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**ASD Dinner**  
**Nov. 4**  
**6:30 p.m.**



# Spirit

## The Many Flavors of

# LEADERSHIP

By Dan DiVirgilio, District Governor

Are you a leader? I believe you are. It's one of the reasons why you're a Lion. It's also why Lions accomplish so much, and why the communities we serve need us to do even more.

But let me ask a simple question: If all of us are leaders, who's left to be a follower? The answer is just as simple: all of us.

What could I possibly mean by that?

At our first cabinet meeting, we talked about the many flavors of leadership:

- The Idea Generator
- The First Follower
- The Grand Organizer
- The Promoter
- The Great Doer

And many more, each critical to the success of any Lions project. Let me explain.

The Idea Generator is a fountain of ideas. Each Lions club has somebody like this. Many clubs have more than one! These are the people who snatch ideas out of thin air; they are our Lions "first movers."

The First Follower is the Lion who finds value in an idea; the one who says, let's try this. The First Follower

begins to move the idea into action. Nothing happens without the First Follower.

The Grand Organizer might not have the original idea; rather s/he anticipates clears a road through the dense brush for the entire club to bring the idea to life.

The Promoter shines a spotlight on the idea, its value, and the road to delivering its promise to the communities we serve. The Promoter connects the idea people with the Great Doers, and also the community to gather support for the idea.

The Great Doer walks the road illuminated by the Promoter, cleared by the Grand Organizer, embraced by the First Follower and conceived by the Idea Generator. The enthusiasm, the example of hard work, the insight to improve a process in progress – all of these qualities make the idea succeed in the community.

Every one of these people is a leader. Every club has them. Every club should recognize them for the great work they do. That's how we encourage everyone to work together, and how we broaden Lions impact throughout the communities we serve.

## District Officers

Dan DiVirgilio  
District Governor

Mike Wilcox  
First Vice District Governor

Steve Daigle  
Second Vice District Governor

Carol Kearns  
Secretary

Harry Shuh  
Treasurer

Mike Wilcox & Steve Daigle  
Zone 1 Chairs

Jim Trompeter  
Zone 2 Chair

Josh Cohen  
Zone 3 Chair

Winston Barnaby  
Zone 4 Chair

Tina Rafala  
Zone 5 Chair

Immediate Past District  
Governor  
Tim Hilliker



District Governor Dan DiVirgilio confers with a scarecrow at the USA/Canada Forum. Among the scarecrow's words of wisdom were hopeful strategies for diabetes education and research. Dorothy (in the middle) was pleased!

## Earn Your Lions "Degree"

By GLT Ev Lyons

Leadership skills are a key component in the success of District 23-B, and that leadership extends beyond the formal officers of the Cabinet and within the clubs. **EVERY LION CAN BE A LEADER!**

To strengthen the leadership skills of our district Lions, we are offering an opportunity to join our **District 23-B Lions University**. Best of all, the tuition is free, compliments of LCI!

District Lions can register for the required course work on the LCI web site by going to the Member Center: Click on Leadership: Click on Lions Learning Center. You will be asked for your membership number (ask your club secretary if you are unsure of your number.) Create a password and you're all set for your first course.

Each of the five Lions Leadership courses requires less than an hour for completion. As you complete each course, you will develop your Lions "transcript" which can be submitted as evidence of your successful work.

The five courses include:

### Introduction to Lions Leadership

Setting Goals

Public Speaking

Conflict Resolution

Member Motivation

Our District Governor will recognize each graduate.

Interested? Please contact GLT Ev Lyons at 860-584-2560 or [lyonsev50@gmail.com](mailto:lyonsev50@gmail.com) for assistance.

Leadership is key, and every Lion has the potential to be an outstanding leader!

## American School for the Deaf

# Help Deaf Students Achieve Their Dreams

By Cynthia Bercowetz

What is your dream? My dream was to attend college and become a journalist. It seemed so far away when I was a senior in high school. I wanted to attend the Barnard College of Journalism in New York.

But it wasn't possible. My father owned a 4&9 cent store in Pittsfield, Mass. We could not afford it. But he believed in me and knew the importance of attending and graduating college.

One night he said to me: "Yes, you can go to college but it will not be one of your choices."

I graduated from a small college in Springfield, Mass. I wanted to be a journalist. I said: "Yes, you can."

For more than 23 years, I wrote my column, "Get Help! Tell It to George" for three newspapers in Connecticut. I said to myself: "Yes, you can!"

Can you imagine the difficulties facing Connecticut children who suffer from hearing loss and who want to attend college?

According to the American School for the Deaf, more than 700 children suffer from hearing loss in Connecticut. These children have dramatic limitations in communication skills, literacy and general information access overall since they lack access to ambient information from radio, TV, telephone, music and videos.



