

District 23B - Connecticut

Lions Roar!

October 2024 - Volume 6 - Issue 2

District Governor's Corner

By District Governor Raj Shrestha

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

The first quarter of this Lions year has ended, and we are now entering the second quarter. I am pleased to report that many impactful service activities have been launched by our clubs throughout District 23B. Our new club leaders have shown great dedication and energy in upholding the legacy of service, leadership, and membership growth. Several clubs have inducted new members, and there is great enthusiasm to serve alongside club leaders.

In the first quarter, we chartered a new club: the Greater Hartford Aikyam Lions Club, a specialty club with enthusiastic professionals eager to launch community service initiatives. The Charter Night celebration will be held on Friday, October 4, 2024, at 6:30 PM at Godavari Restaurant, 1250 Burnside Ave, East Hartford, CT. Please join us to welcome the new members of our Lions family.

October is filled with meetings:

- Zone Meetings:
Zone 1 (Oct 2), Zone 2 (Oct 3), Zone 3 (Oct 22), Zone 4 (Oct 10), Zone 5 (Oct 23), Zone 6 (Oct 17), and Zone 7 (Oct 24).
- 2nd District Cabinet Meeting: Monday, October 7, at Berlin Fairgrounds, 430 Beckley Road, Berlin, CT. The cost is \$15, which includes sandwiches, chips, cookies, and water. All club officers and members are welcome to attend. Deadline to sign-up is Friday October 4th, click [HERE](#) to register.

We encourage you to participate in the Diabetes Awareness Walk on November 2 at Riverton Grange Hall, 17 Riverton Road, Riverton, CT. We gather at 9:30 AM and the walk will start at 10:00 AM and conclude at noon.

Our district is launching the Student Speaker Contest. Each zone will hold a contest and select two winners to compete at the District level on February 8 during the Midwinter Conference, where the top three will be recognized.

We have accepted LCI's "Mission 1.5 Million" challenge, aiming to increase global membership to 1.5 million by 2027. To support this goal, our district's target is to add 238 new members. So far, we have added 34 in the first quarter, and we need 204 more members to meet our target. Let's dedicate time to planning for membership growth, ensuring we have more hands for service and a strong foundation for the future.

As the Fall season begins, 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!"

Lion Raj Shrestha

District Governor (2024-2025)

Service Themes & Reporting-Let's Show Our Impact!

By GST Chair - Lion Judy Doyle

As we continue to make strides in our new Lions' year, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for the amazing service projects your clubs are working on. Your dedication to helping your communities through acts of kindness, service, and leadership is truly inspiring.

This year, we have chosen several key themes to guide our efforts: Vision, Hunger, Humanitarian, and Youth. These themes serve as a foundation, but remember, your club is encouraged to pursue and report any cause that matters most to your community.



Every project, big or small, has an impact, and we want to highlight all the great work you're doing.

One of the most important steps in completing a service project is reporting it. Reporting your service not only helps track the incredible difference our clubs are making, but it also strengthens our ability to apply for grants, partner with other organizations, and share our stories with the world. Most importantly, reporting allows us to celebrate the hard work and accomplishments of your club.

At this point, only 9% of our clubs have reported service this year, which places us at the lowest reporting rate for the districts. We know this doesn't reflect the actual service being done. Let's show the other districts that we have what it takes to make a real difference too!

If you are having any trouble with reporting your service, please reach out for help (msjudysemporium@yahoo.com). I am here to assist you with the process, so don't hesitate to contact me. And remember, you must hit "Completed" in MyLion for the service to count, or it won't be officially recorded.

Let's work together to boost our reporting numbers and ensure every act of service is counted.

We've got the passion and commitment – now let's make sure our impact is seen!

Thank you for everything you do, and let's keep making a difference!

Lions Club Membership Options

By GMT Chair - PDG Heidi Zacchera

Sometimes, a Lion can grow weary of their current club and choose to "drop" their membership in Lions. But our hope is that you love Lionism! Our District would like to suggest the following five options to encourage you to stay as a Lion.

FIVE ALTERNATIVES TO LEAVING LIONS:

- 1. FORM A BRANCH:** Stay with your current club or another Lions Club, but form a Branch (5 or more Lions) Club that has its own President, Secretary and Treasurer and budget. Branch clubs meet separately, but belong to a host Lions Club. Your branch can choose to align with any Lions Club that will accept your members as a Branch. Branches are easy to form and we will help do all the work!
- 2. JOIN OUR CYBER CLUB:** District 23B has some Cyber Clubs! Contact the District Governor for further information.
- 3. JOIN A DIFFERENT CLUB:** District 23B currently has 56 different Lions Clubs. Just because you live or work in one town does not mean you have to join the Lions Club in that town. If you tire of your own club, visit other Lions Clubs and find a new home club anywhere in the District. To transfer, just contact Global Membership Team Chair Heidi Zacchera, hzacchera@aol.com to facilitate a seamless transfer for you.
- 4. DROP YOUR MEMBERSHIP, BUT REJOIN WITHIN 12 MONTHS:** Lions Clubs International allows members whose dues are paid in full to drop their membership "with good standing". Dropped Lions have up to 12 months to rejoin any Lions Club of your choice with no new entrance fee.
- 5. START A SPECIALTY CLUB:** Lions Clubs International now allows Specialty Clubs focused on a common interest. Launched in August 2017, the Specialty Club program was designed to create clubs in which members share a common interest or passion, allowing them to connect with one another on a deeper level. For example, they may share a hobby, profession, culture, common cause or life experience. Contact District Specialty Club Coordinator Narendra Pant, ndpant2029@gmail.com

Helen Keller said: "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much!" We want you and need you in Lions. You chose to become a Lion once, so why don't you



consider one of these five options so that you can continue to be part of the world's largest service organization?

