



**November 2015**

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## Words from the DG

*By Steven Daigle, District Governor*

I, along with the First and Second Vice District Governors, have identified 14 clubs in our District that could use assistance to strengthen their club. These clubs each are 30 or fewer members in number, and many struggle to hold events and fundraisers. We have requested the assistance of our Past District Governors, or PDGs, to each mentor a struggling club. We also will be utilizing our Guiding Lions to ensure the clubs have whatever support they need.

One of my new Cabinet positions is "No Borders" and is chaired by Sue Peak of the Berlin Lions Club. Sue can be instrumental in helping your club locate other members and/or clubs willing to lend a hand with an event or fundraiser. Contact Sue at (860) 212-7203 or at [skpeakaprn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:skpeakaprn@sbcglobal.net).

My new membership incentive, the "Shining Star" award, is well underway. July's award went to the Rocky Hill Club, with 2 new members and no drops; August saw Terryville win the honors, with 4 new

members and no drops. September's award goes to both Bloomfield and Manchester, each with 2 new members and no drops.

Each month, I will award the "Shining Star" pin to the Club with the highest net membership gain for that month. I look forward to the next award. Who will it be?

Patti and I attended the USA/Canada Forum this year, and we both agree that this was the best Forum we have attended to date. There were many highlights, including the wide variety of seminars to choose from, an exhibit hall complete with Lions Store, the close proximity of the Convention Center to our hotels, delicious meals both in the Convention Center and out on our own around town, and, perhaps most importantly, the endless opportunities to network with Lions from around the United States and Canada. Thank goodness they added an extra day this year—there were so many informative seminars to choose from, we had a hard time narrowing it down to the 12 time slots allotted. The



Centennial theme was present throughout the Forum, and the closing ceremony was a great video depicting the history of the first 100 years of Lionism, and culminated with the entire Convention Center exiting the building in the dark, to enjoy a spectacular fireworks display compliments of the City of Grand Rapids.

An added perk from this year's Forum: each Forum registrant received a copy of the "Lions Club Handbook," a comprehensive manual prepared for this year's Forum. As noted by LCI Vice-President Bob Corlew in his introduction to the Handbook, the Handbook covers everything from a basic introduction to Lionism, to managing a club, to participating in District activities, and so on. Copies of the Handbook are available from LCI for \$10 plus shipping. If you would like to preview my copy, please let me know.

## Greetings from East Hartford

*1st Vice District Governor, Kathy Randall*

I had a great time in Grand Rapids for the 2015 Forum. Along with about 2,200 other Lions from the United States and Canada, I enjoyed seminars, good speakers and a great fireworks display to close the event. Since I saved 1 hotel night and flew in on Thursday morning (I set my alarm for 2:30 to get showered, put my suitcase in the car, get to long-term parking at Bradley and through security for a 5:00 flight to Chicago). I was happy to run into DG Tom Sullivan from 23A for a traveling companion. The planes going to Grand Rapids from Chicago are small and quick flights. If you have ever been in O'Hare Airport, you may know they change gates readily with little announcements. Well, as it would happen, Tom and I were discussing Lions and other things, and waiting for our flight – and no announcement they changed the gate as well as the terminal! We made it and they closed the doors right behind us. What a way to start. Once at the Forum, I was very pleased to attend a seminar for 1st Vice District Governors. I had a chance to re-connect with 1st Vice President Bob Corlew; you may remember Bob was our international guest at State Convention in 2013. (1st VP Bob was also the guest speaker at the New England Lion Breakfast on Friday morning.) Not only were his comments inspirational, but interactive. He will be a great International President while I serve my term as District Governor. In 23B, we will be continuing our discussions around service to our communities and ways to do more service where and when needed. The current International President's theme is important for continued service and participation. You have seen Dr. Yamada's theme for this year – "Dignity. Humanity. Harmony." Three distinct words, each with its own message to support clubs, communities and the people we serve. As is a focus this year, next

year we will continue to work with all clubs, but especially any with particular struggles. With the assistance of Certified Guiding Lions and some of our Past District Governors, we will help to assess your clubs' strengths and weaknesses. People are looking for a cause to support and join – your Lions Club can be the answer. Another seminar I attended (there were 90 to choose from) was about membership. The discussion presented some interesting facts – Most people recognize our emblem (#1 recognized logo is Coke Cola, Lions emblem is #8); many people are interested in Lions but have not been asked to participate; and most (80% of those surveyed) have no idea what we do. We can all do a better job or promoting our projects and activities – let's all look for new ways to spread the word about Lions. When we are looking for the new member, we can remember why people volunteer, as noted by the Corporation for National and Community Service. 1. To serve their community – they want to help someone and make their community a better place to live. 2. To find friends and build fellowship – another homerun for Lions. 3. For self-improvement – LCI has one of the best leadership development programs anywhere; and we have interesting speakers and programs at club meetings.

I also attend a very interesting seminar lead by one of CT's Past Council Chairs, PCC Mark Lyon, from the Brookfield Lions Club in District 23A. Let's look at other groups in our communities for rejuvenating and growing our membership. Sometimes, it is the "empty nester" whose last child has left for college that is looking for a way to give back. Do you include one of your Club brochures in with the scholarship award letter? Do you invite the parents and scholarship recipient to an event before the student leaves for college? They often have a good time at summer picnics. And, usually it is new Lions that see different projects that could benefit your community. Get friends and neighbors involved in projects, and then invite them to join. The next Forum is in Omaha, Nebraska, September 2016. Registrations are open now, and I encourage all to consider attending. But Grand Rapids would not be complete without a flight home. I was fortunate on the flight home to be on the same plane with PCC Alan Daninhirsch. While waiting in the airport again, who should walk to our gate but IP Dr. and Mrs. Yamada. Not many flights leaving Grand Rapids! After gathering several Lions, we posed for a photo. Not every day you get your picture with the International President of Lions Clubs.



## Hartland Lions Club

Time for fairs, pumpkins, cider, apples and COLOR. Get out and enjoy an Autumn in New England—there is none better.

As with most clubs, Hartland is gearing up for another busy year - tag sale, seniors dinner and then the holiday dash. Summer was a little quiet except for the four days of Fried Dough at the Hartland Firemen's Carnival - you know that nutritious deep fried white dough with sauce, butter, sugar and cinnamon staple of all good fairs - YUMMY. A good time for comradery that only a small town can provide.

School kids are designing and painting their entries for the PEACE POSTER submission. Once again we expect to have a difficult judging their artistic interpretations of the Theme "Share Peace." I had the opportunity to introduce the program to a new art teacher who is very enthusiastic about using it as an "in" to discussing peace with the students and hope to get the idea to other teachers for some crossover work. Once again, the LIONS lead in a worldwide endeavor.

President Diane was at the Berlin

Lions Fair and was so impressed with the Lions Juvenile Eye Screening process that we hope to participate and start in the Hartland School. Looks like a great preventative program, catching potential sight problems early when they can be corrected easily. Go LIONS, More to come.

Coming up - SENIOR ROAST BEEF DINNER with all the fixing - Free to seniors of the town.

Enjoy the your autumn, get out there in the crisp air and color - don't think about what follows yet, just ENJOY.