If a child is educated in his or her own town, the local school district must hire an interpreter or a teacher for that child.

By the time a child arrives at ASD, s/he has failed in numerous programs. The average age of a new ASD student is 12. ASD provides expertise in providing education and social support and services. ASD has educated children since 1817 so it has impacted probably thousands (maybe even millions) of children. ASD is the first and oldest school in the western hemisphere.

Why am I telling you all of this? Lions in District 23B have attended a dinner each year prepared by the students. This year the dinner will be Monday, November 4 at 6:30 p.m. in its new building. The Lions want to make it special by donating funds for this new building which is the pride and joy of ASD.

Edward F. Peltier, executive director of ASD, is proud to show this "new state-of-the-art educational building" to the

Lions by having the dinner prepared by students and a tour of the building.

"This is the first building in the region designed specifically to meet the unique learning styles of deaf and hard of hearing students. The National K12 Educational Design Guidelines were developed by renowned deaf architect, John Dickinson."

"Many Lions have participated in the ASD dinner in previous years. But this year, we would like as many Lions as possible to celebrate the birth of this new building," Cynthia Bercowetz, dinner chairman for the ASD said. "We want to celebrate with this historic school." *(continued)*



Deaf students learn to express themselves at the American School for the Deaf. Many go on to college and successful careers after attending the school.

## ASD Committee

**Cynthia Bercowetz**  
Chairman

**Mike Wilcox**  
First Vice District Governor

**Steve Daigle**  
Second Vice District Governor

**Len Johnson**  
Past District Governor

**Dan Utti**  
Past District Governor

**Bob & Nora Clark**  
GMT & Families

**Kathy Randall**  
East Hartford

**Patti Daigle**  
Hearing

**Fidelina Chupas**  
Hartford Multi-National

**Bob Bessel**  
Publicity

# ASD Dinner Nov. 4

If there ever was a time to roar, “let us give them the financial support and more than we have given them through the years,” Ms. Bercowetz said. “Let all of us roar!”

There are so many examples of what the school has done for these students. I will select one who has graduated this year.

When Dazjahnique “Daz” was a young girl, her mother Natesha Lane, said they could not figure out why she was so alone.

Then they discovered she was hearing impaired. Her mother says she “cannot describe how special the people at ASD are to teach these young students that they can do anything.”

A scholarship fund was established in 1998 upon receipt of a donation from an ASD graduate in the class of 1929. Wouldn't Helen Keller who could not speak, hear or see be proud of these students? The fund will help college-bound students ASD graduates such as “Daz” to meet the financial challenges of college.

Our Lions dinner will be held Monday, November 4 at 6:30 p.m. Plans for a tour of the building are being worked out. I hope to see many Lions I know and those I have yet to meet at this fund-raising dinner. I also want to thank my hard-working committee for all of their help.

## Raise a Glass for CLERF and the Channel 3 Kids Camp!

*By Sia Dowlatshahi, Past Council Chair*

Connecticut Lions have partnered with the Channel 3 Kids Camp for an evening of fine wine, food and music at The Hartford Club on Saturday, October 26. The event is “black tie optional.”

Proceeds will benefit the Connecticut Lions Club Eye Research Foundation and Channel 3 Kids Camp. The evening features a live auction hosted by WFSB Morning Anchor Irene O'Connor and our own District Governor – Dan DiVirgilio plus a silent auction to raise funds for these two worthy organizations.

The Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation has provided funding to eye research projects aimed at eradicating preventable blindness and assisting clinical work throughout Connecticut since 1963. All projects are performed at universities in Connecticut and have resulted in progress with macular degeneration, eye screenings and other important work.

The Channel 3 Kids Camp serves more than 3,500 children year-round on a 350 acre campus located in Andover



and Coventry. Programming focuses on helping children from financial challenged families throughout Connecticut develop the skills necessary for personal, social, and career-related success.

Tickets are just \$70 per person, which includes parking. Visit [www.clerf.org](http://www.clerf.org) or [www.channel3kidscamp.org](http://www.channel3kidscamp.org) for tickets. **Come out and support 2 great Connecticut charities!**



A few of the Peace Poster submissions in this year's competition.

## New School Year, New LEO Club: A Crash Course

By Kimberly Nguyen

The school year is fast approaching and with that comes another new year of LEO Club fun and cheer! To kick off yet another amazing new year, you need an amazing back-to-school event to get potential LEOs interested in all that your LEO club has to offer! Here are some ideas:

- Host a LEO week at your school
- Make a video (even better...a MUSIC video...or a RAP!)
- Free merchandise (stickers, t-shirts, bumper stickers, pens)
- Posters
- Get everyone pumped about the first meeting by word of mouth (are YOU going to be at the meeting?)

