

DISTRICT



CHANGING PEOPLES LIVES

Spirit

March 2020

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Where Is This Box?



We were able to stump the District once again! A shout-out to the Simsbury Lions with their collection box at the library. No one sent in a correct guess, so we try again. The first Lion to send their correct guess to District23BSpirit@gmail.com wins the esteem and respect of the district, and remember—if it's your club's box, you're ineligible to win.

This is the last collection box picture we have on file. Send us pictures of your club's eyeglass boxes to use in upcoming Spirits. There are a lot more out there that we need to see. Send them to District23BSpirit@gmail.com with your club's name and the location.

Roar, Lions!

DG Ev Lyons

District 23B finds itself in a rather unique position this year with three announced candidates for the position of Second Vice-District Governor. As each intends to serve during the 2020-2021 Lions Year, this year's election will feature all three names on the ballot. Our candidates are Lions Peter Nevers (East Windsor), Phyllis Perry (Bloomfield) and Dave Roberts (Barkhamsted).

Their tenure as Lions leaders will also be unusual, as this year's candidate will have a five-year obligation to serve: two years as a vice-district governor, district governor, MD23 Council Chairperson and chair of the mid-winter conference planning committee.

Every three years, our district assumes the leadership of the post-governor responsibilities and those tasks will fall to whomever is elected as our 2VDG for next year. Electing a district governor is important in itself, but more so when Lions consider that next year's 2VDG has added leadership responsibilities and an expectation to serve for a longer number of years.

To assist district Lions in making an informed choice, the district will host a Candidates' Forum on April 18, 2020 from 10:00 to 12:00 at the American School for the Deaf. The forum will be held in the Rockwell Communications Center (Building Q) which is located behind the main building on the top of the hill. All Lions are invited, particularly those who have volunteered to serve as their club's delegates.

This election is historic and of great importance to the future direction of our district and state. Please attend to hear what each candidate has to say and what each candidate can offer our Lions in terms of leadership capacity.



Leadership

By GLT Jim Trompeter

By the time you read this I hope many of you had the opportunity to attend some of the seminars offered at this year's Mid-Winter Conference. I hope each came away with some Ideas on how to improve your club or help make someone a better Lion.

Membership has and always will be an area of importance in our District. Retention is the key to building up our membership and developing strong clubs. Unfortunately retaining members is one of the key reasons our membership numbers drop. Educating our members is one way of improving our retention

- The District Spirit & Lions Magazine are great vehicles for educating our membership as to what is happening both Locally and Internationally in Lionism. It does not hurt to promote these publications at your meeting and maybe discussing an article or two at a meeting.
- The Lions Club International web site is a great source of information, both for Officers and Members. Once a month, take five minutes to discuss a section of the website that deals with improving your club i.e. (Meetings, Community

Service ,and Committee Functions). These are just a few, if you need some suggestions for specific needs of your club contact me.

- Membership Sponsors are keys to retention. Make sure sponsors are educated as to their responsibilities; there is a section on this topic on the website.

**OFFICERS TRAINING JUNE 8,
2020 8am – 12 Noon
CONNECTICUT ASSOC OF
SCHOOLS - CHESHIRE CT**

This is a great opportunity for Club Officers to learn about their position and also new initiatives for the upcoming year. Interested Club Members are welcome. Your Membership team will have the opportunity to discuss retention issues and learn how to improve retention. More information on this important session will be forthcoming.

West Hartford Lumbini Lions Club

The West Hartford Lumbini Lions Club is a new specialty club organized by District Club Specialty Coordinator Raj Shrestha. The club has 28 charter members and meets on the fourth Sunday of each month at 6:00 PM at Himalaya restaurant in Berlin. Charter President is Krishna Kandel.

At their first membership meeting in January, members approved their budget, service projects, and networked. The club is made up with Lions who have a passion for Nepal. Visitors are welcome at all their meetings.

PDG Dave Roberts, who also serves as a Guiding Lion for this new club, presented membership certificates and pins to charter members who were absent at the Charter Night Celebration in early December.

LIONS Low Vision Center

Every Lion in District 23B is a member of the Lions Low Vision Centers (LLVC) of Litchfield and Hartford Counties. Board Members for Lions Low Vision Centers each take responsibility for a Zone within our District to promote usage of the center in their area.

Recently, the Board, under the leadership of President Peter Nevers, noticed that the census was next to zero for the Torrington LLVC. Since this center is located in new board member PDG Dave Roberts' area, he wanted to take action.

After meeting with Business Manager Tom DePalo, Dave visited the Torrington Lions Low Vision Center and met with receptionist Jean. Jean recommended Dave talk with Jennifer Labrie, who is Resource Coordinator for Hartford HealthCare Center for Healthy Aging. Jennifer also happens to be the wife of Barkhamsted Lions Club Immediate Past President Rejean Labrie, which is Dave's home club. Dave and Jennifer met and discussed strategies to expand usage of the Torrington LLVC. Dave also provided LLVC pamphlets to Jennifer.

Next, Dave toured the Sullivan Senior Center in Torrington, met with Kerry Vitali, brought LLVC pamphlets for distribution, and booked an opportunity to speak at the Senior Center on May 13 at 11:15 a.m.

