

# The Lions' Roar



## The Monthly District 23B Governor's Update

June 2023



### District Governor's Corner DG Dave Roberts

Dear Lions, Leo-Lions, Leos and Cubs,

It is hard to believe that Lions Year 2022-2023 is fast coming to a close and this will be my last message to you as Lions District 23-B Governor. It has been such an honor to serve as your District Governor this year and I want to thank all of you for offering me this leadership opportunity. THANK YOU!

As your District Governor, I have so enjoyed visiting our impactful clubs for their meetings and service projects, representing all of you at Lions Low Vision Center and Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation, and serve as your biggest cheerleader at MD-23 Council events and LCI events. Yes, I will miss serving as your District Governor, but I am so pleased to see the tremendous leaders who will have their turns to serve and experience the joys that I have experienced during Lions Year 2022-2023.

So, let me provide a summary recap of our District this year from my perspective:

Since 1950, Lions of Hartford and Litchfield Counties (District 23-B) have been serving those neighbors most in need through a variety of impactful service initiatives. Today, District 23-B is honored to have 1,830 members, the most in its' 73-year history, with a net new growth of 39 Lions joining our association this past Lions Year 2022-2023, adding more hands to continue our strong tradition of community service. Clubs form the heart of Lions International, and these 1,830 Lions are divided in 56 separate Lions Clubs (traditional, cyber and specialty), with two new Lions Clubs chartering this Lions Year. The Hartford PAK-K2 Lions Club was chartered in October 2022 as a specialty club comprised of Pakistani-American businesspeople in the Greater Hartford region. In March 2023, the Riverton Lions Club was chartered as a specialty club focused on preserving the historical character of this quaint New England village located on the Farmington River.

Leos, young Lions ages 12-18, are a critical component of our District. Under the leadership of Leo District Chair Cindy Daniels, our Leo Clubs have continued to recover and flourish following the pandemic. This Lions Year, Leos in our District had a number of firsts. Leo Sophia Marangoudakis was the first Leo officially appointed to serve as a member of the District Cabinet. Leo Sophia was also named the Connecticut Lions Leo of the Year for Lion Year 2022-2023. Leo Mihika Joshi was the first Leo in our District to be nominated for a New Voices recognition. And thanks to a student sponsored by the Windsor Locks Lions Club, District 23-B won first prize in the Connecticut Lions Student Peace Poster Contest. And thanks to the Hartford County Everest Centennial and the West Hartford Lumbini Lions Clubs, a student won first prize in the 6th Annual Youth Oratory Contest. Leos are our NOW!

Lions always step up to the plate when a need arises. In October 2022, Connecticut experienced a terrible tragedy when a mentally disturbed young man ambushed three police officers in Bristol, Connecticut, killing two of them. Lions immediately wanted to join with others who wanted to help. While the community raised over \$1million

dollars for the families of the slain officers, Lions wanted to do more. Following a meeting of Lions leaders, our District decided to start a Lions Club Branch and recruited six adults as Lions and two high school students as Leos. The new members selected the name "Connecticut 988 Lions Club Branch" as their official branch name. They selected 988 as it is now the new three-digit, nationwide phone number that connects directly to the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. One of the first projects for this new branch was to host a tabletop display at the Connecticut Lions Mid-Winter Convention to announce this new initiative to over 300 Lions and Leos at the three-day convention in Southbury, Connecticut. Moving forward, members will determine how to spread mental health awareness information, particularly in rural areas, to those in need. Students will research needs in the towns of New Hartford and Barkhamsted, Connecticut, to see what gaps, if any, exist in providing mental health services. LCIF awarded the new Branch a grant to train two members to receive QPR training. QPR stands for Question, Persuade, and Refer – the three simple steps anyone can learn to help save a life from suicide. QPR training helps save lives and reduce suicidal behaviors by providing innovative, practical, and proven suicide prevention training. Quality education empowers people, regardless of their background, to make a positive difference in the lives of others. These trained Lions will then train others on how to save lives.

Lions Year 2022-2023 has been a tremendously successful year as we recovered from the pandemic, added positive membership growth, added two new Lions Clubs, focused on new specialty Clubs and Branches, promoted our young Leos, and expanded our service opportunities. Over 135,000 people were served this Lions Year within our District through over 1,200 completed service projects. Lions donated close to 30,000 reported service hours. Finally, Lions in our District raised over \$300,000 to help assist those most in need. Lions International President Brian Sheehan challenged all Lions Year 2022-23 District Governors to have an awesome year of impactful service. Thanks to the 1,830 Lions and our 200+ Leos, District 23-B exceed President Sheehan's expectations! Together we can, together we will, together we did!

I especially want to thank my Cabinet for their strong support and commitment to Connecticut Lions and to me this year. This team was just what our District needed at this time and together we are working to expand Lionism for all of you and your Lions and Leos. Thank you, Cabinet colleagues!

**WELCOME RIVERTON LIONS CLUB:** Barkhamsted Lions Club is sponsoring our 56th Lions Club in our District with the chartering of Riverton Lions Club. This new club is a great example of a Lions Club Branch converting to their own Lions Club. This new club is hosting their Charter Night event on Saturday, July 15th, at 5:00 PM at the Barkhamsted Senior Center, 109 West River Road, in Barkhamsted. The club members decided to host a casual cookout for their event and the cost is only \$10 per person. Please join the 24 members of this newest Lions District 23-B Club and RSVP to Club President Dave Roberts at [Granbydavidroberts@gmail.com](mailto:Granbydavidroberts@gmail.com) or 860-469-5067.

