

District 23B - Connecticut

Lions Roar!

September 2024 - Volume 6 - Issue 1

District Governor's Corner

By District Governor Raj Shrestha

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

We are approaching the end of the first quarter of this Lions year, and so much has already happened in our district. Every day I see clubs and individual Lions engaged in numerous service projects and activities that assist those in need.

District 23B Lions have started the year with a dynamic range of projects and events aimed at enhancing leadership and community service. We kicked off with a successful **1st Cabinet Meeting**, followed by a well-attended **Zone Chairs' Training**, ensuring our Zone Chairs are well-prepared to support clubs across the district. We also hosted a **Club Presidents' Meet** to facilitate collaboration, idea-sharing, and goal alignment. Additionally, Lions from our district proudly participated in the **USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum**, where Lions from across the U.S. and Canada gathered to develop skills and forge new partnerships for the future.

As Lions International President Fabricio Oliveira says, "**Make Your Mark**," let's make our mark through our everyday service to our communities. My theme this year is "**Diversity Strengthens Service**." I encourage all Lions of District 23B to focus on diversity when recruiting new members. Consider individuals from various backgrounds—culture, profession, hobbies, gender, and age groups—to bring fresh, innovative ideas to our community projects. Together, we can enhance our impact through diverse perspectives and unified service.

The 3 Cs of Success—Communication, Cooperation, and Collaboration—are crucial for the successful execution of our community projects and for uniting all Lions as one family. I urge all District and Club leaders to embrace the 3 Cs to ensure a successful and impactful Lions year. Together, we can achieve great things and “Make Our Mark”!

Looking ahead, our district has several exciting projects and meetings in the works. The **Veterans Stand Down** is scheduled for September 20 at two locations: **Bristol (St. Gregory CCD Center, 1043 Stafford Ave.) and Rocky Hill (CTDVA Campus, 287 West Street)**. **Zone Meetings** will be held in October. We are also thrilled to introduce the **Student Speaker Contest**, a first-of-its-kind initiative in our district, designed to engage young people in public speaking while promoting civic awareness and leadership skills. Zone Chairs will provide detailed information about this contest soon.

In addition, our district will participate in the **Great Cycle Challenge** to support **childhood cancer** research, funding innovative research, supporting programs for families during and after treatment, and raising awareness about childhood cancer. Please contact Dr. Akella Sarma for more information on this initiative.

The "**District 23-B Diabetes Awareness Walk in Historic Riverton**" will be held on **Saturday, November 2, 2024**, in Riverton, CT. The meeting point is Riverton Grange Hall located at 17 Riverton Road, Riverton, CT.

7:00am to 9:30am: Breakfast will be available at the Riverton General Store, 2 Riverton Road.

10:00am: Meet at Riverton Grange Hall for pre-registered walkers check-in, coffee, and conversation. Welcome by DG Raj Shrestha and MD-23 Diabetes Chair Dave Roberts. Introduction of keynote speaker Renae France by District 23-B Diabetes Chair Raine Pedersen

10:30am: Overview of historic Riverton inaugural Diabetes Awareness Walk and depart on the walk!

Cost for a walker to register: \$10.00 (scholarships will be available for those in need). All walkers receive a t-shirt, information on diabetes, breakfast refreshments, hot dogs, and drinks. Walkers can register in advance via check

or Venmo; some registrations may be available on the day of the walk. Any excess funds over event hosting costs will be donated to the District 23-B Diabetes Awareness Fund.

For more information or to register, please contact District Diabetes Chair Raine Pedersen: rainejedersen@hotmail.com

We are also excited to announce an upcoming **Goodwill Delegation Trip to Nepal** under our **Lions Sister-District Relationship with District 325K and 325L of Nepal**. This special trip, scheduled from February 12-26, 2025, will offer a unique opportunity to strengthen the bonds of friendship and service between our districts.

With these projects, District 23B continues to make a meaningful impact on both our Lions and the communities we serve. Stay tuned for more updates as we work together to make this year one of leadership, service, and success.

“Nurturing a Culture of Growth: *MISSION 1.5*”

By GMT Chair - PDG Heidi Zacchera

Increase membership to 1.5

Tri fold flyer – Make a tri fold flyer about your club. A tri fold template should be on the district website, if you can't find it, contact me.

I'd like to challenge all Lions members!

