



Nuda Veritas

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District 11-C-1 --- Vol. 2018-19, No.22, June 29, 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

University Club

Downtown Grand Rapids

*Luncheon Meetings begin at 12:15
p.m. unless otherwise noted.*

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

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)

Tuesday, September 3, First Tuesday Luncheon of the Fall

Monday, September 9, 4:45 pm,
(tentative) 1st Night of Bowling Season

September 19-21, USA-Canada
Lions Leadership Forum, Spokane, WA

*Mark Your Calendars:
Wednesday, November 6, 2019,
Grand Rapids Lions Club
100th Anniversary Celebration,
20 Monroe Live (the B.O.B.
complex), Downtown*

***Donate to the Lions Fund at the
Grand Rapids Community
Foundation***

100th Anniversary - Grand Rapids Lions Club

Cars for a Cause & Silent Auction
Saturday, July 20, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Volunteers Needed!

Cars for a Cause & a Silent Auction will benefit the Pediatric Retinal Research Foundation and children who are blind or have low vision. This event is a one-day event:



- When: Saturday, July 20th
- Times: 11 am to 4 pm.
- Where: Garage Kept Motors, 420 36th St SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49548
- Cost: \$10/person or \$25/family (Lions who volunteer 2-3 hours are free)
- Sponsors: Grand Rapids Lions Club and the Droste / Dufendach families
- Benefit: The Pediatric Retinal Research Foundation

Lion Pat Droste's son-in-law, AJ Dufendach, owns this business. It will be mostly an outdoor event. People who own one or more classic cars (roughly 20 to 100 year-old cars) are the key target audience, but the public is invited to see these cars. Free parking with the price for admission!

Several dozen other visitors are also expected to bring their classic cars to the event, to show, and buy or sell them. There will be hundreds more who will be visiting without classic cars to show, Food vendors will be there.

Happy Birthday To Our July Babies

Sherah Eavey	July	1
Bill Fleetham	July	5
Robert Lalley, Jr.	July	5
Patrick Mullen	July	6
Cheryl Anderson	July	9
Scott Brady	July	18
Kayla Roggenbach	July	18
Robert Snyders	July	18
Craig Nobbelin	July	20
Ryan Smith	July	25
Richard Stevens	July	25
Shawn Eyestone	July	29



Lion Boyd Griswold is coordinating the event for the Lions. Boyd said, "I stopped in unannounced at AJ's garage two weeks ago with Tish and two grandkids. We toured AJ's cars. They LOVED them! These classic cars are FABULOUS eye-candy!! AJ has (roughly) 60 of these classic cars, very polished up and in excellent shape, on consignment in his "garage" at 420 36th St SE . . . and will be available for viewing."

Where do the Lions come in? As noted, Lions Club members who are willing to volunteer 2-3 hours of their time will participate for FREE. Any financial surplus will be donated by the Lions to the Pediatric Retinal Research Foundation. The Lions will manage all event receipts and expenditures. It is anticipated to become an annual event. Lions volunteers are needed to help manage parking of lots of visiting cars, managing entry ticket receipts and managing a 50/50 raffle receipts. **Contact Boyd Griswold on his cell, 616-644-4256 or email at boyd@thegriswoldgroup.com if you want to participate as a volunteer.**

Grand Rapids Lions Club: The Annual Meeting During Our 100th Year

For the second year in a row, Cascade Country Club was a great setting on a wonderful evening for the Grand Rapids Lions Club's Annual Meeting, Wednesday, June 12, 2018. Lion Shelley Irwin welcomed about 58 Lions and guests, who socialized before dinner.

Just before dinner, Lion Shelley introduced Grand Rapids Mayor Rosalynn Bliss as our honored guest, who spoke to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of our club and said that volunteerism, service and collaboration were hallmarks that has made this community what it is. While the Mayor had to leave for another engagement, the rest of us enjoyed the dinner and the Lions program. Dinner consisted of a 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 and choice of beverage.



After dinner, Board Chairman Lion Shawn Eyestone recognized the addition of two new Lions during the past year, Lion Joe Annoreno and Lion Jason Brown. He also remembered the Lions who have died: Lion Thomas Anastor, Lion Richard Boland, Lion Judge Benjamin Logan and Lion John VanderHeide, Jr. He then proceeded to describe the many successful events of the past year.

