

The Lions' Roar



The Monthly District 23B Governor's Update

January 2023



District Governor's Corner DG Dave Roberts

Dear Leos, Leo-Lions and Lions,

The end of the calendar year is fast approaching, which means almost one-half of this 2022-2023 Lions Year is over. Our District membership continues to grow with 1,814 Lions (+23) from 55 clubs currently serving those in need throughout our Lions District of Hartford and Litchfield Counties. Our goal is +35 new members for the year, so let's keep up the great work retaining our current members and inviting our relatives, friends, and neighbors to become Lions. If your club needs help recruiting or retaining Lions, please contact Global Membership Team Chair Alan Hill

(alan.hill@exprealty.com) and we will find an experienced local Lions leader to work with you and your club.

NEW E-MAIL FOR DISTRICT GOVERNOR: Just a reminder that my new email address is GranbyDavidRoberts@gmail.com and I hope all of you will update your email address books with this new information.

CHARTERING CELEBRATION FOR HARTFORD PAK-K2 LIONS CLUB: I was just informed that our newest Lions Club, Hartford PAK-K2 Lions Club, will hold their charting celebration event on Sunday, January 8, 2023, from 5:00 – 8:00 PM. Please hold this date on your calendar while Guiding Lion Raj Shrestha, Club Organizer Narendra Dev Pant, and new Charter Club President Haseeb Cheema plan the final details for this event. Currently, this new Lions Club has 28 Charter Members, with more being recruited!

54th LIONS CLUB RENAMED "Connecticut United Hearts and Hands Lions Club": Last month, we were pleased to receive confirmation from Lions Clubs International that our 55th Lions Club, the Hartford PAK-K2 Lions Club, was chartered. We have also been working diligently re-launching our 54th District 23B Lions Club which was chartered during Lions Year 2021-2022. This new club is located in Zone 1 and it has voted to rename themselves the *Connecticut United Hearts and Hands Lions Club*. It is a cyber Lions Club with members living in Connecticut, New York, Maryland and California. This new club is a specialty Lions Club focused on promoting the sustainable development goals of the United Nations and directly resulted from the 2021 *Lions Day with the United Nations* event. 2VDG Raj Shrestha and I were named Guiding Lions when the club originally chartered by then District Governor Ed Fenton. Watch for updates on this newly launched club. Here are the key officers recently elected for the *Connecticut United Hearts and Hands Lions Club* for Lions Year 2022-2023:

Club President: Amit Kapadia, amit.kapadia@unforgotten.org, 1-443-668-2648

Club Vice President: Aaron Etra, aaron@etra.com, 1-917-856-3500

Club Secretary/Treasurer: Penny Hine, penhine@optonline.net, 1-914-588-6586

Please join me in welcoming these new club leaders to District 23B!

AMERICAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF LIONS APPRECIATION DINNER: On Monday, December 5, the American School for the Deaf (ASD) hosted their annual dinner to thank Lions and Leos of District 23-B for all they have done to support ASD. Greater Hartford Host Lions Club member Maria Cornicello again did an outstanding job serving as the chair for this District-wide event. Over 145 Lions attended the event and over \$10,000 was raised this year for ASD. It was noted at the event that since this collaboration started over 40 years ago, close to \$400,000 has been raised. If you would like more information on ASD or make a donation, please contact to Liz DeRosa at either 1-860-570-2212 or elizabeth.derosa@asd-1817.org.

PEACE POSTER CONTEST RESULTS: Prior to the start of the ASD dinner on December 5th, eight clubs brought their winning club Peace Posters to this event for judging. Our Chair this year was West Hartford Lumbini Lions Club Immediate Past President Narendra Dev Pant. All attendees attending the ASD dinner voted and selected the Peace Poster submitted by Windsor Locks Lions Club. This poster was then judged at the Multiple District 23 contest on December 11th in Woodbridge and I am pleased to announce that our District 23B winning poster won the MD-23 contest and will now be sent to Lions Clubs International by Council Chair Lori-Ann Beninson for judging at the International level. Thanks to all clubs who participated in this year's contest; congratulations to Windsor Locks Lions Club on sponsoring the State of Connecticut winning poster; and thanks to Narendra Dev Pant for his leadership of this contest this year.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT: Last month, I shared how we were all horrified with the tragic, senseless killing on October 12A of Sergeant Alex Hamzy, Lieutenant Dustin DeMonte and wounding of Officer Alec Lurato who were ambushed while responding to a 911 call. At the suggestion of Global Membership Chair Alan Hill of Hartland Lions Club, I called a meeting of Lions from across our District and throughout the state to discuss how Lions might help. Bristol Lions Club President (PCC) Ev Lyons stated that his club had already donated \$1,000 to the fund set up in the Town of Bristol. Lions want to help and we believe that supporting mental health initiatives is the best approach for us.

