

DISTRICT



CHANGING PEOPLES LIVES

Spirit

March 2019

In this issue:

- DG Harry Schuh
- VIP Fishing
- Lion Around Connecticut TV
- LCIF
- Pediatric Cancer
- Lions Day at the UN
- Member Spotlight
- State Convention
- GMT report
- Learning Day

CLUBS

Avon
Barkhamsted
Berlin
Bristol
Hartland
New Milford
Torrington
Woodbury

Where Is This Box?



Simple, but serves the purpose.

This is a real challenge, since many people may never have been inside the building where this collection box is housed (except for members of the club that owns it, and they aren't eligible for the prize).

You can find the box featured in the last issue inside Burlington's town hall. No one had the correct answer, so the prize rolls over to this issue's contest.

Send your guesses to District23BSpirit@gmail.com. One guess per Lion, and the first correct submission wins.

Has your club sent in a picture of their box yet? There's still time to be featured on the cover of The Spirit. Send yours in today!

DG Harry Schuh

I am having a great time serving as your District Governor this year! I have completed most of my scheduled club visits and am having a wonderful time listening to the many and varied Lions Clubs activities. I really enjoy sharing information regarding district, multiple district, and international initiatives. Thanks to Lions in our district for all you do to serve our local, state, and international communities!

We continue to be actively involved in Diabetes projects in 2 areas: to establish a multiple district one-week day camp for children with Type-1 diabetes in the summer of 2019, and to bring diabetes education and testing to the Hartford Middle School students. We met with Dr. Cem Demirci, Director of Pediatric Endocrinology & Diabetes at the CT Childrens Medical Center. He is very excited at partnering with Lions on both of these projects. Preliminary plans are underway to schedule a Health Fair including diabetes testing for Hartford Middle School students in May and to pursue the establishment of a day camp this summer. Thanks to Lion Wendella Battey and PCC Alan Daninhirsch for their efforts on these Diabetes projects.

We have been very active in support of LCIF's Campaign 100. In addition to club donations in support of Campaign 100, we are encouraging individual Lions to use the newly redesigned LCIF website to make a personal donation to Campaign 100. Training for club LCIF coordinators was held by District LCIF Coordinator PCC Dan DiVirgilio on Saturday, February 2nd in Litchfield. Another training session is scheduled for Thursday, March 14th in East Hartford at the East Hartford Community Center. In addition, Orientation Chair PCC Alan Daninhirsch will hold another New Member Orientation on that same day, Thursday, March 14th, at the East Hartford Community Center to complement the one held on October 18th in Harwinton. All are

welcome – complimentary pizza and soft drinks will be served!

Lions Day with the United Nations Chair PDG Dave Roberts has chartered two 38-passenger buses for Lions Day with the United Nations on Saturday, March 9. These buses will transport Lions and Leos to this special event at the United Nations. Thanks to all the donors who sponsored 37 bus seats for Leos to have free transportation to the event. Thanks to PDG Dave for the great work he has done in organizing this event in our district!

Lion Carol and I attended the 50th anniversary celebration of women at my alma mater, Trinity College, on January 11. I took the opportunity to introduce myself to President Joanne Berger-Sweeney and discuss with her the idea of the Lions of CT planting a tree on the grounds of Trinity College. She is very enthusiastic about working with the district and our Trinity College Lions Club. We discussed a date in April close to Earth Day. Our Multiple District State Convention will be here soon. Please mark your calendars for Friday, May 5 – Sunday, May 7 at the Red Lion Hotel in Cromwell. We have a great lineup of seminars planned for Saturday morning. Our special guest for the convention is 2nd International Vice-President Haynes Townsend, who will be speaking at the Saturday luncheon. The theme for this year is Italy in keeping with our Lions International Convention, which will be held in Milan, Italy this year. Friday night entertainment features music from a classic rock band, and there is a rumor that it will be a Toga Party! Toga Toga Toga !!!

We have formed a Service Clubs Addiction Task Force to address the opioid crisis. The Task Force includes representatives from Lions District 23B, the Rotary Club, and the Elks. We are focusing on three areas: Home, Workplace, and Community. Thanks to Lions Bob Bessel and 2nd VDG Heidi



Zacchera for representing District 23B on the Task Force. Stay tuned for more information.

These are just some of the many activities in our district this year. I am very proud of the job our Global Team Leaders, Zone Chairs, and Cabinet Chairs are doing this year.

On March 4th, my TV Co-Host Lion Carol and I will be celebrating our 6th anniversary of "Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry." And in keeping with International President Gudrun's emphasis on Service, I continue to emphasize my theme: **LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION!**

LIGHTS - Shine a light on Lions!
CAMERA - Focus on service!
ACTION - Dream it and do it!

Yours in Lionism,
 DG Harry Schuh



GREATER HARTFORD HOST LIONS CLUB



55th Annual
**PANCAKE & BUFFET
BREAKFAST**



Sunday, April 28, 2018
8:00AM-12NOON

American School for the Deaf
139 No. Main St., West Hartford
\$8.00 per adult & \$5.00 per child (under 12)

The East Hartford Lions
are proudly endorsing
Lion Ed Fenton
for the high office of
2nd Vice District
Governor
of Lions District 23B for
the Lions year
2019-2020!



New Milford Lions Club

New Milford Lions Club announces that they have added a Childhood Cancer initiative to its community service. "We're making a declaration that we want to find ways to support families facing childhood cancer," chair, Meredith Spector said.

She provided an example. She recently spoke with a single mom, she said, whose four children range from 6 years to adulthood. The 13-year-old boy is fighting cancer. She is supported in many ways by extended family and friends.

The mother, asked what Lions might do to improve her days, admitted she dreamed of having a full family portrait, the people in her life smiling, being happy, in a photo big enough to frame. The cost is beyond her budget, but not beyond the New Milford Lions' ability to provide.