Lion Past International Director Lion Gary Anderson presented **Lions International Awards**. Here is a full list of awardees (whether they were present or not):

Membership Keys (sponsoring 2 or more members):

- Anne Baird
- Mark Oberlin
- Pat Mullen

Membership Growth Centennial Awards (sponsor a new member during the centennial year):

- Anne Baird
- Mary Chelsky
- Scott Embree
- Kim Gary
- Jeff Kraai
- Pat Mullen
- Brent Spoelstra

Chevron Awards (years of service as a Lions):

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|--|-------------------------|
| ▪ (50) Keith Crittenden (<i>standing ovation!</i>) | ▪ (15) Cheryl Anderson |
| ▪ (40) Lynn Francis | ▪ (15) John Rice |
| ▪ (35) Wayne Beuschel | ▪ (15) Bob Snyders |
| ▪ (35) Mark Oberlin | ▪ (15) Bob Winchester |
| ▪ (30) Phil Wood | ▪ (10) Eddie Kleinfeld |
| ▪ (25) Tom Dandridge | ▪ (10) Richard Nelson |
| ▪ (25) President Ed Thauer | ▪ (10) Don Jakel |
| ▪ (20) Jim Kaiser | ▪ (10) Mike Thibodeau |
| ▪ (20) Colleen Mulder | ▪ (10) Jonse Young |
| ▪ (20) Patrick O'Hare | ▪ (10) Ray Weidenfeller |

Melvin Jones Fellowship Award: Jeff Kraai (progressive award as he received an award before)

Legacy Awards (contributions or commitments to our endowment fund)

Lions Pat Mullen & Kim Gary reported to Lions and guests the endowment of the Grand Rapids Club Foundation (managed by the Grand Rapids Community Foundation) has exceeded 1 million. They also recognized "Legacy Awards", representing a future donation of \$25,000 or more via wills, trusts, or life insurance. The recipients were:

- Gary and Cheryl Anderson
- Scott and Mary Brady
- Lynn and Vicki Francis
- Kim and Pam Gary
- Pat and Kathy Mullen
- John and Ashley Rice
- Ed and Karen Thauer
- Rick and Cindy Walker

Grand Rapids Lions Club Awards

President Lion Shawn Eyestone present the next three awards:

- **Joseph M. Trenshaw Memorial Rookie of the Year Trophy:** The award goes to a Lion who joined the club within the past 2 years, demonstrated good attendance, shown initiative, motivated others by setting a good example and participated in club projects. This year's Rookie of the Year Award was presented to **Lion Jaune Allard**. Last year's recipient, Lion Mary Beth Eyestone, was given a replacement plaque (for the trophy which she earlier had relinquished).
- **Lion of the Year Award:** This award is presented to a Lion who has helped to organize and "worked on the ground" on many Lion initiatives during the past year. This year's Lion of the Year award was presented to **Lion Kyle Travis**. Lion Ben Eavey was the recipient last year.
- **Henry Voet Meritorious Service Award:** This award is presented to a Lion for Outstanding Service to Lionism and is the highest award that the Grand Rapids Lions can bestow. The recipient of the 72nd annual Henry Voet Meritorious Service Award was selected by the Past-Presidents of the Grand Rapids Lions Club by secret ballot. This Lion has been a leader of our club and contributed to many projects over the years in the true spirit of Lionism. The recipient this year is **Lion Pat Mullen**. Last year's recipient, Lion Anne Baird, is on a trip out west and will receive a replacement plaque.
- **Special Appreciation Award:** Often awards are given for various kinds of leadership, dedication and service. President Lion Ed Thauer presented this award to Lion Craig Nobbelin for his 12 years as Secretary of the Grand Rapids Lions Club.

President Lion Ed Thauer made closing remarks to conclude the 2019 Annual Meeting and reminded members and guests that our 100th Anniversary Celebration will be November 6, 2019 at 20 Monroe Live with a reception, dinner /program and a concert featuring MLC (Mid-Life Crisis), a popular Grand Rapids band. He invited Lions and guests to stay for listening or dancing to the music of JMM Jazz.

Success for the 2019 White Cane Drive

Approximately \$5,550 was raised during the White Cane Drive through our efforts at Alpine Wal-Mart and letter solicitations. These funds are for the Special Eyes Program administered by Cherry Health and provides special eyeglasses for kids.

A big thank you goes to the Lions who volunteered:

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|----------------------|-------------------------|
| • Anne and Jim Baird | • Renee Mika |
| • Jason Brown | • Richard Nelson |
| • Pat Droste | • John Rice, and |
| • Bill Fleetham | • Bob Snyders (+ Alice) |
| • Don Jakel | |

We also want to thank the 8 volunteers from Cherry Health and 6 teachers from KISD who helped us at the Alpine Walmart.

Lion Don Jakel, Committee Chair

Kent County Visually Impaired Students Visit Air Zoo in Portage

Over the last 16 years, the Grand Rapids Lions Club has sponsored a field trip for blind or visually impaired (VI) students in Kent County. The Grand Rapids Public Schools Visually Impaired and Orientation and Mobility program (which has become the Kent County ISD VI/O&M Program) has planned an Annual Field Trip for students who are blind or VI.

The purpose of these field trips is to allow students to connect with other classmates who also have visual impairments. Bringing these students together as a group allows for hands-on experiences that are not usually available in a regular class setting with their sighted peers or which they might not otherwise have. By diversifying the trip and their locations, different groups of these students may not have been able to diversify due to their age or severity of disability.

In roughly alternating years, a local field trip is proposed and in the next year, a more extensive & expensive trip is proposed, often out of town. Out of town examples are Camp Tuhsmehta near Greenville, the Museum of Natural history in Chicago, Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum or the Kalamazoo Valley Museum for a special hands-on exhibit. This year, the Air Zoo in Portage, MI was the destination. In this case, the Air Zoo Director of Engagement approached the KISD (vis ABVI) about collaborating on a specialized tour for students who were blind and visually impaired.

