

District 23B - Connecticut

Lions Roar!

November 2024 - Volume 6 - Issue 3

District Governor's Corner

By District Governor Raj Shrestha

Dear Lions and Leos of Lions District 23B, Connecticut,

As we welcome the fall season, I am thrilled to see incredible service happening throughout our District. It's wonderful to see Lions and Leo Clubs working side by side and reporting on their service to showcase the impact we make on the lives of those in need. I encourage you to continue volunteering, recruiting and engaging new members, raising funds for service projects, and most importantly enjoying the process. The District is here to support you in your service initiatives. Together, we will "Make our Mark!" This is the International President's theme. Please do not forget to include diversity in membership recruitment, such as members from different cultures, different professions, different life stages, different hobbies, different causes. I believe that "Diversity Strengthens Service" and that's my theme this year. Let me share some highlights of this great service:

VETERANS STAND DOWN:

Veterans Stand Down took place on September 20 at six different locations throughout the State of Connecticut this year. Under the leadership of District 23-B Stand Down Chair Eric Crosset of Windsor Lions Club, District 23-B Clubs served at the State Veteran's Home in Rocky Hill and Bristol. This event took place between 9 am and 2 pm. We are pleased to report that hundreds of veterans registered and were served at Rocky Hill and Bristol during the Veterans Stand Down.



SECOND DISTRICT CABINET MEETING:

Our second District Cabinet Meeting of this Lions Year was held on October 7 at the Berlin Lions Agricultural Museum - Berlin Lions Fairgrounds. District Lions leaders and Lions clubs were recognized with District Excellence Awards and Club Excellence Awards for the 2022-2023 Lions year, presented by 2022-2023 DG IPCC Dave Roberts. Leo Mihika Joshee was honored at the Cabinet meeting for her appointment to the Leo Advisory Panel for Lions International. Congratulation to Leo Mihika and District 23-B for this recognition by Lions International. Zone Chairs also received their Zone Chair training certificates.



ZONE MEETINGS:

All seven Zone meetings successfully concluded as planned in October. At each Zone meeting, a new initiative—the Student Voices Public Speaking Contest—was introduced to club officers. Contest guidelines were presented by IPCC Dave Roberts at the Zone 1

and 2 meetings, PCC Ev Lyons at the Zone 3 and 4 meetings, and PDG Ed Fenton at the Zone 5, 6, and 7 meetings. All Zone Chairs are doing excellent work supporting clubs in their respective zones to enhance service to the community.

BREAKTHROUGH T1D DIABETES:

[Connecticut Lions](#) Diabetes Awareness Committee supported [Breakthrough T1D Greater CT Western MA](#) on their [Six Flags New England](#) Walk. I volunteered at this event with MD-23 Diabetes Chair IPCC Dave Roberts, District 23-B Diabetes Chair Raine Pedersen, FVDG Peter Cianciolo, and members of Riverton Lions Club.

DISTRICT 23-B DONATION TO A LOCAL NON-PROFIT:

It was a pleasure to support and collaborate with a local non-profit organization. The West Hartford Lumbini Lions Club and Hartford County Everest Centennial Lions Club of District 23-B donated 60 chairs and 6 party tables to the Nepalese Association of Connecticut (NAConn) for use by community members on special occasions. I had the pleasure of presenting a \$1,000.00 check to NAConn for their Kids' Summer School program as part of the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) District and Clubs Community Impact Grant.



HURRICANE HELENE DISASTER RELIEF PROJECT:

District 23-B coordinated a Disaster Relief Supplies Collection Project to support Hurricane Helene relief efforts in the Asheville area of North Carolina. Supplies were collected from October 14 to October 25, with Past District Governor Steve Daigle Coordinating the project. In collaboration with the Massachusetts Lions, we filled four 53-foot long trucks with supplies ready for transport.



NEPALESE HOLIDAYS:

The Nepalese American community in Connecticut recently celebrated their biggest holidays—Dashain, from October 3 to 12, and Tihar, from October 31 to November 2. For more information about these two cultural events, visit: <https://www.acethehimalaya.com/dashain-and-tihar/>. Nepalese Lions observed these festivals in Hartford, West Hartford, Windsor, South Windsor, Southington, Plainville, Branford, Storrs, Glastonbury, Middletown, Farmington, and several other towns across Connecticut."

DIABETES AWARENESS WALK:

The District 23-B Diabetes Committee organized a Diabetes Awareness Walk on November 2 in Riverton, CT Led by Committee Chair Lion Raine Pedersen, the event began with registration at 9:30 AM, and the walk started at 10:00 AM. For a \$10.00

registration fee, the first 50 participants received a free T-shirt, and all participants enjoyed breakfast.