**CLUB EXCELLENCE RECOGNITION:** It is not too late for clubs to be submitting their 2022-2023 Club Excellence Award nominations. Here is a link that contains all the information: [Club Excellence Awards | Lions Clubs International](#). The deadline to apply is August 31, 2023. So complete your club application and forward it to me to submit on your behalf to Lions International.

A few clubs still have not received their 2021-2022 Club Excellence Awards. Please contact me ASAP to schedule a time when I can deliver this recognition to your club!

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at either [GranbyDavidRoberts@gmail.com](mailto:GranbyDavidRoberts@gmail.com) or 860-469-5067 if you need me personally. My calendar is crazy, but I am always glad to make time for each club and member in our District.

Together we can do so much more! So, let us "Seize the Day"! DG Dave

**Dave Roberts**

**District Governor (2022-2023)**

Lions, Leo-Lions, Leos & Cubs of

Hartford & Litchfield Counties (District 23-B)

P.O. Box 155, Riverton, CT 06065

[GranbyDavidRoberts@gmail.com](mailto:GranbyDavidRoberts@gmail.com); 860-469-5067

## District Calendar

### **Bus Trip to Lions International Parade, July 8**

See flyer below for all the information!

### **Plainville Lions Club, New Britain Bees Fundraising Event, July 15**

**Location:** New Britain Stadium (i.e. Willow Brook Park, adjacent to Beehive Field)

**Cost:** \$12 per person, of which \$6 will go to the Lions Low Vision Center.

Please send in you orders and checks by July 1st to the Plainville Lions Club, P.O. Box 92, Plainville

**Contact:** Lion Craig Banks at 860-644-8472 or [craig.r.banks@my.ccsu.edu](mailto:craig.r.banks@my.ccsu.edu)

### **Harwinton Lions Club, Cars for Sight Car Show, July 23, 10am-2pm**

**Location:** Town Hall / Sports Complex, Bentley Drive in Harwinton

Featuring Show Cars, Muscle Cars & Trucks, Trophies, Food & Music!

**Admission:** Free for Spectators (donations welcome); Show Cars \$10

### **Torrington Lions Club, Annual Golf Tournament, August 14, 11am**

**Location:** Greenwoods Country Club, 300 Tarringford St., Winsted, CT 06098

**Cost:** \$125.00 includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart, lunch, dinner and prizes.

Foursomes are encouraged, singles welcomed as well.

Contact: Lion Norm Nejaime at 860-482-3321

### **Torrington Lions Club, Annual Goshen Fair, September 2-4, 8am - close**

**Location:** Goshen Fair grounds, Goshen, CT.

We have our trailer located on the mid-way and will be serving Rib eye sandwiches, corn and Snapple. Please stop by and support us.

### **Harwinton Lions Club, Horse Show, September 9**

**Location:** Harwinton Fairgrounds

**Entry Fee:** \$35 per Event + \$10 one time paperwork charge, Free for Spectators (donations welcome)

Prizes, Ribbons, Food & Music!

### **Harwinton Lions Club, Pierogies Booth at the Harwinton Fair, September 30-October 2**

**Location:** Harwinton Fairgrounds

More details to follow

*We have our own email address now: [D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com](mailto:D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com). Please use this email address. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the issue date: February 15 for the March District Spirit—submit to*

*[District23BSpirit@gmail.com](mailto:District23BSpirit@gmail.com), March 15 for the April Lions' Roar to [D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com](mailto:D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com).*

*Notices should be short and include all relevant information. The Lions' Roar is intended to keep our district informed of upcoming events. Anything that doesn't fit our format will either be condensed for The Roar, or held for the next District 23B Spirit.*

COME TO BOSTON FOR THE LIONS INTERNATIONAL PARADE JULY 8, 2023



**PICK UP LOCATIONS**  
MERIDEN  
HARTFORD  
NORWICH  
DANBURY

**COST \$45 WITH A \$20 DEPOSIT**  
FIRST COME , FIRST SERVE. DANBURY COST IS \$50 WITH \$20 DEPOSIT

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
Lion Frank Molinaro  
105 New Milford Rd  
East Bridgewater, Ct  
06752  
860 488 4288  
lion.chumly@gmail.com

lion Mary Krogh  
92 Young St.  
East Hampton, Ct  
06424  
860 977 5760  
govmary23c@aol.com

LEAVE CT 5:30 AM  
LEAVE BOSTON 5:00 PM

**BOOK NOW!**

Let's show the world Ct Lions/Leos support for  
MARK LYON FOR 3RD INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

www.plainvillelions.com

PLAINVILLE LIONS CLUB  
SATURDAY, JULY 15TH 2023  
6:35 P.M.



**TICKETS**  
**\$12**

Orders must be placed by Friday July 1st.  
Mail Checks and request numbers to:  
Plainville Lions Club  
Plainville, CT 06062  
P.O. Box 92

**\$6 PER TICKET**  
BENEFITTING  
LOW VISION CENTERS

Any questions contact below  
860 644 8472 / craig.r.banks@my.ccsu.edu  
117 Rosemary Ln., South Windsor, CT 06074