It's all up to you and what your club wants to do!

The next step is to get everyone on your teams on the same page. Take



a blast into the past...what worked and what didn't work last year? How/why and what can you do to make it even better? Get a big poster and write down everyone's ideas...no limitations means creative juices will

rev up and flow even more. Ask your advisor(s) what the limits would be to any event you do (will it follow school rules, town/city/state regulations, etc.). Get your community involved in any way possible either as supporters, donators, venues, and more. Other important adult figures are your parents! Find a way to get them involved too!

Let's recap: you've gotten new members to join in fun and exciting ways and thought of a bunch of new ideas that you could use. What's next? Plan it all out on a calendar! What events would be good in which season? Leave room for more ideas though...you never know when you might get an epiphany! Key point: get as much support as you can, even from those who are not LEOs (who knows, at the end, they might even want to be part of the Dream Team). At the end of a year's hard work, plan a fun outing for your club to celebrate all your hard work.

Hopefully, this helped you get pumped up for another roaring year of LEO club! Always remember to include and listen to everyone's ideas...you're not just a club, you're a team. Document it all (pictures and videos) to remember all the good times!



### East Windsor Turkey Shoot

Oct. 20 - Nov.24  
Every Sunday

The East Windsor Lions Club will hold its annual Turkey Shoot every Sunday starting on October 20<sup>th</sup> and concluding on November 24<sup>th</sup> on North Road, East Windsor from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Funds raised from the Turkey Shoot will fund: scholarships for East Windsor students, Boy and Girl Scout Troop activities, East Windsor Visiting Nurse Holiday projects, Fidelco Guide Dogs, sight-related treatments for those in need, The Five Corner Cupboard food pantry, the Connecticut Lions Low Vision Centers, the Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation, the Lions Low Vision Corner at the East Windsor Library and so many more endeavors too numerous to mention.

For more information contact Lion Jim Boulais at 860-289-7116 or [jboulais@yahoo.com](mailto:jboulais@yahoo.com).



*Canton Lion, Amor Lomibao, returns to his home town in the Philippines to host a free medical mission for all residents. Diabetes has become his major cause since it affects 40% of the population.*

## Going Home, Giving Back

*Dr. Amor Lomibao, Canton Lions*

In 2000, I brought my family to the Philippines to bury my mother. There, in the village of Mangaldan, where my family had lived for many years, my brother (an anesthesiologist), and my bother-in-law (a pediatrician), decided to start a medical mission.

Our barrio captain was excited about our idea, but unfortunately, aside from my stethoscope, we had no equipment or medicines to dispense. The most that we could do was diagnose patients and refer them to the Province's Hospital. I promised everyone that I would return with medicines.

My wife, Diana, and I have been going back home ever since to conduct a free medical clinic. We spend 2-3 days each time with the help of Municipal Health Officer, Dr. Ophelia Rivera, medical interns from the City of Dagupan, and nursing students.

Through the years, I have learned that diabetes is one of the most common diseases in the Philippines, affecting 2 in every 5 Filipinos. The town where I was born was no different. That is how diabetes became my primary project.

One of my lifetime goals is diabetes education, for without showing people how their diet and lifestyle affects their risk of diabetes, we will not stop the onslaught of new cases. My second goal is to treat diabetics with available medicines to improve their quality of life as much as possible.

With our Canton Lion members' help, I was able to bring home 50 glucometers and at least 600 test strips/lancets. Last March, 2013, with funding from friends, colleagues and my position as chairman of the Mangaldan International Organization,

I was able to buy a \$2,200 worth of lab equipment to perform basic chemistry including a kidney profile, lipid profile, and fasting blood glucose.

The first day of our clinic is focused on diabetes education. On our most recent visit, we had a local Certified Diabetes Educator who gave a lecture and provided a Q&A session. This was very well-received. Even my wife felt that she learned a lot from it.

I serve as "consultant" every time we conduct our clinic and I care for the more complicated adult patients who have multiple medical problems.

In the future, I would like to help procure prostheses for patients who have lost limbs due to diabetes so that they can maximize their productivity and improve their quality of life.



*Catholic Charities*

*Archdiocese of Hartford*

## ***Nurturing Healthy Babies***



## **Catholic Charities Needs Your Vote!**

Catholic Charities needs your vote to win \$30,000 in  
**Aetna's Voices of Health Competition!**

**Visit [www.ccaoh.org](http://www.ccaoh.org) to vote.**

You can vote from your email addresses for a total of five votes from each.

