



Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2017-18, No. 22, June 23, 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

University Club

Downtown Grand Rapids

*Luncheon Meetings begin at 12:10
p.m. unless otherwise noted.*

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

August, Date to Be Announced, Family Picnic

Monday, August 13, Board of
Directors Planning Meeting, 6:00
pm, Location TBD

Tuesday, September 4, First
Luncheon Meeting of 2018-19
Lions Year

Tuesday, September 4, First
Recycling Session in the Fall

Monday, September 10, Opening
Night of Bowling, 4:45 m (tentative)

"Second Century Success"

*Please remember to make your
pledge or donation to reach
100% participation of current
Lions members.*

*The Goal: \$170,000
Donated or Pledged*

In Memory of Sharon Winchester April 21, 1938 – June 12, 2018



The news of Sharon Winchester death came on the day of our Lions 2018 Annual Meeting and was sadly announced that evening. Sharon was 80 years old. She was the wife of Lion Bob Winchester, who had joined our Club 14 years ago in 2004. She joined Bob at many social events and over the years participated in service activities and was "a great person" in Bob's words. She was kind and generous, and will be missed.

Sharon was born and raised in Indianapolis and went to Taylor University. She began working as a nurse in Chicago, then met Bob through her dear friend, Marilyn, and they were married in September of 1963. They moved from Illinois to Grand Rapids in 1975. Sharon and Bob Had been married almost 55 years.

Sharon had a long and varied nursing career that she enjoyed. She and Bob traveled the world and loved every minute of it. For several years, they spent winters in south Texas, near or in Padre Island. Sharon also volunteered for many years at various charities culminating at the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary.

She is survived by husband Bob, daughter Leann (Paul) Rowland, Mark (Jodi) Winchester, Amy (Rob) Rich, and

grandchildren Taylor, Kevin, Ben, Ava, and Addy. A celebration of Sharon's life was held on Wednesday, June 20 at Ada Congregational Church. Please join us in remembering Sharon.

White Cane Drive 2018 Results



The White Cane Drive Results are in for 2018. Through volunteers from our Lions Club and KISD staff at the Alpine Wal-Mart and a mail request, we raised \$4,946 to provide glasses for kids in need through the **Special Eyes Program** (the new name for The Ken-O-Sha Eyeglass Program). The funds will help buy glasses for children who are blind or visually impaired from birth through age five. These children often have other developmental challenges. Throughout the world, the long white cane is used by people who are blind or visually impaired as a tool for safe and reliable navigation.

We thank all of you for all your efforts in making this year's drive a great success. Special thanks goes to the KISD staff member volunteers Joan, Mary, Carol, April, Leigh Ann, and Michelle. Anne Baird sent an email with the Lion's thanks. The Club also thanks outgoing Lions Board Chairman for stepping up to coordinate this project, with needed guidance from Lions Anne Baird and Bill Fleetham.

How Was the Grand Rapids Lions Club Annual Meeting?

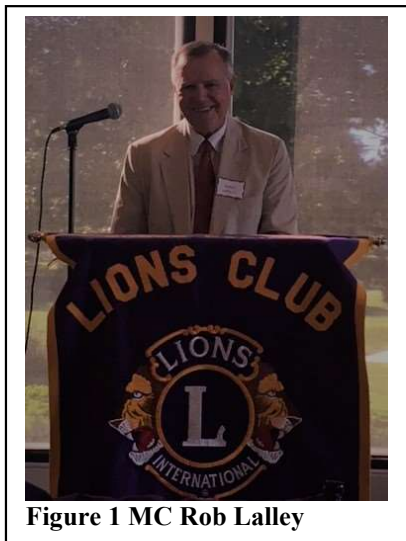


Figure 1 MC Rob Lalley

Cascade Country Club, chosen by incoming President Ed Thauer, offered a great setting on a wonderful evening on which to hold the Grand Rapids Lions Club's Annual Meeting, Wednesday, June 13, 2018. Socializing was followed by a wonderful dinner and the Lions program for the forty-eight Lions and guests.

Rob Lalley served as Master of Ceremonies (Master Rob) and sadly announced the Lion Bob Winchester's wife, Sharon, had unexpectedly died the night before and that more information would be sent. He continued by listing ways he could spoil his duties. He seemed to avoid them, as only Rob could do. After he led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Innovation, he invited the staff to serve dinner steak & chicken grille or Chef's Roel's vegan special of the week, mixed green salad, green beans with Julienne sweet carrots, oven roasted redskin potatoes with herbs, bread dessert and beverages).

After dinner, Master Rob remembered Lion's deaths from earlier this year: pianist Jack Kimmell, Tail Twister & Past President Mike Luhn and Lorna Powell. On a more upbeat note, he welcomed 7 new members: Jeane Allard, Mark Kosciusko, Ann Zoellner, Nickolas Allen, Matt Hulswit, Drew Wessell and Randy Hamstra. Following his announcement, he invited PID Anderson to come up to induct Randy Hamstra into our club.



