



# Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2017-18, No. 13, February 17, 2018

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

Monday, February 19, 4:45 pm,  
Lions Bowling League, Northfield  
Lanes

Tuesday, February 20, 7:30 am,  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning  
Meeting, Ed Thauer's Office

### **Tuesday, February 20, Lions Club Technology Update – New Website & Amazon Smile**

Tuesday, February 20, 6:00 – 8:00  
pm, Recycling Center Open

Monday, February 26, 4:45 pm,  
Lions Bowling League, Northfield  
Lanes

### **Tuesday, February 27, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Eyeglass Recycling Work Session & Dinner, Jamar Labs**

Monday, March 5, 4:45 pm, Lions  
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

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**March 9, 6:00 pm  
Make your Reservations for the  
Blind Dinner Date!**

## **Tuesday, February 20 Lions Club Technology Update & AmazonSmile, Ben Eavey & Mary Beth Eyestone**

**New Lions Website:** One of the objectives of our club's strategic plan has been to develop a more user-friendly website for members of our club and for the public or potential members to find out about Lions and our club. Lion Ben Eavey will introduce the new website and describe its components and how members can log-in to the member's section.

Ben has been working with a contractor to design and set-up the new website. The website has a lot of information already and will evolve as more content is added. For the members who can't attend this program, information on how to log-in to the members section will be shared through this newsletter or a separate email.

**AmazonSmile:** Mary Beth Eyestone will discuss a way that our club can earn some extra money for the Grand Rapids Lions Club Charities 501(c)(3) entity. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to a charitable organization of your choice, in this case our charities fund.

You can use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations, with eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages. On your first visit to AmazonSmile [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping and then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation.

**Tuesday, February 27**  
**Eyeglasses Recycling Project**  
**6:00 – 8:00 pm, Jamark Labs**  
**No Meeting at Noon at the University Club!**

Having the vision mission team returning from Mexico earlier this month, we need to continue processing eyeglasses for next year's trip. The Eyeglass Recycling Session/Dinner Meeting will be Tuesday, February 27 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Dinner will be at 6:00 pm. Please come and bring a guest or a prospective member to our work session to show them how we serve. Everyone is welcome!

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. Parking and the entrance are available in the front of the building. If you have questions or want more information, please contact **Lion Scott Brady** at [scottbrady2120@gmail.com](mailto:scottbrady2120@gmail.com) or 616-283-0260, or one of the other committee members.

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


### **13<sup>th</sup> Annual Blind Dinner Date**

Have you made your reservations to attend the Lions Club Blind Dinner Date on March 8, 2018 at Thousand Oaks in Grand Rapids? If not, call and mark March 8 on your calendar. This event raises awareness and funds to help some of our children and adults alleviate and treat some of these challenges. The event will recognize the achievements of several professionals within the eye care community in West Michigan. Funds raised will benefit the Vision Clinic at Cherry Health, the health of children with special needs through the Eyeglass Program at KISD and assist individuals with blindness or severe low vision through the Association for Blind and Visually Impaired.

The Club also invites you or your company to help sponsor the event at several levels: Title Sponsor - \$10,000; Platinum Sponsor - \$5,000; Gold Sponsor - \$3,000; Silver Sponsor - \$1,000; and Bronze Sponsor - \$500. **For more information or to make your reservation, please contact Lions Benjamin Eavey at 616-719-9799 or Rick Stevens at 616-458-1187. Don't delay!**

**Happy Birthday  
to our February Babies**

Patrick O'Hare	February 2
Arthur McWilliams	February 9
Michael Murphy	February 22



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### **Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – 1958 & 1959**

*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 1958.*

**“Two Lions Club Members Merge as One” (1958)**

“Two Lions Club Members Merge as One” read a headline in the Nuda Veritas announcing “The consolidation of two business firms of our prominent members, Robert H. Swart, principal in the Michigan Automatic Heating Equipment Co. and Clarence (Chuck) w. Harris, one of the principals in the Harris Supply Co. The new organization will henceforth be known as Heating & Cooling Wholesalers, and offices of these two concerns have been combined at 1576 Division Ave., South, home of Michigan Automatic. Branches of the firm will be operating in Flint, Kalamazoo and Lansing.”

“Bob Swart has been named president of the new firm, while Chuck Harris is vice-president. Another member of the firm, well-known in Lions club circles, is the charming Ila Unseld, wife of Earl Unseld and sister of Chuck Harris. As a matter of fact, Ila, who has the title of vice-president, is the main spoke in the wheel. We are assuming she carries the big stick with which to control these wild and woolly Lions.”

