



GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB

Nuda Veritas

LATIN FOR THE "NAKED TRUTH"

Published for Members by the
Grand Rapids Lions Club District 11-C-1



JULY 2022

Welcome to the 2022-2023 Lions Year! There is **A LOT of information** in this newsletter! Check it out!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **AUGUST 11: BLIND DINNER DATE - SEE MORE INFORMATION ON PAGE 3**
- **SEPTEMBER 6: LUNCH MEETING AT THE UNIVERSITY CLUB DOWNTOWN**
 - **STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS.**
- **SEPTEMBER 15 – 17, 2022 : 2022 USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM CALGARY, ALBERTA CANADA**
 - **THE USA/CANADA FORUM IS TOUTED AS "THE LARGEST AND BEST LIONS CLUB LEADERSHIP TRAINING EVENT IN WORLD." WITH 1000S OF LIONS IN ATTENDANCE, THIS FUN ENVIRONMENT OFFERS OVER 70 SEMINARS ON VARIOUS LEADERSHIP TOPICS TO ASSIST AND DEVELOP LIONS CLUBS IN THE US AND CANADA.**
 - **REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND MORE AT:**
[HTTPS://LIONSFORUM.ORG/](https://lionsforum.org/)



Have Fun!



A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT: DR GARY ANDERSON

Dear Grand Rapids Lions Club Members,

I am so proud to serve you all as the 104th President of our Grand Rapids Lions Club. What a history we have and continue to make, serving those in need in Grand Rapids, in Michigan and around the world.

Congratulations to our new Vice President, Kyle Travis and our new members of the Board of Directors, Joe Annoreno and Drew Wessel.

Thank you to past Chairman of the Board, Ed Thauer for his six years of leadership at the highest level in our club and our new Chairman of the Board, Ben Eavey for his great 4 years as Vice President and President of the club.

Finally, thank you for your three years of service to retiring Board members, Anna Goddard and Jim Baird.

Congratulations to Pamela VanOverloop, our Rookie of The Year awardee, and Kathy Oberlin, our Lion of the Year awardee. Well deserved honors.

Our future is exciting. Dr. Sherah Eavey led the new Service Committee (thank you) with the goal of having a hands-on service project every month and did a fantastic job of giving our Lions members and families an opportunity to serve.

We are looking to expand those service opportunities next year and welcome input on where and how you would like to help serve those in need. We are trying to make these opportunities fit for young families and even grandparents and grandchildren.

Social interaction will be a big revitalization this coming year with the abilities to be back to more in person events. Leading the way is the rebirth of the Bowling League. We (Grand Rapids Lions Club) are the longest running bowling league in Grand Rapids history.

Monday nights, 4:45pm-6:15pm at Northville Lanes, followed by dinner out for those interested, including bowlers and non-bowlers. The poorer bowler you are, the better. All scores are handicapped. This will start after Labor Day. Look for more information soon.

We are always looking for more members to be involved. If you have an interest in serving on one of the many committees listed on our website or you have an idea for a service project, please contact me directly.

We are looking to have a social event in August, so look for more announcements.

Our first in person club meeting will be Tuesday Sept. 6, 2022, 12:15pm at the University Club. Plan on being there and bring a guest.

Together We can,



Gary Anderson | President, Grand Rapids Lions Club 2022-2024
ga@andersoneye.com | cell: 616-460-2012

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LIONS DISTRICT 11-C1: ALLEGAN, BARRY, IONIA, KENT, MUSKEGON, OTTAWA

BLIND DINNER DATE

The Grand Rapids Lions Club is excited to present the 17th Annual Blind Dinner Date!

Dear Fellow Lion,

Please join us on **Thursday, August 11, 2022 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm** at Blandford Nature Center (1715 Hillburn Ave NW, Grand Rapids, 49504) for a casual outdoor evening in a beautiful strolling venue filled with great appetizers, drinks, and music.

At the event, we will also publicly recognize the achievements of several area professionals who are dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with vision loss.

Did you know that 80% of the information we take in each day is processed through our eyes? Too often, and without thought, the ability to see is taken for granted.

All funds raised through the Blind Dinner Date provide:

- **Eye care to all ages** through the Grand Rapids Lions Club Vision Clinic at Cherry Health, including children with special needs.
- **Rehabilitation services for individuals in West Michigan** with visual impairment or blindness through the Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired (ABVI).

Please help with our mission – review the sponsorship opportunities and participation levels through the link below. For more information, please contact Ben Eavey, 2022 Blind Dinner Date Chair, at 616-719-9799 or ben@eavey.com.

To be included in the program, the form must be received by Monday, July 18, 2022.

Thank you for sharing our vision! We look forward to seeing you there!



Ben Eavey
President, Grand Rapids Lions Club



A Grand Rapids Lions Club Project

Click here for the online form for sponsorship and ticket information:

<https://www.grandrapidslionsclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/BDD-2022-Sponsor-letter-v4.pdf>

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2022 ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

On Tuesday June 14 2022, our club gathered for the Annual Meeting. This year's event was hosted at the Wallinwood Country Club where all enjoyed an evening of celebration.

