



LETTER FROM PRESIDENT ED THAUER

Dear Fellow Grand Rapids Lions,

My time as President of the Grand Rapids Lions Club will be concluding at the end of the month. I want to say thank you for the honor of serving as your president during this momentous 100th anniversary time period. I was blessed to be supported by such an excellent team (Shelley Irwin, Jamie Junod, Mike Murphy, Bob Snyders, and Pat Mullen) who spent many hours with me over the course of the last two years planning the 100th Anniversary Celebration at 20 Monroe and so many other special events. My life has been enriched by knowing you all and working along side of you for these good and needed endeavors that we do annually.

I have been inspired in so many ways as I witness all the activities and projects Lion members make happen year after year. I remember it was some 30 years ago when my father in law, Newt Dawe, encouraged me to consider joining. At the time, I was so busy building my business I was not sure I could donate that much time to the great work you do. I look back now though, and am glad that I not only joined then, but that I stuck with it and was able to serve in these roles. Now I'm looking forward to the next step, serving as Board Chairman and turning the office of President over to Ben Eavey. And now, my final act as President is to pay my fine to Jamie, (our faithful Tail-twister) for the return of my gavel.

Blessings to you all, Ed Thauer

USA CANADA LEADERSHIP FORUM

LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY SEPTEMBER 17-19 2020



September will host the 2020 USA/Canada Leadership forum. A great opportunity to learn skills that both enrich the club and personal lives.

The website (lionsforum.org) shares:

• "The 44th Annual USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Louisville will offer a unique style as we move forward in our endeavor to create better leaders and educate you on building leadership within your multiple, district and club membership. We will feature over 70 seminars in 2 and 1/2 days that will give you insight and guidelines to develop your growth as a leader. Winning Ways... You will be educated with leadership tips that will personally make you a great leader. And you will be given insight on how to create new members for your clubs in the art of speaking the right language to any age group."

Learn more and register at the home page: https://lionsforum.org/

LIONS OPPORTUNITIES TO ENGAGE AND ENJOY:

Future events that will have more details in the future include:

- Grand Rapids Lions Club Annual Meeting
 - Fall event at this point details are being worked out.
- Drive for Vision moved to the 3rd Monday in Sept (9/21/2020)
- Blind Dinner Date rescheduling is being looked into
- White Cane (most likely will be in the fall this year)



ABVI LETTER IN RESPONSE TO CLUB SUPPORT

JUNE 5 2020

Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired

456 Cherry St. SE • Grand Rapids, MI 49503 • ph. 616.458.1187 toll free 800.466.8084 • fax 616.458.7113 • www.abvimichigan.org

June 5, 2020

Dear Grand Rapids Lions Club,

In this unprecedented time of uncertainty and change, what has stayed constant is the kindness and generosity of our most outstanding ABVI supporter!

We are so grateful for the recent outpouring of generosity that the Grand Rapids Lions Club Charities has bestowed upon ABVI. We know this is a difficult time for so many, especially the blind and visually impaired, but rather than allow our clients to fall prey to isolation, we have promoted safe ways to ensure our client's most basic and important human needs are being met – along with their dignity. Until recently, we were providing curbside visual aid delivery and pick-up, food deliveries, virtual counseling sessions, wellness calls and accessible, over-the-phone support groups. Now that our in-office clinics have resumed, and we have implemented safe ways to provide in-home direct low vision care, your gift will reach even further!

On behalf of us all at ABVI, we cannot thank you enough for aligning with our mission to help our clients thrive in a sighted world by promoting dignity, independence, health and safety.

With profound gratitude,

Marcus Manders Executive Director

The Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ABVI) is a qualified organization under IRS section 501(c)(3). No goods or services were provided to you by ABVI in return for your gift of \$12,000.00









2020 GRAND RAPIDS HIGH SCHOOL HONOREES

Recently club secretary, Cheryl Anderson, sent out this notice about the High School Honorees. The announcement and bios have been uploaded to the website. The schools involved include: Catholic Central High School, East Grand Rapids High School, Grand Rapids Christian High School, Union High School, West Catholic High School.

"In May of each year, the Grand Rapids Lions Club provides a recognition award to two high school students from each of the five Grand Rapids public high schools, the two Catholic high schools, the Christian high school and East Grand Rapids High School. The recognition consists of a certificate and a gift card that they can put towards books or gas etc. The award recipients are selected by their respective principal and their guidance counselors. The awards are given for a combination of academic, athletic and community service excellence.

This year, the students and administrators were unable to join us for lunch due to the Corona-virus."

You can view the honorees online by clicking here:

https://www.grandrapidslionsclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/2020-High-School-Honorees-Pics_bios-w-additions.pdf



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

HIGHLIGHTING A MEMBER OF THE GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB



Name: Anne Baird

Profession: Teacher Consultant f/t VI & Orientation & Mobility

Specialist. Specialist.

Years as a Lion: Since 2003. Dr. Pat Droste was my sponsor.

Do you hold positions within the club?

AB: I have served on various committees i.e. Ken-O-Sha Eyeglass Program, Kids Holiday Shopping Event, VI Sports Day, White Cane, The Blind Dinner Date, Community

Resources. I was privileged to hold the position of President in 2010-11.

Spouse and Family:

• James Baird, spouse. (Retired) Orientation and Mobility Specialist (COM) and & Teacher Consultant for the Visually Impaired (TCVI) State of Michigan. Jim and Angie (2 children) Gretchen and Cory Highfield (3 children). Both Jim and Gretchen work in the field. Jim is a COM and TCVI and Gretchen is a TCVI and Special Education teacher. Growing up we gave them many opportunities and experiences to go everywhere with us during our years of working in the field of teaching the blind.

Q: What is your favorite thing about being a Lion?

• AB: There are too many things to list. I would characterize camaraderie and diversity as two important things that the group provides. Everyone has their strengths and attributes with a common focus: To Serve. It is easy to see role models and a reason to strive to help others. As a group you see accomplishments that as an individual may not be achieved alone. Having a spouse participate also is something we find a common goal and commitment to what we believe in. Being a Lion provides a bridge to serving others and continuing to be able to be useful in what we did with our careers and professions.

Q: If you were talking with someone considering being a Lion, what advice would you have to share?

• AB: I would talk about the value of what I have found in being a Lion and how much it has meant to me. I want to be able to share it with others. I would talk about what the Club does, how it enriches one's life in so many ways and most importantly what it does for others. The rewards are immense!

Q: When not at Lions, what do you like to do for fun?

• AB: Grandkids, family, concerts, travel, art, social entertaining.

LIONS: BE IN THE KNOW

DISTRICT 11-C1 NEWS

To find out more about news in our Lions Club District 11-C1 covering Lions in Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Muskegon, and Ottawa visit:

http://www.lionsdistrictllcl.org/



STATE LION NEWS

To find out more about news in our Michigan Lions visit:

http://lionsofmi.com/lions-of-michigan-member/



LIONS INTERNATIONAL

To find out more about news in Lions International visit: https://lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/lions-events-calendar



Curious about eyeglass recycling locations around town?
We have the perfect "site" to restore your sight For an interactive map visit: https://www.grandrapidslionsclub.org/glasses-drop-off/

"Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared."

— Buddha



NUDA VERITAS