Spector said a local professional photographer donated the time, Lions will pay for the photograph printing and copies, and the frame. In addition, Spector said, arrangement was made for the 13-year-old and his brothers, all sports fans, to get a facetime call from Jonathan Engelmann, a recent draft for the Cleveland Indians and the nephew of a local Lion. Plus, the younger children, who love to fish, will receive donated children's fishing poles, and mom has received an addition to her collection of little Golden Books.

Reaching out to community members facing the emotional ravages of childhood cancer, does not necessarily depend on fund-raising or money grants, Spector pointed out. When local Leos (teens and young adults in the Lions program) donate books about cancer survivors to the New Milford High and Middle School libraries, that act says, "We care," and caring is the beginning step in any journey of service to someone else.

Hartland Lions Club

Soup, Soup, Soup and more homemade Soup!

*When the wind is cold,
slurp Butternut Apple soup.*

*When the sniffles get you,
breathe in the soothing elixir of
Chicken Noodle.*

*When those big white wet flakes are on your
tongue,
replace them with hot Beef
Mushroom Chili or Onion.*

*When the rain comes down in big COLD
drops,
nothing warms better than a
smooth Corn Chowder or rich Pea
soup.*

*When you cannot wait any longer for Spring
to fire up the grille
then it is Cheeseburger soup,*

*Or you cannot wait enjoy the first garden
pickings,
then taste that first tomato in the
Tomato and Rice or early beans in
a rich bean concoction.*

*Finally, top it all off with,
savory and famous "Davis"
Venison Stew.*

*And if you still are not satiated,
a warm grilled ham and cheese
sandwich should do the trick.*

*Of course, don't forget your sweet tooth with
a visit to the desert table.
yummy, !!*

But most of all, good food is best enjoyed with friends and family in a warm congenial atmosphere, sharing with each other.

A BIG shout out to our fellow Lions who ventured up the hill, from Barkhamsted, Granby, Simsbury and all the way from East Hartford, and to Phyllis Perry from Bloomfield who provided the Low Vision display.

Thank you for sharing your stories, warmth and fellowship. Is this what Lions are about?

Stay warm, enjoy the fireplace as white flakes descend, and watch for your neighbor who may need winter assistance.



*A few photos from
the Hartland Lions'
Soup and
Sandwich event.*





PROTECT THE THINGS YOU CHERISH THE MOST

- Automobile insurance
- Home insurance
- More options. More discounts.

Donato owner Dan DiVirgilio Agency LLC

Your Local Agent

1460 MERIDEN WATERBURY TPKE , PLANTSVILLE, CT 06479

DDIVIRGILIO@FARMERSAGENT.COM

Call 860.426.3730 today!
For Home, Auto, Life and Business.

Restrictions apply. Discounts may vary. Not available in all states. See your agent for details. Insurance is underwritten by Farmers Insurance Exchange and other affiliated insurance companies. Visit farmers.com for a complete listing of companies. Not all insurers are authorized to provide insurance in all states. Coverage is not available in all states.



I believe that Campaign 100 is so important that I'm making the following announcement!

“My Agency, the Dan DiVirgilio Agency LLC, will make a \$10.00 donation in your name for Campaign 100 for every Lion for whom we are able to write Auto/Home or Business Insurance”

- Past Council Chair Dan DiVirgilio



This offer will last until
May 15, 2019

Lions Join with Rotary and Elks on Addiction Initiative

With 130 people dying daily from drug overdoses, the addiction epidemic has become the crisis of our time. To help combat the crisis, District Governor Harry Schuh has joined with Rotary District Governor Kate Sims and Elks Exalted Ruler Cindy Szabo to raise public awareness of the resources available to help.

A joint addiction task force has focused on resources in the home, the workplace and in the community. Rollout is expected this spring with a call to every Lions club in District 23B to get the word out. Lions will be joined by Rotarians in District 7890 and Torrington Elks. Initiatives aimed at the home include education for everyone who maintains a stock of medications that can be misused. Options for disposal of unused drugs—either at police facilities or using specially designed deactivation pouches—will be presented.

In the workplace, the task force has partnered with the law firm Pullman & Comley for employer education. The goal is to guide employers through the tangle of laws and regulations that apply when an employee is discovered to be struggling with addiction. Another initiative, Shatterproof, aims to reduce the stigma associated with addiction.

Until recently, addiction has been viewed as a moral failure rather than the disease it really is. This shift in philosophy is behind a community program called H.O.P.E. (Heroin/Opioid Prevention & Education) where police direct addicted people to treatment rather than jail if they agree to give up their drugs and drug paraphernalia. ESTEEM is another community program aimed at raising awareness in children as young as 10 about the importance of making good choices about drugs, bullying and other areas of their lives.

More information will be available once the specifics of Lions' involvement have been established. Lions should be proud to roll up our sleeves and work on controlling this epidemic. It touches us all. Now it's time to make a difference.

Avon Lions Club

The fiscal year 2018/2019 has been a busy year for the club. Our annual pediatric vision screening in November expanded to include the three Avon elementary schools in addition to two CREC Magnet schools, the Farmington Valley Montessori school, and four Avon nursery/daycare facilities. With the assistance of 21 parents, we screened 2469 students. Additionally in November, we conducted our annual Harvest Breakfast fundraiser, which also included the assistance of 6 Avon High School LEO's, serving 158 meals and raising \$4,000. In December, we assisted the Salvation Army with two projects, which also included the assistance of 16 AHS LEO's: Red Kettle Bell Ringing, which raised \$2,074 for the Salvation Army and the Holiday Store in which we sorted over 1600 toys.

