

DISTRICT



CHANGING PEOPLES LIVES

Spirit

June 2018

In this issue:

- DG Bobby Clark
- LCI Convention
- Lions Around Connecticut TV
- Celebration of the Century
- Opening Eyes
- Women and Family Symposium
- New Officer Training

CLUBS

Canton
Hartland
Hartford Evening
Harwinton
Rocky Hill
Rocky Hill Veterans
South Windsor
Thomaston
Woodbury
Watertown LEOs
Woodbury LEOs

Where Is This Box?



Believe it or not, we actually had one correct guess for the “Where Is This Box” contest in the last issue of the District 23B Spirit. Congratulations to Lion Lizette Pelletier of the Terryville Lions Club for correctly identifying the Bristol Lions Club’s box. She gets extra points for knowing the exact location (on Riverside Avenue). Let’s all give her a rousing Lions roar for being the contest winner.

So, for this issue, here’s a box that looks to have been around for a while (note the decal on the front). It seems to be in a high-traffic area, so there must be many Lions who have seen it. Do you know where it is? Send your guesses to **District23BSpirit@gmail.com** and, remember, if it’s your club’s box, you’re ineligible to win.

We still need more pictures of collection boxes for future issues. There are fifty-four clubs in the district, so there must be at least that many collection boxes. Send those pictures in today! Where are the boxes from Hartford County?

DG Bobby Clark

My fellow Lions:

As my year as your District Governor for 2017-2018 draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for helping those in need. Every day, you serve as examples of our great Lions' mission: "Where there's a need, there's a Lion."

On my visits to your clubs, I have spoken about the "Power of We"—the magic that happens when Lions come together to serve. Let me give you one example: During a Lions meeting at the Manor Inn in Southington, I visited the owner, Ray, in his office. I noticed a fundraising flier for a three year old boy named Nicholas. Ray told me that, "Nicholas's mother works here, but when doctors discovered that he had stage four cancer, she hasn't been able to work. Instead, she has been taking Nicholas to Children's Hospitals in Hartford and Boston. It's been tough on them financially."

I said that my wife Nora and I would gladly help out. When I returned to the meeting, I advised our fellow Lions of Nicholas' situation and asked if we could pass a hat around the room. We collected \$267 for Nicholas that night. At other Lions events, I have continued to talk about Nicholas and to collect funds for him and his family. To date, we have collected and donated \$903 to Nicholas's family. Nicholas's father couldn't thank the Lions enough for our help. This is the Power of We.

Regarding the club visits, with the assistance of First VDG Harry Schuh and Second VDG Ev Lyons, we have now visited nearly all the clubs of our district – a task that will be completed before this Lions' year end. On my visit to the Plainville Lions Club, I had the pleasure of presenting the Life Membership award to Lion John Czerepek for his many years of service. I also had the honor of congratulating the Hartford Evening Lions Club which collected seventy-five prom dresses and shipped them to high schools in

Puerto Rico so their students could attend their proms. It is incredibly important to get these people back to normal as quickly as possible. This too is the "Power of We."

In terms of membership, we are down this year, but not by much, and we are rebuilding our ranks at a slow, steady pace. We have a program in place that can assist any club in recruiting new members. Call me to learn about it and get started. It works!

For LCIF, we have exceeded our goal of raising \$41,475 by \$6,025 (14.5%) to date. By the close of this Lions' year, we expect to have more than \$50,000, an increase of more than 20%. This too is the Power of We.

For veterans, please note that the \$35 application fee is waived until June 30, 2018. If you know a veteran who wants to be a Lion, get their application in! If you don't know a veteran, reach out to the VFWs and American Legion Posts in your area. Ask the respective commanders if we can work together on service projects.

We have a new Leo Club in Watertown High School. With this new club, we have installed 115 new Leos this year. We expect this number to rise with a new club forming in Windsor, and hopeful signs in Hartford and Plainville.

The Hartford St. Patrick Day Parade was a huge success this year. More than 31,000 spectators watched us march and many more saw us on Fox 61. This year I asked Fidelco to bring a service dog to march with us. Fidelco sent three dogs and they were the highlight of the parade—especially for the children!

