



# Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2018-19, No.12, February 2, 2019

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### University Club

### Downtown Grand Rapids

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

### ----- We Serve -----

*Every Tuesday, Recycling Center  
Open, 6:00 – 8:00 pm*

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

### **Tuesday, February 5, The State of Self-Driving Cars, Bonnie St. Amour**

Monday, February 11 4:45 pm,  
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

### **Tuesday, February 12, To Be Determined – Wear red!**

Thursday, February 14 –  
Remember Valentine's Day!

Monday, February 18 4:45 pm,  
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

February 19 – 24, Vision Mission  
Trip to Izamal, Mexico

### **Tuesday, February 19, To Be Determined**

Monday, February 25, 4:45 pm,  
Bowling League, Northfield Lanes

## Tuesday, February 5

### The State of Self-Driving Cars, Bonnie St. Amour

Is a self-driving car in your future? Who needs one, right? What will this car look like, feel like, and cost? What are the dangers and opportunities? What new technology is being developed for this vehicle of the future?

Our speaker will be Bonnie St. Amour, Sr. Client Engagement Manager, Microchip Technology. Microchip Technology is publicly-traded under the symbol of MCHP.

Ms. St. Amour has served as Sr. Client Engagement Manager with Microchip Technology since January of 2016. Prior to that position, she was Sr. Field Sales Engineer since joining Microchip in September of 2006.

Prior to joining Microchip Technology, she held several other technical sales positions with multi-billion dollar electronic distributors. She has a total of 35+ years of experience in the electronics area, supporting and assisting with designs in the Automotive, Appliance, Consumer and Industrial markets.

## Tuesday, February 12 To Be Determined

As of February 2, this program has not been confirmed. Look for a Lions email to announce the program, and be sure to wear something **Red**.

### Grand Rapids Lions Club Eyeglass Recycling & Vision Mission Trips (the 2<sup>nd</sup> of a 3-part article)

*This is the second of a 3-part article on the Grand Rapids Lions Club's eyeglass recycling and vision mission trips: This article talks about last fall's trip to Jamaica. The third part will describe the most recent trip coming up to Izamal, Mexico.*

## **Lions Jamaica Vision Mission 2018**

On October 12, 2018, our Lions of Michigan Vision Mission team traveled to Negril, Jamaica. This was our 7th vision mission in Jamaica, teaming up with the Issa Trust Foundation to provide comprehensive eye care for the visually underserved in Jamaica.

Our team consisted of twelve members. Bill Fleetham was our lead optician again, overseeing all the dispensing of new glasses. We had four Optometrists on the trip. Dr. MP Chelsky and Dr. Gary Anderson from our club, Dr. Donna Wicker (Ann Arbor Lions Club) and Dr. Stephanie Johnson (Las Vegas Lions Club). Performing pre-testing, crowd management, computer operations and dispensing glasses, from our club, were Lions Cheryl Anderson, Brent Spoelstra, Dr. Mary Beth Tupper, Mary Vanderlugt and Jeane Allard and Jeane's husband, Tim Allard. Also, from Ann Arbor was Dr. Fred Askari, husband of Dr. Wicker.

On site, we were assisted by our bus driver Gregory Williams, Lion Diane Pollard (Executive Director of the Issa Trust Foundation), her husband Lion Bill Pollard and photographer Chris Panetta.

### **Issa Trust Foundation**

The Issa family owns the Couples Resorts where we stayed in Jamaica. The mission of their Foundation is to provide a system of prevention, health promotion and education, community health improvement and other services to promote well-being and development for the people of Jamaica. For example, with their neonatal programs, the Foundation has reduced infant mortality on the island by 50% over the last twelve years. Their family foundation provides free housing and meals in their resort for the mission team, and a lot of facility and staff assistance.

### **First Day**

On the first day of the mission, we examined 369 of the resort employees. We fit 142 pairs of glasses for the employees. 81 were dispensed on site from our recycled supply and 142 were fit with new frames because we did not have their exact prescription in stock. These new frames were brought back to Grand Rapids where we manufactured new custom-made lenses for them. They were then shipped back to Jamaica and given to the employees.

### **Mission Days 2-4**

Mission days 2-4 were spent at Savanna la Mar Primary School. There are 1,200 children, 1st through 7th grade that attend the school. We examined 887 of the students and fit 179 pairs of glasses from our supply of recycled glasses. A sign of the great visual need of the students was the first patient we saw. He was 14 years old and his prescription was -15.00, which meant he could only see 2 ½ inches away clearly. He had a pair of his five-year-old broken glasses in his pocket, with one lens left. We fit him with a pair of recycled glasses, close to his prescription and a little small on his big head. We took two new frames home with us to make him two pairs of glasses to exactly his prescription and in a size that will fit him well. These have already been delivered back to him in Jamaica.

### **Thank you**

*Thank you to everyone* who has donated glasses, picked up glasses, spent hours sorting . . . washing . . . measuring . . . computer inputting . . . packing . . . shipping . . . organizing . . . planning . . . cooking

. . . travelling on a mission and a dozen other tasks. All you Lions and other volunteers have all made and continue to make an incredible difference in the lives of those with visual need around the world.

