



District 45 – Vermont Lions: In Lionism, In Service, In Friendship November 2023 - Communique

Hello Fellow Lions,

As November fast approaches, and the Holidays are quickly approaching, I want to give thanks to you and your families for all that you do to make this world a better place through service! Whether we are serving an entire community or just one person, each and every one of you is making a positive difference in the lives we serve. I am humbled and honored to be a part of the largest service organization in the world. Keep up the great work!!

We are having a very exciting and productive year in District 45. Many new members, and a new Leos Club, all great additions. We have been given a goal by LCI of ending the year with Plus 30 new members, currently we are at -3 members, this may seem low, but we are very close to being back even, where we started this year, we will gain the new members we need, through all our hard work, we will surpass our goal, by focusing on service, once our communities see what the lions do, they will want to join us! We need to tell our stories, share our excitement and be present at all our events.

Lots of events are coming up this holiday season, please remember to get them to us so we can get them on the calendar. Every bake sale, every food drive, nothing is too small to share. Let us know, we can share with our friends and family, and might even show up to help!

Coming up at the January Forum, we will again be packing meals, we are signed up to pack 23,500 meals, more than ever before. The meal this year is cheesy macaroni and cheese. Boxes will be available for sale, i encourage each club to pre-buy cases of food for your local food cupboard. If you choose, you can purchase and donate to the Vermont food bank. This food stays right here in Vermont. Look for details on the pre order. There will be order forms at the Fall Conference.

Please reach out to me to schedule club visits. I am excited to come to your clubs and see what great things you are doing. I would also like to know what events you have planned; I would like to come and help at as many as I can.

Stay well and enjoy your family and friends this season of Thanks!!

Let's Roar!!

DG



District 45 – Calendar

Would you like to see your club highlighted?

Club news or articles due on or before the 25th of each month

Please email information to:

communique@vermontlions.org

Date	Hosts-Event	Location
November 4, 2023	Fall Forum/Super Raffle	Hampton Inn Colchester, VT
December 3, 2023	Zone 1B Outing UVM Men's Hockey Game For tickets visit: https://pn1.glitnirticketing.com/pnticket/web/loggingroup1.php	UVM Gutterson Fieldhouse Burlington, VT
December 16 & 17, 2023	The Santa Express For tickets visit: manchesterlionselftrain.com	Manchester Lions Manchester, VT
January 5-6, 2024	NELC Winter Weekend	Rhode Island, TBA
January 13, 2024	Winter Forum/Meal Packing	Canadian Club Barre, VT
Food from the Heart	District 45 Clubs	
February 10, 2024	Valentine's Dinner/Dance Heartland Lions	Fireside Inn & Suites W Lebanon, NH
March 2024	Spring Forum	TBA
May 3-5, 2024	D45 Spring Convention	Fireside Inn & Suites W Lebanon, NH
May 17-18, 2024	NELC Spring Weekend	Vermont, TBA
July 20, 2024	Lions Twin State Soccer	TBA



New England Lions Council

The Fall Meeting & Necrology Service was held on Saturday, October 14, 2023, in Nashua, NH. As always it is great to hear from our District Governors and attend seminars, with 8 members attending from District 45.

The morning seminars included a focus on membership with "GMA for You and Your Club" led by CA1 GAT Guy Schmale from LCI & New England GAT Region Leader Winster Ceballos, PCC from New Jersey.



Be sure to follow New England Lions Council

Domingos "Dom" Branco, PDG (Rosa) - New England Lions Council, 2023-2024 President

Rhode Island Lions

Cell/Text: 401-714-2819

Email: liondbranco@verizon.net

Upcoming Calendar:

January 2024 – January 6, 2024

Newport RI

May 2024 – May 18, 2024

Vermont, TBA



Also there was "Growth....A Panel Discussion" with GAT Guy Schmale, PID Ed Lecius (NAMI Pilot Organizer), PID Ed Farrington & PCC Hilary Kumnick (Past GAT New England Leader & PCC Winster Ceballos (Current GAT Region Leader).

Immediately following lunch was the business meeting,



New England Governors' Reports and Necrology Service.





Enosburg Falls Lions

We serve!! Our club donated and delivered bleachers to the Enosburg Athletes.