I would like to thank District Governor Emilio Colon Rodriguez of District 510 in Puerto Rico for his assistance and cooperation with the nine Connecticut Lions who traveled to the island to help victims of the hurricane. We spent long days

reaching out to people in need—an experience I will never forget. Together, we shipped more than 200,000 supplies to Puerto Rico.

This too, is the Power of We and also the Power of Lions working together for a common cause. Let's finish this year strong!

Thank you all!
DG Robert "Bobby" Clark



*For the Lions year 2017 - 2018
District Governor Robert "Bobby" Clark
Like to thank all the Cabinet members, Clubs
Presidents, secretaries and Members of
District 23B for the Loyal outstanding Service
to the community and fellow Lions.*



*PCC Sydney Schulman Handing an award
to DG Robert "Bobby" Clark from
MultiNational Lions Club for the job well
done in Puerto Rico for the hurricane
disaster.*

Hartland Lions Club

Finally!

SPRING—SPRING—SPRING!

Spring comes slowly and late up here on the hill, and it is not unusual to have an early crop taken by a late frost, if not covered, or a bird feeder by hungry bears wondering "why am I awake?" Moms and cubs are wandering down the roads, in yards, and the center of town. Do drive carefully.

Hope all had a Blessed Easter and Passover Holiday. Those two days speak of new life. And May is all about new life as we experience the sun, flowers, birds, and mowing the lawn. I'm for the natural landscape except where turf is needed to play. The natural, un-mowed, gives us more time to play, and more place for the birds and bees.

Locally, once again, the Hartland Lions partnered with the 4th grade students by providing each of them with a sapling, a Fraser fir, as part of the Arbor Day/Earth Day observances, and lessons on the need for conservation and care for our world, not just on this day, but every day. Each student received a tree to plant at their home. In a town that is some 80% forested this may seem redundant. However, learning good stewardship of our natural resources and natural world is always very important. Seeing something "I" planted grow is exciting, and as each student was told: Plan for the future—your

grandchild may one day be climbing that tree, and you can say. "I planted that tree back when I was your age, just for you."

New ways to raise cash is always a challenge. This year, the club is trying something new—"We Love Hartland" auto magnets. The initial response has been excellent. As the attached photo shows they are showing up on unusual vehicles. Next time you are at the races look closely as "We Love Hartland" goes by in a blur.

Calling all Moms! By the time this newsletter reaches you, we will have had another successful Mother's Day Breakfast. Eggs, pancakes with Hartland's own maple syrup, fresh fruit, pastries, and most of all, good fellowship. A big THANK YOU MOM for all you do.

Along with all the new life, Spring can bring sadness as we lost a long time very active member, Paul Eseppe. He will be greatly missed for the person he was, and for his untiring service to others, especially to his family, the Lions and the Hartland Historical Society. The Club and Town will not be the same. REST IN PEACE, Paul.

Service never goes on holiday. Look for opportunities during your vacations to continue to serve. They will bring positive additions to your summer memories and smiles to others and to your face.



The must-have auto accessory is the "We Love Hartland" magnet. Make your car look like a racer with this decoration. It's good for cars, trucks, tractors, and motorcycles. Be the first on your block to show your support for the Hartland Lions!

GLOBAL

MEMBERSHIP

GMTL Jim Trompeter

Look back over the past twenty years, to where we are now, from where we were in 1998. Cell Phones, Laptops, Face Book, and Amazon have all made significant impact on how we live our lives. Yes, things have changed in a quick and dramatic fashion.

But, have we changed the way we operate our clubs? Are we structuring our meetings to make them more than just a group of people getting together for Dinner? Are they Productive?

For our Lions Clubs to be successful, we must adapt to the changes that are taking place among our membership, and prospective new members, as well, so that our organizations do not fall by the wayside.

On June 2nd, the District will be holding a Seminar / Training Session for incoming officers. You should have received information on this by now. I ask that all incoming officers, especially Membership Chairpeople and Vice Presidents, make an effort to attend this event.