I am pleased to update you on our next steps. Lion Kim Becker from Northwestern Connecticut Cyber Lions Club is going to serve as President of a newly established *Connecticut 988 Lions Club Branch* focused on promoting education and awareness on mental health needs in our communities. This initiative is based on www.ruralminds.org. For those that don't know, 988 is now the universal number to call 24/7 to be connected to a mental health professional. This new Lions Club Branch will also promote QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) training (similar to CPR training, but for mental health needs). Lion Kim has found lots of interest in this new initiative and we are pleased to announce that a Northwestern Regional #7 high school junior from New Hartford is working with her on this initiative as part of her AP Capstone Project and a Northwestern Connecticut Community College pre-med student from New Hartford has also joined Lions to help on this effort. If you or anyone you know would like to support this new initiative, please contact Lion Kim at either kl.becker@cox.net or 1-860-748-9388.

MID-WINTER CONFERENCE: After a two-year hiatus, the MD23 Mid-Winter Conference will be held in-person at the Wyndham Southbury, **February 3-5, 2023**. Due to COVID, the last two Midwinter Conferences have been held virtually. We're pulling out all stops to make up for lost time. Hundreds of Connecticut Lions and Leos will gather for their 71st Annual Midwinter Conference beginning February 3rd for a fun-packed Friday night, and a weekend filled with inspiration, information, and celebration. Registration will be open soon.

In addition, we are raising funds through ads in the Mid-Winter Conference program book that goes to all attendees. We need your help in obtaining ads. This is a great opportunity for your Lions Club to promote an upcoming event, to support and/or congratulate an upcoming leader, or even to thank the conference committee. Everyone who attend the conference receives a book – so you have a captive audience to talk about your upcoming events (300+ participants). The program has always had the support of Clubs, members, and some businesses. This year, we wish to expand beyond our traditional advertisers with more ads from commercial businesses looking to promote their products and services while supporting our Lions conference. If there are companies, you, or your Club deal with please approach them regarding advertising. Lion Judy Doyle is our District

23B POC and she can be reached at either msjudysemporium@yahoo.com or 1-503-320-7274. All ads and checks need to be submitted no later than January 15, 2023 and checks need to be made payable to MD23.

Another opportunity for Mid-Winter Conference is to support 2VDG Raj Shrestha and the return of the ever popular Second Vice District Governors' Gift Basket Raffle Fundraiser. VDG Raj would so appreciate it if you or your club could donate a gift basket for this joint fundraiser. I know that Barkhamsted, Connecticut United Hearts and Hands, Hartford County Everest Centennial, and Northwestern Connecticut Cyber Lions Clubs have already signed up to support this project. Click on the link to register your club: <https://forms.gle/LPjd9iGGLv3JHKWr9>

2023 LIONS DAY WITH THE UNITED NATIONS (NEW YORK): Don't miss your chance to participate in the 2023 Lions Day with the United Nations in New York City on **Friday, March 3, 2023**, with PID Mark and Lyn Lyon, District Governor Sue and PDG Ed Fisher, District Governor Melissa Smith and me as we explore the impact of Lions' and Leos' service on improving health, nutrition and wellness in communities around the world. Secure your spot [today](#) and join us for a celebration of Lions service and partnership with the United Nations. Your LDUN registration includes: ticket to the LDUN program, printed souvenir program, Lions International pin, and portfolio, dynamic speakers and panel discussions, entertainment, participation in local service projects. You can register at: [Personal Information - Lions Day with the United Nations 2023 - New York \(cvent.com\)](https://cvent.com)

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at either GranbyDavidRoberts@gmail.com or 858-775-9241 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. Have a wonderful holiday season. Together we can do so much more! So, let us "Seize the Day"! DG Dave

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TEAM UPDATES FROM GST PHYLLIS PERRY

Please share the following district service project and multi-district service project updates with club members:
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Book Drive – This is a reminder that the Dr. MLK Jr book drive is slated to run from Nov 16 through Jan 16. During this time, clubs will select books from the African American and LatinX American book lists available on the district website ([District 23B website Projects](#)) and gift them to your local library(ies) This year the books are for the teen and up age group. Your club designee will file this literacy service project under 'other' in the MyLion software.