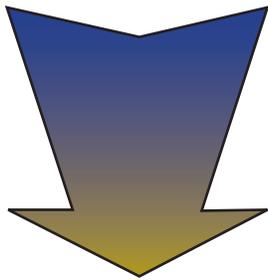
You can also vote once per day using your social media networks.

Vote from your Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, and Yahoo! accounts.

**Voting ends October 20th.**

**Thank you!**

**For more information, please contact Director of Fund Development Peter O'Donnell at Catholic Charities:  
(860) 728-2571, or [podonnell@ccaoh.org](mailto:podonnell@ccaoh.org), or visit [www.ccaoh.org](http://www.ccaoh.org)**



**We hope...**

## The Importance of LEOS

*By Kimberly Nguyen*

LEOs are kids. That may be true. But they have the potential to be so much more than JUST a LEO club, especially to their sponsoring Lions club.

First off, in this day and age, all kids are connected to social media, and LEOs are no exception. Lions have access to all branches of social media that can be distributed to others. Social media such as Pinterest, Facebook, SnapChat and so on.

What would happen if a LEO put on Facebook for all their friends to see an event that Lions were putting together in the town or city? It would create awareness and even more of an interest.

### **Another Idea**

What if a Lion wanted to find software online or build a website? LEOs are always up for poring through sites to find the best and nothing of the best and already have an idea of what works and what doesn't technology (including the Internet).

Second, LEOs helping at Lions events shows the kids' leadership and interest in doing good. Take

visions screenings for example. When LEOs help out, they instantly feel that they are helping to improve someone's vision, making that person aware of their vision problems. LEO involvement demonstrates that youth working with Lions do good in their communities. Because Lions foster that, interest in the Lions grows.

Another annual event in Berlin, CT is the VIP (Visually Impaired Persons) Fishing Tournament for children. When LEOs got involved, they interacted with the kids who were participating in the fishing tournament. LEOs made all the difference by talking to other kids and generating interest in the tournament. It showed that kids cared about each other, and the parents appreciated that.

Finally, LEOs have so many ideas that just haven't been unlocked yet! Every LEO has a brain full of ideas and with encouragement, they can achieve it. LEOs have an energy about them that is just out of the ballpark.

LEOs have so much to give and can help Lions grow. That's why LEOs are important!

**HOLIDAY PARTY**

**District 23B**

December 14 2-6 p.m.

Hosted by the Torrington Lions Club

Location to follow

Come out and meet new Lions!

**SAVE THE DATE!**

# Visually Impaired Persons (VIP) Fishing Tournament

By Charley Satkowski - Chairperson

Connecticut's VIPs are getting ready to compete in the 31<sup>st</sup> annual North Carolina Visually Impaired Persons (VIP) Fishing Tournament. The event will again take place on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, October 21-24, 2013. To qualify for this opportunity to compete, they needed to win the Connecticut Visually Impaired Persons Fishing Tournament.

This tournament is a celebration of life. Visual impairment is not treated as a disability. Our participants lead active lives. All they request is an opportunity. There is an opportunity to be successful in a sport based on tactile senses. There is an opportunity to meet with friends and councilors. There is an opportunity for Lions to walk along side of the people We Serve.

Here are some comments we heard from participants and volunteers.

- *Do we have to eat now? The fish just started to bite.*
- *How can a blind person become a Lion?*
- *This is the best day of my life.*
- *A participant needed a ride. Austin volunteered to give him a ride. The participant asked Austin why he drove for 60 minutes to give him a ride, when they had never met. Austin said I am doing this because I am a Lion.*



- *I need to rest, are there any donuts left?*
- *When you are measuring the length of my fish, could you just stretch the fish a little bit?*
- *The BVA is grateful to the Berlin Lions for sponsoring this tournament. We hope to double our participation next year, and will work with other BVA state chapters to promote VIP Fishing across the country.*

Our VIPs share a love of life and share interesting, but different backgrounds. David was a skilled machinist by trade, retiring after 32 years. Or as David explains the situation, "My job went to China, I didn't!" He and his bride of 25 years are enjoying retirement. David enjoys reading, computer games, listening to music, and dining with his wife. His guide, an East Hartford Lion, has been with David for five years. They met three years ago at a Connecticut tournament and have become close friends. The East Hartford Lions are proudly sponsoring David's trip to the Outer Banks this year.

Encole is a retired elementary teacher from Bridgeport and Stratford. She loved working with children ranging in age from pre-school through the sixth grade before losing her sight. She is an active member of the National Federation of the Blind's southern Connecticut chapter and has held several offices. Encole enjoys cooking, beading, sewing, walking, and now has added fishing to her favorite activities. She plans to bring home trophies from North Carolina.

