



JUNE/JULY 2024

As we wrap up the Lions year, there are some wonderful ways to connect and enjoy service and friendship! Join us as "We Serve" together!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- JUNE 25 (TOMORROW!) AT 10 AM ABVI HELP!
 - **O ABVI NEEDS HELP**
 - SEE PAGE 4
 - CONTACT TIM TUTHILL AT TIM.TUTHILL@MARYFREEBED.COM
 - OR GIVE TIM A CALL 616 490 1708.
- JULY 18 THURSDAY 6PM: SUMMER PICNIC CASCADE TOWNSHIP PARK -
 - **OUTPUT** MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW
- SEPTEMBER 5-7: USA/CANADA LIONS LEADERSHIP FORUM
 - SEPTEMBER 5-7 2024 LOUISVILLE, KY
 - EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DISCOUNTS AND MORE INFO AT:
 - HTTPS://LIONSFORUM.ORG/



NOTES FROM OUR PRESIDENT: DR GARY ANDERSON





Thank you all for the honor of serving the last two years as your Grand Rapids Lions Club President. We have a great new team of young leaders installed, with our President Kyle Travis and Vice President Jim Schuyler taking office and bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasms to the club. Our Board of Directors is a strong blend of diversity, experience and youth and will assist well in following some old valuable traditions and creating new paths for our club to be the dominant force in the service world that all the public will want to be a part of.

We celebrated an outstanding year of service:

- 1. Providing vision care for 12,184 people in need through 2 vision missions to Jamaica and Suriname, the Grand Rapids Lions Club Vision Clinic at Cherry Health and ABVI.
- 2. We served an additional 871 persons in need through; our club transport program that drives visually impaired persons to needed appointments and needed shopping visits, our bed build partnership helping build 390 beds for children in the Grand Rapids area that have to sleep on the floor, Holiday Shopping for 50 underprivileged and visually impaired children, and our student awards luncheon celebrating 26 outstanding high school seniors from Grand Rapids schools.
- 3. There are countless others around the city, state and world that we helped with our volunteering packing meals at Children's Food basket, water filter assembly and eyeglass recycling where the local by-product is providing OTC readers for many homeless and persons in need through Mel Trotter and In the Image,

42 activities, plus 2 vision missions. Over 2,500 volunteer hours.

Congratulations Grand Rapids Lions

For Changing the World through Your Service From the Heart

Please put **July 18, 2024 6:00pm for our Summer Picnic at Cascade Park** on your calendar. Some food and games (pickle ball tourney for those that play). Please bring your family and **RSVP** when you receive the email invite.

As we relax this summer and move to a new Lion year, please think about what service areas YOU would like to be a part of in our club and suggest some new areas that you are interested in. Who do you know that would love to make a difference in sone's life that you could invite to service next year? Our service drives us, but the great friendships we form are the hidden bonus.

Thank you to all for your support these past two years in every area of our club's activities. We have so many unsung heroes that are working behind the scenes. My biggest thank you is to the love of my life, Cheryl, for agreeing to stay on as Secretary during my term as President and for her tireless dedication to keeping our club connected. I look forward to being her support staff.

In Service and Friendship,

Gary Anderson

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

2024 ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

On Tuesday June 11, 2024, our club gathered for the Annual Meeting. This year's event was hosted at Watermark Country Club where all enjoyed an evening of celebration. President Dr. Gary Anderson, and Vice President, Kyle Travis, along with emcee Rob Lalley, 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. Here are a few of the recognitions:

2024-2025 Officers and Directors Installed:

Chairmen of the Board Gary Anderson
President Kyle Travis
Vice President Jim Schuyler
Treasurer Drew Wessel
Secretary Cheryl Anderson
Membership John Rice
Tail Twister Jamie Junod

Officers and Directors Retiring:

Chairman of the Board Ben Eavey
Director Jason Brown
Director Adam Carlson
Director Jim Schuyler

New Members 23-24

Dr Meagan Baker Jeremy Knoester Osman Koroma Kevin Carlson Steve Oberlin

Members we have lost:

Lynn (Martin) Danridge

New Directors:

Shelley Irwin Meagan Baker Tim Tuthill

Existing Directors:

Joe Annoreno- Board Director
Dr. Adam Carlson - Board Director
Bob Younger - 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
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

2024 Award Winners

Joseph Trenshaw Rookie of the Year

Tim Tuthill

Lion of the Year

Dr Meagan Baker

Henry Voet Lifetime Achievement Award

Bill Fleetham

(The Grand Rapids Lions Club Highest Honor)

Melvin Jones Fellowship

Bill Fleetham John Rice

MEMORIAL GIVING FUND

Dear Members of the Grand Rapids Lions Club,

We are pleased to tell you that the Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation has established a "Memorial Giving Fund" to honor our recently deceased members. The "Memorial Giving Fund" is a special initiative aimed at commemorating the lives and contributions of our beloved members who have passed away. This fund serves as a way for us to remember and celebrate their legacy within our club.

We invite you to consider signing up for the "Memorial Giving Fund" as a gesture of support and remembrance for our departed members. Your participation will not only help honor their memory but also contribute to the meaningful work that our club conducts in the community. By joining the "Memorial Giving Fund," you will have the opportunity to make a lasting impact in the name of those who have dedicated their time and efforts to the Grand Rapids Lions Club. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated by their families, friends, and fellow members.

The "Memorial Giving Fund" is very straightforward, it allows you ahead of time that with the passing of any member or spouse, that you are committing to a \$100 memorial contribution in their name to the Lions Club "Flex Foundation." This charitable contribution can be set up one time with a credit card, debit card or a bank account ACH and is good until you wish to cancel.

With the announcement of the "Memorial Giving Fund" at the annual dinner this past week, we already have several members who have made a commitment. Should you have interest in being a part of the "Memorial Giving Fund," we have included a link below to a commitment card. When completed, simply mail it to our Treasurer at the address listed below.

Thank you for considering this heartfelt opportunity to pay tribute to our dear departed members. Together, we can keep their memory alive and continue their legacy of service and compassion.

Yours in Lionism,

Grand Rapids Lions Club Foundation Committee

Pat Mullen Lynn Frances Kim L Gary Rob Lalley Scott Brady Ed Thauer Jeff Kraai Rick Stevens

Kyle Travis Ryan Smith

Download the giving form here:

https://www.grandrapidslionsclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Memorial-Sign-up-forms.pdf

Mail to:

Grand Rapids Lions Club 5110 28th St SE Suite 1029 Grand Rapids, MI 49512

UPDATE: BUILD A BED JUNE 8TH

Five of our Grand Rapids Lions Club members turned out on Saturday, June 8th to help make beds for kids that have none.





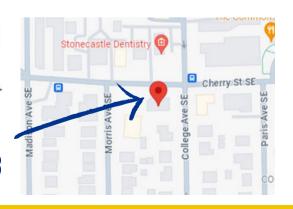
FROM LION TIM TUTHILL - ABVI NEEDS HELP

CCTV Delivery for ABVI

ABVI provides a CCTV rental program for any client. The program provides an affordable way to use a CCTV without the hefty price of purchasing the useful device. We are looking for a small but mighty team to regularly deliver a CCTV by taking it from ABVI and delivering it to a future user. The training will be done by a certified vision rehabilitation therapist. Think of yourself as the delivery person. If you would be interested in helping with this project, please join me at ABVI 456 Cherry St SE here in Grand Rapids on Tuesday, June 25 at 10 am. You can learn a bit about the project as well as well as explore the possibilities. These machines make a world of difference for individuals and you would play a meaningful part in making a difference. Let me know if you can attend. Contact Tim Tuthill at tim.tuthill@maryfreebed.com or give Tim a call 616 490 1708.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED

456 CHERRY ST SE GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49503



UPDATE: DRIVE FOR VISION JUNE 17

Fun was had by all at the 34th Annual Drive for Vision 2.0 June 17 2024, Quail Ridge, Ada. MI.

Here are a few fun foursome photos images shared from the events photo area:















We will be sharing more details and photos over the next couple of newsletters :) Thank you to all you helped make this such a tremendous event!

NUDA VERITAS

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: 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



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

"Summertime, and the living is easy."

--Ella Fitzgerald

