



JULY/AUG 2024

Welcome to our second edition of the 2024-2025 Lions Year!!!!! There are some wonderful ways to connect and enjoy service and friendship! Join us as "We Serve" together!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- JULY 23: 11AM-5PM SIGHT SCREENING AT THE OTTAWA COUNTY FAIR:
 - CONTACT: SANDY GRAHAM: GRAHAM4994@GMAIL.COM
- JULY 30-AUGUST 3: SIGHT SCREENING AT IN THE IMAGE'S SHOE GIVEAWAY
 - CONTACT: SANDY GRAHAM: <u>GRAHAM4994@GMAIL.COM</u>
- AUGUST 18 DR GARY ANDERSON SWIMS MACKINAC ISLAND!
 - DETAILS ON PAGE 2
- 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: KYLE TRAVIS



I hope you're all enjoying our beautiful Michigan summer. It was great seeing many of you at our annual summer picnic this past week. Special thanks to Rob & Linda Lalley, Kim & Pam Gary, Cheryl Anderson and the entire social committee for your help in organizing the evening.

A couple important updates:

- · Lunch Meetings:
- o We're still working diligently on securing a lunch location for our upcoming meetings this fall. We have several venues we're actively communicating with, but I want to encourage you to keep the leads coming, should you have any.
- · Memorial Giving Fund:

o At our annual meeting, Pat Mullen presented on behalf of the Foundation committee, a new gifting option - The Memorial Giving Fund. This is a special initiative aimed at commemorating the lives and contributions of our members who have passed away. Simply put, by signing up for this initiative, you are committing in advance to a \$100 memorial contribution anytime one of our members, or their spouses, pass away. This helps memorialize the passing of our great members. By going into the foundation, the contribution can continue to honor their memory and legacy for years to come. If you haven't done so, I'd encourage you to take a closer look at this initiative and consider joining.



o As we approach the fall, I want you to think about the future of our club. 2025 will mark our 106th year. The world is an ever-changing place, and anything that can last 106 years must adapt to do so. Thinking about the next 106 is a bit out of range....but if we can think about our club celebrating its 125th anniversary, just 19 short years from now, what does that look like to you? What do we need to do differently to get there? How many new faces will we have? What will those faces look like and how will we find them? Will our meeting structure be the same? What will our primary fundraisers, service projects and social events be? Striking a balance between honoring our history & traditions, and being adaptive so that we can thrive well into the future is the task at hand. But this is an opportunity we ALL share. The opportunity to shape OUR club for its 125th anniversary. My personal contact info is below. I want to hear your ideas – please call, text or email me anytime.

Thank you all for entrusting me, alongside the board, to shepherd the leadership of our great club for the next two years. President Gary left some big shoes to fill...I might have a shot at filling them literally, but certainly not figuratively. Thank you Gary for your great leadership and counsel!

In service & friendship,





Hyle Travis

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

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

DR GARY ANDERSON IS SWIMMING AROUND MAC ISL!

Sunday, August 18 Join in supporting Swim for Sight as Dr Gary Anderson swims around the entire island of Mackinac! (All 8.2) miles around the island!) All the funds raised will be evenly split between the Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (Grand Rapids Low Vision Clinic), Lions Project KidSight pre-school vision screening managed by the Lions of Michigan Foundation throughout Michigan and the Vision Programs of Lions Clubs International Foundation which provide vision resources for those in need around the world.

Visit the link below to send Gary support!:



JPDATE



https://www.eventbrite.com/e/swim-for-sight-registration-908427550257

NUDA VERITAS

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

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/

"Live in the sunshine.

Swim in the sea.

Drink in the wild air."

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