Pajama Project – All three Connecticut lion districts will be collecting pajamas for ages 0 – 18 at the Mid-Winter Conference, held at the Wyndham Southbury February 3 – 5, 2023. By supporting this PJ Drive, you will directly supply new pajamas to the children within Hartford and Litchfield counties who need them most so they can stay warm while sleeping. The PJs will be distributed to children through a **children's** hospital or a nonprofit community **organization** serving **children** and teens **in** need.

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 ; 858-775-9241

Last Chance to Apply for the Marketing Award

Don't miss your chance to take home the grand prize! Check out the award details to see if your club's marketing campaign qualifies and submit your application for the Lions International Marketing Award by December 31, 2022. [LEARN MORE](#)

Celebrate Our Founder's Legacy and Show Your Pride

The 2022 Melvin Jones Photo Contest is open through December 31, 2022. Show your pride in honor of Melvin Jones' 144th birthday by sharing a photo of what it means to you to be a Lion or Leo. Don't miss your chance to enter and win! [LEARN MORE](#)

"Leadership Beyond Your Club"

This is a workshop sponsored by the 23B Past District Governors' Association and will be held on April 15, 2022 from 9 am to Noon. Designed to inform Lions of the many leadership opportunities at the Cabinet level, the workshop will be hosted by several recent district governors who have worked with a variety of Cabinet leaders. Thinking of assuming a leadership position beyond your club? Come on down and hear what opportunities are available to you as a member of the 23B Cabinet! Mark your calendars for this date and look for additional information in the months ahead. ROAR LIONS!!

District Calendar

Woodbury Lions Club, Annual Luminaria Display, December 24

Location: Main Street, Woodbury (Route 6)

Cost: FREE!

As our annual gift to the town of Woodbury, the Woodbury Lions Club will once again line Main Street with thousands of luminarias to light up the town. Best viewing is after the sun has fully set. New this year: Enjoy some Christmas music while you cruise main street. Tune your radio to 88.5 to enjoy our selection of some of our favorite holiday music.

Harwinton and Winsted Lions Clubs, Mardi Gras Dance, February 17, 2023, 6:30pm

Location: Torrington Elks Lodge, 70 Litchfield St. (Rte. 202), Torrington, CT

Cost: \$30.00 per person payable at the door

Come celebrate Mardi Gras with the Harwinton and Winsted Lions Clubs!

Well-known local band River City Slim and The Zydeco Hogs will provide great music. Dancing is strongly encouraged. The doors open at 6:30 PM. The band will begin playing at 7:30 PM. Light refreshments will be served. A cash bar will also be available. The event is open to the public. Tickets will be available online and at the door. Click <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/harwinton-lions-club-winsted-lions-club-mardi-gras-party-fundraiser-tickets-484068310347> to purchase your tickets online. Bring your fellow Lions, family, and friends to what promises to be a great celebration of Mardi Gras! Proceeds will benefit the Harwinton and Winsted Lions charities.

Contact: PDG Harry Schuh hschuh@charter.net

Manchester Lions Club, Lions Multi-District Dinner Meeting, February 21, 2023, 5:30pm

Location: The American Legion Hall, 20 American Legion Dr. Manchester, CT

Cost: \$30.00 per person payable at the door

We are extending an invitation to your entire Lions Membership and guests to our fourth Lions Club Multi-District 23-B & 23-C Buffet Dinner Meeting. As in past years please bring canned food items that will be donated to the local MACC Food Pantry. The band will be Night Out, and there will be a 50/50 raffle, door prizes and guest speakers. Club Presidents will be allowed to make brief announcements for upcoming club events.

Contact: Ed Gorman, 860-212-2891 egorman315@aol.com or Dave DuBaldo, 860-250-1500 david@dubaldo.com

We have our own email address now: D23BLionsRoar@gmail.com. Please use this email address. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the issue date January 15 for the February District Spirit—submit to District23BSpirit@gmail.com. February 15 for the March Lions' Roar to 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.



Manchester Lions Multi-Club Dinner Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023

Where: American Legion Hall
20 American Legion Drive, Manchester, CT

Time: Social Hour/cash bar 5:30 – 6:30 pm Buffet Dinner: 6:30PM

Cost: \$30.00 payable at the door

Entertaining night out, raffles and guest speaker

All Clubs will have an opportunity to share announcements and club activities

Please bring any canned food items for MACC Food Pantry

R.S.V.P Please by February 14, 2023:

Ed Gorman, (M) 860-212-2891 egorman315@aol.com

Dave DuBaldo, (M) 860-250-1500 david@dubaldo.com