



May 2016

In this issue:

- 1st VDG Kathy Randall
- Fidelco
- Pin Traders
- Lion Around Connecticut
- Leadership Conference June 11, 2016
- LCIF
- In Memoriam: Cynthia Bercowetz

Club Highlights:

Torrington	2
Terryville	3
Thomaston	4
Washington	4
Hartland	8
Suffield	14
Woodbury	14

Words from the DG

By Steven Daigle, District Governor

As we begin our final quarter and I head toward the home stretch of my year serving as your District Governor, I am pleased to provide this report of our activities during the busy month of March.

On March 6, we held the District Governor's breakfast for Zones 1 through 4. A big "THANK YOU" to Chair Carol Hoebel and her team for arranging this year's breakfast at the Crystal Peak banquet facility in Winsted, a new venue for us this year. On March 13 the second breakfast was held for Zones 5 through 8. Again, a big "THANK YOU" to Eileen Driscoll and her team for another delicious breakfast at Maneeley's in South Windsor. We held a successful eyeglass and hearing aid collection at these breakfasts, and we are awaiting a count of how many glasses were collected. Thank you all for your continuing efforts with the eyeglass and hearing aid collections. Congratulations to all the Lion of the Year award recipients, as well as our 100% Secretaries and Outstanding Leos who were honored at these events.

On March 12, a number of Connecticut Lions, as well as a busload of our Connecticut Leos, attended Lions Day at the United Nations in New York City. The day provided a great opportunity to network with over 700 Lions, Leos and Diplomats from around the world and see the winning Peace Poster and Essay Contest winner. This year's program featured a discussion on gender equality and peace.

Also in March, four District B Lion applicants were chosen to attend Emerging Lions Leadership Institute training in Denver, Colorado. I am pleased to report that Lions Sonny Olomi, Cathy Paskus, Susan Boilard and Meredith Spector successfully completed their training. They report that they enjoyed the Institute and all its offerings, made many Lions networking contacts, and are looking forward to putting their new talents to work in their clubs and in the District. Congratulations to all!

Due to Mother Nature giving us one (hopefully)



last blast of winter weather, the Cabinet meeting scheduled for April 4 had to be postponed. We have set May 2 as the date for the rescheduled Cabinet meeting, with location details to be announced in the near future. In the meantime, as we move into April, the last round of Zone meetings has begun. I hope that each club in our district will attend their Zone meeting, as this provides each club with an opportunity to share their successes and disappointments during this Lions year, as well as to share their upcoming events with their neighboring clubs.

Governor's Membership Challenge recipients for 2016 to date are: January, Windsor Locks Lions Club, with net 5 member increase; February, Terryville Lions Club, with net 3 member increase; and March, Trinity College Lions Club, with net three

(continued on page 4)

Greetings from East Hartford

1st Vice District Governor, Kathy Randall

TEAMWORK IS KEY TO SUCCESSFUL CLUB OPERATIONS

In today's rapidly changing world, individuals must blend their family demands, work commitments, and volunteer work. While the responsibilities of an individual club officer may be demanding, he/she is able to share challenges, ideas and perspectives with fellow officers.

The *club officer team concept* fosters collaboration and provides a shared focus and approach to club administration. The club president, secretary and treasurer comprise the core of the club officer team, working together to provide effective club leadership. The club president, in addition to supervising overall club operations, is responsible for developing team strategies, coaching and motivating the team members, and monitoring overall performance of the team.

This collaborative team approach not only can improve club administration, but it also:

- enables each officer to be more confident and effective by working together and utilizing individual knowledge, skills, and talents.
- encourages creativity through communication and the sharing of challenges, opportunities and ideas, ultimately generating new insights or perspectives that an individual may not have discovered.
- supports the achievement of goals in a timely manner as each member works toward specific objectives and fulfilling responsibilities that support the collective goal.

As the key leader in each club, the president can be extremely busy.

Effectively delegating responsibilities as appropriate to club officer team members can enhance the management and general operations of the club, while preparing them for future leadership roles. In the club officer team, like all effective teams, each member has been assigned specific responsibilities and tasks for which they are accountable.¹

Every District is required to offer orientation programs for club officers. This year, GLT Coordinator has organized our training for **Saturday, June 11, at the ITBD in New Britain**. Be sure to check this issue for more information. These programs are beneficial to skill development and personal growth. Club officers and members are encouraged to attend these programs. As club officers, developing and nurturing leadership skills of club members is very important. Club members will be looking to the club leadership for guidance, motivation, and problem solving. Together, your leadership team will help keep the club moving towards its goals by involving members actively on committees and/or service projects and providing opportunities for leadership experience.

¹Club Officer Team Manual



Torrington Lions Club

In February, we honored our treasurer, Doreen Whitney with an Ambassador of Sight award and inducted a new member, Nancy Snopkowski.

In March at the District Governor's annual breakfast, we honored our Secretary, Donna Robideau, as our Lion of the Year. We also honored the Torrington High School Leo Club's Leo of the Year, Sydney Mourges. Finally, the Torrington Lions Club's Leo Advisors accompanied seven Leos on their visit to the United Nations.