1. Come up with your elevator speech, what you like best about being a Lion, or why you joined.
2. Membership chair use your phone to record short clips of members sharing their elevator speech at each meeting, until you cover everyone.
3. Publicize on social media these stories – also share with 5 friends with the goal of bringing in at least 1 new lion every other month.
4. Wear Lions apparel and approach people. When recruiting, always ask, “Has anyone asked you to join the Lions club?” If the answer is “no,” ask them if they

are interested in giving back to or serving the community in some way and then talk about your club and its service. If the answer is “yes,” find out why they didn’t join and see if they are willing to try again or share the names of someone who might be interested.

5. Publicize a service project and ask the community at large to help you.

6. When you recruit new members, induct them as soon as you can, and get them involved immediately. Prepare an orientation, give them business cards to hand out to others.

If you have any questions or if you’d like me to speak to your club:

Contact PDG Heidi hzacchera@aol.com

Develop a Club Membership Committee

By GMT Chair - PDG Heidi Zacchera

One way of organizing a Membership Committee is having three members for a three-year term. Initially one-member shall serve for one (1) year, the second member for two (2) years and the third member for three (3) years. Each year thereafter, a new member will be selected.

Each member shall serve for three (3) continuous years on a rotation system. Thus, the first year member shall be a member of the committee, the second year member shall be its vice chairman and the third year member shall serve as its chairman and as Membership Director on the club's Board of Directors.

The Membership Director shall be the Chairperson of the Membership Committee. The responsibilities for this position shall be:

1. To develop a growth and retention program specifically for the club, present it to their Board of Directors for approval.

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2. To encourage bringing in new quality members.
 3. To prepare and implement orientation sessions.
 4. To report to the Board of Directors on ways to reduce the loss of members.

Harnessing the Power of Zeffy: A Game-Changer for Lions Clubs Fundraising

By GLT Chair - PCC Dave Roberts

In today's dynamic fundraising landscape, Lions Clubs are constantly seeking innovative tools to enhance their efforts and maximize their impact. One such tool that has been making waves in the nonprofit sector is Zeffy. This powerful platform offers a range of benefits that can significantly boost fundraising efforts for Lions Clubs.

What is Zeffy?

Zeffy is a comprehensive fundraising platform designed to simplify and streamline the donation process. It provides an intuitive interface for donors, making it easier for them to contribute and engage with their chosen causes. With Zeffy, Lions Clubs can set up customized donation pages, manage campaigns, and track contributions with ease.

Key Benefits of Zeffy for Lions Clubs:

1. **User-Friendly Interface:** Zeffy's platform is designed with simplicity in mind, making it easy for both Lions Clubs and donors to navigate. This ease of use helps to increase donor engagement and participation.
 2. **No Fees on Donations:** One of Zeffy's standout features is that it charges no fees on donations. This means that 100% of every contribution goes directly to the Lions Clubs' projects and initiatives, maximizing the impact of every dollar raised.
 3. **Customizable Campaigns:** Lions Clubs can create personalized fundraising campaigns that reflect their unique needs and goals. Zeffy allows for easy customization of donation pages, making it possible to tailor messaging and branding to align with specific campaigns.
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4. **Robust Tracking and Reporting:** Zeffy offers comprehensive tracking and reporting tools that provide valuable insights into fundraising performance. Lions Clubs can monitor donation trends, track campaign progress, and analyze donor behavior to refine their strategies and improve results.
 5. **Enhanced Donor Experience:** The platform provides a seamless and secure donation experience, ensuring that donors feel confident and satisfied with their contributions. This positive experience encourages repeat donations and strengthens donor relationships.
 6. **Integration Capabilities:** Zeffy integrates with various other tools and platforms, allowing Lions Clubs to streamline their fundraising efforts and enhance their overall strategy. This integration capability helps to create a cohesive and efficient fundraising ecosystem.

How Lions Clubs Can Get Started with Zeffy

Getting started with Zeffy is straightforward. Lions Clubs can sign up for an account and begin setting up their donation pages and campaigns. The platform provides support and resources to assist with the setup process, ensuring a smooth transition and effective use of the tool.

Conclusion

Zeffy represents a valuable opportunity for Lions Clubs to enhance their fundraising efforts and achieve their goals more efficiently. By leveraging Zeffy's user-friendly platform, customizable features, and comprehensive tracking tools, Lions Clubs can maximize their impact and continue to make a difference in their communities.