STUDENTS VOICES PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST:

I am pleased to announce the inaugural *Student Voices Public Speaking Contest* for high school students in Hartford and Litchfield counties of District 23-B. This year's topic is: *'How can you make your mark to promote diversity in serving others?'* The Student Speaker Contest Chair, Lion Prem Shrestha, has been working hard to ensure this first event is a success. Lion Prem has emailed the program guidelines to all club Presidents, Secretaries, and Zone Chairs. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Lion Prem or me.

CLUB VISITS:

Clubs across our District are excelling in service, membership, and leadership. Both VDGs and I are actively visiting clubs, with plans to complete all visits by the end of January 2025. The variety of events undertaken by each club demonstrates that Lions in District 23-B are vibrant and dynamic.

East Hartford Lions 75th Anniversary:

The East Hartford Lions Club is celebrating 75 years of Lions service, on Saturday, November 23, 2024, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 85 Glastonbury Blvd, Glastonbury, CT.

Keynote Speaker is International 2nd Vice President Mark Lyon and Lion Lyn Lyon.

Reception & Dinner cost is \$75 per person and will begin at 6:00pm. For questions or to support with an ad in the Advertising Book, please contact PCC Kathy Randall:

kathy.randall@yahoo.com

Together, we will "Make our Mark!"

Lion Raj Shrestha

District Governor (2024-2025)

District 23B Lions Store!

By LCIF District Coordinators - PCC Ev Lyons & PCC Kathy Randall

DISTRICT 23B LIONS CAN NOW PURCHASE LIONS APPAREL IN SUPPORT OF LCIF

An online store now offers district 23B Lions the opportunity to purchase shirts, vests, sweatshirts and jackets with the Lions logo embossed on the apparel. Your name and club name can also be added for a minimal charge. The best part is that 20% of your purchase payment will be donated to LCIF in your name for Melvin Jones credit. By taking advantage of this opportunity, you not only will have trendy Lions attire, but also will be helping those in need throughout the Lions world.

REMEMBER IT IS ONLY 55 DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS. START YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING EARLY!!

Here is the link to access our online catalogue.

https://signsandshirts.com/lions_club_23B

Be the first in your club to model our great assortment of Lions clothing.

Better yet, does your club have its own shirt or jacket?? Why not take advantage of our fantastic prices!!

District Community Grant Opportunity

By GST Chair - Lion Judy Doyle

We are excited to announce that **\$5,044.74** has been allocated from LCIF for this year's District Community Grant (DCG), and DG Raj Shrestha has decided to make these funds

available to individual clubs, allowing you the opportunity to apply for support in bringing your service projects to life.

Eligibility and Application Process:

Please note that clubs that have applied for DCG funding in the past two consecutive years are ineligible this year. For those eligible, here are the next steps:

1. **Application Submission:** Clubs must submit a qualifying application to the District GST by **November 15th**. Please click [HERE](#) for the application .
2. **Review and Selection:** Our committee will review applications and notify clubs of award status by **December 5th**.
3. **Final Application Completion:** Awarded clubs will need to complete the final grant application by **December 20th** for cabinet approval in January.

This is a wonderful opportunity to enhance our community service impact, and we encourage all eligible clubs to apply. Please reach out if you have any questions or need further information.

American School for the Deaf - 2024 Lions' Dinner

*For more information,
please contact:*

Maria Cornicello

(Chairperson)

Greater Hartford Host
Lions Club
860.236.3890

Liz DeRosa

American School
for the Deaf
860.570.2212



2024 Annual LIONS CLUB DINNER

Monday, November 11, 2024

6:00 PM

AMERICAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Gallaudet-Clerc Education Center Café

139 North Main Street

West Hartford, CT

We are excited to welcome you back to our campus for a special evening honoring the *Lions of District 23B* for your continued support of our students and programs!

Please RSVP by

Friday, November 1, 2024

Liz DeRosa

860.570.2212 or elizabeth.derosa@asd-1817.org

Parking is available in the *visitor parking lot* directly in front of the main building, as well as in parking lots surrounding the building. Please enter through the main entrance.

Peace Poster Contest

By Peace Poster Chair - Lion Melita Harris

Topic: Peace Without Limits

We are asking students to create a poster that speaks to our world's infinite potential for kindness once we commit to pursuing the idea of peace without limits.

General Information:

Students ages 11, 12, 13 as of November 15th are eligible to participate in the International Peace Poster Contest.

October 1st: Deadline to purchase kits from Club supplies online or call 1-800-710-7822.

November 11th: Each club should bring their winning Peace Poster to the American School For the Deaf dinner to be held November 11th at 6:00pm. A district winner will be chosen there.

The District winner will then be submitted to the State level where one winner from Connecticut will be sent for the International Contest.

