



"Diversity, Collaboration & Participation For Service"

NEWSLETTER FOR LIONS DISTRICT 23A, CT

September 2017

Issue No. 2



Message from Shaukat

Dear Fellow Lions in District 23A:

The devastation caused by hurricane Harvey is enormous. But the worst is not over yet. While the flooding is expected to continue in Texas- the death toll related to the hurricane is expected to rise. Twelve years after Katrina, Louisiana was threatened by the tropical storm, which the climatologists were calling "the worst in US History." There are new threats of flash flooding in Tennessee Valley, West Virginia and Kentucky from unrelenting rainfall from Harvey. While we continue to struggle with the unprecedented devastation caused hurricane Harvey, hurricane Irma is building up in the Atlantic Ocean. Thousands of people are already in the shelters, more and more people, stranded by water, are being rescued from different areas of Texas and are being taken to the shelters. After all this is over, there will be a prolonged recovery period from this devastation. As expected, the Lions Clubs International responded within a very short time of this catastrophe. Through its foundation, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has responded with an emergency grant in the amount of US \$100,000. The Lions International President, Dr. Naresh Aggarwal has requested Lions to 'consider a donation to LCIF to assist Lions in short-term and long-term disaster response.'

In the other part of the world, the people of Bangladesh are facing a chain of natural disasters. At the beginning of June, Cyclone Mora hit the south-east part of Bangladesh. Two weeks after this, a historic landslide resulting from torrential monsoon rain caused death to several hundred people and significant damage to road and communication infrastructure. Most recently, a devastating widespread flood has caused more deaths and damages. As of August 20th, 5.7 million people are affected by this flood, around 300,000 people were in emergency shelters. The Lions in Bangladesh are working day and night to do their part in the disaster relief, along with other governmental and non-governmental agencies. They are being financially assisted by our foundation, Lions Clubs International Foundation. In the aftermath of these disasters, the recovery period in Bangladesh from this disaster is also expected to be prolonged and difficult.

Under these circumstances, I'd request the Lions of our district to make generous donations to LCIF. Your donation to Charity Navigator's four-star rated organization, LCIF, is tax-deductible. Your donations to 'disaster' will count towards Melvin Jones Fellowship and/or are eligible for other recognitions by LCI.

Please make a donation and with our 'Power of We,' let's bring relief to the millions of people who are affected by these devastating natural disasters.

These recent disasters also underscore the need to remain prepared for the next disaster. LCI has developed Lions Alert program for providing emergency response and assistance. This year I have expanded the District 23A Alert/Emergency Committee. The Committee is expected to develop an emergency response plan. The plan should include plan for coordinating with other emergency management organizations, if needed, as well as specific training and practice schedules to prepare for the emergency. One can only prepare for the disaster before the disaster hits the community. I hope, the Lions of the district will help this important effort.

In the spirit of Lionism,
Lion Shaukat
DG Dist. 23A



Club Secretaries—Membership Information Audit

You know how it is in the life of a club secretary...loads of data, information to take in, send out and update various databases and while that is happening the club members lives go on with moving, changing email addresses, cell phone...it tough to get the information sometimes! With that being said, the beginning of the club year is a GREAT time to canvas your membership and keep the LCI database up-to-date. Helps us to keep you in the loop with all the great things we are doing!



30th Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest, 2017—2018

We want to see peace in the world and we act! Lions International's yearly Peace Poster Contest help the participating kids to Imagine their visions of peace, Inspire them to showcase their talents, helps them to Create strong ties with community. Please organize Peace Poster Contest in your community.

Theme: 'The Future of Peace'

Last day to order Peace Poster kits from the Club Supplies: 10/1/17

Last day (postmark) to send one winning poster from your club to the DG: 11/15/17

Let's work together to promote peace around the world!



Zone Chair Recognition

Having experience as Zone Chair for multiple years, I know it is a very responsible position and discharging its obligations appropriately can be very demanding. Zone Chair is the most important position in the cabinet and is the chair of the DG Advisory Committee at the Zone level, it is very important component of District Leadership Team. Zone Chairs are the 'primary information conduit' between the District Governor and the zones and have direct contact with the clubs in his/her zones. As such, they can help the clubs with their activities, in cooperation with District club coordinators, can monitor and help clubs' membership and leadership growths and help to maintain club health.

I have decided to formally recognize up to two Zone Chairs, who have performed outstanding service as Zone Chairs, at the end of my District Governor's year. I know we all work for the community voluntarily, without having any expectation of personal benefit. But, I also think it is my responsibility, as the DG to recognize those who perform their responsibilities with sincerity and dedication or even, go beyond their call of duty.

The final decision about the awardees will be made by District Governors' Team . If you have any question, please feel free to contact me, the Cabinet Secretary or the Vice District Governors.

For those of you that are new Zone Chairs or current Zone Chairs that would like a refresher, I would recommend you to use Lions Learning Center (LLC) resources to learn more about your position, especially the responsibilities associated with it. I would specifically recommend the LLC course # 210, Zone Chairs- Roles and Responsibilities.

Announcements:

- International Director Candidates Forum will be held on Saturday, September 9th from 9-11 am at the Middletown Senior Center, 61 Durant Terrace in Middletown
- New England Fidelco Advisory Meeting, September 16th
- Zone 5 meeting, September 19th
- Veterans Stand Down will be held on Friday, September 22nd from 8 am—2 pm at the Connecticut Veterans Home, 287 West St., Rocky Hill. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Lion Pam Mainiero at: pam286@comcast.net or 203-464-2606.
- USA/Canada Leadership forum, Portland, Oregon, September 21-23, 2017.
- LLVC—23 B&C, September 25th
- Zones 1&2 meeting, September 25th
- LLVC—23A, September 28th
- Zones 7&8 meeting, October 4th
- Zone 4 meeting, October 5th
- Zone 6 meeting, October 5th
- Next District 23A Cabinet Meeting will be Monday, October 9th, 7 pm at Bethany Lakeview Lodge in Bethany
- White Cane Day, October 15th
- CLERF BOD Meeting, October 16th
- VIP Fishing Tournament, October 16-18
- NELC Weekend Regional Leadership Institute, October 20-22
- MD23 Council Meeting, October 23rd
- Women's and Children Symposium date has been changed to November 18th from 8 to noon —More info to come!
- LLVC—23B&C, October 30th

District Governor's Club Schedule for September and October 2017

- 9/5 Stratford, 6:30 pm
- 9/12 Hamden, 6:30 pm
- 9/13 Ridgefield, 7:00 pm
- 9/14 Trumbull, 6:00 pm
- 9/18 Shelton, 7:00 pm
- 9/25 Guilford, 7:00 pm
- 9/26 Easton, 7:00 pm
- 10/4 Trumbull Center, 6:30 pm
- 10/9 District Cabinet Meetings (A, B, C)
- 10/10 Devon, 7:00 pm
- 10/11 Monroe, 7:00 pm
- 10/12 North Haven, 6:00 pm
- 10/18 Bridgeport Host, 6:30 pm
- 10/23 MD23 Council Meeting
- 10/24 West Haven, 7:00 pm
- 10/26 Darien, 7:00 pm



District 23A Website

Did you know that our District 23A website is your one stop for all the info district-wide...including our newsletters! If you haven't checked it out, here is the link: <http://www.lions23a.org/>.

LCI Mission Statement:

"To empower volunteers to serve their communities, meet humanitarian needs, encourage peace and promote international understanding through Lions clubs."

LCI Vision Statement:

"To be the global leader in community and humanitarian service."

