oak leaf cluster), the Army Achievement Medal, the Office of the Secretary of Defense Identification Badge, the Army Staff Identification Badge, and the Engineer Regiment's Silver and Bronze de Fleury Medals. For his service with the US Embassy Baghdad, he was awarded the Department of State's Superior Honor Award.

General Heine will talk about his time in the military and experience as it relates to Mideast tensions.

Haiti 2016 Vision Mission Trip

The February 2016 Vision Mission Trip to Haiti was very successful! In spite of some tenuous moments regarding the disposition of the eyeglass shipment, they arrived in time and intact.

The night-time arrival/early morning departure meant staying in a hotel adjacent to the airport for the first and last nights in country. Throughout the trip, our team of 18 members (five of whom were first time participants) was shepherded by Kim Sorelle of *Rays of Hope*. The journey from the Port au Prince airport to our ultimate destination, a quiet compound in a village called Borel, Haiti, was a two hour road trip in a crowded van and an open-air box truck. As setting up the clinic took very little time, we were able to see patients for that entire afternoon. The need for the eye clinic was acute and by the virtue of word of mouth, each day the crowds of patients at the gate grew. Two more full days of clinic followed and the fourth day ended with a half day of clinic and a jostling ride back to Port au Prince. We were able to see 1,450 patients, delivering over 900 pair of prescription glasses and making numerous referrals to nearby medical facilities for ocular anomalies.

Happily, in light of the recent reports of the Zika virus, the presence of mosquitos was minimal. The 18 member team on this trip included seven doctors. This percentage of professional eye-care personnel was somewhat unusual, but very welcome. They had the opportunity to take part in other tasks of the clinic, breaking the rigor of standing in front of a pair of eyes all day!

The first-time members on our trip now realize the fruits of laboring on the eyeglass project back in Grand Rapids.

Brent Spoelstra, Project Coordinator

Coast to Coast Raffle

It is spring and your opportunity to purchase a 2016 raffle ticket for the Choose Your Coast Raffle is here! With each raffle ticket, you can purchase a chance for two to travel to New York, San Francisco, Orlando or Seattle for a four day/three night trip.

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 3, 2016. Please contact Lion Rick Stevens at ABVI to order your ticket(s): 616-458-1187 or rstevens@abvimichigan.org.

VI Field Trip – Thank You Note

Each trip over a number of years, the Grand Rapids Lions Club has provided funding to take visually impaired and blind students identified by the Kent ISD on field trips. In alternating years, some are local (and less expensive) and some travel out of the Grand Rapids area, such as to Chicago or Henry Ford Village in Dearborn. This year, the leaders of the program asked us to help fund two less expensive local programs in lieu of a more expensive trip. Parents and the students typically cover a small part of the cost. Here is a thank note from their trip to the Grand Rapids Symphony.

“Dear Lion’s Club of Grand Rapids,

Thank you so very much for having the vision and heart to support our students in Kent County. We were able to take a group of nine students to the Grand Rapids Symphony on February 27th to meet composer Marcus Roberts, and witness him play an awe inspiring Rhapsody in Blue.

The whole experience was exciting and new for all of our students. From the bus ride, to the venue, to meeting Mr. Roberts, and most importantly, the concert, the students left changed. It was so fun to see the students take in the size of the concert hall, and many of them were surprised to find out how many people would actually be at the concert. I was proud of our students, and anyone we came in contact with expressed how impressed they were with our group.

I had students say comment that they loved the music, and for some, that they had never heard anything like it before.

Before the concert I reached out to the online periodical School News Network, and they sent a reporter to cover the event. I will forward on the article when it is released on March 22.

Thank you again for the support, we appreciate everything you have done for us! I have included a couple photos, [Their Kent ISD news article will have more.]

Maria Jimenez, Coordinator of Media Center and Services for Visually Impaired
Kent Intermediate School District”

Other Lion News:

April/May Social Events:

- ✓ **Thursday, April 21, 5-6:30 pm:** Meet for a drink and conversation; place to be determined – stay tuned
- ✓ **Wednesday, May 18:** Looking into a “day game” with the West Michigan White Caps

White Cane Drive: Please reserve **Friday May 6 and Saturday May 7** so that you can participate in the *White Cane Drive*. We will be collecting at the Walmart’s on 28th Street (Cascade) and Alpine Avenue both days and downtown on Friday Noon. More news and sign-ups will be shared in April.

Tuesday, May 17 – Student Recognition Lunch: Please attend our normal luncheon where we will recognize 16 students, 2 each from each high school for their achievements.

VI Sports Day: Tentatively reserve **Saturday, June 11** in the morning for the annual *Visually Impaired (VI) Sports Day*. A confirmed date and more information will come in a later *Nuda Veritas*.

Drive for Vision Charity Golf Outing: Another reminder to mark your calendars, solicit sponsors (new and old) and plan to participate or volunteer on **Monday, June 20, 2016**. It will be at Quail Ridge Golf Club.