In the membership area we will be having a discussion on the changes that are taking place at Lions International, and the new focus that clubs may need to take. Some clubs may only have to make minor changes, other a gradual transition, and still others immediate change. This is what we plan to discuss we will all be looking for each other's input. I look forward to seeing you on June 2nd.



Opening Eyes/Special Olympics

June 9-10, 2018

Southern CT State University – New Haven

Calling all Lions!

Opening Eyes/Special Olympics needs your help. Each year we need approximately 75 volunteers to run this event from all three districts in CT. My goal is to have at least 25 from our district this year.

Since 2001, LCIF has awarded over \$23 million dollars in support of this program. Over 400,000 assessments have been performed in over 85 countries. Over 160,000 pairs of prescription eyewear have been distributed to Special Olympics athletes.

At last year's event:

- 300 athletes were screened
- 219 pairs of prescription glasses and sports goggles were given out (glasses made on site!)
- 58 Lions/Leos volunteered
- 18 Optometrists, 13 Opticians and 18 Optometry students volunteered

There are a total of 9 stations covered by volunteers like you. We need you to register so that we have an idea of how many volunteers we will have. All volunteers get a T-shirt, too. The following shifts are available:

- Fri, June 8th – help setup for the weekend (time to be determined)
- Sat 7:30 – 12:30
- Sat 12:00 – 5:00
- Sun 7:30 – 12:30
- Sun afternoon – help “tear down” and bring equipment down to vehicles

This is an event that all Lions should participate in at least once! It is wonderful to see all the smiles on the Special Olympian faces as they go thru the different stations and interact with all the volunteers. It's a great way to show our Lions spirit and fulfill our goal of “We Serve”.

LEOS and High School students are

welcomed and will be trained and paired with an adult during their shift.

Please email me at boulaisj@cox.net if you have not yet volunteered, and you would like to join other Lions at this great event. Just let me know your name, club, phone, email and what shifts you would be available to help. Also, let me know if you have any questions.

I hope to see you there!

Jim Boulais
Opening Eyes Chair – 2017/2018



Women & Family Symposium

Connecticut Lions' third annual Women & Family Symposium attracted fifty-four attendees eager for information and resources to address a broad range of concerns. Attorney Aida Arus, Dr. Chacko Elsamma, Lion Meredith Spector, and Dr. Prasad Srinivasan spoke to the group as a whole while specialists conferred with attendees one-on-one.

The American School for the Deaf (ASD) kindly allowed Connecticut Lions to use their facilities on Saturday, April 28, from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. to discuss issues that matter to women and families throughout the state. Admission was free.

“Lions have expanded their scope of service well beyond eyesight,” said event organizer, Lion Nora Deleon Clark. “The full range of Lions service was available to attendees, including experts in nutrition, law, financial planning and medicine. It was a great opportunity for women and families to connect with the resources they need to improve their lives.”

Attendees at this year's symposium were impressed by the scope and quality of the program and vowed to bring more attendees next year. That event will be held at ASD in late April. Details about speakers and topics will be available in the fall.

Top: Attorney Aida N. Aruz, speaker on Domestic Violence at the Women and Family Symposium.

Bottom: Dr. Elsa Chacko Ph.D., MD, speaker at the Women and Family Symposium about Diabetes awareness

MD23 “CELEBRATION OF THE CENTURY”

by Lion Carol Kearns and DGE Harry Schuh

The “**Celebration of the Century**” Gala was held on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at the Red Lion Hotel (formerly the Radisson) in Cromwell.

More than 130 Lions and guests from our Multiple District had a great time celebrating the end of our Centennial Challenge. Clubs showed off their accomplishments with trifolds and table displays. We heard an inspirational speech from Past International Director Jerome Thompson on growing our membership as we move into our next Centennial.

Our DGs presented Centennial Awards to clubs and individuals—congratulations to Carol as she was presented an LCI Award for her service as District Centennial Coordinator for the past 4 years.

We heard a very inspirational and heart-warming story from a family from District 23C whose son's vision was saved by our Lions KidSight USA program.

