



Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2017-18, No. 9, December 9, 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

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

*Tuesday, December 12 – 20,
Happy Hanukkah!*

**Tuesday, December 12, The
Changing Face of Energy, Karen
McCarthy**

Monday, December 18, 4:45 pm,
Lions Bowling League – Position
Night for Fall Season, Northfield
Lanes

**Tuesday, December 19, Holiday
Raffle & Lunch**

*Monday, December 25, Merry
Christmas!*

*Monday, January 1, 2018, Happy
New Year!*

Tuesday, January 2, First
Luncheon Meeting of 2018

Tuesday, December 12 The Changing Face of Energy, Karen McCarthy

Consumers Power is a public utility founded in 1886 and headquartered in Jackson Michigan. It provides natural gas and electricity to 6.6 million residents in 68 counties. The company has been making changes to ensure tomorrows future, such as reducing dependence on coal and using more natural gas and renewables. It is generating electricity from wind farms and solar gardens, and tapping hydroelectric power and biomass. It is making a switch to low-sulfur Western coal and is using advanced technologies to reduce emissions. The company says “It’s a balanced energy approach to secure a more sustainable energy future for all of us.”

In 2009, the company launched comprehensive electric and natural gas energy efficiency programs that included rebates and incentives for homes and businesses. In December 2016, the global research firm, Sustainalytics, recognized Consumers Energy as ranking among the top 6 percent of utilities across the world for having "sustainable environmental, social and economic practices."

Our presenter today, Karen McCarthy, will talk about “The Changing Face of Energy.” It will be a brief look at Consumers Energy’s backstory, current company information and future outlook. She is the Community Affairs Manager for Consumers Energy in Kent Count and is responsible for local government and community relations, charitable giving and economic development.

Ms. McCarthy serves on several committees in the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, the City of Grand Rapids Urban Forestry Committee and the Wyoming-Kentwood Chamber of Commerce. She is a former member of planning commissions in Cascade, the City of Kentwood, and the economic development boards in Ottawa County and Kentwood. Additionally, she volunteers in other community organizations.

Tuesday, December 19 Holiday Raffle & Lunch

The Grand Rapids Lions Club will be holding our annual Holiday Raffle on Tuesday, December 19. Join with other Lions to celebrate the holiday season and invite a prospective member or guest to show them how much fun we have. Be sure to bring extra cash to buy a lot of raffle tickets to increase your chances of getting a gift. Remember, the net proceeds go to our charities!

Quote: "Christmas is not a time or season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas." - Helen Keller (Note: In 1925, Helen Keller addressed the Lions Clubs International Convention in Cedar Point, Ohio and inspired Lions to commit to ending preventable blindness and serving the visually impaired.)

December Babies Happy Birthday!

Renee Mika	December 1
Kyle Travis	December 4
Edward Kleinfeld	December 6
Raymond Knape	December 18
Thomas Dandridge	December 21
Aaron Plafkin	December 30



Tuesday, December 26 NO Lunch Meeting & Recycling Center Closed

Applause! Applause! Another Successful Event! Meijer Kids Shopping Day

A "BIG THANK YOU" to all those who participated in the December 2, Kids Shopping Event at Meijer Cascade! We had our Lions and spouses, GVSU Campus Lions (16), East Kentwood High School - National Honor Society students (11), and 4 Kent Intermediate teachers of visually

impaired students. And we cannot recognize enough the Cascade Meijer Staff for hosting & helping at the checkout and contributing \$1,000 toward the cost of the event.

Some of our Lions drove kids from Saboath Ministries and took all the kids home. Our Lions and the other volunteers helped the kids shop, wrap the presents and clean-up the room. We all helped make a happier Christmas for the families of the 21 Visually Impaired Kids and 20 Saboath Ministry Kids.

Anne Baird said, "Applause! Applause! to all of them for the great job they did in showing the community what a vibrant club we are in SERVING those in need and helping to put smiles on the faces of 41 children whose families will be surprised by the holiday gifts they receive from the thoughtful and budgeted shopping their kids did for all their family members."

Here are our Lions Club members who participated (Let your editor know if anyone was left out.): Jeane Allard, Gary & Cheryl Anderson, Anne & Jim Baird, Shawn and Marybeth Eyestone, Lynn Francis, Shelley Irwin, Don Jakel, Jeff & Jean Kraai, Rob & Linda Lalley, Richard Nelson, Craig Nobbelin, Art Palmer, Brent Spoelstra, Ed Thauer, Mike Thibodeau, Mary Beth Tupper, Bob White, Bob Winchester and Jonse Young.