Edward is 36 and is pursuing a degree in physics and computer technology, at the University of Hartford. He is an avid reader of Science Fiction. His lifelong goal is to work with NASA. He developed and manages a local company that is currently providing a noninvasive, non-surgical, FDA approved option to weight control.

We are already in the planning stages for the 2014 VIP Fishing Tournament. Volunteers and donations are always welcome. We are looking forward to working with Lions of Connecticut. Please contact VIP Fishing Tournament Chair, Charley Satkowski, 860.828.1427.





## ID Carolyn's Coming Home!

International Director Carolyn Messier has completed her two-year term with Lions Clubs International Board of Directors. She has performed her duties with enthusiasm, generosity and aplomb. She and her energetic partner in service, Norm Messier have traveled many miles to represent New England and the International Board of Directors. They have many exciting stories to tell and their homecoming is sure to be an exciting event!

On Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, we will be welcoming them home at an afternoon dinner at Maneeley's, located at 65 Rye Street in South Windsor. We will begin with cocktails and hors d'ouvres at 1:00 and dinner at 2:00. The Windsor Locks Lions Club will be hosting the event.

The cost is \$45 per person with a cash bar. Formal invitations will be sent to club Presidents, but you can take advantage of registering early. Entrée choices are listed below along with a registration form.

If you wish to be included as a speaker, please contact George Cooper, PDG at 800-627-9777 or via email at [liongeorgecooper@aol.com](mailto:liongeorgecooper@aol.com).

✂-----

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email \_\_\_\_\_

Baked Seafood Stuffed Sole w/ Lobster Sauce     Eggplant Rollatini

Chicken Française     Roast Tenderloin of Beef

Number Attending @ \$45 Per Person – Check Payable to *Windsor Locks Lions Club*

Mail to: Cindy Cooper, 287 South Elm Street, Windsor Locks, CT 06096



Avon  
Barkhamsted  
Canaan N.W.  
Canton  
Colebrook  
Hartland  
New Hartford  
Norfolk  
Sharon  
Winsted

## Mike Wilcox & Steve Daigle

We had our first meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September at the Log House Restaurant in New Hartford. In attendance was Lions from Avon, Canaan N.W., Canton, Colebrook and Winsted. Lion Steve and I presented Gov. Dan's goals and discussed various leadership ideas. We went over the Action plans that the Presidents and other leaders should complete. Then had a lively conversation on what the clubs had been doing over the summer as well as there plans for the fall.

Publicity Chair Bob Bessel shared ways on how he could help them not only to promote there club, but also help them write P.R. pieces. I would encourage you to email Lion Bob for his help. [rbessel@yahoo.com](mailto:rbessel@yahoo.com).

Our next meeting will be on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October, place and time will be announced the first week of October.



Lions President, Barry Palmer, poses with a pirate - AARGH!

Bethlehem  
Burlington  
Harwinton  
Kent  
Litchfield  
New Milford  
Thomaston  
Torrington  
Watertown  
Washington  
Woodbury



## Jim Trompeter

Greetings from the Litchfield Hills and the clubs that make up Zone2. We are off and running.

We had our first Zone Meeting on September 9<sup>th</sup>. 10 out of the 11 clubs in our Zone were in attendance. The camaraderie was great and the discussions were both informative and stimulating in terms of new ideas and varying view- points. All of the clubs in attendance either just completed a major project and others had 1 or 2 on the immediate horizon. The main thing everyone is involved in trying to help people in their community and beyond. Our Zone meeting consisted of discussions on developing an action plan, each Club President was asked to determine what 2 or 3 areas they wanted to focus on and what their goals were and their time

table for achieving them. All clubs were asked to take a hard look at membership within their clubs and how to strengthen their members. Clubs were also asked to take a look at the needs in their community, and if it was practical for the Lions to be of assistance.

Below is a brief summary of where the clubs are at.

Bethlehem: Has 2 potential new members in the wings and was involved in 2 major fund raisers. The club cooked and sold food at a Civil War reenactment in Woodbury, the then sold French fries for 3 days at the Bethlehem Fair.

Burlington: has been actively involved in supporting the youth sport programs in their area. They cooked food for the LSM Marching Band Picnic. The club is currently improving their storage barn. The Burlington Lions have a Pediatric Eye Screening scheduled for Nov 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>.

Harwinton: Gearing up for the Harwinton Fair the first weekend in October. The club will be selling chili. Harwinton Lions are partnering with Burlington Lions for the Region 10 Pediatric Eye Screening Nov 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. The Harwinton Lions Annual Scholarship Pancake Breakfast will be held Sunday, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Harwinton Consolidated School.

Litchfield: was actively involved in the Litchfield Road Race, Finalizing plans for the Holiday Season

New Milford: One of their major fund raisers took place on Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, their annual Car Show and Country Fair.

