

DISTRICT



CHANGING PEOPLES LIVES

Spirit

September 2021

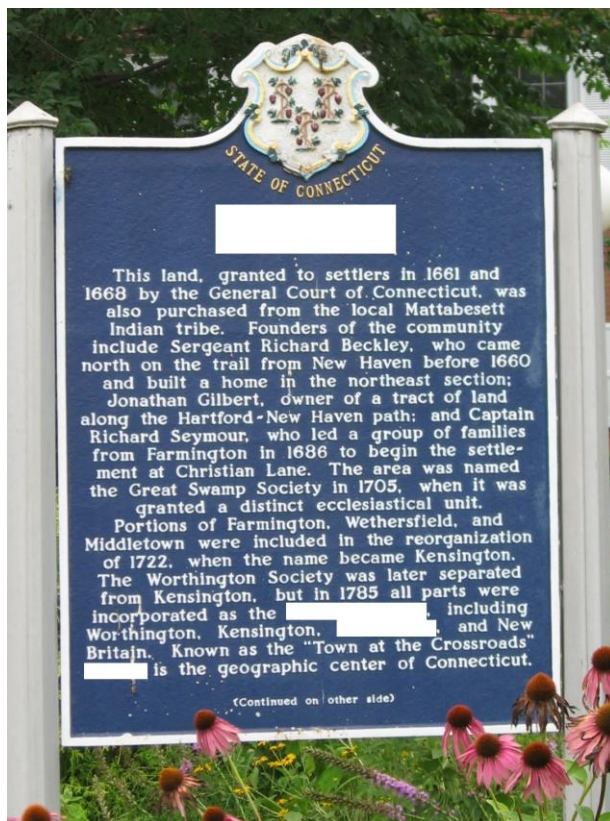
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CLUBS

Barkhamsted
East Granby
Simsbury
South Windsor
Windsor
Windsor Locks
Winsted
Woodbury

What Town Is This?



Lion Susan Ray from the Simsbury Lions Club failed the threepeat with last issue's town marker, and no one else was able to identify the sign, either. The challenge was that this town does not have a Lions club—yet. Stuck up in the Northwest corner of the state, the marker belongs to **Cornwall**.

Let's make this month's contest a little easier; this town DOES have a Lions club. The first Lion to send us their correct guess to District23BSpirit@gmail.com wins the prize, which is the admiration of the rest of the district. 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 . The first correct response wins!

Again, thanks to PDG Dave Yadach for creating this game.

The Spirit Team

DG Ed Fenton

HELLO LIONS!

The new District Governor's Service Challenge kicks-off in September! I'm encouraging all clubs to take part in this four-step challenge with the first step being a food collection September 24th through October 8th. Please consider doing a food collection during this time period to donate to your local food pantry, use for your fall/winter food basket projects, or give to anyone in need. Any clubs seeking advice on doing a food collection project should reach out to Cabinet Hunger Chair Greg Klimek.

The second step will be the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. book drive from November 15th through January 15th. We are asking clubs to donate specific books to their local libraries. Consider asking businesses in town to donate books. The book list is available on the front page of our website at www.lions23b.org. Any questions about the book drive should be directed to GST Chair Phyllis Perry.

Step three of the service challenge will be a project related to the environment. Cabinet Environment Chair Dani Shapiro will be providing more information on the environment project later in the year. The dates for this project will be April 16th to May 1st.

The final step of the service challenge is hosting a blood drive, and it can be done at any time between now and the end of May 2022. This is one of the easiest projects your club can do and the Red Cross always has a need for blood. Reach out to Cabinet Blood Drive Chair Julie Vecchitto for help in getting started.

Please take photos of you service challenge activities and submit them along with the Service Challenge Report Form to GST Chair Phyllis Perry. We plan to take all the photos submitted and make a video of service in District 23B for the year. The report form can be found



on the front page of our website and will be emailed out to Club Presidents/Secretaries in the next few days.

Your cabinet members are looking forward to working Hand-in-Hand with you this year! If you need extra help with a project, please reach out to your Zone Chair or our two new Kindness Matters Chairs, PDG Marianne Bannan and Lion Susan Gabriele. Your Zone Chair will be happy to ask neighboring clubs if anyone is available to assist. PDG Marianne and Lion Susan's sole function is to help clubs with projects. They look forward to getting involved with you as you look to serve your community!

We have 37 clubs that have submitted proposals for the District NAMI incentive and have been sent \$250.00 each to carry out their plans. The deadline to apply is fast approaching on September 30th. If your club has not yet submitted a proposal please consider doing so. For further information, or to submit your proposal, please email IPDG Heidi Zacchera at hzacchera@aol.com.