Finally, here is a BIG THANK YOU to our Co-chairs Anne Baird and Don Jakel! We also thank Mike Thibodeau, Co-chair over the last several years, and helped in planning, but was in the hospital having a major operation so he could not attend.

[Lions Endowment Fund](#) [Grand Rapids Community Foundation](#)

The Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation, established to benefit our charities, has existed for 30 years and surpassed \$800,000 this year. This has been due to regular donations by Carl's Club members, bequeaths from Lions who have departed, donations in memory of deceased Lion members, a proportion from our fund raisers and other miscellaneous gifts. Our goal is to reach \$1 million dollars by or during our 100th Anniversary Year of 2019.

For many of us, this is the time of the year for us to make our final charitable donations for 2017. Any amount will help build our endowment, but please consider joining Carl's Fund which is part of the endowment.

Carl's Fund was created to honor a generous member, Carl Schowalter, who lived to 103 and left us with an endowment of \$100,000 after his death in 2005. To become a member, you need to donate \$400 a year to our endowment fund. With seventeen members donating last year, Carl's Fund has raised over \$57,200 over its 12-year life. Please consider joining Carl's Club or making a donation in an amount with which you are comfortable.

Please make your checks out to "Grand Rapids Community Foundation" in care of the Grand Rapids Lions Club. Preprinted envelopes are available and best used. They are available at our meetings or you may contact Lynn Francis (616-458-1567 or lynn@primegr.com).

An anonymous donor has challenged us all to participate. For new amounts given by new participants this year, this person will match these new amounts, 2 to 1. For all past participants who increase their donations over their 2015 amounts, the donor will match these increases 2 to 1 as well. The matching limit is \$5,000 for qualified donations if received by December 31, 2016.

Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – Last Months of 1946

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 1951 - 1952. (Editions missing in 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951 {all but one issue in September} and several in 1952.)

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

- The Annual Stag Outing at Duck Lake continued this year.
- Dr. James Ford [optometrist & brother of President Gerald Ford] began a regular column to report on the collection of pennies from the Lions little "blind 'milk bottles which were scattered around the city in businesses and public places. These were a major source of funds for Lions helping blind and visually impaired people.
- Our Lions Club and the Boy Scouts began planning for the 2nd "Wonderful Boy Scout Circus" put on jointly by the Lions Club and Boy Scouts. It would be held at Housemen Field on May 23 & 24, 1952. Later, it was reported that the circus netted \$2,381.67 for the Boy Scout Fund, and a like amount for the Boy Scout troops that sold the tickets.

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

- In September 1951, Ed Hall, renowned numerologist, returned the third time by popular request. “Ed Hall’s fame was established with his prediction of the stock market crashes of October 1929 and October 1937. He predicted World War II to the very day and the abdication of King Edward VIII. More recently, he predicted the Korean War; the MacArthur crises; the Kansas floods and the attempt on the life of President Truman. Many months before the Kansas floods, Ed Hall predicted . . . [the city of] Florence Kansas would be the hardest-hit town in Kansas.” And it was.
- Charles R. Sligh, Jr., founder of Sligh Furniture Company and one of the leading young business leaders in America at that time addressed the club.
- Dr. Julius Wendzel, affiliated with the Upjohn Company, explained to Lions members, “When the next depression and why?”
- By special request, the Junior College music program presented “their Musical Moods” program again.
- Our Chaplain, Dr. [Edward] Thompson showed his “beautiful pictures of South America and Panama . . . [including] the San Blas Indians . . . a little-known tribe . . . pictures of that particular tribe are exceedingly rare as it is not too safe to travel that particular area.”
- Congressman Gerald R. Ford made his annual report to the Lions on September 2. Not surprisingly, the article says, “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 . . . His history making fight to eliminate ‘Pork Barreling’ was so unique and successful that Newsweek magazine in writing of it called it a ‘legislative miracle.’”
- “Dr. James E. Eyre, Jr., noted author and lecturer as well as an authority on Asiatic