Figure 3 President Shawn Eyestone reports on the past year

President Shawn Eyestone reported on our service projects and fundraising events for the year. The **service projects** included the *Meijer Kids Shopping event*, *regular eyeglasses recycling sessions* with two mission trips and the VI Sports Day. With several Club **fundraising events**, President Shawn noted the *Blind Dinner Date*, the *White Cane Drive* and *Drive for Vision*, coming up on June 19. In addition, the Grand Rapids Lions Club Fund (at the Grand Rapids Community Foundation) generated well over \$30,000. Again, this year, the Grand Rapids

Lions Club donated approximately \$100,000 to our charities and other charitable causes.

Lions Pat Mullen and Kim Gary talked about the Second Century Success effort, with a goal to raise \$170,000 to help the Lions Club Foundation endowment fund reach \$1 million by the end of 2018. The campaign wants every Lions Club member to contribute “something,” whether it be small or large. This would allow the club to start raising the second million dollars during 2019, our 100 Anniversary Year. They announced they were humbled by the response to date, and that as of the Annual Meeting, the campaign had pledges from 19 members, with the total pledged of \$177,075.

Master Rob opened the Awards Presentations with the Lions Clubs International awards: This included:

- ◆ **Silver Centennial Membership:** Lions Keith Crittenden and Brett Spoelstra
- ◆ **Gold Centennial Membership:** Lions Sharon Barton, Mary (MP) Chelsky, Shawn Eyestone and Lynn Francis
- ◆ **Multiple Centennial Awards:** Lions Cheryl Anderson (Silver & Gold), Gary Anderson (Silver, Gold & Diamond), Scott Embree (Silver & Gold) and the Grand Rapids Lions Club (Gold & Premier Centennial)
- ◆ **Membership Builder Key:** Lion Mark Oberlin

Master Bob invited PID Gary Anderson to present to present the **Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards** (from the Lions Clubs International Foundation) to: **Lions Ben Eavey, Dr. Pat Droste and Pat Mullen**. This award recognizes individuals for donating \$1,000 or more to the Foundation or for a Lions



Figure 2 PID Gary Anderson inducts Randy Hamstra; his wife Joan



Figure 4 Pat Mullen & Kim Gary Recognizes Scott Brady as a Lifetime Member of the Founders Level 2nd Century Success



Figure 5 PID Anderson Present Melvin Jones Awards to Pat Mullen, Pat Droste and Ben Eavey

Club donating that same amount and recognizing an individual for contributions to Lionism and the community.



Figure 6 PID Anderson Presents Gail Junod with the Helen Keller Fellowship Award, by the Alto Lions Club

PID Gary also announced an unexpected award with the Lions of Michigan Foundation (LOMF) **Helen Keller Fellowship Award** presented to **Lion Gail Junod**. This is on behalf of the Alto Lions Club, which has participated in our eyeglasses recycling project and donated \$750 to LOMF for the award because the club felt that Lion Gail was deserving of recognition for her activities in the eyeglasses recycling project.

Master Rob announced the **Lions Monarch Chevron** awardees, awarded to those Lions who have reached certain levels of longevity as members. He noted that some Chevrons were awarded by the District Governor at a meeting in March. These are the remaining Chevrons to be awarded:

◆ 10 Year Chevrons: **Lions Edward Kleinfeld, David LaGrand, Richard Nelson, Kayla Roggenbach and Jonsie Young**

◆ 15 Year Chevrons: **Lions Cheryl Anderson, Matt Larsen, Michael Murphy and John Rice**

◆ 20 Year Chevrons: **Lions Patrick Droste, Pam Fax, Jim Kaiser and Patrick O'Hare**

◆ 25 Year Chevrons: **Lions Tom Dandridge and Steve Mulder**

◆ 30 Year Chevrons: **Lions Jeff Kraai, Judge Benjamin Logan and Phil Wood**

◆ 35 Year Chevron: **Lion Mark Oberlin**

◆ 60 Year Chevron: **Lions John VanderHeide, Jr.**

Turning to the **Grand Rapids Lions Club Awards**, Master Rob invited President Shawn Eyestone to present his selections for the President's Appreciation Awards. After that, Master Rob announced the recipients of the other awards.

◆ **President's Appreciation Plaques: Lions Ben Eavey** (tireless work constructing the new website) and **Steve Mulder** (collection of used eyeglasses from a multitude of vision professional offices)

◆ **Joseph M. Trenshaw Memorial Rookie of the Year Trophy:** The awardee is Lion who has joined the club within the past 2 years and has demonstrated good attendance, shown initiative, motivated others by setting a good example and participated in club projects. Last year's recipient, **Lion Anna Clifford**, was given a replacement plaque (for the trophy which she earlier had relinquished). This year's Rookie of the Year Award was presented to **Lion Mary Beth Eyestone**.