Thomaston: Charter Night for their new Leo Club will take place on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Senior Citizen Breakfast coming in November.

Torrington : Held a very successful Car Show on Main Street in Torrington. Pediatric Eye Screening will be held for 3 days starting Nov 9<sup>th</sup>. The club will be involved in the Torrington Trunk or Treat on Oct 26<sup>th</sup>.

# HELP!

Graphic Designers  
Journalists  
Marketeers  
Photographers  
Writers

The District Spirit needs YOU!  
Call Bob Bessel at  
860.324.8267

Washington: Just completed a Barbecue Fund Raiser, they will have a haunted barn for Halloween and are holding a Bring a Friend to Dinner event in October as a way to find new members.

Watertown: Annual Car Show on Sep 22<sup>nd</sup>, Christmas Tree Sale in December.

Woodbury: Held 4th annual Duck Race on Sept 14<sup>th</sup>, for Sight and hearing causes. Preparing for the Haunted Hayride the last 2 weekends in October.

**Bloomfield**  
**East Granby**  
**East Windsor**  
**Enfield**  
**Granby**  
**Manchester**  
**Simsbury**  
**South Windsor**  
**Suffield**  
**Windsor**  
**Windsor Locks**



## Josh Cohen

Chairing Zone 3 is Josh Cohen who joined the Windsor Lions Club 20 years ago. He had been involved with the JCs, but preferred the Lions' camaraderie and the promise of working with the Lions for years to come.

As a partially person, Josh feels compelled to describe what it's like to have disabilities – and to show how Lions can help disabled people live better lives. He encourages clubs to volunteer for the Special Olympics and has worked for several years on the District Cabinet to increase awareness and participation.

Josh has made a number of friends through Lions and enjoys getting out. "We're like family," he says. "So many Lions have helped me throughout the years to become the Lion I am today."



Who can explain the minds of Steve Daigle and Harry Shuh? Not I!!

Josh's goals for this year:

1. Get all the Lions and LEOs clubs involved with Special Olympics. LEOs should work through their athletic department
2. Increase the number of disabled members in Lions Clubs so we understand their needs and can do more to help
3. Have all clubs conduct a pediatric eye screening this year!



**East Hartford**  
**Glastonbury**  
**Greater Hartford Host**  
**G. Hartford West Indian**  
**Hartford Diversity**  
**Hartford Evening**  
**Hartford Multi-National**  
**Hartford St. Lucian**  
**Marlborough**  
**Trinity College**

## Winston Barnaby

The first Zone 4 meeting for the 2013 – 2014 year was held on Thursday 9/14/2013 at Elaine's Restaurant in Wethersfield, CT. All Zone 4 clubs were present with the exception of Marlborough, Hartford St Lucian and Hartford Evening.

In his address to the group, the District Governor, Dan Di Virgilio emphasized the need for clubs to make the activities they are involved with in the community be known outside of the club. This sentiment was shared later by PR Director Bob Bessel when he spoke to the group later on.

Bob Clark in addressing the group shared with them some of the activities he will be working on with the clubs. These included membership growth and Pediatric Eye Screening.

I gave the group a synopsis of my vision for our Zone and highlighted the Action Plan I created for the DG. All the items on my Action Plan are consistent with that of the District with one exception; I added a dot point for a special project for the Zone. The special project is to plan a bus trip to the 2014 International Lions Convention in Toronto.

The Greater Hartford West Indian Club reported that they have conducted an eye screening at Keeney Park in Hartford in August as a part of the Family Fun Day activity. In September they presented the Fred D Wish School in Hartford with uniforms. They



Tina Rafala

Berlin  
Bristol  
Middletown  
New Britain  
Newington  
Plainville  
Rocky Hill  
Southington  
Terryville  
Unionville  
Windsor

Dear Ms. Gibson, Ms. Jacobs, and Ms. Tate-  
It was wonderful to meet you ladies this morning and we can't thank you enough for your continued contribution to Wish School! We know uniforms are such a big need with our families and it's so great to know that we have people like you who go above and beyond to help those who need it. We are so very appreciative.

Thank you again for everything you do!  
Courtney Mulcahy  
Community Partnership Liaison  
Fred D. Wish Museum School

reported several Activities planned for the near future including an Eye Screening at Community Health Services in Hartford on September 28.

The Hartford Diversity Club will be working on a golf tournament and is planning a Breakfast with Santa for December 1<sup>st</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>.

The East Hartford Club reported that they will staff the kiosks at Rentschler Field for UCONN games selling beers. They will also be holding a White Cane Day on October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Stop and Shop on Silver Lane. Here they will hand out information about lionism.

The Marlborough Club will be holding a vision screening for 2 to 6 years old on October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. They will also be holding a pasta dinner on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion Hall.