## **Michigan Lions Form in Grand Rapids! Saturday, February 17, 2018**

The Michigan Lions Forum will be at the Holiday Inn Gateway Centre in Flint on February 23, 2019. (5353 Gateway Center, Flint, 48507) The educational sessions will be on Saturday, February 17, 2018. This is a great opportunity for new and older Lions alike to meet other Lions from around the state and learn about Lions and other issues affecting vision. A brochure about the event will be sent separately. Here is a list of the sessions:

- The Art of Tail Twisting
- Keeping Members Motivated and Engaged
- Beaumont Silent Children's Funds
- Lions as Leaders: Moving up the
- Creative Leaders! Water Color Art Class (limited to 35)
- Mentoring
- Harnessing the Power of Social Media
- LCIF Empowering Service
- Leadership Institute

Lunch:

White Cane Scholarships

Keynote Address: PDG Ronnie Martin, LCI New Club Development Coordinator

You can register by sending in the registration form with your check or on-line at [www.lionsofmi.com](http://www.lionsofmi.com). Hotel Registration Deadline – February 8, 2019. (Lions Club Room Rate is \$85 if you're staying Friday or Saturday nights. If you want to car pool, ask Cheryl or Gary Anderson. If you attend, our Lions Club will reimburse the \$45.00 registration fee (includes lunch).

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## **Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – January through December 1976**

*As we celebrate 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 1976. (some editions missing)*

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

- Getting to be an annual January visit, Dr, Marvin DeVries, Dean of the Seidman College of Business at GVSU, presented his views for "Economic Prospects for 1976".
- Lion Ralph Leonard, Wagenaar Travel Bureau, presented a film on the "Mysterious and Exciting Jamaica."
- In 1970, the Post Office Department "was removed from Congressional jurisdiction so that it could be operated as a business rather than a bureaucracy." Also, the newsletter stated that many "were unaware that first class mail rates were increased from ten to thirteen cents." Postmaster Jim Blankenship and Thomas Chadwick, consumer advocate, discussed the transition.
- Jerry Crowe, Sales Manager for Shell Oil Company (GR District) spoke on the "Energy Crisis" of that time.

- Lion Charlie Merrill's Blind Committee brought 17 blind children and their teachers to lunch. The Lions have sponsored the Christmas Party for them for years at Brookside Elementary School, before last Christmas when they moved to Ken-O-Sha.
- Speaking about the Kent County Correctional Facility was Robert Culbertson, PhD, Associate Professor, criminal Justice, Grand Valley State Colleges.
- Dr. Mark Neely, Jr., Director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation, spoke about the Foundation's mission and work. The Foundation "was established in 1928 to further historical research on the life and times of Abraham Lincoln . . . houses over 17,000 books and pamphlets on Lincoln's life and times."
- Barbara Keller highlight her trip to China with her husband, Dr. Norman Keller.
- For the St. Patrick's Day Program, Rita Kingsley made a slide presentation and spoke about the battle Hymns of the Irish Republican Army. Tenor Jim Hillary and pianist Jean Miller provides the music once again.
- The Lions Club honored the Girls' Basketball All-City Team at lunch.
- The 1975 Master's Golf film was shown on April 6.
- Lions & Father James Fellows presented the Easter Message, "Gethsemane."
- Donald Johnston, III, spoke on "Law Day." [This was before he became a District and then a Circuit Court Judge.]
- In "The Sprit of '76, Seventy-six trombones and now we have 'The Younger Generation' --- seventy-six young men and young women from Stocking School will present a musical program on May 4." This group of students from grades 1 – 6 have performed 29 concerts to date. They have "a well-defined goal: To sing at the White House for President Ford."
- Lew Engman, Candidate for the U.S. Senate, spoke to the Lions.
- Grand Rapids Mayor Abe Drasin addressed the Lions Club. He was born on the City's west side and has lived his whole life here. "Much of his adult life was spent in a successful career in industry, as president of the Wolverine Hide Corp , , , liquidated his business . . . taught Government three years at Creston High School . . . was appointed to the City Commission in March, 1971 . . . won outright election for a four-year term . . . in November 1975 was elected to the office of Mayor of Grand Rapids."
- On June, the Lions Club honored the GR High School Baseball Champions, Creston High School Bears. Tiger baseball paler, William Brown, addresses the team and the Lions.
- Lt. Jerry Noordwier, GR Police E-Unit Supervisor, gave an update about this emergency service.
- A Rehabilitation Teacher for the Adult Blind for the State of Michigan, Bob Hamilton, gave a presentation.
- On June 22, the installation of 1976-77 Officers took place at lunch. Top officers were Bob Jamo - Board Chairman, George Werp – President, John Star - 1<sup>st</sup> VP, "Buck" Wooldridge – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.
- Harold Sawyer, Republican Candidate for Congress, 5<sup>th</sup> District, spoke to the club.
- New Lions District Governor, Dan Leaver, spoke the club about District activities.
- 5<sup>th</sup> District Congressman Richard VanderVeen, who was appointed when Gerald Ford ascended to the U.S. VP, spoke to the Lions.
- City League Football Champions, West Catholic High School, were our guests for lunch.
- Lion & Father James Fellows presented the Thanksgiving Program on November 23.
- The West Catholic Contempos (formerly the Madrigals) performed for the Lions Christmas luncheon.