The District Directory is available on our website for all Lions to access. Visit www.lions23b.org and click on the "Contact Us" tab on the left side. At the bottom of the contact page is a link to the 2021-2022 directory. The directory is meant to be used only by Lions so it is password protected. Please do not share this outside of Lions Club members. The password is: LionsRoar2021

Please continue to send your club event flyers to IT Chair Linda Russell (lindarus@hotmail.com) and she will be happy to add them to the district website calendar. She looks forward to publicizing your events as you work hard to support your communities!

My door is always open! Feel free to email, text, or call with any questions, comments, or concerns.

DG Ed



Lions 23B



**District Governor's
Service Challenge**

District Hunger Project (Fall)	District Book Drive (Midyear)	DISTRICT ENVIRONMENT PROJECT (SPRING)
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Blood Drive

Complete each of the above

OR

Two from above **and**
two of the 5 Global Causes:

- ☐ DIABETES
- ☐ ENVIRONMENT
- ☐ CHILDHOOD CANCER
- ☐ HUNGER RELIEF
- ☐ VISION

Visit our website at www.lions23b.org for more information

District Food Drives

*Lion Greg Klimek
Hunger Service Chair*

There will be district food drives for clubs in the District 23B from September 24th - October 8th. We would like all clubs in district 23B to participate in this food drive in their towns during this period. This will benefit all food pantries in your various towns. This is something your district governor Ed Fenton has asked all clubs in district 23B to participate in.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me, greg.klimek@hotmail.com

GLT Report

Jim Trompeter, GLT

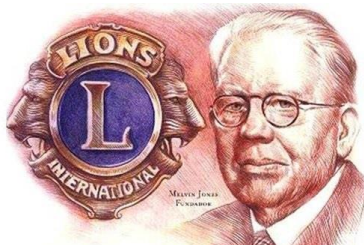
Welcome to the Lions Year 2021 – 2022!

We are all looking to get back to some type of normalcy not only in our personal lives but in our Lions activities as well. The Global Leadership Team has been busy helping our Lions Leaders both at Club Level and in the District assimilating back to some type of normalcy.

We conducted virtual training for the Club Officers in late June we are also conducting a Zone Chair Workshop on August 14th. Regional Lions Leadership Institute will be held Oct 29th – Oct 31st in Southbury CT, if you are interested in learning more about this contact me or DG Ed Fenton. New Member Orientation Program will be occurring in October or November That is where we are at with formal training at the moment.

I understand that there are needs for additional support for some Club Officers. Quite often you don't realize you need support until you actually start working in your position. We are here to help you whether it is recommending a certain Training Video, a Zoom Conference or a Club visit we are here to support you and provide you with the Guidance you need. But you Have to Ask. I hope to be discussing this at upcoming Zone Meetings.

We are off to a good start, Membership was up for last year and we are about even through July, that is a big positive If you need anything I am in the directory. Remember if you need help you just have to Ask.



New Hartford Fire

I'm sure many of you have heard about the devastating fire in New Hartford on Tuesday. The entire New Hartford House was destroyed including six storefronts and fourteen apartments. There were 22 people who lived in those apartments. Fortunately all 22 people escaped safely, although one firefighter lost his life in the line of duty due to a previously undiagnosed medical issue.

On behalf of the New Hartford Lions there is a request for donations to be made to the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund in New Hartford. Below is part of an email from New Hartford Lions Secretary Laura Polakow explaining the need for the donations and why this fund has been chosen.

I hope you will consider helping these fourteen families that have been displaced from their homes with a club and/or personal donation. Please share this information with your club members.

Thanks,
VD Ed

I spoke with Christine Hayward at the New Hartford Town Hall. She is recommending that any donations be sent to the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund in New Hartford. While still accepting gift cards she says she has enough at this time to care for day-to-day needs. The cash/check donations are being put toward security deposits and rents to help the fire victims find housing. The fund is maintaining a separate section so all donations designated for fire victims goes to that part of the fund and will only be used for fire victims. This fund is monitored and audited so it is a secure place for donations. She mentioned that they had found that some of the Go Fund Me pages were fraudulent.

The address for the Neighbor to Neighbor Fund is:

Town of New Hartford
530 Main Street - Town Hall
P.O. Box 316
New Hartford, CT 06057-0316

Thank you for your help.

Laura Polakow
Secretary

100 Years

Lion Bob Bessel

In my town, like so many, Lions Club members show up in bright yellow vests to park cars and serve hot dogs. Little does the public know the rest of the Lions story in Connecticut.

Statewide, the current project is free eye-screenings for every pre-schooler in Connecticut. Why? Because poor vision is the number one cause of learning issues. If caught before age seven, the great majority of these issues can be corrected.

Pre-school eye screenings are the tip of the Lions iceberg. Connecticut Lions funded research at Yale that developed eye drops for glaucoma, retinal imaging at UConn, and river blindness which impacts millions around the world.

Connecticut Lions have opened Low Vision centers in towns across the state to help people who are visually impaired. Lions have setup eye surgery clinics to restore sight to people who could not see for years. Millions of eye glasses have been recycled and distributed to people who need them desperately.

