



Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2018-19, No. 7, November 10, 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

University Club

Downtown Grand Rapids

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

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

Sunday, November 11, *Veterans Day – Remember those who served our country!*

Monday, November 12, 4:45 pm,
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

**Tuesday, November 13,
Philanthropy & Social Capital,
Salvatore Alaimo**

Tuesday, November 13, 6:00-8:00,
Recycling Center Open

Monday, November 19, 4:45 pm,
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

**Tuesday, November 20, Kent
County Health Department,
Steve Kelso**

**Thursday, November 22
Happy Thanksgiving!**



Tuesday, November 13

Philanthropy & Social Capital, Salvatore Alaimo

Philanthropy (all kinds) and social capital are increasingly important in today's society. Social capital is not only the currency that nonprofits and community organizations, like the Lions Club, run on but it is the glue that holds civil society together. With advances in technology and so many choices, people are in jeopardy of losing their sense of community (like bowling alone). So, that is why organizations such as the Lions Club are more important than ever and create important byproducts of service, networking and friendship.

Our presenter today is Salvatore Alaimo, Assistant Professor of Non-Profit Management at Grand Valley State University in the School of Public, Nonprofit and Health Administration. Dr. Alaimo teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in nonprofit administration, including a graduate course he developed in program evaluation. His research interests are in the areas of evaluation, volunteer management and contract management, and has published several book chapters and journal articles. He earned his master's degree at Georgia State University and his Ph.D. at Indiana University.

Tuesday, November 20

Kent County Health Department, Steve Kelso

Health departments have a very important role in protecting a community's health. The Kent County Health Department (KCHD) is continually assessing the health of the community and ensuring that certain services are available and accessible for its citizens. To this end, the Health Department investigates the causes of disease, epidemics, morbidity and mortality, and environmental health hazards using vital and health statistics for epidemiological studies. KCHD also plans and implements public education and enforces public health laws.

The KCHD is responsible for assuring the provision of certain core programs in the following areas: vision and hearing screening, public water supplies, private and Type II groundwater supplies, food service sanitation, immunization, sexually transmitted diseases, on-site sewage disposal management, general communicable disease control and offers several services beyond these core programs.

Steve Kelso, Marketing and Communications Manager for the KCHD, will talk about the department and some of the issues it faces today. These might include the recent Hepatitis, opioids, West Nile, clean water issues and so forth.

A Brief History of Veterans Day (Armistice Day)

"Say Thank You to Veterans You Know"

One hundred years ago on November 11, World War I ended. A year later, President Woodrow Wilson declared that Americans should reflect on those who died or served during World War I. In 1926, Congress adopted a resolution requesting that President Calvin Coolidge issue annual proclamations calling for the observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies for WWI veterans. A Congressional Act in 1938 made the 11th of November in each year a legal holiday: "a day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as 'Armistice Day'."

In 1945, WWII veteran Raymond Weeks from Alabama had the idea to expand Armistice Day to celebrate all veterans, not just those who died in WWI. General Dwight Eisenhower supported the idea of National Veterans Day. Weeks led the first national celebration in 1947 in Alabama. President Dwight Eisenhower signed the bill into law establishing the holiday in 1954. Congress amended the bill in 1954, replacing "Armistice" with "Veterans," and it has been known as Veterans Day since then.

In 1971, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, Veterans Day was moved to the fourth Monday of October until 1978, when it was moved back to its original celebration on November 11. Since then, even though the legal holiday remains on November 11, if that date happens to be on a Saturday or Sunday, then for those which formally observe the holiday will normally be closed on the adjacent Friday or Monday, respectively.

Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – January through December 1972

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 January through December 1972. (several editions missing)

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

- City Commissioner Pat Barr spoke at the Lions luncheon on January 25, 1972.
- A young-looking (his picture) Marvin DeVries, Ph.D., presented his analysis of the nation's economy under Phase II of President Nixon's plan for economic development. Dr. DeVries was a Professors of Economics and Director, School of Business and Economics at Grand Valley State College [as it was then called].

