

## The Monthly District 23B Governor's Update

#### February 2021



# District Governor's Corner DG Heidi Zacchera

Congratulations District 23 B! We are doing exceptionally well pertaining to our overall membership compared to other districts in our area of New England! Keep up the good work. Clubs under 20: I'm looking for you to hit 20 before July 1. Can you do it?! We're here to help you attain that achievable goal!

Membership is pretty steady from -2 to even! Let's keep working on building our membership to start next year Lions strong!

Some of the clubs with under 20 members have been bolstering their membership. Hopefully, they will keep the numbers climbing!

Not a lot to report because of the holidays.

At this point I've visited the majority of the clubs. I'm hoping to get the rest these next two months. Doing Inductions, etc.

We had our Holiday Party virtually this year! ....oh shock! LOL

Supported District club projects. Such as a club that had a hygiene drive, Terryville produce drive, etc.

Met with new clubs group. Still attempting to start two new clubs, but with COVID it is difficult.

We held our Peace Poster contest. A contestant from District A won this year.

LCIF donations should continue to pour in to LCI. See the note from PIP Gudrun Yngvadottir below.

Club leaders – please report your clubs service activities to My Lion. Contact GST Dave Yadach if you have questions.

Start the nominating process for club officers so that by May 1 they can be put in to My LCI.

Select your Freeman Selfless Award winner(s), and Outstanding Lion.

Clubs wanting to meet, but you don't have Zoom. Ed and myself both have accounts that we can hook you up with as long as they haven't been spoken for.

Club Excellence Awards: Are given to the clubs who apply at LCI for the award and given if they meet the criteria. ANY club can apply for the Club Excellence award. The application is on the LCI site and needs to be filled out, and the sitting DG is given the application to sign, and it must be at LCI by August 31. This award is given to the club for excellence in the different areas of Lionism. (It is not a President's award)

Don't forget Donna Townsend's 100 acts of kindness challenge to honor Haynes Townsend

Feb 15 Childhood Cancer Awareness Day

Midwinter conference planning has been taking place. Keep the weekend of February 26, 27, 28 open!

District Breakfast – maybe in June or it will be a drive through awards event in June.

And, this just in: Lions International Convention will be virtual this year. We'll have more details soon!

But, to end on a high note, here's a story from one of our clubs that was on the brink of closing that bounced back.

Winsted Lions have had some real challenges over the past couple of years: the passing of our dear Blanche Sewell, our mentor, our "little engine that always could ", our cheerleader. Picking up her mantle was a huge change for us and we were set to accept, and then came COVID.

We felt like we were done—no fund raising, no face-to-face meetings. Without contact could we survive, or should we call it quits? We had no answers, made some phone calls, and prepared ourselves for the inevitable end of 60+ years of Winsted Lions. Those phone calls started a chain of events we couldn't have foreseen—someone other than our little club believed we could hang on!

Our district governor, first vice-district governor, our guiding Lion (who knew we had a Guiding Lion watching out for us?), our zone chair—all worked with us, coached us, had faith in us to continue. We were able to make a difference in Winsted, even though not in the usual way! We are so grateful we're still here!

If you are struggling (we're all struggling), and have nowhere to go—ask questions, make phone calls, listen to advice, be willing to accept help. Don't give up without trying one more time.

God bless! Stay safe! Keep caring!

Pam Wright Winsted Lions

#### **LCIF**

Just eight months after a large earthquake struck Croatia's capital in March 2020, another, more powerful quake struck the area, killing at least seven people and injuring dozens more. The December 29 6.4 magnitude quake destroyed several cities and dozens of villages in Sisak-Moslavina County.

When a humanitarian crisis of this magnitude strikes, we, as Lions and humanitarians, are ready to help. Our global foundation, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), quickly responded and approved US\$10,000 in Emergency grant funding to allow Lions in Croatia to respond to urgent needs of the victims.

As enormous challenges due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) persist, so too do natural disasters. LCIF continues to support recovery efforts from natural disasters worldwide, providing Emergency grant funding when and where it is needed.

In November and December 2020 alone, and adding to relief funding for Sisak-Moslavina County, LCIF provided US\$235,000 in Emergency grants for:

Flood relief in India, Brazil, Italy, and Sri Lanka

Tropical storm relief in Colombia

Typhoon relief in the Philippines

Earthquake relief in Greece

You can help.

Your generous donation to LCIF helps deliver relief and hope. Donations to the Disaster Relief fund ensure LCIF can continue to provide funding through programs and grants to those who will be devastated by natural disasters yet to come.

Thank you for your kindness and for working together with LCIF to rebuild lives.

In friendship, Gudrun Yngvadottir LCIF Chairperson

#### Zone 1-4 Governor's Breakfast

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Governor's Annual Award Breakfast, usually held in March, has been postponed to a later date (TBA).

We are still requesting that clubs continue to choose a member to honor as their Outstanding Lion. This year we are also requesting that each club submit up to two names of individuals to be awarded a new honor, the "Rose Amanda Freeman Selfless Service Award". This award is named after Rose Amanda Freeman Jones, the wife and helpmate of our founder, Melvin Jones. This new award allows us to recognize individuals who have gone above and beyond in selfless service to their club and community. We will also recognize those special individuals who are 100% Secretaries as determined by the district.

It has been our tradition to collect used eyeglasses, sunglasses, and hearing aids when we meet in person. We expect to still collect these, so stay tuned for additional information.