*Of course you have a story!*

*It could be a "Thank You" like the one in Windsor (p. 16). It could be the look on a child's face when you check his eyes.*

*Share your story with your fellow Lions by sending it to [rbessel@yahoo.com](mailto:rbessel@yahoo.com).*

Five clubs (Wethersfield, New Britain, Rocky Hill, Unionville, and Plainville) participated in our first Zone Workshop on September 16. The clubs shared many ideas about increasing membership and engaging members in projects that matter to their communities. We talked about member recognition by giving certificates of appreciation and when presenting checks to individuals or organizations that we support have one member present the check instead of the club president.

We need to remember to tell WHY we're participating in those projects; that's how members can make a personal connection and generate support from the public. The meeting was off to a great start and clubs have started their action plans.

Our next workshop meetings will be on October 15 at 6:15 p.m. at the Eastside Restaurant. There we will finalize our action plans and work in groups. We will have guest speakers to support us on Publicity and Membership. On November 18 at 6:15 p.m. This will be a joint meeting with Zone 2. Jim and I are working on a location in Terryville and will provide that information as soon as we have it.

#### Rocky Hill Lions

Rocky Hill Lions held their annual carnival the beginning of September had a great successful weekend. At our first meeting in September Certificates of Appreciation were



That's a crazy bunch of Lions at the New Britain Octoberfest - their first one!  
You can bet it won't be the last!

presented to local residents who helped with the carnival (from this we are gaining a new member).

October 19 doing a Community Service Project working with our Park and Rec's FallFest selling tickets for their carnival.

October 9 will be DG Dan DiVirgilio visit with Wethersfield, Newington and Rocky Hill clubs. Looking forward to two new members joining the club. Planning other fundraisers, Holiday get together in December Lions will collect toys for our local children.

### **New Britain**

New Britain Lions started the year in late August with our Howard Wry Golf Tournament. The event was a huge success!! We had a total of 100 golfers and raised a net profit of more than \$12,000.

On September 13 - 15 we had our 1st Annual Oktoberfest. We had two beer tents and about 20 volunteers which, was a mixture of lions and their spouses. The event was organized

by Nick Augustino from the Eastside Restaurant. There was tons of food and German beer, which brought laughter and cheer. We hope that next year the event will be bigger and better. The New Britain Lions raised a net total of \$4,800. President Lew Platt is planning on helping the community with some special projects. More details to follow once plans are set into place.

November 3 will be our annual Harvest Breakfast and the event will take place at the East Side Restaurant. DG Dan DiVirgilio will be visiting the New Britain lions on October 8. Our membership goal for the year is 6 and we currently have 2 new members that will be inducted in October.

### **Terryville Lions**

We had our Annual Terryville Fair in August and also the big VW show the week before the fair. We do a "Country Camp-out in September and at this point we have over 20 campers scheduled to arrive and park and set up camp living next week. During this

event we cook and serve dinners and organize games and other things to do during the days.

We are looking into helping the hearing impaired get in contact with the proper people who will fit them with re-manufactured hearing aids. We have several people waiting for this.

Also in August we donated \$1000 to the local Boy Scout Camp. They used this to replace the roof on the "Lions Den" cabin this summer. All in all it has been a busy summer for us.

*"The most precious gift we can offer anyone is our attention."*

*"When mindfulness embraces those we love, they will bloom like flowers."*

- Thich Nhat Hanh

# Pin Traders Unite!

by Lion Phil Dzurnak

The Connecticut Pin Traders club hosted the Northeast Pin Swap this year which was held in Mystic, CT from August 15-17. It was a great success with 46 pin traders from many different states and Canada attending and utilizing 63 tables to display and trade the various pins they brought. Several members of LITPC Board of Directors were also in attendance. Nightly hospitality rooms were enjoyed by all. Friday night's auction was very successful as many traders competed in the bidding. Our auctioneer LITPC President Paul Viano did an outstanding job of keeping this lively, informative and moving at a very good pace.

Saturday morning breakfast was well attended with several traders receiving various awards. The most surprising award was presented to the Connecticut Pin Traders founder, Lion Curt Fitch who received a William A. Smith award by the club – he was completely surprised to say the least.

## Two Scholarships Awarded

Immediate LITPC Past President Jim Minnich had his running shoes on once again as he collected more \$100 bills for the "LITPC 100" Project. After he finished collecting the bills, it should be noted at this time there



Carol, Sally and Nanette pose with Roger at the Northeast Pin Swap.

are only five more numbered spots available in the project for those members who contribute, join and receive the numbered pins. However, that doesn't mean the end to Jim's running. He said there are more pins to be had, but they will not be numbered. These funds as well as the William A. Smith award go towards the scholarship fund. Thus far, two scholarships have been awarded.