Other ongoing projects included:

- **Meals on Wheels** – 5 Lions delivered over 195 meals to residents at home

- **Lending Locker** – lent medical equipment (wheel chairs, walkers, crutches, seats, etc.) to 27 residents with short term recovery needs

- **Assistance to elderly and needy** – provided over 60 Lion hours of assistance to 9 residents in need

- **5K Trail Run** – annual scholarship fundraiser now in its second year on the Sunday following Labor Day

- **Tower Toot** –community service project of the Friends of Heublein Tower in their annual October fundraiser for maintenance of this historic CT landmark

- **Breakfast with Santa** – inaugural community event of the Friends of the First Company Governors' Horse Guard, included the assistance of 6 AHS LEO's

- **Farmington River Watershed River Cleanup** – annual September community environmental service project of cleanup of the riverbank along Fisher Fields and Alsop Meadows and included 9 LEO's and 3 Avon residents. Additionally, as a result of our activities, we inducted three new members since July 2018.

Our next annual fundraiser will be the Friday April 26th Pasta Dinner beginning at 5:30pm at the First Company Governors' Horse Guard on Arch Rd in Avon. Tickets are \$10.



Rotarian Maria Coutant-Skinner(left) helps Lions Second VDG Heidi Zacchera (middle) and Rotarian Cynthia Mangini (right) develop an addiction awareness program for communities in Northwestern Connecticut and Western Massachusetts.



♥♥♥♥ NEW MILFORD LIONS ♥♥♥♥

90TH GALA

MARCH 16, 2019

♥♥♥♥ 6:30-10:30PM ♥♥♥♥

DINNER-OPEN BAR-AUCTION

1920S EVENING ATTIRE WELCOME

FOX HILL INN

257 FEDERAL RD BROOKFIELD CT

RESERVATIONS-\$90EA

860-469-5053



Childhood Cancer Initiative

Happy New Year from members of the District Cabinet and Childhood Cancer co- Chairs C. Roger Pelletier and Meredith Spector.

We are both proud of the Lions of District 23B and their very generous contributions to Camp Rising Sun, a unique summer camp exclusively dedicated to children with cancer.

Through your efforts, we jointly raised over \$3,100.00 for the camp, and I know deep down that Lions in this district can do better for these children. Therefore, I challenge all Lions to improve on this start. When we meet for the state convention in May, I hope we exceed last year's totals during the parade of checks. Please budget monies for this worthwhile endeavor.

If you see me now you probably wonder "Why the beard?" *[ed: We think this is Lion Roger writing]* Well, during No Shave November, I usually don't shave, and donate to Prostate Cancer. But, this year at convention, I will be donating \$100.00 towards CRS in order for children around this state might enjoy the summer camp experience. As in the past Meredith and I make ourselves available to attend club meetings to explain there's a need to helpful these children.

If you've donated before, Thank You, and we look forward to your continued support. If you or your club have not contributed in the past, please consider this time to contribute.
Thank You



Spotlight on PDG Dave Roberts

By IPCC Kathy Randall

I first met Lion Dave Roberts in the San Diego Airport. We were both on our way to the 2015 Lions International Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii. At the time, Lion Dave lived in San Diego, and like me, he was incoming 1st Vice District Governor. As we sat in the airport waiting for our flight, we became immediate friends. We had a lot to talk about since we both were Lions and soon to be Governors of our Districts within the year.

I learned he was born and raised in Connecticut, and his parents still lived in District 23B. We tried to keep in touch, but you all know how busy a District Governor's life can be. (Now, I wished I had tried harder!) Once his Governor's year in California was through, he needed to return to Connecticut to care for his parents. They needed him close to home for health reasons.

It was June 2018 that he transferred his membership to the Barkhamsted Lions Club. We were able to reconnect at the 2018 Lions International Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. Our conversations

took up right where we left off, and it was like we had just met yesterday. PDG Lion Dave joined Connecticut Lions in our hospitality room, and met most of the Connecticut Lions that were enjoying the convention.

You may have noticed he has already jumped right into the work of Connecticut Lions and 23B. He has joined the Cabinet and Multiple District Committees. For our District, he is the Chairman of Lions Day at the United Nations. This has been a great way for him to get around the District and speak at Zone and Club meetings. The Lions Day at the UN promises to be well attended this year, mostly due to the energy and enthusiasm PDG Lion Dave has exemplified.

For the Multiple District, PDG Lion Dave is a member of the Policy & Protocol Committee and the 2019 State Convention Committee. I appreciate his willingness to serve Connecticut, and know he will continue to contribute with vigor!

Next time you see PDG Lion Dave, welcome him to Connecticut, and look for him to grow in service in Connecticut.



Welcome to PDG Dave Roberts(left) with MD 23 IPCC Kathy Randall



Lion Around Connecticut

With Lions Carol Kearns and Harry Schuh

On March 4, Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry celebrates its 6th Anniversary of producing a weekly half-hour show celebrating Lions events and activities throughout our district. Our show is aired in fifty-eight communities on six cable access TV stations: Charter Communications (Winsted), Cablevision (Litchfield), Charter Communications (Newtown), Charter Communications (Willimantic), Nutmeg (Farmington), and Skye XIII (Waterbury).

Listed below are our last thirteen shows. As you can see, we feature a wide variety of Lions Clubs and Lions-sponsored events. We attended the New England Lions Council Fall Weekend at Mt. Snow, VT and learned more about the launching of LCIF's Campaign 100.

Congratulations to the Greater Hartford West Indian Lions Club on their 17th Annual Awards Banquet.

The American School for the Deaf is always so appreciative of the support we Lions give to the school.

This was also the Christmas holiday season!

Congratulations to the New Milford Lions for their annual Christmas Party for Seniors, to the Windsor Locks Lions and the other 8 area Lions Clubs who sponsor their Annual Christmas Party for Special Needs Kids, and to our own Harwinton Lions who serve lunch at the Annual Christmas Party at the Senior Center.