## Berlin Lions Club

Well it's another year in the books for the Berlin Lions Club. Work nights were underway in early spring to prepare the fairgrounds for the many venues that Berlin Lions support during the spring, summer and fall season.

Our kickoff started mid-April with our annual VIP fishing tournaments for both children and adults held at Sage Park in Berlin on separate weekends. This year our VIP fishing committee changed it up and treated our adult VIP's to a deep-sea charter on the Black Hawk in Niantic CT. A great time was had by all. The winners will advance to North Carolina to compete with other Lions Clubs in a national tournament held in October. The Fairgrounds activities also started with the Summer Knights car show and the start of biweekly kart racing season for the Nutmeg Kart Club.

The month of May brought us our annual Berlin Lions Charities wine tasting with over 1200 in attendance. We also hosted, on our fair grounds in May, the annual Town wide Upbeat picnic.

In June, July, and August, members kept busy preparing the grounds for various civic group events, and making improvements in preparation for our major fundraiser the Berlin Fair.

The fourth annual Berlin Lions Charities Oktoberfest held in September was a success.

Our highlight of the year, the Berlin Fair, was held the first weekend in October. Although our Friday and Saturday were dismal due to rain,



but the weather did not dampen the spirits of the Berlin Lions and the nonprofit groups that benefit from this event. Sunday's weather was in our favor and we were able to recover some of our losses from the previous two days. District governor Steve Daigle enjoyed his role on Sunday as head judge of the frog jumping contest.

We will be wrapping up our year with distribution of Thanksgiving dinners in November, also food baskets and Christmas gifts for children in December for our towns less fortunate. With the New Year just around the corner the Berlin Lions will once again hit the ground running true to our motto We Serve.





## CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AND MEMBERSHIP

What an exciting time to be a Lion!

Let's use our Centennial Celebration to publicize what we do as Lions and to increase Membership. We are already looking forward to 100 years of Lions Service that will culminate in Chicago, 2017 at our 100th Lions Clubs International Convention.

The Centennial Celebration Membership Awards are an excellent opportunity to invite new members to join your club and to participate in Centennial service projects. New member sponsors are immediately recognized as a Centennial Sponsor with a special edition pin and certificate!

You as a sponsor earn a Silver Centennial Lion award and pin once your new member remains in good standing for 1 year and a day, a Gold Centennial Lion award and pin for 2 years and 1 day, and a Diamond Centennial Lion award and pin for 3 years and a day.

Let's keep making great progress toward our Lions Centennial Service

Challenge –

To benefit 100 million people overall in the areas of Youth, Vision, Hunger, and Environment, with 25 million people benefitting in each of the four Global Service Action Campaigns.

As of July 16, 2015, 46 million people have benefitted – 17M Youth, 8M Vision, 9M Hunger, and 12M Environment. Lions around the world have already responded as always. WHERE THERE'S A NEED — THERE'S A LION!



What the special Centennial Membership pins will look like



### District Governor Guest Judge at Berlin Fair

District Governor Judges Childrens' Frog Jumping Contest and Turtle Races at Berlin Fair

children were screened, with six being referred out for follow-up screening.

On an overcast Saturday afternoon, DG Steven Daigle was invited to judge the Childrens' frog jumping contest and turtle races at the Berlin Fair. There were three entries in the turtle races, and two frogs were entered to jump. Cash prizes were awarded to the winners, and a great time was had by all!

Thank you to the Berlin Lions for inviting us to participate in this year's Berlin Fair!



Also, while attending the Fair, DG Steve and wife Patti were able to participate in the Kids Sight eye screening. During our time at the Fair on Saturday, a total of thirty-six

### Woodbury Lions Club

The Woodbury Lions participated in the local Civil War reenactment August 8 and 9. They sold hot dogs and hamburgers both days. Member Dr. Gary Greenstein had the honor of being the first casualty in the skirmish each day.

After that, the club geared up for the Annual Haunted Hayride. This year, the 3D Haunted Barn theme is "Circus of Horrors" The event attracts over 3000 riders, and proceeds fund scholarships for local high school graduates. Last year, the club awarded \$20,000.

Next is the club's annual 2 -1/2 mile Luminaria display on Christmas Eve.

## Pin Trader's Corner

*By LITPC International  
Director Phil Dzurnak*

Why not become a pin trader? It is a very interesting hobby and you get to meet other Lions, travel and just have a lot of fun. Our Pin Trading club was established around 2002 by PDG Curt Fitch. Curt had been designing and trading pins for years and he decided to start the Connecticut Pin Trading Club with the help of several other Lions. My wife and I became charter members along with at least 100 other Lions, not only from Connecticut but from other states as well. With Curt's help, our collection grew from approximately 100 to 200 pins to the five to six thousand pins we now own. As I've said in the past it can be an expensive hobby or as inexpensive as you would like. We know pin traders who have well over 100,000 pins. We have even designed some pins that we personally produced and trade. However, one of the most enjoyable things we do as pin traders is to get together with a few other members to help design and produce the Connecticut State pins that our District puts out to represent our state in pin trading. Another really enjoyable aspect of pin trading for us is that we get to meet other Lions and travel to locations we probably would not have ever gone to if we were not pin traders.

So, why not join our club and enjoy a new found hobby and travel to places you would probably never have gone either. Hopefully you have seen some of the previously printed articles about pin trading in past District Spirit issues. Finally, if you want more information about pin trading or if you would like to join the CT pin trading club, please contact me at 860-482-5305 (answering machine) or e-mail: pedzzz@snet.net. You may also contact Walter Keach, Roger VanDyke or Joan Benne

## Greater Hartford Host Lions Club

Dr. Jerry Hardison, on behalf of the Greater Hartford Host Lions Club, recently presented a \$1,000 check to Doug Nelson, Vice President, Director of Development, of the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation. The Greater Hartford Host Lions Club made and sold cotton candy at the Celebrate West Hartford weekend, and the proceeds earned went to support Fidelco.

Dr. Hardison noted his club was fortunate to be able to welcome Fidelco Volunteer Puppy Raisers and their puppies to the event so patrons could see exactly what they were supporting.

Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization based in Bloomfield, Connecticut, that promotes increased independence to men and women who are blind by providing them with the highest quality German Shepherd guide dogs. It takes two years, 15,000 hours, and \$45,000 to breed, train, and place each guide dog. Fidelco gives these life-changing partners to its blind clients at no cost and provides 24/7 lifetime service to all working guide dog teams.

The Greater Hartford Host Lions Club has been servicing the greater Hartford community for over 90 years. Its members raise funds to assist with their various service projects and charities, including free eye exams and glasses for needy children, vision screenings for young children and older adults, yearly scholarships for college bound students, and assistance to Oak Hill and The Village in Hartford, the Lions Eye Research Foundation, and the American School for the Deaf in West Hartford.

## New Hartford Lions Club

The New Hartford Lions have a new member— welcome Susan O'Rourke! Susan has already made a major contribution to the club by showing up at 5am to assist vendors at our Giant Flea Market that was held on Saturday September 26th. By the way, that event was a success! We had beautiful weather, approximately sixty vendors, wonderful food, and music provided by our member Pat MacDonald . . . love the bagpipes.

Let me take this opportunity to congratulate Terry Walsh, who is our new Leo liaison.

