



# **JULY 2025**

WELCOME TO OUR SUMMER EDITION! THIS IS THE FIRST IN OUR 2025-26 YEAR. FURTHER IN THE NEWSLETTER IS THE CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR AS IT STANDS THUS FAR. BELOW ARE THE UPCOMING EVENTS IN SEPTEMBER \*\*UPCOMING\*\* WARK YOU CALENDARS!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- SEPTEMBER 2: : 12NOON- 1:30PM LUNCH
  - GVSU DOWNTOWN
  - RSVP TO CHERYL 1 WEEK BEFORE:
  - **OUR SELOW TO RSVP BY AUGUST 26**
  - ANDERSOC@GVSU.EDU
- SEPTEMBER 16 4-6PM: SOCIAL EVENT
  - NEW HOLLAND BREWERY| GRAB A BREW AND GAB
  - RSVP DETAILS TO FOLLOW
- SEPTEMBER 18 12-2PM: SERVICE OPPORTUNITY
  - **O KIDS FOOD BASKET**
  - RSVP TO KELLY PHELPS: KPHELPS1123@GMAIL.COM OR CALL/TEXT: 616-260-9108



## **NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT: KYLE TRAVIS**



Fellow Lions,

Happy Summer & Happy New Year (for Lions)!
We enter our 2025-26 year, with an exciting new schedule. As previewed at the annual meeting last month, the Service & Social committees have been hard at work crafting many new and exciting events. Please see the enclosed calendar – we published this well in advance in hopes that we could collectively 'save the date' for these gatherings.

This version of the newsletter is also the first to feature our club sponsors for the 2025-26 year. As you'll recall from our annual meeting presentation, these sponsorships help cover the costs of our added service and social events, allowing us to keep our membership costs as low as possible, while offering members more opportunities.

What an exciting time to be a Grand Rapids Lion, as we embark on these changes. I look forward to seeing many of you at our first lunch meeting: September 2<sup>nd</sup> @ GVSU, where we'll officially launch into a great new year together!

In lionism,





Kyle Travis
Grand Rapids Lions Club President 2024-2026
Travis.kd@gmail.com | 616-635-4242

## 2025 ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

On Tuesday June 10, 2025, our club gathered for the Annual Meeting. This year's event was hosted at Watermark Country Club where all enjoyed an evening of celebration. Board Chair, Dr. Gary Anderson and President, Kyle Travis, lead the evening's events. 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. You can read the recap from Secretary Cheryl Anderson here:

https://www.grandrapidslionsclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Annual-Dinner-Recap-2025.pdf

Here are a few of the recognitions:

#### 2025-2026 Officers and Directors Installed:

Chairmen of the Board Gary Anderson
President Kyle Travis
Vice President Jim Schuyler
Treasurer Don Jakel

Secretary Cheryl Anderson

Membership John Rice
Tail Twister Jamie Junod

#### Officers and Directors Retiring:

Treasurer Drew Wessell
Director Bob Younger
Director Joe Annoreno

#### **New Members 24-25**

Brad Tooker Brianne Jurs Jay Crank

#### **New Directors:**

Brad Tooker Kelly Phelps

#### **Existing Directors:**

Dr. Meagan Baker - Board Director Tim Tuthill- Board Director Shelley Irwin- Board Director Anne Baird - Board Director

# Century Club Member (those who have gifted more than \$25,000 to the club's Foundation)

Kim and Pam Gary
Mark and Kathy Oberlin
Scott and Mary Brady
Rick and Cindy Walker
Pat and Kathy Mullen
Ed and Karen Thauer
Rob and Lynda Lalley
Lynn and Vicki Francis

# 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

#### **2025 Award Winners**

Joseph Trenshaw Rookie of the Year

**Brad Tooker** 

Lion of the Year

bob Younger

#### **Henry Voet Lifetime Achievement Award**

Don Jakel

(The Grand Rapids Lions Club Highest Honor)

#### **Melvin Jones Fellowship**

Ed Thauer Kathy Oberlin

## EYEGLASS PICK UP HELP NEEDED

Lion Brad Tooker is helping to coordinate the eyeglass pickup at various locations around the city.

These glasses are CRITICAL to the success of the eyeglass recycling program and the primary source for the eyeglasses used in our mission trips.

Once a month the locations accepting donations need the eyeglasses collected. Several Lions have graciously volunteered to assist, but there are a few locations that are in need of assistance.