Figure 7 MC Rob with Rookie of the Year Mary Beth Eyestone



Figure 8 MC Rob with Lion of the Year Jean Kraai

◆ **Lion of the Year Award** was presented to an individual who is a key Lion who has helped to organize and “worked on the ground” on many Lion initiatives, **Lion Jean Kraai**. **Lion Ben Eavey** was awarded this honor last year.

◆ **Henry Voet Award for Outstanding Service to Lionism** is the highest award that the Grand Rapids Lions can bestow. The recipient of the 71st annual Henry Voet Award was selected by the Past-Presidents of the Grand Rapids Lions Club by secret ballot. Last year’s recipient,

Lion Brent Spoelstra, was presented with a replacement plaque. Master Rob described the dedication to Lions and the many contributions that the person has made to our club. Our recipient this year was . . . **Lion Anne Baird**!



Figure 9 MC Rob Presents Henry Voet Award to Anne Baird & Replacement Plaque to Brent Spoelstra

Master Rob recognized the current 2017-18 Board of Directors and retiring board members:

- ◆ Lion Richard Boland*
- ◆ Lion Kyle Travis
- ◆ Lion Erik Anderson
- ◆ Lion Bill Fleetham
- ◆ Lion Colleen Mulder
- ◆ Lion Ben Eavey
- ◆ Lion Gary Anderson, Membership
- ◆ Lion Jeff Kraai, Treasurer
- ◆ Lion Craig Nobbelin, Secretary
- ◆ Lion Ed Thauer, Vice-President
- ◆ Lion Shawn Eyestone, President
- ◆ Lion Don Jakel, Chairperson*

* Retiring Board Members

PID Anderson installed the **2018-19 Officers and Directors** of the Grand Rapids Lions Club:

- ◆ Lion Erik Anderson
- ◆ Lion Bill Fleetham
- ◆ Lion Colleen Mulder
- ◆ Vacant (will be appointed)
- ◆ Lion Boyd Griswold
- ◆ Lion Kyle Travis
- ◆ Lion Gary Anderson, Membership
- ◆ Lion Jeff Kraai, Treasurer (annual)
- ◆ Lion Craig Nobbelin, Secretary (annual)



Figure 10 PID Anderson installed 8 of 12 Directors and Officers (2018-19)

- ◆ Lion Vice President Ben Eavey
- ◆ Lion President Ed Thauer
- ◆ Lion Chairperson Shawn Eyestone

President Ed Thauer made closing remarks to conclude the 2018 Annual Meeting, focusing on our 100th Anniversary Year in 2019.

2017-18: The Year of the Women Lions!

Editor's Note: Before 1987, only men could join Lions Clubs. However, there were Lioness Clubs that supported Lions Club activities, as well as their own activities serving people in thier community. Our club had an active Lioness Club, including woman who are members of our current Lions roster.

In 1987, 31 years ago, Lions Club International voted to open the doors to woman. That year, we inducted our first woman. Some Lions and Lioness members didn't want to change the status quo, while other thought, "It's about time!" and felt the Lions would be stronger because of the change. Woman who became Lions Club members have both stayed in and left the club since that time.

Time has proven the change to accepting both men and women as members has helped to strengthen the Lions, our club and other clubs who have women members and leaders. At this year's Annual Meeting of the Grand Rapids Lions Club, the importance of women members was on full display. This year, three different decision-making bodies chose women for the highest awards because of their leadership and importance to Lions' causes, activities and spirit: The Lions Board of Directors, the Past-Presidents and the Alto Lions Club. Please allow your editor to repeat the awards and the women chosen:

- **Helen Keller Fellowship Award: Lions Gail Junod** (Alto Lions Club)
- **Rookie of the Year Award: Lion Mary Beth Eyestone** (Board of Directors)
- **Lion of the Year: Lions Jean Kraai** (Board of Directors)
- **Henry Voet Award for Outstanding Service to Lionisn: Lion Anne Baird** (Past-Presidents)

Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – 1968

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 1968. (Several editions are missing.)

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

- The January 2 program started off with a harrowing tale, told by Tony Dauksza, of his "adventure" getting trapped on shore in the wilderness of Alaska because of ice piling up along the shore due to strong winds and "traveling a remote far-off land, exploring and prospecting wilderness rivers . . . then playing tag with shrewd artic wolves, probably mistaken for a caribou, until they got too close to smell him, "thinking he smelled so awful and ran off." He "played "hide and seek with grizzlies" and ate awful stuff. All these along with pictures of Alaska.
- Ralph Lynam, District Governor of Lion District 11C and member of the St, John's Lions Club, visited our club on the annual visit and updated members on activities in our District.

