



Published for Members by the Grand Rapids Lions Club District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2018-19, No.15, March 16, 2019

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

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

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

Sunday, March 17, Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

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

Tuesday, March 19, Program Not Confirmed

Saturday, March 23, 11C1 District Convention, Dominican Center at Marywood (GR)

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

Tuesday, March 26, 6-8:00 pm, Eyeglass Recycling & Dinner Meeting, Jamark Labs

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

Tuesday, March 19 Program Not Confirmed

The program has not been confirmed. I separate email may confirm before the meeting.

Tuesday, March 26 Eyeglasses Recycling Project 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Jamark Labs No Meeting at Noon at the University Club!

Another Vision Mission Trip to Mexico has been completed and some of the team – Mark Oberlin, Gary Anderson and Brent Spoelstra – reported on the trip at the March 5th luncheon. Nevertheless, we will continue our work on recycling glasses for our next trip later this year and next February.

The Eyeglass Recycling Session/Dinner Meeting will be Tuesday, March 26 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 in the front of the building. If you have questions or want more information, please contact **Lion Scott Brady** at <u>scottbrady2120@gmail.com</u> 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

Blind Dinner Date – 14th Anniversary Thursday, April 11 - Make your Reservations Soon!

Too often, and without thought, we take our vision for granted. Through the Blind Dinner Date, we raise funds to provide:

- Eye care to all ages through the GR Lions Club Vision Clinic at Cherry Health, including children with special needs, and
- Rehabilitation services to individuals with visual impairment or blindness through the Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired.

This year, the event will be held on Thursday, April 11, 2019 at the B.O.B. in downtown Grand Rapids. Join the Lions, sponsors and other guests for a dinner with drinks, dinner and a program by guest speaker, Dr. Tom Gardner of the Kellogg Eye Center, University of Michigan. For a change of pace, he is scheduled to give a synopsis of several exciting opportunities of research activities.

Sponsorships are available at various participation levels: Title, Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze. For more information and reservations, please contact Benjamin Eavey at 616-719-9799 or Rick Stevens at 616-458-1187.

Individual tickets are \$75 each or a table of 8 for \$600. You can pay by check, made out to the Grand Rapids Lions Club, and mail the reservation form and check to ABVI, 4556 Cherry Street SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

District 11-C1 Convention

This year, the District 11-C1 Convention is a 1-day convention, March 23. It is at the Dominican Center at Marywood, 2025 Fulton Street, East Grand Rapids MI 49503. The Welcome Session is at 9:00 am. There is plenty of parking available.

The deadline for reservations to the convention is March 13. The Registration Fee is \$12, which will be paid by our club for members. You should contact our Secretary, Cheryl Anderson, to register so that you can vote at the business meeting in the afternoon (<u>andersoc@gvsu.edu</u> or 616-443-1995). Meals are separate and are the responsibility of the member. Lunch is \$20, and Dinner is \$37). For the full day, (\$45), the registration fee is included (a much better deal). After March 13, an additional Late fee of \$20 will be charged.

Our convention as feature International Director Tom and Gillian Gordon from Canada as honored guests. I.D. Gordon will be speaking to us at the luncheon and a short speech at dinner on Campaign 100. We are also pleased I.D. Gordon has agreed to put on a seminar to help us with the new Lions International Website: My LCI and the My Lion app. There will also be several breakout sessions to pick from concerning diabetes screening and vision issues related to diabetes

Dress code is Lion attire (club, service or Lion event shirt - casual), please no blue jeans. The District is asking clubs or individuals Lions to donate an item to our silent auction. The funds raised by the auction help reduce the overall fees that we must charge to attend. Bring a guest and show them the fun we have at conventions but also the heart of a Lion and the service we do. Hope to see you there.

It's Good to Be a Lions

Written by Cliff Lionnerr, Fruitport Lions Club 1969-70, as he becomes President of his club. Editor's Note: This was written before women could join the Lions. So, forgive some of the male language at points since the thrust of the poem is for all individuals who wear the Lions emblem.

It's good to be a Lion And join that happy band Who are always quick and ready To Lend a helping hand.

Yes, it's good to be a Lion And be one of the kind Who Shares a major project The helping of the blind.

God gave us health and vision So let everyone feel free To give amply of our talent To those who cannot see.

Did you ever live in darkness? How lonely that must be; The beauties of our country The blind, they cannot see.

We are proud that we are members Of a club who'll take a shot At any worthwhile project And be Johnnies on the spot.

So to you, my Lion brothers, I ask you keep in mind That a better group of fellows Are mighty hard to find.

So let's blend our efforts together To keep this club in motion No job is beyond completing If once we take a notion.

Be a do-er and not a looker And play it sort of cool Your feet get wet much quicker Once you jump right in the pool.