- Walmart 54<sup>th</sup> St SW
- Premier Family Eyecare 6748 Kalamazoo Ave
- RX Optical 6143 Kalamazoo Ave
- Caledonia Vision Center 9809 Cherry Valley Ave SE
- Signature Eyecare 6290 Jupiter Ave NE #A

NOTE: These sites would only need a pick-up about once a month  $\stackrel{\circ}{\cup}$ 

Please reach out to Brad Tooker: bradtooker1@gmail.com | (989) 640-6473

### **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





Email: JohnRiceOnline@gmail.com





# JOIN US 2025/2025

#### WE SERVE.

#### SEPTEMBER:

LUNCH | 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY 12:00-1:30PM | GVSU DOWNTOWN SERVICE OPPORTUNITY | KIDS FOOD BASKET SEPTEMBER 18 12-2PM SOCIAL EVENT | GRAB A BREW AND GAB NEW HOLLAND BREWERY | SEPT 16 4-6 PM OCTOBER:

LUNCH | 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY 12:00-1:30PM | GVSU DOWNTOWN SERVICE OPPORTUNITY | ROCKFORD EYEGLASS RECYCLING HELP NEEDED | DATE TBD SOCIAL EVENT: BOWLING IN LATE OCT AT NORTHFIELD LANES ON A DATE TO BE CLEARED WITH THE ALLEY NOVEMBER:

> LUNCH | 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY 12:00-1:30PM | GVSU DOWNTOWN SERVICE OPPORTUNTTY | NOVEMBER 18 2025 5-7PM | ABVI NEEDS OUR HELP **DECEMBER:**

LUNCH | 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY 12:00-1:30PM | GVSU DOWNTOWN SERVICE OPPORTUNITY | KIDS HOLIDAY SHOPPING | DECEMBER 6 SOCIAL EVENT | HOLIDAY SOCIAL AT BLYTHEFIELD | DECEMBER 6 JANUARY:

LUNCH | 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY 12:00-1:30PM | GVSU DOWNTOWN SERVICE OPPORTUNITY | VILLAGE WATER FILTERS | DATE TBD SOCIAL EVENT | GRIFFS OR RISE GAME | DATE TBD BASED ON GAME DAYS

FEBRUARY: LUNCH | 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY 12:00-1:30PM | GVSU DOWNTOWN SERVICE OPPORTUNITY | KIDS FOOD BASKET | DATE TBD MARCH:

LUNCH | 1ST TUESDAY 12:00-1:30PM | GVSU DOWNTOWN SERVICE OPPORTUNITY | VILLAGE WATER FILTERS | DATE TBD SOCIAL EVENT | CULINARY PRESENTATION AT GRCC | DATE TBD APRIL:

LUNCH | 1<sup>ST</sup> TUESDAY 12:00-1:30PM | GVSU DOWNTOWN SERVICE OPPORTUNTTY ABVI NEEDS OUR HELP APRIL 2 2026 10AM-12NOON SOCIAL EVENT | MICHIGAN BEER TASTING WITH ALLIANCE BEVERAGE | DATE TBD MAY:

LUNCH | 1ST TUESDAY 12:00-1:30PM | GVSU DOWNTOWN SERVICE OPPORTUNITY | ROCKFORD EYEGLASS RECYCLING HELP NEEDED | DATE TBD. JUNE:

ANNUAL DINNER | AWARDS / OFFICER INSTALLATION | DATE TBD JULY/AUGUST: SOCIAL EVENT | PICNIC AND GOLF OUTING | DATE TBD

\* ACTUAL DATES AND TIMES MAY VARY.

LUNCHES WILL BE BILLED WHEN ATTENDED OR CAN BE BILLED ANNUALLY - YOUR CHOICE. SOME SOCIAL EVENTS BEYOND THE ANNUAL DINNER AND HOLIDAY SOCIAL YOU CAN CHOOSE TO BUY YOUR OWN DRINK/FOOD ETC.

GRANDRAPIDSLIONSCLUB.ORG

# LIONS: THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

Thank you to our sponsors! Your generous support helps our club and our community!

# SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP SPONSORS

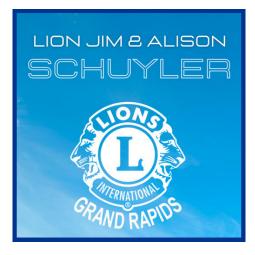














# LIONS: BE IN THE KNOW

## **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

## **STATE LION NEWS**

To find out more about news in our Michigan Lions visit: <a href="http://lionsofmi.com/">http://lionsofmi.com/</a>



# LIONS INTERNATIONAL ®

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



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

"Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others."

— Booker T. Washington

