

Mar. 1, 2010

# Opportunity is Knocking

Issue 9

## District 23B Governor's Newsletter



### DAVID YADACH, D.G.

119 Fox Hollow  
Avon, CT 06001  
Phone (H): 860-677-1377  
Phone (C): 860-810-7154  
Email: dyadach@aol.com

In February we lost an outstanding Lion and friend to all, Past District Governor George Ondrick. George served as District Governor in 1992-93, and in subsequent years had leadership roles with our district Low Vision Center, and the CT Lions Eye Research Foundation. It was an outstanding tribute that so many Lions made the trip through the snow and freezing rain to pay their respects at the Lions Memorial Service.

### OUR NEW MELVIN JONES FELLOWS

As I've traveled through the District this year, it has made me quite proud to be the governor of such an outstanding group of Lions. Never was that more apparent than this past weekend in Milford, Massachusetts, site of the New England Lions Melvin Jones dinner to benefit LCIF. **Eight** new or progressive Melvin Jones Fellows were recognized by LCIF Chairman and Immediate Past International President Al Brandel, **more than any other district in New England**. Congratulations to

VDG Sia Dowlatshahi	South Windsor
Bob Clark	Hartford Evening
Nora Clark	Hartford Evening
Milagros Vazquez	Hartford Evening
Irene Hillstrand	Berlin
Marilyn Asal	Berlin
PDG Bob Weiss	Berlin

Also, a progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship that was to be given to PDG George Ondrick has been presented to his wife, Lion Faith.

## THANK YOU

The **Midwinter Conference** was a huge hit. Over 400 Lions came out to enjoy a weekend of fellowship and information. 2 special “thank you”s for making the event a success - **Past International Director Scott Storms** for filling in as our “guest” when our scheduled speaker was shoveling out of two feet of snow – and **MD Leadership Chair Kathy Randall** for putting together an outstanding group of seminars. Hope to see you all again next year!

## THIS MONTH'S FEATURED EVENT

What does it take to stop Diabetes? You!!!! The **Diabetes Awareness** breakfast is set for **March 21<sup>st</sup>**, 8am at Central Connecticut State University. There is still time to contact Diabetes Chair Bob Bessel to reserve your seat. Please consider presenting a personal or club donation, and listen to the latest news in the fight to find a cure. Bob can be reached at [rbessel@yahoo.com](mailto:rbessel@yahoo.com), or by phone at 860-324-8267.

## AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CONNECTICUT

Our state has been given an opportunity - to put up a **candidate for International Director** at the **2011 Convention in Seattle**, Washington. Each of the three districts will call a special convention in June to endorse one candidate, and a special **Multiple District Convention will be held November 13, 2010** to elect our Connecticut candidate from these three individuals. We are very fortunate in District 23B to have a qualified announced candidate – Past Council Chair and current Council Secretary-Treasurer **Carolyn Messier**. We have made it easy to send your delegates to the **District Convention on June 13<sup>th</sup>**, because.....

## MOVING TO GROW LIONS LEADERS

The District Convention will take place in conjunction with the **PSTM seminars for incoming club officers**, June 13<sup>th</sup> at the IBTD building in New Britain. Whether you are a first-time or experienced club officer, please come out to learn information that will make next year even better for your club. More information will be available in the coming months.

## CLUB SECRETARIES

Has your club started to think about **next year's officers**? Please get your **PU-101** submissions completed by **May 15**. These are easily done using the online membership reporting system, but **if you need a paper copy please contact me**; I have a limited supply available.

## A REMINDER FOR ZONES 5-8

The Governor's Breakfast is March 14<sup>th</sup> – which also happens to be the first day of **Daylight Savings Time**. Don't forget to change your clocks!

## NEW ON THE WEBSITE

Registration material is now available for this year's **State Convention**, to be held in Groton **April 24-25**. Our International Guest will be International Director Richard Sawyer from Arizona. Early bird registration ends April 1, so please register as soon as possible. Our incoming District officers are District Governor candidate Sia Dowlatshahi, 1<sup>st</sup> VDG candidate Robert Cormier, and 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG candidate Tim Hilliker.

## KUDOS:

Congratulations to the **Simsbury Lions** for satisfying the requirements for the **Year-Round Growth Award**.

Zone 7 Chair **Trish Julian** on receiving an International President's Certificate of Appreciation.

Watertown President **Dr Matt Baker** on receiving an International President's Certificate of Appreciation.

Immediate Past District Governor **Len Johnson** on receiving an International Leadership Medal.

## CONDOLENCES

Our sympathies to the families and friends of our fellow Lions

**Felice Lupia**, Berlin Lions

**PDG George Ondrick**, Berlin Lions

## HAIRCUT UPDATE

In last month's edition, I put what little hair I have on the line, if the District has a net gain of 35 members by the State Convention in late April. Through February, we have made a little dent and now stand at negative 27. The good news (or bad, if you happened to be me) is that several clubs are expected to report large gains in March. In fact, it's quite possible that by March 31 we could be even. Stay tuned.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

March 7	Governor's Breakfast, Zones 1-4
March 11	Club visitation – Colebrook
March 14	Governor's Breakfast, Zones 5-8
March 15	Multiple District Council Meeting
March 16	Club visitation – Thomaston
March 21	Diabetes Awareness Breakfast – CCSU
March 28	Palm Sunday
March 29	Low Vision Board of Directors

And remember – **It's Great To Be A Lion!**

*David B. Yadach, District Governor*