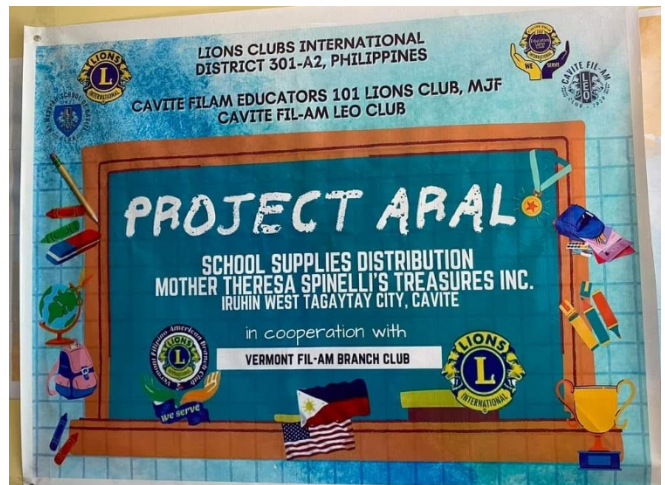
Vermont Filipino-American Lions

4 Cavite Filam Educator Lion's Club Collaborate Services Project in the Philippines Our mission In the Philippines was a great success and accomplished. We deliver meals, snack, water and fruits to the Aetas the First Filipino migrants in the Philippines they're are very happy and appreciate to see us, they are about 120 to 150 families that " We Serve" Where There's a Need There's a Lion's!!!



August 19th, 2023
Mission Accomplished

King Lion Bernadette Z Ibey
Vermont Filipino-American Lion's-USA
Club President



Windsor Lions



We just had another successful and fun day at I-91 rest area in Hartford. It's a wonderful day

serving visitors that are in our State. A surprise visitor was Senator Leahy and his wife. He saw Lions in action serving our community and visitors to our State.

Arlington Lions Club

Congratulations to Caroline Burke, winner of the Arlington Lions Peace Poster contest! Caroline's poster will now be entered in the state competition next month. We are proud to have Caroline's work representing Arlington!



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Colchester Lions Club

We're getting ready for this year's Trunk or Treats! This year Colchester's will be on Saturday the 28th of October at noon ('til two) at 898 Main Street (on the library's Lawn)!

Milton's Trunk or Treat will be on Friday October 27th, at 5:30PM to 7:30PM at Bombardier Park off of middle road. |

There will be treats, fun and munchies there, and loads of costumes to enjoy! We might even see Lucky the Lion again this year! Dress up in Kid friendly costumes and bring the kids for a great time!



Barre Lions Club

Representing at the Barre Town Falls Festival!



Champlain Valley Lions



Champlain Valley Lions present a check for \$200.00 to the Shelburne Food Shelf from a recent Lions Food Drive at the Shelburne Market.

In addition to the donation, 330-pounds of pounds of food were collected and donated, along with donated eyeglasses that the club upcycles to others in need.

Food insecurity impacts one in every seven Vermonters, and is a key mission of Lions clubs around the world.

On Sunday, November 5th, the community's new Lions club will hold another food drive at Hannafords on Shelburne Road in South Burlington. Again, food, used eyeglasses & hearing aids, and money will be collected for those in need.

Please contact Lion Jackie Dutil for info, or to get involved, at 802-989-8250.

Left to right: Lions president Mark Hanna, Pam Brangan (Chair of the Shelburne Food Shelf), and Lions project captain Andy Gramer.

Welcoming drivers to Burlington VT at the Route 91 rest stop. Raised \$423 for community service. Lots of good food, hot cider & treats. Nice people. [#champlainvalleylions](#).

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Left to Right, Lions: Jackie Dutil, Jacqueline Jones, Rosella Duarte, Phil Scharf

So, as Lions president, I got to check out Burlington's White Cane Day. Cool folks; really enjoyed it & learned a lot. Visually impaired is a big community!
I'm told Lions were behind the original white cane for blind people; and are still heavily involved in sight challenges.

#ChamplainValleyLions



Middlebury Lions

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\$10 BURGER *Friday's*

**1/3LB DELUXE BURGER MEAL
WITH DESSERT!**

**SERVING FROM 5:00PM-7:00PM (UNTIL SUPPLIES LAST)
BURGERS FROM "OLD HOOSIER MEATS"**

**EVERY 4TH FRIDAY
MIDDLEBURY AMERICAN LEGION
US 13 MIDDLEBURY**

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE COMMUNITY THROUGH
THE MIDDLEBURY LIONS CLUB**

Vergennes Lions

Lion Larry Simino Receives International President's Award



At the September 2023 Vergennes Lions picnic, Past International Director Tom Broughton addressed the assembled 53 Lions and guests. He shared that over the years Lions are always thankful when we get a person who is a Lion and gives five years of their life to service, but occasionally, the organization gets a Lion who is a Lion for life. This individual, whether male or female, commits themselves to a lifetime of service, both in small and large ways. They are always there and ready to help and no task is too small or too big. They define what it means to be a Lion and to serve others. At this point, PID Broughton invited PDG Larry Simino to join him at the front of the room to present the second highest award given in the Lions organization to a member of the Vergennes Lions Club. He presented on behalf of Past International President Brian Sheehan, the President Medal and Award to Vergennes Lion PDG Lion Larry Simino.

