



Nuda Veritas

Published for Members by the Grand Rapids Lions Club
District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2018-19, No.9, December 8, 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

University Club

Downtown Grand Rapids

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

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



December 3 - 10
Happy Hanukkah!

Monday, December 10, 4:45 pm,
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

Tuesday, December 11, Kent County, Wayman Britt

Friday, December 14, Lions'
Holiday Party, 6:30 – 9:30 pm, Ed
and Karen Thauer's Home

Monday, December 17, 4:45 pm,
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

Tuesday, December 18, Holiday Luncheon & Raffle

Tuesday, December 25 – Merry
Christmas! (no meeting)



Tuesday, January 1, 2019, Happy
New Year (no meeting)

Tuesday, December 11 Kent County, Wayman Britt

Kent County was “set off” from Kalamazoo County in 1831, seven years before Grand Rapids was incorporated. The City of Grand Rapids is the County Seat. The land area is 872 square miles, with an estimated population of 648,594 – second largest in the State.

Kent County is a good place to live, work and operate a business. Forbes ranked it the #1 metro area to raise a family, 2nd best large city to start a business and 3rd in leading locations (for business). The County is well run, with a long-term credit rating of AAA over the last 20 years.

Our speaker today is Wayman Britt, County Administrator / Controller for Kent County. The county has 1700 employees and a total budget of \$418 million. Prior to his current role, he served as Assistant Administrator for Kent County with responsibility for numerous departments. He was also responsible for instituting the County's Performance Management System. Prior to Kent County, Mr. Wayman served in management and leadership positions with Steelcase.

Mr. Wayman has a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Michigan and captained the men's basketball team to the NCAA Championship Finals in 1976. He has served on numerous community boards and received many awards from local and Flint area groups, and the University of Michigan.

Tuesday, December 18 Holiday Luncheon & Raffle

The Grand Rapids Lions Club will hold our annual Holiday Luncheon and Raffle on Tuesday, December 18. 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 have a better chance at claiming a gift. Remember, the net proceeds go to our charities!

The quote from last year's Nuda Veritas is still true: "*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

Grand Rapids Lions Holiday Party **If you made reservations, don't forget!**

The Lions will celebrate with our annual Grand Rapids Lions Holiday Party. You should have made your reservations by December 1, but if you didn't, maybe you can plead with our Secretary, Cheryl Anderson, to let you come. Here are the crucial details about the party:

Date: Friday, December 14

Time: 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm

Where: Ed & Karen Thauer
1297 Stoneshire Dr. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

RSVP By: December 1 to Cheryl Anderson
(email) andersoc@gvsu.edu
(text) 616-443-1995

All Grand Rapids Lions members are free of charge; Cost for non-members is \$25.

Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – July through December 1973

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 July through December 1973. (several editions missing)

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

- At the first meeting in September, a smorgasbord awaiting the Lions at the Pantlind. There was no program, but there was a cash bar and piano, card tables and other fun things to do.
- On September 11, "our co-speakers from Mercy Ambulance, Gary DeGraaf and Rod Smithson, will discuss with us how we can best help ourselves and how the private ambulance industry can serve us in emergency situations such as choking on food, poison swallowing, extensive bleedings, broken bones, etc. **Your attendance is a MUST!**"
- Lions President Kirby Evans presented a "travelogue" of Grand Rapids and vicinity. Some Lions didn't know that Kirby was an amateur photographer.
- This Lions luncheon ventured out for a buffet at the Naval Reserve Station on North Monroe and then had tours of the Boy Scouts Center and Welcome Home for the Blind, just north of the station.
- Bob Munger, sportsman from the Yankee Springs Museum in Gun Lake, showed some of films and stories from trips to Africa and the Arctic. Many of his films have been viewed on national television, with narration by Curt Gowdy.
- 11-C District Governor visited the club to update the Lions on District and State activities.

Some Thoughts About Our Club

Excerpts from an article by
Rev. Edwin Arnold, Lions Chaplain

"My first thoughts as I pondered the present operation of our club, were thoughts of genuine appreciation. We all appreciate the splendid camaraderie which we enjoy at our Tuesday meetings as well as the social and athletic functions . . . This fellowship is like a stone thrown into the pond giving rise to widening circles described on the face of the water. These spheres of influence improve the quality of life for hundreds – I dare say even thousands – of fellow citizens and far beyond . . . residents of Welcome Home for the Blind, Boy Scouts, recipients of Salvation Army ministry and other unnamed needy all could tell stories that should make us proud to be concerned Lions."