The Air Zoo is one of the nation's premier, hands-on, indoor aerospace and science education centers housing over 100 rare and historical aircrafts, spacecraft, science, military, and aerospace artifacts in the U.S. The Zoo combines interactive and educational experiences with once-in-a-lifetime activities, including full-motion flight simulators, an indoor amusement park (Balloon Rides, Ferris Wheel, Flying Circus Bi-Plane, Paratrooper Jump) and a state-of-the-art movie theater.

Twenty students in a 1:1 ratio of chaperones (staff, teachers, parents) participated on the all-day trip. By all accounts, the students were thrilled by the Air Zoo and the many experiences and hands-on exhibits. Many thanks to Maria Jimenez, coordinator of Services for the Visually Impaired, and all the staff who worked on this project and/or chaperoned.

Looking Back – Grand Rapids Lions Club – January 1990 through December 1990

*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 1990 through December 1990**. (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 Picture -1990.”
- For the Valentine Luncheon, to which Lions’ favorite valentines were invented, “Shades of Blue” Jazz Program was presented.
- Executive Director Gene Proctor of the Baxter Community Center was our Guest speaker. He talked about how the Center was serving the needs of the inner-city community.
- The Metro Council was established in the 1970’s under a Federal law for planning transportation and “existed {still exists} for local governments to join together to enhance metropolitan-wide services and plan for issues of metropolitan concern.” Harold Marks spoke on the business view of the council.
- Dr. Thomas Jackson, GR School Board President, talked about the status of the School District.
- Supreme Court Justice Patricia Boyle was the guest speaker for our Law Day Program.
- The club held its Student Recognition Day on May 8.
- “A Look at World Trade” was presented by Italian Gianfranco Zoppas, Chairman of the Zanussi Grand Division of Electrolux Group of Sweden.
- District 5 Congressman Paul Henry was “kick-off” speaker on September 4.

- Bruce Matza from Gantos who has been involved in customer service for over 20 years, presented “Looking at Your Business from the Customer’s Point of View.”
- Richard Austin, Michigan’s Secretary of State, spoke to the club in October.

Lion David Mandel “His Story”

Lion David Mandel told “His Story” on October 2, 1990. It was an incredibly moving tragic story about the most horrific crime during World War II.

He “spent the better part of his life trying to forget his experience as a young boy when he was three brothers, a sister, mother, grandparents, uncles and aunts were gassed in the Auschwitz crematorium.”

The families had been transported in railroad cars that had too many people and deplorable conditions. They were separated when they got to Auschwitz and he didn’t see them again.

“You know David as you see him at our meetings, but there is another side, #A-9328, indelibly imprinted on his arm. After 35 years of silence, he now understands why the holocaust should be revealed to all who will listen, While the memories are painful to recall, he feels a responsibility to reveal the atrocities that took in the concentration camps in which he was incarcerated.”

Dave currently lectures at GVSU three times a year and was awarded the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from GVSU.”

He later told his story to The Grand Rapids Press and holocaust organizations.

- Joel Ferguson, Board Member of MSU, spoke “on the multi-faceted operation of MSU. Balancing educational and athletic interest to maintain the positive atmosphere of a great Michigan campus is a difficult task . . . battles over control and policy-making in this university environment, but the board and administration must work together to make MSU . . . the best.

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

- Shortly after the Lions began in Grand Rapids, the club has supported the Boy Scout programs in a variety of ways (many Lions had been Explorer Scouts). The Boy Scouts of America celebrated its 80th Anniversary in 1990.
- The White Cane Drive was on April 27-28 downtown, and at Meijer’s on 28th St. & Kalamazoo and on Alpine.
- The summer golf outings and dinner were at these country clubs: Silver Lake, Crystal Springs, Silver Lake and Forest Hills.
- The GR Lions Club hosted the First Annual Western Michigan “Firecracker” Chili Cookoff in Ah-Nah-Awen Park on Saturday, July 7 during the Lions Carnival .
- Las Vegas Night was on May 11.
- The 3rd Annual GR Lions Club Charity Golf Outing was on Monday, June 25th.
- Starr’s Hippos (Jim Starr, Michael Murphy, Dr. Jim Ford, Chuck Harris) were the Bowling Champions for the 2nd half with a record of 45-19. The individual highest average Champion was Jack Westerman with a 183 average.
- The GR Lions Club Summerfest was on July 4-8.

The event raised over \$20,000, versus previous years income of \$30,000 [several factors resulted in the decrease] “It is estimated that between 25,000 and 30,000 people attended Summerfest this year, with an estimated attendance of 4,000 for the Eddy Raven Concert.”

- The Lions Nut Sale continued as a fundraiser.
- Shopping with the kids took place again at K-Mart.

Other Lion News

Lion Member Yard Signs: *Have you picked up your yard sign yet?* As part of a Lions District initiative 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.