- Reverend and Lion Carl Martenson made an interesting presentation, “A Sermon Preached by a Dog”, an effort inspired by a Leader Dog named “Misty”.
- Wayne Walker, Detroit Lions linebacker, spoke to the Club. He was used as a kicker for 11 years in addition to his linebacker duties and had a 14-year career.
- Father John McGee talked about “The Troubles in Ulster”. Since 1955, he had traveled to Ireland more than a dozen times. “Already something of an enthusiast for Irish history and customs, his trip only confirmed his interest in the homeland of his grandparents.” “In Ireland for the traumatic massacre of thirteen Civil Rights Marchers in Derry at the end of January, Father McGee came back greatly disturbed over the unwillingness of Westminster to face up to the terrifying problems of the North of Ireland.”
- Salvation Army Captain spoke on the subject of “The Unwed Mother.”
- “Mrs. Marianne Brickley, wife of LT. Governor James H. Brickley, will speak on the topic, “The Addicted Woman” at the regular noon meeting . . . She is well qualified to speak about the hidden alcoholic for she has recovered from the disease, alcoholism, which affects one out of every fifteen [1 of 15] people who drink.” [Recent statistics report that 1 of 8 adults is an alcoholic.]
- Lions International Director Ralph A. Lyman spoke to the club on May 16. He was the first International Director elected from our district, 11-C. He was a member of the St. Johns Lions Club.
- A contemporary Musical Group, “The Master Switch”, performed at lunch. The group was “composed of seven young people who understand the self-destructive tensions and pressures that society and life can bring . . . being brought up in Harlem.” It was in the Youth Guidance Division of Youth for Christ.
- [Fast reverse from current plans about the Grand River.] ‘Carl Eschels, Chairman of the Riverfront Committee, will present the plans now under consideration by the committee for the development of the central downtown business area and the adjacent west bank of the Grand River.”
- City League baseball champions, Ottawa Hill Indians, were recognized as our lunch guests on May 30. Dr. Ray Loeschner, President of Olivet College, spoke. He was a former athlete great at Ottawa Hills.
- The June 20 Installation of Officers welcomed Joseph Van Blooys as President, Kirby Evan as 1st VP and the Honorable John Lets as 2nd VP, as well as the rest of the officers (16 total).
- Dick Cheverton, WOTV spoke on his trip to China. He accompanied was a member of the news team which accompanied the Congressional House leaders in August after President Nixon’s historic visit to China.
- Congressional Minority Leader Rep. Gerald R. Ford gave his 23rd update to the Grand Rapids Lions Club on October 17th. [Within a year, he would be the U.S. President.]
- “Grand Rapids Lions Don Oakes and Clarence Fuller square Off on City Charter Issue” at the Lions meeting on October 24. Clarence Fuller would argue for the new charter, while Don Oakes would argue against. Grand Rapids residents would go to the polls two weeks later to vote, not just on new City Charter, but also on national and state issues.
- Probate and Juvenile Court Judge Mary Coleman discussed “the strengths and weaknesses of the probate court system on October 31. She was the first woman ever nominated for the supreme Court of Michigan.
- The annual Club Service “Drawing Day” on November 7 raffle provided 40 winners with 12-15-pound turkeys as well as “calling out numbers for several mouth-watering New York Strip-Steaks . . . for \$2.00 you’ll be given seven opportunities to catch a “gobbler” while \$4.00 will get you 15 bug cracks at either a bird or a steak.”
- City League Co-Champions Creston High and Catholic Central were honored at lunch by the Lions Club. Doug Kay, Head Football Coach at Olivet College, spoke.
- The Thanksgiving Program featured Father James Fellows and music by the Stocking School Choir. “This Land is Your Land and Amazing Grace are just a sampling of the selections to be sung by the “The Younger Generation” of the Stocking School Choir.”
- On December 12, a raffle drawing along the same lines as the Thanksgiving drawing took place at lunch.
- The traditional Christmas Program on December 19 featured Rev. Edward Arnold and Christmas music by the Creston High School Choir.
- It was the Annual “Day After Christmas” Buffet on December 26. It featured several salads and relishes, round-of-beef, baked ham, au gratin potatoes, peas with mushrooms, hot rolls, coffee and Christmas decorated “goodies for dessert.