Special guest, PID Dr Dennis Cobler was the emcee for the evening. The annual meeting traditionally serves as our opportunity to install new officers to the board, honor award winners, and set the tone for the year to come. Here are a few of the recognitions:

2022-2023 Officers and Directors:

Chairmen of the Board	Ben Eavey *
President	Dr. Gary Anderson *
Vice President	Kyle Travis *
Treasurer	Jeff Kraai
Secretary	Cheryl Anderson
Membership	John Rice
Tail Twister	Jamie Junod

New Members July 2019-August 2021

David Klein
James Schyler
Dr Autumn Killop
Dr Shawn Andrus

Legacy Member (those who have add the club's Foundation as a beneficiary in their estate)

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

Members we have lost:

Michael Thibodeau
Robert White

Directors (3 Year Terms)

Colleen Mulder	(2020-2023)
Thad Phelps	(2020-2023)
Jason Brown	(2021-2024)
Dr. Adam Carlson	(2021-2024)
Drew Wessell *	(2022-2025)
Joe Annoreno *	(2022-2025)

*Denotes those filling a new role this year

2022 Award Winners

Joseph Trenshaw Rookie of the Year	Pam Van Overloop
Lion of the Year	Kathy Oberlin
Henry Voet Lifetime Achievement Award	John Rice
Melvin Jones Fellowship	Anne Baird

SUMMARY OF DONATIONS TO CHARITIES FROM OUR GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB FOUNDATION

Below is a summary of the donations made through our Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation. The summary of each charity and the amount of donation each received for the 2021-2022 year has been compiled by our treasurer Jeff Kraai. The club has 2 major gifting arms: 1. The amount we raise each year through our fund raising activities and 2, The Foundation. Keep in mind, our yearly fundraising and gifting (\$65-80k on average) is in addition to the information provided below. Thank you Jeff for compiling such a great summary and information!

Over the years our club has been developing a fund at the Grand Rapids Community Foundation. At March 31, 2022, the value of this fund was \$1,217,025. Each year our club is allowed to make donations to charities. The typical spendable amount each year has been around \$43,000.

In May 2022, the Board approved the following donations:

1.) Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired, \$10,000

(<https://www.abvimichigan.org>). This organization is one of our clubs' biggest benefactors. Dedicated to assisting those with visual impairments or blindness, they work hard to ensure that their clients can continue to live independently with their remaining vision. This is a 11-C1 District Project.

2.) Cherry Street Vision Clinic, \$8,000 (<https://www.cherryhealth.org/services/vision>). This organization is also one of our clubs' biggest benefactors. This organization provides comprehensive adult and pediatric vision services and eyeglasses. Services include dilated eye exams, diagnosis and treatment of ailments, chronic eye problems, refractions and dispensing of eye glasses, as well as case management services for those with diabetes. The Grand Rapids Lions Club Vision Clinic is located inside the main Cherry Street Health Center. This is a Grand Rapids Lions Club Project.

3.) Leader Dog for the Blind, \$1,500 (<https://www.leaderdog.org>). Leader Dog is the answer for thousands of people in critical need of our services. Because they believe every person deserves equal opportunity for independent travel. All of their services are provided at no cost, covering expenses for training, room, and board, and travel to the campus in Rochester MI from anywhere in North America. This is one of the Michigan Lions State Projects.

4.) Lions Club International Foundation, \$1,500 (<https://www.lmsf.net>). This organization assists clubs throughout the world with matching funds for larger projects. LCIF gave our club a \$75,000 matching grant when we were building the vision clinic. We expect to get a \$40,000 matching grant to help purchase some specialized equipment for the Grand Rapids Lions Vision Clinic lab at Cherry Health. ...continued on the next page

SUMMARY OF DONATIONS TO CHARITIES FROM OUR GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB FOUNDATION

Grand Rapids Lions Club : Donations from the Funds Held at GR Community Foundation continued... page 2 of 3

5.) Eversight Michigan, \$1,500 (https://www.eversightvision.org/our-work/service_areas/michigan). This organization located in Ann Arbor MI collects eye tissue for transplants and research. They restore sight and prevent blindness through the healing power of donation, transplantation and research. This is a Michigan Lions State Project

6.) Sight Seer Radio, \$1,500 (<https://thesightseer.org>). The Sight Seer Radio is a faith-based non-profit created for people who are blind, visually impaired, or physically unable to hold or read print material. This organization located in GR reads printed material on the radio for blind and visually impaired individuals. Their extensive and diverse audio programs are available online through this radio service, and as an audio stream on DTV channels in select locations. This is a 11-C1 District Project.

7.) Bear Lake Camp, \$2,500 (<https://www.bearlakecamp.org>) is Located in Lapeer MI. Their mission at the camp is to develop leadership skills, build confidence, and to provide a premier outdoor educational and recreational experiences year-round to all persons. The organization provides camping experience to all persons regardless of abilities and includes blind kids. This is a Michigan Lions State Project.

