



Nuda Veritas

Published for Members by the Grand Rapids Lions Club
District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2018-19, No.20, May 25, 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

University Club

Downtown Grand Rapids

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

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

Monday, May 27, Memorial Day:
*Reflect on those people who died
for our country.*

**Tuesday, May 28, 6-8:00 pm,
Packing-up the Recycling Center
– NO Dinner, Jamark Labs**

**Saturday, June 8, VI Sports &
Activity Day, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm,**
Wealthy Elementary School,
Volunteers Needed!

**Wednesday, June 12, 6:00 – 8:20
pm, Grand Rapids Lions Club
Annual Meeting: Guest
Presenter – GR Mayor Roselynn
Bliss**

**Monday, June 17, 32nd Annual
Drive for Vision Golf Fundraiser**

**Saturday, July 20, Cars for a
Cause & Silent Auction** (to
benefit the Pediatric Retinal
Research Foundation), *Volunteers
Needed* (so you can renew your
Lion friendships mid-summer)

100th Anniversary - Grand Rapids Lions Club

Tuesday, May 28

Packing-up the Recycling Center

6:00 – 8:00 pm, Jamark Labs

NO DINNER!

No Meeting at Noon at the University Club!

This is the last scheduled session at Jamark Labs. The building
has been sold and the recycling center will be moving to the
new center before July 1, 2019. We will be packing-up
everything, so it is ready for the movers. Let's break a record for
volunteers!

The Center is at Jamark Labs:
4282 Brockton Dr SE
Ste D
Grand Rapids MI 49512

Jamark is approximately 1/2 mile east of Broadmore Avenue,
about 1 block north of 44th Street on the east side of Brockton.
If you have questions or want more information, please contact
Lion Scott Brady at scottbrady2120@gmail.com or 616-283-
0260,

Visually Impaired Sports & Activity Day

Saturday, June 8, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Volunteers Needed!

The 18th Annual Visually Impaired (VI) Sports & Activity Day will
be held on Saturday, June 8, 2019 at Wealthy Elementary
School, 1961 Lake Drive, SE, East Grand Rapids, MI 49506.
This is a great volunteer event, whether you work with the
children or help to set up and serve lunch.

The Lions' volunteers set-up, cook and serve the lunch. A few will be needed at about 8:00 am to set-up tables and chairs, the craft tent, registration table, etc. More Lions will be needed later in the morning for cooking and serving the food. Some members will also be needed to help tear things down by 2:00 pm. We usually serve between 150 – 200 families and volunteers.

The event is fun and meaningful for the kids and families. Lions and other volunteers join with GVSU Campus Lions Club members to help with the VI kids. When you arrive, please park on the street (Lake Drive or Wealthy Street) and leave the parking lot for participants and their families. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

This event attracts families from beyond Grand Rapids and Kent Country. Activities include a bounce house, "beep-baseball", sensory tables, swimming and a talent show and so forth. Families with children who are visually impaired look forward to this event every year.

Please volunteer soon so we know if we have enough volunteers! You can wear the same shirt you did last year. If you need a shirt or to volunteer, please contact Lion Bob Winchester at 616-942-2441 or toadhuffy@sbcglobal.net, or Lion Scott Embree at (708) 309-0406 or sembree@financialguide.com.

Wednesday, June 12
Grand Rapids Lions Club Annual Meeting
6:00 – 9:00 pm

Formal invitations have been sent for the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Grand Rapids Lions Club. If you haven't done so already, you should make your reservations as soon as possible or by June 7 at the latest. As a reminder, the event will be held on:

When: Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Where: Cascade Country Club, 3725 Cascade Road S.E., Grand Rapids MI 49546

Times: 6:00-6:30 PM Social Hour-Cash Bar

6:30-6:45 PM Mayor Rosalynn Bliss

6:45 PM Dinner

Steak & Chicken Grille (or Chef Roel's Vegan Special of the Week)

Mixed Greens Salad

Green Beans with Julienne Sweet Carrots

Mashed Red Potatoes with Herbs

Bread & Dessert

Choice of Beverage - cash bar

Program: Award Presentations
Installation and Recognition of the Officers & Directors

Cost: No charge for Lions members & one guest (additional guests \$35 each)

RSVP: Attendance & entrée choice by June 7, 2019 to:
renee.fries@designunderwriting.com or 616-957-3380



32nd Annual Grand Rapids Ophthalmology Drive for Vision Monday, June 17, 2019

The 32th Annual Grand Rapids Ophthalmology Drive for Vision Charity Golf Outing is on Monday, June 17, 2019. The event will be at the Quail Ridge Golf Club, 8375 36th Street SE, Ada, MI. This event benefits our two largest charities: Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ABVI) and Cherry Health's Grand Rapids Lions Club Vision Clinic, plus a small share going to the Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation.