Finally, Dave met with WAPJ radio and Lion Peter Cianciolo to discuss using radio to promote the Torrington LLVC. Peter recommended Dave compose a PSA for usage. Here is the PSA and we are asking you to promote usage of not only the Torrington LLVC, but all LLVCs in Bristol, Hartford and New Britain.

WAPJ Public Service

Announcement: If you cannot see the numbers on your telephone, read the newspapers and

magazines, even with your glasses, you may be suffering from low vision and a candidate for Lions Low Vision services provided right here in Torrington.

"Low vision" is defined as a vision loss that can no longer be corrected by a medical procedure or treatment. It is the third most commonly occurring impairment among people ages 70 and above.

The Lions Low Vision Center is located at 1151 East Main Street (860-496-0046) right here in Torrington and was established to meet your needs.

So what do you need to do to access free services? First, visit your eye care professional. Second, ask your eye care professional to complete a simple referral form and fax (860-496-0036) it to the Lions Low Vision Center in Torrington. Third, call the Torrington center to make an appointment with an occupational therapist that does low vision evaluations. Fourth, go to the Torrington Center for your scheduled appointment.

In most cases, your insurance or Medicare will cover the occupational therapist services, but you may have to pay a plan required co-payment. All devices will be provided free of charge as they are donated by the Lions Clubs of Litchfield and Hartford Counties.

Come hear Lions Low Vision Center Board Director Dave Roberts answer your questions on **Wednesday, May 13th, at 11:15 a.m.** and to learn more about the Lions Low Vision Center right here in Torrington and see some of the free devices that could be provided to you.



Lions Day with the United Nations

So much has happened since we began planning for our District's participation in *Lions Day with the United Nations 2020* almost one year ago.

The date was moved, and then moved back, to Saturday, March 7. Then, the location changed to the Westin Grand Central, instead of the United Nations, due to circumstances beyond LCI's control.

Then, attendance was limited to just 300 Lions and Leos, and the event sold out within 10 days. Finally, the price was increased to cover the cost of the plated luncheon, which will be served during the event.

Because of all these changes, District Governor Ev Lyons accepted LCI Events Committee Chair Dave Roberts' recommendation to cancel our two luxury buses to NYC this year.

The event is sold out and a waiting list is available for any Lions or Leos who want to be placed on the waiting list. There are at least four Lions and Leos attending the event this year, including Chair Dave Roberts, Leo Natalee Roberts, PCC Kathy Randall and PCC Alan Daninhirsch.

Our committee raised \$1,060 for fifty-two Leo bus seat scholarships, and I am so pleased that 90% of our donors told us to keep these funds for Leo bus seat scholarships for *Lions Day with the United Nations 2021*. In addition, we were awarded a \$1,000 grant from Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation and the Foundation has granted us a one-year extension to use these funds for Leo registration scholarships next year.



2nd VP Corner

Ed Fenton, 2nd VP

It's hard to believe that over half my 2VDG year is already complete. I've had a great time during the past seven months getting out meeting the fantastic Lions in this District and assisting with your projects and fundraisers.

As I continue offering my assistance to clubs, November 9 was a day of double duty with the Suffield Lions and the South Windsor Lions. Thankfully, it was only slightly cold and not windy, while we collected new and used coats for two hours on Mountain Road in Suffield. President Ed Kozloski and his Lions donate the coats to the A&P Free Clothing Center affiliated with St Patrick's Church in Enfield. Anyone who needs a warm coat is able to get one at no cost. This is a fantastic service provided by our Suffield Lions Club!

On the evening of November 9, the South Windsor Lions held their annual Veterans Day Spaghetti Dinner. The event included a bake sale, and a "pop the balloon" raffle activity. The highlight of the meal is the family-recipe spaghetti sauce Lion Jan Rodrigue prepares each year. This fundraiser doubles as a service project, as all Veterans who attend are given a free meal. And, to Lions Christy and Ahmed who served food with me, "the spaghetti will be ready in two minutes!"

The morning of November 17 was spent with the East Windsor Lions for their annual turkey shoot. Many people braved the cold that morning to shoot at paper targets. The prizes were a variety of food items for the holiday. The Turkey Shoot stretches over multiple weekends, and the East Windsor Leo's Club assists with re-setting the targets for each round. This is a great way for the Leos to work with Lions to raise funds for the community.

The month of December finds many of our clubs distributing food for the holidays. I was lucky to spend time with two of our clubs for these projects. The second weekend of December was with my home club,

East Hartford Lions, for our annual "Christmas Baskets of Cheer" program. This program is in its 41st year, and is chaired by PDG George Precourt, Club President Steve Crecco, and Lion Don Bell. On Thursday afternoon, most of the food items are picked up at a local store and delivered to the East Hartford Grange, which serves as the base location for this event. On Friday afternoon, many Lions and other volunteers met to package all the food. Then, on Saturday morning, an army of Lions gathered at 8:00am and spent the morning delivering the food baskets throughout town. This is easily the most rewarding project for the East Hartford Lions each year!

On Saturday December 21, I visited the Terryville Lions to assist them in delivering food baskets in town. The Terryville Club has a fantastic relationship with their local IGA store, which donates and packs all the food. The Lions arrive at the grocery store early morning, pick-up the food, and then hit the road in carefully drawn out order. Thanks to Lions Tracy Dubois who maps out the routes for each driver. This project has been ongoing for over fifty years in Terryville!

As we approach the Mid-Winter Conference and then the State Convention, our District is in the unusual situation of having three qualified candidates interested in becoming District Governor, as well as Council Chair for the State Multiple District. I highly encourage all Clubs' State Convention Delegates to attend the Candidates Forum on April 18 at the American School for the Deaf to hear the thoughts of all three Lions.

If you have an upcoming service project or fundraiser, please let me know if you would like some help. I can be contacted at edehlions@aol.com, and my other contact information is on the District website. I look forward to continuing to work with all the Lions in District 23-B!

Earth Day 2020 April 22

One of the five challenges for Lions is the environment. With the 50th anniversary of Earth Day coming up on April 22, it's the perfect time for your club to plan activities and projects around this event.

The Earth Day theme this year is "climate action". There are many projects that a club can perform on a small scale that will have a lasting impact in our communities. These can be either a one-time event, or the beginnings of a long-term mission. Here are some suggestions:

- Collect used printer, fax, and copier cartridges to recycle
- Distribute "Bee Friendly" seeds for the community to plant
- Remove invasive plants from parks and greenways in your community
- Adopt a road or street in your community to maintain
- Organize a nature hike, picking up trash as you go
- Plant trees
- Create a nature guide for local parks

With a little effort, clubs can make a huge impact in their communities while drawing attention to environmental issues. If it's too late to put a project together for this year, then start planning for Earth Day 2021.





GREATER HARTFORD HOST LIONS CLUB

56th ANNUAL PANCAKE & BUFFET BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2020
8am to 12pm

American School for the Deaf
139 N. Main Street, West Hartford

\$8.00 per adult
\$5.00 per child (under 12)



The Woodbury Lions Club

42ND Annual

Car Show and Food Festival

Sunday, June 14, 2020

Hollow Park, Woodbury, CT

FOOD TRUCKS
Live Music
Vendors
Raffles
Trophies



Hundreds of vintage cars!

• Show cars \$15 • General Admission \$5 • Children (under 10) \$1 •

Car entry at 9am • Gates open at 10am

Sorry - no dogs, please!

woodburyctlions.org

Connecticut Lions Day at the State Capitol

By PDG Dave Roberts

In order to promote Lionism and its powerful connection to every city and town in Connecticut, the first Connecticut Lions Day at the State Capitol event is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Rotunda/Ground Floor area of our Connecticut State Capitol.

The event was initiated when VDG Lori-Ann Beninson met with Governor Lamont at an event in New Fairfield. State Representative/Lion Ken Gucker has been a true champion.

After many meetings, the final plan for this first event is to host table displays spotlighted key aspects of Lionism in Connecticut, brief remarks by elected officials and International Director Mark Lyon, and the Governor flying our Lions flag over the State Capitol.

There will be nineteen table displays at the event with volunteers for each table. The nineteen tables are: 2 CLERF/Kidsight (Joyce Wruck – District A/Dan Uitti District B/Nanette Burdick District C), 3 Lions Low Vision Centers (chair by each District's LLVC President), District Tables (6; 2 per District chaired by District Governors), Hearing (Maryann Arrigone (District A), Diabetes (Alan Daninhirsch – District B), Childhood Cancer/Camp Rising Sun (Meredith Spector – District B/Keith Lemire – District C), Youth/LEOs (Diana Grise'), LCIF (Mary Krogh – District C), Lion Around CT (Harry Schuh), Hunger (Pam LaFaille – District C/Steve Daigle – District B), and New Voices (Dave Roberts).

District Governors have reached out to Table Display Chairs to plan their table and solicit volunteers to staff their tables.

If you have any new members who want to join Lions, International Director Mark Lyon, our keynote

speaker, will be on hand to induct new members in the Rotunda of the State Capitol. Council Chair Jim Bennet will be the event's Master of Ceremonies. All District Governors will be on hand to make this first event a great success.

So what can you do?

1. Attend and encourage others to attend. April 21 is probably one of the busiest days of the legislation session.
2. Clubs are encouraged to have their club brochures available on their District's tables. All District tables will have membership applications.
3. Club Presidents will be provided a draft letter to send to their local elected officials encouraging them and their staff to stop by this event.

So, come on over to the State Capitol on Tuesday, April 21, from 10 AM to 2 PM for the First Connecticut Lions Day at the State Capitol and be part of history!

Woodbury Lions Club

With the holidays behind us, the Woodbury Lions are gearing up for their 42nd Annual Car Show June 14 at Hollow Park in Woodbury. This year, the club has made changes to make the show more exciting!

Along with the hundreds of show cars, we're adding food trucks to the field to turn this into a food festival. Burgers and dogs, pizza, Italian grinders and ice cream are among the food vendors we have planned this year.

Also, along with a DJ, we'll have live bands to entertain our attendees. Additionally, there will be our "Vendor Row" and games for the kids.

State's First Cyber Lions Club Launches

After almost two years of planning, on January 29, the State of Connecticut's first Cyber Lions club launched when Lions Clubs International chartered the Northwestern Connecticut Cyber Lions Club. The club was sponsored by the Lions Club of Barkhamsted.

A cyber club meets via GoToMeeting and performs collective service in its own area. "We are so excited to finally launch this new Lions Club with Dave Roberts," said Charter President Mary Jane Boyd. "Our twenty new cyber club members live on both coasts and are currently evenly split between Northwestern Connecticut and Southern California. We are a specialty club of mostly retired seniors without our own club. 18 of our members are senior citizens and two are student members which members ranging in age from 19 to almost 96 years old."

Cyber clubs are a new initiative being utilized by Lions Clubs International to give perspective members a new option to join our association when a traditional club may not work for them. There are many cyber Lions clubs throughout the United States and around the world. This is the first cyber Lions club in Connecticut.

PDG Dave Roberts promoted this concept here in Connecticut and was selected to be this club's Guiding Lion. The club has already completed all the basic administrative functions, launched a club website, made a contribution to Lions Clubs International Foundation, and is now undertaking its' first service project under the Childhood Cancer global cause. If you know someone who might like to be asked to join this new Cyber Lions Club, they can become a charter member until April 28. Just have them contact PDG Dave Roberts at dave@daveroberts.org or 858-775-9241.



Lion Around Connecticut

With Lions Carol Kearns and Harry Schuh

On March 4th, Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry celebrates its **7th Anniversary** of producing a weekly half-hour show celebrating Lions events and activities throughout our district and beyond! Our show is aired in 58 communities on 6 cable access TV stations: Charter Communications (Winsted), Cablevision (Litchfield), Charter Communications (Newtown), Charter Communications (Willimantic), Nutmeg (Farmington), and Skye XIII (Waterbury). We are excited to announce that we are now **airing on YouTube!** To watch "Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry" online, you can subscribe to Nutmeg TV on YouTube at www.YouTube.com/NutmegTelevision. You can also access our playlist directly at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLVHmFM06IZKxGruhD6iUjIAT2J7Y-ltW4>.

Listed below are our last fourteen shows. We had a wonderful time celebrating Halloween at the Winsted Lions Halloween Costume Dancy Party and also at the Hartford Multinational Lions Halloween Bash. Great costumes and fun for great causes! Our friend Dr. Egils Bogdanovics, head of the Charlotte Hungerford Hospital Diabetes and Endocrinology Center in Torrington, gave an informative and dynamic standing room only presentation on current diabetes treatment and disease management. The American School for the Deaf (ASD) hosted and thanked District 23B for our continued support of the school and its programs. We welcomed the West Hartford Lumbini Lions Club to District 23B at their Charter Night, which included a Nepalese meal followed by cultural music and dance performances. The first 3 shows at the New England Lions Council (NELC) Winter Meeting featured IPDG Harry Schuh and PDG Dave Roberts presenting a seminar titled "A Tool to Improve Communications" using our Multiple District 23 product GoToWebinar.

Listing of the past fourteen shows:

The Lions' Roar

The next two deadlines for The Lions' Roar are March 10, 2020 and April 10, 2020. Please send your event notices in a text format (we do not publish flyers) to D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com.

You should submit all events your club has planned through at least the end of that issue's month (for the January issue, we want everything from March 15 through the end of June 2020).

334	Winsted Lions Halloween Costume Dance Party Part 2
335	Winsted Lions Halloween Costume Dance Party Part 3
336	Hartford Multinational Lions Halloween Bash Part 1
337	Hartford Multinational Lions Halloween Bash Part 2
338	Dr. Egils Bogdanovics Diabetes Seminar Part 1
339	Dr. Egils Bogdanovics Diabetes Seminar Part 2
340	American School for the Deaf (ASD) Lions Appreciation Dinner
341	West Hartford Lumbini Lions Charter Night Part 1
342	West Hartford Lumbini Lions Charter Night Part 2
343	West Hartford Lumbini Lions Charter Night Part 3
344	West Hartford Lumbini Lions Charter Night Part 4
345	New England Lions Council (NELC) Winter Meeting Part 1
346	New England Lions Council (NELC) Winter Meeting Part 2
347	New England Lions Council (NELC) Winter Meeting Part 3

We invite you to appear as studio guests on our show or to invite us to document and publicize your Lions events on-site!



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"All the news that fits, we print!"

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The District 23B Spirit

Our next issue of the District 23B Spirit is June 1, 2020. The deadline for all ads and articles is May 10, 2020.

Ad prices are \$30/quarter page (3.5" wide, 5" long), \$50 for a half-page (7" wide, 5" long), and \$100 for a full-page (7" wide, 10" long). Please provide ads in .BMP, .JPG or .GIF formats only—no .PDF or .PUB files, please. If you don't know how to create an ad, send us your information and we'll create one for you.

Any submitted pictures should be in .JPG or .GIF format, and should be clear (blurry pictures do not reproduce well). We need pictures of collection boxes! PLEASE!

Submit materials for publication to District23BSpirit@gmail.com only.

Woodbury LEOs



(Left) The Nonnewaug High School Leo Club stocked shelves at the St. Vincent DePaul soup kitchen on Feb 8th. Then, the Leos helped serve 200 meals and gave out goodie bags that were filled with sundry items. Pictured are David Suttles, advisor Sandy Snabaitis and John Snabaitis. Not pictured is Olivia Melillo.

(Lower Left) The Nonnewaug High School Leo Club recently had a working meeting where they put together 200 goodie bags that will be delivered to St. Vincent DePaul next week. The bags include sundry items for people in need. Pictured left to right are Stephen LeClerc, advisor Sandy Snabaitis, Jennifer Curipoma, advisor Kate Peterson, Noah Chiapetta and Stephanie DiSarro.

(Lower Right) The Nonnewaug HS Leos helped serve meals on Feb 8th at the St. Vincent DePaul soup kitchen. They also distributed 200 goodie bags that were filled with sundry items. Pictured are left to right John Snabaitis and David Suttles. Not pictured is Olivia Melillo.



Bloomfield Lions Club



The Bloomfield Lions Club is proud to share the news that one of our club leaders, Zone Chair/Treasurer Phyllis W. Perry has recently achieved certification through the Lions Certified Instructor Program (LCIP), held in Calgary, AB in the fall. Lions Clubs around the world have a wide variety of leadership development programs. They also have detailed training courses for officers of the Association. These start at the club level and progress through Zone, District, State or Province, and then to International.

The LCIP certification is currently the highest faculty training available,

and graduates are able to consistently lead coursework at all levels, including forums, Institutes and DGE training. So LCIP-certified Lions are few in number and highly trained with less than 100 with this rating in the US and Canada and Phyllis joins a few others in MD23 with this distinctive achievement.

It is a real commitment to learn the skills and consistently utilize the knowledge required to provide high quality public service.



Membership

By GMT Coordinator Frank Longo

So far, in 2020, our membership numbers are declining. While we have the new West Hartford Lumbini club, and the new Cyber club that raised our membership, we lost a large number of members that completely wiped out what gains we made overall. It's not unusual to see a decline in January, since club secretaries are cleaning up their rosters before international dues are paid, but the size of this drop was unexpected, and even more startling was that most of these dropped members had less than two years of service.

There are many reasons why members leave; some are unavoidable. However, if we're not satisfying the reasons a member joins our club, then it's on us to look at what it is about our club that frustrates members to the point where they resign.

Are we providing enough opportunities for service? Many people, especially younger members, are looking for the chance to "give back" to the community. If a club does not have an active service program, these members are not fulfilling their goal, and look elsewhere.

I hear too often from clubs that "We do a lot of fund raisers," but many people want to be more involved. They want to pick up trash from parks, or to plant flowers along the roadside. There's a feeling of accomplishment when you see the result of your labor that writing a check doesn't provide. I'm not saying that club fundraisers aren't important, but they should be balanced with service in the community.

Tied to this is a feeling of being left out. New members need to be part of the club from the moment of their induction. In many clubs, longer-term members have their roles established, and aren't willing to give them up or share. This means new members are waiting for opportunities to participate that

aren't immediately forthcoming. This is why clubs need to find new projects—all members should have an equal opportunity to serve, and as your club grows, so should the number of projects. This way, even your newest members have something they can contribute. Even better, put them in charge of a new project.

And, speaking on leadership, new members are ideal candidates for club officers. We should be preparing our candidates for next year's club leadership (Nominations in March, elections in April, and you need to have your new officers entered into MyLCI by May 1) and with the expanded number of roles on the board, this is the time to turn your newer members into leaders.

And, sadly, some members leave because they don't feel as if they're part of the club. This is especially true when the age difference between longer-term members and newer members is large. As I mentioned previously, some Lions have their own territories that they protect and defend. Some clubs have a long-established culture with traditions that clashes with what younger members expect. Keep this in mind as your club grows, and make sure that your club adjusts to accommodate the reasons people join. Add to this the opinion of some clubs that new members need time to become "full members", and you'll see your new members become ex-members as they feel they're excluded from club activities. Remember that once a member is inducted, they have all the rights as all other members, including the ability to hold a club office, chair events, introduce prospective members to the club, and participate in all club events.

One way to make a new member feel welcome is to pair them with a longer-term member as a mentor. There is only so much you can cover in a new member orientation, and having a mentor to "fill in the blanks" and answer questions as

they come up will go a long way to making a new member comfortable.

This step becomes more important as we step up the International New Voices initiative. Our clubs will [hopefully] become more diverse, and we'll start to see the mentees become mentors with new ideas and programs. Contact me for more information on New Voices, and how you can use it to increase your club membership.

The new buzzword is "NAMI"—North American Membership Initiative. This program was created in response to sagging membership numbers in the United States and Canada, and has been successfully piloted in several districts. The full roll-out is planned to begin in the 2020-2021 Lions year (or, so I've been told), and more information on how your clubs can implement it will be available by then. I will keep you updated with any information I receive on NAMI so your club will be prepared to jump on board immediately.

Just a few more things to cover:

New Officer Training is planned for June 8, 8am to Noon at the Connecticut Association of Schools in Cheshire. I will be presenting the Membership Team Skills Training again, and I strongly urge all new Membership Chairs and their team members to attend. The feedback from the November session was very strong, and clubs who attended then seem to have better retention and more new members than those who didn't. GLT Jim Trompetor will have more information before then.

I am always available to answer your membership questions, come to your club to discuss ways to attract new members, including the MD23 Plan, and induct your new members. I can be reached via email, FMLongoJr@gmail.com, and I generally reply within 24 hours.

Good luck with growing your clubs, and remember, Lions Roar!

Marlborough Lions

We were able to award a Lifetime Membership to Glen Warstock. Well, we actually awarded it nearly a year ago, but Lions Club International took their time in getting us his certificate and handy-dandy "gold-plated" membership card. We were finally able to present Glen with his well-earned and overdue Lifetime Membership for his diligent and ever-present service to the Marlborough Lions Club since 1980 in January 2020.

One of our lifelong members, Arnie Buckley (we awarded his lifetime membership status back in 2019), has shown to be a sustaining force and prominent member to the Lions Club since he moved to the area back nearly forty years ago. He has been bequeathed a Lifetime Member, an Ambassador of Sight, and most recently, one of our highest awards—a Knight of the Blind. We would like to celebrate Arnie for his dedication.

Feedback from a screening completed in Fall 2019 at a nursery school on a 4.5yr girl: "We had ____'s appointment at Yale on Friday afternoon. She did excellent, and I was shocked at how well she listened; it was a long appointment! She is far-sighted, along with the misalignment. Luckily, she is not going to need to wear a patch yet, but will be going back in ten weeks for a checkup. We ordered her glasses yesterday, and will be picking them up either Tuesday or Thursday. I'm sure it's going to take some time for her to adjust to wearing them all of the time (and somehow keeping them from breaking when she plays)."

We just successfully raised about \$800 from our annual Superbowl Roses sale on Saturday 2/1. Roses are meant as a peace offering for those Superbowl widow/ers!

Upcoming events:

- Annual Pancake Breakfast Sunday 3/29 East Glastonbury Fish and Game Club 7.45a-11.45a, \$8 adults,

\$7 seniors, \$5 kids

- Saturday 5/2-Medical Device Drive at Marlborough Elementary School, in partnership with Orphan Grain Train

- Sunday 5/29-36th annual Race Round the Lake 5K, registration is open at www.plattsys.com or by contacting Tom Reiser #860-895-8374, \$20 pre-reg, \$25 day-of reg, \$50 family



(Above) Roses waiting to be picked up from the club's annual Superbowl Roses sale.

(Right) Marlborough Lion Glen Warstock presented with his Lifetime Membership certificate by club president Megan Lloyd.



(Left) Marlborough Lion Arnie Buckley received a Knight of the Blind award for his years of dedication to the club. Also pictured, club president Megan Lloyd.



(Above) Liz DeRosa, American School for the Deaf Director of Institutional Development and Megan Lloyd, President of the Marlborough Lions at the ASD dinner presented to Lions Clubs in Lions District 23B

New Milford Lions Club

New Milford Lions have been at service since the beginning of 2020 in projects like: *COLD HOMES, WARM HEARTS 5K* for the New Milford fuel bank, *KIDSIGHT* in three schools, *TOY COLLECTION DRIVE* for the oncology Prize Closet at CCMC. Aiming for 90 toys for our 90th!

March 14th 11am-2pm : *FOOD DRIVE FOR NEW MILFORD SOCIAL SERVICES* will take place at Stop and Shop.

Fund raising includes:

CHOCOLATE BUNNY sales and 15 cases of bunnies are waiting to be sold.

JUNE 13th: *THE GROOM HAS COLD FEET* murder mystery. The extraordinary fundraising cast are all club members! SAVE THE DATE



(Above) Kidsight - 1stVP John Dunne and Lion Sharoan Westervelt between screenings



Connecticut Leading Childhood Cancer Effort

By Childhood Diabetes Chair Meredith Spector

Lions Clubs to Help Fund Research

Connecticut Lions are drawing attention to the state's leading-edge research into childhood cancer at Children's Hospital Medical Center of Hartford, Jackson Laboratory in Farmington and the Yale School of Public Health in New Haven.

Meredith Spector, Chair of the Connecticut Lions Committee on Childhood Cancer, recently arranged for a fact-finding session with Connecticut's top childhood cancer researchers. The session gave Connecticut Lions Club members a front row seat on the genomic and environmental risk factors for the disease.

During the session, Dr. Ching Lau, MD, Ph.D, of Children's Hospital Medical Center of Hartford and Jackson Laboratory in Farmington noted growing successes in stopping childhood leukemia, yet worried that the treatments leave children at risk for serious side effects later in life.

"Chemotherapy and radiation are like using an atom bomb to stunt cancer growth," said Dr. Lau. "With more research, we should be able to target the disease more precisely." Adding to Dr. Lau's comments, research by Nina Kadan-Lottick, MD, Ph.D, at Yale has documented, "high rates of chronic medical and psychosocial conditions caused by previous cancer therapy."

The Lions session also probed possible causes of childhood cancers. Andrew DeWan, Ph.D, Yale School of Public Health, said, "Genes clearly play an important role in childhood cancers, but while research to date has been valuable, more studies are needed before we can apply this knowledge to childhood cancers."

Also at the Lions session, Yale researcher Nicole Deziel, Ph.D,

delved into various environmental hazards shown to be risk factors for childhood cancers. "Studies of emerging environmental threats are needed so that policy makers, clinicians, and the public have the information they need to make sound decisions," she said.

The Lions session was in response to an International Lions Club initiative to fight childhood cancer worldwide. Connecticut Chair Meredith Spector said that the 160 local Lions Clubs in the state should have additional information about the Lions cancer initiative. To learn more, please visit <https://www.lionsclubs.org/en/start-our-approach/club-locator>.

Multi-Lions Club Collaboration for Pediatric Kidsight Eye Screening

Lions from Windsor Lions Club, Windsor Sage Park Leo Club, Barkhamsted Lions Club and Northwest Connecticut Cyber Leo Club joined together to provide pediatric Kidsight vision screening at the Wilson Branch of the Windsor Public Library on "Take Your Kid to the Library Day". The clubs wanted to test if Leos could provide eye screenings for youth and the test was a great success under the watchful eyes of District Leo Chair Cindy Daniels, Lion Jim Daniels and PDG Dave Roberts.



98th ANNUAL MD23 LIONS STATE CONVENTION

May 2, 2020
 Naugatuck Valley Community College
 750 Chase Parkway, Waterbury, CT 06708
 8 am to 3 pm

**INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY REGISTRATION FORM**

LION/LIONESS _____ DISTRICT (A, B or C) _____	
CLUB _____ CURRENT LION POSITION _____	
HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____	
ADDRESS _____ E-MAIL _____	
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____	
LION/LIONESS/GUEST _____ DISTRICT _____	
CLUB _____ CURRENT LION POSITION _____	
CHILDREN # _____ NAME (S) _____	
First Name Preference on Badge(s) (Please Print)	LION/LIONESS: _____ LION/LIONESS/GUEST: _____

- Registration is required for all attendees and guests.
- Registration forms must be received no later than **April 20, 2020.** **\$5 Late Fee**
- Make checks payable to: "CT Lions District 23A"
- Mail completed Registration Form and a check to cover all selections below to:

Registration Chairperson: 23A Cabinet Treasurer Janet Brunwin

Additional contact: (203) 231-3694 Email: lionjanetbrunwin@gmail.com

	Registration and Meal Plans	# Of Persons	Cost	Total
A.	REGISTRATION INCLUDES BOXED LUNCH		@ \$30.00	
B.	REGISTRATION FOR VOTING ONLY (NO LUNCH)		@ \$10.00	
If purchasing a boxed lunch, please check choice(s) your purchased meal(s):				
				Total Due

_____ Turkey Sandwich

_____ Ham Sandwich

_____ Roast Beef Sandwich

_____ Tuna Sandwich

_____ Vegetarian/Vegan Sandwich



2020 Multiple District 23 State Convention

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, May 2nd
Naugatuck Valley Community College

750 Chase Parkway, Waterbury CT 06708

Come join fellow Lions from across the state as we wrap up our year of service with annual elections and fellowship! Continental breakfast & boxed lunch will be provided to registered attendees.

Convention Chair: Shaukat Khan, PDG: khansa97@gmail.com

Registration Chair: Janet Brunwin, RC: lionjanetbrunwin@gmail.com

See Registration Form for more information

Barkhamsted Lions Club

On January 13, newly elected Barkhamsted Lions Club President Dave Roberts thanks Immediate Past Club President Rejean Labrie for his 5-½ years of service as club President. In addition, the club presented Lion Rejean with a basket of goodies and a thank you card. Thanks for Lion Jackie Martin for her help in this recognition. IPP Rejean will serve as the 2020 Chair of the club's largest fundraiser later this year.

Barkhamsted Lions Club Scholarship Chair Francis Lattizori works with Lions Jackie Martin and Dave Roberts to prepare thank you notes for the 60+ business donors to this past year's joint Barkhamsted Lions Club/Lattizori Family Scholarships for college students. This successful event has occurred for years thanks to the outstanding work of 50-year Lion Francis Lattizori.



(Above) Club IPP Rejean LaBrie receives thanks (and a cake) from new club president Dave Roberts.

(Below) Lions Francis Lattizori and Jackie Martin writing thank you notes to donors.



New "Cyber" Leo Club Launches to Serve Others in Need!

By Club Co-Advisors Cindy Daniels and Dave Roberts

Lions Clubs International established Leo Clubs for youth in 1957 when the first Leos club was formed in Pennsylvania. Leo stands for Leadership, Experience and Opportunity. Now, over 50 years from its beginning, over 130,000 Leos in 7,200+ clubs, in over 150 countries have grown into a dynamic force for good—actively providing their communities and the world with kindness and service. And this is just the start. The good Leos can offer is endless. The success of Leo clubs is a crucial part of the success of Lions Clubs International.

Unfortunately, not every community has a Leo Club. So District Governor Ev Lyons challenged his district to create a "cyber" Leo club for youth without a traditional school- or community-based club.

Barkhamsted Lions Club accepted his challenge, and on December 10, 2019, Lions Clubs International chartered the Northwest CT Cyber Leo Club. This is the first "cyber" Leo Club in Connecticut and New England, the sixth in the United States and only the 15th in the world. Past District Governor Dave Roberts and District Leo Advisor Cindy Daniels were personally selected to serve as this new Leo Club's co-advisors. The club has fourteen charter members, and more youth can still join as charter members through March 9. Youth can earn community service credit for service projects completed through this Leo club.

The term "cyber" means that the youth meet on tablets or laptops, yet periodically see each other for service projects. The club meets twice per month, on the second and fourth Monday at 7:00 PM for about an hour on-line using a tool called GoToMeeting that all youth can get access to with their parent's permission.

Club President Sophia Marangodakis said she joined the new Leo Club because it is serving others by collecting toys for kids with cancer, donating gently used bath towels for Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation in Bloomfield, and hopes to be helping on pediatric screening projects.

Club Secretary Natalee Roberts said she joined to meet new friends and have fun on community service projects with my parents.

Club Member Colleen Morgan, a student at St. Anthony's School in Winsted, joined the new cyber club because she wanted to give back to her community and there was no Leo club at her school.

If you know of a youth who would like to join the new Northwest CT Cyber Leo Club, please have them contact Dave Roberts at either dave@daveroberts.org or 858-775-9241. The new club will receive its charter and the charter members will receive their Leo pins from Lions Clubs International Second Vice President Brian Sheehan at a special ceremony during the Leo Forum at the Mid-Winter Conference in Southbury at 9:30 AM.



**Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION**



Lions Club of Barkhamsted

is proud to endorse

Club President Dave Roberts

for

Second Vice District Governor 2020-2021

Enthusiasm,

Energy and

Experience!

“MEET THE CANDIDATES” FORUM: Saturday, April 18, 10:00 AM, American School for the Deaf (Rockwell Visual Communications Center)

VOTE: Saturday, May 2, Naugatuck Valley Community College

Contact Lion Dave Roberts anytime at dave@daveroberts.org or 858-775-9241

RAISE CHILD CANCER AWARENESS WITH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Help raise awareness for childhood cancer research by joining our Great Cycle Challenge USA team "CT LIONS ROAR".

Riders can sign up now through June and set a mileage and fundraising goal that is meaningful to them that is completed by the end of June. What makes Great Cycle Challenge unique to other charity rides is riders from across the country of all ages and abilities can ride on any type of cycle, outdoors or in, and on their own schedule. In other words, there are no scheduled ride or rides that you must attend.

Proceeds from Great Cycle Challenge USA benefit Children Cancer Research Fund, which has jumpstarted and advanced research in childhood cancers - including leukemia, brain tumors, sarcomas and more - at top children's hospitals across America, including Connecticut Children's Medical Center and Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale in Connecticut.

To learn more or to register and be part of "CT LIONS ROAR", please contact Lion Meredith Spector at innspect2@gmail.com or click here for GCC info. Please register when the team "CT LIONS ROAR" page shows up on their website.



District Officers

V. Everett Lyons
District Governor

Heidi Zacchera
First Vice District
Governor

Ed Fenton
Second Vice District
Governor

Pat Daigle
Secretary

Steven Daigle
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David Boilard
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Sonni Olami
Zone 2 Chair

Phyllis Perry
Zone 3 Chair

Tracy Dubois
Zone 4 Chair

Lilly Ruiz
Zone 5 Chair

John Habib
Zone 6 Chair

Jamie LaForge
Zone 7 Chair

Towels for Puppies Joint Lion/Leo Project

*By Lions Cindy Daniels and
Dave Roberts*

The Windsor and Barkhamsted Lions Club partnered with the Windsor Sage Park and the newly chartered Northwest CT Cyber Leo Clubs on a joint service project recommended by Lion Peter Nevers to collect new or gently used bath towels for Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation in Bloomfield,

Connecticut. Fidelco identified this need for bath towels for their guide dog puppies as one of their top two needs after cash donations. Lions and Leos placed posters around their communities in which they lived, and placed collection boxes in town halls, libraries, and senior centers. Leos talked to their families and close neighbors.

The result of this joint service project was that these four clubs of Lions and Leos collected altogether over 600 towels. The towels were delivered to Fidelco on a Saturday morning so that Lions and Leos could deliver the towels together and learn firsthand about the Fidelco mission.

Below is a photo of just 1/3 of the towels collected by Lions and Leos from the Barkhamsted Lions Club's storage facility.



**Lions Clubs
International**

L!C!C!on 2020 Singapore

June 26-30, 2020
Sands Expo and Convention Centre