It is now October, Teri and Ed Blesso will be initiating our "Cans & Bottles" event. The New Hartford Lions club sadly said goodbye to two dedicated members—Jim and Ruth Creamer—who are moving to Florida. As a parting gesture, the club presented Jim with the "Melvin Jones Fellowship." Jim was President of the New Hartford Lions Club for 3 years. He worked on or led many committees, and worked hard at our June and September Flea Markets. Jim also worked on many District (23B) initiatives. Before joining the New Hartford Club, Jim and Ruth belonged to the New Haven Club where Jim worked with the Leo's club, sponsored seven new members, and served on many club committees. He also worked on committees at the district (23A) level. We wish Jim and Ruth all the best in their new home and know they will continue their involvement in Lionism. As president, I will really miss Jim and wish you both warmth and happiness in sunny Florida!

We are very proud of our new web site so please check it out.

## Connecticut Lions endorse Past International Director Carolyn Messier

Enthusiastic Lions from all over Connecticut gathered for a Special Convention held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Cromwell to formally endorse Windsor Locks Lion, PID Carolyn Messier for Lions Clubs International Vice President. Convention Chairperson, PDG Joan Bennett, called the convention to order to a "standing room only" audience.

After establishing protocol and appropriate reports were given, PDG Joan recognized our District Global Leadership Team Coordinator, Colchester Lion Marie Salpietro to nominate her sister, Lion Carolyn.

Lion Marie reflected the family values firmly instilled in them both from their working-class parents who had to work hard to earn whatever they had. She went on to stress her sister's demonstrated philosophy of "persistence, caring, and action" throughout her life. She highlighted examples such as: Lion Carolyn's persistence in her nine year struggle of testing & surgery to have their first-born son, Jeffrey; and her tremendous caring through her dogged support of her brother-in-law, Lion George, who had suddenly lost his eyesight. She called every contact she had to help get him what he needed to overcome his challenges. "He was back to work in a year!" stated Lion Marie.

Recounting other of Lion Carolyn's accomplishments as an extremely action oriented Lion right from the start, she became her club's first woman president. Likewise, she had worked her way to District Governor and Multiple District 23 Council Chairperson. After months of campaigning and expense following her dream to make a difference, Lion Carolyn was elected from several other candidates as International Director, where she

would strive to lead other Lions around the world to follow their dreams and take an active role. Lion Marie said, "After her term as International Director she was asked to serve as a board appointee . . . she served on the LCI Membership Development Committee . . . a founding charter member of the Kid's Sight Committee."

Also, serving on the Families and Women's Action Committee, she mentored and inspired men and women to make a difference, one person at a time. "I am very proud and honored to nominate my sister, Carolyn Messier, for the high office of Vice President of Lions International," declared Lion Marie.

Seconding the nomination, Past District Governor Bob Gyle offering his own recollections stated: "I have watched Lion Carolyn over the years display her leadership and mentoring skills and, of course, her exceptional speaking ability, and I think our great organization will be well served by her election." Delegates cast their ballots giving PID Carolyn an overwhelming endorsement for her candidacy. Further information about PID Carolyn is located at [www.lioncarolyn.org](http://www.lioncarolyn.org).



*District 23C GLT Marie Salpietro with her sister, PID Carolyn Messier at the MD23 Special Nomination Convention*

## Windsor Lions Hold Arts and Crafts Festival

The Windsor Lions' annual Fall Arts and Crafts Festival was held on our beautiful town green on October 10<sup>th</sup>, and the Lions thank the many people who made it successful.

With dozens of artisans and lots of buyers, we raised much needed funds for our support of eye care causes such as the Lions International Foundation, CT Library for the Blind in Rocky Hill, CT Lions Eye Research at Yale-New Haven Hospital, the CT Lions Gallery of Vision Services, VOSH (Voluntary Optometric Services to Humanity) and FIDELCO.

Other donations are made to local community organizations such as Boys and Girls State, Windsor Community Service Council food and fuel banks, Northwest Park, Windsor Independent Living Association, Windsor CARES, Windsor Library Association, Project Graduation, PAL, Mary's Place, The Soldiers Project, The Union Street Tavern Trot (for childhood cancer research), The Children's Welfare Fund, Lions Children's Christmas Party, and four scholarships to graduating high school seniors.

The Windsor Lions meet on second and fourth Tuesday's at 6:30 PM at Union Street Tavern in Windsor.



There's always room for a picture of DG Steve Daigle dressed as a clown.

This picture was taken at the opening night carnival at the USA/Canada forum.





The Hartford Evening Lions Club  
congratulates



# Bobby Clark



on his  
nomination as  
1st Vice District  
Governor



## It's Happening in Torrington

THE TORRINGTON LIONS  
3RD ANNUAL HOLIDAY CRAFT AND GIFT FAIR



NOVEMBER 7, 2015  
10:00am to 3:00pm

TORRINGTON ARMORY  
153 SOUTH MAIN ST.  
TORRINGTON, CT

*Admission – FREE!*

For more information, email [pedzzz@snet.net](mailto:pedzzz@snet.net)  
Or call (860) 482-5305 and leave a message

## AMERICAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

*The District 23B Spirit team is very pleased to welcome the American School for the Deaf as a contributor. In future issues, we'll learn stories about some of the students we help with our contributions to the school. In this issue, we discover what the ASD is all about.*

The American School for the Deaf (ASD), founded in 1817, is the oldest special education school in the Western Hemisphere and the only school in Connecticut exclusively devoted to the education of deaf and hard of hearing children.

*ASD's mission is to serve deaf and hard of hearing infants, youth, and their families in the development of intellect and the enhancement of quality of life, utilizing specially designed instruction through an American Sign Language English Bilingual Approach, empowering them to become educated and self-directed lifelong learners.*

ASD has been a national and world leader in the education of deaf and hard of hearing children while also leading the way in the development of innovative instructional models since its founding. As such, it is regarded by other schools for the deaf in the United States as an innovator, with its programs often serving as catalysts for new program development in other schools for the deaf.

ASD provides services to children ages Birth-21. Enrollment in pre-kindergarten through grade 12 is 170, and approximately 75% of the students are Connecticut residents. 82% of our students have at least one disability in addition to deafness; 68% are members of a racial or ethnic minority group; and 75% are from low income families and qualify for the federal free or reduced lunch program. In addition,

400+ children, youth, and adults benefit from a variety of outreach and support services offered both on and off campus, including the After-School Language Enrichment Program; Early Childhood Intervention Program (Birth-to-Three Program); Adult Vocational Services; and audiological services.

ASD also offers a residential treatment and education program for students with behavioral and emotional disorders. For those students unable to follow a traditional academic path, vocational programs provide hands-on training in a variety of disciplines, including culinary arts, videography, photography, broadcast journalism, graphic design, woodcraft, automotive studies, and robotics. The American School for the Deaf greatly appreciates the support of the Lions of District 23B for their faithful support throughout the years, which enables ASD to provide exceptional programming for the deaf and hard of hearing citizens in our community.



*District 23B GMT Lion Harry Schuh at the CRIS Radio Annual Meeting. From left to right: Paul A. Young, Chairman of the Board of Directors, CRIS Radio; Diane Weaver Dunne, Executive Director, CRIS Radio; Lion Harry Schuh; Chris Kelly, CRISKids Coordinator, CRIS Radio*

## 23B LIONS UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES NEW TERM

District 23B Lions University is again accepting enroll for the current Lions Year.