For more information on how to get started with Zeffy or to explore its features, visit www.Zeffy.com or contact Global Leadership Team Chair Dave Roberts. Embrace the power of Zeffy and take your fundraising to new heights!

Great Cycle Challenge

By Childhood Cancer Chair - Lion Akella Sarma

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!

Goal: To fund innovative and promising research, support programs that help families during and after treatment, and educate the world about childhood cancer.

Challenge: Ride your bike in the month of September for a set goal and raise funds. You can start any time during the month of September. One can do it alone or a group.

Process: Register at the Great Cycle Challenge website (<https://greatcyclechallenge.com/>) or download the free GCC app. Once you register you will receive a challenge page. Ride for yours' and children's health. Encourage your family, friends, and your neighbors to sponsor you and donate through challenge page. Take advantage of matching donations from the employers. Promote your involvement and the cause. Have your family, friends, and coworkers join you and form a team and ride together. You can also join "Teams-Lions Roar" or create your own team.

If you would like to make a donation, please consider supporting District 23B Lions:

Jim Pfeiffer: <https://greatcyclechallenge.com/Donate/Rider/512936>

Ed Fenton: <https://greatcyclechallenge.com/Donate/Rider/507191>

Dave Roberts: <https://greatcyclechallenge.com/Donate/Rider/513089>



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)

Lions Portal Training

District 23-B is hosting a virtual Lions training event called "**An Overview of the new Lions Portal.**" Many Lions throughout our District have asked if we could offer this virtual training to help them navigate this new Lions International electronic system, which we use to report membership, take training, report service activities, and for many other reasons.

23A District Governor Sue Hurlburt has offered to train Lions in our District on the **Lions Portal**. The training will be held via Zoom on Friday, September 27, at 7:00 PM. DG

Sue has offered to stay after the training to help any Lions with specific club Lions Portal challenges.

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

Here is the Zoom information for you to share with all Lions in your club:

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84236414138?pwd=0XtM8BPqDaUW3tk7YtJ43DOFII7UeQ.1>

Meeting ID: 842 3641 4138; Passcode: 329534

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

Berlin Lions Agricultural Fair - September 12, 13, 14, 15, 2024

- Thursday 9/12 from 4:00pm until 10:00pm
 - Friday 9/13 from 11:00am until 10:00pm
 - Saturday 9/14 from 9:00am until 10:00pm
 - Sunday 9/15 from 9:00am until 7:00pm
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- Adults - \$15.00
 - Seniors - \$10.00
 - Veterans - \$10.00
 - Children 11 and under are free
 - Active Military are free

The Berlin Fairgrounds is located at 430 Beckley Road in Berlin. For more information, please contact Debra Tubbs at 860-828-0063.

Dinner at the Arch II – September 18, 2024

Sponsored by the Rocky Hill Veterans Lions Club. Come and support the Rocky Hill Veterans Lions Club on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at the Arch II Sports Bar & Grill, 632 Cromwell Avenue, Rocky Hill, CT.

From 4:00pm to 8:00pm, order off the menu, and proceeds from patrons will support the Club Charities Account. All are invited to support the Club and enjoy good food and fellowship with other Lions!

For more information, please contact Kathy Randall: kathy.randall@yahoo.com

41st Annual Ted Rankin Golf Tournament – September 25, 2024

Hosted by the South Windsor Lions. This is the annual charity golf tournament (w/lunch & dinner) in memory of former Lions' member, Ted Rankin.

The event will be held at the Blackledge Country Club starting at 8:30am. Cost is \$150/player or \$560/foursome.

For more information, please contact Barry Geeting: pappy0908@gmail.com

New Hartford Lions Club Giant Flea Market – September 28, 2024

Antiques, Arts & Crafts, Tag Sale Items, Food, Free Parking, Live Music. Located at Brodie Park at 580 West Hill Rd, New Hartford, CT

Hours are 8:00am to 3:00pm; Early Birds 6:30am to 8:00pm.

Adults are \$3.00 to enter, Children under 12 free, Early Buying entry \$10.00

For more information call 860-489-9188 or email: info@newhartfordclions.org

Connecticut Antique Machine Show – September 28 & 29, 2024

Come buy a hamburger or hotdog from the Kent Lions Club at the Connecticut Antique Machine Show. This event will be held at the CT Antique Machine Museum located at 31B Lent Cornwall Road in Kent, CT from 10:00am until 4:00pm.

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



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

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

Publicize Your Club Events!

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

