

The Lions' Roar



The Monthly District 23B Governor's Update

January 2021



District Governor's Corner

DG Heidi Zacchera

I hope everyone is trying to keep a positive attitude during Covid. Know that you are not alone! We are all in this together. I have some service project ideas, fundraisers, membership ideas and mental health ideas to share.

Service projects – Fundraisers – Membership ideas to do during the Pandemic!

Card/Letter campaign to Deployed National Guard/Reserve
Support for National Guard/Reserve Families (Project ELF)
Letter to Santa Responses.
Car Wash in partnership with youth organization
Raised Food Gardens (garden beds)
Diabetes Education Partnerships
Diabetes Screening Partnerships
Mask Making/Distributing
Recreation/River/Pond area clean up
Food Drive – gathering food from the community for a food pantry
Produce Drive
Blood Drive
Shred it Day
Bags for homeless
Providing assistance to Senior citizens – cards, food
Toys for Tots
Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Fundraising:

Bingo
Tag Sale
Car Parade
Drive through Breakfast
5k run
Bottle Redemption
"Super Raffle"
Lobster Sale
Golf Tournament
Chocolate Sale
Christmas Luminaries

Poinsettia sale
Facebook Fundraising for LCIF/Partnerships
Solicitation Letters directly/or on behalf of 501(c)(3) (i.e. LLVC/CLERF/LCIF)
Shaking your cans year round.
Online Auctions

Membership:

When you have a service event, publicize it and say if people in the community would like to assist, call.....
Hold an informative Zoom call about what Lions do for your community

The Pandemic and your health:

A UCONN psychiatrist stated that we are social creatures. He stated that we are “built” to depend on one another, to care for and be cared for by others, and to seek out others to avoid prolonged isolation.

1. It is important to keep up your social connections as much as possible.
2. Reach out on a regular basis to family and friends for a short call of “Facetime visit”.
3. Look for livestreamed activities to look at.
4. Take a walk in your neighborhood with a neighbor.
5. Family members set up regular phone calls to check in on their loved ones.

A Sad Note

Elba Schulman, PCC Syd Schulman’s wife, has Covid, and is battling for her life in ICU. She has just been intubated. We ask that everyone keep both Syd and Elba in your thoughts!

Blood Drives

Outreach from the District 23B blood drives chair continues. Congratulations to Terryville (8/27), Harwinton (11/12) and East Hartford (11/21) for highly successful blood drives, even in today's COVID environment. Please support these upcoming drives, sponsored by 23B Lions Clubs, by donating blood:

1/19/21 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Avon Lions at Avon Senior Center, 635 West Avon Road

2/5/21 from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Bristol Lions at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 42 Century Dr, Bristol, CT 06010 (this event is not "live" yet on the Red Cross website but will be after the holidays).

Schedule by calling 1-800-733-2767 or by visiting www.redcrossblood.org and entering city, state and date of drive. And if your club would like to learn more about sponsoring a drive: please get in touch with Julie Vecchitto, Blood Drives Chair, jvecchit@gmail.com

LEOs (Virtual) Mid-Winter Conference

Save the Date: Leo’s Virtual Mid-Winter Conference

Planning has begun for the upcoming Leo Virtual Mid-Winter Conference to take place on February 7, 2021 from 1-4pm. Leos from the Multiple District are using feedback from the 2020 Leo Conference Response Sheets, and the features of the Lions Virtual Platform, to put together an exciting, meaningful and inspirational Conference. This event, offered free of charge, will be limited to 300 participants. 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.

VDG Daniel Marney Elkins, President of the Bellafonte Lions Branch Club is lending his expertise to our Leos to facilitate this amazing opportunity. VDG Elkins, working with Princeton Lions Club President Subarna Sahni, Leos from New Jersey and from our District put together the Leo Virtual Classrooms which took place this summer.

