

# DISTRICT



CHANGING PEOPLES LIVES

## Spirit

March 2022

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### CLUBS

Barkhamsted  
East Hartford  
East Windsor  
Glastonbury  
Hartland  
Litchfield  
Kent  
Marlborough  
NW Cyber  
South Windsor  
Torrington  
Windsor  
Winsted  
Woodbury

## What Town Is This?



We had several correct guesses this time. Our first correct guess was by DG Ed Fenton, but since he receives his copy of The Spirit ahead of everyone else, this really doesn't count. However, Lion Brian Lavinge came in soon after The Spirit was sent out to everyone, and he's the winner. We also received a correct guess from Lion Cindy Fixer ten minutes after Lion Brian's, and PCC Stephen Polezonis also sent in the correct town. GST Lion Phyllis Perry also submitted a guess—she was in the right area, but alas, she was incorrect. The town was **Canaan**.

Remember, all signs can be found in District 23B (Hartford and Litchfield Counties) whether they have a club or not. If you're from that town, you're ineligible to win. Send your entries to [District23BSpirit@gmail.com](mailto:District23BSpirit@gmail.com). The first correct response wins!

Our thanks go to PDG Dave Yadach for creating this game, which has been entertaining and educating us for nearly two years.

*The Spirit Team*

## DG Ed Fenton

Hello Lions! I hope everyone is having a great start to 2022!! Our Lions Clubs have been very busy during the first two months of the year!

Thank you to everyone who supported our two recent major initiatives, the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Book Drive and the MD23 Kentucky Disaster Relief program. District 23B clubs donated over 600 books to local libraries and shipped approximately \$10,000 worth of supplies to Kentucky! Please read those articles and view the pictures in this issue of the Spirit.

Please join Lions for two interactive events in partnership with the Ambassadorial Roundtable as we are launching our new Cyber Lions Club which will focus on United Nations related interests! There is a planned presentation with the Consul General of Israel from Los Angeles on March 14th and a presentation with the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain from Washington, DC on March 21st. Both programs will be held online and are free of charge. Please see the sign-up information in this issue of the Spirit.

Ella Montesi of Simsbury is our district Peace Poster winner for 2022 and her artwork finished 2nd in the MD23 competition! I had the pleasure of meeting Ella and her family on February 12th to present her with an award from MD23 and her framed drawing.

I'm pleased to announce in this issue our District 23B New Voices for 2021-2022! They will have the opportunity to present at the Mid-Winter Conference and their videos will be on our [www.lions23b.com](http://www.lions23b.com) website after the conference.

**MEMBERSHIP:** At the time of this writing, overall membership in the district is up by twenty-two Lions! As you look for new members, please keep in mind the goal of diversity in our clubs and invite all



members of your community to become Lions.

Please continue to reach out to members who are not coming to meetings. There are still many people who are unwilling, or unable, to participate actively due to the threat of Covid-19. I hope all clubs will consider using a conference call or Zoom option at their meetings.

It's certainly difficult to have back and forth conversation over the internet at a hybrid meeting. However, just allowing your Lions who are stuck at home to listen in on a meeting will help them stay involved and make them feel like a valued member of the club.

**SERVICE:** District 23B Lions continue to serve at a high level! You have all done a great job at improving our reporting statistics. We have 78% of our clubs that have reported at least one service project in MyLion and 85% of our clubs have reported some type of Lions' activity!!

Total activities reported: 862

Service projects reported: 344

Volunteer hours: 22,224

People served: 78,586

Dollars raised: \$324,612

Dollars donated: \$176,254

I would like to encourage all clubs to report their service in addition to fundraisers, donations, and meetings in MyLion. If you have any questions about activity reporting, please reach out to GST Chair Phyllis Perry, CS Pat Daigle, or Lion Lizette Pelletier. Any of them will be happy to guide you through the process.

**PUBLICITY:** We would love to help advertise your events on the District website and the Facebook page. Please continue to send your club event flyers to IT Chair Linda Russell ([lindarus@hotmail.com](mailto:lindarus@hotmail.com)).

As we near the final third of our Lions year I encourage everyone to keep up the wonderful work that you do!

DG Ed

## Northwestern CT Cyber Club

Northwestern Connecticut Cyber Lions Club celebrates their SECOND anniversary!

In honor of our club's second anniversary as a Lions Club in District 23-B, our members chose to donate non-perishable food items to the Pleasant Valley Community Food Bank in Barkhamsted. Since its founding, the district-wide Cyber Lions have grown rapidly, and supported projects in all five international global causes. At the end of January, the club gave a thank you to Guiding Lion Dave Roberts for his 2 years of service to this new club. Charter President Mary Jane Boyd commented that "on behalf of Northwestern Connecticut Cyber Lions Club, I want to express our deep appreciation to 1st VDG Dave Roberts for his active participation and his gracious manner of working with us as our Guiding Lion during the past two years. We needed help and he was always there to provide it."

## East Hartford Lion Club

East Hartford Lions Club Recyclable Bottles and Cans Fund Raiser, Ongoing The East Hartford Lions Club, now in its seventy- first year serving the community, is asking Lions of District 23B if they would donate their plastic bottles and aluminum cans to our club. Monies raised from the redemption of these recyclables will go to support our many stakeholders in town. Lions of East Hartford offer scholarships to East Hartford high school seniors, eye screenings for pre- school children, holiday food baskets to

families in need, support for a drug prevention course at the East Hartford Middle School and many other services. As you might expect, the club was unable to hold many of its traditional fund raisers last year due to the pandemic. This new fund raiser is the club's attempt to recoup lost revenue which can be used for the betterment of East Hartford. Anyone who wishes to help us may do so by emailing the club at [www.sacrecco@yahoo.com](mailto:sacrecco@yahoo.com) or contact Lion Steve Crecco at 860- 404-5022 for more information.



Above: A sample of the cans and bottles that the East Hartford Lions Club has collected for their bottle drive

## Kent Lions Club

**MLK Book Drive** - We are donating \$600 in February to Kent Center School. This money will be used to buy books written by African American or Latino authors or about notable African American or Latino persons.

**Blood Drive** - We are hosting a Blood Drive at the Kent Community House on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. We are already full with 42 appointments for 42 slots. We are currently scheduled every two months with the Red Cross for the rest of the year to host blood drives.

**Super Bowl Pool** - We sold chances to the Kent Lion's Super Bowl Raffle Pool in February. We did so well we sold out two boards again this year!



Left: Some of the happy Kent Lions showing off their Super Bowl pool. .

## New Cyber Club

Our newest cyber club is designed for people who have an interest in UN Affairs. The President of the Lions Club is Dr. Ina Von Ber (picture, far right). She is also the CEO & President of the Ambassadorial Roundtable, a public affairs forum connecting the diplomatic and private sector to achieve U.N. development goals.

The club's first major project is to

hold a Ambassadorial Roundtable, to be held on Zoom on March 14 at 3pm local time. Speakers are Dr. Hillel Newman, Consul General of the State of Israel, and Shaikh Abdulla bin Rashid bin Abdulla Al -Khalifa, the Ambassador to the United States for the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The next two pages have more information about the program and the speakers.





Please join Lions for two interactive events in partnership with the Ambassadorial Roundtable as we are launching our new Cyber Lions Club which will focus on United Nations related interests!



THE  
AMBASSADORIAL  
ROUNDTABLE

## KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN



### DR. HILLEL NEWMAN

Consul General of Israel  
Los Angeles, CA

**HOT TOPICS:** We want to know about the Abraham Accords, Peace in the Middle East to AI, Innovation and Emerging Technologies, the floor is open.

Please contact [mark@ambassadorialroundtable.org](mailto:mark@ambassadorialroundtable.org) to register

**DATE:** March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022

**TIME** 12:00 pm PST. San Diego, CA  
3:00 pm EST. New York, NY  
9:00 pm GMT. Berlin, Germany



### H.E. SHAIKH ABDULLA BIN RASHID BIN AL KHALIFA

Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain  
Washington, DC

**HOT TOPICS:** We want to know about emerging technologies, innovation, bi-lateral relations between the Kingdom and the US, peace in the Middle East, the floor is open

**DATE:** March 21<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

**VENUE:** Zoom

# Biographies of Ambassadorial Program Speakers

## Dr. Hillel Newman

Dr. Hillel Newman assumed the post of Consul General of Israel in July 2019, where he serves as the senior representative of the State of Israel to the Pacific Southwest.

During his twenty-year diplomatic service, Consul General Newman accumulated vast experience in policy formulation and decision-making at the highest levels of Israel's foreign policy establishment. He has served in several influential and critical positions including Policy Advisor to three Foreign Ministers of Israel and Ambassador of Israel to Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Before he joined the diplomatic service, he attained a Ph.D. in Jewish History, and served as a professor of Jewish history, teaching graduate courses at Bar Ilan University and Boston University. He has authored and published a book on Jewish sectarianism during the Hellenistic and Roman period. For the past five years, he has also served as a key lecturer on Judaism in the NATO Defense College.

Most recently, Consul General Newman served in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as both Special Policy Advisor to the Director General and as Director of the World Jewish Affairs Department. He has been intimately involved in the most current and pressing issues confronting global Jewry. Previously, Consul General Newman served also in the Strategic Division of the Ministry, playing a key role in coordinating efforts related to strategic threats facing the State of Israel. As Ambassador to the Republics of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, both Muslim countries, he promoted political, business and security ties with these countries. He also initiated several projects and agreements in the fields of medicine, education, agriculture and humanitarian aid.

Consul General Newman first

became familiar with the United States while serving as Deputy Consul General in Boston, to the New England Region between 2001-2005. He engaged in diverse public diplomacy efforts, conducted briefings on political and security issues and took a special interest in building inter-faith and inter-ethnic relations. Consul General Newman made Aliyah with his family from South Africa, served as a medic in the IDF and is married to Ayala. The couple have a ten-year-old son, Ram.

His favorite hobbies are reading, nature tours, sporting events and scuba diving.

## Shaikh Abdulla bin Rashid bin Abdulla Al –Khalifa

On June 23, 2017, His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa issued Royal Decree No. 34/2017 appointing Shaikh Abdulla bin Rashid bin Abdulla Al –Khalifa as the ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United States of America.

Shaikh Abdulla's post-graduate career started at the Royal Court where he worked and oversaw Educational, Medical and Social Affairs. He then joined the General Organization for Youth and Sports as the Director of Planning and Follow-up and was later appointed Director of Financial and Human Resources. In 2010, he was appointed as Governor of the Southern Governorate of the Kingdom of Bahrain, the largest in size and with the highest potential for development. As part of a collaborative effort between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the United States of America, Shaikh Abdulla launched a partnership between the Governorate and the American non-profit organization D.A.R.E. to develop and deploy an anti-violence and anti-addiction program delivered by trained community police officers in local elementary

and secondary schools. The initiative would later transform into a national program sponsored by the Kingdom's National Anti- Drug Committee, on which Shaikh Abdulla serves. Shaikh Abdulla played an active role in drafting the National Anti-Drug Strategy in conjunction with the regional office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which was launched in 2016. Shaikh Abdulla served as a member of the Bahrain Olympic Committee from 2008 and as the Treasurer until 2017. When he served as Vice President of the Bahrain Olympic Shooting Federation, Shaikh Abdulla formulated the first women's shooting team, competing in the different disciplines locally and internationally. In 2007, he gained continental support to be elected Vice President of the Asian Shooting Confederation.

Shaikh Abdulla obtained his bachelor's degree from Bentley University. He continued his studies at the same university and received a master's in business administration. Shaikh Abdulla attained a certificate from the Harvard Kennedy School focusing on "Innovation in Governance" as part of his executive education program. He is currently pursuing a PhD at the International School of Management based in Paris.



## LEOS ARE NOW

*Lion Cindy Daniels*

The Leos from District 23B have had recruitment events, have installed new Leos and inducted officers. They have made plans, based on need, to serve our District. We also have Leos who are looking forward to becoming Leo/Lions to continue their service after age 18. The Swift Leo Club sent recent pictures of their service project for some Fall Fun goody bags. I was honored to do the installation and induction for these Leos. The Leos from District 23B continue to serve. They are collaborating with Leos and Lions from across the MD, to plan an amazing Virtual Mid-Winter Conference, being held on March 5<sup>th</sup>. We also have Leos who are looking forward to becoming Leo/Lions to continue their service after age 18. They will get information about this opportunity, and much more, during the upcoming Conference. Please plan to join Leos and Lions from across MD 23 for the Virtual Leo Mid-Winter Conference. Leos, Leo Advisors, Liaisons, Lions and future Leos are welcome to be part of this free event. The invitation and registration link are on page 25..

## Torrington Lions



The Torrington Lions recently presented a Knight of the Blind award to Lion Kathy Oligny (center). Looking on is Club Secretary Phil Dzurnak, and Club President Mike Yuchunas. Congratulations, Lion Kathy!

## Camp Rising Sun

*Lion C. Roger Pelletier*

As is my annual routine, I grow out my beard during "No Shave November" as a way to draw support for Camp Rising Sun, an annual weeklong overnight camp in Colebrook for children undergoing treatment from cancer or are in remission. As promised, I will be donating \$100 to Camp Rising Sun. For the past 2 years, the camp has been held virtually due to Covid-19. However, that hasn't stopped the camp from giving the kids a camp adventure. Camp sessions were held on-line allowing the kids to participate in crafts and other group activities.

It is as important as ever for we Lions to continue our support to ensure that in-person camp will again be a reality for the kids and their siblings. These families need the break provided by the week of camp. As district chairperson for Camp Rising Sun, I appeal to and challenge each Lions club in District 23B and Connecticut to donate to Camp Rising Sun.

I hope that the district considers making a donation to Camp Rising Sun and the Juvenile Diabetes camp through the remaining surplus in the administrative fund as proposed last summer. Let's make this coming year a successful one for supporting Connecticut Lions' sponsorship of these important programs that fall under two of the core Lions initiatives



## Hartland Lions Club

February has been busy for the Hartland Lions Club. We provided a free, in-person pork roast luncheon to seniors, and also delivered meals to those who preferred to stay home. In honor of National Hot Chocolate Day, we made up 100 colorful packages containing hot chocolate mix, marshmallows, candies and homemade cookies and handed them out to folks in East and West Hartland as they drove through town. That same day we presented two books to the West Hartland Public Library in honor of MLK Jr. Day (picture on page 16).

Hartland Lions have partnered with the Hartland Land Trust and the Hartland Historical Society to provide Welcome Packets to new residents in town. The packets contain helpful information about each of our nonprofit clubs as well as helpful information about the town.

On March 19, we'll be holding our "Sock Hop" at the West Hartland Library to help support our scholarship fund. We'll have music by Dually Noted, finger foods and soft drinks (BYOB), and some raffles. So, put on your poodle skirt and saddle shoes, or peg your jeans and join us from 7pm to 10pm. Tickets are \$20 each.

This year our popular Soup and Sandwich event will take place April 2nd, 4-7pm at the East Hartland Volunteer Fire House.

## South Windsor

South Windsor Lions donated \$200 which our Children's Librarian used to order fourteen books from our district list. The photo on page 17 shows (from left to right) Club President Sia Dowlatsahi, librarian Michele Kaminski and VP Susan Gabriele,



## Marlborough Lions Club

The Marlborough Lions Club held their first Cornhole Tournament on Saturday October 2nd at Blish Park. The winner of the event was Gary Desjarlais of Hebron and he took home a new cornhole set.

The Marlborough Lions held their Annual Masquerade 5K on Sunday October 31st with 80 runners turning out, many of whom were dressed in costume for the event.

This event's First Place male and female runners were William Sanders of Marlborough and Linda Spooner from Sturbridge. Sanders completed the course in 16 minutes and 45 seconds while Spooner completed her run in 19 minutes and 28 seconds. There were also awards for various costume categories including Best Group, Funniest, Scariest and Best Overall Costume. Costume winners included: Scariest Costume Cruella DeVil (Sarah O'Keefe and her dalmatian) of Marlborough, Best Group was the Bumblebee Family (The Welches) of Marlborough, Funniest Costume was Avocado Toast (The Spooner family) of Sturbridge and the Overall Costume winner was Forest Gump (William Sanders) of Marlborough.

Following the race, the Lions presented medallions for the First-Place runners as well as for those winning in the costume categories. Complete race results can be found on the time keeper's web site (Platt Systems) at [www.plattsys.com](http://www.plattsys.com).

The Lions Club supports programs which address various issues including blindness, drug abuse prevention and diabetes awareness in addition to supporting local organizations such as the Marlborough Food and Fuel Banks. Over the years the Lions have also performed vision screening services for students at the elementary school and at various child care facilities in the area and collect durable medical equipment, such as wheelchairs, crutches and walker, for shipment to impoverished areas in Appalachia.

Mike Mancini of Marlborough was

the lucky winner of an 8,000 Watt Generac portable generator. The generator had features such as an easy pushbutton electric start, hours counter and 120V/240V outlets. The winner will also receive the services of an electrician to install a circuit breaker panel interlock and the cabling needed to hook up the generator. The drawing took place following the Marlborough Lions Fall Masquerade 5K on October 31st.



*Above: The Bumblebees (the Welches Family), the winners of the best group costume at the Marlborough Masquerade 5K*



*Left: Gary Desjarlais of Hebron posing with his new cornhole set after winning the Marlborough inaugural tournament*

*Right: A smiling Mike Mancini is showing off his brand-new Generac generator that he won from the Marlborough Lions raffle.*



## Marlborough Lions Presents Melvin Jones Fellowship

Marlborough Lions Club member Arnie Buckley was recently recognized by receiving the lions prestigious Melvin Jones Award. Arnie has been a Lion for over 50 years and was involved in, and initiated, a number of Lions projects over the years. Two in particular from many years ago was "The Marlborough Community Arts Festival", which was a big summer event at the lake. While Arnie didn't start the festival, he was instrumental in getting the Lions to run the biggest income earner of the event, which was the "Hamburg and Hot Dog" truck, which also sold bratwurst. The Lions even had the beer concession for a few years. This was an extremely successful fundraising event and Arnie worked the truck cooking and selling virtually all weekend for years, while working with his close friends Don Lack, Brad Kula and Brian Reynolds. He even got Bob Farley (a charter member of the club) and Rich Hartley to join in with the work. Over the years Brian, Bob and Don have passed away and Brad moved to East Hartford. Most of the local philanthropic groups participated and had booths, including the two political parties. Quite a few participants sold various arts and crafts as well. The club was a bit larger back then with thirty or so very active members.

However, the one event that comes to mind, relative to Arnie, was, what was called "The Marlborough Days". Arnie and Don Lack, brought in some Historical Recreation actors and props to the Marlborough Days event at the lake each year. One year in particular Arnie brought in a Bonnie and Clyde Reenactment troop that recreated (including vintage automobiles), the final shootout between Bonnie and Clyde and the FBI. Guns, gunfire, fake bullets hitting people with fake blood, dialogue, music and of course the cars. It was memorable event and was well received. Arnie has a unique way of tapping into the popular zeitgeist of those days.

One of the projects that Arnie was most proud of was the construction of the old stone fire place on the Pavilion at the lake. Arnie organized and ran that project, volunteering hundreds of man hours and resources to it. Arnie was heartbroken when the Town removed the stone fireplace and replaced it with the current fireplace, but for those who remember the original fireplace they will now realize that Arnie was instrumental in its construction. He has many stories he could share about the

pranks and good times they all enjoyed years ago. Dressing up in costumes and marching in the Town parades, mystery rides and just general friendships Arnie shared and enjoyed with his fellow Lions Club members.

So it is with great pride that the Marlborough Lions Club honors a long-time member with this award and thanks Arnie Buckley for his many long years of service to the Marlborough Lions and to his community



Above: Marlborough Lion Arnie Buckley holding his well-deserved Melvin Jones plaque, presented by his club for his many years of service





## Lion Around Connecticut

With Lions Carol Kearns and Harry Schuh

March 4, 2022 represents our **9th year** of producing "Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry."

We continue to air our weekly show during the pandemic and have just produced show #423.

Our show is aired on five cable access TV stations: Charter Communications (Newtown), Cablevision (Litchfield), Charter Communications (Willimantic), Nutmeg (Farmington) and Skye XIII (Waterbury). We are also airing on YouTube. To watch "Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry" online, you can subscribe for free to Nutmeg TV on YouTube at [www.YouTube.com/NutmegTelevision](http://www.YouTube.com/NutmegTelevision). You can also access our playlist directly at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLVHmFM06IZKxGruhD6iUjIAT2J7Y-ltW4>.

We are airing some of our past favorite episodes in addition to new shows whenever possible.

We celebrated Halloween with the Winsted Lions on October 29, 2021 at Crystal Peak in Winsted. It was a great night of fun, costumes, and dancing to the 3G band. Guests included DG Ed Fenton and Lion Linda Russell, IPDG Heidi Zacchera, GMT Dave Boilard and Lion Sue, and Zone Chair Alan Hill.

PCC Alan Daninhirsch and PCC Ev Lyons did an excellent job on November 5, 2021 presenting a District 23B Member Orientation for our District 23B Lions at Camp Happy Hill. Thank you Alan, Ev, and the Unionville Lions Club.

Here are the titles for our newest shows:

419	Winsted Lions Halloween Dance October 29, 2021 Part 3
420	Winsted Lions Halloween Dance October 29, 2021 Part 4
421	Lions District 23B Member Orientation November 5, 2021 Part 1
422	Lions District 23B Member Orientation November 5, 2021 Part 2
423	Lions District 23B Member Orientation November 5, 2021 Part 3

We look forward to videorecording new Lions events as the state continues to reopen.

## The Lions' Roar

The next two deadlines for The Lions' Roar are March 15, 2022 and April 15, 2022. Please send your event notices in a text format (we do not publish flyers) to [D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com](mailto:D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com).

You should submit all events your club has planned through at least the end of that issue's month (for the April 2022 issue, we want everything from April 25, 2021 through the end of June 2022).

## Lion Around Connecticut Radio

*Lion Peter Cianciolo*

Great News for those of you who miss Lion Around Ct and still want to listen to it!

A program archive has been added to the [www.WAPJ.org](http://www.WAPJ.org) web site. All shows will be archived for two weeks after they are aired, including Lion Around Connecticut! You just have to click on the "Program Archive" tab on the main banner, click "On Demand", scroll to day, and click on the show. Lion Around Connecticut airs Mondays 9pm to 9:30 pm.

Let me know if you want to appear on the show to promote any of your club's upcoming events, [pjec16@yahoo.com](mailto:pjec16@yahoo.com)



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## The District 23B Spirit

Our next issue of the District 23B Spirit is June 1, 2022. The deadline for all ads and articles is May 15, 2022.

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).

Submit materials for publication to [District23BSpirit@gmail.com](mailto:District23BSpirit@gmail.com) only.

## Windsor Lions Club

The Windsor Lions held their second annual "Breakfast Sandwich A Go Go" on December 18th at the LP Wilson Community Center here in Windsor. This event was an amazing success, with all event proceeds going to Windsor's "Project Santa." The Lion kitchen crew was able to put together six kits, able to feed eight people each, and distributed them to folks with need here in our community.

The Windsor Lions Club, continuing their long-standing collaboration with the Windsor Public Libraries are financially promoting additions to existing titles written by African American or Latino authors for elementary school students. This donation, made in conjunction with the birthday of Martin Luther King, empowers Library Director Gaye Rizzo and Branch Manager Gabbie Barnes to use their purchasing power to enhance existing collections and to purchase new titles based on the needs of the Windsor Community. Our picture of the presentation is on page 16.

On March 20, we will hold a blood drive in conjunction with the American Red Cross at the LP Wilson Center in Windsor, from 9am to 2pm. To register for a time, sign up on [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org).

As one of our spring fundraisers, we're holding an online Munson's Handcrafted Chocolates sale up to March 15. The candy, voted "Connecticut's Best" year after year, is made locally, and 100% of the proceeds will be used to support the Windsor community. You can order your candies through this website, <https://windsor-lions-foundation-windsor-ct.square.site/>, and you can pick it up at our Annual Easter Plant Sale.

Once again, we're selling plants on the Windsor Town Green! Set aside April 14, 15, 16 to come down and pick up your chocolates, as well as plants to decorate your home for spring. We'll be open each of those days from 10am to 5pm.

And, on May 24th, from 9:45am to 3:00 pm, the Windsor Lions, serving in collaboration with the Windsor Senior Center and Windsor Commission on Aging, will conduct a free Senior Vision Screening for those Windsor residents age 55 and older. Advance sign up is required for this vision screening.

To secure an appointment, please contact the Windsor Senior Center at 860-285-1992.

*Right: Some of the smiling faces you may see at the Windsor Lions Blood Drive on March 20.*



*Left: Windsor Lions assisting the Windsor Project Santa by making a donation. A town-wide effort, many businesses and members from the community work together to help families experiencing difficult economic times to have a nice Christmas*

*Right: Windsor Lions showing their holiday spirit (and their Lions Pride) at our "Breakfast Sandwich a Go-Go" on December 18.*





## Kentucky Disaster Relief

Thank you to all the clubs who participated in this relief effort! We had over 30 clubs donate merchandise and cash to send to Kentucky! In less than three weeks District 23B Clubs were able to fully pack a 26-foot box truck of needed items!!!

Thank you to the many Lions who arranged for drop-off points throughout Hartford & Litchfield Counties. Zone Chair Alan Hill packed his garage for Zone 1. IPDG Heidi Zacchera opened up her garage for Zone 3. PDG Steve Daigle arranged for the use of the Terryville firehouse for Zone 4 storage and a truck to deliver to New Britain on the collection day. East Windsor President Barbara Sherman arranged use of the East Windsor police department for drop-off in Zone 5.

Thank you also to our non-Lions partners in this endeavor. Siracusa Moving supplied the truck, driver, and packed everything for us at a very reasonable cost. JOBPRO Staffing in East Hartford allowed drop-off storage for Zone 6. A special thank you to Carter Sutherland who founded Carter Cares, Inc. in 2010. Carter donated his time and truck to pick-up all the items at the drop-off locations in East Windsor, East Hartford, East Hartland, and Avon on collection day and delivered them to New Britain. A final thanks to the many Lions Clubs who dropped-off directly to Siracusa.

Early in the morning of February 14th our truck left for Kentucky driven by Chris from Siracusa Moving. At the same time another

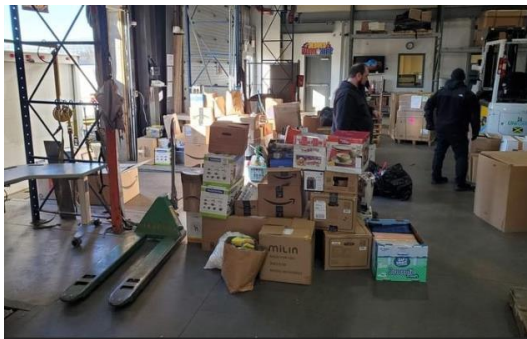
26-foot box truck left Colchester driven by Lion Doug Wyatt and co-piloted by District C Governor Michele Wyatt. The District B truck was unloaded on Tuesday in St. Charles and the District C truck was unloaded on Wednesday in Mayfield. 2VDG Peter Nevers, IPDG Heidi Zacchera, and PDG Bobby Clark traveled down to Kentucky to assist.

District A decided to go strictly with cash donations and presented a \$10,000 check from their clubs to the Kentucky Lions.

Following are pictures of the collection effort, scenes of the damage, and the unloading in Kentucky. What our Lions accomplished in a short time shows you can never underestimate the power of the pride!



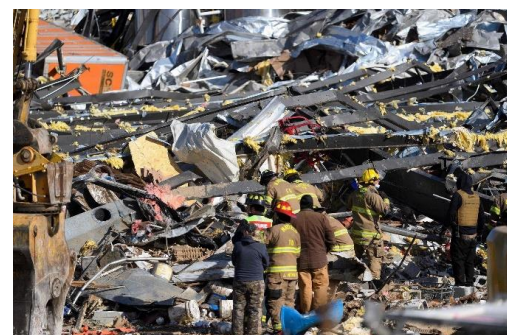
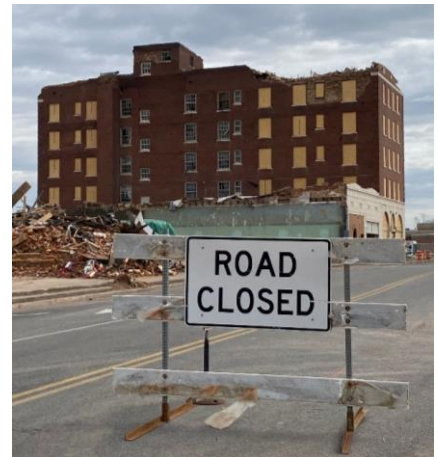






















## NEW VOICES!

*District 23B is pleased to recognize our New Voices honorees for 2021-2022!*

The 2021-2022 New Voices Initiative promotes gender parity and diversity and seeks to increase the number of women, young adults and underrepresented populations within our association. It features a diverse group of Lions and Leos who strive for excellence in one of four areas: Service, Membership, Leadership, and Marketing.

### Marketing



Lion Cindy Daniels has done a fantastic job at marketing projects, events, and membership benefits to her community!

### Membership



IPDG Heidi Zacchera is very enthusiastic about membership and has many ideas about how to grow a club!

### Service



Lion Julie Vecchitto took her personal love for blood drives and turned it into an ongoing district-wide project!

### Leadership



Lion Megan Lloyd has provided new energy and enthusiasm as the first female President of the Marlborough Lions!

## Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Book Drive

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Book Drive has been highly successful with reports of 401 books already donated throughout District 23B! Lions Clubs have also donated \$4,100 to libraries so they may directly purchase books. Figuring the average price of the books, our Lions have donated more than 600 books to community and school libraries! Over half of district clubs participated in this project, following are pictures that were submitted. Thank you to everyone for your support of this event!



East Hartford Lions Club



Bloomfield Lions Club



East Windsor Lions Club



Greater Hartford West Indian Lions Club



New Britain Lions Club





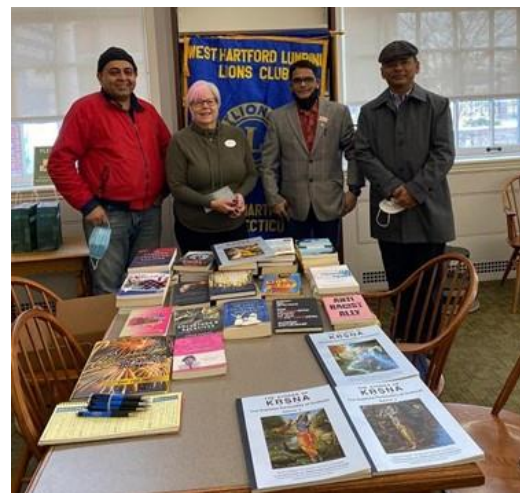
Windsor Locks Lions Club



Windsor Lions Club



Bristol Lions Club



HCEC & West Hartford Lumbini Lions Clubs



Hartland Lions Club





South Windsor Lions Club



Burlington Lions Club



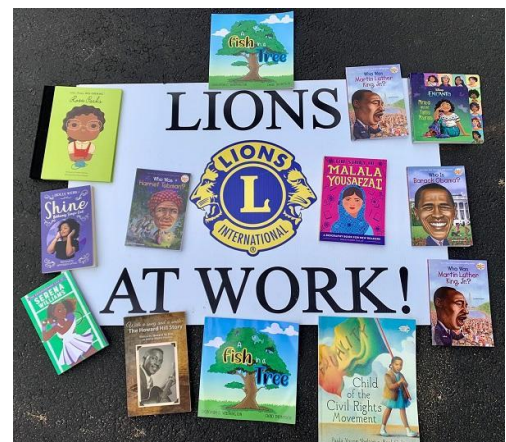
Watertown Lions Club



Woodbury Lions Club



New Hartford Lions Club



Barkhamsted & NW Cyber Lions Clubs



## Barkhamsted Lions Club

### BARKHAMSTED LIONS CLUB TO HOST HOMEMADE SOUP/SANDWICHES/BINGO SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

On Saturday, May 21st, at 12 noon, the Barkhamsted Lions Club will host a fundraiser at the Barkhamsted Senior Center (109 West River Road, Barkhamsted). Homemade soup and sandwiches will be served, and four games of bingo will be played for cash prizes. There will only be fifty-four players admitted, and the donation for soup, sandwiches, dessert and four games of bingo is just \$20. Additional bingo cards will be sold at the door. Funds will be used for the Barkhamsted Lions Club scholarship fund for graduating seniors at Northwestern Regional School #7 and students enrolled at Northwestern Connecticut Community College. In addition, a raffle will be held for great prizes donated by local businesses. Purchase your ticket to attend in advance from Club President Dave Roberts at [dave@daveroberts.org](mailto:dave@daveroberts.org) before the event sells out.

### Martin Luther King Jr. Book Drive

The Barkhamsted Lions Club supported the District's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Book Drive by collecting new children's books from African American and Latino American authors and donating these books to the Barkhamsted Elementary School. Our school librarian was very appreciative of these newly donated books to augment the school's library. Our donation photo is on page 17.

### Friendly Hands Food Bank

Under the leadership of Club Vice President Lauren Howard and Secretary Jackie Martin, the Barkhamsted Lions Club selected Friendly Hands Food Bank for their charity of choice this holiday season and collected over \$3,600 in new toys, games and children's items for children's families served by the

Friendly Hands Food Bank under our hunger global initiative. Thanks to Winsted Lions and Hartland Lions for joining with us at our Holiday Party this year held at the Royal Coachman Tavern at the Old Riverton Inn in Barkhamsted to support those in need

Kentucky Disaster Relief Support Working with our Zone 1 Chair Alan Hill, Barkhamsted Lions Club partnered with Barkhamsted Senior Center, Town of Barkhamsted, Northwestern CT Cyber Lions and Leos to collect over 2 ½ minivans full of new or gently used household goods for the District's relief project to help those families who lost everything due to the recent tornadoes.



*Above: Lions from Winsted and Hartland joined in with Barkhamsted's Holiday party*

*Below: Some of the items that the Barkhamsted Lions collected for the Kentucky Relief Effort*



## Glastonbury Lions Club

*On Dec 8th the Glastonbury Centennial Lions Club presented District Governor Ed Fenton with a Melvin Jones Fellowship award.*

*DG Ed Fenton was chosen because of his dedication to the Lions and his continued support of the Glastonbury Lions since it's inception in 2018. Pictured is Glastonbury Lions President Christine Kurtz awarding the Melvin Jones pin to DG Fenton*



## Litchfield Lions

Despite another year of Covid-19, which saw many of our service projects either cancelled, postponed, or on hold, Litchfield Lions had a successful year. We have 64 members. Of those, 50 plus are active.

During the winter months, members began planning for the year and in February learned that we had earned a patch for being a 100 Club and a Membership Satisfaction Award patch, a milestone achievement. Also, during the winter, our club donated money to the Possum Queen Foundation and Ambulance Crew for our senior citizens.

In March we donated money to the Litchfield Park and Recreation Commission to build Kayak racks at the Town Beach and 3 twenty-five-year membership pins were awarded.

April saw a thirty-five-year membership pin awarded to Jim Koser.

May was one of our busiest and successful months. We co-sponsored our annual golf tournament with the Litchfield Rotary Club at Fairview Golf Course in Harwinton, CT and held a Car Parade through parts of town which ended with an optional breakfast hosted by the American Legion. In addition, Litchfield Lions donated money for town fireworks to be held in July and awarded 3 scholarships to deserving students from Litchfield and Wamogo High Schools. Finally, the Melvin Jones Award was presented to our president John Bongiorno.

In June Lions donated plants for four planters at the Litchfield Firehouse in memory of Lion David Smith and money to the Litchfield High School Sports Booster Club for their golf tournament.

July through October members were busy selling raffle tickets to our annual raffle which is held every day during the month of November.

In September the club donated

money to our local Boy Scout Council,

the fire department for smoke detectors, the White Memorial

Foundation for its Family Day, and Litchfield Social Services to sponsor a Farmers Market for Seniors.

October brought our third annual Corn Hole Tournament and First Annual Fall Festival at the Bantam Community Field and November brought our raffle.

John Bobko was awarded Lion of the Year at our December/Christmas Dinner Meeting at the Saltwater Grille and Andy Stowers was presented with a Silent Lion Award. President John Bongiorno won the Ugly Sweater Contest. At that meeting, we also donated money to Social Services and the Litchfield Children's Fund.

In 2021 "We 'Were' All in This Together" and "Together We Served."

## Peace Poster



Above: The Peace Poster awards presentation was held at the Simsbury Public Library on Saturday February 12th. Shown in the picture are Lion Rich Kuziak, Lion Fran Gauthier, Ruth Hoffman (Grandmother), Rob Montesi (Father), Anne Montesi (Mother), Ella Montesi (23B Peace Poster Winner), Lion Sal DeDominicis, District Governor Ed Fenton, PDG Marianne Bannan, Lion Paddy Carpen, Lion Wanda Colman.

Below: District 23B Peace Poster winner Ella Montesi placed 2nd in the statewide MD23 contest! Here she is shown receiving her award from District Governor Ed Fenton.





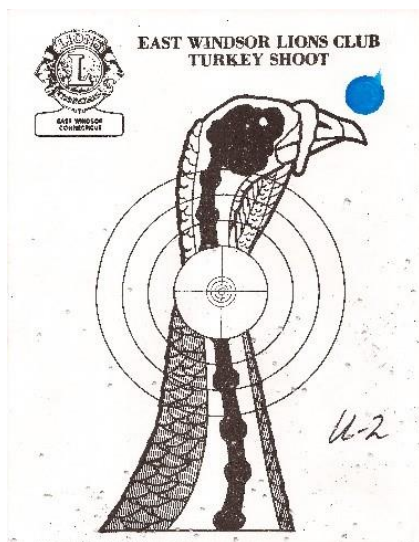
## East Windsor Lions Club

The East Windsor Lions held their 49th annual Turkey shoot on the first three Sundays of November. Although Covid stopped us from having it last year, we ended up having a very successful fundraiser, raising almost \$3,900. Normally in the past we ran it for six weeks, but because of the cost (and lack of) ammunition and with Covid still around, we decided to only run it for three weeks this year.

We ended up shooting 85 rounds over the three weeks and were happy to see old friends that attend every year, as well as new ones. We gave out prizes of frozen turkeys, hams, roasts, and cash—

and winners ranged from experienced shooters to brand new ones.

This has been our biggest fundraising event for many years, but we knew it would be hard to continue unless we could increase our membership to help with the event. After talking with some long-time attendees, they asked if they could run the event next year to make sure that it continued. To do that, we mentioned that they would have to join the Lions! And because of that, we had 4 applications (and hoping for more) filled out on the last week, and we will be inducting them this month.



*This is what a winning target looks like (closest BB to the center wins), and a shot of the "crowd" during one of the weeks.*

## Woodbury Lions Club

Our annual Holiday decorating plans went off without a hitch! We were joined by the Winter Lights of Woodbury group to decorate the Leroy Anderson bandstand on our North Green the Sunday after Thanksgiving. It was snowing, and made the effort even more festive. The Luminaria display along Main Street was a success, with the many volunteers coming out in freezing weather to set out the 5000 bags along the road. We think we set a record for cleanup, with many of the same volunteers coming out early Christmas morning to shovel the remains of paper and sand off the street.

We participated in the Kentucky Relief effort, collecting enough supplies that it took three pickup trucks to bring it to New Britain on February 11.

Coming up, we have two events: a new Beer Festival in May, to be held at Quassy Amusement Park in Middlebury. We'll be featuring several craft breweries, and there will also be food and entertainment. After that, our annual Car Show and SummerFest at Hollow Park on June 5. This is one of the first car shows of the season, and usually attracts over 300 show cars. We'll also have food trucks and entertainment.

More details on these events are forthcoming.

## Winsted Lions Club

Our club is starting our preparations for our Palm Sunday Takeout Breakfast on April 10th, 2022 at Crystal Peak from 8am-10:30am.

The Breakfast Includes: Pancakes, Sausage Links, Cheese Frittata, Blueberry Muffin, and Orange Juice. The cost is \$9 a ticket, and raffle tickets are \$5. Raffle Prizes from

local businesses available; including dinner for 30 at Crystal Peak. Tickets are on sale online at <https://fb.me/e/3mpNm5ESd> or at the door.

Unfortunately, the House Decorating Contest we held yielded zero submissions.

## Pin Traders

Do you know about the Lions International Trading Pin Club Youth Scholarship Program This scholarship is intended for the children/grandchildren of Lions, and, or Leo Club members. Submission is time sensitive.

<https://e-district.org/userfiles/36/file/PinTradersScholarshipInfo-App-MD-23.pdf>

## LCICON

*By PDG Harry Schuh*

The biggest event of the Lions year will be held in Montréal from June 24-28, 2022! LCI President Douglas X. Alexander and the LCI Convention Committee would like to meet and greet Lions and Leos from around the world at this convention. Register now at the LCIcon website. Experience the plenary sessions, service activities, entertainment and much more.

- Enjoy music and live entertainment featuring top performers from all over the world. Smokey Robinson is playing the International Show!
- Celebrate cultural diversity by marching in the Parade of Nations with fellow Lions and Leos.
- Learn and grow your skills in seminars.
- Hear from world-renowned speakers.
- Meet and chat with Lion Clubs International staff about how to enhance your service, create new opportunities, access key resources and more.
- Participate in the exciting conclusion of Campaign 100, our Foundation's historic effort to ensure our future of service.
- If you are a delegate for your Lions club, and your club is in good standing, you will be able to cast a vote in the International Election.

If you are unable to attend in-person this year, there will be a limited-access virtual option. It will provide a live look into the LCI Convention this year. Key moments will be livestreamed, from the flag ceremony, to speeches from International President Douglas X. Alexander and LCIF Chairperson Dr. Jung-Yul Choi, to witnessing the inauguration of our next international president. Recordings of select on-site seminars will also be available for virtual viewing in the weeks following the convention.

There will be a nominal fee for LCIcon Virtual Access, which will help cover costs of the video stream and the platform. More details, including registration information, will be released in the upcoming months.

## District Officers

**Ed Fenton**  
District Governor

**Dave Roberts**  
First Vice District Governor

**Peter Nevers**  
Second Vice District Governor

**Pat Daigle**  
Secretary

**Jamie LaForge**  
Treasurer

**Alan Hill**  
Zone 1 Chair

**Frank Longo**  
Zone 2 Chair

**Heidi Zacchera**  
Zone 3 Chair

**Tracy LaForge**  
Zone 4 Chair

**Tanya Dorman**  
Zone 5 Chair

**Raj Shrestha**  
Zone 6 Chair

**Anita Skutnik**  
Zone 7 Chair

## Zone 2

*Frank Longo, Chair*

Zone 2 seems to be holding its own. We saw the usual "year-end drop" in membership, but that's quickly being resolved with several new members in clubs being inducted. We still have a few months until the end of the year, so go out and start recruiting! If you want help planning a club "open house" to introduce your community to the Lions, and find some new members who are outside the circles of your members, please contact me and I'll work with you.

There was a moderate response to the state-wide Kentucky Tornado Relief effort, with New Milford and Woodbury collecting and bringing needed supplies to New Britain. Thanks for the effort, especially on such short notice, and your contributions made a difference.

On January 6, 2022, I held our second Zone 2 meeting of the 2021-2022 Lions year. Four out of the seven clubs participated via Zoom, and we were joined by DG Ed and VDGs Dave and Peter, and GLT Jim, who reviewed the district-wide self-guided Leadership program. This is intended for any Lion who currently holds a club position, intends to hold a club position, aspires to work on the District level (or above), or any Lion who wishes to improve their leadership skills. After that, we had a brief recap from each club of their current projects, and ended the session with a few words of wisdom from our District leadership.

Speaking of leadership, it's club election time! According to our by-laws, we should be holding our nomination meetings in March, with our election meetings in April. Please have your new officers entered into LCI by May 1.

Our last zone meeting is a combined zoom meeting with Zone 1 on Monday, April 4. Please mark this on your calendars, and make every effort to participate.



# MD 23 Leo Virtual Midwinter Conference

*Free Live Event!*

*Register now!*

*March 5, 2022  
1:00-4:00 pm*

*Interact with other Leos and Lions!*

ONLINE REGISTRATION AT:

<https://tinyurl.com/MD23LEO>

## Special Guest Speakers



J. Frank Moore, III,  
Past International  
President



LCI Board Member  
Shefanie Vin



Pablo Romano,  
President of  
USA/Canada  
Leo Leadership  
Foundation



Katharine Lange,  
previous Leo  
and an advocate  
for the environment



Brandon Johnson,  
Past Council Chair



All current and future Leos  
and Lions are invited to  
attend.

