



Nuda Veritas

Published for Members by the Grand Rapids Lions Club
District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2017-18, No. 10, December 30, 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

Tuesday, January 2, NO Luncheon
or Recycling

Monday, January 8, 4:45 pm, Lions
Bowling League Starts Again,
Northfield Lanes

**Tuesday, January 9, Grand
Rapids Symphony, Peter Perez**

Tuesday, January 9, First
Recycling Work Session of 2018

*Tuesday, January 15, Martin
Luther King, Jr., Birthday & Holiday*

Monday, January 15, 4:45 pm,
Lions Bowling League, Northfield
Lanes

**Tuesday, January 16, Medicare
& New Laws/Rules, Boyd
Griswold**

Tuesday, January 16, Recycling
Center Open, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Monday, January 23, 4:45 pm,
Lions Bowling League, Northfield
Lanes

Tuesday, January 9 Grand Rapids Symphony, Peter Perez

The Grand Rapids Symphony was established in 1930. Over many years, the support of philanthropists, companies and patrons have created an organization that has received national recognition for the quality of its concerts and educational programs.

The Symphony's 72 musicians present more than 400 performances each year, touching the lives of about 200,000 people. Nearly half of those who benefit are students, senior citizens and people with disabilities reached through the education and community service programs.

The Symphony's Affiliated Organizations include: the Grand Rapids Bach Festival, Grand Rapids Symphony Chorus, Grand Rapids Youth Symphony and Classical Orchestra, and Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Choruses. The Symphony also provides the orchestra for Opera Grand Rapids and the Grand Rapids Ballet Company.

Led by Music Director Marcelo Lehninger, Principal Pops Conductor Bob Bernhardt and Associate Conductor John Varineau, the orchestra presents ten concert series with performances designed to capture the imagination of young children and adults alike, featuring a wide range of music and performance styles.

Our speaker today will be Peter M. Perez, who became President and CEO of the Grand Rapids Symphony in March 2017. He is a longtime member of the Grand Rapids Symphony family. He is a past Chairperson of the Symphony's Board of Directors and a past member of its Executive Committee. His past service to the Symphony also includes co-chairing Legacy of Excellence, a campaign that raised \$40 million in cash, promised gifts and estate plans to build an endowment to support the orchestra's future.

Mr. Perez is a graduate of Yale University, service as an officer in the U.S. Navy, president of the world-famous piano manufacturer, Steinway and Sons, and of C.G. Conn, one of the top manufacturers of band and orchestra instruments in the United States. From 2010 until 2012, Peter served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing in the U.S. Department of Commerce's International Trade Administration in Washington, D.C. In West Michigan, he is chairman of Carter Products, an 85-year-old family-owned manufacturing business.

Tuesday, January 16 **Medicare & New Laws/Rules, Lion Boyd Griswold**

While there were great advances in public health with improved sanitation practices and improved preventive care in the first half of the 20th century, access to health care, let alone quality health care remained elusive. After World War II and the Korean War, strides were made to improve access to hospital care through the Federal Hill-Burton Act.

However, since many people had health insurance through their workplaces, many over 65 years of age lost or couldn't afford health insurance when they retired. Medicare was created in 1965 when people who reached 65 found it virtually impossible to get private health insurance coverage. Medicare is funded by the Social Security Administration whereby taxpayers pay 1.45% of their earnings into FICA - Federal Insurance Contributions Act – while employers pay another 1.45%, bringing the total to 2.9%

It made access to health care a universal right for Americans once they reach age 65 and has helped improve the health and longevity of older Americans. Medicare also provides health insurance to younger people with some disability status (determined by the Social Security Administration) and people with end stage renal disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. In 2015, Medicare provided health insurance for over 55 million—46 million people age 65 and older and 9 million younger people.

Since the original act was passed, many corrections and changes in the law have been made. While the Internet has made it easier to access information, there are an array of choices that you must make initially and every year to select the insurance (in whatever form) you want and can afford.

Lions Boyd Griswold and his wife, Tisch, started The Griswold Group in 1987. Their daughter, Susan, joined the firm in 2006 and is now the CEO. Boyd is now the Medicare specialist and is Medicare Certified. He earned his BA from the University of Colorado and MBA from the University of Michigan.

Thursday, January 18 **Snowshoe of X-Country Ski** **All Lions Invited**

What:	Social Event – Snowshoe or X-Country Ski
When:	January 18, 2018, 5:00 – 7:00 pm
Where:	Blythefield Country Club
Cost:	\$5 for drinks - optional

Join us for a little mid-winter exercise and fresh air. Come Snowshoe or X-Country Ski and take in the beauty of the Rouge River while enjoying a leisurely trek through the golf course. While there is not a set course, they are allowing us to wander over the course (as long as we stay off greens).

Afterwards, retreat to the club house for a warm beverage. Kids are very welcome. Don't have snowshoes or ski's? Let Kim Gary know and he will try to round some up. If you have extra, also let Kim know so he can match them up with others. This social event is very low key and meant to enjoy the surroundings. Also, while there is not a set course, you may do it for as long as you stay warm or are physically fit. Also, experience is not needed. Come and enjoy!

If you have questions or want to let us know you will be attending, contact Kim Gary at kimgary55@gmail.com.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

The official holiday is known as the Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr (MLK, Jr.). The date chosen to celebrate is the third Monday of January each year. His actual birthday was January 15 and, this year, the holiday happens to fall on his actual birthday.