The day starts off with Registration/Lunch at 11:30 am, followed by golf with a Shotgun start at 1:00 pm. The cost is \$200/ player or \$800.00/ foursome (50% is a tax-deductible charitable donation). The title sponsor is Grand Rapids Ophthalmology. There are many events during the day, including four-person-scramble, hole-in-one, longest drive, closest to the pin, skins game, raffle prizes and dinner afterward (where you can collect any awards that you won).

You can sign up to register to play or become a sponsor by going to the Grand Rapids Lions Club Website and clicking on the Drive for Vision logo. If you don't have a foursome, you will be matched up with other "non-foursome" members.

More information, reservations or sponsorships, contact **Lion Kyle Travis** (travis.kd@gmail.com or (616) 635-4242). *The Committee says it's going to be beautiful day!*

Last Two Weeks to Buy a Chance for a Vacation Choose Your Coast Raffle

Time is very short for you to buy the raffle tickets for a chance for a trip for two to New York, San Francisco, Miami or Seattle. *Choose Your Coast Raffle* is a fund raiser for the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ABVI). It includes airfare, four days, three nights with hotel. Last year, one of our own members won the lucky draw.

It's your opportunity to purchase a 2019 raffle ticket (or many tickets) to travel to one of the great cities along the coasts of our great land. Tickets are still only \$20 each, or 6 for \$100. Only 600 tickets will be sold! The drawing will be held on June 7, 2018. Ticket holders need not be present to win. Please contact **Lion Rick Stevens** at ABVI to order your ticket(s): rstevens@abvimichigan.org or 616-458-1187 or (Raffle License: R51470)

Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – January 1986 through December 1987

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 1986 through December 1987. (some editions missing)

The Tuesday weekly luncheons return to the Pantlind Hotel, now renamed the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel after it was remodeled. Here is a selection of the programs:

- Dr. Marvin DeVries, Grand Valley State Economics Professor presented the Economic Outlook for both 1986 & 1987.
- Milt Rowher, Executive Director of the Right Place Program, talked about “Economic Development of Grand Rapids.”
- “Auto Trends” was presented by John Maciarz, who was a manager in public relations at GM.
- Gordon Stauffer talked about “Waste in Federal Government”, stemming from the Grace Commission. He was representing the Michigan Chamber of Commerce.
- “Peace Corps – 25th Anniversary” was the topic of Kathleen Gamble.
- Chaplain Charles Fry gave the Easter Message, followed by the singing of baritone Dale Schriemer.
- “Education in China” was discussed by Harold Larsen, who was part of a group who went to China “ . . . and visited five schools with time to have discussions with students, teachers and school officials.”
- Edward Goebel, retired GM engineer, got involved with the Great Lakes Foundation. While still involved with lake pollution, “attention shifted from contamination to problems to the great Lakes history of water levels and shoreline erosion. This was done because of the strong interest that surfaced as the results of extensive property losses.”
- For the Academic Awards Convocation in both 1986 & 1987, the honored students listened to Davenport President Donald Maine speak.
- “Central America – A Different Viewpoint” was presented by Rev. Douglas Van Doren, pastor of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ. He presented “an apolitical viewpoint on the Central American crisis. Through a program of Augsburg College (MN), he was on “a 12-day study tour of Central America, specifically Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador . . . the broadest possible perspective was sought . . . Over 40 interviews with US Embassy officials, government and opposition leaders, business people, urban and rural common people, church personnel, US Nationals in Nicaragua, academics, survivors of Contra attacks, and independent economist and researchers.”

An Editorial . . .

By Editor Jerry Knapé (Sept. 1987)

The newsletter goes back to the origins of our club. Here is the thrust of the editorial message and some excerpts:

“The membership is very sensitive to change in their club bulletin, *Nuda Veritas*, the ‘naked truth’. . . Over the years, we have had to change from weekly to bi-weekly publication due to cost. All other clubs that publish a bulletin do so on a monthly basis. Not all clubs have a bulletin. Your editor has cut back on pictures as they are the single greatest item of cost (half-tone \$9-15 now).”

“Each issue requires 6-8 hours to assemble, rewrite, arrange, layout, etc. for the printer – plus constantly remembering bits and pieces from the last issue and what must go into the next issue because of time and timeliness demands. Always your editor is sensitive to members, and to board action plus committee and project chairman.”

“Some gradual changes have occurred. Another change has now been made. With this issue, a new printer will print and mail your bulletin to you. We will be using stick-on computer-produced address labels instead of the relatively “addressograph metal address plates. Changes in format, paper, typeface, style, and delivery schedule will gradually show themselves. Our new printer is American Speedy Printing Centers.”

“Evans Printing Company has been the first and only printer of our bulletin for these many years. Our own Vern Evans closed his shop on Ottawa Avenue last December 31st, and has since ‘brokered’ our printing from his home. For many years the bulletin was probably subsidized by his generosity in charging low fees for the work of his company, as well as special printing orders like invitations, flyers, ballots, the 65th Anniversary Book, and the last Roster.”

