

Fellow Lions,

I warmly invite you and the members of your club to join us for the **District Convention on March 27–28, 2026**, to be held at the **Hilton Garden Inn at 2321 East Beltline Ave SE, Grand Rapids**. This promises to be an inspiring, informative, and fun-filled weekend of Lion fellowship, learning, and celebration.

We are honored to welcome our **guest speaker, International Director Marcinkowski from Alaska**. ID Marcinkowski is a retired U.S. Army Aviator and currently serves as the **Director of Plans and Operations for the Logistic Readiness Center**. He is also a **charter member of the Interior Baseball Lions Club**, where he has made a lasting impact serving the baseball community.

ID Marcinkowski will lead a **breakout session on “Generational Differences” and a Town Hall session**, sharing innovative ideas and practical insights that can inspire clubs right here in our district.

Friday night will set the tone with our **Country Western–themed celebration**, so dust off your boots and hats and join the fun! We’ll be dancing to live music by **The Muddy River Band**, whose band leader was recently inducted into the **Michigan Country Music Hall of Fame**—a night you won’t want to miss.

In addition, on Saturday we will offer a valuable **breakout session on the District’s new website**, designed to help Lions better navigate, and benefit from our online resources.

A registration form is attached. I encourage your club to attend in numbers and be part of a convention that blends leadership, innovation, fellowship, and great entertainment.

**Convention sponsorships to show your club’s additional support of this important celebration of our District’s accomplishments are available!** Information is attached!

Let’s come together to learn, celebrate, and strengthen our district—**this is a convention worth attending!** We strongly encourage your club to make plans now to attend!

Your participation strengthens our district to continue to **Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead**.

We look forward to seeing you there!

In Lionism,

**Earl Howell**  
**11C1 District Governor**



# LIONS of District 11 C1

## 2026 District Convention

**March 27 & 28, 2026**

**Hilton Garden Inn, 2321 East Beltline Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546**



Our Guest  
International Director  
**Robert "Ski" Marcinkowski**  
and his wife  
PDG Janis Marcinkowski from the

Name	Club / Guest
<i>Example</i>	<i>Example</i>

	Late Registration Fee \$15	Registration \$10	Friday hors d'oeuvres \$20	Saturday Memorial Breakfast \$20	Saturday Award Luncheon \$24	Saturday Dinner \$37														Total
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Total																				

\*Saturday Dinner attendees please circle meal choice: B=London broil, C=Stuffed chicken, V=Veg. Cous Cous, GF=Gluten Free

**SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED!!**

Questions call Deb Davis at 616-723-1178  
Checks Payable to Lions District 11C1

**Mail To :** Lions District 11C1  
2365 Aronsway Dr. NE  
Belmont, MI 49306



**(Late Registration fee of \$15 will be required for all registration after March 1)**

Lodging will be at the Hilton Garden Inn. Room Rate is \$129 + taxes per night.  
Online Booking Link: <https://group.hiltongardeninn.com/e2lvt0>  
Or Call : 616-608-8800 to book your room. When Calling you must refer to Group Name: **Lions District 11C1**  
**The cutoff Date for the Group Rate is February 26 - call early to reserve your room!**

<b>Friday, March 27</b>		<b>Country Western Theme, so bust out those cowbot hats and boots!</b>	
Hors d'oeuvres & Cash Bar	6:00 p.m.	Meet ID "Ski"/Compete for Best Country Western Attire Prize	
Entertainment	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	<b>The Muddy River Band</b>	
Hospitality	9:00 p.m. - ????	Hotel lobby/cash bar	
<b>Saturday, March 28</b>		<b>Lions casual</b>	
Breakfast	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Memorial breakfast	
Breakout Session 1	9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	New 11C1 Website - take the tour!	
Breakout Session 2	10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	"Generational Differences" and Town Hall meeting with ID "Ski"	
Speaker Luncheon	12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	ID "Ski" as keynote speaker; Peace Poster award	
Business Meeting	1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	District 11C1 Business Meeting; Elections	
Breakout Session 3	2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	All tools to promote club service and membership: Anyone can do it!	
District Service Project	3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Veteran service project for Community Rebuilders Heroes Program	
Cocktail hour	4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Meet ID "Ski"/hotel lobby/cash bar	
Awards Dinner Banquet	6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Dinner and awards/speaker ID Robert "Ski" Marcinkowski	
Hospitality	9:00 p.m. - ????	Hotel lobby/cash bar	



***Come join the fun and celebrate our District's accomplishments this year!***

## Community Rebuilders - Grand Rapids

The Community Rebuilders Heroes Program connects Veterans to permanent supportive housing, increasing their long-term housing stability, income, and self-sufficiency. Veterans are also liked to voluntary supportive services including job training, mental health services, and educational opportunities, empowering them to rebuild their lives.

Lions District 11C1 has chosen to support the Community Rebuilders Heroes Program at our district convention.

Their greatest needs are for veterans who are transitioning from homelessness into a temporary or permanent housing situation.

**Lions and Lions Clubs are asked to bring ANY of the following items to the convention to donate:**

\* small tabletop appliances (new or gently used)

toasters  
toaster ovens  
can openers - electric and handheld  
microwaves  
coffee pot  
pots & pans  
silverware sets

\* non-perishable foods

soups  
macaroni & cheese  
Ramen noodles  
peanut butter + jelly  
canned chili  
tuna fish  
pasta noodles  
canned vegetables  
crackers



[www.communityrebuilders.org](http://www.communityrebuilders.org)

During the Service Project, a representative from Community Rebuilders will provide a presentation on their program and explain the meaningful things their organization is doing to help end Veteran homelessness.



## Lions District 11C1 District Convention Sponsorship Opportunities

This year's District Convention will be held on March 27-28 in Grand Rapids and you, or YOUR CLUB, can show your support! Sponsorship opportunities include the following:

- Signage throughout the convention
- Mentioned at **all** convention meals as a convention sponsor
- Admiration from your fellow Lions Club Members!

### **Trail Boss sponsor \$300**

- Be a BOSS and show your support of our District Convention!

### **Chuckwagon sponsor \$150**

- Help us put on the feed bag with a Chuckwagon sponsorship!

### **Outlaw sponsor \$75**

- Sponsor a mobile cash bar at convention- what's a convention without refreshments???

*Some Lions Club members might be unable to attend ~  
your club can show its support with a sponsorship!*



# Lions District 11C1 District Convention Sponsorship Opportunities

Club name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(to be listed on signage)

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Trail Boss sponsor - \$300** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chuckwagon sponsor - \$150** \_\_\_\_\_

**Outlaw sponsor - \$75** \_\_\_\_\_

To sponsor, or for any questions, please contact Lion Deb Davis, District Treasurer,  
at 616-723-1178 or [debavisrockford@gmail.com](mailto:debavisrockford@gmail.com) (Checks and credit cards accepted)