



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/FEB 2024

Lions ROAR in 2024! Join us!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **JANUARY 23: BOARD MEETING**
- **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](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grand-rapids-lions-blind-dinner-date-tickets-736864871667)
- **FEBRUARY 6 - LUNCH MEETING!**
 - **LUNCH MEETING - HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN**
 - **ADDRESS: 310 PEARL ST NW, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504**
 - **RSVP TO CHERYL BY 12 NOON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2**
 - **NOTE: IF YOU RSVP AND THEN NEED TO CANCEL, SUNDAY NIGHT IS THE LATEST TO CANCEL & THE CLUB WILL NOT GET CHARGED**
- **FEB 14: FEBRUARY VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY**
 - **KIDS FOOD BASKET | 1300 PLYMOUTH NE GRAND RAPIDS MI 49505**
 - **9:30-11:30 FOOD PREPARATION SHIFT ON FEBRUARY 14.**
 - **EACH PARTICIPANT WILL NEED TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE USING THIS LINK: [HTTP://GRLIONSHELPS.KFB.VOLUNTEERHUB.COM/](http://grlionsphelps.kfb.volunteerhub.com/)**
 - **QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO KELLY PHELPS: 616-260-9108 | KHELPS1123@GMAIL.COM**
- **FEBRUARY 20 - LUNCH MEETING!**
 - **LUNCH MEETING - HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN**
 - **ADDRESS: 310 PEARL ST NW, GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504**
 - **RSVP TO CHERYL BY 12 NOON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16**
 - **NOTE: IF YOU RSVP AND THEN NEED TO CANCEL, SUNDAY NIGHT IS THE LATEST TO CANCEL & THE CLUB WILL NOT GET CHARGED**



NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT: DR GARY ANDERSON



The Blind Dinner Date on January 30 is one of our club's signature projects. It is a unique event where we can casually mingle with those in our community that have a common interest in assisting everyone with visual impairments. More importantly, we hear about those with visual impairments that have made extraordinary personal accomplishments, we honor individuals that have made great contributions to the visually impaired community AND we raise needed funds to continue our Lions mission of "being the knights of the blind for those with visual impairments" as Hellen Keller challenged us to be in 1925.

It is not too late to buy tickets to attend. The link on the Upcoming Events page of this newsletter will take you to the Eventbrite website to easily purchase tickets. SEE you there in a week !

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grand-rapids-lions-blind-dinner-date-tickets-736864871667>

Our Grand Rapids Lions Club has been a model of service to our community success for 105 years. This has been accomplished with our dedicated members and our strong club leadership. Each year we elect two new members for our Board of Directors and this year we will be electing a new Vice President.

Directors serve a three year term. There are six Directors and their terms overlap so each year we elect two new ones as two retire from the Board. We also have a Membership Director which is a three year term. The Vice President and President terms are two years. The Vice President assumes the Presidency at the end of their VP term and we elect a new VP. Our club holds six general board meetings a year, all by Zoom, in the comfort of your home or office (or sometimes your parked car). Four executive board meetings a year are also held with the Pres, VP, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Director only present. Also by Zoom. These meetings are all an hour or less.

These offices start on July 1, 2024 and run their two or three year term. Vice President Kyle Travis is charged with finding candidates for the board and VP positions. PLEASE consider taking the opportunity to fill one of these openings. The only requirement for Vice President is that you have already served on the GR Lions board.

If you are interested right now, call Kyle at 616-635-4342 and he would love to talk to you.

We Serve,

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



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THE "NAKED TRUTH" NEWSLETTER

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

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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FEB 14: FEBRUARY VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY



- Kids Food Basket
- LOCATION: 1300 Plymouth NE Grand Rapids MI 49505
- 9:30-11:30 Food Preparation Shift on February 14.
- Each participant will need to register in advance using this link: <http://grlionsphelps.kfb.volunteerhub.com/>
- Questions? Reach out to Kelly Phelps: 616-260-9108 | Kphelps1123@gmail.com



Kids' Food Basket



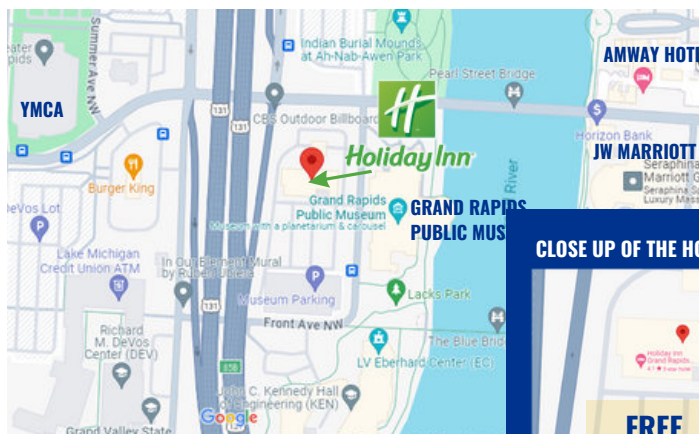
NEW MEETING LOCATION: HOLIDAY INN DOWNTOWN



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/Holiday+Inn+Grand+Rapids,+310+Pearl+St+NW,+Grand+Rapids,+MI+49504/@43.000000,-85.666667,15z)



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2024 USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM

SEPTEMBER 5-7 2024 LOUISVILLE, KY

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. Early Bird registration discounts and more info at:

<https://lionsforum.org/>



CONNECT WITH LIONS & GROW YOUR SKILLS



- **Virtual Events:**

- Online videos from all over the world. Always updated and on a variety of topics this site offers free presentation to Lions members:
 - <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/lions-events-calendar>

- **Lions Clubs International Blog:**

- Here you can find the latest global stories featuring Lions from around the world helping others:
 - <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/blog>

- **Lions Magazine Digital Version:**

- The full magazine with videos and in depth articles - all right online - plus you can read past issues! : [Lions Digital Magazine Latest Edition](#)

- **Lions University:**

- Offering free online courses to round out and improve skills on leadership, motivation, conflict resolution and many more:
 - <https://lionsuniversity.org/>



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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

HIGHLIGHTING A MEMBER OF THE GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB



Name: Don Jakel

Profession: CPA and CFO

Years as a Lion: 32 years (Kalamazoo Club 1976 - 1981)

Spouse/family: Diane

Do you hold positions within the club?

Past President and Director.

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

DJ: Our service projects, especially the Kids Christmas Shopping Event.

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

DJ: Service, friendships, camaraderie

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

DJ: Favorite books are Atlas Shrugged by Ayn Rand and the 9 Outlander books by Diana Gabaldon

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

DJ: Golf, read and Suduko

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

DJ: Have solved every Suduko game I ever played, including some diabolical ones

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

DJ: I have Scotland on my travel bucket list

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>

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is,
'What are you doing for others?'"

-- Dr Martin Luther King, Jr

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

RANDALL HAMSTRA 2/18

MIKE MURPHY 2/22

DREW WESSELL 2/23

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