MLK Jr. was born on January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia. He worked as a Baptist minister and a civil rights activist and began making a significant impact on race relations in the mid-1950s. As head of the SCLC, he was also a major spokesperson for nonviolent activism during the Civil Rights Movement. This movement protested successfully the racial discrimination perpetuated in federal and state law.

MLK, Jr. therefore played a significant role in ending legal segregation of African-Americans in the South and across the nation, in the creation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and also in the creation of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

MLK, Jr. is famous for his 1963, "I Have a Dream" and has received many honors, including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, before he was assassinated in April 1968.

In recent years, especially the last couple, our country has seen a resurgence of discrimination, hate and bigotry. Perhaps these feelings were always below the surface all these years. Citizens need to be involved in some type of non-violent activism to resolve the high tide that could overwhelm the country.

Happy Birthday to January Babies

Richard Nelson	January 4
John Rice	January 4
Michael Thibodeau	January 4
Colleen Mulder	January 9
Wayne Beuschel	January 15
Molly Fleetham	January 21
Mary VanderLugt	January 21
M. Lynn Dandridge	January 24
Donald Jakel	January 31
Robert Winchester	January 31



Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – 1953

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 Nuda Veritas editions that we have in our archives from 1953 (8 editions).

The Tuesday weekly luncheons continued at the Pantlind Hotel. Here are a few programs:

- The Creston Choir again performed an outstanding program.

The following article stands the test of time for the value of being a Lion (Published on January 27, 1953; written by O.B. Snow, Nuda Veritas editor). [Editor's Note: Only men could become Lions at the time -- until 1987 -- but this article really applies to both men and women now.]

"Friends"

True friends are the one essential ingredient in a person's life. One shares with them the pleasantness of hours of fellowship and work and pleasure, but they share with you your troubles and problems, thus relieving you. They help to carry your burdens and lighten the loads which all must carry at some time.

Your Lions Club is the finest example of true friendship in practical application. Men [and women] who have joined together in a true spirit of service for the betterment of all – have worked together, had fun in that work, have grown to know and appreciate the value of worthwhile things. This spirit of friendly service has been shown in so many ways – both spoken and unspoken. It is noticeable in the hand of the shoulder, the extra Lion handshake or in a compassionate look.

The knowledge that one has the moral support of such a group is a comforting and wonderful experience. At times, it is almost overwhelming as it makes one feel humble and unworthy. Friendship is a bank where on deposits the hours of work and pleasure, mutual understanding and respect of friends. When the time comes, one withdraws from that bank the strength, backing and moral support needed to carry through. There are some of us whose accounts will always be overdrawn.

- "Let's Go Fishing for Fun" was the title of a film presentation shown by Ben Hardesty, national bait and fly-casting champion [as members' thoughts move from winter to summer]. Fishing included "dramatic displays of angling for trout, bass, bonefish, sailfish and a 100-pound tarpon [off Florida]. The trout sequences were taken in Northern Michigan. "

- Fifth District Congressman Gerald R Ford made his annual report to the Lions in September. "This hard-working, hard-fighting representative has never let up on his fight for what is right both on important committees and on the house floor."

- Our Lions chaplain, Dr. Carl Martenson, told the Lions about his summer in England as an exchange minister, including "his own analysis of English life in a post-war economy."

- One program in December featured an "annual Wurzburg's Style Show at the Lions Club . . . showing dozens of gowns, wraps and accessories for the women" for the holidays.

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

- Charlie Merrill was selected as Lion of the Year. At that time, the Lion of the Year received the Henry Voet trophy [contrasted to current time when the Henry Voet trophy is awarded for multi-year, outstanding service. We now have a separate award for Lions of the Year]

- Out of the Blind Fund (pennies at work), the Lions purchased a calf a year ago for a blind boy, Jimmy VanderLaan. The year of work and love by this boy, "his 'seeing eye' steer was named grand champion at the Kent County 4-H Club Fair here Thursday and brought top beef showmanship honors to his 15-year-old owner."

- The October issue of "*Michigan Lion*" magazine was dedicated to Welcome Homes for the Aged. It was a testament to what our club-wide effort made. The article noted that "it was the only home of its kind in America."

- Over the course of about a year, the Grand Rapids Lions Club sponsored or co-sponsored 2 more new Lions Clubs: Caledonia and Byron Center [both of which no longer exist].

Save These Dates: The annual **Michigan Lions Forum** will be held on **Saturday, February 17** right here in Grand Rapids at the Crowne Plaza near US 96 & 28th Street. The event is a good event for learning about Lions and talking with others from across the District. The annual **Lions District 11-C1 Convention** is tentatively planned for **Saturday, April 14**.

Reserve this Date: Mark your calendars and make your reservations – the Blind Dinner Date will be held on Thursday evening, March 8, 2018.

LCI Convention: This year's Lions Clubs International Convention will take place in Las Vegas, Nevada from June 29 to July 3, 2018. The MGM Grand Resort will be the venue for all convention events, including the exhibit hall, plenary sessions and the International Show. Online LCI convention registration and housing booking tool is a safe and secure method to register and receive an instant confirmation: <http://lcicon.lionsclubs.org/EN/attendees/registration-information.php>. For up-to-date information visit LCI's official web site: www.lcicon.lionsclubs.org.

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