Please share this information with your Leos and Leo advisors. Watch for online Mid-Winter Conference registration which will be available soon. If you should have any questions, please reach out to Leo District Chair, Cindy Daniels at: cldressage959@gmail.com.

Endorsed Candidate for International Director, PDG John Youney

Well, my campaign status continues to be Karol's and my home! I am sure that all of you can appreciate the situation as, after all, we are in this together. The pandemic has reared its head in a second wave, or is it just the backlash of the first wave striking as we became worn out taking precautions? Maybe history will have an answer.

Meanwhile, there are the tantalizing hints of promise! Vaccines might get to us...at least in a few months for us who are healthy and not in congregate housing. And, we pray all first responders and medical providers get the first round available. Now, that would be a wonderful Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanza or Druid Solstice gift!

The great part of this campaign season is the chance to see the operation of your district at the action level! Many of you include me on the email list of newsletters and announcements. What I see there are Lions! Lions still doing what we do—We Serve! Lions have found new ways to do service while keeping safe. The need has never been greater in most of our lifetimes, and we are rising to meet their needs.

Many clubs have done just what my own club did the Saturday before Thanksgiving. We often collected food in the past at club meetings and supplemented the food with a cash donation. But, since we have abandoned in person meetings since the ramp up of the pandemic here in Maine, we needed a new way to help our two local food cupboards. That is especially true as they both reported increased patronage and bare shelves! So, my club ruthlessly stole from the example of many clubs—a drive-through food collection in the municipal parking lot next to the Chamber of Commerce. A great success, and even had numerous cash donations in the can which was sent to the cupboards as well.

Most of January and the winter is promising to continue virtually, if for no reason other than the inability to secure reliable sites to have our old normal events. And, we must be safe as well! So, we will see you on the trail at some point—virtually if not in person. But, optimism is raging rampant: please register for Montreal 2021! We shall gather there!

And for this month, Happy Hanukkah, Enjoy Solstice, Happy Kwanzaa, enjoy Omisoka ... and in Karol's and my tradition - Merry Christmas!

Go to the campaign website to stay caught up! It is up and running at www.lionjohnyouney.org

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.

Hartford Host

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The 2020 Board of director chose to recognize our Secretary Yvonne Jasmine Centeno and Lion Gladys Rios. They help in the Farmers to Families, and they worked hard delivering the food to sick family homes.

Marlborough Lions

Marlborough is doing Super Bowl Roses (hopefully). February 6, \$20/doz. We're still awaiting confirmation from our florist. Contact Lion Megan Lloyd, meadams9182@hotmail.com for more details.

Norfolk

On Saturday, January 9 at 7pm, the Norfolk Lions will hold their first “Virtual Bingo with a Kick” fundraiser via Zoom. There are six games with two prizes per game, five with a prize of a choice of a \$100 gift certificate, with one game having a choice of special prizes: a designer handbag, or a \$100 gift card. The prize not chosen is then raffled off (the “Kick”).

Cards are \$20 for one card per game, \$35 for three cards per game, and \$50 for a six-pack of cards for each game. Tickets for the Kick raffle are \$10 each, with no limit.

Cards and raffle tickets are pre-sale only. Call or text 860-550-3249, or message EVERYTHING HAPPENS FOR A REASON FUNDRAISER on Facebook messenger.

Woodbury

The Woodbury Lions finish off the year with lighting up the town. The Sunday after Thanksgiving, the club decorated the Leroy Anderson Bandstand at the town's North Green (which they built and donated to the town) for the holidays. Coming up is the annual Luminaria display along Main Street on Christmas Eve (and cleanup on Christmas morning). Thousands of candle-lit bags line both side of the road for two miles—a massive project that brings the community together.

We have our own email address now: D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com. Please use this email address. The deadline for submissions is the 10th of the month prior to the issue date: December 10 for the January Lions' Roar to D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com November 10 for the December District Spirit – submit to District23BSpirit@gmail.com. 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.