Why the focus on vision? It all started with a well-known Connecticut resident - Helen Keller - who called on Lions to become "Knights of the Blind". 100 years later, Lions have done just that.

But there's more. From restoring Castle Craig in Meriden to building Camp Jewel in Colebrook to founding Camp Rising Sun to starting the first Big Brothers/Big Sisters program in Middletown - Lions have served Connecticut well.

To celebrate 100 years of service, Lions Clubs across the state will "take over" Beehive Stadium in New Britain on Saturday, August 28, at 4 pm. All Connecticut Lions Clubs are invited to join the parade of Lions, to raise our banners and to let Connecticut know that we are taking on the next 100 years of service.

Childhood Cancer – September

Great Cycle Challenge Fights Childhood Cancer

Team CTLIONSROAR Pedals Up to The Need

You may already know many of the thirteen riders on this cycle team, listed below, because many of them have been or are leaders in your Lion communities. Some are two-timers, having taken on the Challenge last year, and more than a handful are enthusiastic newcomers from CT or MN, where I relocated less than a year ago. For example, the current ranking members of the team are #1 Lion John Habif from South Windsor Connecticut Lions, and #2 Lion Mathias Baden, the immediate past president of Lions Club of Woodbury, MN.

Granted, most of this team are not typically mountain bikers nor fantastically young and fit, but we are nonetheless unique. We are a team dedicated to eradicating

cancer in children, and we are serious. Each rider (think DG Ed Fenton) is determinedly fitting this year's Great Cycle Challenge into a personal daily and Lion life already replete with work, family, golf tournaments, and a myriad of summer food booths – think 'fair food' at MN and CT events.

Wherever and whomever the Team is, they participate, often in memory of someone, and mostly because Lions know there is a growing need. Childhood cancer gets the short end of funding for research and community awareness compared with breast, prostate, and colon cancers, simply because it does not happen as often as adult cancers. But should this disease happen to your child, or to a child you love, all the money in the world would not

heal your fear and worry. Supporting the Great Cycle Challenge helps fund the effort to stop childhood cancer.







Sponsor donations to the Great Cycle Challenge benefit the Children's Cancer Research Fund. Thank you for supporting our team CTLIONSROAR or our individual RIDERS.

<https://greatcyclechallenge.com/Teams/CTLIONSROAR>

[https://greatcyclechallenge.com/Rider/\(copy and paste rider name here\)](https://greatcyclechallenge.com/Rider/(copy and paste rider name here))
JohnHabif, MathiasBaden, MeredithSpector, BonnieJoCheron, EdFenton, JaneGaribay, JoyceMrazik, DarleneBrady, AndyGreen, GeorgeBentley, JamesDaniels, JamesPfeifer, StevenLeibin

23B Service Stuff

Lion Phyllis Perry, Global Service Chair

	 DIABETES	 ENVIRONMENT	 CHILDHOOD CANCER	 HUNGER RELIEF	 VISION	 ALL OTHER	
PEOPLE SERVED							
TOTAL	14,690	0	450	0	3,096	1,300	9,844
SERVICE ACTIVITIES							
TOTAL	51	0	4	0	14	2	31
VOLUNTEER HOURS							
TOTAL	1,548	0	53	0	207	4	1,283
FUNDS DONATED							
TOTAL	\$1,975	0	0	0	\$50	0	\$1,925
FUNDS RAISED							
TOTAL	\$1,975	0	0	0	\$50	0	\$1,925

Twenty-seven Lion and Leo clubs in 23B reported 2020/21 Service projects in MyLion.

Shown above are the district service figures so far for **this** Lions year. A terrific effort, I'm sure you'll agree, especially with only eighteen clubs reporting these activities only two months in to the new Lions year.

Above is the breakdown of our

district's reported Service Activities by cause category in comparison to the total of number of people served, service activities, volunteer hours, funds donated and funds raised.

Is your club reporting service? If not, why not? If you are a member of one of the 35 Clubs that has not reported any activity so far this year, why not volunteer to do the

reporting for your Club? We can offer training and assistance so please help us tell the **whole** story.

**Did you know that District Governor Ed has launched a Service Challenge for which your club can earn a banner patch upon achieving the service goals this year? Details are found on the district's website: www.lions23b.org

NAMI is now GMA

IPDG Heidi Zacchera

North American Membership Incentive is now GMA – no....not Good Morning America, but Global Membership Approach

Goals: To rejuvenate the district with new clubs; To re-motivate existing members with fellowship and exciting service; To revitalize clubs with new members

This year we are continuing the membership plan that was put in place last year.

I am available to assist clubs to gain new members, retain their members, and motivate your membership and leaders.

I would LOVE for clubs to plan and advertise a road clean up, a park clean up, or something along those lines. Advertise with social media and wherever you can, that you are having this clean up and would like assistance from the community. Give them a phone number to call to put their names in as volunteers.