“Both Bob and Chuck have been extremely active in our club work. Bob Swart has distinguished himself in blind work and will be remembered as the booster of the Braille Class blind program annually presented by the blind youngsters of the Ottawa Elementary school, also as head of the Picnic Committee. Chuck Harris has distinguished himself in Boy Scout work and headed the Boy Scout Circus committee which recently raised over \$8500.00 for new buildings at Camp Shawondossee and Camp Ottawa. As they successfully handled activities for the Lions club and its activities, we predict an equally successful tenure for the newly organized Heating & Cooling Wholesalers firm. We wish them smooth going and all the success in the world.”

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Note: The trusts of Chuck Harris and his wife, Zita, were the couple who in 2015 bestowed a total of \$182,129.29 to the Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation, helping us get closer to the goal of a \$1 million endowment.

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

- “Our Amazing Submarine Program” kicked off the January programs, featuring Lt. William Read, USNR, with experience on destroyers and submarines.
- The chairman of the Winter Sports Committee of the Wet Michigan Tourist and Resort Association, Fred Brocks, presented “with fabulous stories about the ‘fun in the snow’ in Michigan, causing Florida boys and girls to try our climate in exchange for the presence of Michiganders in Florida. For isn’t it true that the grass is on the other side of the fence is always greener? Or is it?”
- John Meacham, the first Kent County Director of Aeronautics (newly created), talked about the future of aviation “as Grand Rapids grows and keeps pace with the world problems of the future.”
- “Sputnik” was the topic of a German-born veteran of World War II, W. Werner Prange, who migrated to the U.S. as a Fullbright Scholar and eventually settled in Grand Rapids.
- Also, a convention visitor for the American Association of Junior Colleges in Grand Rapids, Dr. Paul Gaiser, President of Clark College at Vancouver, Washington, talked to the club on “The Community College in the Sputnik Age.”
- Dr. B. G. Gross’s “lectures and counseling services have been enjoyed by thousands of business and professional men.” He had expertise in industrial relations, management and research in psychological testing and measurement [pretty advanced at that time].
- July & August 1958 again brought the four summer golf outings to the Country Clubs of Grand Rapids, Greenridge, Blythefield and Cascade.
- Fifth District Congressman Jerry Ford visited the club for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year and spoke to review the highlights and problems of the 86<sup>th</sup> Congress. [Couldn’t we use that type of Representative again?]
- In addition to the Thanksgiving Day activities, “a couple musical numbers by the Salvation Army Band and a short warning by S/Major Ray Johnson of the Salvation Army that Christmas is only a short while away and it’s almost time for the ringing of the bells.” [The Lions volunteered ringing the bells at the kettles.]

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

- Bowling started again, with 16 teams --- “Our

vacation is over, so on January 6 – up with the pins and then – knock ‘em down again!”

- One article in February 1958 noted that “our pianist, Jean Miller, played a program of melodious numbers last Tuesday, some of which sounded as if played in dreamland. Jean is a grandmother, and a proud one we can assure you. . . She is now is grandma over a flock of 1 girl and 3 boys.” [Jean was our pianist from July 1946 through 1980’s or ‘90’s. Two more pianists followed Jean, ending with the death of Jack Kimmell last year.]
- The installation of new officers was a grand affair back in those days, as shown by the photo of the 1958-59 installation. Granting that the club had about 300 members in those days, the head table had two rows with 34 dignitaries that included representatives from other club, spouses and the speaker. Of course this year would begin the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Grand Rapids Lions Club. The Pantlind staff apparently did a splendid job, as always.
- “Close to 150 adults and children enjoyed themselves to the utmost” at the Lions Club picnic. There were “gobs of ice cream . . . wonderful food . . . prizes for all the kiddies and beautiful gift for the ladies present.” All the food left over went to a local orphanage.
- The two co-chaplains of the Lions Club, Dr. Mortenson and Dr. Buttrey, left the club in 1958 when they were called to serve congregations in Port Huron, Michigan and Portland, Oregon. Rev. Gene Carter soon filled that important position.
- Rennie “Bud” Platt, whom some of us recall, joined the Lions Club in 1957.
- An article reported the neglect of the newsletter to update the members on the collections from the penny bottles and other contributions to the Blind Fund. \$229.26 collected in October and “\$234.03 was disbursed for professional services, glasses, radio repairs and miscellaneous help to the blind. Sort of nip and tuck, don’t you think? And with Thanksgiving and Christmas just around the corner, we’ll have to start thinking about food baskets – nearly 30 will be delivered – and there will be festivities for our friends at Welcome Home, the kiddies at Ottawa Hills Braille School and the blind kiddies at Buchanen St, School.”

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## Other News

**Lions District 11-C1 Convention:** This year’s District 11-C1 Convention will be on Saturday, April 14, 2018, Paws With a Cause in Wayland MI - 15 miles south of Grand Rapids down US-131. It starts with Registration at 9:00 am. More information will be forthcoming.

**Dinner on the Dark:** GVSU Campus Lions Club’s “Dinner in the Dark” is scheduled for Monday, April 9, 2018, 7:00 – 9:00 pm. More detail will follow in future newsletters.

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