8.) Lions of Michigan Service Foundation, \$2,500 (<https://www.lmsf.net>). The Lions of Michigan Foundation is a public charity that was created in 1984 to help Michigan Lions Clubs provide community services. While the programs encompass many areas, through screening, diagnosis, treatment, education and research, they primarily help underserved populations and financially struggling individuals who require assistance with eye care, hearing aids or an unexpected life events. This is a Michigan Lions State Project.

9.) Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, \$750 (deafhhs.org). This organization located in Kentwood provides hearing services to individuals regardless of the ability to pay. They serve from toddlers to older adults who are Deaf, DeafBlind or Hard of Hearing.

10.) Opportunities Unlimited for the Blind, \$1,500 (<http://www.oubmichigan.org>). This organization located in Ionia provides a camping experience. Their mission is building life skills, self-confidence and independence for children and young adults who are blind or have low vision. This is a 11-C1 District Project.

...continued on the next page

SUMMARY OF DONATIONS TO CHARITIES FROM OUR GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB FOUNDATION

Grand Rapids Lions Club: Donations from the Funds Held at GR Community Foundation continued.... page 3 of 3

11.) Lions Youth Exchange, \$750 (<https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/youth/youth-camps-and-exchange>). Youth Camps and Exchange (YCE) has programs all around the world and is designed for young people between the ages of 15 and 22 to create and foster a spirit of understanding among peoples of the world. By providing an avenue for global fellowship, the YCE program aims to help youth initiate, grow and maintain international relationships promoting cultural education and international peace. It includes sending Michigan young adults overseas and arranging for host families in Michigan. This is an International Lions Project

12.) Michigan All State Band, \$750 (<https://www.lionsofmi.com/images/MASB/2022%20LionsClubBand.pdf>). This band provides opportunities for high-school age musicians across Michigan to come together for musical growth and performance experience. The ensemble encourages participants to learn more about themselves and each other through rehearsals as well as travel and touring to locations in Michigan and internationally. This is a Michigan Lions State Project.

13.) Paws with a Cause, \$750 (<https://www.pawswithacause.org/>). They enhance the independence and quality of life for people with disabilities nationally through custom-trained Assistance Dogs. PAWS® increases awareness of the rights and roles of Assistance Dog Teams through education and advocacy. Located in Wayland MI. This is a 11-C1 District Project.

14.) Kids Food Basket, \$1,000 (<https://kidsfoodbasket.org>). They pursue a future in which all children have access to the nourishment that fosters their lifelong health and limitless potential. This organization serves individuals throughout West Michigan with nutritious food.



Jeff Kraai
Grand Rapids Lions Club Treasurer

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

HIGHLIGHTING A MEMBER OF THE GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB



Name: Shawn Eyestone

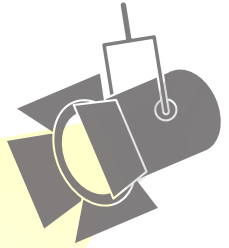
Profession: Estate Planning and Small Business Attorney
at Eyestone Law Offices

Years as a Lion: 15

Spouse/Family: Amy Wierda (significant other), Oliver, Sam, Bobby (sons), Rachel, Jenna and Kate Millett (step daughters), Zelda (dog).

Do you hold positions within the club?

Past President



What is your favorite thing about being a Lion?

- **SE:** Doing great things with great people that help make the world a little better place to be.

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

- **SE:** If they are service-oriented or cannot attend lunches, I would invite them to a service project. If they are able to attend lunches, I would look to see if we have an upcoming speaker that would interest them and invite them on that day.

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

- **SE:** Traveling, hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, bowling, home improvement stuff, wandering aimlessly in the woods, in a new city, or on the beach.

MEMBER UPDATES:

Fellow Lions: Have something new in your life you would like to share? We are looking to be sure that if you have something you would like the Grand Rapids Lions Club family to know about - please let us know. Examples might be:

- New additions and happening with your family: Kids, grandkids, pets etc, Marriages, Births
- Business Happenings, Awards, Career Updates
- New addresses - if you have moved and would like to the club members to have your new address,
- Illness or reason you need some extra support - we are here for you!!!

Yours in Lionism,

John Rice

John Rice | Nuda Vertias Editor



Call or Text: 616-951-4663



Email: JohnRiceOnline@gmail.com

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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.lionsdistrict11c1.org/>



Curious about eyeglass recycling locations around town?

We have the perfect "site" to restore your sight For an

interactive map visit:

<https://www.grandrapidlionsclub.org/glasses-drop-off/>

STATE LION NEWS

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

<http://lionsofmi.com/>



LIONS INTERNATIONAL



To find out more about news in Lions International visit:

<https://lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/lions-events-calendar>

"What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity.
These are but trifles, to be sure; but scattered along life's pathway,
the good they do is inconceivable."

— Joseph Addison

Happy Birthday!

SHERAH EAVEY 7/1
BILL FLEETHAM 7/5
ROB LALLEY, JR 7/5
PAT MULLEN 7/6
CHERYL ANDERSON 7/9
SCOTT BRADY 7/18

ROBERT SNYDERS 7/18
CHRISTIAN CELENTINO 7/19
CRAIG NOBBELIN 7/20
RYAN SMITH 7/25
RICK STEVENS 7/25
SHAWN EYESTONE 7/29



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