Interested Lions can join at any time and "graduation" is held annually at the District Governor's Breakfast in the spring.

Lions University is an on-line series of five courses designed to give Lions added skills in both their Lions lives as well as their personal lives. All of the leadership skills can easily be used to enhance one's performance in any endeavor.

To register, a Lion will need his/her membership number (See your club secretary if you are unsure) and will login through the following steps: Log into Lions Clubs International > Member Center > Resources > Leadership Resource Center > Lions Learning Center.

As you select and complete each on-line course, you will build a transcript with LCI.

To receive your recognition, you simply must print your transcript showing the completion of the five designated courses and send it electronically to GLT Ev Lyons: lyonsev50@gmail.com.

Why wait? Start building your leadership skills now for a more rewarding Lions and personal life experience!







## Lion Around Connecticut

With Lions Carol Kearns and Harry Schuh

We have exciting news! Pam Mohr, Associate Editor of LION Magazine, recently read an online story about our completion of 100 episodes of "Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry." She contacted us on September 24th and is very enthusiastic about writing a story about us that will be published in the Service section of LION Magazine. We will keep you posted!

The August 2015 edition of the District Spirit listed TV shows 101 - 115.

Below are the titles for our latest shows 116-127:

- 116 Harwinton Lions 12th Annual Concert for Sight Part 1
- 117 Harwinton Lions 12th Annual Concert for Sight Part 2 – Southern Comfort and Bob Seger
- 118 Bikers Against Animal Cruelty - Southington
- 119 DG Mike Wilcox Governor's Breakfast Part 1
- 120 DG Mike Wilcox Governor's Breakfast Part 2
- 121 Civil War Reenactment Woodbury Lions Part 1
- 122 Civil War Reenactment Woodbury Lions Part 2
- 123 Wolcott Lions Fair Part 1 – Wolcott Entertainment Committee PDG Mary Krogh
- 124 Wolcott Lions Fair Part 2 – PDG Mary Krogh, Harry Najarian, Joe Hutnick, Motorcycle Raffle
- 125 DG Mike Wilcox Governor Breakfast Zones 5-8 Maneeley's South Windsor
- 126 Terryville Lions Fair Part 1
- 127 Terryville Lions Fair Part 2 and Town Crier In-Studio Interview with Jim MacGillavry

Please contact us if you would like a copy of any of our shows #1 – #127.

Lion Around CT with Carol and Harry is broadcast on Charter in Winsted (our home studio), Cablevision in Litchfield, Charter in Newtown, and Nutmeg TV in Farmington. To view our last five shows on the Internet:

- Go to [www.ctv191.com](http://www.ctv191.com)
- Click on Watch VOD at the

- bottom left of the screen
- Type the word Lion in the box to the left of the Search button
- Click on Search
- 

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

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

## Hartford Multinational Lion Recognized

Lion Aura Alvarado, an 11-year member of the Hartford Multinational Lions Club, has been recognized as one of One Hundred Women of Color for the state of Connecticut. The organization honors those who have displayed a long-term commitment that has had a positive impact on communities. The goal is to bring the community back together, assist various organizations that are empowering our young women and to inspire the next generation of community leaders.

Lion Aura is the Director of Communications & Community Relations for Capitol Region Education Council in Hartford. She is well known, both within CREC and in the Greater Hartford neighborhoods, for promoting collaboration and for facilitating community action and making sure programs are organized and effective. Throughout her tenure in the professional Communications and Community Relations field, Alvarado has also been continuously involved in her own community, serving on multiple boards and committees and having received numerous awards for her outstanding community



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

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service. She is very involved with the board of directors of the Boys & Girls Club of Hartford, and is a past president of the board at the CT Institute for Community Development Puerto Rican Parade Inc. She is currently the president of the board at the Knox Foundation.



## Notes from Hartford

By 2nd VDG Bob Clark

While attending the USA-Canada Lions Leadership Forum at Grand Rapids Michigan, we were given a handbook written by Lions for Lions. It contains chapters pertaining to club structure, club officers and Board of Directors: President, Vice Presidents, Immediate past Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and Membership chairs. It also contains information Effective Meetings, Leadership, Public Relations, the standard club constitutions, and a host of other areas involving Lions.

This would be a great tool for your clubs members. The book cost \$10.00 each, plus postage. A copy of this Lions book will be available to view at Club and Zone Meetings. I highly recommend it to all clubs for future use.

I will also like to take this opportunity to thank all Lions for their support of my 2nd Vice District Governor fund raiser recently held.

## Lions to Dine at the American School for the Deaf

This is a very worthwhile event that shows our Lions dollars at work. ASD is the first and most advanced school for the deaf in the United States. The school does wonders for children who are literally at wits-end trying to make sense of the world and are headed straight to trouble. The most common age for students entering the program is 12. Many go on to college.

There is no charge to attend this dinner, but a donation is expected at a "parade of checks" following the food and speeches. This is a great opportunity to connect old and new members as well as your community to Lions. Perhaps do a local fundraiser to raise awareness about ASD and your club.

Will your club see the opportunity and take it? You should!

## East Hartford Lions Club

The East Hartford Lions Club has donated Low Vision equipment to the new Raymond Library in hopes of aiding low vision residents to fully enjoy the newly renovated library.

Stephen Del Tatto of Silver Linings Technologies recently delivered and set up the TOPAZ-EZ video magnifier with a 20-inch monitor. A person with low vision will be able to use this equipment at the library to read any magazine, book, or other printed material. They will place the item to be read on the tray, a camera in the machine magnifies it and it is displayed on a 20-inch screen. There are a variety of settings on the machine to adjust the level of magnifications. The entire tray at the bottom moves so they can go line by line through the reading material.

The second purchase that the East Hartford Lions Club has donated is a ZoomText Magnifier/Reader software that has been loaded into two computers. This program increases the size of the printing on the monitor with many levels of magnification as well as the capability of speech while using earphones. In addition, along with the computers with the ZoomText software, there are two large print keyboards with special function keys that work directly with ZoomText.

The East Hartford Lions Club has been actively involved in making the Town of East Hartford a better place to live and work for the past 65 years. This is only one of the many projects that the club is proud to donate to and as always following the Lions motto: **'WE SERVE'**.



*The East Hartford Lions Club recently donated Low Vision equipment to their new renovated library.*

*In the picture is Stephen Del Tatto from Silver Linings and our Director of the Raymond Library, Susan Hansen. He is demonstrating and setting up the TOPAZ-EZ video magnifier.*

*For more information,  
please contact:*

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ConsumrEye@aol.com

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Liz DeRosa  
860.570.2212  
elizabeth.derosa@asd-1817.org



# 2015 Annual LIONS CLUB DINNER

Monday, November 9, 2015

6:00 PM

**GALLAUDET-CLERC EDUCATION CENTER CAFETERIA**  
at the

**American School for the Deaf**

You are cordially invited to join the American School for the Deaf in honoring the *Lions of District 23B* for your continual support of the school, our students and programs!

Please RSVP *no later than* Friday, October 30, 2015 to:

Liz DeRosa, Development Associate  
860.570.2212 or [elizabeth.derosa@asd-1817.org](mailto:elizabeth.derosa@asd-1817.org)



ASD students signing "I love you" to express appreciation to the Lions of District 23B for the classroom made possible by your generous gift.



## Fidelco Stories

### Losing Her Sight, But Not Her Vision

Jacqueline Rennebohm did not realize she was visually impaired. After all, at 5 years old, you don't tend to think about such things. But by the age of 9, the signs Jacqueline had been experiencing progressed, and she was eventually diagnosed with cone-rod dystrophy. Her sight continues to decline with every passing year—and it will not stop until she has lost all her vision. Today, she can only see about five feet of color and light through her peripheral vision, but since her diagnosis, she has been determined to live life "like anybody else." So, she became involved in sports—and she hasn't looked back.

A two-sport athlete, Jacqueline has found that sports provide her an increased sense of well-being and control, along with incredible opportunities. With adaptations in place, Jacqueline competed at the highest level at numerous world class events. For example, she swam for Canada in the 2008 Paralympics in Beijing and ran track and field for her country during the 2011 Parapan American Games in Guadalajara. She found ways to adapt to each sport to allow for safety and maintain competitiveness. When she swam, she used the assistance of a tapper: When Jacqueline approached a wall, she was tapped on the head by a stick with a sponge on the end of it; this signaled to her to turn. When she ran, she did so with a guide runner who provided her oral commands, such as when to turn, when to straighten out, and how to stay in her lane. Today, Jacqueline is no longer competing for Team Canada; however, she is staying active by engaging in public speaking events promoting disability and sport.

At interviews and public speaking events, a common question Jacqueline gets is why she chose to use a guide dog instead of a white



cane. "All of my life I have been adapting to vision loss. This is the world I know very well. But being completely blind is a world I do not know, nor is there a handbook to prepare fully for it. My guide dog is the only thing I know for certain will be there by my side when I cross over into this new reality of blindness.... This comforts me as I get closer to crossing that line because I cannot imagine interacting with a world without color and light. Guide dogs have important responsibilities, including witnessing for themselves the challenges and victories you face on a consistent bases. For my own personal transition, it is this consistency that I need the most for achieving true independence. Therefore, my Fidelco guide dog is a true gift, and I am grateful for the support from staff and donors that continue to make a difference in my and other clients' lives."

Jacqueline learned about Fidelco from a friend who is also a client. She was impressed with Fidelco and with all those characteristics that define Fidelco's highest quality German Shepherd Guide Dogs:

their intelligence, temperament, stamina, and focus. Jacqueline's current Fidelco Guide Dog is named Jewel. She is Jacqueline's biggest cheerleader and her most loyal supporter. Jewel is supremely focused and wholly confident in herself and in her job. With Jewel by her side, Jacqueline is ready to take on the future, whatever that may hold for these incredible and inspiring partners.

A recent Western University graduate from London, Ontario, Jacqueline wants to stress that Fidelco's mission stretches far beyond Connecticut, and even beyond the United States. In fact, Fidelco has placed guide dogs all across North America, in 41 states and five Canadian provinces, and Jacqueline is proud to have her province counted among those regions.

Like many college graduates, Jacqueline isn't quite sure what's next. Nor does she know what complete blindness is going to be like. But having a Fidelco Guide Dog by her side makes facing that outcome easier for Jacqueline, because she knows and trusts her dog.



***SAVE THE DATE***

**SUNDAY APRIL 17**

**8:00-12:00**

**ASD W. HARTFORD**



**THE GREATER  
HARTFORD HOST  
LIONS BREAKFAST  
BUFFET**

***FOOD, FUN,  
FAMILY, FRIENDS***



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**District Governor's Award Breakfast**

**Zones 5, 6, 7 & 8**



**Sunday, March 13, 2016**

**Maneeley's, 65 Rye Street, South Windsor, CT**

**Coffee at 8:00 A.M. Buffet Breakfast at 8:30 A.M.**

**Cost: \$20.00 per person (Children under 10 - \$12.00)**

**It's time for each club to honor its Outstanding Lion!**

**See you there!**

**Checks Payable to District 23B Governor's Breakfast**

**Mail to:**

**Lion Eileen Driscoll**

**672 Forest Street**

**East Hartford, CT 06118**

**860-568-7305**

**Epda23@aol.com**

## Zone 2 Report

By Zone Chair Jim Trompetor

The clubs in Zone 2 are off and running for the 2015 – 2016 Lions Year. Many of the Clubs had a very active Summer and most of the clubs will be equally active in the Fall. The Clubs in Zone not only held or participated in various fund raisers but without exception, every club is participating in some type of project that will benefit their community.

Sometimes we get so hung up on the fund raising aspect we forget the benefits that are derived from our community projects. I find in particular throughout the entire district sometimes it is the smaller clubs that focus in on the projects that benefit the community.

We held a very successful Zone Meeting on October 1st, at the Painted Pony in Bethlehem. There was active discussion from all the clubs on a variety of topics. We were fortunate to have all the Senior Management from the District in attendance, including PDG Mike. Five out of six clubs were in attendance.

Below is a brief update of what has taken place and will be taking place within the Zone:

**Bethlehem:** Participated in the Bethlehem Fair, selling their 'World Famous French Fries'.

The club will be participating in the March Farms Apple Festival, Columbus Day weekend.

The Bethlehem Lions will be hosting a Harvest Turkey Dinner on October 24th. They will conclude 2015 with participation in the Bethlehem Christmas Festival.

**Litchfield:** The Litchfield Lions were very active over the summer, partnering with the Rotary Club in a successful Golf Tournament. They provided food for

the Litchfield Road Race and Assisted in hosting Family day at White Memorial. On November 14<sup>th</sup> the club will be participating in the Jr Olympics.

**Kent:** Kent Lions held one of their major fundraisers the Weekend of September 29th. "The Antique Machine Show" exposition was again a huge success. The long hours and hard work paid off.

**Washington:** The Washington Lions had two very successful Lobster Sales over the summer. They will be hosting a Halloween Party on October 31st and a Christmas party in December.

**New Milford:** The Lions of New Milford have been busy. Over the summer they hosted a successful Golf Tournament, held the New Milford, Town Country Fair and Car show, both events were successful. Held the Annual Senior Picnic. They will be doing the Haunted Trail for Halloween, and the Senior Christmas Party in December.

**Watertown:** The Watertown Lions had a successful Golf Tournament, 80 golfers. They had a successful car show 235 cars, to tie in with the Town Festival. The Leo Club has grown to 80 members. The club I looking ahead to its other major fundraiser their Christmas Tree Sale in December.

**Woodbury:** Coming off a successful car show in June, the Woodbury Lions participated in the Civil War Reenactment, by selling food. They assisted in Traffic control for the "Walk Against Drug Abuse." September 12th saw another exciting Duck Race with the help of the Fire Department. The club is now preparing for their annual Haunted Hayride in October, and their "Light Up Woodbury" contest and Luminaria show in December.

## Show the World!

### A MidWinter Conference Event

Lions make a difference. We have heard it from PID Carolyn Messier. We hear it from our Club Presidents and District Governor. We hear it in our hearts. That's why each of us joined Lions. That's why we continue to be Lions in our communities.