Torrington Club Treasurer Doreen Whitney is pinned by Club President Phil Dzurnak after receiving her Ambassador of Sight Award.

Terryville Lions: Keys of Kindness

Jennifer DeForest, Vianna Hartley, Donna Koser and Heather MacAulay envisioned a project that would empower volunteers, encourage peace and improve our community. These four new Lions designed, planned, and implemented a Legacy Project that will be on going for years to come in the Town of Plymouth, CT. The following describes who designed the project, and how and when this project became a Legacy for the Town of Plymouth, Conn.

The mission of Plymouth Keys For Kindness is to promote kindness, inspire people to recognize it's contagious benefits and power to make a difference in people's lives, and to strengthen our community in a positive way.

In September of 2015, Plymouth Keys For Kindness became a Terryville Lions Club project. Plymouth Keys For Kindness fits into the Terryville Lions Club mission to help where there is a need, empower volunteers, encourage peace and improve our community.

This community campaign, developed by a group of parent leaders and graduates of UCONN People Empowering People (PEP), was inspired by Plymouth's history. Plymouth Connecticut is the former location of the Eagle Lock Co and home to The Lock Museum of America, the only one of its kind in the country. What better way to unite the community than with keys? The motto of Plymouth Keys For Kindness is "You Hold The Key!" Keys were acquired in a number of ways and made into necklaces to be given out to individuals showing kindness. If an individual receives a key they then "pay it forward" when they notice another being kind. A wonderful kickoff event was held in April of 2015 where the mayor of Plymouth handed out the first key. Necklaces were then distributed to schools, churches and many town

District 23B Spring Leadership Conference Is Coming June 11, 2016!

On June 11th, Lions in District 23B will have an opportunity to explore numerous dimensions of leadership, both as incoming club officers and as Lions at all levels.

The **District 23B Spring District Assembly Part 1** (Formerly known as Officer Training/Spring Leadership Conference) will provide leadership training at multiple levels: (1) Incoming club officer preparation, (2) Initial certification and recertification for Certified Guiding Lions training, and (3) Leadership training which can strengthen the skills of all Lions.

Again this year, **attending club presidents will be invited to register a guest Lion from their club** who is not assuming a leadership position next year as the Secretary, Treasurer or Membership Chair. This Lion guest is encouraged to participate in the leadership workshops. A Guest Lion registered in advance and who is accompanied by their club president may attend free of charge and each president is limited to one club member at this no-charge rate.

Those Lions attending for Certified Guiding Lion training or recertification may also attend the training at no cost.

All club officers, additional guest Lions and presidential guests not registered in advance will be charged \$5.00 at the door. The Conference will be held at the CCSU ITBD building (185 Main Street in New Britain, CT) from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Parking is free in

the city garage behind the ITBD facility. The Conference will be structured as follows:

8-8:20 **COFFEE AND...**

8:20-8:30 **WELCOME**
By **DG Steve Daigle**

8:30-9:30 **GENERAL SESSION:**
Leadership For Action
GLT Ev Lyons

GUIDING LIONS AND GUESTS
9:30-11:30 Certified Guiding Lion
Training and Great Information
About Lions
GLT Ev Lyons

PRESIDENTS
Lion Carol Hoebel
9:30-11:30 Effective Club
Leadership

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRS
GMT Harry Schuh
10:30-11:30 Tools for an
Effective Membership Chair

SECRETARIES
Lion Cindy Cooper
9:15-11:30 Honing Your
Secretary Skills

TREASURERS
Lion Ed Fenton
10:30-11:30 Show Me The
Money!!

11:30-12:00 **CLOSING**
1VDG Kathy Randall

Registration forms will be sent to current club presidents and will be returned to Lion Carol Kearns.

organizations and clubs. The community embraced the idea. They became part of the school's program and were used by several local churches, youth groups, and bible schools. In addition, Plymouth's Parks and Recreations summer camp handed out several keys on a weekly basis to children who were chosen by others for

showing kindness. Be sure to check out the Plymouth Keys for Kindness Facebook Page for the latest news! Here people can post photos of key recipients and share their stories as well as check for updates on upcoming awareness/outreach projects and fundraisers.

Words From The DG

(continued from the front page)

member increase.

Congratulations to all! Your club still has time to be in the running for the April, May or June award.

Speaking of membership, I attended the recent Trinity College Wine Tasting event and was honored to induct seven new members into the Trinity College Lions Club. They held a successful event and announced they will be performing pediatric eye screenings for a local school. Good work!

As your District Governor, I enjoyed the many pancake breakfasts I attended along with Lion Marty Sandshaw on Palm Sunday, and I look forward to attending as many of the clubs' events and activities as possible during this last quarter.

As a reminder, once you have held your club elections for the 2016-2017 Lions year, please **promptly** complete and file your officer roster via the MyLCI Officer Report (formerly PU101), no later than May 15, 2016, so that the District

Governor's Directory for 2016-2017 will have accurate and complete information when it goes to print. Last, but certainly not least, PLEASE make plans now to attend the one-day MD23 Lions State Convention, to be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at Central Connecticut State University's Institute of Technology & Business Development (the "ITBD building") Conference Center, located at 185 Main Street, 3rd Floor, New Britain. This is an important convention to attend, as we will be voting on Constitution and Bylaw changes that will affect our organization. Delegate forms have been e-mailed and/or mailed to all clubs, and full convention details are available on our website, www.lions23b.org.

With all that said, let's charge, full steam ahead, toward the finish line. If each club in the District can recruit one new member with no member drops, the chance is real that I will be sporting the Lions logo somewhere on my head at the end of my term. Stay tuned!

- DG Steve

Thomaston Lions

The Thomaston Lions Club is off and running and planning our events and fundraisers for 2016.

We had a great turnout for our Annual Corned Beef Scholarship Dinner on March 12.

We will be giving our four Scholarships to deserving graduating High School Students.

We will be doing a Shake the Can Event for Sightsavers.

We will also be working on our Environment Challenge by cleaning up the Seth Thomas Park where our new sign to promote Civic Groups is located.

Our newest endeavor is to publish a Cookbook celebrating the Centennial.

We also welcome our four newest members into the Club. Pediatric Eye Screening were done, and over 300 kids were screened.

Washington Lions Club

On April 2nd, the Washington Lions Club held its first Trivia Night. We hope to make it a semi-annual event with both Spring and Fall nights.

It was held in the Town Hall and the only limiting factor was the number of people allowed in the hall (set by the local fire marshal).

We had twenty tables with a maximum of six participants per table. We collected an entry fee from each table.

There were 10 rounds of 10 questions each, with scoring and posting of scores after every round. Questions were asked on a PA system, and also shown on a screen via a PowerPoint

presentation. Correct answers were announced after every round.

Beer and wine were available at reasonable rates.

Considering this was our first attempt at Trivia Night, we considered it a huge success. We sold out the twenty tables in less than two weeks, covered all our expenses, awarded a cash prize, and were able to show a profit.

Our initial feedback from the participating teams was extremely favorable.

We hope to find a bigger venue for our next Trivia Night so more people can join the fun.

Supporting LCIF

*By Marty Sandshaw
LCIF District Coordinator*

As District Coordinator, Club Presidents, and Zone Chairs we are the ambassadors for LCIF in District 23B. I encourage us to set the example by donating to LCIF if you have not already done so, and encouraging members to donate like wise. While District 23 B's donations seem to be on track to meet this year's goal, MD 23 is down significantly from past years. Just 7 cents per day will allow for a \$25 donation. If all 52 clubs make this extra donation, it would raise an additional \$1,300 for LCIF. If our 1800 members made this donation, it would raise an additional \$45,000. As we enter our 100th year, let's make this the best year ever.

HARWINTON LIONS CLUB
CONGRATULATES
LION HARRY SCHUH
2ND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR ELECT



HARRY'S HARWINTON HOEDOWN

Sunday, August 21, 2016 3:00 – 6:00 PM

Lion John Litwin hosts at his residence

54 Whetstone Road

Harwinton, CT 06791

Food – Beverages – Raffles – Fun!!

Prizes for Best Western Attire!

\$20 – Make check payable to Harwinton Lions Club

For Additional Information: hschuh@charter.net

MENTORING—THE KEY TO NEW MEMBER SUCCESS!

BY GLT EV LYONS AND GMT HARRY SCHUH

How can the Lions Mentoring Program help a new member?

Remember what it was like to be a new member in your club: Navigating the "Lions Alphabet" (LCI, CLERF, LCIF, LLVC??), trying to discern the structure of Lions (Club, District 23B, Multiple District 23, International . . . ?), knowing who was who in the local club, as well as your local activities and leadership structure?? We looked to a senior club member for guidance, someone who would take us under his/her wing and mentor us through the process of understanding and appreciating Lions. In the past, this has often been a "luck of the draw" situation in many clubs, or a duty often thought to be associated with the role of sponsor. We now know that the same individual who may be very adept at recruiting new members isn't necessarily the same individual who can provide ongoing and detailed support.

A Lions mentor should be an individual whose interests and personality are closely matched to that of the new member. Club Presidents are encouraged to link new members with experienced club Lions who could be the new member's sponsor. More importantly, this mentor is a Lion with whom the new member can relate and has a comfort level. Assisting that new member through his/her first year as a Lion is crucial to the continued involvement of new Lions in our club activities and to their development as future Lions leaders.

So ... what is the process to begin a mentoring relationship? The first step is to make mentoring part of the new member orientation process at the club level. Mentors and mentees should access the LCI website at www.lionsclubs.org, then

click on the LCI Member Center site and then further click on the following: "Lions" toolbar, "Strengthening Membership" toolbar and, finally, the "Mentoring Program" button. Most new mentors and their new member mentees will begin at the "Basic Mentoring Guide" level. Once the pair completes the basic mentoring program, they may submit an Achievement Form (found in the program packet) to LCI for recognition.

So ... what are you waiting for? If you are a club leader, begin now to prepare your new Lions by initiating a link with a senior club member. Presidents, encourage your new pair to go through the Lions mentor program as part of your club orientation process. If you are a new Lion, ask for a mentor. If you are a senior Lion willing to aid a new member via the mentoring program format, speak with your club president. Having knowledgeable and active new Lions as a result of having experienced the mentoring program can only make your club a more vital organization and add to its value as part of your community's network of service providers!



Lion Carole filming Lion Harry interviewing DG Steve. Picture courtesy of District 23C PDG Jan Miller .



Lion Around Connecticut

With Lions Carol Kearns and Harry Schuh

In October, 2015 we were contacted by an Associate Editor of our International LION Magazine, which is mailed to all 1.4 million Lions around the world. It is published in 20 languages.

The Associate Editor said that she read an article about us on the Internet which congratulated us on videorecording and producing our 100th episode of the "Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry" TV show. She was very excited about interviewing us via email and wanted to write a story for LION Magazine. She also requested a photo of us "in action" on-site. Thanks to Lion Jan Miller for taking a picture of us interviewing now DG Steve Daigle at the Terryville Fairgrounds at his 2nd VDG Hawaiian Luau Fundraiser. She also requested a funny anecdote. You can read about Lions Lenny and Lani Johnson and the skillet toss! The picture and the article appear on page 16 of the April issue of LION Magazine, which you all should have received in the mail by now.

We would like to extend our thanks to LION Magazine for expressing an interest in our show and for publishing the article and accompanying photo.

BTW, this past Tuesday we delivered our 151st episode of "Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry" to the Charter Winsted and Cablevision Litchfield studios. The Charter Newtown and Nutmeg Farmington studios will receive their copies shortly.

As Carol says at the end of the article, "We just love what we do!"

Happy 75th



Help us Celebrate 75 years of Service

Saturday, July 23, 2016 Terryville Fair Grounds

Choice: of Steak, Chicken, Lobster

Dinner includes corn on the cob, potato salad, rolls and butter

BYOB

Appetizers @4:30PM, Dinner @6:00 PM

RSVP

Terryville Lions, PO, Box 72, Terryville, Conn. 06786

RECIPES WANTED!!

THOMASTON LIONS & LEOS CLUB
ARE PUBLISHING A COOKBOOK FOR
LIONS INTERNATIONAL 100TH
ANNIVERSARY!

TO SUBMIT A RECIPE EMAIL IT TO

davidhoebel@yahoo.com

MAKE SURE YOU GIVE YOUR NAME AND WHAT
CLUB YOU BELONG TO!



IT'S THAT EASY!

ALL PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING TO WIN
ONE OF 25 COOKBOOKS!

QUESTIONS? CALL CAROL AT 860-283-5577

BE A PART OF CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!



The Terryville Lions Club requests your presence at the

Testimonial of

District Governor Steven Daigle

Friday, the third of June Two Thousand and Sixteen

at the

Fairview Farm Golf Course

300 Hill Road, Harwinton, Conn.

Cocktail Hour 6:00 – 7:00 PM,

Dinner and program immediately Following

Cash Bar, \$35.00 per person



The Woodbury Lions Club

Presents their

38th Annual Car Show

Sunday, June 12, 2016

Hollow Park, Woodbury, CT

Food
Music
Vendors
Raffles



And hundreds of vintage cars!

Save the date . . .

You won't want to miss it!

www.woodburyctlions.org

Take Time Now to Strengthen Your Club

By GLT Ev Lyons

We are past the half-way mark for the current Lions Year. Now would be great time to take stock of how your Lions Club is structured and functioning. Are there challenges and roadblocks to even greater success? What might need to change to allow your club to soar even higher and be a real lighthouse for service in your community?

It is often difficult to have those frank discussions in the confines of a monthly club meeting. First, where would you start? You don't want a "gripe session" or a meeting so conflict filled that members leave even more disillusioned and disheartened than at present.

So what is the pathway to organizing the conversation and keeping it on track toward action for change?

LCI has provided three tools for the use by club leaders in this delicate task of promoting positive change. Each is available on the LCI website and free to clubs.

Your Club, Your Way is a guide to the development of effective club meetings. We know that effective and interesting club meetings is the primary way to keep members involved and active in club affairs.

Blueprint for a Stronger Club is a step-by-step process to assess all aspects of your club's operations and structure. Using the provided worksheets, club leaders can work with their members to review how their club operates within the meeting, itself, as well as in the community.

Club Quality Initiative (CEP) provides two formats to take an in depth look at all dimensions of the club. CEP Light can be done by the club, itself, or a more detailed look is possible with the assistance of the district GLT.

Club leaders are encouraged to look

at each pathway as the choice of a program will depend upon the individuality of the local club. These are not "one-size fits all" approaches.

Club leaders are encouraged to contact GLT Ev Lyons (lyonsev50@gmail.com) for support and information.

Hartland Lions Club

Staying busy keeps a Club bound together. Having fun at what you are doing provides delight. Serving others while doing it all—that is what we should be about; That is where the real rewards are.

Soup and Sandwich: During the dark month of January, town folk of all ages gather together for the best soups in the District, which warms many hearts. A dozen homemade soups, grilled ham and cheese sandwiches, and desserts—how could the day be dark? We love to see friends stay to visit and talk.

The winter, such as it was until April arrived, ended with another fun filled "Fun Night" of square, circle, and line dancing with Gene King calling. Fifty-six dancers of all ages and abilities filled the Nellie B West House to enjoy the fun and hot appetizers. The Best Rhythm Award goes to a young 3-year old who really got into the evening. All proceeds will be divided between local needs and Lion's projects.

Upcoming Events:

Eye Screening: Hartland Lions is participating in the Lions Preschool Eye Screening. We will be screening Pre-school thru 2nd grade at the elementary school and for all the local nursery schools. This is a wonderful program that can catch eye disorders early when it is easier to initiate and successfully correct problems.

Trees: Once again Hartland Lions, though we are in a town, that I can safely say, has more trees per capita than any other town in District, will be participating in the Fourth Grade Foresters Project. Seedlings will be distributed through the school, along with a lesson on "What Trees Do for Us." The children will report where they planted their tree. Who knows? In fifty years, one may be a prime specimen that is climbed by their great grandchildren.

Enjoy our Spring gardens and the return of the birds.



Dancers at the Hartland "Fun Night"

2016-2017 Spirit Deadlines

August 2016

Publication date: August 1, 2016
Deadline: July 10, 2016. Advertise events through November 15, 2016

November 2016

Publication date: November 1, 2016
Deadline, October 10. Advertise events through March 15, 2017

February 2017

Publication Date: March 1, 2017
(to report on the Mid-Winter Conference)
Deadline: February 10, 2017 Advertise events through May 15

May 2017

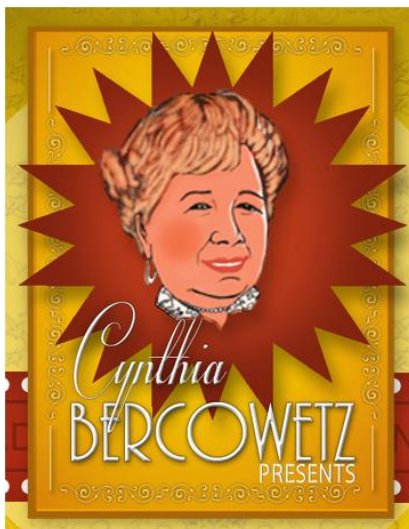
Publication date: May 1, 2017
Deadline: April 10, 2017 Advertise events through August 15, 2017

In Memoriam – Lion Cynthia Bercowetz

Our 4 Foot, 10 Inch Giant

One of our great Lions left us in April. Cynthia Bercowetz, not even five feet tall, was a giant. An inspiration. A tireless advocate for kindness, for service to the less fortunate, for telling a story that entices us to be better human beings.

Lions of 23B had the great fortune of hearing Cynthia's charming rambles about her adopted club in Naples, Florida, her childhood in Pittsfield, Massachusetts and her late husband Herman. But no matter how she strayed from her subject, our Cynthia always showed us something great and true about ourselves. She left us laughing, crying, and always with full hearts. Cynthia – you have left us again feeling the same way. There won't be a dry eye nor an empty heart in the house. Thank you for showing us the strength and vision of a Lion. May we live and serve by your example.



Did you know that besides her Lion career, Lion Cynthia was an advocate for consumer affairs, writing columns for the Manchester Extra, the Hartford Courant, the Journal Enquirer, and spent 21 years at the Hartford Times?

She also authored several children books, including Grandpa Herman's Petting Zoo, Tiger the Singing Cat, and Oliver the Lion.



Published four times a year
"All the news that fits, we print!"

Editors-in-Chief

Robert Bessel
Frank Longo

Contributing Editors

Kiki Tucker
Phil Dzurnak

District Advertising Sales

Steve Gallant

District IT Chair

Brian Luba

Website Guy

Dan Uitti

Layout

Lauren Ipsum

Printed By

Southbury Printing Center
Southbury, CT

Copyright © 2016
by Lions International District 23B



Lion Cynthia at the 2015 American School for the Deaf dinner.

She served as cabinet chair for the ASD Capital Fund Project and Dinner for many years.

Lion Cynthia was a shining example of how just one Lion can make a difference in so many lives.

Connecticut Pin Traders

By PTCCT President Phil Dzurnak

Many Lions collect state pins. The Pin Traders Club of CT (PTCCT) usually sells them at the Mid-Winter and State conventions, but not all Lions have the opportunity to attend and buy the pins they want. The PTCCT has a few pins left from recent years, and will sell them by mail to anyone interested in completing their collection. Here's what's available:



The 2013 pins show the dome of the Colt Building against a sky blue background. The "state" pin is the smaller of the two with the dome shown in and above the "Connecticut" shaped pin. It is the same width as state pins for the last four or five years. The "Premium" pin is the larger "Hershey kiss" shaped pin. It is about 2 ¼ inches wide and 2 inches tall. Both pins are colorful, bright, and distinctive.
2013 CT State Pin - \$2; Dome pin - \$3.50



The 2014 "state" pin is the "Connecticut" shaped pin. It is a deep blue with the bright gold dome shimmering within and above it. It is the same width as previous state pins.
2014 State Pin - \$2



The 2015 "state" pin is the "Connecticut" shaped pin. It is a light blue with symbols for the blind besides the Ambassador Logo. It is slightly smaller than the previously issued State pins. The Premium pin has a round gold boarder with black circling the Ambassador Logo in the middle. Both pins honor the CT Low Vision Centers 25-year Anniversary.
2015 State Pin - \$2; 2015 Premium Pin - \$3



The 2016 "state" pins are: the "Connecticut" shaped pin which has a purple background (not blue as seen in the example) and is 1.75". It is the City Hall clock tower located in Norwich, CT. The Premium pin is 2.00" and again is the City Hall clock tower located in Norwich, CT.
2016 State Pin - \$2; 2016 Premium Pin - \$3



The Blackhawk helicopter flies on a field of white hovering above the distinctive "US ARMY" image. A Lions logo in blue and gold completes the image.
Blackhawk pin - \$3



The Pin is PTCCT's first entry in the "Holiday Series". The Pin is bright and cheerful, reflective of the Easter Holiday. The traditional Easter Basket, some hidden Easter Eggs and the rising sun on Easter morning is a great way to start our series of Holiday Pins.
Easter Pin - \$3



The New holiday pin is PTCCT's second entry in the "Holiday Series". The Pin is bright and colorful, reflective of our country's founding flag and Fourth of July holiday.
Fourth of July Pin - \$3

Shipping and handling charges are: 1 to 3 pins, \$2.75; 4 to 9 pins, \$4.25, 10 pins or more, \$5.75.

Total up the cost of pins, add shipping charges, and send your order with a check made out to PTCCT to:

Elaine Dzurnak
Treasurer, PTCCT
86 Brook Street
Torrington, Ct. 06790

Fidelco Stories

“Just Do It”

Throughout his life, U.S. Marine Corp Major and Navy SEAL Joe Link (Ret.) has faced adversity both on and off the battlefield. Joe lost his vision in 1983, from an injury sustained during his service in Vietnam, and has relied on guide dog partners for many years to help him achieve what he values most – to live a life of meaning.

Joe received Fidelco Guide Dog Tonka in August of the same year. He describes the experience as extraordinary, even for a longtime guide dog user like himself. “I have never had an animal that works so hard and behaves so well. Tonka is a wonderful companion, and our relationship is still growing.” Joe’s commitment to mentoring people with vision loss is remarkable. He attributes much of this astounding internal fortitude to his guide dogs—to Tonka. Joe regularly speaks to children in local schools and volunteers at the regional Veterans Administration hospital, where he helps to escort newly blinded veterans to their appointments.

Joe also leads by example as a member of the Blind Golf Association and the Disabled American Veterans Association in Oklahoma.

The connection between Joe and Tonka is both strong and intuitive; Tonka understands so much more than Joe’s pace or the places he likes to visit.

Joe believes that Tonka may even be part Marine, too, because he’s so faithful and loyal, especially in the exceptionally gentle and loving way he responds to Joe’s young granddaughters.

Fidelco is proud of its long history of providing services to our American heroes—members of all branches of the military who have experienced vision loss. With their Fidelco German Shepherd Guide Dog partners, these brave men and

women regain their independence and become part of the fabric of their communities.

Join us on Saturday, May 14 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. for Fidelco’s Open House and Lions Appreciation Day! The special day features puppy playtime, guide dog and K9 training demos and blindfold walks with Fidelco Guide Dogs and trainers. Refreshments for Lions and their guests will be available all day in the Lions Hospitality Suite. At noon, we will gather for a “thank you” message from Fidelco.

Directions at www.fidelco.org/directions-to-fidelco.



Joe Link and Tonka

Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation
OPEN HOUSE
 & Lions Appreciation Day
Saturday,
May 14
 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.



Featuring:

- Campus Tours
- Puppy, guide dog and K9 demos
- Experience what it means to “trust the dog” by taking a blindfold walk with a Fidelco Guide Dog
- Lions Hospitality Suite for Lions and their guests



QUESTIONS?
 Call Lions Liaison
 Kris Fletcher at
 860-243-4052
 or email
kfletcher@fidelco.org

103 Vision Way Bloomfield, CT
 860-243-5200 • www.fidelco.org

For Whom the Bells Toll



Norfolk Lions Vice President Sandy and Sharon Lions Club Liz admire the bell given to Norfolk Lions Club from Sharon Lions Club in 1961.

The Puzzle of the Purloined Pealer:

DG Steve Daigle is asking all of District 23B for their assistance. A local club bell is reported missing! The object in question has been sighted in various locations, some rumored to be in deep in 23A territory. If found, notify DG Steve immediately.



Does anyone know whose bell this is?



One of the many sightings of the missing bell. It appears to be in good health, but for how much longer?



Wolcott Lion Jim Briglia was captured on film holding the stolen bell.

Was he the one who took it, or is he just a pawn for the real thieves?

How deep does the conspiracy go?

Here's District 23A's PDG Ed Haberli blatantly displaying the bell at a recent function.

Could he be the mastermind behind the theft?





See what the Torrington Lions have planned this year!

Craft and Gift Fair

Torrington Armory, South Main St, Torrington
Saturday, April 30, 2016 - 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Over 60 Vendors, raffle and food
Contact Rob Stango 860-294-0000



Torrington Lions Club Tag Sale Extravaganza

A city-wide event managed by the Torrington Lions Club and the Torrington Park and Recreation Dept.
Saturday, June 4, 2016 - Various locations throughout the city
Tag sale map with locations available for \$10.00
Approximately 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Contact Rob Stango 860-294-0000

Torrington Lions Club 10th Annual Car Show

Torrington's Main Street - 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 16h, rain date Friday, Sept. 23th
Cars and Motorcycles (\$10.00 fee)
DJ and Food vendors available
Contact Doreen Whitney 860-626-7705



Torrington Lions Club 39th Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, August 19, 2016 Greenwood's Golf Course
300 Torrington West St, Winsted, Ct.
Hole in one wins a new Car (3rd hold)
Entry fee of \$115.00 includes Green fee and Cart
Members of Greenwood's pay only \$90.00
Lunch cookout 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and a Buffet Dinner
Shamble starts at 12:30 p.m. shotgun start
Contact Norm Nejaime 860-482-3321

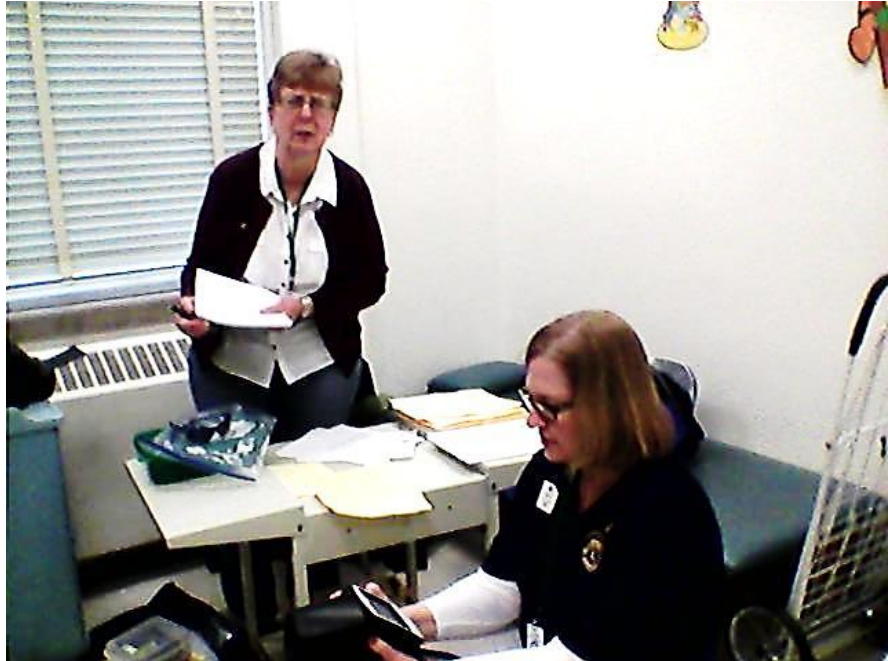
ANNUAL GOSHEN FAIR

LABOR DAY WEEKEND, SEPT. 3RD TO 5TH,
8:00 A.M. TO CLOSE
CORN ON THE COB AND EYE SANDWICHES
COME ENJOY THE FOOD AND SUPPORT US



Suffield Lions Club

During the week of March 28 the Suffield Lions Club partnered with the Selectman's office, the Lions Clubs of Terryville, Thomaston, and Bristol, Conn. to screen students between the ages of 6 months to 8 years of age for the most common eye disorders children have. Screenings were conducted at Bright Horizons Early Care Center and Spaulding Elementary School, parental consent forms were sent to parents by Director Tara Peterson of Bright Horizons and School Nurse Cheryl Burkett of Spaulding Elementary School. Dr. Allise Markowski of the Suffield Eye Care Group joined the screening at Bright Horizons and was able to screen a ten-month old child. Dr. Markowski "said that the noninvasiveness and ease of screening was very impressive." The Suffield Lions were able to provide screenings for 301 students with 18 being referred.



Pictured above are Connecticut Lions District 23B, 1st Vice District Governor Kathy Randall from East Hartford Lions Club and Lion Phyllis Sandshaw, Chair Person of Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation, District 23B and member of the Terryville Lions Club screening at Spaulding Elementary School.

Woodbury Lions Club

On March 1, the Woodbury Lions Club helped the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation receive a grant from the Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) by presenting them a check for ten-thousand dollars at their business meeting at The Painted Pony restaurant in Bethlehem.

According to Fidelco's Doug Nelson, Vice President, and Director of Development, the LCIF grant will finance the purchase of new vehicles. The current fleet of vans has over three million miles on them, and some are in need of replacement. The new vehicles are an important part of Fidelco's In-Community Placement program—delivering a dog to a client wherever the client lives. "By taking the dog to the client, the client's life is not disrupted by having to come to the Bloomfield facility, the dog becomes accustomed to the client's area and the trainer can be confident that a good partnership has been established."

To raise funds to support sight and hearing organizations around the state, The Woodbury Lions Club holds a "Duck Race Raffle" each year. This year's race will take place on September 12 at Three Rivers Park in Woodbury. Ticket sales

begin at the Lions' annual Car Show on June 12.

The Woodbury Lions' 38th Annual Car Show is June 12 at Hollow Park in Woodbury. See our ad for details, and we'll see you there.



Woodbury Lions Club president Bill Hubert presenting a check for \$10,000 to Fidelco. Pictured (l to r) Bill Hubert, Fidelco's Lions Liason Kris Fletcher, Fidelco Vice President Doug Nelson, Fidelco client Ross Kirk with his guide dog, Zeva.

Zone 2 Report

By Zone Chair Jim Trompetor

To start with, I want to say congratulations to the Club Presidents for the fine job they did, not only in guiding their clubs, but in also utilizing new and creative ways to raise funds and bring in new members.

Each of the clubs in the Zone got hit not only with loss of members due to death but also the migration south by some of our older members has made it difficult to maintain our numbers. As of this writing we have potentially eight to ten new members in the works.

Bethlehem changed the format of their February Dance and it turned out to be a great success.

Washington came up with new fundraiser, Trivial Pursuit. The event sold out in a week, and the word around town is that the people in Washington never laughed so hard and had such a good time. Not only did they have a successful fundraiser, but they did something that benefited the community.

Watertown is gearing up for their major golf tournament on May 20th. Guess what? Litchfield is also gearing up for their tournament on May 20th. Litchfield is offering a special prize to Lions Clubs that would like to compete.

New Milford has been doing a great job in implementing DG Steve's program to help the homeless. They also have gotten the Leo's involved as well.

Woodbury donated \$10,000.00 to Fidelco, and along with two other clubs in the multiple district that donated \$10K, Fidelco received a matching grant from LCIF for another \$30K for a total donation of \$60K.

Congratulations to the Kent Lions for their recent article in the paper outlining their activities and contributions in their community.

District Officers

Steve Daigle
District Governor

Kathy Randall
First Vice District Governor

Robert Clark
Second Vice District Governor

Lizette Pelletier
Secretary

Fran Scott
Treasurer

Howard Lang
Zone 1 Chair

Jim Trompetor
Zone 2 Chair

Pat Daigle
Zone 3 Chair

Bob Casey
Zone 4 Chair

Jackie Fischer
Zone 5 Chair

Ivonne Centeno
Zone 6 Chair

George Cooper
Zone 7 Chair

Peter Nevers
Zone 8 Chair

Changes Are Coming To *The District Spirit*

The *District 23B Spirit* will see some changes in the 2016-2017 year.

The District Spirit is about you, your club, your zone, your district, your place in Lions Clubs International. We want to see how you serve your community - like where you place your eyeglass collection box. We'll post a picture of a club's eyeglass collection box with some hints as to which club it belongs to. The correct answer will appear on the District website the next month. There are no prizes, but we'll post the name of all readers who guess the correct club and location. Of course, members of the box's club are ineligible for this honor. Start sending in your pictures now!

Many clubs never appear on the pages of *The District 23B Spirit*. We plan to fix that. Starting with the August 2016 issue, we'll feature at least two clubs within the District, one from Zones 1-4, one from Zones 5-8. With the help of Zone Chairs, we'll eventually profile every club in the district.

Of course, this doesn't mean we don't want your club news. Keep sending in your updates and especially, your pictures. We'll accept up to 350 words in .TXT, .DOC, or .DOCX format about your club's activities and future events. Keep in mind that submissions may be edited to fit available space. Pictures should be in .JPG or .BMP format.

And, we need ads. Lots of them. Every club should have at least one event they can publicize in *The Spirit*!

Full Page - \$100, 7" x 10"
Half-page - \$50, 7" x 4.8"
Quarter-page - \$30, 3.4" x 4.8"

Ads should be submitted in .BMP or PDF formats. Please send payment to the cabinet treasurer.

LCICon Fukuoka Japan



The 99th Annual
Lions International Convention
Fukuoka, Japan



Network
Learn
Have fun

June 24-28, 2016