So let us wet our feet together As we wade in to our neck And lend our sweat and muscle Should we tire, "So what the heck".

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Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – January through December 1979

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 1979. (some editions missing)

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

• A film about the 1978 Master's Golf Tournament was shown at the first meeting of 1979.

• Bill Leeder, Jr., Exec. VP of the Association for the Blind, talked about "his 10 years of experience in the field of rehabilitation and service to the blind."

• Dr. Marvin Devries, GVSU Economics Dept. Chair, discussed the "Economics Prospects for 1979.

• For the meeting on February 20, the Lions visited "The Roaring 20's" on 28th Street to have lunch and listen to the Werlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ.

• B. Margaret Voss, Ph.D., talked about "The People of China – A Tour of China."

• Irish tenor, John (Tom) Connolly, sang for the Lions for its St. Patrick's Day celebration.

• For the Easter Message, Fr. James Fellows spoke and was followed by the Aquinas College Collegium Musicum. The Musicum had roots dated to the 17th century.

• "Educational Services to Visually Impaired Persons" was the topic of a presentation by Nancy Bryant, Ph.D., Superintendent of the MI School for the Blind.

• "Buddy" Whitten, Blythefield Country Club Golf Professional spoke on the "Difference Between a Golf Professional and a Golf Pro."

• Judge John Steketee, presiding Judge of the Kent County Juvenile Court, presented the Law Day Program.

• Joseph Larry Gillie talked about "Why Use Nuclear Energy to Produce Electricity?"

• As the Pantlind Hotel was purchased and has begun being remodeled, the Lions started meeting at Lakos Drydock on September 4th.

• Bill Struck, Director of Broadcast Operations for WOOD & WOOD-FM, spoke about "what's New in Radio . . ."

• The U.S. Attorney of the Western District of MI, James Brady, talked about what's happening in West MI.

• James Knack, Planning Director for the City of Grand Rapids, talked about the Downtown Development Authority.

• "To Hear or Not to Hear" was the subject of the discussion by Lion Robert Bancroft, Executive Director of the Muskegon Hearing & Speech Center.

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We are Lions, one hundred percenters, No challenge will we turn down. Our deeds should merit comment Like, "They're the best guys in town".

And to you, our lady Lions, We thank you from our heart It is only through your efforts Our club comes not apart.

And as I accept the gavel From the president of our club I ask you lend your efforts To keep me from being a dub.

I thank you for this honor And I'll try to do my part To fulfill all my duties As published on the chart.

And as we leave this room' May we ever keep in mind There's no finer project ever Than our devotion to the blind. "The Trouble with Becoming Honorable" was the topic of Donald Johnston, Judge, 61st District Court.

• George McAleenan, Petroleum Geologist and Oil & Gas Consultant spoke on "Energy Today and Tomorrow."

• Fr. James Fellows gave the Christmas Meditation, followed by the Salt & Pepper Choir from Ottawa High School.

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

• Our Lions Club sponsored a Las Vegas Night on April 21 to raise funds for the Visually Handicapped and Hearing Impaired.

 Duffy's Panthers won the bowling champions in the 2nd half with a record of 30-15. The individual Champion was Ed Veneklase with an average of 190 per game.

• The 4 summer golf outing & dinners were at these country clubs: Green Ridge, Elks, Silver Lake & Deer Run.

During the70's the number of eyes received, and the number of transplants performed increased steadily over the decade (respectively, 130 > 412 and 77 >146 at the University of MI).

- The Fred Waring Concert was on December 3.
- Ladies Night Dinner-Dance was on November 9th.
- Lions volunteered to "ring the bells" on December 14 during the Salvation Army Drive.

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 <u>kimgary55@gmail.com</u> or 616-291-5438 (mobile) or to Pat Mullen at: <u>pmullen@mullencoins.com</u> or 616-272-4402 (mobile).

Lion Member Yard Signs: <u>Have you picked up your yard sign yet</u>? As part of a Lions District initial to celebrate 100 years of Lionism, our club wants every member to have a sign to display in his or her yard to help us celebrate the 100th anniversary of our own Club.

The signs read (across the top) "A Proud LION lives here!" with the "Lions logo" in the middle and (across the bottom) "<u>www.Lions100years.com</u>." The signs are one-sided, weatherproof plastic yard signs with aluminum stakes. We have them stored and available at the Eyeglass Recycling Center. So, volunteer to help recycle eyeglasses and pick up your sign at the Recycling Center at the same time.

> Grand Rapids Lions Club, Website: www.grlions.org Mailing Address: c/o Craig Nobbelin, 258 Morris Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 Editor: Craig Nobbelin, 616-458-0471 or e-mail: <u>c.nobbelin@yahoo.com</u> Lions District 11-C1: Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Muskegon, Ottawa