



# GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB

# Nuda Veritas

LATIN FOR THE "NAKED TRUTH"

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



## JAN 2024

Here's to January and starting off the year LION STRONG!

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

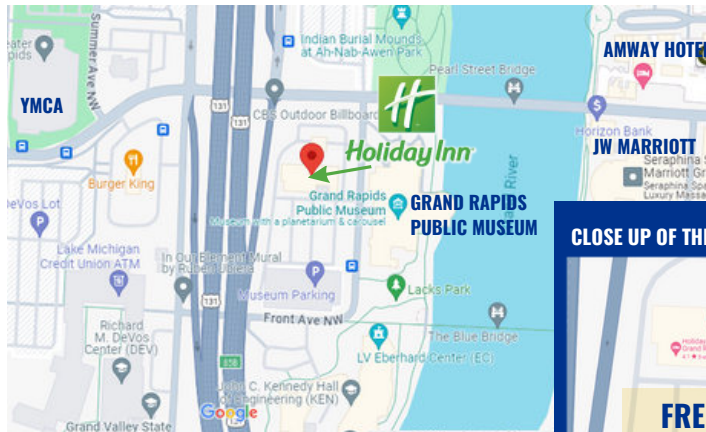
- **JANUARY 16 - LUNCH MEETING!**
  - LUNCH MEETING - HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN
  - ADDRESS: 310 PEARL ST NW, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504
  - RSVP TO CHERYL BY 12 NOON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 12
- **JANUARY 30 - BLIND DINNER DATE: 6-9PM MEIJER GARDENS**
  - TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED HERE:
    - [HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/GRAND-RAPIDS-LIONS-BLIND-DINNER-DATE-TICKETS-736864871667?AFF=ODTDTCREATOR](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grand-rapids-lions-blind-dinner-date-tickets-736864871667?aff=oddttdcreator)

## NEW MEETING LOCATION: HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN

Have you heard? We have a new location for our lunch meetings! The Holiday Inn downtown offers easily accessible parking, a private room, and storage for our meeting items. Thank you to Lion Bob Snyders and his team on the great work achieved to locate this new spot!

Below is a link map of the location along with the address:

[310 Pearl St NW,  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504](https://www.google.com/maps/place/310+Pearl+St+NW,+Grand+Rapids,+MI+49504)



# NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT: DR GARY ANDERSON



Thank you to the great turnout for our first GR Lions lunch meeting in our new location, the Holiday Inn on Pearl Str. Great food, great service and a great presentation from our new member Osman Koroma. Everything ABVI was covered and we heard the plan to combine Osman's desire and to ride a bike 100 miles (Osman is totally visually impaired) and the District fundraiser to buy a tandem bicycle that ABVI clients could ride with a partner. More about this event to come. Get your biking practice in so you will be able to take a turn on the tandem to help Osman reach his goal. "Ride for Sight". To happen this spring.

In service and Friendship,

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

## 2023 HOLIDAY SOCIAL SUMMARY AND PICTURES

GR Lions Secretary, Cheryl Anderson, provided a wonderful summary of the Holiday Social held December 16, 2023, at the Wallingwood Springs Golf Course:

"The event had 61 in attendance and started at 5:30 pm with social time. Greeted by Anne Baird at the door. At 6:30 dinner was served and at 7:30 the meeting began with a new member induction, Steve Oberlin. A Foundation Presentation by Pat Mullin, the 12 Days of Christmas and the raffle of numerous give aways. With the generosity of Kim & Pam Gary, each couple, or single guest got to choose a bottle of wine to take home. Then the golf driving range simulators were open for a few that ventured over. The event ended by 9:30 pm. Thank you to the committee: Rob & Linda Lalley, Jim & Anne Baird, Kim & Pam Gary, Cheryl & Gary Anderson."

To see more pictures of the event, click the link below:



<https://www.grandrapidslionsclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2023-Lions-Holiday-Party.pdf>



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GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB, WEBSITE: WWW.GRANDRAPIDSLIONSCLUB.ORG

EDITOR: JOHN RICE 616-951-4663 OR E-MAIL: JOHNRICEONLINE@GMAIL.COM

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

## LIONS ROAR!: MEMBER UPDATE SECTION

Fellow Lions: Have something new in your life you would like to share? Time to shout it out! 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 (kids, grandkids, marriages,)
- Business Happenings: Did you buy or sell a business? Retire? Start a new company?
- Awards, Career Updates, Illness or reason you need some extra support - we are here for you!!!
- Reach out and we can place in an upcoming newsletter.



 Call or Text: 616-951-4663

 Email: [JohnRiceOnline@gmail.com](mailto:JohnRiceOnline@gmail.com)

## FUNDRAISER FOR ABVI RECUMBENT TANDEM BIKE

At our meeting on Jan 2 - New Lion Member Osman Koroma, and President Dr. Gary Anderson, announced plans to launch a new fundraiser for a tandem bike for ABVI. Originally, Lion member and Club Chaplain, Tim Tuthill, Executive Director of ABVI approached Gary expressing the need for this incredible assistance tool. Below is a picture of this bike featured during an ABVI session in the summer of '23. Osman expressed that exercise is extremely important for all and those who experience vision loss have a hard time exercising - especially outside. This bike will aide with helping the individuals served by ABVI to experience the thrill and enjoyment of biking outside - all while getting the exercise we all need!