I would like to work along side you and your community to talk to the volunteers about Lions, and see if they have an interest in joining you. (No hard sell, just comfortable conversation). As I've reported this year, my club did this and one new member mushroomed out to 10 new members this year. It is an easy way to bring in potential members.

Why new members? New members breathe new life, energy, enthusiasm, ideas, and more into a club. Lions are the best kept secret. We need to give our community the chance to assist us so they can feel how rewarding it is to give back to our community. "More hands make light work!" Think about what you could accomplish with more members!

Plan NOW!

Contact me soon so I can get your club activities on my calendar!

Peace Posters

Kathy Doody, Chair

This year's theme for LCI's annual Peace Poster contest is "We Are All Connected" and now is the time to start organizing your local Club's contest! The contest is open to children ages 11, 12 & 13 (actual birthdate requirements can be found in the kit).

This contest is really easy to organize and is great exposure for your Club too! All you would need to do is contact your local Middle School art teacher and ask if he/she would like to have their students participate in this event and provide them with a kit. (Peace Poster Kits can be bought on the LCI website for only \$11.95 plus applicable S&H, and must be ordered by October 1st). You can use Google to search for "LCI Peace Poster Contest" to find a link with all of the necessary information. I will be sending out an email to Club Presidents and Secretaries with important dates for poster submissions and voting as well as a basic letter for you to copy/paste on your Club's letterhead to send to your local schools so be on the lookout for it! I am excited to be the Peace Poster Chair and I hope we get lots of participation this year!

LCI + Literacy

LCI has had a long-standing association in the literacy realm. Within that context, the Lions of 23B are participating in the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Book Drive, conceptualized and designed by GST Phyllis Perry for the Lion Clubs in the Hartford and Litchfield counties.

The purpose of the book drive is to collect new books with African American or Latino themes written by African American or Latino authors for elementary school students. This enrichment program undergirds CT PA 19-12, An Act Concerning the Inclusion of African American & Latino Studies in the Public School Curriculum.

Participating clubs will select and purchase books from the two book lists available at www.lions23b.org and present them to their town library/ies between Nov. 15 and Jan 15, culminating on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST



OCTOBER 17

8AM TO NOON
OLM PARISH
19 SOUTH CANAL ST
PLAINVILLE

KIDS UNDER 6 FREE



DG ED Fenton Signed MOU of “Lions Sister-District Relationship”

July 25, 2020. District Governor Ed Fenton signed a Memorandum of Understanding virtually together with District 325-B1 Nepal's DG Bisheswor Acharya for “Lions Sister-District Relationship” with Nepal's District 325-B1 on July 25, 2021.

Lions of District 23-B gathered at Courtyard Marriott in Farmington at 8:30AM in the morning, with virtual attendees from Connecticut and Nepal. Almost one hundred Lions were present to witness the signing ceremony. The signing ceremony was witnessed by IPID Mark Lyon, ID John Youney, PID Sanjay Khetan, IPDG Heidi Zacchera, 1st VDG Dave Roberts, 2nd VDG Peter Nevers, PCC Kathy Randall and Zone Chair Raj Shrestha. Number of Lions from HCEC Lions Club and West Hartford Lumbini Lions Club were also present.

IPID Mark Lyon, ID John Youney and PID Sanjay Khetan delivered wonderful remarks and applauded the exemplary initiative taken by both the Districts of Nepal and Connecticut.

The relationship between two districts is under the Specialty Clubs Program of District 23-B. The program was run by Zone Chair Raj Shrestha.



Above: District 325-B1 Nepal's DG Bisheswor Acharya (left) and District 23B DG Ed Fenton hold up their signed copies of the Lions Sister District Relationship agreement

Right: District 23B District Governor Ed Fenton signing the MOU for the Sister District Relationship agreement with District 325-B1 in Nepal



“Leos Are Now”

Lion Cindy Daniels District 23B Leo Chair

During this past Leo year, meeting was difficult as we navigated zoom, google classroom and many other creative ways to be together. Service and fundraising was difficult for us all, but we got it done. This year we are starting with renewed energy, great new ideas and many new Leos!

The Watertown Leos are planning to continue their support of the Sun, Moon, and Stars scholarship. This new scholarship is awarded to a high school senior who will work with special needs children. Leos

created and sold pins made from puzzle pieces and garnered \$1000.00 for this project. These creative, hard working Watertown Leos are adding a Teen Cancer Project in the fall, scarves for seniors at Christmas and senior bingo in the spring.

The Windsor Leos at Sage Park and the Northwestern Connecticut Cyber Leos, serving together, created flags from wooden pallets and sold them at the Windsor Lions Spring Arts and Craft Fair. Working closely with community partners, Ace

Hardware and the Town of Windsor, Leos were able to donate \$600.00 to Camp Rising Sun from their pallet project. Looking forward to the year ahead Leos are planning Blind American Equality Day activities at The Tobacco Museum, a pasta dinner, involvement in the Special Education Christmas Party, participation in the Great Cycle Challenge, and birthday bags to go home with Weekend Wheels.

