



Grosse Pointe Crisis Club Newsletter

Serving the Community Since 1956

Volume 58

1st Quarter 2024

Number 1



From The President

I am honored to be your President for a third year. My continuing challenge for 2024 is for every Member to recruit at least one new Member. We now have over 200 members and need to continue to grow our Crisis Club.

In the next few months the Roster will be on the Gross Pointe Crisis Club website. George Strachan is now The Roster Chairman. If you have any questions or need to update your Member information, email George at Geostrac@sbcglobal.net. We will no longer publish a Roster Book.

This is also the time of the year we are working on Spring Sports Night. We will be at Assumption in St. Clair Shores this year. This is an event where you can enjoy your friends, good food and drinks while watching the Division One College Basketball Championship. Rick Bertges is the Chairman of the event. Tickets are on sale. If you would like to help by donating auction items and/or selling tickets, send Rick an email to rick@bassecuritysystems.com.

Continued on Page 3

Save the Date!

2024 Spring Sports Night™

April 8th, 2024



Spring Sports Night™ on April 8th.
Additional details and an
event flyer is enclosed.



Grosse Pointe Crisis Club
18640 Mack Ave., Unit 36243
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236
Web: www.gpcrisisclub.org
A 501(c)(3) Public Charity

OFFICERS — 2024

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 Eugene (Bud) Casazza

Vice-President
 William R. Turner

Treasurer
 Creighton J. Weber

Secretary
 Linda C. Bertges

Crisis Case Director
 Donald H. Vormelker

TRUSTEES

Term Ending Dec. 31, 2024
 Linda C. Bertges
 Richard Bertges
 Creighton J. Weber

Term Ending Dec. 31, 2025
 Richard Grosfield, Sr.
 Jerry A. Oreson
 TBN

Term Ending Dec. 31, 2026
 Jim Ellis
 Larry Hakim
 William R. Turner

Term Ending Dec. 31, 2027
 Eugene (Bud) Casazza
 Robert J. Godard
 Donald H. Vormelker

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Accounting
 John J. Blake

Newsletter/Editor
 Eugene L. Casazza

Assistant Crisis Case Director
 Jerry A. Oreson

Service Officer
 To Be Named

Legal Counsel
 F. Peter Blake

Membership Chairman
 Richard Grosfield, Sr.

Nominations/Elections
 Robert J. Godard
 Walter Heck, Jr.

Roster Chairman
 George Strachan

The Grosse Pointe Crisis Club is pledged to act in an emergency or "Crisis" not covered by the policies of other charitable organizations. Cases requiring continuing aid are best handled by others.

PLEASE NOTE!

We encourage our members to refer people or families in a possible CRISIS or emergency, but we ask our members to contact the Crisis Director or any Trustee in person. Please do not give anyone the hot-line number, or the telephone number of case investigators or any other Crisis Club member.



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Dan Aitken * Crisis Club Member



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Paul D. Alandt
Crisis Club Member

Crisis Case Corner

By Donald H. Vormelker, Crisis Case Director

Case #1804 J. Oreson - D. Vormelker

A mother with six children moved out when she found out the father abused the two oldest daughters. She was living with friends and working with the social worker from Orchards Children Services to find a new affordable home. The father was charged and prosecuted and sent to jail. She located a new home but needed help with move in costs. The Club paid the security deposit and first month's rent so she could move in.

Case #1805 J. Oreson - D. Vormelker

The VanElslander Cancer Center social worker recommended a single 59 year old woman with breast cancer who completed surgery and radiation treatments and is in therapy three times a week. She plans on returning to work soon but unable to work during therapy and fell behind on her rent. The Club paid two month's rent to bring her up to date.

Case #1806 J. Oreson - D. Vormelker

A social worker from Orchards Children Services requested assistance for a single mother with three small children who worked two jobs but was facing eviction due to not receiving child support payments. The Club paid two month's rent to stop eviction.

Case#1807 J. Oreson - D. Vormelker

A 60 year old man who was suffering from prostate cancer was referred to the Club by a social worker from Ascension Cancer Center in Warren. He was facing shutoff from DTE due to his roommate not paying the bill with the money he was given for the bill. The Club brought his DTE bill up to date.