Mid-Winter 2016 offers a fresh way to show the world what we already know: Lions Make a Difference. We invite your club to submit its most successful project – the one that made the most positive impact on your community – to our Making a Difference celebration.

This new event will draw attention to the great things every club does across Connecticut. To enter:

- Pick a completed club project.
- Describe how your club's project made a difference in your community. Find ways to demonstrate that difference, such as identifying 15 pre-schoolers who may have eye disease or serving 200 meals to needy seniors.
- Send your project description to the Making a Difference Committee for consideration at [Lionsmid-winter@gmail.com](mailto:Lionsmid-winter@gmail.com) by January 1, 2016.
- The "Making a Difference" committee will announce finalists from the projects submitted; Attendees at our Mid-Winter 2016 "Making a Difference" Banquet will celebrate every entry and pick the overall winners.

*(Continued on page 15)*



## Zone 3 Report

By Zone Chair Pat Daigle

We are off and running through another Lions Year. Our first Zone Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14 at the Saybrook Fish House in Canton. The following details what the clubs in Zone 3 have been doing and what they will be up to in the near future:

**Avon:** In September members of the Avon Lions, along with their Leos, removed 23 bags of garbage and some old tires from the Farmington River as part of the annual Farmington River Watershed cleanup day. President David Yadach reports that they will be conducting pediatric eye screenings in late October and early November; they service all of the local day care providers, nursery schools and magnet schools over a two-week period. They are currently seeking an alternate location for their annual breakfast, and hope to have details out in the near future.

**Barkhamsted:** No report received.

**Canton:** No report received.

**Hartland:** President Diana Evans reports that the Hartland Lions worked the fried dough booth at the East Hartford Volunteer Fire Department carnival, with the proceeds to the Hartland Fire Department. On October 10 and 11, they will hold a tag sale, 9:00am-4:00pm each day. On Saturday, October 17, they will hold their Senior Dinner, which is a full roast beef dinner and dessert, free to all senior citizens in East and West Hartland.

**Harwinton:** President Gary Cicoghani reports that the Harwinton Club held its 12th annual Concert for Sight on July 11 at the Harwinton Fairgrounds, featuring the Southern Comfort and Hollywood Nights bands. This event is their biggest fundraiser of the year. On October 2, 3 and 4, the

Lions worked their Food Booth at Harwinton Fair featuring, for the first time ever, pierogies. Although the weather didn't cooperate, they were still able to turn a profit. They are looking forward to hosting their annual Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, November 1 at the Harwinton Consolidated School.

**New Hartford:** President Louise Cooley reports that the New Hartford Lions have a new member -- welcome Susan O'Rourke! Susan has already made a major contribution to the club by showing up at 5 am to assist vendors at our Giant Flea Market, which was held on Saturday, September 26th. That event was a success, they had beautiful weather, approximately 60 vendors, wonderful food, music provided by (our member) Pat MacDonald. Love the bagpipes! The club congratulates Terry Walsh, their new Leo liaison. The New Hartford Lions are very proud of their new website, so please check it out. In October, Teri and Ed Blesso will be initiating the club's "Cans & Bottles" event.

The New Hartford Lions club sadly said goodbye to two dedicated members, Jim and Ruth Creamer, who have moved to Florida. As a parting gesture, the club presented Jim with the "Melvin Jones Fellowship." Jim was President of the New Hartford Lions Club for 3 years. He worked on or led many committees and worked hard at our June and September Flea Markets. Jim also worked on many District (23B) initiatives. Before joining the New Hartford Club, Jim and Ruth belonged to the New Haven Club where Jim worked with the Leo's club, sponsored seven new members and served on many club committees. He also worked on committees at the District (23A) level. We wish Jim and Ruth all the best in their new home and know they will continue their involvement in Lionism. Louise and the club will

really miss Jim and wish them both warmth and happiness in sunny Florida!

**Simsbury:** Club President Sylvia Jennings reports they sold mums in September. The club is working on vision screenings from October 26-30 for pre-schools and kindergartens in town. They are in the process of planning our 50th anniversary celebration, and are working on plans for their December 1 special education Christmas party.

## Show the World!

(Continued from page 14)

- Winning clubs will receive cash donations for their projects and free publicity throughout Connecticut and via Lions International.

This is your opportunity to show the world what your club is doing to make a difference. Let's hear you roar!



Above, Dr. Jerry Hardison presents a \$1000 check to Fidelco Vice-President Doug Nelson. Below, the booth the Greater Hartford Host club ran at the "Celebrate West Hartford" weekend on June 6 & 7.



## Three MD23 Lions Receive Their Master's Degrees from Lions University

CT's first three Lions University Master's Degree graduates were honored in ceremonies on September 18, 2015 at the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Grand Rapids, MI. Diplomas were individually presented by Lions Clubs International President Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada at the Amway Grand Ballroom in Michigan. The photo includes New England's International Director Ed Farrington congratulating "Nutmeg Staters" Carol Kearns, Harry Schuh & Hilary Kumnick on their accomplishments. Lions University offers high-quality

service-learning, leadership, personal and organizational management training to Lions throughout North America & the Islands.



## LITTLE DRESSES FOR AFRICA

The Winsted Lions have partnered with Girl Scouts in several towns in Northwest Ct.

They are joining hands to bring Dignity to Children by making and sending dresses to Africa. These dresses go as little Ambassadors to plant in the hearts of little girls that they are worthy. We will also be making "britches for the boys"

The Winsted Lions will be teaching the Girl Scouts how to sew. We were quite surprised to learn many young people do not know how to sew and the Girl Scouts selected this project. We make these dresses and britches out of pillowcases. The best is the printed pillowcases. The Gilbert School Leo Club will be helping the Lions and Girl Scouts with this project.

We will be taking start up pictures, and pictures as we progress and finish, we will have pictures to share. Our local newspaper is interested in doing an article on our project.

At the end of the sessions the girls will have learned several sewing stitches and have shared in a wonderful way to help children of different ages, genders and denominations. Together we served others—Lions, Leos and Girl Scouts working together to honor children.

We will hold a fashion show at the end inviting parents to view the dresses and britches and at that time refreshments and information about how Lions serve not only our community, but the world.

Lions willing to donate new pillow cases can call Lion Blanche, President Winsted Lions Club. 860-489-8656 or email [blanchs@zoho.com](mailto:blanchs@zoho.com)

**The Windsor Locks Lions Club**  
hosts the

### 21st Annual Bradley Road Race



**5K & 10K  
Sanctioned Races**

**Saturday, March 26th, 2016**

Windsor Locks High School  
58 South Elm Street, Windsor Locks

**Register online at: [bradleyroadrace.org](http://bradleyroadrace.org)**

For more information contact

**Dave Vaicunas**

860-627-8893

Cell: 860-508-8600

[race@windsorlockslions.com](mailto:race@windsorlockslions.com)

# THE TORRINGTON LIONS CLUB

*Welcomes*



*George "Jack" Hamantas  
Rosemary Semidey  
Heidi Parsons*

*Congratulations to our newest members!*



The Bristol Lions Club sent in these photos from the 54th Annual Mum Festival Parade on Sunday, September 27, 2015 in Bristol. The Bristol Lions Club won for Best Community Organization float. The theme of the float was "Bristol Cares" and featured medical items representing the Eye and Hearing screenings supported by Lions. It was designed by Lion Margie Matthews.