More information is on the Lions Club International website (Home/Youth/Peace Poster)

Certified Guiding Lion Training

The Connecticut Lions' Global Leadership Team is offering a complimentary **training class** for any Lion interested in becoming a **Certified Guiding Lion**. The class will be provided on **Saturday, November 9, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** at the Courtyard by Marriott, 600 Northrup Road, Wallingford (at Routes 91 & 68).

For those who don't know, the Guiding Lion Program is designed to assist newly chartered, established, or rebuilt clubs. The district governor assigns a certified Guiding Lion for a two-year term in consultation with the sponsoring or established club president. Guiding Lions are limited to serving no more than two new clubs at any time. Even if you are an experienced Lion, you will benefit from this course because it provides the most comprehensive overview of the roles and responsibilities of a Guiding Lion.

Please contact MD23 GLT Chair PCC Lori-Ann Beninson for more detailed information and to register: lciflion@gmail.com

Upcoming Events in District 23B

Avon Lion Harvest Breakfast – November 3, 2024

The Avon Lions' Annual Harvest Breakfast will be held at the Avon Senior Center located at 636 West Avon Road in Avon. The time for the event is 8:00am until noon.

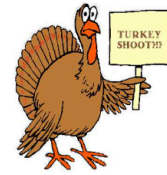
Breakfast includes Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Bacon, Home Fries, Muffins, Juices, and other beverages.

Cost is \$10.00 for adults; \$5.00 children ages 5 to 12; free for children ages 4 and younger.

East Windsor Lions Turkey Shoot–November 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024



East Windsor Lions



52nd Annual Turkey Shoot (Target shooting)

Sundays: Oct 20th, 27, Nov 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

Route 140, 37 North Road, East Windsor CT

Shooting: 9 AM to 1 PM (or last shooter)

Ticket Sales start at 8:15 AM

Tickets cost \$3 per shot

Prizes: Frozen turkeys, Hams, Beef Roasts, Cash

Special Shoot/Prizes - \$5.00/shot

Guns and Ammo provided

SAFE FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

Supports the charitable activities of the East Windsor Lions

For more info, contact Lion Sam Hartan at samhartan@gmail.com

or Lion Barbara Sherman at e_w_lionbarbara@sbcglobal.com

Torrington Lions Annual Craft Fair – November 9, 2024

The Craft Fair will take place from 10:00am until 3:00pm at the Torrington Armory located at 153 South Main Street in Torrington.

We have 63 craft vendors showing various items. There is also food being served in the kitchen; hot dogs, chips, and drinks.

Admission to the Craft Fair is free!

Berlin Lions Veterans Day Luminaries – November 9, 2024

Join us on Saturday, November 9, 2024, at Veterans Park! Luminaries will light up the night at dusk, with displays at key locations throughout Berlin and Kensington. Purchase a luminary for \$10 or three for \$20 via the link below, and consider making a donation to support our cause. Rain date is Sunday, November 10, 2024.

To purchase Luminaries, visit the Berlin Lions website: www.berlinlions.org

Deadline to order is November 8th. The information about the Luminaries is at the bottom of the main web page.



Berlin Lions Christmas Tree Walk

Entry Form

Only 50 Trees will be sold. The deadline is November 15th. Trees will measure 6'-8' in height.



Participant Information

Contact Name: _____

Business/Group Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code _____

Contact Phone: _____

Email: _____

Participant Charity: _____

Event Location Dates and Times

Place - Berlin Lions Fairgrounds

Tree Decoration Times:

Saturday, 11/30 from 12:00PM - 4:00PM

Sunday, 12/1 from 12:00PM - 4:00PM

Monday, 12/2 from 12:00PM - 4:00PM

Tree Display Open to the public:

Friday Saturday

12/6 12/7

12/13 12/14

Display times for all dates will be from 5:00PM-8:00PM



Experience the Magic of Christmas as the Berlin Lions and the Berlin Community transform the Fairgrounds into a Winter Wonderland. Stroll the walkways of the Fairgrounds, brilliantly lit by the many Christmas Trees and Christmas decorations.



Guidelines for Decorating your Tree



1. Price per Tree is \$150.00. The Lions will stake and display your tree, provide signage, listing the participant and Charity as well as electricity.
2. Edible items are prohibited, no candy, popcorn, etc.
3. Please secure all decorations and lights to your tree using pipe cleaners, small zip ties or other string/ties/wire.
4. No offensive or inappropriate décor. We reserve the right to remove offensive displays.
5. Ornaments must be waterproof, shatterproof, no paper or GLASS.
6. No Tree Skirts or other items for the bottom of the tree.
7. LED Outdoor lights only, we reserve the right to remove any lights that are not LED.
8. You need to provide an outdoor rated extension cord. Lengths will vary but plan on at least 25' in length. In addition, please provide an outdoor extension cord safety cover.