Finally, congratulations to the Hartford County Everest Centennial Lions Club on their 2nd Annual Oratorical Contest for Nepalese High School students.

Below are the titles for our latest shows 284 - 296:

284	Hartford Multinational Lions Halloween Bash Part 2 and Plainville Lions Pancake Breakfast
-----	---

Berlin Lions Club

The Berlin Lions have finished Kidsite for this year. They screen 1364 children with 88 referrals. This could not have been done without our camera Lions, Tom Reisner who drove from Marlborough for seven days and Wayne Fromback from Burlington four days with two cameras. Lions Clem Giglio, James Carlson, Janice Ayotte, Josephine Slusz and five volunteers from Berlin helped out.



285	New England Lions Council (NELC) Fall Weekend with Johnny Cooper from LCIF
286	NELC Fall Weekend Part 2
287	NELC Fall Weekend Part 3
288	Greater Hartford West Indian Lions Awards Banquet Part 1
289	Greater Hartford West Indian Lions Awards Banquet Part 2
290	American School for the Deaf (ASD) Lions Appreciation Dinner
291	New Milford Lions Senior Christmas Party
292	Windsor Locks Lions Special Needs Christmas Party Part 1
293	Windsor Locks Lions Special Needs Christmas Party Part 2
294	Harwinton Senior Center Christmas Party Part 1
295	Harwinton Senior Center Christmas Party Part 2
296	Hartford County Everest Centennial Lions Oratorical Contest

To view our last 10 shows on the Internet:

- Go to www.ctv191.com
- 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!



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

Editor

Frank Longo

Advertising Editor

Robert Bessel

District IT Chair

Sonny Olomi

Website Guy

Dan Uitti

Layout

Lauren Ipsum

Printed By

Southbury Printing Center
Southbury, CT

Copyright © 2018
by Lions International District 23B

District23BSpirit@gmail.com

The District 23B Spirit

Our next issue of the District 23B Spirit is June 1, 2019. The deadline for all ads and articles is May 10, 2019.

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.

Lions Day with the United Nations

Saturday, March 9

By PDG Dave Roberts, LDUN Chair 2019

Understanding the need for -- and participating in -- global service is a cornerstone of why we are Lions/Leos! It's less than one month until the Lions Day with the United Nations (LDUN) in New York City. With the theme "Protecting Our Future: The Health of Our Children", the 41st Annual Lions Day with the United Nations will take place on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at the UN Headquarters.

Under the leadership of Governor Harry Schuh, our District has chartered two 38-passenger buses that will travel from Connecticut to New York City and back. Both buses will pick up Lions/Leos/Guests at two stops. The FIRST stop is in the Windsor Locks area along Interstate 91 at Exit 42 and Route 159 at the Park & Ride Commuter Lot; This location has 342 paved and lighted parking spaces; please note that we plan to DEPART from this location at 6:00 AM SHARP. Note that this is the COMMUTER LOT and NOT the Train Station parking lot. The SECOND pickup location is from Terryville High School; we plan to DEPART from this location at 7:00 AM SHARP.

The Roundtrip bus fare is now \$30 per person; the first bus is predominantly set aside for Leos and Leo Advisors and is FULL. Our second bus has just 3 unfilled seats. Light refreshments will be provided on both buses. Contact PDG Dave Roberts at dave@daveroberts.org or 858-775-9241 for a bus seat ASAP.

The UN Registration Desk will be open from 8:00–11:00 a.m. in the Manhattan room on the second floor of the Millennium Hilton New York One UN Plaza Hotel.

The LDUN agenda has been shortened this year and begins promptly at 10:30 AM. The LDUN registration fee is \$99 for Lions/Leo Advisors/Guests; \$55 for

Leos/Youth. In lieu of lunch this year, a light snack will be provided at the UN complex to consume during breaks. A new post-event reception follows the main activities at 3:00 p.m. Both the light snack and the post reception costs are included in your LDUN registration fee!

Security is very tight at the United Nations, so all participants must bring a government issued I.D. and display their UN security badge before entering the UN campus. For youth, a school I.D. may be used for children over the age of 12 who do not have a government issued I.D. Children under the age of 12 do not need any I.D.

We are pleased that our District has made such a strong commitment with 75 Lions/Leos already supporting this historic event! Won't you join Governor Schuh and Lion Carol Kearns for this memorable trip to the United Nations on Saturday, March 9?

LLVC

The Lions Low Vision Center teaches visually impaired people how to utilize their remaining eyesight. The goal is to maximize each patient's the visual potential.

The Lions Low Vision Centers in Bristol, New Britain and Torrington are a direct response to Helen Keller's challenge—given in 1925—for Lions to serve as "Knights of the Blind."

Rehabilitation and the use of adaptive devices can help those suffering from low vision to use their remaining vision and maintain quality of life. "Low vision" is the term for vision loss that can no longer be corrected by eyeglasses, contact lenses, medicine or surgery. It is the third most commonly

occurring impairment among people ages 70 and over, exceeded only by heart disease and arthritis.

Tom DePalo, Business Manager of the Lions Low Vision Centers in District 23B, says that each center has an occupational therapist who specializes in low vision. This professional collaborates with an optometrist to evaluate each patient's level of function in everyday activities, then makes a recommendation for vision aids and devices to help the patient. These aids and devices are provided at no charge.

Lions can all help by letting our local optometrists know about this unique Lions service. Since funding for these centers and aids such as the Keys U See Wireless Keyboard (shown below) comes from donations from local Lions Clubs in Hartford, Litchfield and New Haven counties, we can obviously use financial help.