- Lieutenant James VanDendagom, Grand Rapids Police Department, explained the total procedure of using a new scientific device to establish sobriety of a drinking driver. "The Grand Rapids Police Department become the first police force in the state to own and utilize this scientific instrument now known as the "Breathalyzer." Statistics then showed "60-75% of all fatal traffic accidents are caused by drinking drivers.
- Lauren Wondergem, coordinator of the Association of the Blind and for Sight Conservation (located at 934 Cherry Street at the time) spoke to the club "on how the handicapped can benefit if they refer their problems to his organization; or we refer those who are sightless, need rehabilitation with hearing and speech" and described ways they could help.
- Before C. Mark Vasu became well known for his knowledge of emergency medical care, he spoke to the Lions about "Emergency Medical Care --- a New Concept of Total Care." "It covers the need of qualified and regulated emergency medical care agencies and the current ambulance problems." Before, emergency agencies and ambulances really offered only basic care before they arrived at a hospital.
- Rt. Rev. Monsignor Hugh M. Beahan answered the question, "Who Was St. Patrick?" for our St. Patrick's Day program. Accompanying him was "Jim Hillary, with one of the beautiful Irish Tenor Voice, accompanied by our own Jean Miller."
- James Bowling, recently returned from Viet Nam, talked about his actual experiences thru the eyes of a Red Cross worker.
- The club replaced the luncheon with a dinner and concert by the Musical Moods 1968 of the Grand Rapids Junior College choir and band "to honor the ladies."
- By early May, "2402 tickets [close to half] for the Fred Waring Concert had been sold" for the November 12 concert.
- "The Program Committee, Robert Swart, Chairman, has arranged a most Interesting program for next Tuesday." Two state dignitaries, one Republican and one Democrat, "will give their viewpoint of the problems that could be created in the electoral college if a single candidate fails to secure more than 50% of the electoral vote." [It would have been interesting to hear what they said.]
- Rep. Gerald R Ford, Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, presented "his Annual Report on the State of the Nation and what's going on in Washington" on October 15.
- The Armistice Day program on November 12 featured a presentation by Col. Lewis Elmore, who will share information from Vietnam and "about the patriotism of the thousands of our boys who are representing you and our nation in the far east to win the war in Vietnam."

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

- Over 250 Lions and guests "welcomed the New Year 1968 in with the officers and directors of your club . . ." in the Pantlind Ballroom on New Year's Day.
- Gerald Knappe, DDS, of the Standale Lions Club at the time, was endorsed for District 11C, District 1 Vice Governor. [At the time, this was voted on during the Lions of Michigan State Convention, rather than now when he is voted on at the District Convention.]
- When the club was larger, the Lion Monarch (longer-term Lions) used to gather separately for their Chevron celebration.
- The final check was cut from the Christmas Salvation Army Collection [from 1967-68], bring the total collected by Lions volunteers to \$4,537.39. [With a larger club, we used to be able to help a wider variety of charities.]
- Vander Veen's Zebras won the second of bowling in 1967-68. Chuck Harris had the high average at 183 pins.
- Summer golf was held at the Green Ridge, Silver Lake, Elks and Sunnybrook Country Clubs.
- Dale Chessner, whom several current Lions knew, became the 50th President of the Grand Rapids Lions Club for 1968-69.

- Dr. Jim Ford (Gerald's Ford's brother) was named Lion of the Year. [Now, the Henry Voet Award, with a separate award for Lion of the Year.]
- The Annual Family Picnic was held at Long Lake on Wednesday, August 21.
- "Are you interested in going to Japan?" In 1969, the LCI Convention would be held in Tokyo that year.
- On 'Friday the 13th – a Lucky Day for Salvation Army," a multitude of Lions stood guard to collect donations in many kettles throughout the area.
- Three members combined to donate a new U.S. Flag for Welcome Home for the Blind.

Other Lions News

Summer Activities: *Stay tuned* for announcements for Lions Summer Activates. There may be a work session at the Recycling Center, a picnic or other activities.

Second Century Success: If you have questions about this campaign to reach \$1 million in our endowment, housed at the Grand Rapids Community Foundation, before our Club begins its Centennial Year in 2019, or any related questions, please contact Pat Mullen at: pmullen@mullencoins.com or 616-272-4402 (mobile).

Coast to Coast Raffle: For at least the second time, a Grand Rapids Lions Club member's name was drawn as the winner of the annual Coast to Coast Raffle, a fundraising project of ABVI. The winner was Lions Craig Nobbelin and his destination choice was Seattle, to which he will send his wife and daughter (a recent graduate from the University of Michigan).

Weekly Luncheon Raffle Reminder: The raffle pot now is about \$1,800 with three chips – two red and one white. The chances are certain there will be a winner at the 1st or 2nd meeting next fall, and that person will win about \$800+. Be sure to come to these meetings and buy tickets!

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