Case#1808 J. Oreson – D. Vormelker

A GPCC member recommended a single mother with two small children for help with her rent. Her mother lives with her and both her mother and daughter unexpectedly had to go to the hospital with medical conditions. She was unable to work for two weeks and got behind on her rent. The Club brought her rent up to date.

Case#1809 J. Oreson – D. Vormelker

The GPCC was contacted by a social worker from Orchards Children Services about a single mother with three small children whose home burned down and she lost everything. She had no insurance and Red Cross was able to pay two weeks stay in a hotel. She works two jobs but could lose her children if she doesn't find suitable permanent housing for her children. She located affordable housing but did not have move in costs. The Club paid the security deposit and first month's rent so they could move in.

Case#1810 J. Oreson – D. Vormelker

A GPCC member forwarded information he had received from a friend regarding a case involving a single mother who was a victim of domestic abuse who could use possible rent assistance. After contacting the mother and reviewing her situation it was determined she could use rent assistance. The Club paid two month's rent.

Case#1811 J. Oreson – D. Vormelker

A divorced mother who was behind on her mortgage due to not receiving her alimony and child support was facing possible eviction. She was recommended for assistance by a GPCC member and after investigation the Club paid two mortgage payments.

MEMBERS PLEASE READ:

By the approval and direction of the GPCC board seven families were given Meijer gift cards for Christmas. The families were identified by social workers from different organizations the Club works with during the year

MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE:

If any Member has or knows of an individual or family that could possibly need assistance, the Member should contact the Crisis Club Hotline at 313- 685-0086. Please note the new number.

Stay Safe and Stay Well

Thank You Notes Received

Case #1803

Everything you have done will never be forgotten.

Thanks for helping during a very difficult time and caring about us.

It was truly appreciated

Case#1804

Dear Don and the GPCC

Thank all of you and God Bless all of you for helping us in a difficult time

We can't thank you enough for your help

Case#1805

Grosse Pointe Crisis Club

Thank You. Your help won't be forgotten.

Thank you All and God Bless

From the President *Continued from Page 1*

Once again, as you read about the families that we have helped in this Newsletter, it is because of you that the Club is able to assist. It is through our fundraising events, dues and donations that allow us, the Grosse Pointe Crisis Club, to be there in times of CRISIS. The Trustees thank you for all that you do to support our Mission.

Regards, Bud Casazza



Happy Birthday



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 John N. Knill
- 4 Lou Micks
- 7 Creighton J. Weber
- 9 Thomas Ellis
- 10 David B. Hea
- 12 John W. Koski
- 14 James P. Ellis
- 15 Phillip Deck
- 15 John M. Kennedy
- 15 Michael G. LeFevre
- 18 Gerrit C. DeMeulenaere
- 18 Thomas P. Youngblood
- 23 Daniel T. Dombrowski
- 23 Joseph Michalewicz
- 23 Thomas W. Spanos
- 25 David L. Peters

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Michael J. Kennedy
- 5 Shawna Kesler
- 8 Anthony D. Berti
- 9 Paul J. Quasarano
- 12 Abraham Lincoln
- 13 Mary Catherine Rentz
- 16 Daniel R. Roemer
- 17 Lee Stemple
- 18 John Jay Buell
- 18 Frank T. LaGrasso, Jr.
- 20 Rick Pesta
- 22 Wendy Bertges Yost
- 23 John R. Eastman
- 28 J. Michael Clyne

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 1 John A. Dunwoody
- 4 Martin E. Cohan
- 4 Thomas L. Ostrowski
- 6 Robert J. Godard
- 8 Bert Skibinski
- 9 N. William O'Keefe
- 11 Eugene W. Bader
- 12 Paul Ellis
- 12 Rodney K Elnick
- 13 Richard Hathaway
- 20 Timothy DeMeulenaere
- 20 Tom Johnston
- 21 Charles Kaiser
- 23 Alex Lucido
- 28 Anthony Jekielek
- 29 Andrew H. Cohen
- 31 Dennis M. Cyr
- 31 Otto Kern