In the group photo, from left to right, are Lions Bev Strong, Roger Pelletier, George Rindfleisch, Bud Funk, Todd Romanko, Kathy Lyons, Jay (Friend of Margie who provided the truck), Margie Matthews (holding the award), Ev Lyons, Diane Latvis, Bill Waseleski, and Sandy Pelletier (on truck). District Secretary Lizette Pelletier from the Terryville Club also rode on the float along with the award-winning club.



# MD 23 Midwinter Conference

**February 5-7, 2016**

**Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT**

## Lions Mid-Winter Conference

*By PCC Dan DiVirgilio*

We're three months away from the biggest Lions event of the year - the Lions Mid-Winter Conference - and it's a fair bet that most of our Lions have never attended.

This year, we hope to change that. We started our planning early - this past March! We asked Lions around Connecticut what they wanted from their Mid-Winter Conference. We followed their suggestions to develop a conference aimed at helping every Lion in Connecticut be more effective.

Lions throughout our state said: make this conference about Lions. That's why we are offering 13 power-packed sessions on Saturday. We scheduled a Lions Question and Answer session with our International Directors - current and past - to help you clarify any murky area of Lions. Our Saturday luncheon features our keynote address - when most Lions attend.

Our Friday night features an official opening, introductions of our incoming District Governors for Lions Year 2016-2017, and remarks by our visiting International Director. And we hope to introduce our first ever Miss Kidsight Connecticut who will help draw attention to this great project.

All you have to do is sign up! Encourage other Lions to sign up for one day, one evening, two days or all three. The choice is yours!

We want your newest members, your oldest members and every member in between to attend!

## The Venue The Crowne Plaza Hotel, Cromwell, CT



Once again, the venue for the 2016 MD23 Mid-Winter Conference will be the Crowne-Plaza in Cromwell, CT. For those Lions who have never attended a Mid-Winter Conference, you'll find a modern and spacious facility that

Set five miles from Dinosaur State Park and Arboretum, this modern suburban hotel is 6 miles from Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park. Right off I-91 and Rte 9, the facility is easy to find.

The airy rooms are traditionally decorated, featuring flat-screen TVs and desks; Wi-Fi is available. Upgraded rooms have microwaves and minifridges, as do suites, which add sitting areas; some have lofts and/or full kitchens.

There's a fitness center, and a solarium with an indoor pool. There's also a business center, 30,000 sq. ft. of event space and free parking.

We will be using all twelve of the meeting rooms, with some displays in the hallways around the large vendor area set in the ballroom.

A lot of effort has been made to make this conference Lion-friendly. The registration area has been updated, and guides will be stationed around the hotel to assist attendees in finding their way around.

Full conference details and room pricing will be available in the registration packet, which will be released soon.

## Empty Parties

*By Lion Bob Bessel*

Suppose you gave a party and nobody came. You assembled the best minds, the hammiest hams, the most inspiring, the funniest, the most solid chums. You invited people from all over. And nobody came.

Sad, isn't it? So many opportunities wasted.

What parties am I talking about? Our Lions zone meetings. Our Lions cabinet meetings. Our Lions forums and conferences. Our state conventions. Our trips to the United Nations.

A mere handful of Lions attend these events—and every attendee knows the others very, very well. What frustrates our Lion leaders is that they have picked top talent throughout the district to help clubs. They have brought international talent to our district. They are making grants available to clubs. They are conducting workshops to address challenges we all face: exciting our communities, attracting and retaining new members, serving more and better.

Some of our clubs send a few people. Most of our clubs don't. And that hurts us all.

In two months, we will celebrate a new calendar year and make a fresh set of resolutions to make that new year better. Get a fresh start by resolving to attend more Lions functions outside of your club. Try attending a zone meeting or a cabinet meeting or a forum or our Mid-Winter Conference.

I guarantee you will come back to your club invigorated and full of good ideas to do more. Isn't that what Lions are all about?

Come to the party!

## Mid-Winter International Guest Jack Epperson



One of the highlights of the Mid-Winter Conference is having the opportunity to meet members of the Lions International Leadership team. This year, we are pleased to have International Director Jack Epperson.

ID Epperson, from Dayton, Nevada, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of Lions Clubs International at the association's 97th International Convention held in Toronto, Canada, July 4 through 8, 2014. Director Epperson is a retired CEO of a technical and research company.

A member of the Dayton Valley Lions Club, and a Lion since 2001, he has held many offices within the association, including district governor, district GLT coordinator and region chairperson. He has also

been a board member of Lions in Sight of California and Nevada and chairperson of the Nevada Prison Eyeglass Recycling Project.

In recognition of his service to the association, he has received numerous awards, including Lion of the Year, District Governor Excellence Award, Membership Key Award, International Leadership Award and an International President's Award. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow. In addition to his Lions activities, Director Epperson is active in numerous professional and community organizations, including the American Legion and the Knights of Columbus.

Director Epperson and his wife, Mary, also a Lion and Melvin Jones Fellow, have one son, two daughters and eight grandchildren.

## Mid-Winter Sessions

*Here are the working sessions planned for Mid-Winter 2016.*

### Generating Publicity for Your Club

Learn how to generate more community attention and support for your club. Lion Bob Bessel and Frank Longo (23B) will show you how to develop websites, press releases, posters, ads, and social media. This session (offered in two parts) is perfect for publicity chairs, club officers and any member interested in publicizing their club.

### Supercharge Your Projects

Pick up new ideas to energize your fundraisers and service projects. Region Chair Laura Rowe and Bev (23C) focus on organizing an effective committee, identifying service projects needed in your community, and sharing ideas that reduce manpower needs and avoid member burnout. Ideal for fundraising and service project chairmen and committee members.

### Secretary's Q & A

Hey secretary – how's it going? It's a fair bet that you have more questions than you did back in July. Kathy Randall (VDG) and Brian Luba will answer your questions and give you the tips that will help you be the best secretary your club has ever had. And if you're thinking about being club secretary next year, this is a great place to start!

### Lions Legal and Insurance Workshop

Insurance, tax-exempt status, membership challenges – your Lions club may be facing these challenges today or tomorrow. Attorney Scott Storms, Past International Director, will guide you through the Lions' legal jungle. Bring your questions – you'll get answers! Recommended for club presidents and their boards of directors.

### Lions – The Big Picture

There's more to Lions than our local clubs and eye health. Learn about the great work Lions do across our state, region, country, and world so you can answer the most important question: "How do Lions serve?" Delivered by PID Carolyn Messier and ID Jack Epperson.

### Public Speaking – The Fear Factor

Shed your fear of speaking in public with VDG George Salpietro and Lion Melissa Yuchniuk. George is an award-winning speaker who has presented at two TED (Technology – Entertainment – Design) conferences and four Lions USA-Canada forums. He will show you how to build your presentation and deliver it effectively – without fear!

### Managing Your Projects

Ok – you've got a great project, you've got a team in place and a time line set. What could possibly go wrong? This session gives you time-tested tools for managing the craziness and having fun while they're at it. Zone Chair Bob Casey has years of experience managing projects great and small. Recommended for every Lion everywhere!