Please name your "Outstanding Lion" honoree, and your "Rose Amanda Freeman Selfless Service Award" honorees, and call or email Nancy Lyons <a href="mailto:nschnyer0035@charter.net">nschnyer0035@charter.net</a> by February 28, 2021.

#### **LEOs (Virtual) Mid-Winter Conference**

Save the Date: Leo's Virtual Mid-Winter Conference, Sunday, February 7, 1-4pm

Our upcoming MD23 Leo Virtual Mid Winter Conference is all set to go! Registration is now available and is free this year. We have a unique opportunity for all Leos to bring non-Leo friends to join in the fun, learn what Leo's do and become Leo Club members. You will also read about the exciting Leo Club video contest!

Lions are also most welcome. PIP Gudrun Yngvadottir, 1st International Vice President Douglas X Alexander, and Fox 61 News Anchor and former Olympic Bronze Medalist Margaux Farrell are confirmed as keynote speakers. Margaux Farrell served as President of her Connecticut Leo Club.

There will be lots of fun! One of the challenges is the "LEOs Video Contest"—a one-minute video of your club's most meaningful service project. Completed videos are due by Friday, January 22nd 2021 by 6:00pm (no later) to Lion Daniel Elkins at <a href="delkins@belleveucc.org">delkins@belleveucc.org</a>. These videos will be posted on YouTube for Leos to vote from January 23-27 and one finalist will be picked for a service project and one finalist for a fundraising project. And, yes, there will be prizes!



https://causetheworld.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEscOmqqzwsEtXNzvktY731pCDAWqyA-wkg

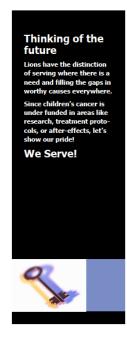
### MD23 Service Challenge

The MD23 Global Service Team is working to keep your clubs engaged through meaningful service during these winter months! Through the end of February, clubs are encouraged to come up with a service project tied to any one of five Lions global causes: Diabetes, Hunger, Childhood Cancer, Environment, and Vision Complete your service activity by April 18! Contact GSC David Yadich, <a href="mailto:dyadach@aol.com">dyadach@aol.com</a>, (860) 810-7154 for the link to register your service.

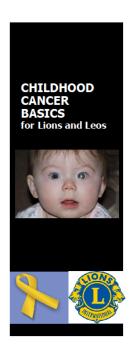
#### **Childhood Cancer**

Can your club create/participate in a service project, spread some information, watch a movie like "Clouds" or "The Fault in Our Stars" together on Zoom? Share your project with the public through social media invitations or posts!

Try Disney+, YouTube, Amazon Prime for movies, or print and distribute brochures:







#### **Club Notices:**

**From the editors:** Because social distancing rules are still in effect, please check that events have not been cancelled or relocated due to restrictions.

#### **Hartland**

Serving thru the Covid era presents challenges as well as new opportunities.

Passed remote activities

Senior Dinners to Go

Turkey donations

**Food Gift Cards** 

Future remote activities planned

Celebrate National Hot Chocolate Day - Jan 31. Hot Chocolate and Marshmallow Packets and Cookies to Go Annual Soup and Sandwich but to Go.

#### **Kent Lions**

I would like to wish a happy New Year to all our Kent Lion Club members. Let all our dreams take flight in 2021. May the Covid vaccine be available to all and the country open again so we can enjoy being with family and friends.

The Kent Lion Scholarship awards recipients this year are Shirleen Santiago, Winnie Zhang and Zoe Benjamin. The students will join our zoom meeting on the 20th @ 7:00and share the collage experiences. Each student will be awarded a check from the Kent Lions for \$1,250.

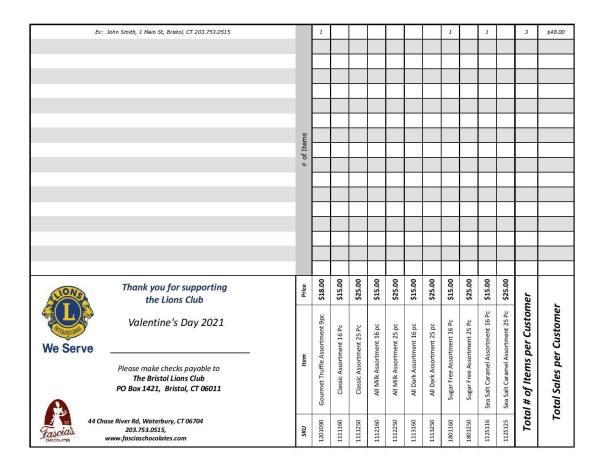
I am pleased to say we have three new members to induct, Diane Impasato and Steven and Meghan Curley. During the meeting on the 20th we will vote them in. Their induction will be the following meeting.

#### **Woodbury Lions**

With the rainstorm on Christmas Eve, we decided to cancel our annual luminaria display (only the third time in 32 years!) Instead, we set up a smaller display on New Year's Eve along the three town greens along Main Street. It was greatly appreciated by the town, who needed some cheering up during these trying times.

#### **Bristol Lions**

The Bristol Lions are holding a Valentine's Day candy sale. Fill out this form and send with a check to the address on the form. The deadline for orders is February 8.



We have our own email address now: <a href="mailto:D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com">D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com</a>. Please use this email address. The deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month prior to the issue date: March 10 for the April Lions' Roar to <a href="mailto:D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com">D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com</a>. February 10 for the March District Spirit—submit to <a href="mailto:District23BSpirit@gmail.com">District23BSpirit@gmail.com</a>. Notices should be short and include all relevant information. We do not print flyers or cabinet reports. 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.