Our DGs and DGEs participated in some challenging and very entertaining games, and we ended the evening listening and dancing to the music by a 17-piece band “String of Pearls.”

We would like to thank all the clubs who participated in the LCI Centennial Challenge in the last 4 years—you have made our district proud! As of May 10, 2018, Lions world-wide have served 233,021,688 people.



Left: Clubs from MD23 created displays showing off their Centennial projects. These lasting legacies will enhance the clubs towns for many years to come, and be a reminder that the Lions serve their communities.

Right: What birthday celebration would be complete without a cake? Unfortunately, local fire regulations wouldn't allow one-hundred candles.



Above: It's all fun and games once you've become District Governor. The leaders of all three districts in MD23 compete head-to-head to see who is the most adept at stacking cups.

Left: District 23B Governor Robert “Bobby” Clark presents and award to Cabinet Chair Carol Kearns for her efforts on the district Centennial Committee.



Canton Lions Club Renovates Youth Center

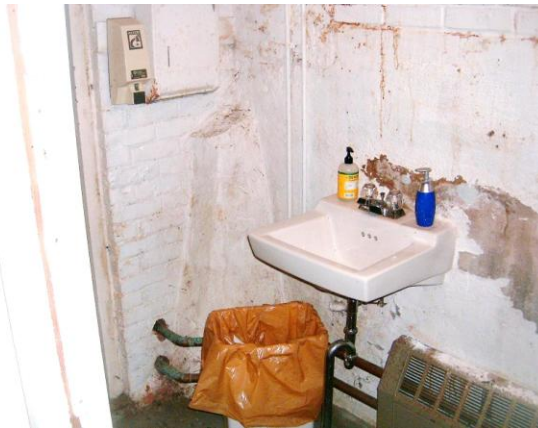
Canton Lions donated time and dollars to renovate bathroom facilities at "The Cave" - Canton's center for at-risk youth, located in a local church. The Cave provides games and free refreshments every Friday night. Occasionally there is live music by local musicians.

In operation for more than forty years, the Cave's facilities have seen better days. Canton Lion Chuck Fillian proposed that the club commit \$3,000 to purchase supplies and provide free labor to refurbish the bathrooms at the Cave. The club accepted Chuck's proposal and began work on April 21.

On successive Saturdays, Canton Lions have scraped, sealed and painted walls, installed a ventilation system, added shelves and closed holes in the walls. A local plumber donated his time to rework the hot and cold water supplies to the bathrooms. The church has contracted an electrician to straighten out wiring issues.

In the coming weeks, a tile floor will be laid, new plumbing fixtures installed and a drop ceiling added to hide the pipes and wires to the bathrooms.

"The difference is like night and day," said Canton Lion Bob Bessel. "The kids will know that our community cares."



Left: The 'before' picture of one of the bathrooms at Canton's "The Cave". It seems like quite a bit of work is required to make it look like new.

Right: Lions Tony Toro and Bill Henson from the Canton Lions Club prep the walls for sealing and painting at The Cave.



Left: Don Scott and Bill Henson scrape years of rust off of heating enclosures before applying fresh paint.



Left: DG Bobby Clark thanks Lion John Czerepak of the Plainville Lions Club for thirty-seven years of service to the Lions. The club also gave four scholarships to High school seniors.

Right: 23B DG Bobby Clark receives an award from Lion Lillian Ruiz and Lion Juan Rodriguez on behalf of DG Emilio Colon Rodriguez of District 51C Puerto Rico for his tireless restoration work all over the island.



Woodbury LEO Club



The Nonnewaug HS Leos made their annual contribution of \$500 to Fidelco on April 5. Trainer Chris Eastwood, along with 2-year-old guide dog, Faith, made a wonderful presentation to the Leos and staff members. Faith will be placed with a family in Wichita, Kansas in a couple of months.



Hartford Evening Lions Club



The Hartford Evening Lions Club shipped seventy-five prom dresses to the Island of Puerto Rico to help less fortunate high school students affected By Hurricane Maria.



Right: Lion Malcom Sewell, Cabinet Chairs Blanche Sewell and Carol Kearns and DGE Harry Schuh at Terryville's Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast.