Osman highlighted a life long dream on his "bucket list" in his member spotlight in the newsletter.. Stating he would love to complete a 100 mile bike ride. This coupled with the ABVI need = the potential for a very FUN Fundraiser!

Stay tuned for more info!

Pictured: Lion Osman Koroma (left) and a representative from Adaptive Sports (right) at ABVI in 2023



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# WHO WAS MELVIN JONES?

FOUNDER OF LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL



**Name:** Melvin Jones (January 13, 1879 – June 1, 1961)

**Profession:** Insurance Sales, Lions Clubs International Founder

**Years as a Lion:** 1917-1961

We hear the name Melvin Jones a lot in the club and at Lion functions; including an annual award that bears his name. How many of us really know that much about Melvin Jones and the history of Lions Clubs International?

Known as the father of all Lions Clubs, Melvin Jones had quite a history before founding the international humanitarian organization known today at Lions Clubs International. In celebration of his birthday January 13 1879, watch this wonderful video Lions Clubs International has assembled on Melvin Jones.



To watch the video you can click the above image or watch it on youtube:

<https://youtu.be/mETBeW4Y6Ic>

## UPDATE PART 2: KIDS HOLIDAY SHOPPING NOW WITH PICTURES! :)

A BIG "THANK YOU" to all those who participated and took time to volunteer with the Holiday Shopping Event. You were all important in the role you provided (shoppers, taking photos, breakfast servers, wrappers, clean-up). Forty-nine smiling kids went home with large bags packed with wrapped gifts for their families. In addition, we had a total of 55 volunteers (which included Grand Rapids Lions members, spouses, friends, family members, neighbors, grandkids, and acquaintances). What an overwhelming turnout!

The response from our volunteer Grand Rapids Lions Members and others made it all possible. This year we were able to have the Base Camp Urban Development kids from Center City Ministries and the kids with Visual Impairments from KISD join us with their special education consultants. It was great teamwork in bringing joy and the spirit of Christmas giving to all the kids who participated.

Anne Baird and Don Jakel

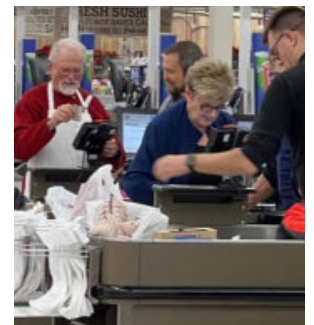


LINKS TO PICTURES

[SET 1 of 3](#)

[SET 2 of 3](#)

[SET 3 of 3](#)



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# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

HIGHLIGHTING A MEMBER OF THE GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB



**Name:** Cheryl Anderson

**Profession:** Retired high school teacher & retired office coordinator for the School of Computing at GVSU.

**Years as a Lion:** Joined in 2004 in a motor home on the way to the Lions International Convention in Denver, CO.

**Spouse/family:** Gary Anderson

**Do you hold positions within the club?**

I have been the club secretary for almost 7 years! I promised VP Kyle Travis that I would stay another 2 years for him.

**What is your favorite thing about being a Lion? OR a favorite memory you would like to share.**

**CA:** My favorite thing about Lions is visiting Lions all over the US & the world. Whether it is a convention or mission trip & seeing how EVERY Lion in EVERY walk of life just wants to serve. All Lions have the same passion of helping people in need.

**CA:** It doesn't matter how many accolades or awards I have received, it is the smiles on the faces of the people, young or old, that we help. It could be a meal, eyeglasses, braille reader, or feminine products their smiling faces melt my heart. That is what is really important to me.

**What are the top 3 words that come to mind when you think of Lionism?**

**CA:** Love, Passion, Service

**Name your favorite movie, book, board game or all three:**

**CA:** Charades, telestrations

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

**CA:** Love having family & friends over for a meal/get together.

**What is a "secret" skill you have no one knows about?**

**CA:** No secret skills. I am a pretty open book.

**Where is your favorite place to travel? What is the top place on your travel bucket list?**

**CA:** I am a very lucky lady. I have been to so many places in the world, that my bucket list is about empty. There is one place I would like to get to, Cairo Egypt. I may never get there but I am ok with that too. My favorite place to travel to is the southern Florida Keys. It has everything. Ocean, whether you want to swim in it, relax & look at it or see their beautiful sunsets It also has great seafood, along with a lively nightlife or just a quiet sunset, ocean breeze evening.

# 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 on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/115990828419557>



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>

“Don’t count the days, make the days count.”

— Muhammad Ali

# Happy Birthday!

- RICHARD NELSON 1/4
- JOHN RICE 1/4
- COLLEEN MULDER 1/9
- JOE ANNORENO 1/20
- LYNN DANDRIDGE 1/24
- DON JAKEL 1/31
- BOB WINCHESTER 1/31

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