## On Camera

Much of the swap and several interviews were filmed by Carol Kearns and Harry Shuh. They do a show called "Lions around Connecticut" and this video will be aired at a future date. Carol joined



Jim and Paul welcome pin traders to the event while Roger lends his support.

the Connecticut Pin Traders club on May 14 after having Phil & Elaine Dzurnak help them present a show on pin trading on that day. Harry wanted to wait until this pin swap to join. He and George Finlayson both joined the Connecticut Pin Traders club on the first day of this swap.

Club President Roger Van Dyke concluded the swap by thanking his committee and all who attended. He also hoped everyone would have a safe trip home.

Next year's Northeast pin swap will be held in Dedham, MA and is to be hosted by the Pin Traders Club of Massachusetts.



The pin traders stopped long enough to get this picture taken - by Roger? Where's Roger?

## USA/Canada Leadership Forum 2013

By First VDG Mike Wilcox

Wow, what a Forum! This was my fourth USA Canada Leadership Forum, but not my last. Goodbye, Overland Park, Kansas. Next September, I'll be in San Juan Puerto Rico!

Opening night we heard retired catcher Ed Hearn, former NY Mets 1986 World Series Champ, who had a career ending shoulder injury, three life-saving Kidney transplants, dialysis, radiation treatments with cancer, etc. But he came back and at the age of 52, his life stories left the audience remembering him as man who will have a lasting impact on their lives.

Friday's luncheon speaker Dayna Steel, author of numerous books, showed us how to succeed.

On Saturday, we heard Lions International's own rock star, President Barry Palmer. You just had to be there to appreciate his dedication and enthusiasm about moving Lions forward.

The closing speech on Saturday night was given by Patrick Henry Hughes, a remarkable young man who was born without eyes and without the ability to fully straighten his arms and legs, making him unable to walk. He even had two steel rods surgically attached to his spine to correct scoliosis.

Despite these physical issues, he has graduated college and excelled as a musician and a public speaker.

Patrick started to play the piano at the age of 9 months, and today he's a virtuoso pianist, vocalist and trumpet player. He's written several books and recorded two CDs.

But inspiring speeches weren't the only features of this year's USA/Canada Forum. We had our pick of 64 seminars, two of which were presented by our own IPID Carolyn Messier, one by PDG Norm, and one each by PCC Mark Lynn and CC Linda Maggs. PID Scott Storms served as a moderator, and he and Carolyn were in numerous meetings.

President Barry Palmer, IPP Wayne Madden, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Joe Preston and other past presidents along with PIDs presented various seminars. It was a great opportunity to get to talk with these fellow Lions and to learn the secrets of their leadership.

If that's not enough to get you to San Juan, Puerto Rico September 11-13, 2014, I don't know what will. C'mon down!

## A Most Amazing "Thank You" in Windsor

Nearly 50 years ago, a retired businessman approached the Windsor Lions with a request: Would the Lions help him buy tools so her could offer classes in woodworking to senior citizens in Windsor. By saying yes, the Windsor Lions started a legacy of giving that continues to this day.

The Windsor Lions didn't know it then, but the requestor, Milton White, so appreciated their generosity that he included the Lions in his will. When he died in 1991, the Windsor Lions learned that Mr. White had bequeathed money to the Lions for eye care for Windsor residents.

Fortunately for Windsor, the Lions envisioned Mr. White's bequest as an opportunity to expand their eye support program from "as needed" to an annual town-wide eye screening for every child in the Windsor School System.

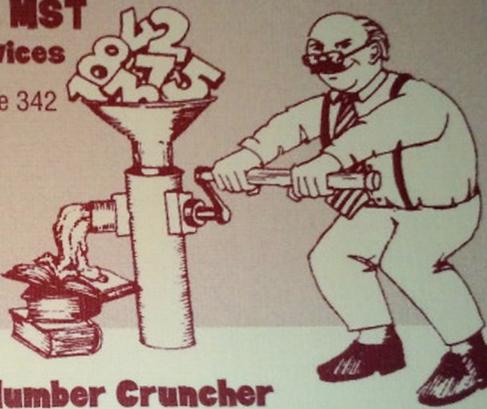
In fact, the Lions have expanded their program beyond children to include any resident of Windsor. That program helped a 40 year old machinist who lost his job because he needed eye surgery. Without employment, he had no health insurance, so he couldn't get the operation. Thanks to the Windsor Lions and Milton White's bequest, this man is back at work and his vision has been restored.

Last year, the Lions eye screening found 26 kids and 6 seniors who needed further treatment.

That's a "Thank You" that has kept on giving for 22 years!

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