Left: Several members of 23B attended Charter Night for the Vernon Rockville Centennial Club on April 28.



Harwinton Lions Club

The Harwinton Lions 2nd Annual Food Truck Festival will take place on Sunday, June 3rd from 11 AM - 5 PM at the Harwinton Town Hall/Recreation Area at 100 Bentley Drive. Pete and Chris Amusements will bring their magic show and comedy, but the main event are the food trucks, such as Bradley Taffy, The Pile High, and Low-N-Slow Catering, and table vendors including MojiLife, Phil's Homemade Hot Relishes and Gourmet Hot Pepper Jelly, and Lularoe clothing for women. There will be many family activities, as well. The Harwintones will be singing their songs, Adelaide Punkin Datzuk will be performing on the guitar, and Harwinton Recreation will be hosting a Zumba session with Robyn Centrella. Admission is free, as is parking, with shuttle buses provided from Harwinton Consolidated School. Please, no pets, and no parking on Bentley Drive. There will be handicap parking available at the Town Hall, but for all others, please use our shuttle service by parking at the school on Rt. 118.

The 15th Annual Concert for Sight will be held on Saturday, July 21st at Harwinton Fairgrounds on Locust Road. Gates open at 2:00 PM, with music starting at 5:00 PM. CT's own The Tradesmen will be playing their rock, blues, and oldies, followed by Tom Sadge, bringing his tribute to Neil Diamond. Bring your own chairs and picnics, or purchase from food vendors. Tickets are \$25 in advance, and can be purchased through the Warner Theater, or by contacting a member of the Harwinton Lions Club (\$30 at the gate). Children 11 and under are free. No pets, please, to our event.

The 5th Annual Cars for Sight will be held at Harwinton Town Hall on Sunday, July 29th, from 10 am to 3 pm (gates open at 9 am for cars). We are gearing up for a repeat show like last year's—over 300 cars are expected to show. There will be trophies, food, and music. Show cars pay a \$10.00 donation to enter a car, and are entered in a door prize raffle. Dash plaques are awarded to the first 100 cars to enter.

Rocky Hill Lions Club

Thank you, Lion Jack Sinico, a new transfer from the Westfield MA Lions, who lead an Antique Appraisal fund raiser in April. Call Lion Jack (860) 436-6464 if your club would like an easy fund raiser.

Rocky Hill Chamber of Commerce "Best of" winner 2018 contest and the winner of the Non-Profit award was the Rocky Hill Lions Club. Our club is excited.

Congratulation to Lion Rita Chhabra inducted at our May meeting. Lion Rita was off and running at her first meeting helping to organize the Antique Appraisal also planning the Memorial Day parade. During the day you can find Rita in the Park and Recreation office.



Rocky Hill Veterans Lion Club



Above: Rocky Hill Veterans Lion Club held a food drive for the Rocky Hill Food Bank. A big thank you to Lions Jack, Bryan, incoming lion Mike, and President Ed.

Below: Rocky Hill Veteran Lions Club presenting food and check to Human Services.





Lion Around Connecticut

With Lions Carol Kearns and Harry Schuh

As you recall, Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry celebrated its 5th Year Anniversary on March 4, 2018. Our show is aired in 58 communities on 6 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 11 shows. As you can see we feature a wide variety of Lions Clubs and Lions-sponsored events. These include the Harwinton Lions Read Aloud Day which supports LCI's Reading Action Program (RAP), Lions KidSight USA Pediatric Eye Screening, Lions Clubs Awards Dinners and Presentations, support for Fidelco and their Guide Dogs, the CT Pin Trader's Northeast Pin Swap, and CRIS Radio's Dining and Dancing in the Dark fundraiser.