Thank you for all you do for our youth. Leos will be visible at Cabinet and actively connecting to each other across the District.



Lion Around Connecticut

With Lions Carol Kearns and Harry Schuh

On March 4, 2021 we celebrated our **8th Anniversary** of producing "Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry." We continue to air our weekly show during the pandemic and have just produced show #400.

Our show is aired on 4 cable access TV stations: Charter Communications (Newtown), Cablevision (Litchfield), Charter Communications (Willimantic), and Nutmeg (Farmington). We are also 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 9 shows. We began with the Fidelco Ride for Independence which first aired in July 2016. This event featured a motorcycle ride beginning at Gengras Motorcycles in East Hartford and ending at the Fidelco Bloomfield campus. This was followed by musical entertainment, raffles, food, and a State Police dog demonstration. In March of this year, PCC Alan Daninhirsch invited us to join him at the UConn Health Center for an interview with Dr. Mansoor Sarfarazi. CLERF has been supporting his research on glaucoma for many years. He gave us an informative update on the status of his research. We then continued with our Fidelco theme by airing the reception for Lions at the new Fidelco facility in Wilton, CT held in August 2016. Finally, we are airing some of the shows from CRIS Radio's fundraiser held for many years at the Bond Ballroom. These shows feature local celebrities paired with professional dance partners in an enjoyable evening to raise money in support of CRIS Radio's mission and programs.

Below are the titles for our latest shows 392 - 400:

The Lions' Roar

The next two deadlines for The Lions' Roar are September 15, 2021 and October 15, 2021. 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 September issue, we want everything from August 25, 2021 through the end of December 2021).

392	Fidelco Ride for Independence July 2016 Part 1
393	Fidelco Ride for Independence July 2016 Part 2
394	PCC Alan Daninhirsch and UConn Dr. Mansoor Sarfarazi Interview March 2021
395	Lions Reception at Fidelco Wilton August 2016 Part 1
396	Lions Reception at Fidelco Wilton August 2016 Part 2
397	CRIS Radio Dancin' in the Dark April 2015 Part 1
398	CRIS Radio Dancin' in the Dark April 2015 Part 2
399	CRIS Radio Dancin' in the Dark April 2015 Part 3
400	CRIS Radio A Night to Remember April 2014 Part 1

We look forward to videorecording Lions events onsite once again when the state has been safely reopened. Please continue to enjoy our shows during this pandemic.

Be safe!

Lion Carol Kearns and PDG Harry Schuh



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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 December 1, 2021. The deadline for all ads and articles is August 15, 2021.

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.

Barkhamsted Lions Club

July 5th American Flag Retirement Ceremony: The Barkhamsted Lions Club and the Northwestern Connecticut Cyber Lions Club partnered with a number of local community groups to retire over 300 torn, tattered and used American flags in the 2nd Annual American Flag retirement event. Held at the home of Northwestern CT Cyber Lions Club member Karen (and her husband Nate) Roberg on the banks of the Farmington River; about 20 community members joined with veterans, firemen and others to respectfully retire American flags in a bonfire. (2 photos attached)

4th of July Parade: The Barkhamsted Lions Club again coordinated the annual Town of Barkhamsted's 4th of July Parade and Independence Day Program held on Monday, July 5th. Prizes were given for the best kids' bicycles and best pet with awardees winning \$20 gift certificates to Barnes & Nobles. The parade was dedicated to the legacy of Peter Minton, a long-time supporter of the Star Band in the Lions' sponsored parade. Community members enjoyed the parade returning to in-person this year to restore this decades old tradition.

Hartford Yard Goats Honor ECAD Lions: The Hartford Yard Goats minor league baseball organization selected the ECAD (Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities) Lions Club Branch, sponsored by the Barkhamsted Lions Club, as the first non-profit group to be recognized as a Community Kindness Hero based on the branch's promotion of inclusion, diversity and equality. Twenty-six members and five service dogs were escorted onto the baseball field at Dunkin Donuts Park for the pre-game recognition and the club's picture was broadcast on the jumbotron screens while information was provided to all attendees of the tremendous service ECAD Lions perform. Branch President Carrie Picard said "it was so exciting for our new specialty Lions club branch

to be the first recognized by the Yard Goats." PDG Mary Krogh also was on hand to witness this special event! (One photo attached)

INVITATION: Sunday, September 5, 6:00 PM: Please join the Barkhamsted Lions Club, Northwestern CT Cyber Lions Club with other community groups for the fourth Veteran of the Month recognition ceremony at the Barkhamsted Senior Center, 109 West River Road, Barkhamsted. The Barkhamsted Lions Club is one of the co-sponsors of this new initiative to honor a veteran each month by flying a flag in their honor. The ceremonies are held on the first Sunday of each month at 6:00 PM and the public is always invited and light refreshments will be served. The Riverton American Legion Post #159 Honor Guard will present honorary rifle volleys, so pets are not encouraged at this event. For more information, please contact Club President Dave Roberts at dave@daveroberts.org or 858-775-9241.

INVITATION: Sunday, October 3, 1:00 – 3:00 PM: ECAD (Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities) Lions Club Branch will be hosting an Open House at the ECAD Winchester Campus (149 Newfield Road, Winchester) from 1:00 – 3:00 PM on Sunday, October 3rd. Come see what ECAD does starting with puppy care and the way through training service dogs to enable people with disabilities to gain greater independence and mobility through the use of specially educated dogs. Come meet the trainers, see puppies and service dogs, and learn why this specialty Lions Club branch is one of the fastest growing in the state.



Above: Retired American flags are added to the bonfire

Below: The Barkhamsted Lions Club marching in the town's 4th of July parade



Below: The raising of the flag at a "Veteran of the Month" ceremony



Environmental Service Chair

My name is Dani Shapiro and I'm thrilled to be the environmental committee chair for District 23B this Lions year! I'm reaching out early on to fill everyone in about an exciting part of the District Governor's service-a-thon.

Between the dates of April 16th and May 1st, we would love to have each club in the district complete a park cleanup, a tree-planting event, or another activity that relates to improving the environment. The goal for this to be completed is between the dates of Saturday, April 16th- Sunday May 1st, which leaves three full weekends to complete this. While each event is a positive asset to our communities, think of the huge impact we could have as a district if we all work together on this initiative.

As time gets closer, I plan on making visits to a few clubs within the district to further explore with you all what we can do as Lions to have an impact on our environment. I look forward to working with all of you this year!

Yours in Lionism,

Dani Shapiro

South Windsor Lions Club

South Windsor Lions Club will be holding its 38th Annual Charity Golf Tournament at Blackledge Country Club in Hebron on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, 8:30am registration, 10:00am Shotgun Start. \$130 per golfer includes green fees, cart, 1 mulligan, 1 raffle ticket, continental breakfast, lunch, and dinner. \$500 for a prepaid foursome (by August 31). For additional information, call Lion Betty Geeting at 860.432-2164 or email tullie731@gmail.com.

East Granby Lions Club

The East Granby Lions are having a DUCK DERBY Race on Sunday, September 12th. The event will be held at Granbrook Park (entrance off Route 189) in East Granby. There will be music, fun and food. "Spashdown" will take place at 1:30pm and tickets to adopt a racing duck can be purchased onsite for \$5 each or Email eastgranbylion@gmail.com to get more information. Three winners will receive cash prizes.

Winsted Lions Club

Mark your calendars for the annual Winsted Lions Club Halloween Dance.

Join us for a night full of fun! 3-G live band, Hors d'oeuvres, a table full of Homemade Desserts, Cash Bar 6:30-11:00, Raffles and Costume Contest.(Costumes are encouraged, but not required to join in the Halloween Festivities.)

Friday October 29, 2021
7PM-11PM (doors open at 6:30)
Crystal Peak, 164 Torrington Rd.,
Winsted, CT Tickets are \$30 each.

Contact Joe Zibell, Joezib@att.net or 860-921-6644, or Gina Sartirana, Gsartirana@yahoo.com or 860-307-6617 for tickets or more information

Simsbury Lions Club

The Simsbury Lions Club will be holding their Annual Mums Sale soon. It depends on our grower when it will start, but follow our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/weservehumanity> to learn all the details as soon as we get them.

Thanks!

Windsor Locks Lions Club

The Windsor Locks Lions Club is hosting a comedy show fundraiser at the Skyline Restaurant, 106 Ella Grasso Tpke in Windsor Locks on Friday, September 10th. Doors open at 5:30. If you would like to order dinner (not included in ticket price) you must order by 6:30. Cash bar. Show starts at 8pm. Please contact Lion Kristin Francis at 860-796-4524 for tickets. The price is \$20pp. Tables can seat 8 but up to 10 if you bring a crowd!

Woodbury Lions Club

We have three fundraisers coming up in the near future.

The first is our annual Duck Race, which funds our Sight and Hearing efforts. Tickets are \$5 each, or a book of 10 for \$50, and can be purchased from club members. The race takes place September 11 at Three Rivers Park promptly at 11am. The four top prizes are \$1000, \$500, and two \$300 cash awards, with five other prizes of gift certificates to local businesses. All prizes have been donated, so all money raised goes directly to our Sight and Hearing efforts.

Our second event is our new Golf Tournament, on September 13. It takes place at the Highfield Club in Middlebury, and the cost is \$150 per person, which includes greens fees, cart, lunch, beer, refreshments on the course, and appetizers after the round. Contact Lion Ryan Maccione at Ryan@americanpetcontainment.com to register or more information.

And, of course, our annual Haunted Hayride takes place October 22,23,29.30 starting at Mitchell School in Woodbury. More information coming soon on our website, www.WoodburyCTLions.org

Windsor Lions Club

The Windsor Lions celebrated their 71st year of service on June 18th at the Connecticut Tobacco Museum. Four years ago, the Windsor Lions partnering with CRIS Radio enabled the history of the Connecticut Valley to come alive for print disabled and low vision individuals with QR codes.

Members of our sponsor club, the Bloomfield Lions, DG Heidi, 1stVDG Ed and PCC Kathy Randal celebrated with us. Many awards and recognitions were given. DG Heidi installed Board members and club officers.

On August 7th, the Windsor Lions and Sage Park Leos held the second annual Drive Thru No Contact Food Drive at LP Wilson Community Center. Lions and Leos collected 3,000 lbs. of food and paper goods and in excess of \$1000.00 in monetary donations for the Windsor Food and Fuel Bank.

On September 12th the Windsor Lions are holding their first Blood Drive. This service project is being held at the LP Wilson Community Center, 599 Matianuck Ave., Windsor, from 9-2. Please register for a slot to donate blood at www.redcrossblood.org.

“Symbol of Hope” Fundraiser

The Windsor Lions Club is sponsoring a “No Contact” Spring Bulb Fundraiser. Working with, “Bulbs for Change”, from Middlebury Vermont, the Lions offer Spring bulbs of the highest quality, that can be ordered online. These bulbs and plants come from all over the world, are 100% guaranteed, and will be delivered directly to your home.

Planted in the fall, these “symbols of hope” will bloom to brighten your garden and signify a new beginning for Spring of 2022. One hundred percent of the proceeds from this fundraiser support Lions global causes, hunger, pediatric cancer, vision, the environment and diabetes.

For more information about the Windsor Lions Club, or with questions about this fundraiser, contact Lion Cindy Daniels, cldressage959@gmail.com

Community Tag Sale

On Sept. 25th the Windsor Lions are holding a Community Tag Sale on the Windsor Town Green from 8-3. The Lions will advertise for you, provide a large, highly visible site and adequate parking for just \$25.00. All proceeds from this event will go to Camp Rising Sun. Please contact Chairperson Lion Trish Jeffrey for information. tjeffery64@yahoo.com.



Above: Windsor Lions at their food drive on August 7



Left: The Bloomfield Lions helping the Windsor Lions celebrate their 71st year of service at the Connecticut Tobacco Museum



Windsor Lions Club president Jim Pfliffer (right) presenting Lion David Stender one of the many awards given at the Windsor Lions 71st celebration on June 18th.

VDG Dave Roberts

To all the Lions and Leos of District 23-B, thank you for the honor of allowing me to serve as your 1st Vice District Governor for Lions Year 2021-2022 under the leadership of District Governor Ed Fenton! DG Ed has asked VDG Peter Nevers and myself to focus on supporting as many clubs as possible with their club community service projects and fundraisers. Already, I have had the pleasure of attending the Bloomfield Lions Club membership ice cream social, serving 676 fried dough pizzas with the Hartland Lions Club (and not eating even one myself even though they looked so yummy – we ran out!), collecting and donating bags of non-perishable food items with the Windsor Lions Club, and attending the Hartford County Everest Centennial and West Hartford Lumbini Lions Club Joint Potluck and New Member Induction Ceremony. If you have an upcoming service project or fundraiser, please let me know how I can support your club!

Our year got off to a fast start and I was pleased to again be asked to support our District's training initiative this year working with GLT Jim Trompeter on the training for Club Membership Chairs. We decided to reuse our district created "membership" training video from last year, supplemented with my tools from the LCI website, and then made ourselves available to answer questions virtually. In-person training was also held at the First Cabinet Meeting in Terryville.

From July 21-23, I had the pleasure to virtually attend the 4th USA/Canada Leo Leadership Forum. As the MD-23 Leo Clubs Chair last year, this forum was especially meaningful for me to see passionate Leos (and Leo Advisors) from around Constitutional Area 1 who will make great Lion leaders in the future. I especially enjoyed how much these Leos had to share and on their desire to serve locally. I had wanted to attend a Leo Forum and was so pleased to attend

virtually this summer.

On July 25th, I attended the Lions District 325-B1/District 23-B "Twinning" ceremony in Farmington with DG Ed, PID Mark Lyons, and other District leaders. It was great to see so many smiling faces early on a Sunday morning for this special ceremony. As one of the two Guiding Lions (along with Zone Chair Raj Shrestha) for the West Hartford Lumbini Lions Club for the past two years, it has been a passion of mine to see how we can grow our relationship with Lions in Nepal and the 3,000+ Nepalese-Americans who live here in Connecticut. This "twinning" agreement is for at least three years and will help us work on mutual items of interest between our two nations. I look forward to an in-person meeting when the agreement is signed for Year #2 when we are all together next June in Montreal.

Another activity that I am passionate about is serving for Year #2 as the LCI International President's appointee to the United Nations' Council of Organizations and United Nations Association of the United States. Currently, I am chairing the 75th Anniversary Celebration Committee for the Council of Organizations and working to promote more collaboration between Lions Clubs International Foundation and the United Nations Foundation. On October 3rd, from 1:00 – 3:00 PM, Lion Raj Shrestha and I are working with the Connecticut Chapter of the United Nations Association on United Nations Day in Connecticut which will spotlight Nepal and combating human trafficking. And Lions Day with the United Nations New York is currently scheduled for Friday, March 11th, both in-person and virtual. PDG Harry Schuh is chairing our District's involvement in this event next year and I hope to see many Lions and Leos in attendance.

Another passion is serving as the

Guiding Lion for the Northwestern Connecticut Cyber Lions Club. This cyber club was created to provide a home to individuals who did not want to belong to a geographic Lions Club or a Specialty Lions Club, but wanted to support Lions Clubs International. This club currently has 40 members and is sponsoring a new UN-themed cyber Lions Club Branch. If you would like more information on cyber Lions activities or know someone who might want to get involved, please have them reach out to me at dave@daveroberts.org or 858-775-9241.

Working "Hand in Hand in Service" (DG Ed's theme this year), I know we can build upon our past successes and have another great year with all of us working together. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of service to you or your club. Yours in service, VDG Dave Roberts

Veterans Stand Down

The Lions of District 23B will again participate this year in veteran's Stand Down, which will be held on Friday, September 24, 2021 from 8:00am to 2:00pm at CT Veteran's Affairs Rocky Hill Campus, 287 West Street, Rocky Hill. As described by Veteran's Affairs, "We continue our commitment to serving Connecticut's Veterans by providing this one-stop access to a range of programs and services offered by state and federal agencies, veteran's organizations, and community based non-profits." This event is particularly targeting our most vulnerable veterans. We ask that clubs within the District recruit volunteers to serve at Stand Down and donate items of need such as socks, under clothes, winter gloves, personal and health products. Contact is John Habif, District Chair for Stand Down, berrybay3@cox.net or 860.214.8065.

Blood Drives

Julie Vecchitto, Chair

At the recent cabinet meeting in July, our new District Governor Ed Fenton outlined his goals for 23B, and one of them was for every club in our district to sponsor a blood drive. I have to give a bunch of clubs a shout-out for volunteering at blood drives. On behalf of the people whose lives have been saved, and the donors who are glad to see friendly faces to greet them at a blood drive, thank you. All these clubs -- Terryville, East Hartford, Bristol, Avon, Plainville, Glastonbury Centennial, South Windsor, Harwinton and soon, Windsor--have answered the call of PDGs Ev Lyons and Heidi Zacchera. Others have been in touch to learn about volunteering at blood drives.

The Lions-Red Cross partnership is an important one, providing volunteers to assist in the effort to maintain the blood supply. Our service allows Red Cross staff members to focus on what they do best: taking care of blood donors and collecting blood. What do Lions volunteers do at blood drives? Greet donors, register them at the drive, watch and feed them post-donation, have good conversations, be nice, and say thank you. It's easy. It costs nothing but a few hours of their time. But it's rewarding, because it supports a life-saving mission. And right now, there's a blood shortage. DG Ed's inspiring goal for our district should be an impetus for action. Why not participate in volunteering at a blood drive?

Get started by sending a message to me, Blood Drives Chair, jvecchit@gmail.com or 860-485-9574, to learn more and get the name of the Donor Recruitment and Outreach Associate who can guide you through the process of volunteering your club for an upcoming drive. I hope to hear from you!

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

Harolyn Erickson
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

It's a pleasure to serve as the Zone 2 Chairperson once again.

As I have done in the past, I chose a theme for us to work on for the year: Leadership. Our GLT, Jim Trompetor, will be assisting me in finding leadership development opportunities, and I'll be passing them along as we find them. Some will be workbooks, some will be videos, and occasionally, there will be video conferences. I strongly encourage every Lion to take advantage of these materials, because not only will they assist you in your Lions' journey, but you will also find that they are useful in your home and work lives.

Towards this, our first Zone meeting will be on Thursday, October 7. This will be an in-person meeting (as of right now) at a location yet to be determined. The cost of dinner will depend on where we hold the meeting, but I will try to hold the cost down. I encourage all clubs to attend, and to invite as many members of their clubs as want to attend; zone meetings are not limited to club presidents and officers. Obviously, our topic is Leadership, so come prepared to discuss how we can inspire your members to take that next step in their Lions experience. I will send out a separate email when our space is booked, and a price is determined.

Also, instead of club visits, DG Ed has suggested I assist with your club's service projects and fundraisers. Please let me know when you need me to help out, and I'll be there. However, also feel free to invite me to a club meeting, especially for new member inductions, and special awards presentations.

I will be following up with all club leaders with this information, and will be contacting you from time to time with important news.