

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



**2011      2012**

**DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER**

September 2011  
Issue 2

Greetings District 23A Lions:

Fall is starting and many of the Clubs who do not meet in the summer have started up again. I have made a few of Club visits during the month and have full schedule of meetings coming up in the month ahead along with our second Cabinet meeting , a second Multidistrict Council meeting and another New England Lions Council (NELC) meeting in Boxborough, Massachusetts.

Club Presidents and Secretaries are encouraged to attend any of the above mentioned meetings, especially the 23A Cabinet meetings.

At the first NELC meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup> the Global Leadership Team (GLT) coordinator Mark Lyon, the Global Membership Team (GMT) coordinator Helen Belluschi, the Vice District Governors Linda Maggs and Ed Haberli and I attended sessions on membership, new club development and the Club Excellence Process (CEP). The event was topped off with a solemn memorial necrology service. I'm sad to say that thirty four District 23A lions passed away in the past year.

The Club Excellence Process is a club based workshop program dedicated to improving Lions Clubs. A Club that participates in the CEP is guided by a facilitator through four steps of approximately an hour each. The club looks at its community's needs, takes a survey of its membership experience, uses resources and develops action plans for club improvement. The four step process includes completing a Community Needs Assessment, a survey from club members for their perspective on the Club's activities, a review of the assessment and survey results, and setting goals and creating action plans. The entire process can be accomplished in two sessions approximately two hour sessions. The program, available at lionsclub.org, is an excellent program for clubs to get a clear understanding of where they can be of service to the community, how club members feel about their club, and a good base for attracting new members.

For more information use this url: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/member-center/membership-and-new-clubs/strengthen-membership/club-excellence-workshop/index.php>

VDG Linda Maggs and I along with District Governors, VDGs and others from MD23 attended the 35th Annual USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum in Anchorage, Alaska on September 22-24. The program with more than sixty workshops and four outstanding luncheon and dinner speakers was attended by more

that 2700 Lions. The programs included covered a broad selection of topics from developing websites and face book pages to building youth community, Leos Clubs development, Fundraising and Leadership training for Club, Zone and District officers. The speakers included life skills trainer and all around positive thinker Mary Kay Mueller, four time Iditarod Dog Race winner Martin Buser, LCI President Wing-Kun Tam, and Dan Bigley, a young man who lost his sight when he was mauled by a grizzly bear on a day off to go salmon fishing. Their stories and experiences were inspiring to all. As a bonus President Tam recruited and installed Mary Kay and Dan as Lions during the proceedings.

Club activity reports are important. They keep me informed of the great service our District Clubs are providing. In addition, when reported to LCI, they along with all others are totalled and reported, enhancing LCIF's ratings as a major fund raising organization. The higher the rating the greater the ability to raise funds from outside sources to serve in ending blindness in the world.

Please keep those reports coming in when you do your membership reporting.  
If you need any assistance in reporting please contact [webmaster@district23A.org](mailto:webmaster@district23A.org)

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## **Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Part II**

As I travel around the district and meet with Clubs I hear that they are having a problem getting public recognition of their good works and community service. Newspapers are not reporting on their activities and submitted pictures from their events are not getting into the press. They also feel that they have not been able to connect with younger adults whom they would like to invite to join their Club.

The best way to communicate with the younger people is to go where they go to get information. That is the internet, with a Club website. Fortunately LCI has made it very easy to create an attractive and informative website even if you don't know anything about setting one up. The entire process to create your new website is there and easy to follow. You do not have to build the entire process at one sitting, so you can take your time.

To begin with, log on to the Lions Club International web site by typing the following [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) or [www.e-clubhouse.org](http://www.e-clubhouse.org) in your browser. This will take you to the "Create a Free Web Site for Your Club" page. You can look around in the site first to get more information and examples of existing Club websites. When you are ready to start you will need to register as a new user and then you can create the website for your club. If you need any assistance or have questions, please contact the District 23A at webmaster Ernie Harrington at [webmaster@District23A.org](mailto:webmaster@District23A.org)

Other ways you can reach out to the community and potential new members through the internet are a Club Facebook page, Linkedin or a Twitter account. For an example of a Club Facebook page go to <http://www.facebook.com/DanburyLions>. While there "write on the wall."

I look forward to hearing of your new websites and facebook pages.

**Projects your club can do to serve you community:**

Schedule a vision screening:

Contact Lion Joyce Wruck at [lionjoyce@comcast.net](mailto:lionjoyce@comcast.net) or telephone 203-608-8300

Collect eyeglasses by putting collection boxes in your local library, optometrist office, church or other community location. You can drop them off at the local Lens Crafters or send them

to: New Jersey Lions Eyeglass Recycle Center  
C/O Katzenbach School for the Deaf  
320 Sullivan Way  
West Trenton, NY 08628

**Upcoming Events and Dates:**

**Governors Visits:**

<b>Bridgeport Host</b>	<b>October 5</b>
<b>Meriden</b>	<b>October 12</b>
<b>Cheshire</b>	<b>October 18</b>
<b>Waterbury</b>	<b>October 20</b>
<b>Orange</b>	<b>October 24</b>
<b>Oxford</b>	<b>October 26</b>
<b>Darien</b>	<b>October 27</b>

**Other Events:**

<b>MD23 NBC Health Fair</b>	<b>October 1,2</b>
<b>District 23A Cabinet</b>	<b>October 3</b>
<b>ID Ron Johnson Homecoming</b>	<b>October 8</b>
<b>CLERF</b>	<b>October 10</b>
<b>Reception for IDC Carolyn Messier</b>	<b>October 15</b>
<b>MD Council</b>	<b>October 17</b>
<b>NELC</b>	<b>October 22</b>

*Lion Lyn*