I encourage every Lion and Lions Club to consider donating to Lions Low Vision Centers. When your cumulative donations reach \$1,000, they can be applied to our district's highest honor, the Ambassador of Sight award.

Would you like to compound your club's donation? Consider the **Birdies for Charity** program through the Travelers Championship Golf Tournament. When your club sends its Low Vision donation to the Birdies program, your donation increases by 15%. That's \$150 for every \$1000 you donate – and the extra money counts toward an Ambassador for Sight award. Last year's donation reached \$24,035 through Birdies for Charity. Let's aim for 100% club participation.

Send your club's donation as a check written to Travelers Championship with a memo "Birdies" to Lions Low Vision Centers, P.O. Box 4035, Windsor Locks, 06096-4035. Questions about the program should go to Pete Nevers at 860-604-8538.

15% BONUS for your club's Low Vision donation

Bump your club's donation to Lions Low Vision Centers by 15% with "Birdies for Charity."

Simply write your donation check to Travelers Championship, memo: "Birdies for Charity," and send it to:

Lions Low Vision Centers
P.O. Box 4035
Windsor Locks, CT 06096-4035



Travelers will send a check for your donation plus 15% to Lions Low Vision Centers!

The East Hartford Lions proudly hosts our

32nd Annual Lions "QUEST" Brunch



Sunday, April 7, 2019

11:00 am

Tastebuds Banquet Facility

1450 Main St.

East Hartford CT

*Proceeds will support the "Skills for Adolescence" program
for all 7th graders in Town.*

For more information and tickets.

Contact Lion John Reilly at 860-569-8683



Bristol Lions Club

The Bristol Lions Club raised money to sponsor “talking exhibits” produced by CRIS Radio, a nonprofit radio station, for the NECM, which features hundreds of hand-carved horses and an indoor carousel.

The “talking exhibit” initiative—called CRISAccess™—was developed by CRIS Radio, a 41-year-old radio station that broadcasts audio versions of articles featured in newspapers and magazines for people with print disabilities. CRISAccess™ offers museum visitors with print disabilities an easy and quick way to access the information through a personal smart phone when it scans QR (Quick Response) Codes.

The QR Codes link the smartphone or tablet to an audio version of the information displayed on the exhibit sign, as well as a description of the item featured in the exhibit. Each recording is brief, typically lasting less than three-minutes.

Louise Demars, NECM’s executive director, announced Thursday

evening at a reception that NECM and CRIS Radio are working together to also produce Spanish-language recordings.

“We are proud to have been selected by the Bristol Lions Club to participate in this important program and we are eager to expand our offerings by adding a Spanish speaking tour to our program,” she said. “The Spanish-speaking audible tour will appeal to a greater demographic that will make our exhibits more accessible for people with disabilities and who are English-language learners.”

National studies report that only 11 percent of people with disabilities visit museums. The collaboration between the three nonprofits provide a low-cost and simple approach to enhance the visitor experience for people with visual or other print challenges, such as dyslexia or ADHD. CRIS Radio based its CRISAccess program on the recommendations of a focus group comprised of people with visual disabilities who were convened by the Smithsonian.

Roger Pelletier, past president of the Bristol Lions Club, explained his organization’s commitment to the project. “The Lions Club of Bristol -- and Lions Clubs of Connecticut -- take eyesight to heart,” he said. “We decided to team up with CRIS Radio to provide a vessel by which people with vision impairments could enjoy the beauty of the hand-carved horses displayed at the Carousel Museum.”

“CRIS Radio is thrilled to partner with the Bristol Lions Club and NECM to bring greater accessibility for people with disabilities within the community,” said Paul A. Young, chairman of CRIS Radio’s Board of Directors. “This is the seventh museum CRIS has installed our talking exhibit initiative, allowing us to fulfill our 40-year mission of providing people who are blind or disabled with access to the same information that their friends, family, classmates and colleagues enjoy.”

All CRISAccess recordings feature human narration provided by CRIS Radio volunteers.



Top left: Dr. Vicky Biondi, Bristol Lions Past President Roger Pelletier, and Paul A. Young, chairman of the CRIS Radio Board of Directors,

Top right: CRIS Radio, Bristol Lions and museum staff gather for presentation of funds to support an audio tour of the Bristol Carousel Museum for sight-impaired and dyslexic visitors.



Bottom left: An example of the QR signs provided by CRIS Radio with funding provided by the Bristol Lions Club.



Attention all Gods &
Godesses

YOU ARE
INVITED TO AN
ITALIAN 70'S
ROCK AND ROLL
TOGA PARTY

**SPONSORED BY
CT LIONS MD23**

Fee: Two bed sheets for your TOGA

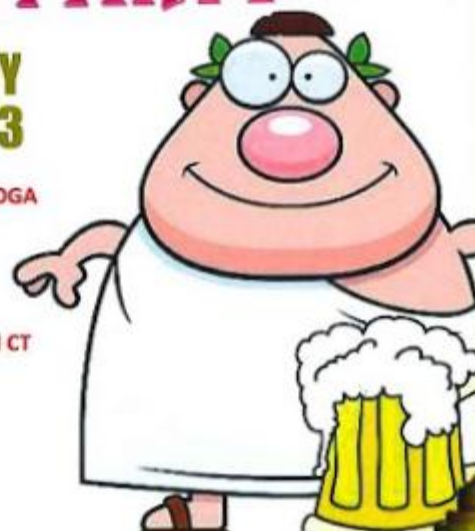
When: Friday May 3rd

Time: 7:00 pm-10:00pm

Red Lion Conf Center, Cromwell CT

Enjoy 70's Classic Music by

NIGHT SHIFT



CRIS Radio

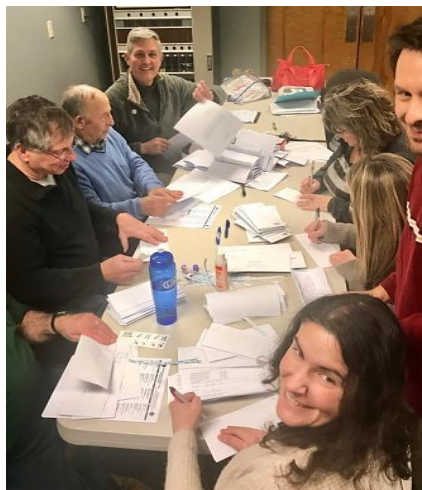
Save April 27, 2019 for CRIS Radio's 9th annual "Dining & Dancing In The Dark", held in the Bond Ball Room at the Hilton Homewood Suites, 338 Asylum Street in Hartford.

