

**LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL
CONNECTICUT LIONS
DISTRICT 23A**



2012

2013

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER

**June 2013
Issue No. 10**

Governor's Message

Greetings Fellow Lions....

With mixed emotions, I write my final newsletter. I have one request before I continue/conclude my message of farewell. **To all club officers:** If your club has any last minute donations to make to the organizations we support, please send it in to the district treasurer Frank Molinaro before/by June 15th. This will help to expedite the timely closing of the books from my term to DGE Ed Haberli. That way there hopefully won't be any outstanding checks, club or district, after June 30th. Thank you!

To continue, it has been a very busy year with all clubs visited by the time you read this. So, here is a quick synopsis of the year and my goals. Although we haven't been able to charter a new club, to date we are only a net drop of 45 members. And we have chartered two new Leo clubs thanks to the Waterbury and Danbury clubs. The "soon to be" Leo club in Meriden is still being worked on. Please allow me to welcome all the new Lions to our district since the beginning of our year, and to quote our current Council Chair Ken Tucker, "It's a great day to be a Lion."

We did have training sessions for Certified Guiding Lions in the form of a mini-extension CEP (Club Excellence Program) attended by Zone Chairs and a district wide member orientation session. A great program with superb information at which the attendance could have been better!

I would be remiss if I didn't thank all the clubs and Lions for their financial help to the Newtown Lions club for its goal to assist with the cost of counseling to those in Newtown who need it.

A big "thank you" to the clubs Stratford, Milford and Bridgeport Host for their good use of the LCIF funds after Hurricane Sandy. Speaking of LCIF funds, a "thank you" to Jamene Farrell and the New Haven Lions club for their good work of the Quest program in New Haven.

My appreciation also goes to all the cabinet chairs in 23A for their work in their specific areas of responsibility, and a special thank you to VDGs Ed and Kathy for their contribution to our district.

Despite its challenges it has been a very special year for me and a wonderful experience and I thank all the Lions in 23A and in particular my own club of Ridgefield for their support. It has been an honor and privilege to be your District Governor.

In a World of Service,
DG Linda



Helen Keller Day June 1

In 1971, the Board of Directors of Lions Clubs International declared that June 1 would be remembered as Helen Keller Day. Lions around the world implement sight-related service projects on Helen Keller Day.

Born in Tuscumbia, Alabama in 1880, Helen Keller developed a fever at 18 months of age that left her blind and deaf. With the help of an exceptional teacher, Anne Mansfield Sullivan of the Perkins School for the Blind, Helen Keller learned sign language and Braille. A few years later, she learned to speak. As an adult she became a tireless advocate for people with disabilities. And in 1925, she attended the Lions Clubs International Convention and challenged Lions to become “knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness.” The Lions accepted her challenge and our work ever since has included sight programs aimed at preventable blindness.

In the digital edition of the May Lions Magazine, there is rare footage of Helen Keller and Anne Mansfield on page 25. You can also find other videos of Helen Keller. Please check it out!

<http://mydigimag.rrd.com/publication/?i=154477>

LCI Honored with Visionary Award from Helen Keller International

Lions Clubs International was recognized with the Visionary Award at the 8th Annual Spirit of Helen Keller Gala held in New York on May 22nd. The award recognizes institutional friends whose generosity and innovations advance the mission of Helen Keller International.

First Vice President Barry Palmer represented LCI at the event and accepted the award. “I am honored to accept this award on behalf of the 1.35 million Lions club members – men and women who serve in over 46,000 clubs in more than 200 countries,” said VP Palmer. “Lions clubs remain ever-dedicated to service and to Helen Keller’s spirit, vision and her challenge to join with others to be Knights of the Blind in communities around the world.”

Follow <http://lionsclubs.org/blog/2013/05/24/lci-honored-with-visionary-award-from-helen-keller-international/> if you want to read the rest of the article.

Club Events

Milford Lions Club Annual Charity Car Show from 9am – 3pm on June 9th 612 Wheelers Farm Road in Milford <http://www.lions23a.org/Events2011/month.htm>

Seymour Lions Club Summer Cruise Nights: June 13th (5pm–8pm) and June 27th (5pm–8pm) at Molto Bene's Restaurant, 557 Wakelee Avenue, Ansonia
<http://www.lions23a.org/Events2011/month.htm>

** If you have a club event you would like in our newsletter, please contact Cabinet Secretary Lisa Phillips lionlisap@yahoo.com*

Welcome New Lions

Lion Justin Frechette to the Madison Lions Club
Lion John Hambor to the Madison Lions Club
Lion Fred Lindquist to the Madison Lions Club
Lion Andrea Dunnam to the New Canaan Lions Club
Lion Gerry Harrington to the New Canaan Lions Club
Lion Michael Aldrich to the New Fairfield Lions Club
Lion Michael Mallon to the New Canaan Lions Club
Lion Joan Zorena to the Orange Lions Club
Lion Benjamin Belancik to the Wallingford Lions Club
Lion Debra Belancik to the Wallingford Lions Club
Lion Benjamin Belancik Jr. to the Wallingford Lions Club
Lion Laura Belancik to the Wallingford Lions Club
Lion Linda Cohen to the Woodbridge Lions Club
Lion Jennifer Romanoff to the Woodbridge Lions Club

Happy Anniversary

Bethel Lions Club:	85 years	(June 6, 1928)
Westport Lions Club:	3 years	(June 10, 2010)

Upcoming Dates to Remember

District Governor Visitations:

- Devon: June 4
- Bridgeport Host: June 5

District 23A Events:

- District Governor Testimonial: June 7
6:30pm at the Amber Room Colonnade in Danbury
- Special Olympics "Opening Eyes": June 8th and 9th
8:00am – 4pm (Sat.) and 8:30am – noon (Sunday) at Southern CT State University
Contact PDG Joan Bennett if you want to volunteer 203-234-8531 lionjoanbennett@snet.net
- Cabinet Meeting: June 10
7:00pm at Molto Bene Restaurant, Wakelee Avenue, Ansonia
- LLVC Annual Dinner: June 14
6:30pm at Molto Bene Restaurant, Wakelee Avenue, Ansonia
For additional information email Kathy Poirier kmpoirier49@gmail.com

Multiple District 23 Events:

- CLERF Meeting: June 3
7:00pm at the Manor Inn Restaurant in Southington
- Council Meeting: June 17
7:00pm at the Manor Inn Restaurant in Southington

Lions Clubs International Events:

- International Convention: July 5 – 9 in Hamburg, Germany
Registration form: http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/common/pdfs/conv_reg_form.pdf

Please visit our district website at www.lions23a.org for all of the information about our district.
Contact Lion Ernie Harrington to post any events that your club may have: ech105@snet.net
We are also on Facebook! Join our group at "Lions Clubs D23A, CT, USA"