

August 1, 2009

Issue 2

Opportunity is Knocking

District 23B Governor's Newsletter



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AND WE'RE OFF...

The International Convention in Minneapolis was a fantastic event. Lions from around the world gathered for a week of fellowship, education, and celebration. But most enjoyable was.....**the sunshine**. Since I had to be out there a few days early for the District Governors' seminars, I was able to enjoy 10 days of rain-free weather. And that wasn't all! Colin Powell gave us an entertaining insight into his government career. Over 20 Connecticut Lions marched up Nicollet Mall in the International Parade. The Beach Boys were on hand, and gave a performance that was enjoyed by all. The Yankees beat the Twins three times. However, my personal highlight was when CST Carolyn Messier pulled a green ribbon from my badge, signifying my installation as District Governor. Carolyn is but one of many Past District Governors who have mentored and coerced, no, that's not the right word, *counseled* me over the past several years. I thank you all.

CLUB OFFICER TRAINING – FINAL NOTICE

Our annual training for incoming club officers will be held on **Saturday, August 15th**, at the IBTD Building on Main Street in New Britain. Registration is at **8 am** and the overall seminar should be done by 12 noon. Please make every effort to attend, even if you have participated in the seminars before. District Leadership Chairman Alan Daninhirsch is putting together a very informative session so that our club Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Membership Chairmen can have an effective – and enjoyable - year.

REMINDER – LIONS MEMORIAL SERVICE.....

New England Lions will gather at the Cathedral of the Pines in Rindge, New Hampshire on **Sunday, September 13th**. Each District Governor will read the names of those in their respective districts who have left us this past year. This moving tribute takes place in an

outdoor wooded area in view of majestic Mount Monadnock.

.....AND A HOMECOMING

Also on September 13th, the New England Lions welcome home **Past International Director Ed Lecius**. PID Ed has served on the International Board with great passion and leadership these past two years, and now the Nashua Lions are glad to welcome him home. There will be a reception and dinner at the Crowne Plaza in Nashua, New Hampshire – right up the road from the memorial service. The event begins at 3pm, and the cost is \$38. Please RSVP by August 26th with your meal selection of Stuffed Chicken or Tournedos of Beef, to

Secretary John Deschenes

7 Galway Road

Nashua, NH 03062

please make checks payable to the Nashua Lions Club.

CLERF – YOUR RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Did you know that the Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation has been in existence since 1956? Now in its 53rd year, CLERF has undertaken a major initiative – a \$1,000,000 drive to enhance its commitment to combating pediatric eye diseases, glaucoma and macular degeneration. After one year, we are already 40% there, but we will continue to require your support to reach our goal. Yes, I said “our goal”, because as Lions of Connecticut we are *all* members of the Foundation. I am pleased that Dan DiVirgilio has taken on the role of CLERF chairman for our district. He and the rest of the CLERF board will be giving you more details about the good work our Foundation does.

OUR 23B LOW VISION CENTER

Our Lions Low Vision Center has been providing service to the visually impaired for 20 years. Over the past few years, we have set up operations in Torrington, Bristol, and at the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation. Our main facility, as you may know, is located at the New Britain Hospital. But did you know that anyone with uncorrectable 20/60 vision currently being treated by a doctor can utilize our services? If you know of anyone whose vision impairment causes them difficulty with everyday tasks, please encourage and assist them with scheduling an appointment. Our center has a toll free #, 1-800-676-5715.

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 3	23B Cabinet Meeting
August 17	CLERF Meeting
August 18	MD23 Council Meeting – note change from prior newsletter

August 24	Low Vision Board Meeting
September 9	Zone 3 Meeting
September 10	Zone 5 Meeting
September 13	New England Lions Memorial Service, Rindge, NH
September 13	JDRF Walk, Litchfield
September 14	Zone 8 Meeting
September 15	Zone 1 Meeting – note change from prior newsletter
September 16	Club visitation - Washington
September 17	Zone 2 Meeting
September 18	Veterans Stand Down, Rocky Hill
September 20	JDRF Walk, East Hartford
September 21	Zone 6 Meeting
September 22	Club visitation - Windsor
September 24-26	USA-Canada Forum, Memphis, TN
September 29	Zone 4 Meeting – note change from prior newsletter
September 30	Zone 7 Meeting
September 30	Low Vision Board Meeting

David B. Yadach, District Governor