This is one of CRIS Radio's major fundraisers, and one of the most fun. A local version of the televised "Dancing With The Stars", local celebrities compete to be the top dancers. The hosts have yet to announce this year's slate of personalities. Music will be provided by Eight to the Bar.

Tickets are \$125 per person, and can be bought online through the CRIS website, www.crisradio.com, or from Cris Radio Cabinet Chair Lory Samolis, (203) 206-4044.



Barkhamsted Lions Club



Left: Barkhamsted Lions address thank you letters to donors who supported the club's annual Educational Scholarship Program under the leadership of Past Club President Francis Lattizori.

Right: Zone Chair Phyllis Perry (shown with Club President Rejean Labrie) visits the 52-year old Barkhamsted Lions Club to update members on Lions Low Vision Center, New Voices and other significant local and international Lions initiatives. She congratulated the club on its growing diverse membership!



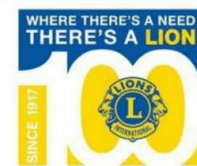
Torrington Lions Club



Above Left: The Torrington Lions Club screened 393 students at three locations so far in February, and are planning on screening approximately 600 more by the end of February. Standing and watching, Elaine & Phil Dzurnak, Screening is Norm Nejaime. Above right: The club has also been busy finding new members – seven so far this year! Pictured are two new members, Robert Diamond, and Martha Diamond, flanked by sponsors Elaine Dzurnak (left) and Phil Dzurnak (on right). 2VDG Heidi Zacchera presided over the induction in November. 2018



2019 CONNECTICUT LIONS STATE CONVENTION AD BOOK



“101 Years of Service!”

The Connecticut Lions are soliciting ads for its Program Book for the 2019 Lions State Convention. The Ad Book will be distributed to all attendees at the Annual Convention in May. While not a charitable contribution, advertisements placed in this book is an opportunity to reach Lions throughout Connecticut whether you are promoting your services and products or recognizing a Lion, individual or Lion organization.

The deadline for Ad Book submissions is **April 19, 2019**. All ad copy must be in Word, Publisher or PDF Format. The editor has the right to adjust font size/style as necessary to fit the layout.

Businesses- Promote your products and service!

Lions-Promote upcoming events! Support your current and future Lion leaders!

Please complete this order form and return it with your check and ad copy to:

PDG George Salpietro
29 Coco Drive, Colchester, CT 06415

PLEASE email your ad copy to: liongeorge@live.com

PLEASE make all checks payable to “Multiple District 23–CT Lions”.

Please check ad size desired: The Ad book is 8 ½ x 5 ½. Cover ads are “First come, First serve”

	Commercial Business	Lions Club or Non-Profit
Full Page Ad	\$200 _____	\$100 _____
Half (1/2) Page Ad	\$120 _____	\$60 _____
Quarter (1/4) Page Ad	\$60 _____	\$30 _____
Inside Front Cover in color	\$400 _____	\$200 _____
Inside Back Cover in color	\$400 _____	\$200 _____
Outside Back Cover in color	\$500 _____	\$250 _____

Contact Name: _____

Organization Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Any questions? Contact the 1st Vice District Governor for District 23, Ev Lyons at lyonsev50@gmail.com

Membership

GMT Jim Trompeter

Membership is the lifeblood of our Association. In order for our clubs to be viable in our communities we need to have active members.

We need to look at our Club Membership. You may have thirty members in your club, and on paper, you look good. How many of those thirty members are currently active? Possibly fifteen or twenty? How many will be active three years from now? All of a sudden, you are down to under fifteen active members.

I met with Club Officers last month from a club that had over fifty members 2 years ago, on paper. They now have twenty-five active members, are a very active club, but they are wondering how they are going to continue their current activities.

The months of February – July is the period when most clubs do their fund raising and service projects. This is when clubs have their greatest exposure, and it is a prime time opportunity to get potential members involved in a project or develop a list of potential contacts.

Now is the time to reach out. There are people out there who want to be involved, let's give them the opportunity.



MD 23 State Convention May 3-5, 2019

La Dolce Vita

By Lion Bob Bessel

Lions across Connecticut – get ready for a special treat! Our combined Mid-Winter/State Convention will be like no other.

We've got the Second International Vice President coming to town. We've got awards, LEOs and seminars. We've got leading Lions from all across our state. And we've got a toga party Friday night!

This year's theme is "La Dolce Vita" in honor of the Lions International Convention in Milan, Italy this year. Friday night will your chance to celebrate in style—toga style, that is! Bring your favorite toga or make one out of a bed sheet. Either way, you won't want to miss the fun on Friday night – especially with our musical guest "Night Shift!"

On Saturday, we have seminars on everything from impacting our communities to using social media, recruiting new members, and LCI Forward – a new program to serve more people in communities around the world.

Second International VP Judge Haynes Townsend is excited about visiting our beautiful state and looks forward to conducting a Town Hall Meeting where attendees can ask

every question they've always wanted to ask but didn't know who could answer. "I hope everyone comes with LOTS of questions!" he said via Facebook Messenger.