"Following close upon those first thoughts is the hope that we may continue to do the kind of things mentioned above which make ours a worthwhile organization . . . It strikes me that we could do well to frame in our minds some of the guiding principals which have made our nation great, and our club one in which we take pride. I think, for instance, of putting quality above quantity. The pursuit of excellence has been the benchmark of American society at its best. There is disturbing evidence of the erosion of this ideal under the pressures of "getting the job done" even though the shoddy may displace the excellent. Again, we must remember that the speed with we get there is of secondary importance to the matter of knowing where we are going."

"I guess what I am trying to say to say is, that I believe that primary attention must be given to the matter of INTEGRITY in every segment of our individual and corporate life. This I take to be the responsibility of all organizations and institutions that claim our loyalties, and this include our Club."

After thanking the leadership and committees, ". . . the plan for our future are exciting. It's OUR club, and it will be as good as we are determined to make it. A good exercise for each one of us might be to ask ourselves the questions: "What kind of club would make my club be if every member were just like me?" --- and then to make sure that we come up with the right answer."

- "Current Thoughts on U.S. and Foreign Trade" was the presentation that William McClave business development consultant gave to the Lions.
- Questions & Answers from Lions members were answered by four City candidates: Rev. Lyman Parks and Robert Boelens for GR Mayor and Richard Harris and Lion Robert Jamo for City Comptroller.
- Salvation Army Commander Bill Roberts spoke on "The Army is Still Working Today."
- Mary Jo Hoover told about her experience in Nice, France as a Lions exchange student through our Youth Exchange Program.
- For the Thanksgiving Day Program, Lions Club Chaplain Rev. Erwin Arnold presented a "Thanksgiving Mediation" and the East Grand Rapids Senior Choir presented inspiring music.
- Catholic Central, City League Football Champs were guests of the Lions Club. Albion College head football coach spoke to them.
- State Senator, Majority Leader, Robert Vanderlaan spoke at the lunch meeting.
- With Christmas coming up, the Grand Rapids Baptist College & Seminary Chorale serenaded the Lions on December 11.
- The following week, the East Grand Rapids High School Choir sang during the Christmas Buffett and drawing.

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

- Danny Palmatier was honored by the Welcome Hone Committee for his efforts in promoting the Tail Twister's Fund for Welcome Home. His 5-year total was \$20,464.00! Also honored was the supervisor of Welcome Home since 1950, Trudy Rose.
- Lions golf and dinner every other week this summer were at these county Clubs: Forest Hills, Elks, Silver Lake & Greenridge.
- The Lions International Convention took place in Miami in 1973.
- Fall bowling season started on September 10 with 16 teams.
- Mayor Lyman Parks sent the Lions a letter of thanks for its contribution for the purchase of telemetry-life saving equipment for the Civic Auditorium.
- The John Catzere Trio provided the music for the Lions Fall Dinner-Dance at Blythefield Country Club.

- Free dance classes were offered during the fall to Lions members. Among Lions and partners who participated were Keith & Clara Crittenden and Carl and Dorothy Schowalter.
- For many years, new fathers and grandfathers used to pay a “hefty fee” to the Tail Twister’s fund. It was \$10.00 back then. Should this be reintroduced?
- The Fred Waring Show was viewed by the smallest audience in nine years. Proceeds from the show were also down, with \$1,901.81 for Welcome Home.
- Food Baskets for the Blind were delivered to 31 families for Thanksgiving.
- The Lions volunteered during the Salvation Army Christmas Drive on Friday, December 14th.
- A note from the Comptroller-elect, Lion Robert “Bob” Jamo: “I would like to offer my sincere appreciation and thank you to each member of the Lions who helped me in the recent Comptroller election, both financially and by word of mouth. Without such assistance, victory would have been difficult at best.”
- Periodically over the years, Lion Presidents wrote a President’s column in the *Nuda Veritas*.



Other Lion News

Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation & Second Century Success Campaign: The Second Century Success campaign continues. ***We urge you to donate or pledge by the end of December, 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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