### **Problems Arising During the Drafting of the U.S. Constitution**

(Discussion at the March 9 program by  
James Bogdan & Jack Van Aartsen)

"The first Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia on September 5, 1774 to discuss the British action which closed the Port of Boston to all shipping. While the group was in session, Paul Revere arrived with copies of resolutions passed by the Towns of Suffolk County which included Boston. These resolutions called upon the people of Massachusetts to arm themselves in case of an attack, and to suspend all trade with Britain until the port was opened again."

The Suffolk Resolves were heartily endorsed in spite of conservative delegates. This was the first effort on the part of the thirteen Colonies to reach an agreement on procedures to be adopted based on the distinctive philosophy of the 18<sup>th</sup> century as adopted by the American and British lawyers.

## Boy Scout Spectacular

### Another Reason to Be Proud You're a Lion

(excerpts from Earle Unsel's March 30 article)

"Every other year since 1954, our Club has sponsored a Boy Scout Spectacular to help the Grand Valley Council provide facilities for the Boy Scouts in our area."

"As you know, administrative expense for the Boy Scouts comes from United Funds and donations from businesses and people interested in the Boy Scout movement. However, providing money for capital expenditures for summer camps, equipment and similar activities is where we come in."

"Since January, we have been working on the Program Book which provides most of the income we need to help the Council give these extra services to the Boy Scout."

"... at the Welch Civic Auditorium May first. In prior years the show has been in June ... This is one of the biggest undertakings in we, as a club, participate. Since 1952, on every even year, we have raised in excess of \$10,000." [over \$44,000, in today's dollars – more than the revenue we raise in our two major fund raisers]. "This means we have sponsored 11 of these shows in which the Boy Scouts demonstrate the skills of Scouting and we have raised in excess of \$100,000 for our Boy Scouts fund."

"The Boy Scouts work extremely hard to put on a good exhibition. The Scout executives have been planning for months, coordinating the many parts of the exhibition, getting the scoters, patrol leaders and the boys involved as enthusiastic as we hope our Lions will be to make this project a tremendous success. More than 10,000 Cubs, Scouts, Explorers and adult leaders are involved ... this year's project will be another success for our Lions Club."

– making up one page of the newsletter.

- In 1976, the Lions-sponsored Fred Waring Concert (November 10) raised a net profit of \$5,921.10 for Welcome Home.
- The Ladies Night Christmas Party was December 11, with music by the Muscat Ramblers.

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

- In December 1975 for the Salvation Army Drive had a tree showing the progress in reaching the fund-raising goal. , the Lions replaced 12 white bulbs with red ones, signifying donations of \$3,000.
- Delivering 22 Christmas food baskets to needy blind "families" were 21 Lions Club members.
- In the first half of bowling, Clarence Harris' Monkeys won the championship with a 32-13 record. Ed Veneklas was the individual champion with a 185 average.
- The White Cane Drive was held April 30 & May 1. A grand total of \$4,106.25 was collected downtown, Woodland Mall, two Meijer stores and from Lions.
- The Spring Ladies' Night Dinner Dance was held on May 11, 1976 at the Elks Country Club.
- On Wednesday, May 12, the Club Party to Hazel Park Race Track took place.
- Lion Jim Cockran reported that the \$19,000 air conditioning system was being installed at Welcome Home for the Blind. Spearheaded by the Battle Creek Lions contribution of \$6,000, clubs from all over the state contributed. In Addition, a plea was made to help find more residents who could qualify: 1) legally blind; 2) over age 21 years; 3) resident of Michigan; 4) ambulatory; and 5) of good moral character.
- George Werp's Hyenas earned the bowling Championship, narrowly, with a record of 28-17. The runners-up, Art Ronda's Giraffes were second with the same 28-17, but had a 7 pin lower average than the Hyena's. Dr. Gerry Wisneski won the individual Champion ship with a 183 average.
- The summer golf-dinners were at these golf clubs: Greenridge, Elks, Silver Lake, Lincoln.
- Covering the costs of printing and mailing the Nuda Veritas were 66 Lion businesses who purchased small ads

## ***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 for any amount, so we can achieve 100% member participation***. Please direct questions about the campaign to Kim Gary at [kimgary55@gmail.com](mailto:kimgary55@gmail.com) or 616-291-5438 (mobile) or to Pat Mullen at: [pmullen@mullencoins.com](mailto:pmullen@mullencoins.com) or 616-272-4402 (mobile).

**Lions District 11-C1 Convention:** Mark your Calendars! The District 11-C1 will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2019. Since it will be held at Dominican Center at Marywood at 2025 Fulton Street East in Grand Rapids, it is your chance to experience a district convention without having to drive too far.