There is so much more! Three lucky artists will win prizes for their peace posters, and one will be entered into the national award competition. Next year's District Governors and Vice District Governors will be elected at this convention. And we will honor the Lions who have left us to serve in their name.

So here's your chance to learn, to enjoy and ultimately be a more effective Lion. If you have never attended a Connecticut Lions Convention, now's the time! Contact your club president, your zone chair, your district governor – anybody you have to! – but come to this year's convention May 3-5 in Cromwell at the Red Lion Inn (formerly the Radisson).

It's \$20 to get in the door, a bit more to enjoy a meal or two. I've been going for years, and every time, I learn a ton of new things. You can too! It's the best \$20 I spend in Lions. <https://www.e-district.org/sites/md23/page-9.php>

Come on down!



Lions 2nd International VP Judge Haynes Townsend (right) with his wife

La Dolce Vita

*Multiple District 23 – Lions of Connecticut
Annual State Convention*

May 3 – 5, 2019



*Come experience a great time of
Lions fellowship and fun.*



*Fun-filled Friday evening entertainment,
Saturday morning seminars, and also, an opportunity
to meet and greet our special guest,
Lions Clubs International Second Vice President,
Judge Haynes H. Townsend!*

VIP Fishing

IT'S THE 11th ANNIVERSARY OF VIP FISHING!

2019 marks the 11th Anniversary of VIP Fishing in Connecticut! The Berlin Lions are pleased to announce they will continue to sponsor the Connecticut Visually Impaired Person's (VIP) Junior and Senior Fishing Tournaments. No fee is charged to register or attend the tournaments. Everything needed for an exciting day of fishing: a light breakfast, fishing poles, bait, lunch, and awards are all provided. The three top anglers in both tournaments receive trophies.

Connecticut VIP Tournament Committee work closely with the Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind, the Blind Veterans Association, the Federation of the Blind, Berlin Lions, and Lions Clubs from around the state. These tournaments are possible through the volunteer support and financial assistance of these organizations.

The VIP tournaments are not just any day of fishing. They are exciting days filled with old and new friendships and networking. They are also educational and offer the opportunity for personal growth and

empowerment.

Junior VIP Fishing Tournament – Sunday, April 28, 2019

The JUNIOR event is open to all visually impaired children 3 to 15 years of age. Every child that registers for the event will receive a participatory trophy. If registration is received before April 13, 2018, our junior VIP's will receive a tournament shirt. The tournament starts at 8am at Sage Park Pond in Berlin, with registration and breakfast. Fishing starts at 9am, with awards and lunch at noon.

Senior VIP Fishing Tournament – Monday, May 13, 2019

The SENIOR tournament, open to those visually impaired or blind age 16 years and older, is a full day of fishing aboard the Black Hawk Fishing Charter or the Sunbeam Fleet out of Niantic, CT. In addition to competing for trophies, three of the top anglers are eligible to represent Connecticut at the 2019 New England and National VIP Fishing Tournaments held October 21-23, 2019 on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. **The North Carolina Lions VIP Fishing Tournament is the largest service project of its**

kind in the world.

Check in for the Senior event starts at 6:30 am, with coffee, beverages, and boxed breakfasts available. The boats head out at 7:30 for several hours of fishing, returning to the dock about 3pm. Dinner and awards will take place at the Lyme Tavern Restaurant.

If you know of a visually impaired person from your community who would benefit by participating in this event, please contact us.

For more information, if you would like to become a volunteer, or if you can make a donation to help sponsor one of our VIP's, please contact Lion Charley, or Lori Satkowski at (860-828-1427) or email satkowski@sbcglobal.net.

For additional information and pictures from past tournaments, go to:

<https://ctvipfishing.shutterfly.com/>
<https://ctvipjuniorfishingtournament.shutterfly.com/>
<http://berlinlions.org/charities/events/vip-fishing-tournament/>
<http://ncvipfishing.org/>



Last year's VIP Fishing tournament—the boats were packed to the gunwales with participants. This year should be no exception.

Woodbury Lions Club

Once again, the Woodbury Lions Club annual Luminaria display along Main Street was a success. Thanks to the many volunteers (well over 100), that helped with the set up on Christmas Eve, and more importantly, the cleanup on Christmas Morning. If you didn't happen to see it, our friends at M3Media created a short video of the lantern-lit street for us. You can watch it on our website, <http://www.woodburyclions.org>

On February 5, we received our annual visit by our District Governor, Harry Schuh at our regular meeting at the Curtis House. As usual, the time allotted for our DG's comments was five minutes, a period that Governor Harry exceeded by a huge amount, but it was so interesting, we didn't notice. DG Harry and Lion Carol are well known to our club, with them bringing their Lion Around Connecticut camera to several of our events. The highlight of his visit was the presentation of a service award for **SIXTY-FIVE YEARS** of service to Lion Ed Manzi, who was not in attendance that evening. His grandson, Lion Chris Manzi, one of our newer members, accepted his chevron on his behalf.

Now, we're concentrating on our 41st annual car show, which we will host at Hollow Park in Woodbury on June 9th. As usual, we expect over 300 cars, and well over 1500 attendees, and the almanac predicts perfect weather for the day. We are currently looking for sponsorship of class rows and ads for our program and town guide. For information about these opportunities, please contact the Woodbury Lions at WoodburyCTLions@gmail.com

Meanwhile, we're putting together our slate of officers for next year. It's good we have many new members who are great candidates for helping to run the club. We're looking forward to see who will step forward to lead us into another year of service to the people of Woodbury and beyond.