Decoration/Tree Removal

The Fairgrounds will be open from 8:00AM Monday 12/16 till 4:00PM for ALL Tree removal, if you wish to remove only your decorations please let the Lions know and they will dispose of your tree.

Please remember the tree is yours and you are free to remove it and display it at your business or home, or donate your tree.

Payment Method

Please make Checks Payable to
Berlin Lions Charities
PO Box 7284
Kensington, CT 06037

2nd Annual Berlin Lions Christmas Tree Walk!

We invite all businesses, churches, schools, service organizations and individuals to sponsor a Tree. Your support will benefit other charities and local service organizations.

Guest Santa helpers will judge the trees based on Christmas "WOW" factor (40%), Creativity (30%), and Lighting (30%). Three prizes will be awarded in the form of donations to the winners' Charity of choice. However, if you are a charity, you cannot designate yourself.



- To keep everyone in the Christmas spirit, The Lions will provide complimentary snacks and hot beverages along with music.
- Santa and Mrs. Claus are sure to make an appearance for photos.
- Local Charities will be at the gates accepting voluntary donations as you enter the Christmas Tree walk.
- Please check our website berlinlions.org and Facebook page for event schedules including Santa's visit, music performers and the daily charity (i.e. Food Bank, Salvation Army and more).

Only 50 Trees will be sold on a first-come basis, so don't wait! Order your tree now!

East Granby Lions Turkey Dinner – November 16, 2024

The Turkey Dinner will take place at the East Granby Community/Senior Center located at 7 Memorial Drive in East Granby. Time of the event is 4:30pm to 7:00pm.

Cost is \$18.00 for Adults; \$10.00 ages 5 to 16; free for children under 5-years-old.

For more information contact Leona Bevins: lbevins@granbyambulance.org

New Britain Lions Trivia Night – November 19, 2024

The New Britain Lions 3rd Annual Trivia Night will begin at 7:00pm. The event will be held at Trinity-on-Main located at 69 Main Street in New Britain.

Tables of 6 to 8 people. Prizes, recognition, fun! Cost is \$10.00 per person and includes coffee and desserts.

Call (869) 280-7281 to register or for more information.

East Hartford Lions 75th Anniversary Celebration – November 23, 2024

The East Hartford Lions Club is celebrating 75 years of Lions service, on Saturday, November 23, 2024, at the Hilton Garden Inn, 85 Glastonbury Blvd, Glastonbury, CT.

Keynote Speaker is International 2nd Vice President Mark Lyon and Lion Lyn Lyon.

Reception & Dinner cost is \$75 per person and will begin at 6:00pm. For questions or to support with an ad in the Advertising Book, please contact PCC Kathy Randall:

kathy.randall@yahoo.com

South Windsor Lions Veterans' Day Pasta Dinner – November 23, 2024

The annual Veterans' Day Pasta Dinner will be held from 4:00pm until 6:30pm at the South Windsor Firehouse located at 1175 Ellington Road in South Windsor.

Cost is \$15.00 for adults; \$10.00 for seniors and children ages 7 to 12; FREE for Veterans and children ages 6 and under.

The Pasta Dinner fundraiser honors Veterans. You can stay for a pasta dinner or pre-order a meatball sub to go (or do both).

For more information contact Lion John Habif: jhabif1772@gmail.com

Red Cross Blood Drive – December 16, 2024

The Kent Lions Club is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive at the Community House located at 93 North Main Street in Kent, CT from 11:00am until 4:00pm.

Appointments can be made at www.RedCrossBlood.org

East Granby Lions Corned Beef Dinner – March 8, 2025

The Corned Beef Dinner will take place at the East Granby Community/Senior Center located at 7 Memorial Drive in East Granby. Time of the event is 4:30pm to 7:00pm.

Cost is \$18.00 for Adults; \$10.00 ages 5 to 16; free for children under 5-years-old.

For more information contact Leona Bevins: lbevins@granbyambulance.org

Glastonbury Lions Murder Mystery Dinner – March 8, 2025



GLASTONBURY CENTENNIAL LIONS CLUB PRESENTS

The Sound of Murder

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER



**SATURDAY, MARCH 22
6:00PM**

**MANCHESTER COUNTRY CLUB
305 S. MAIN ST MANCHESTER**

TICKETS: \$100

**INCLUDES: INTERACTIVE SHOW,
3-COURSE MEAL, SILENT AUCTION**

Reserve your seats before 3/12/25 by purchasing tickets from any Glastonbury Lion or by using this QR code. Call 860.430.1852 for more information



SHOW!  FOOD!  PRIZES!  FUN!

Publicize Your Club Events!

The next issue of the Lions Roar will be published on December 1st. If you have an event you would like to announce, please click [HERE](#) for the submittal page. Deadline to submit information for the next issue is November 25th.