### Working With Other Clubs

Learn how to enrich your club by partnering with other Lions clubs. Susan Peak will show you how we are creating a network of Lions clubs to strengthen each other. Connecticut Lions screened 14,000 pre-school children last year. Nine clubs joined together to pack 64,000 meals in just four hours. One club didn't create these miracles - we all created them together!

### Answers from the Experts

This informal lounge will be staffed with Lions "experts" – current and past District Governors, Council Chairs and International Directors - to help you get answers about types

of membership, how to apply for insurance, who does what on the cabinet, council and international. Come on down and chat with the experts.

### Cyber Safety

The cyber world is starting to look like the real world – a dangerous mix of fun and risk. This presentation will help you understand the risks of going online – whether it be mobile, social media, website or payments. Find out how to prevent issues and if you become a victim (all of us have!), how to limit the damage.

### Serving Our Veterans

Serving our veterans is a great way to show your community what Lions are all about. Helping out, reaching out, including and honoring veterans is good for everyone – particularly the younger generations who need to know why our veterans mean so much to our country. Hear from Past Council Chair Dan DiVirgilio on the inroads he has made to the veterans community and how you can make a lasting impression on prospective Lions everywhere.

### Diabetes Awareness Now!

Lions began working to increase awareness about diabetes years ago because of the disease's effect on eyesight. But there are so many more opportunities to help our communities. From reducing the risk of diabetes to preventing it from destroying its victims' lives, this session will be a call to service. Delivered by Deb and Larry Updyke, Diabetes Educators from District 23C.

### KidSight Connecticut - Hands On!

This is a real screening for pre-school children in the greater Cromwell-Middletown-Rocky Hill area. We will set up the screening, bring in the kids and make a difference - right at the conference!





*They work hard, but play even harder. Members of the Terryville Lions after an exhausting game of bocce.*

*Lisa Zerio Director of Rocky Hill's Parks & Recreation accepts a check for \$1,000.00 from Lion Bill Speed for a Expression Swing to be added to a updated playground.*

*Looking on is Rocky Hill Mayor Henry Vassel.*



*A couple of the performers at the Woodbury Lions "Circus of Horrors" at their Annual Haunted Hayride. This year, nearly 3000 guests rode through the streets and cemeteries in Woodbury.*



*New Thomaston Jr. Leo Sydney, Age 10, gets a helping hand planting flowers from her friend Columbia Leo Beth, Age 12 in front of the new Welcome to Thomaston sign.*

## Enfield Lions Club

The Enfield Lions Club recently awarded two scholarships to two very well deserving high school seniors.

Pictured with Jack McCuin, President of the Lions Club, is Kyla Pokorny from Enfield High School. Kyla is registered to start at UCONN in September. She will be pursuing a career in nursing. Kyla has been a member of the National Honor Society for the past two years and has been awarded the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Award, Child Development Award, and the Daughters of American Revolution Citizens Award. Other community and service activities include manager of the Varsity Softball and Baseball Teams, Special Education Teacher's Aid, Christmas Cheer for Connecticut Children's Medical Center and North Central CT Relay for Life Committee Member (speaker Coordinator for ceremonies).



The second scholarship went to Jennifer Messina, Valedictorian of her senior year at Fermi High School, pictured with Jack McCuin, President of the Lions Club. Jennifer is also registered at UCONN for this September, and is majoring in Molecular and Cellular Biology and is headed towards being a Trauma Room Surgeon. Jennifer has also been on the National Honor Roll for the past two years and has been awarded the Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award (University of Rochester) and outstanding achievements in Physics, Spanish, and Mathematics. Other service activities include Treasurer of the National Honor Society, Student Senate, member of the LEO Club, Girls Lacrosse Club, String Quintet, and Captain of the JV Soccer team.



## Zone 1 Report

By Zone Chair Howard Lang

On October 6th Zone 1 held their first Zone Meeting at the Old Newgate Coon Club in Norfolk, Ct. The meeting was run by Zone Chair Howard Lang. In attendance was District Gov. Steve Daigle, 2VDG Robert Clark, GMT Harry Schuh, Carol Kerns, Pat Daigle, and PDG Mike Wilcox. Presidents in attendance were from Norfolk, Canaan, Winsted, and Colebrook.

Items discussed were Membership; Importance of Clubs and their Secretaries to submit the monthly MMR Reports; Centennial Celebration and Challenge; and Goals of the Zone Chair. Presidents gave reports on what they have been working on and what they will be doing. District Gov. Steve stressed that in his message that the time is ours, and that we all need to work together. That is why he created a new Position on his Cabinet, CLUBS WITH NO BORDERS with Chairperson Sue Peak. In closing, the meeting went very well with a lot of important information that was passed on to the Clubs.

## Zone 4 Report

By Zone Chair Bob Casey

"District books" have been delivered to all clubs, some by hand, others by mail.

Scheduled the first Zone 4 meeting at the Oasis on Thursday 10/8 at 6:30pm

Reached out to all clubs about grants. Will have in-person discussions with them about the process and requirements (the topic appears to be on a number of president's minds)

I plan to visit a number of clubs in October

## District Officers

**Steve Daigle**  
District Governor

**Kathy Randall**  
First Vice District Governor

**Robert Clark**  
Second Vice District Governor

**Lizette Pelletier**  
Secretary

**Fran Scott**  
Treasurer

**Howard Lang**  
Zone 1 Chair

**Jim Trompeter**  
Zone 2 Chair

**Pat Daigle**  
Zone 3 Chair

**Bob Casey**  
Zone 4 Chair

**Jackie Fischer**  
Zone 5 Chair

**Ivonne Centeno**  
Zone 6 Chair

**George Cooper**  
Zone 7 Chair

**Peter Nevers**  
Zone 8 Chair

## Companion Day Trip Planned for MD23 Mid-Winter Conference

A new activity has been added to the MD23 Mid-Winter Conference this year, in response to the suggestions by some members who bring non-Lion companions.

A day trip, by bus, to Foxwoods Casino and the Tanger Premium Outlet Mall is scheduled for Saturday, February 6. The bus will leave the Crowne-Plaza hotel at 8am, and return by 3pm, providing five hours of shopping and/or gambling at one of the leading recreational destinations in the state.

The price of the excursion hasn't been confirmed at this time, but the committee working on this is targeting \$30 per person. This will include a coupon book for the Tanger outlets (a \$5 value providing 20% discounts on purchases from many of the brand-name retailers), a \$10 voucher for lunch, and \$15 in tokens for use at the casino.

There is limited seating – with only forty-five spots available, but we need a minimum of thirty-five people to register or the trip will be cancelled.

Signup is through the conference registration form you will soon be receiving.





# ROARING TO GO!

**MORE LEARNING, MORE FUN, MORE VALUE!**



## LIONS MID-WINTER CONFERENCE 2016

### REDESIGNED FOR YOU!

- *Pick Your Day*
- *Pick Your Sessions*
- *Roar For Your Club*
- *Warm Your Spirit*

**Feb 5:** Welcome Reception

**Feb 6:** Sessions

Making a Difference

Banquet

**Feb 7:** ID Breakfast

**REGISTER TODAY!**