Lion Larry's involvement with Lions started in 1964 as he shared his story with a reporter from the newspaper in 2014. https://www.vvoice.org/?module=displaystory&story_id=3984&format=print&edition_id=649

Proposed Changes to Constitution and By-Law

At the Cabinet Meeting on August 19th, there was a discussion over certain Proposed Changes to the District 45 Constitution and By-Laws. It was voted to bring these changes to a vote at the upcoming Fall Conference and Cabinet Meeting on November 4th, 2023. If passed, these changes would be effective immediately.

While most of the Proposed Changes are to update language consistent with changes made by Lions Clubs International, these Proposed Changes include a multi-year increase in District Per Capita Tax (or dues) that, if passed, will be effective January 1, 2024. Dues will increase from \$10 per year to \$14 per year by July 1st, 2025. The District Per Capita Convention Fund Tax would see a one-time increase from \$1 to \$2 per member. These increases are necessary due to declining membership and increasing costs.

Attached are the proposed changes and the current District 45 Constitution and By-Laws.

Administrative Per Capita Tax 7/1/2023	\$5.00
Capita District Convention	\$0.50
7/1/2023 - 12/31/2023	\$5.50
Administrative Per Capita Tax 1/1/2024	\$6.00
Capita District Convention	\$0.50
1/1/2024 - 6/30/2024	\$6.50
Administrative Per Capita Tax 7/1/2024	\$6.50
Capita District Convention	\$1.00
7/1/2024 - 12/31/2024	\$7.50
ALSO 1/1/2025 - 6/30/2025	
Administrative Per Capita Tax 7/1/2025	\$7.00
Capita District Convention	\$1.00
7/1/2025 - 12/31/2025 and going forward	\$8.00

Everyone is encouraged to come and vote on this change Saturday, 11/4 at Forum



From International Director Steve Middlemiss

LeeAnn and I have returned from an amazing 2 weeks attending the Board meeting in Cairo and various service projects in Kenya. We were able to accomplish a lot at our Board meetings which built on the work of the Directors who came before us. While the Directors were in meetings, the companions completed service projects in Cairo, including cleaning the Nile River and planting trees.

What was most important to LeeAnn and I were the service projects we were able to be a part of in Kenya. We assisted the Lions Sight First Hospital where we screened school children for new eyeglasses. Most of the children who needed glasses left that day with new ones due to the amazing work of the Kenyan Lions who support the Hospital. We also helped distribute food to 50 families from a Maasai village.

We planted trees to help start the new Nashuali Lions Forest which will hopefully yield more trees to sustain the members of the local villages who use the wood to build their huts and for cooking fires. Additionally, we donated 2 solar cookers to the families of a local village, a project started by the Lions of Finland. These cookers are important tools to the women and children of the village. The women currently cook using wood fires, however, they do so inside their huts which is not a healthy choice and the children often lose valuable school time searching for firewood. The solar cookers are \$120 each and if you or your club are interested in purchasing one, just let me know and I will connect you to the appropriate person. It's a great way to broaden our service.

It is amazing to see the impact we can have on people's lives throughout the world. This trip really drove home the importance that we are truly a worldwide organization.

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We continue to look forward to serving the Lions of NH and the World as we all work toward "Changing the World".

Yours in Lionism,

ID Steve & Lion LeeAnn







A message from:

Patricia Vannett

**Past International Director,
GAT Constitutional Area 1 Leader**



MISSION 1.5

Dear Lion Leader,

Do you hear the buzz? Do you feel it? Do you sense the Lions' spirit awakening peoples' hearts in a new way, creating more opportunities to serve? Have you noticed new Lions among us? Are you aware of all the people finding their place to serve and grow?

Our *MISSION 1.5* train has left the station by adding 7,555 members. Our growth so far is plus 814. Toot, Toot! But some tough curves and high mountains are approaching as we typically experience dropped members in November and December. Let's make sure to hold on tight, by ensuring our members are satisfied with their service opportunity. This will help your club grow through these tight curves and steep mountains. All Lions jump aboard the train to success!!

Eighteen new clubs have been added with 13 pending. Toot, