



September 2016

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## Where Is This Box?



One of our new features is a challenge: Can you identify where this eyeglasses collection box is? This one should be easy, because how many clubs in the district have an old post box painted yellow for collections?

The rules are simple: Be the first to identify to which club this box belongs. Send your guess to [District23BSpirit@gmail.com](mailto:District23BSpirit@gmail.com). The first correct guess wins the respect of the Spirit Staff, and the admiration of all Lions in the district. Of course, members of this club are ineligible to participate.

Stumped? There's a hint on page 6

## Greetings from East Hartford

*District Governor, Kathy Randall*

Thank you for supporting my pursuit of the office of District Governor for district 23-B. Your encouragement in seeking this high office is much appreciated. While the time commitment is demanding, I know that the benefits are far greater. I look forward to working with all of you!

### In Japan

The trip to our 99th Lions International Convention in Fukuoka, Japan was wonderful. Yes, it rained all but one day, and I ate lots of sushi – one restaurant even had a conveyor belt so you could select the sushi plates you want! The city is beautiful and very clean. There was no trash on the streets, and no paper napkins or cups in restaurants (hence, no trash!). The Japanese people are very polite, and I enjoyed experiencing their culture. Most interesting were the little temples still in their original locations, surrounded by high-rise office buildings! Check out the short video on the Lions Clubs International website.

<http://lcicon.lionsclubs.org/EN/index.php>

### District Assembly – September 10

We have planned a District Assembly for Saturday, September 10, from 9:00-11:30 a.m. at the American School for the Deaf on 139 North Main Street in West Hartford. This Assembly will give us an opportunity to kick-off the year with everybody on the same page. We will distribute the District Directories and you will have a chance to meet your Zone Chairs and other district officers. Display tables will be offered for CLERF, Lions Low Vision Centers, CRIS Radio, Fidelco, and other Lions organizations. Use this opportunity to schedule expert Lions speakers for your club meetings.

You will notice a few changes to the Zones and a few new Zone Chairs.

The Assembly will be a great time to meet your Zone Chair! Consider your Zone Chair to be your club's source of guidance and information through the year.

We will have three zone meetings this year; one of these meetings will be combined with other zones. Zone meetings provide opportunities for your club to pick up new ideas and to learn how other clubs resolve similar issues. You are not alone in Lions! You have your Zone, your District and State—all ready to help! I have much more to tell you, but I believe in keeping these articles to one page. I look forward to seeing everybody at the District Assembly on September 10, and to visiting your club this year.



Congratulations to the new MD23 District Governors!

From the left, 23B's Kathy Randall, 23C's George Salpietro, and 23A's Colette Anderson.

Please join the Spirit Staff in wishing our new Lion Leaders a productive and successful year.

## The District Spirit: What's New?

Bob Dylan wrote "*The times, they are a changin'.*" To reflect the changes in the needs of our Lions in the district, we put a lot of thought into what the District 23B Spirit needs to be. After long discussions with DG Kathy Randall about her goals for the year, we've put together a plan to make our newsletter more relevant and entertaining for our district membership.

The thrust will be more club- and member-specific articles.

Right off the bat, you'll see that the District Governor's column has moved inside, with our new feature, "Where Is This Box" on the front page. This was a suggestion by DG Kathy, and we thought this was a great idea. So each issue will feature a box from one of the district's clubs. Can you guess to which club it belongs?

We've also begun a "Club Closeup" column, a brief summary of district club's history and current activities. We would like to have two or three each issue, but we're starting small and only focusing on one in this issue. See the story of the Thomaston Lions Club on page ?? . If you would like a closeup of your club, send us a brief history of your club, and a list of your traditional events and how you serve your community.

The most important change you'll see is that we've moved publication dates back a month. This allows us more time to catch up with new club officer and cabinet positions, and will set us up to devote an issue to the Mid-Winter conference wrap-up.

As always, we need your club news, and, more importantly, your ads. That's a big part of the District 23B Spirit's mission to provide our members with important district information.

Our email is:  
District23BSpirit@gmail.com

## Introduce our Teens to Lions Quest

By Heidi Zacchera, Quest Chair 2016-17

Lions Quest began as one teenager's passion to find a better way to prepare young people to handle life's challenges. Today, it is one of the most widely used social and emotional learning programs in the world.

In 1975, 19-year-old Rick Little, of Findlay, Ohio, suffered severe back injuries in an auto accident. Immobilized for six months, Little found himself with a lot of time to contemplate why schools were doing so little to help youth develop the life skills and strength of character needed to succeed as adults. When his injuries healed, Little set out on a nationwide pursuit for answers, interviewing teenagers, teachers and experts in child and adolescent development.

After a struggle to find initial funding, Little established Quest International in 1977, with the help of a US\$130,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, to design and develop values-based curricula and drug-use prevention programs. Little went to work creating teaching tools easy to adapt across different cultures and educational systems.

The Lions got involved in 1984 when the Lions Clubs International Foundation made its first grant to Quest International, a grant that funded additional program development and expansion. Later that year, Lions Clubs International formed a working partnership with Quest International to launch a major drug prevention initiative called Lions Quest Skills for Adolescence, targeting middle-school grades 6 through 8. Lions clubs partnered with local school systems to implement the program at the community level.

Over the next 18 years, the Lion's partnership with Little's organization grew in scope and impact. Lions introduced programs to serve students at all grade levels, from

kindergarten through high school. Independent researchers gave the programs high marks for promoting positive behaviors and boosting academic performance.

In 2002, LCIF acquired formal ownership of the curriculum materials. Lions Quest soon became Lions' signature youth development program worldwide. By 2015, Lions Quest had grown to include 36 languages in 85 countries reaching more than 13 million students.

Lions clubs around the world have been key to the success and expansion of Lions Quest, supporting the program through local funding, coordinating teacher training, co-hosting parent meetings, speaking to youth, and undertaking joint service projects with students.

Lions Quest goes beyond academics to teach students how to make responsible decisions, set goals, be accountable for their actions, develop healthy relationships, resist peer pressure and engage in community service.

As a life-long educator, I am particularly interested in reaching teens, giving them the tools they need to make smart decisions for themselves and their communities.

Learn more about Lions Quest by inviting me to your club or zone meeting. I can tell you how valuable these experiences can be for our families, our young people, and our communities.



## LCIF Review

Thank you for all of your hard work we had a great year.

We exceeded the District's Goal of goal of achieving \$34,000 in donations by over \$3,400.

An LCIF information table was set up and manned at the Mid-Winter Conference.

We visited fourteen of our fifty-three clubs, and we are now scheduling club visitations for the 2016-2017 Lions' year. At each visit, we held a discussion about Contributing Members, MMR's and Activity Reports, and current LCIF projects and goals. Most of our visitations resulted in a donation made by the host club.

Notifications to Zone Chairs and Club Presidents about MMR's and Activity Reports, and Contributing Membership and goals were sent on a regular basis.

As a guiding Lion, this Cabinet position worked on reorganizing a club which has become inactive, using KIDSIGHT, as the driver. A screening was scheduled in this town and we have been able to secure an Eye Care Professional from the town to participate in the screening. This will be an ongoing project of this Cabinet position This Cabinet position is also involved in helping to establish a Kidsight presence in Hartford, Conn by screening students at schools that have agreed to hold a screening.

Lion Marty Sandshaw



## LCIF COMMITTEE 2015-2018

Under the Chairmanship of PDG EDWARD HABERLI, 23A: First meeting to be held within 30 days of receiving charges after the first Council Meeting.

### Charge #1: Promote "An Evening to Benefit Lions Clubs International Foundation"

This Committee shall promote the New England Lions Council-sponsored Melvin Jones Dinner to all Lions in the Multiple District. List of CT MJF's is available from LCI to assure that they are notified of this event. The Council would like the members of this committee to actively work with NELC President PCC John Youney to encourage CT Lions to receive their MJF's at this celebration.

### Charge #2: General Promotion

All Year - This Committee shall promote the LCIF program throughout the Multiple District. Emphasis should be placed on the naming of new Melvin Jones Fellows, having current Melvin Jones Fellows become Progressive Fellows, and encouraging all MD23 Lions to participate in the Contributing Member Program.

### Charge #3: Grants Review

All Year - Acting as an oversight Committee, this Committee shall review any Multiple District grant requests, making sure to involve PID's in the process.

### Charge #4: Continue ongoing education for all Lions regarding the LCIF program, contributions and records of accomplishments.

Hold a LCIF educational seminar at the Mid-Winter Conference. Coordinate with the Leadership Development committee to accomplish this.

## Lions Memorial Service Rindge, New Hampshire

After an absence of several years, the New England Lions Memorial Service will return to the Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge, New Hampshire. Hosted by the New England Lions Council, the Memorial Service is a moving and solemn ceremony to remember all New England Lion members that passed away in the last 14 months and who can no longer answer our "Call to Serve."

The Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2:00 pm, at the Altar of the Nation, which offers a panoramic view of the Monadnock region of New Hampshire. In the event of inclement weather, the service will be moved indoors to the Chapel.

All Connecticut Lions Clubs, especially those Clubs that lost a member are encouraged to attend. With the mid-October date, the fall foliage in the area should be nearing its peak.

With the mountain location, the weather can change quickly and those attending are encouraged to bring jackets, hats, and blankets.

For additional information about the Cathedral and its history, go to: [cathedralofthepines.org](http://cathedralofthepines.org).

## Lion Around CT – Radio

Lion Peter Cianciolo

Every Monday at 9 p.m. WAPJ (89.9 FM), Pete Cianciolo covers recent activities by the area Lions Clubs and interviews Lions guests. Pete will play music that any Lion has recorded on CD or online. It's a great way to keep your club in front of your community. WAPJ is heard in Torrington, Winsted, Litchfield Morris Thomaston Barkhamsted, New Hartford, Harwinton, Burlington, Bristol, parts of Waterbury, Woodbury, and Terryville.



# Calling All Lions!

## District 23-B Assembly

### Saturday, September 10, 2016

#### **American School for the Deaf**

139 North Main Street, West Hartford

Registration 8:30 a.m. – Program 9:00 a.m.

- ❖ Become a Social Media Master by Using This One Weird Trick
- ❖ 501(c)(3) – How to Establish, How to Report
- ❖ Mini-Zone meetings – Meet your Zone Chair
- ❖ District Directory – Get your Directory Early!
- ❖ Cabinet Chairs – Your Club Speakers! Schedule them here!

RSVP with a count from your club to  
Lion Eileen Driscoll  
[epda23@aol.com](mailto:epda23@aol.com) / 860-978-6033





## Lion Around Connecticut

With Lions Carol Kearns and Harry Schuh

In case you misplaced your April, 2016 LION Magazine, our show "Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry" was featured in the Service section on page 16. The article is also available in the Digital LION. Go to [www.lionmagazine.org](http://www.lionmagazine.org), select April, 2016, then go to the Service section to view the article.

"Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry" can now be seen on five cable access TV stations serving forty-two communities: Charter Communications (Winsted), Cablevision (Litchfield), Charter Communications (Newtown), Nutmeg (Farmington), and Skye XIII (Waterbury).

Below are the titles for our latest shows 153 - 171:

- 153 LLVC 23A - Griffin Hospital Derby Grand Opening
- 154 LLVC 23B Kickoff Breakfast CRIS Radio
- 155 Dancing in the Dark Part 1 CRIS Radio
- 156 Dancing in the Dark Part 2 CRIS Radio
- 157 Dancing in the Dark Part 3 Lions MD23
- 158 Mid-Winter Conference Part 1 Lions MD23
- 159 Mid-Winter Conference Part 2 Lions MD23
- 160 Mid-Winter Conference Part 3 Harwinton Lions
- 161 3rd Annual Cars for Sight Windsor Lions
- 162 Arts and Crafts Fair Harwinton Senior Center
- 163 20th Anniversary East Hampton Lions Center School Chair Auction Part 1
- 164 East Hampton Lions Center School Chair Auction Part 2
- 165 Harwinton Lions at Litchfield Bug In & 2 LCI Centennial Videos Harwinton Lions
- 166 Country Music Festival Part 1 Harwinton Lions
- 167 Country Music Festival Part 2 Harwinton Lions
- 168 Country Music Festival Part 3 Fidelco
- 169 Ride for Independence Part 1 Fidelco
- 170 Ride for Independence Part 2 Fidelco

To view our last 10 shows on the Internet:

- Go to [www.ctv191.com](http://www.ctv191.com)

## CENTENNIAL EXCITEMENT IS GROWING!

by Carol Kearns and Harry Schuh, Centennial Coordinators

Thanks to the many district clubs who have already completed their Centennial Community Legacy Projects!

Clubs around the world are working to complete their Legacy Projects by June 30, 2018. Be visible in your community with a lasting legacy.

Include a sign or plaque that

indicates that the project was done by your Lions Club.

Our Lions are already close to meeting the Centennial Challenge of serving 100 million people by June, 2018!

Visit the Centennial website <http://lions100.lionsclubs.org>



- Mouse over "What's On"
- Click on "Watch Programs"
- Type the word Lion in the Search box and Click on Search

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

Contact us:  
[carolkearns@charter.net](mailto:carolkearns@charter.net) or  
[hschuh@charter.net](mailto:hschuh@charter.net)  
 (860) 485-9018.

## Where Is This Box? (A Hint!)

If you haven't guessed the location of the glasses collection box on the front page, here's a hint:

This club has two active LEO programs—one at the middle school, and one at the high school. The LEOs volunteer at many of this club's events, and hold their own fundraisers and service projects. This collection box is located in the high school, and needs to be emptied a couple of times a year.

Now do you know which club it is? Send your guess to:  
[District23BSpirit@gmail.com](mailto:District23BSpirit@gmail.com)

Do you want your club's collection box to be featured in a future issue? Send us a clear high-resolution picture of the box, and your club name. We'll do the rest.



# HALLOWEEN DANCE

SPONSORED BY WINSTED LIONS CLUB

SATURDAY, OCT. 29TH, 2016

7 TO 11 PM

CHATTERLEY'S BANQUET FACILITY

(FORMERLY CORNUCOPIA)

371 PINEWOODS RD

TORRINGTON, CT



LIVE MUSIC BY  
NIGHT MOVES

COSTUMES ENCOURAGED - PRIZES AWARDED  
HOT HORS D'OEUVRES, COFFEE, HOMEMADE DESSERTS  
CASH BAR

## \$25 PER PERSON



For Tickets and Info call Joe (860) 921-6644 or Blanche (860)489-8656

## The Woodbury Lions Club Presents their 26th Annual Haunted Hayride

October 21, 22, 28, 29

Ticket Sales start at 6:30pm

Mitchell School, Woodbury, CT

[www.WoodburyCfLions.org](http://www.WoodburyCfLions.org)

## PDG Goes “Over the Edge”

Yes, PDG Dave Yadach has a penchant for high places. Here he is in Sydney, Australia atop the world's tallest suspension bridge (Dave's in the middle).

On September 9, Dave will rappel off the thirty-four story Mohegan Sun tower. He's not totally crazy—he's part of the "Over the Edge" program that raises funds for Special Olympics Connecticut's year-round programs of sports training and athletic competition for people with intellectual disabilities.

Dave is asking for Lions to support him as he prepares for yet another downward slide!

Donate Online: Just click this button and answer a few questions to use your credit card online.

Donate by Check: Make a check out to Special Olympics CT and send it to Dave Yadach at 119 Fox Hollow, Avon, CT 06001. Make a note on the check that your contribution is for his rappel at Over the Edge.

Let's help Dave reach his goal!



PDG David Yadach (center) with fellow climbers on top of the Sydney Harbor Bridge in Sydney, Australia, the tallest steel arch bridge, and the sixth longest spanning arch bridge in the world.

## ASD Dinner

Save the Date and Mark Your Calendar!

Let's all get together for a delicious buffet!

The American School for the Deaf Dinner honoring Lions of District 23B for our continued support of the school, its mission, and students is an annual "must do" event for you and your club.

This year the dinner will be held on Monday, November 14 at 6:00 pm in the Gallaudet-Center Education Center Cafeteria at the American School for the Deaf, 139 North Main St., West Hartford, CT. The students will serve us a delicious dinner.

More than \$9,000 was raised by our lions last year for this very, worthy cause. Our goal this year for contributions from the clubs in our district is \$10,000.

Questions? Contact ASD chairperson Phyllis Perry, 860 881-4198 or [phyllisdueseason@gmail.com](mailto:phyllisdueseason@gmail.com)

## Opening Eyes

Lion Jim Boulais

The Special Olympics CT/Opening Eyes event took place on Saturday June 11th and Sunday June 12th at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven. I would like to thank all Lions/Leos that attended and assisted in the screenings!

Opening Eyes is a collaboration between Lions Club International and Special Olympics. Since 2001, LCIF has given about \$1 million dollars per year thru a Core 4 grant. Opening Eyes is changing lives in communities across the globe, providing free eye assessments, prescription eyewear, sunglasses and sports goggles to people with intellectual disabilities. Over 350,000 assessments have been performed in over 80 countries since it started. Over 90,000 prescription eyewear have also been distributed.

Here are some "statistics" for the weekend:

- 355 screenings done (includes athletes and unified partners). This was one of our largest screenings ever!
- 155 prescription eye glasses were given out (made on site)
- 154 sun glasses were given out
- 71 sports goggles with RX were given out
- 3 plano protective goggles were given out
- 10 athletes were referred for further screening

This includes the following volunteers:

- 19 Optometrists
- 1 Ophthalmologist
- 24 Optometry students
- 19 Opticians
- **63 Lions/Leos**
- 8 Other

(Continued on page 16)



# District Membership

By Jim Trompeter, GMT

My name is Jim Trompeter, and I am your GMT ( District Membership Coordinator).

As long as you have been a Lions Club Member, I am sure you are aware the push for increasing Membership has always been at the forefront. Lions Clubs are no different than any other organization without the dedicated efforts of their member's, service organizations such as ours cannot survive.

**Most of our clubs work very hard to recruit new members. But in many instances, that's where the process stops. In reality, once you bring a new member on, that's where the process begins.**

This year we, of course, want to bring in New Members, but one of my focuses this year is to work with the clubs in retaining the members we have, and try to cut down the number of resignations.

Members resign for a variety of reasons, some we have no control over: death, relocation, health, and Financial issues. If we look at the resignations that have taken place within our clubs, a significant number of resignations are due to a member's dissatisfaction, because they are not part of the group, or their ideas and suggestions are not recognized.

I spoke with a Lions Member earlier this year. She said she had been a member about two years, and was in the process of considering resigning. Naturally, I asked her why. She said that during her two years, she attended most of the meetings and worked all the events, even co-chairing one. Her suggestions or ideas, both at events and at meetings, were never given consideration. This person is

someone who likes to be involved, and she felt her time and efforts would be of better use elsewhere. I did some investigation and found that many of her ideas and suggestions had merit, but she was having trouble with more senior members who were more comfortable doing things the way they have done them in the past.

This is a topic that could evolve a great deal of discussion, more than I would care to type for this article. One thing that is key is that new members, and our existing members, must feel they are an integral part of the team. We also must be open to new ideas. We live in a fast-paced environment that is constantly changing. If we, as an organization, are not open to new ideas and change, we will be unable to provide the services and support that we have in the past at the Local, State, and International levels.

We are going to start a Membership Corner. In the next couple of issues of the District Spirit. I am going to ask for your ideas and suggestions on how to get new Members and retain existing Members. I am looking for input from both Members and Club Officers. You will be receiving information on this in September. I am sure we will have more ideas for the next issue.

The Canton Lions Club is holding a Membership Picnic on September 8th. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the Canton Lions is invited.

I am looking forward to working with each of you, in not only bringing in new members, but keeping vibrant the members we have.



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

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## Veterans Stand Down

Stand Down will be held September 23, 2016 at the Rocky Hill Veteran's Campus 285 West Street, time of the event 8:00am-3:00pm.

Registration for eye screening and fitting for reading glasses will be held in the auditorium.

Hearing test will be held in the library.

Free lunch will be served in the dining hall.



## Torrington Lions Club



The Torrington Lions Club was proud to present their Joseph Scalfani Memorial Scholarship to Erika Borja. She received her scholarship check at their August meeting. Presenting the check was President Lion Rob Stango, with Erika's father at her side.

Here's a picture of the Torrington club's newest member, who was inducted at our July meeting. Lion Paul Rabeuf and sponsor Past President Phil Dzurnak. Lion Paul was a member of the club several years ago and has decided to rejoin the club. Here he is with his sponsor, Past President Lion Phil Dzurnak.



Here's a picture from Torrington's annual Touch-a-Truck event, sponsored by the Torrington Park and Recreation Department and the Torrington Lions Club. Held on June 11, 2016, at the Lowe's parking lot in Torrington, it seems the main attraction was the Lion Mascot, posing with both children and adults.



The 2016-2017 Torrington Lions Club Officers: Jean Gelormino, Margaret "Kiki" Tucker, Janet Morrill, Linda Hamm, Donna Robideau, Joe Fazzino, Rob Stango, Phil Dzurnak, Carmela Sanzo, Doreen Whitney, Elaine Dzurnak, Andy Ferenck, and Kathy Oligny. PDG Marianne Bannan performing the installation, with PDG Ron Storms (seated) watching.



## Fidelco Stories

### “Just Do It”

Run, walk or fundraise to support Team Fidelco on Saturday, October 8th at Bushnell Park in Hartford. For the third year in a row, Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation has been selected as a Premier Charity at the Eversource Hartford Marathon.

*This year's Team Fidelco Captains, Michael Malarsie and Kirsten Battaglia, are tackling all of life's adventures with their Fidelco guide dog partners by their sides.*

In the remote mountains of Afghanistan, SSgt Michael Malarsie was blinded and severely wounded by a powerful improvised explosive device (IED) that killed four team members and blew him off a bridge. Exactly one year later, on his “alive day,” Michael was partnered with Fidelco guide dog Xxon, and he returned to active duty status as the only blinded airman serving in the United States Air Force. Michael received the Bronze Star with Valor for heroism on the battlefield. He honors his fallen team members every day by living life fully and with gratitude; Michael is a motivational speaker who wake boards, rides horses, and keeps up with his young family.

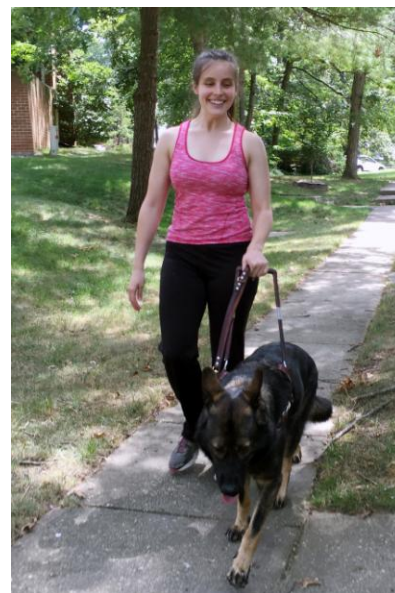
With her Fidelco guide dog Carley leading the way, Kirsten Battaglia has just earned her law degree from American University. Kirsten has optic nerve hypoplasia and can see light, shape and color, but lacks depth perception. When she moved to Washington D.C. to pursue her degree, Kirsten was comfortable using her cane, but was growing frustrated she was merely avoiding obstacles and not able to navigate the safest path. She wanted to know the ever-present construction and traffic would not prevent her from traveling confidently to class or walking the city – one of her passions. Carley's steadfastness and loyalty has enhanced every aspect of Kirsten's daily life; she is attaining her goals while enjoying

the journey. Kirsten comes from a military family and looks forward to more far-flung adventures with Carley visiting her parents who live overseas.

Join our team at [Fidelco.org](http://Fidelco.org).

(Right) Team Fidelco Captain Kirsten Battaglia and Carley.

(Below) Fidelco Guide Dog Xxon with Team Fidelco Captain Michael Malarsie.



# Terryville Lions



On July 23rd, the Terryville Lions Club celebrated its 75th Anniversary with Lion members and guest at the Terryville Fairgrounds. Mayor David Merchant and State Representative Whit Betts presented proclamations celebrating the many contributions that the Lions Club made to the town.

(Right) 75th Anniversary Chairman Lion Len Johnson

(Below) State Representative Whit Betts presenting proclamation to past president Brian Luba.



Mayor David Merchant and Lion Lani Johnson



Past Presidents of Terryville Lions



**New England Lions Council (NELC)**

**Training \* Memorial Service \* Banquet \* Business Meeting**  
**October 14-16, 2016 \* Nashua, NH**

<p><u>Friday, October 14</u> Registration Hospitality</p>	<p><u>Saturday, October 15</u> Lions Seminars Lunch Memorial Service Banquet Dinner</p>	<p><u>Sunday, October 16</u> Lions Seminars Lunch NELC Business Meeting</p>
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Conference Location: Crowne Plaza ~ 2 Somerset Parkway ~ Nashua, NH  
For Room Reservations, Call 603-886-1200 and Reference NELC  
Special Rate \$106 plus tax - Cutoff date is September 14



## Club Closeup: Thomaston Lions Club

One day, back in 2009, two guys from Terryville Lions club walked into the Thomaston town hall looking for people interested in restarting the Thomaston Lions Club, which had folded several years earlier. The two guys were Steve Daigle and Tim Hilliker.

Carol Hoebel happened to be working in the Town Hall that day, and she thought it was a great idea. So, she started making calls. And that was the start of the new Thomaston Lions Club.

Currently, the club has 31 members, 14 of them charter members.

Club lore states that they picked our first president, Lion Glenn Clark, by calling him on the phone and saying, "Hey, you're not at the meeting, so we made you President".

Actually, Lion Glen was chosen as he was a member of the original Thomaston Lions Club, and it was thought that his experience would be essential to help guide the new club.

They have a unique approach to club activities. They encourage their members to pick what they like for activities, and to choose their own level of involvement. Their concept is "It's your idea, it's your baby". If they are doing something and the participation is low, they know it's time to change it up, and maybe try something new.

An example was when they stopped holding their food drive/bake sale since every other organization in their town did one, and the results were not as good as they hoped. However, when they received word from the local Adams IGA that



(Continued on page 17)

## Woodbury Lions Club

Helping to ensure the future of their community, and assisting graduating high school seniors on their way to college, the Woodbury Lions Club held their annual Scholarships Award Night on August 2, at the historic Curtis House Inn in Woodbury.

Eleven deserving students received grants totaling \$20,000 to help them pay for college.

The net proceeds from the club's and annual Car Show and Haunted Hayride fund these scholarships, as well as the club's other community projects.

Now that their car show is past, the club is focusing on selling tickets for their annual Duck Race on September 10 at Three Rivers Park in Woodbury, which raises money for Sight & Hearing causes, and the four nights of the Annual Haunted Hayride, October 21, 22, 28 and 29.



Back Row (l to r): 2016 Scholarship Chairman Russ Domerick, Caelan Ritter, Brett Stokes, Ashley Padua, John Guillemette, Emily Siwik,

Front Row (l to r): Peter Bequary, Max Hubert, Kendra Baker, Maureen McCarthy, Hailey Roosa, Immediate Past President Bill Hubert

Not Pictured: Jules Niedermeyer

# IN HONOR OF PID CAROLYN MESSIER



## WHEN

Friday September 9, 2016  
Social Hour: 6 p.m.  
Dinner Buffet: 7 p.m.  
Beer and Wine

## WHERE

St. Robert Church Hall  
52 South Elm Street  
Windsor Locks, CT

## RSVP

Deadline August 30, 2016  
Lion Cindy Cooper  
[cindycooper287@aol.com](mailto:cindycooper287@aol.com)  
(860) 627-9777

## PAYMENT

\$45 per person  
\$450 for table of 10  
Windsor Locks Lions Club  
P.O. Box 312  
Windsor Locks, CT 06096



While PID Carolyn Messier's journey to become Third Vice President of the world's largest service organization, **Lions Clubs International**, has ended, there is still much to celebrate in this **Centennial** year of Lionism.

The **Lions of Windsor Locks** and the **Lions of Connecticut** proudly invite you to a special evening with PID Carolyn Messier. She will be joined by Lions from all over New England to honor her journey and her example:

Join us to show your support for Carolyn and her message:  
**Making a Difference.**

*Windsor Locks Lions Club*

*Gail Stegman, President*

*Campaign to Elect Carolyn Messier for  
Lions International 3rd Vice President*

*PCC Alan Daninhirsch, Chair*

## Lion Low Vision Center Charlotte Hungerford Hospital

The Charlotte Hungerford Hospital (CHH) Occupational Therapy Department and The District 23B Lions have established a Low Vision Center located at the CHH Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine Clinic at 1151 East Main Street, Torrington.

“Low vision affects over two-thirds of adults over 65 years of age. It is our goal to ensure that older adults with low vision are able to maintain their independence and experience quality of life. We are pleased to partner with the local Lions to provide this much needed service to our community,” said Amanda Hill, CHH Director of Rehabilitation. Michelle Whitford, Registered Occupational Therapist, has received extensive training in low vision and is providing this service to the patients in this community.

The program is designed to provide support for individuals who experience low vision by assessing their sight limitations. Following an assessment to determine their degree of vision loss, an individualized plan will be created with specific goals focused on providing assistance and improving their quality of life. These strategies are developed to help perform daily tasks, at times using tactile and talking products. Individuals are educated on availability of assistive technologies and learn to use their remaining vision effectively. In providing these services, individuals with low vision are able to live more safely and independently.

A physician referral is needed. The cost of these services will be assumed by insurance providers and any other form of governmental or private reimbursement available. The Lions provide all devices free of charge to patients. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Tuesday, 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact the CHH Occupational Therapy Department at (860) 496-0046.

“The Lions have earned an incredible reputation in this healthcare arena. Our hospital is pleased to more than partner with them, we are inspired by them. Our Center is really made possible by their resources and encouragement,” said Brian Mattiello, CHH Vice President of Organizational Development.

People who have low vision often report they “can’t see.” Low vision is a condition that can’t be corrected by medical or surgical intervention or by eyeglasses. It limits an individual’s ability to complete many daily activities, which may include any of the following examples: reading and signing forms, reading the numbers on a clock, or difficulties locating steps, curbs or items within one’s home.

Macular degeneration, glaucoma, or history of stroke or diabetes, are the most common medical conditions causing low vision. Simple tasks may become more difficult and frustration often occurs with low vision. Although low vision can’t be corrected, there are many ways to make daily tasks easier. There is now help locally for people affected by low vision.

Charlotte Hungerford Hospital is a 109 bed, general acute care hospital located in Torrington, Connecticut, that serves as a regional health care resource for 100,000 residents of Litchfield County and Northwest Connecticut. CHH offers personalized attention from an expert team of caregivers and physicians that utilize advanced technology and clinical partnerships in a convenient, safe and comfortable patient environment. One Thousand Caregivers, One Job, Your Health. Visit [www.charlottehungerford.org](http://www.charlottehungerford.org) for information.

## Rocky Hill Lions Club

Rocky Hill Lions will be very busy through the rest of the year.

September 8-10 their annual carnival will be held at Elm Ridge Park located on Elm St. For further information please call Lion Jackie Fischer (860) 257-0063.

October 15, 2016 from 3:00pm-8:00pm the club will be doing their community service project helping the Parks and Recreation Department with their Fallfest. Come join the Lions for food, carnival, hayrides, and fireworks.

November 1, 2016 DG Kathy Randall club visit.

December we will hold our Holiday party.

## Rocky Hill Veteran Club

The Veteran Lions are busy. They held their annual Pasta Dinner June 24, 2016, everyone in attendance enjoyed Lion Ron’s famous Pasta Sauce.

Stand Down will be their community service project.

Their club continues to grow in membership.

## Opening Eyes

(Continued from page 8)

I will again be the chair for this great event for this Lions year. The event has already been scheduled for Jun 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at SCSU, so put it on your calendar. Look for me to be asking for volunteers again as we get closer to the event. Great job Lions!





## East Hartford Lions



The East Hartford Club presented an Ambassador of Sight award to Bill Doak, the Editor of the East Hartford Gazette, at our Installation Banquet, June 20 at the Manchester Country Club. PDG Lion George Precourt and East Hartford Lion Out-going President, Patricia Sirois, presented the award to Bill. It is the first time that someone from outside the Club has been given such an honor. Bill has been fabulous in his support of what Lions do. It was a surprise for Bill and the other three recipients that evening - Lion President Patricia Sirois, first female East Hartford Lion President Pamela Howes, and a progressive award to PDG Lion George Precourt.

## PROMOTING LIONS THROUGH EYEGLASS COLLECTIONS

All of us as Lions are familiar with the collection of prescription eyeglasses and hearing aids through our strategically-placed boxes throughout our communities. We may even let our family members know about how their used eyeglasses can benefit others.

But here's a novel thought—What about your coworkers if you are still in the ranks of the employed?

Depending upon the size of your workplace and the cooperative attitude of upper management, a few of us may get to place a collection box in the employee lounge or in a similar visible location. That may not work for many us, so keep it simple. Just let your co-workers know that you are a Lion and are looking for used eyeglasses and hearing aids. Let your coworkers know that they can just drop them on your desk or workbench, place them in your locker, or see you before work starts or during a break. Not only can you increase the number of eyeglasses collected by District 23B Lions, but it is a great conversation starter about what Lions is all about and where our collected eyeglasses go.

Trust me ...it works. I am in a small company of about a dozen people. Almost every week I have eye glasses placed on my desk by coworkers, who have not only given me their personal unused pairs, but now are reaching out to family members and friends beyond the confines of our office. When the news broke in our office that I was looking for unwanted eyewear and hearing aids, I was surprised by the number of coworkers who actually stopped to thank me for providing a positive means of disposing of these items.

Of course, that conversation naturally led into an interest in what happens to the donated glasses and for the larger picture of what Lions is all about. I must confess that I have yet to convert any coworkers to Lions membership, but they all have a greater appreciation for what we do and an interest in how they might help with other ventures and projects. What simpler way is there to help dispel the notion that "Lions is the best kept secret...?"

## Club Closeup: Torrington

(Continued from page 14)

while they were receiving many food bags, they had no way to deliver them to the pantry. The Thomaston Lions stepped in and makes sure the donations reached the correct place. They consider this an example of "Where there's a need, there's a Lion."

The number of events that the Thomaston Lions sponsor is extensive. Highlights include selling sausage burgers at the Police Explorer's summer cruise, hand out clam chowder at the town's holiday event, hold pediatric vision screenings and, in the summer, they sell snacks at the Summer Concert Series, that they call "Lions on the Green."

And, speaking of The Green, the Thomaston Lions were instrumental in the building of the new, "Welcome to Thomaston Sign". Lion Bob Norton Sr. led the effort into making that sign a reality. He got the local Art Teacher to involve her students in a contest to decorate the back of the sign, which you see pictured.

Thanks for all that you do!

# New England Lions Council Buffet Breakfast at the USA / Canada Forum

Friday, September 16, 2016, 6:30 am  
OMAHA HILTON HOTEL / SAINT NICHOLAS ROOM

Price \$30 per person

Guest speaker

ID Lion Jerome Thompson, MD34 - Alabama

Deadlines - Mail September 8, 2016

Email: September 15, 2016

Make checks payable to New England Lions Council  
And mail to: Sec/Treas. PDG Ken Emery (802) 578-7403

146 Eagle Park Drive  
Colchester, VT 05446

[Kpemery1960@gmail.com](mailto:Kpemery1960@gmail.com)



Carolyn Messier's quest to become Third International Vice President came to an end this month when Lions Executive Officers endorsed a different candidate. Carolyn's campaign team is hosting a fundraiser to defray campaign expenses on Friday, September 9 at the St. Robert Church Hall in Windsor Locks. Social Hour begins at 6 p.m. with a dinner buffet at 7 p.m. RSVP to Lion Cindy Cooper ([cindybcooper287@aol.com](mailto:cindybcooper287@aol.com) or 860-627-9777).

## Zone 3 Report

By Zone Chair Pat Daigle

As we begin a new Lions year, our Centennial Lions Year, I am excited to, once again, be serving as Zone Chair for Zone 3. We had great meetings last year, and I am looking forward to scheduling my club visitations for this fall. I would like to work with the clubs with an emphasis on mentoring and membership retention. I hope each of the clubs will be planning a service project that is in line with our Centennial theme.

Summer is a busy time filled with vacations, activities, events, and projects, both on a Club level, and a personal level. That said, I was able to reach two Club Presidents in my Zone prior to my reporting deadline. I summarize below on their activities, and also provide information concerning the other five clubs in my Zone based on reports filed with LCI.

**Avon:** Lion President Heidi Zacchera reports the Avon Lions have been busy providing their McLean Meals on Wheels service, and also hosting Coffee Hour at Avon Health Center over the spring and summer. Their club will hold its Kickoff Picnic on Wednesday, August 17. Lions and their spouses attend, and the club also invites its scholarship recipients and prospective members to attend. Avon currently has 23 members.

**Barkhamsted:** I was unable to speak to Lion President Rejean LaBrie before the submission deadline. Their monthly report to LCI lists as their service project the River Run/PTO event. Barkhamsted currently has 24 members.

**Canton:** I was unable to reach Lion President David Hudon before the submission deadline. However, they reported to LCI they held their Can Can event. Nearly a ton of food collected for the Canton Food Bank over two weekends in front of Canton's ShopRite supermarket. Shoppers regularly filled their carriages with toiletries and food

## District Officers

**Kathy Randall**  
District Governor

**Robert Clark**  
First Vice District Governor

**Harry Schuh**  
Second Vice District Governor

**Ed Fenton**  
Secretary

**Jim Boulais**  
Treasurer

**TBA**  
Zone 1 Chair

**TBA**  
Zone 2 Chair

**Pat Daigle**  
Zone 3 Chair

**Carol Hoebel**  
Zone 4 Chair

**George Cooper**  
Zone 5 Chair

**Ivonne Centeno**  
Zone 6 Chair

**Devon Austin**  
Zone 7 Chair

## Zone 3 (continued)

items for the food bank, leaving only a small bag of groceries for themselves. Our Lions Club is thankful and humbled by the experience. This event showed how generous and caring our community can be. Canton currently has 20 members.

**Granby:** Welcome to Zone 3, Granby Lions! Unfortunately, I was unable to reach Lion President Robert Merrick by the submission deadline. I look forward to working with President Robert and the rest of the Granby Lions over the next year. Granby currently has 39 members.

**Hartland:** Lion President Diana Evans, President reported that the Hartland Lions ran a very successful fried dough booth at the recent East Hartland Volunteer Fire Dept. carnival. Their club also collected non-perishable for their local food bank. On Saturday, September 17 at 6:30 pm, they will be holding a dance featuring the band "Dually Noted" at the Alice Merritt Girl Scout Camp in East Hartland. Tickets are \$25 per person. Please call Diana Evans at (860) 653-4395 for more information. Hartland currently has 22 members.

**New Hartford:** I was unable to reach Lion President Louise Cooley. Their club report to LCI lists their annual club picnic as their activity. New Hartford currently has 23 members.

**Simsbury:** I was unable to reach Lion President Richard Kuziak by the submission deadline. They recently performed a service project at their local library, according to their report filed with LCI. Simsbury currently has 28 members.

## **Mid-Winter 2017:** Let's Celebrate A Century of Service

For 100 years, the world has relied on Lions to serve their communities.

**Mid-Winter 2017** will show our cities and towns how Connecticut Lions have served, how we serve today and how we expand our service with their help.

### **\$50,000 for CLERF**

We are asking every club to raise funds for the Connecticut Lions Eye Research Fund. Checks will be presented at the Mid-Winter Luncheon on February 3. This is a great way to remind the public about Kindsight, Low-Vision Centers, Eye Research and so much more. A great recruiting opportunity!

**Seminars** for every Lion in your club. Ask any Lion who attended Mid-Winter 2016 – we had outstanding seminars! 2017 will be every bit as good. Bring your newest members, your oldest members and everyone in between!

**FUN** for every Lion. From the skits and “photo booth” on Friday night to the hospitality suites and creative exhibits throughout the hotel. **Mid-Winter 2017** is for you!

WHERE THERE'S A NEED  
**THERE'S A LION**

SINCE 1917



## **Mid-Winter 2017** **February 2-4** **Cromwell, CT**

### **Special Guests:**

ID Alan Lundgren  
PID Dr. Ed Cordes  
PDG Dr. Keith Lemire

### **Special Presentations:**

Peace Poster Winners  
LEO of the Year  
Presidential Service Pins

Registration Forms available in October.  
Check your district web page or  
[www.facebook.com/ConnecticutLions](http://www.facebook.com/ConnecticutLions)  
for more details.

*Be part of our*  
**CELEBRATION!**