Current Editor’s Note: After Jerry Knapé had died and I began as Editor (in my novice state), I still worked with Vern Evans on the newsletter. He coordinated the final stages of printing and mailing before we started the email version. As we transitioned to email, over 30 members still had to their copies mailed. This gradually decreased over time.

- The Lions and Rotary held a joint luncheon – “Presidential Symposium on Humor”.
- U.S. Rep. Paul Henry of the 5th District of MI reported to us on the activities in Washington DC.
- John Doulas, Editorial Columnist for the Grand Rapids Press, spoke to the Lions.
- Greg Meyer, Long Distance Runner, was the guest speaker at the Fall Sports Awards Program.
- Peter Secchia was our guest speaker talking about “America” on January 20, 1987.
- Jeralyn Pinsky performed an excerpt from “The Italian Lesson” for our Valentine Party “Ladies Day” luncheon. The play was being performed at the Civic Theatre.
- Lion John Kennedy spoke about “Autodie – Michigan and The Auto Industry”. He was Comptroller at the time, but later became the CEO and owner.
- For Saint Patrick’s Day, Attorney John Tully presented “A Perspective on Ireland”.
- Circuit Court Judge Stuart Hoffius was our guest speaker for Law Day.
- Attorney Dennis Kolenda spoke about the recent House of Judah trial. He was the lead defense counsel in the case.

Christmas . . . and our Lions

An article by Vern Parker

[Editor’s Note: was this the first year that our Lions took kids Christmas shopping at a major discount store?]

Partnering with K-Mart, “on December 13, 1986, nine Lions picked up 21 needy children at their homes and took them round-trip to K-Mart at North Kent Mall. They were served an 8:00 breakfast, got to sit on Santa’s lap to tell them their Christmas wishes, and then each child was given \$20 to spend on his family and/or friends and \$5 to spend on himself. The kids had the run of an unopened store for an hour-and-a-half.”

“The children wrapped their gifts with bright Christmas paper with a little help from our Lions. K-Mart furnished paper, tape, and scissors. The P.J. Weber unwrapped some of his “magic” for the children before returning home.”

“All over the USA, K-Mart does this in every store on the same day. Our Lions who are Santa’s Helpers were Harry Jones, Bob Lalley, Sr., P.J. Weber, Dag Warmington, Joe Trenshaw, Bob Jamo, Chuck McGennis, Marty Burch and Vern Parker. The children (aged 5½ to 10 years) attend Northview grade school. Two children were hearing impaired and the school furnished an interpreter. In the name of the club and good citizenship – thanks to all who in return received a pleasure of sharing in the Christmas job of some little children.”

- The new City Manager, Kurt Kimball, updated the Lions about the activities of City Government,
- “The Impact of AIDS” was presented by Dr. Richard Tooker, MD, MPH, Medical Epidemiologist for the Kent County Health Department.
- Dennis Cobler, 11-C1 District Governor made his official visit to the club.
- When he was a MI State Senator, Senator Vernon Ehlers spoke to the club following his re-election.
- Bill Steffin, WZZM Meteorologist, talked about weather for this coming winter.

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

- The White Cane Drive raised \$2,800 for the Blind Fund, a 24% increase over the previous year.
- Summer golf & dinner outings were at these country clubs: Green Ridge, Silver Lake, Forest Hills and the Elks [in 1987, not at the Elks, twice at Silver Lake].
- At the invitation of the 4th of July Gala committee, the Lions Carnival moved from May to the 4th of July weekend in the lot north of the G.R. Ford Museum. With the change, we hired a nationally oriented company, Farrow Amusement Company, to bring in larger rides (as well as kids rides) and operate the carnival games. The Carnival continued for several more years.
- Almost an entire issue of the Nuda Veritas was devoted to the Lions Carnival.
- The Lions Nut Sale continued in 1986 (profit of over \$1,000) and 1987.
- Ladies Night was on Saturday, December 13 in the Amway Pantlind Ballroom.
- The Health Expo Project reported over 400 people were screened: 55 vision problems and 49 Hearing problems were found.

- A \$4,000 check was presented to the Salvation Army due to the collections and gifts by Lions members.
- In 1987, the Grand Rapids Lions donated funds to paint Calder's "La Grande Vitesse" before Festival of the Arts. It gets painted every spring.
- Lions Club members voted by secret ballot to amend our Constitution in Article III, Section A to now read, "Subject to provisions of Section B hereafter, any person of legal majority . . . This change of a single word allows membership to women as well as men."



Other Lion News

Reserve Saturday, July 20 – Volunteers Needed: *Cars for a Cause & Silent Auction* to benefit the Pediatric Retinal Research Foundation and children who are blind or have low vision. More information will be forthcoming in the next issue.

Lion Member Yard Signs: *Have you picked up your yard sign yet?* 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) "www.Lions100years.com." 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.

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