District Officers

Harry Schuh
District Governor

V. Everett Lyons
First Vice District
Governor

Heidi Zacchera
Second Vice District
Governor

Pat Daigle
Secretary

Steven Daigle
Treasurer

David Boilard
Zone 1 Chair

Frank Longo
Zone 2 Chair

Phyllis Perry
Zone 3 Chair

Maureen Lafland
Zone 4 Chair

James Daniels
Zone 5 Chair

Edward Fenton
Zone 6 Chair

Jamie LaForge
Zone 7 Chair

June 1 is Learning Day for Lions

Calling all Lions! We've got a school for you!

June 1, 8:30 a.m. – 11 a.m. at the Connecticut Association of Schools, 30 Realty Drive in Cheshire—we have a morning of training and updates for every Lion in our district.

Why? Because our Lions organization is becoming bigger and more effective every day—and every one of us needs to hear the latest. That's how we stay the greatest!

Our goal is to break the impasse in communications from Lions International to regular members. Too often, letters, updates, projects and appeals get hung up at the club officer level. As an organization, we can't afford to do that any longer.

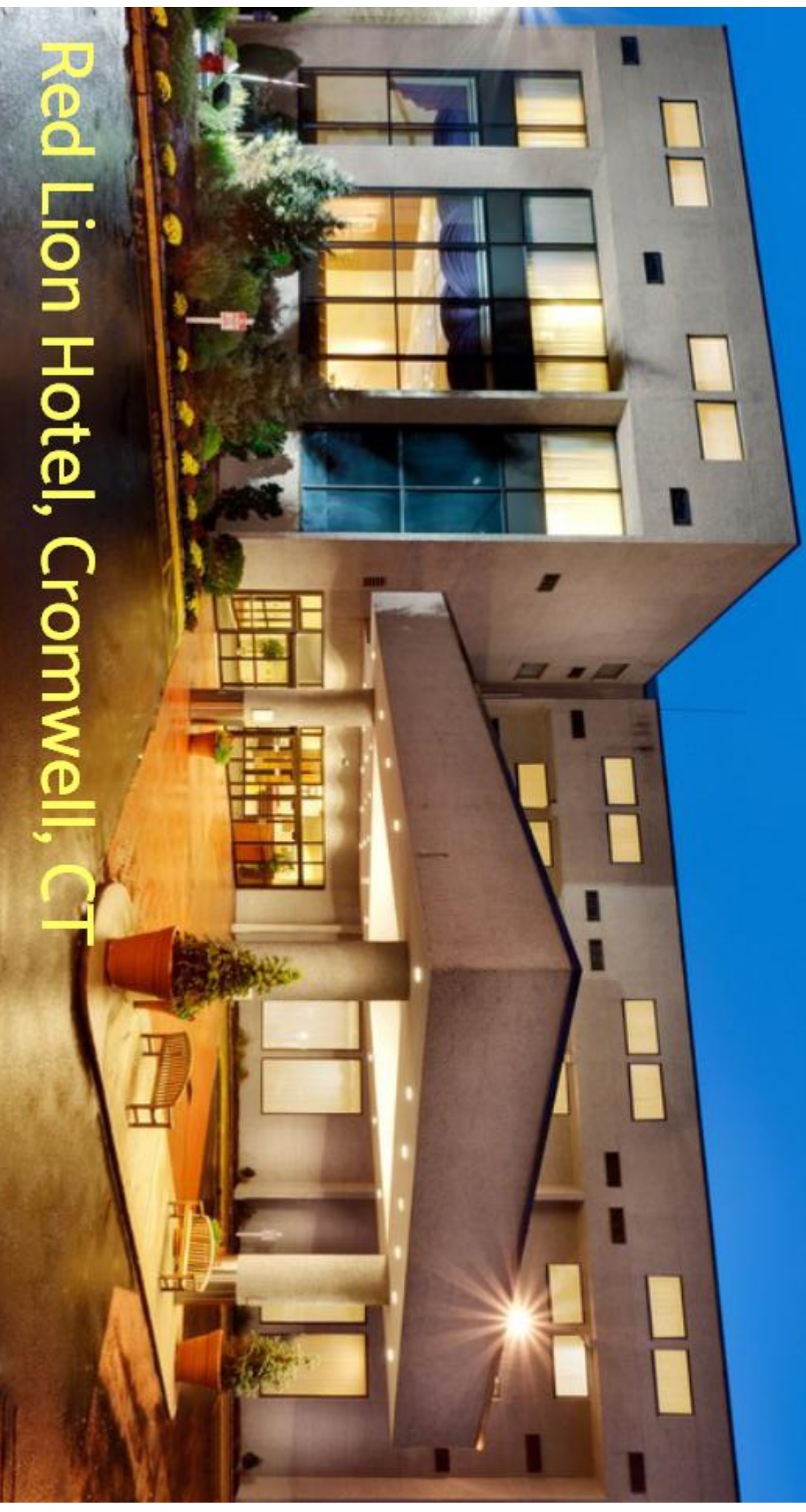
We want every member on the MyLion app, logging their hours, posting photos of their service projects and showing the world what we do every day. We want every member to make a commitment to LCIF – the funding arm for Lions' biggest projects like Kidsight, Diabetes, Childhood Cancer, Hunger and Addiction.

It's time to get on board, get in tune, connect the dots, and do the most for your community. That's what Lions Learning Day is all about.

So...June 1 in Cheshire at 8:30. Five dollars helps cover the cost of coffee and ultra-unhealthy donuts (but they're oh so tasty!). If you're going—email Pete Nevers at grampy2010@hotmail.com. He wants a crowd. Help give him one!

And if you're an officer—new, old or think you know everything—we've got some big surprises for you! That's presidents, vice presidents, tail twisters, secretaries, treasurers, membership chairs. It's time to learn!

MD23 State Convention May 3-4-5, 2018



Red Lion Hotel, Cromwell, CT