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

- Chesser's Gorillas won the first half of the bowling season. Members were Rolly Schreiber, Vernon Evans, Caption Art Marquardt, Judge John Letts and Dale Chesser. Chuck Harris was, once again, the individual Champion in the leading the league with a 184 average.
 - "The Annual Spring Outing this year, A Bahamian Adventure is scheduled to leave Kent County Airport on Monday, April 17. The 3^{1/2}-hour flight direct to West End, Grand Bahama Island just a five-minute taxi ride from Grand Bahama Hotel and Country Club."
 - Grand Rapids Lions Club sponsored the newly organized Northview Lions Club.
 - The Scouting Spectacular '72 took place on April 15, coordinated by Lions with the Boy Scouts.
 - Early in 1972, the mortgage for Welcome Home for the Blind was paid off. A "Mortgage Burning Ceremony" was held on Sunday, April 30 at 2:00 pm.
 - "A 16-year-old Lansing girl who learned braille by mail has been selected "Queen of White Cane Week." By the Michigan Lions Clubs."
 - Elder's Elephants were bowling champions in the second half of the season. Members were Father Jim Fellows, Harold Leedy, Bob Telder, George Bylsma and Herm Tornga.
 - "Cheers to the Mount Pleasant Lions Club for putting on an excellent golf tournament [District 11-C]."
 - The 5th Annual Strawberry Festival at Welcome Home on June 17 from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm.
 - Summer golf outings and dinners were held at Green Ridge Country Club, Elks Country Club, Silver Lake Country Club and Forest Hills Country Club.
 - The 55th Annual Lions International Convention was held in Mexico City in 1972. Some selected observations by John Letts published in the Nuda Veritas: "Mexico City far surpasses any pre-conceived notions or ideas and thoughts I may have entertained about it. I was thoroughly impressed, not only by its huge population (8 million) but by its beauty. Growth, aggressive and vibrant living habits. There is such a "hustle-and-bustle" in the daily lives of the people in that city as is our own work-a-day world, except, that "un momento" may stretch into a period of fifteen minutes to one hour. Time is not of essence, but who dares to fight time out for Siesta?"
 - Judge Letts continued about the convention in Mexico City, "The streets teem with people from dawn to dawn, and the close-knit family is a way of life that we would do well to emulate. Beautiful and well-kept public parks are a dominant feature, all apparently constantly available and in use 24 hours a day. Cleanliness is a virtue and if pollution is a problem, the streets do not contribute to it; although the traffic problem may. The word "teem" applies equally to the vehicular traffic."
 - In an edition of the newsletter, Judge Letts continued about the International Convention. "In the marketplace there seems to be a cardinal rule, that one must never buy, nor one must never sell for the initial asking price. If the purchase is made for more than the asking price, the merchant seems more chagrined than the buyer, although his happiness, reflected in his wide smile, is at the realization that his over-head has been taken care of for the month, and from now on every sale is at a profit. The haggling over price is a way of life. If you refuse to bargain, the merchant feels aesthetically cheated and you will never be sure you made a good bargain. One observation that might be helpful is that a working knowledge of Spanish usually brings the price down rapidly."
- "There is so much to see in Mexico City! . . . the large number of parks . . . many statues . . . the University and its huge Olympic swimming Pool and the gigantic murals . . . the museum of anthropology . . . the pyramids, etc. It is a wealthy city and it is a poor city . . . there was some street begging. The wealth could be seen by the number and size of hotels, banks, stores and the housing . . . All of the foregoing are but an infinitesimal part of the memories of a week at a Lions International Convention."
- The Nuda Veritas got a new Editor in 1972, James McCarty, who works at McCarty Advertising with his father.
 - The Lions District 11-C Conference took place at the Pantlind Hotel on August 19, 1972

- As usual, fall the Lions fall bowling league started the 2nd Monday of September.
- Saturday, September 9 evening kicked off the year with Ladies Night at Blythefield Country Club. Dinner featured prime rib, baked potato, tossed salad, rolls and ice cream & chocolate. 150 Lions and wives attended the dinner, which was followed by dancing.
- A new roster of Lions with their “mug shots” was hot off the press in September.
- The Fred Waring Show took place on November 28. The show netted \$3,006 for Welcome Home.
- Many Lions and Ladies had the spirit of Christmas at the “Merry Christmas” Party on December 2.
- Lions volunteer to ring the bell during the Salvation Army Christmas Drive on December 15.

Other Lion News

Lions' November Birthdays

Mary Chelsky	November	1
Brent Spoelstra	November	3
Lynn Francis	November	4
Boyd Griswold	November	9
Erik Anderson	November	10
Rick Walker	November	14
Mary Beth Tupper	November	16
Raymond Weidenfeller	November	29



Kids Shopping Day at Cascade Meijer:

Mark your calendars & volunteer to help!

On Saturday, December 8, we will again sponsor 20 children who live in the urban-city in Grand Rapids (Saboath Ministries) or 20 children who are visually impaired (who qualify based upon financial need) shop for holiday gifts of their families. This will again take place at Cascade Meijer Store from approximately 7:30 – 11:00 am.

This event rewards all who participate. If you have questions or wish to volunteer, please sign up at the meetings or contact Lion Anne Baird (baird@surfree.com) 616-446-9496 or Lion Don Jakel (donaldjakel@aol.com).

Lions Holiday Party: SAVE THIS DATE! This years Holiday Party will be on Friday, December 14, 2018 at Karen and Ed Thauer home beginning at 6:00 pm. The format will be an open house. More information will be forthcoming.

Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation & Second Century Success Campaign: The Second Century Success campaign continues. *We urge you to donate or pledge soon, for any amount – no matter how small - so we reach 100% of member participation.* Please direct questions about the campaign to Kim Gary at kimgary55@gmail.com or 616-291-5438 (mobile) or to Pat Mullen at: pmullen@mullencoins.com or 616-272-4402 (mobile).

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