Upcoming EVENTS

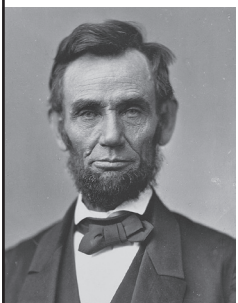
2024

- March 12th - Trustee meeting at Buoy 12 Pub & Eatery
- April 8th - Spring Sports Night at Assumption
- August 5th - Kotcher's Kapers at Gowanie Golf Club
- October 19th - Comedy Night at Lakeland Manor

NOTE: Trustee Meeting dates are subject to change

Presidential Trivia

- A. He introduced the Social Security program.
- B. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.
- C. He ended the draft.
- D. He was injured in the Revolutionary War.
- E. "O.K." is derived from his nickname.



See Page 6 for Answers

Service Report

The Club is sorry to report the passing of two of our members. Lee Stemple, a member since 1996 and major supporter of our annual Sports Night, passed away on December 9, 2023 at age 79. Lee was a proud father, grandfather and businessman. He is survived daughters Tara, Heather and son Nathan. He was also the loving grandfather of nine. Please remember Lee and his family in your prayers.

Diane VandenBoom, one of our newest Club members, passed away suddenly Tuesday, December 26, 2023 at age 66.. Diane is survived by her husband of 45 years Timothy; Timothy VandenBoom II, M.D., daughters Kayla VandenBoom and Sara Provost and grandmother of Kathryn and James Provost She is also survived by her father Ronald Wooten and sister to Sharon Feola. Please keep Diane and her family in your prayers.

Jim "Jimmy" Maniere, Sr. continues to battle several significant health issues. Jim has recently been going back and forth between hospital and rehabilitation facilities. Please say a prayer for Jimmy.

Bob West and Bob Fleming continue to make progress in their recoveries.

Bob West has been home for several months and is now able to get out and about.

Bob Fleming, while primarily residing at the Michigan Veteran Homes at Chesterfield Township, now is able to return to his home for visits.

Enroll Now In the Kroger Community Rewards Program

If you shop at Kroger, please enroll for the Kroger Community Rewards Program and designate the Crisis Club as the beneficiary of your shopping. There are two options to sign up: go to krogercommunityrewards.com and follow the prompts to designate the Crisis Club as your charity of choice or call 1-800 KROGERS, follow the prompts to #4, and the Customer Service department will answer and ask you for the number on the back of your plus card. Tell Kroger to add the Grosse Pointe Crisis Club as your charitable designate and you're done. Remember that your friends, family and business associates can also join to help us have more people enrolled. Please sign up using the new Rewards number of AC852.

Thank you.



KROGER UPDATE

We received a Kroger check in the amount of \$134.49 from the period of November 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024. We now have 41 households participating. We remind all our Members to go to Kroger online, sign up for Community Rewards and name the GPCC as your charity of choice. Kroger has assigned the Club a new Rewards number. Please sign up using the new Rewards number of AC852.



Thank you for your help.



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**NEW HOTLINE
NUMBER**

313-685-0086

Presidential Trivia

Answers

- A. FDR, B. HW Bush
- C. Nixon, D. Madison
- E. Van Buren (Old Kinderhook)



Thank You For Your Donations

Once again, John Kennedy (the Irish Coffee Bar and Grill) has procured a \$10,000.00 contribution from the Wilkinson Foundation for the Club in December 2023. The Wilkinson Foundation has been a loyal contributor to the Grosse Pointe Crisis Club for fifteen years. The Club offers its thanks to the Foundation and to Chris and Colleen Gay for their continued support and generosity.

In December 2023, Paul Zimmer made a \$2,500 donation. Also, Dick Grosfield, Sr. and Mike & Marilyn Debs each made a \$500.00 donation.

Newsletter Availability

If you would like an additional copy of our Newsletter for family, friends or business associates, please stop by the following establishment:

Irish Coffee Bar & Grill, Grosse Pointe Farms,

Crisis Club Contact Information

Web: www.gpcrisisclub.org

E-mail: ELCasazza@aol.com

Mail: **Grosse Pointe Crisis Club**
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Jason Hill - Crisis Club Member

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