Below are the titles for our latest shows 252 - 262:

- 252 Harwinton Lions Read Aloud Day at Harwinton Consolidated School
- 253 Greater Hartford West Indian Lions Awards Banquet Part 1
- 254 Greater Hartford West Indian Lions Awards Banquet Part 2
- 255 Lions KidSight USA at KidsPlay Family Fun Fair Part 1
- 256 Lions KidSight USA at KidsPlay Family Fun Fair Part 2
- 257 Fidelco Ride for Independence Part 1
- 258 Fidelco Ride for Independence Part 2
- 259 Northeast Pin Swap Part 1
- 260 Northeast Pin Swap Part 2
- 261 CRIS Radio Dining and Dancing in the Dark Part 1
- 262 CRIS Radio Dining and Dancing in the Dark Part 2

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!

LCI International Convention is Coming!

by DGE Harry Schuh

The 101st Annual Lions Clubs International Convention will be in Las Vegas, NV June 29 – July 3, 2018. I am looking forward to being installed as your District Governor for 2018-2019. My theme for next year is "Lights, Camera, Action." I am excited about serving next year with the first female International President in the history of our great association—Gudrun Yngvadottir from Iceland, whose theme is "Beyond the Horizon." Her focus will be on moving membership forward, increasing leadership development, promoting the fellowship of Lions, and sharing our stories.

LCI estimates that 10,000 Lions from over 125 countries will march in our International Parade of Nations this year in Las Vegas. There will be outstanding Plenary Session keynote speakers including former President George W. Bush, multiple Emmy award winning chief medical correspondent for CNN Dr. Sanjay Gupta, and "Mr. Las Vegas"—entertainer Wayne Newton.

It's not too late to register. Visit www.lionsclubs.org and click on the LCICON tab. Lion Carol and I look forward to seeing you there!



The Rocky Hill Lions Club donated a bench to the town to celebrate 100 years of Lionism.



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

Editors-in-Chief

Robert Bessel
 Frank Longo

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 September 1, 2018. The deadline for all ads and articles is August 10, 2018.

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.

Watertown Leos

The Watertown Lions Club in conjunction with Watertown High School recently started a Leo Club at its school. Swift Middle School, who has had a club there for some years, currently has 67 middle-schoolers involved in community service activity. There are currently 20 students at the high school in this new club. Eric Lozaw, a Watertown High teacher, advises the club; Melita Harris from the Lions Club serves as their liaison.

The twenty students were recently inducted into the Leo Club by former Superintendent of Schools Bridget Carnemolla, District Governor Bobby Clark of 23B, and Cathy Paskus Leo Coordinator for the district. Officers were installed as well: President Charina Manalo, Vice-President Aleksandra Baran, Secretary Kaitlyn Tran, and Treasurer Troy Tedesco. The Executive Board and the entire club each meet monthly after school.

Leos at either school may choose to do their fundraisers to aid the local community or work directly with the Lions on their projects like Sight Savers Days, the fishing derby, and their Christmas Tree Sale. Community service hours are awarded toward their graduation requirement.



New members and officers of the Watertown High School Leos club with DG Bobby Clark, District LEO coordinator Cathy Paskus, and advisor Eric Lozaw

New Officer Training June 2

by GLT Peter Nevers

It's that time of year again—election of officers for the 2018-2019 Lions year. As soon as your club's elections have taken place, please enter your 2018-2019 officer information into MyLCI so that I can begin work on DGE Harry's District Directory.

As you know, LCI sets May 15th as its desired deadline for new officer information, so please get that information in as soon as possible! It is also a great opportunity to print a copy of your club roster, and have your members confirm and update their contact information, especially e-mail addresses. At a minimum, please make sure all incoming club officer contact information is correct. How it appears in MyLCI is how it will appear in the District Directory. Also, please make sure your meeting day(s) and location are correct, as they go into the Directory as well. This helps DGE Harry setting up the club visitation schedule for the upcoming year.

Now, for the really important stuff... **OFFICER TRAINING!!**

Training for all incoming officers will be held on Saturday, June 2, 2018 at the Connecticut Association

of Schools, 30 Realty Drive, Cheshire, Connecticut. The conference will run from 8-11 AM. All newly elected club Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Membership Chairs are strongly encouraged to attend this most important conference. An agenda and directions to the facility will follow.