Please, if you are thinking of dropping your Lions membership, personally contact District Governor Raj Shrestha, rajshrestha2003@yahoo.com, or Global Membership Team Chair Heidi Zacchera at hzacchera@aol.com or 860-558-3773 to discuss options or help to correct an issue. WE WANT YOU as a Lion!

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.

Great Cycle Challenge

The Great Cycle Challenge started in 2015 to support the Children's cancer institute. The Lions Roar team has been active for many years in District 23B and has raised tens of thousands of dollars!

The team continues to be led by Lion Meredith Spector, former New Milford Lion and current Woodbury (MN) Lion. This year's team raised **\$16,497.00** to fight children's cancer! That means that the team has contributed nearly **\$80,000** to Children's Cancer Research Fund since the beginning. WOW!

We finished fifth in community groups and have a couple of ALL STARS going down on the books. But, let's give credit to our riders and their pedaling and fundraising.

THANK YOU ADNAN, ED, JAMES, DAVE, MARK, MATT, MIKE, MAREITH, SANDY

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 District GLT Chair IPCC Dave Roberts for more detailed information:
granbydavidroberts@gmail.com

Upcoming Events in District 23B

Plainville Lions Fall Pancake Breakfast – October 6, 2024

Delicious Pancakes, French Toast, Real Maple Syrup, Raffles. Located at the OLM Parish Center, 19 South Canal Street in Plainville.

\$8.00 for Adults; Kids Under 6 are free. The breakfast is from 8:00am until noon.

For more information, please contact Lion Brian: brian.lavigne@snet.net



SPARK Kent – October 12, 2024

The Kent Lions Club will be selling hamburgers and hotdogs at SPARK Kent on October 12th from 10:00am until 4:00pm to raise money to support the community. SPARK Kent is a fun and interesting event that gives tradespeople the opportunity to demonstrate

their craft to participants who can learn, touch, and try. The event aims to "Spark" interest in various trades which have a high demand for students.

This event will take place at the Connecticut Antique Machine Museum located at 31-B Kent Cornwall Road in Kent, CT.

For more information contact Diane Impastato: dragan2000@aol.com



Red Cross Blood Drive – October 21, 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

9th Annual Winsted Lions Club Halloween Party – October 25, 2024

The Winsted Lions Club is holding their 9th Annual Halloween Party Fundraiser. The band Majestic will be performing. The party will take place at the Crystal Peak Event Facility located at 164 Torrington Road in Winsted.

Doors Open at 6:30pm, Hors d'oeuvres from 7:00pm to 8:30pm, Band from 7:30pm to 11:00pm, Cash Bar from 6:30pm to 11:00pm. Costumes encouraged and prizes awarded for most original, scariest, funniest, and best couple. Incredible Raffle with Many Great Prizes to Win!

Tickets are \$30.00 per person and available by calling any Lion listed below or online at <https://www.facebook.com/WinstedLions23B>



Lion Joe at 860-921-6644

Lion Tom at 860-307-7298

Lion Molly at 860-733-9752

Litchfield Fall Fest – October 26, 2024

A. GALLO & COMPANY PROUDLY SUPPORTS THE
LITCHFIELD LIONS CLUB
FALL FESTIVAL
Saturday October 26th
10AM - 2PM

TROPHYS AWARDED @ 1PM
• Antiques
• Classics
• Race Cars
• Corvettes
• T-Birds
• Muscle Cars
• Antique Tractors

*Car Show/
Corn Hole Tournament*

FOOD TRUCKS
• Special Interest
• Motorcycles
• Street Rods
• 4x4 &
• Special Monster Trucks
• Antique Truck's
• Custom Imports

Alain White Community Field
RT. 209 (Bantam Lake Road)
Bantam, CT

Coors LIGHT Corona Extra

CAR SHOW INFORMATION CALL GARY AT 860-797.1563

LIVE MUSIC
CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT 12-5PM
Registration 11:00AM
Vendors
Pumpkin Carving

Cornhole

FESTIVAL INFORMATION CALL SUE at 860.459.8197

Bloomfield Lions 2nd Annual STRIDES 5K for Diabetes – November 2, 2024

Join the Bloomfield Lions for their 2nd Annual STRIDES 5K for Diabetes beginning at the Park & Rec facility located at 330 Park Avenue in Bloomfield. This 5K Walk/Run will start at 9:00am with check-in beginning at 8:00am. Cost for the event is \$25.00 per participant.

To register please visit this website: www.runsignup.com

For more information contact Wendy Williams: wwilliams1314@yahoo.com

East Windsor Lions Turkey Shoot–November 3, 10, 17, 24, 2024 - NO OCTOBER DATES



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

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.



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

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

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

Publicize Your Club Events!

The next issue of the Lions Roar will be published on November 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 October 25th.