- Planning for Welcome Home for the Blind (in Grand Rapids), which would help meet the needs of at least some of blind, indigent population in Michigan was well underway. It was an immense job, but one where the Lions succeeded.
 - In March 1952, the Holland Lions Club celebrated its Silver Jubilee as a Lions Club.
 - Our club donated \$500 to the Leader Dog League in Rochester, Michigan. Apparently, a member of our club in 1952, Hy Steed, was President of the Detroit Lions Club when the idea “to train dogs and people to work together so that the dogs eyes become the eyes of the person who needs them.”
 - “Lions Land Cruise” was an annual, 3-day excursion to a hotel/resort on Portage Lake (Manistee County) – all “for the ridiculous sum of \$70.00 for the three days.”
 - “Another month, another \$50.00 – from that swell gang at Knape & Vogt for the Blind Fund. Each month just as sure as the monthly bills here comes a check for \$50.00 from this gang to pay the bills. Over the years, more than any other single factor has helped to maintain the blind program at its peak of humanitarian service . . . Our sincere thanks . . . yes, that includes you too, Joe and John Knape.”
 - At the [then] District II Lions Convention on 24, 1952, the Lions of Michigan passed a resolution to make Welcome Homes, Inc. a State Project. This means that all Lion Clubs in Michigan will be asked for financial support. [Note: Welcome Homes was located in Grand Rapids, until changing times caused it to end in 2012,
 - “Our own Bob Smolenski has tossed his hat into the ring for the non-partisan office of Circuit Court Commissioner [assistance to the Judge] for Kent Country.” The article went on to describe how well qualified he was for the office. (Bob died in 2010.)
 - The annual Lions family picnic was held on August 19, 1952 in Townsend Park.
 - In July, the Ionia Lions Club celebrated its 18th Anniversary.
 - The Bowling League began its 24th year in September 1952. The Lions also had the annual golf outing to Silver Lake that month.

problems” spoke to the Lions. “Shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, while a member of the staff of the Library of Congress, he fought alone a life-and-death struggle with Communists and Communist sympathizers who were active in the United States Government. Opposed by them because of his far-seeing view that Soviet Russia would eventually emerge as America’s greatest enemy, he fully won this battle and helped in the process to break up a cell of subversive elements which had wormed its way into a strategic position in the nation’s capital.

He “continued to write challengingly in the field of foreign affairs . . . stamped him as an authoritative and interesting commutator on the Western Pacific and the peoples and the countries of the Asiatic seaboard . . . continued to warn of the dangers which lay ahead for America.”

“Dr. Eyre’s outstanding record, together with his integrity, attracted the attention of one of the Far East leading statesmen, Sergio Osemena of the Philippines. In August 1944, the Allied Philippine Commonwealth immediately appointed him as the only American advisor on his personal staff. Without political influence of any kind, this man at the age of twenty-nine thus came to occupy a key observation post with respect to world affairs. Following the recapture of Manila from the Japanese, he was sent to the war-torn capital. Maintaining at the time the only full-fledged office of Malacanan Palace – the White House of the Philippines – he was referred to by a United States Army writer as another ‘Harry Hopkins (in terms of influence and of policy)’ with respect to the position which he held. “

“Through his associations . . . [he] became what he considered to be one of most important storied of World War II – a controversy which had broken out between General MacArthur and Franklin D, Roosevelt. He saw one of the climatic points in this portentous breach when he largely prepared the agenda for a meeting between Presidents Roosevelt and Osemena in Warm Springs, GA on April 5, 1945 . . . the last foreign affairs meeting of the President.”

- Also in September, the Lions Club joined in a campaign to raise funds “to help build a tangible memorial in honor of those men who died [in World War II]. (Veterans Park on Fulton Street recently finished the redesign and dedication of the park. Have you strolled through it?)
- Remember the Coffees Dunkers of America who raised funds for charitable organizations? In 1952, while the Coffees Dunkers were having fun and raising funds, the donations were would help the Santa Claus Girls and our own Blind Fund. By the way, our own Lions participated in the event.
- George Werp’s Hyenas won the bowling championship for the fall bowling season.

Other News

Education

“Education is gleaned from men and books and laboratories, from field and whispering wind; but it is more:

It is learning promptness and thoughtfulness, kindness and helpfulness, and every form of purity. It is the mastering of mind and spirit, appetite and passion, thought and word and glance;

It is knowing that nothing but service brings worthy living, that selfishness means sin, that courage lies in being right.

Education is the implanting of good habits, the acquirement of efficiency, the development of twenty-four carat character.”

Thomas C. Blaisdell

(June 3, 1952 *Nuda Veritas*)

Grand Rapids Lions Club, Website: www.grlions.org
Mailing Address: c/o Craig Nobbelin, Secretary, and 258 Morris Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Editor & Lions Secretary: Craig Nobbelin, 616-458-0471 or e-mail: c.nobbelin@yahoo.com
Lions District 11-C1: Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Muskegon, Ottawa