For questions regarding the conference, please contact Lion Peter J. Nevers, District 23B Chairman for the Global Leadership Team. You may contact Peter at grampy2010@hotmail.com or by phone at (860) 604.8538.

I thank you for your service, and I have enjoyed working with all of you this Lions year. I look forward to working with your incoming officers as well. As always, if you have any questions, please contact me at padaigle@yahoo.com or by phone at (860) 978-1426.



**LIONS
LOW
VISION
SERVICES**

South Windsor Lions Club

The South Windsor Club will be donating 100 winter scarves at the Veterans Stand Down in Rocky Hill in September. The club has funded the purchase of the fleece, from which president Susan Gabriele is currently making the warm scarves.



Thomaston Lions Club

We have been busy with a few projects since December. With a joint effort, the Thomaston Leos and Lions organized a coat drive and collected about 200 items that were distributed to the Food Pantry, Social Services, and to Torrington for their coat drive. Our homeless committee also gave twenty-two homeless bags to Social Services and four family baskets for those in need.

We gave out free clam chowder at Light up Thomaston in November.

A food drive was held in February, and donated to Thomaston Food Pantry. In March, we had our annual Corned Beef Dinner which was a sellout.

Lion David Hoebel was recognized as Lion of the Year at the District Governor's breakfast in March.

We're looking forward to "Shake the Can" on April 21st.

Zone 4 Report

Zone Chair Carole Hoebel

We recently had our 3rd and final Zone Meeting. Several Clubs attended.

A joint meeting was held with Zone 3 in February.

It has been a pleasure to be Zone Chair for the past 2 years and I wish Lion Maureen Lafland the best as incoming Zone Chair for next year!

Zone 2 Report

Zone Chair Frank Longo

The final Zone 2 meeting was April 5, at the Curtis House in Woodbury. Six of my seven clubs attended, including new members from three clubs. Our discussion on mentoring new members brought some good ideas to the group. I am looking forward to serving as Zone 2 chair again in the 2018-2019 year.

District Officers

Robert Clark
District Governor

Harry Schuh
First Vice District
Governor

V. Everett Lyons
Second Vice District
Governor

Pat Daigle
Secretary

Steven Daigle
Treasurer

David Boilard
Zone 1 Chair

Frank Longo
Zone 2 Chair

Heidi Zacchera
Zone 3 Chair

Carol Hoebel
Zone 4 Chair

George Cooper
Zone 5 Chair

Edward Fenton
Zone 6 Chair

Anthony Gesnaldo
Zone 7 Chair

Woodbury Lions Club

The Woodbury Lions were supposed to hold their annual awards night May 15 at the Curtis House Inn in Woodbury, But Mother Nature had other plans, and with 95% of the town without power, the event was postponed until March 22.

On that night (weather and Eversource permitting), service chevrons will be awarded to Chet Gage, Russ Domareck, Stan Love (15 years), Bryan Nettleton (20 years), Jim Trompeter, Wayne Mattox (25 years), Al Van Dyken, Earl Gillette, Ed Grudzian (30 years), and Dave Newell (45 years). Thank you to these Lions for all your service in these milestone years.

The club will also award two Lions Low Vision Center Knight of the Blind awards, two CLERF Ambassador of Sight awards and a Fidelco Good Shepherd Fellowship. The club's Lion of the Year will also be acknowledged.

The highlight of the evening will be the presentation of two Melvin Jones Fellowships.

Of course, the recipients of these honors are a closely guarded secret until they are presented. We'll announce these in the next Spirit.

Congratulations to all of our club's award recipients. Thank you for all that you do.

There's no time to relax, though. The Woodbury Lions Club's 40th Annual Car Show is set to take place on June 10 at Hollow Park in Woodbury. Over 300 show cars are expected, along with 1500 viewers.

This day also marks the kickoff for the 10th Annual Woodbury Lions Club Duck Race Raffle. The race will be September 8 at Three Rivers Park in Woodbury, starting at Jack's Bridge. Tickets are \$5 each, with a \$1000 cash first-place prize, and ten more prizes after that.

101st Lions Club International Convention

June 29 - July 3, 2018

It's Las Vegas, Baby!

