



Grosse Pointe Crisis Club Newsletter

Serving the Community Since 1956

Volume 60

3rd Quarter 2026

Number 3



From The President

I hope everyone enjoyed this beautiful and warm summer. It is hard to believe Labor Day has passed and the kids are back in school.

This years Kotcher's Capers Golf Outing on August 3rd was a perfect day for all who attended. Everyone had a great time and the steaks were perfect. I want to thank Dr. Tim DeMeulenaere, the golf committee as well as all the volunteers who helped to put this incredible event together. I also want to thank all of our sponsors for their continuing support.

We have three big events coming up, starting with the 11th Annual Lottery Raffle. Tickets go on sale in October and the first drawing is November 1st. You have 30 chances to win with each \$20 ticket. Reach out to any Trustee if you have questions or need tickets.

Thursday, November 5, 2026, is our General Membership Meeting. It will be held at Assumption Cultural Center. Steve Graus is working on another great guest speaker. Members are free and nonmembers are \$45.00.

This brings us to the last event of the year and my personal favorite, Comedy Night. It will be held again at Lakeland Manor in St. Clair Shores and will feature 3 comics on Friday, November 13th. For more information, a flyer is enclosed.

I encourage you to attend our events to support the Clubs mission to help people in need. It is through your generosity and support that the Club can make a real difference in people's lives when they are in a crisis situation.

Thank you again for all your support.

Bill Turner



Grosse Pointe Crisis Club 2026 Comedy Night Friday, November 13th



ANDY BENINGO

The Grosse Pointe Crisis Club is again pleased to present the Ted Eikhoff Comedy Night, on Friday, November 13th at Lakeland Manor, on Harper Ave., in St. Clair Shores. Back by popular demand, this year's event is again headlined by Andy Beningo and features Kate Brindle and hosted by Mark Bonto. The show will also feature the Club's resident Master of Ceremonies, Rich Higginbottom. Comedy Night has proved to be "the best value on the Eastside". We offer generous cocktails, good food and excellent entertainment, all for \$75 per person. The Club invites you to bring your family, neighbors, friends and business associates and introduce them to the Crisis Club at a fun event. Comedy Night details can be found in the flyer included with this newsletter. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are strongly encouraged, so please confirm your attendance by contacting Jim Flannery, by email at jmflannery@comcast.net or phone at 313-882-6139.



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

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Richard Grosfield, Sr.

Nominations/Elections
William Turner
Steve Graus

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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Paul D. Alandt
Crisis Club Member

Crisis Case Corner

By Donald H. Vormelker, Crisis Case Director

2026 CALENDAR YEAR CASES (3rd Quarter)

Case # 1923 J. Flannery D. Vormelker

A member referred a single mother with three children who needed to move due to domestic abuse. She had a full time job but could not afford move in costs to a new location. The Club paid security deposit and first month's rent so she could relocate and gave her Meijer gift cards for household items.

Case # 1924 J. Flannery D. Vormelker

A representative from St. Vincent DePaul from Our Lady Star of the Sea contacted the Club about a single mother with two children who needed to move to a new location due to the landlord not wanting to rent to single mothers. She located a new rental but could not afford move in costs. The Club paid the security deposit and first month's rent so she could move with her children.

Case # 1925 E. Casazza D. Vormelker

A member contacted the Club about a mother with six children who could no longer stay in the hotel where they had been staying due to the father not paying on time or the full monthly amount. The Club paid four weeks stay until her disability for her and two children started and she would have time to look for a new rental location to live.

Case # 1926 J. Flannery D. Vormelker

A single mother with two young children was facing eviction and was referred by the Warren St. Vincent DePaul. She found a second job and arranged for one of her relatives to watch the children. St. Vincent DePaul was paying for a portion of the back rent and the Club paid the remainder of the rent to stop eviction.

Case # 1927 M. Norris D. Vormelker

The social worker from Orchards Children's Services contacted the Club about a single mother with three small children who was facing shutoff from DTE. The Club brought the DTE bill up to date and the social worker got her on an affordable payment plan. In addition the Club gave her Meijer gift cards for food and clothes for the children.

If any member has or knows of an individual or family that could possibly need assistance please have them contact the Crisis Club Hotline at 313-685-0086.

Thank You Notes Received

Case # 1923

To All the members of the Grosse Pointe Crisis Club I cannot thank you enough for helping me move to a new safe location for me and my family. Also thanks for the gift cards for the much needed items for our new location.

Thanks Again!

Case # 1926

Thank you to all the members of the GPCC for all the help you gave me and my family to stop eviction. I had no idea what I was going to do. Thank You All again.

Service Officer Report

We are advised that **Larry Smith** continues to battle circulatory issues.

Bob Fleming continues his rehabilitation at Michigan Veteran Home in Chesterfield Twp. Bob has been able to briefly go home and even has been able to participate in one of his favorite activities by going to a local casino.



The Club is very sad to recognize the death of **James L. (Jimmy) Maniere, Sr.** at the age of 88, on August 24th. Jimmy is survived by his daughters Susan and Wendy; sons James Jr. and Timothy; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Jim was predeceased by his beloved wife of 44 years "Dolly" and his daughter

Jamie. Jim had a long and distinguished business career owning and presiding over several business ventures. Jimmy was a 54 year Member of the Club and served on the Board of Trustees as a Vice President, as well as chairing numerous committees including the annual golf outing, advertising, membership coordination and our roster of Members. Jimmy was also a voracious ticket seller whenever called upon. Despite recent health issues, Jimmy maintained his dedication to the mission of the Club.

Please offer prayers for our members who are ill as well as for Jimmy Maniere and his family.



The Grosse Pointe Crisis Club

Presents the 2026

TED EIKHOFF COMEDY NIGHT

YOUR HOST



MARK BONTO

Your host for the evening is Mark Bonto. Mark is a veteran comedian who has traveled all over the country, and has performed in clubs and colleges. He is a frequent performer in the Flint area, and has worked with notable comedians such as Howie Mandel and Judy Tenuta.

FEATURING



KATE BRINDLE

Described as "smart," "original," and "hilarious," Kate Brindle is a unique breath of fresh air on the comedy scene. She's performed in the California's Funniest Female Contest, and was featured in the Oddball Comedy Festival and International Great Plains Comedy Festival. Kate has opened for Louie Anderson, Kevin Nealon, Kevin Pollak, and Sarah Silverman. Originally from Dexter, Michigan (Population: 72), Kate is an audience favorite and brings to the stage her quick wit and impeccable timing.

HEADLINER



ANDY BENINGO

Andy Beningo has established himself as one of the most in demand comedians working today. Hailed for his clean and "every man" style, Andy has been named one of the 40 Best Up and Coming Comedians as well as "Best Comedian" by both the Detroit Metro Times and Detroit Hour magazine. He has been heard on the nationally syndicated Bob and Tom radio show, and was a special guest on Larry the Cable Guy's 'Weekly Round Up' on Sirius XM radio. His rare ability to find humor in subjects like growing up the middle child, his short lived career as a middle school teacher and our society's obsession with technology has made him a crowd favorite.

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Dinner: 7:45 p.m. • Showtime: 8:30 p.m. till... • RESERVATIONS A MUST

Cabaret Seating: 8 Per Table

Payment due no later than November 7th

Go to: www.gpcrisisclub.org

REGISTRATION FORM

~ Please Email, Mail or Call to Reserve Seating ~



ACCEPTED

PLEASE PRINT
Name: _____

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Address: _____

City & State: _____

Phone: () _____

Payment: ☐ Check ☐ Cash ☐ MasterCard

☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ Amex

Expiration Date

Card Number

Verification Code

Verification Code is a 3 digit number on the back of card
(MC, Visa, Discover) or 4 digit number on the front (Amex)

Number Attending _____

Make Checks Payable To: GROSSE POINTE CRISIS CLUB

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR WITH **PRIOR PAID RESERVATION** - or -

MAIL TO: Jim Flannery - 1110 Yorkshire, Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230

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GPCC Golf 2026

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Happy Birthday

JULY

1 Richard Bertges
3 Anne Youngblood
5 Edwin J. Lukas
7 J.R. Maskeny
10 Mark E. Wollenweber
13 Joseph Albert Wortman
14 Shelley Theresa Szymborski
17 John H. (Jay) Kotcher
18 Lori-Ann Rickard
20 Martin L. Godard
20 Gregory V. Grosfield
21 Robert H. Balcerzak
21 Dallas W. Carrier

21 Robert William West
25 Mary A. Cal
25 John P. Williams
31 Kyrsten Homrocky

AUGUST

1 Mitch Hilt
2 Jeff Broderick
3 George Chevalier
3 William J. Lynch
4 Steve Sowell
5 Sandra L. Frederick-Lacey
6 Jeff Johnston
8 William R. Turner
10 Shaina Eddins

11 Michael A. McCabe
11 Alexander Turner
13 Laurie J. McLeod
15 Scott Holmes
15 Susan Marie Rinke
17 David E. Hopp
20 Martin K. Meldrum
23 Henry Bowman
24 Lawrence W. Ray
28 John Mulligan, Jr.
29 Salvatore Ventimiglia
30 Jim Meyer
31 Mark Frolich
31 Scott Maxwell
31 Dan M. Vormelker
SEPTEMBER
3 Jonel Stingu
4 Rich Grosfield
4 Kevin D. Schoensee
5 Stanley F. Walajty

6 Daniel J. Aitken
6 Charles John Thomas III
7 John J. Blake
8 Richard Widgren
9 Robert S. Giazall
10 Walter Heck, Jr.
10 Kenneth C. Kazerski
13 Matthew E. Stevens
14 Mark Carrier
14 Jim Nahra
18 Sam J. Hakim
22 David Alger Champine
22 Bryan Iannzzi
23 Mark Landrus Fossee
24 Sean J. Lane
24 Tymon C. Totte
26 Neill T. Peters
27 Eric Neisch
27 Frank R. Sumbera II
28 Joel Latsch

Thanks for a Successful “Kotcher’s Kapers” Golf Outing

On behalf of the Crisis Club, we want to thank all the members, guests, tee sponsors, donors and Gowanie Golf Club who made the 2026 “Kotcher’s Kapers” Golf Outing a true success. A near sold out event, with 116 golfers, made this year’s outing a huge success.

A successful golf outing relies on generous support from tee sponsors, donators, participants and workers. Please review, thank, and support all our sponsors and donors who are recognized in this edition of the Newsletter.

We would like to acknowledge the support we received from Walter Heck, Bud Casazza, Steve Graus, Linda and Rick Bertges, Don Vormelker, Bill and Sandy Meredith, Laura DeMeulenaere, and Jill Bice who handled the registration and check-in as well as their assistance on the course and with the putting contest.

Congratulations to the team of Andy Spanos, John Mulligan, John Sarotte, and Ron Martina who posted a twelve under score of 59 and took home the winners’ gifts. A hole-in-one was made by Andy Spanos on the 160 yard, 17th hole. He won some special gifts and helped his team to the winning score!

Special thanks to the 50/50 winners Mike Carrier and Tammie Foltz, who donated back much of their winnings back to the Crisis Club.

We look forward to again hosting our members and guests at the 2027 “Kotcher’s Kapers” Golf Outing on Monday, August 2, 2027.

Thank you for your support!



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 \$134.71 from the period of May 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026. We now have 56 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.



Presidential Trivia

- A. Last President to own slaves
- B. First to die in office
- C. Awarded Distinguished Flying Cross
- D. Founded University of Virginia

See Page 8 for Answers



SAVE THE DATE

Friday, November 13th

*Save the date for the annual
Ted Eikhoff Comedy Night, Friday,
November 13th. The event will,
again, be held at the Lakeland Manor.*



Upcoming EVENTS 2026

November 1st. - Daily Lottery Raffle payout begins
November 5th - Annual meeting at Assumption
November 13th - Comedy Night at Lakeland Manor
January 12th - Trustee meeting at Romano's

**NOTE: Trustee Meeting dates
are subject to change**

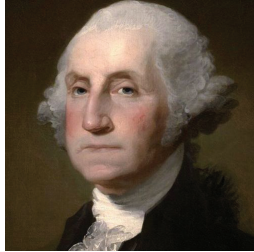


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Presidential Trivia Answers

- A. Grant
- B. W. Harrison
- C. H. W. Bush
- D. Jefferson



2026 ROSTER

As previously reported, the Crisis Club is no longer publishing a hard copy Roster booklet. The Roster is now on the website and is password protected. George Strachan is the Roster Chairman. If you need to update your information or need the password, email George at Geostrac@sbcglobal.net.

Newsletter Availability

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

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Crisis Club Contact Information

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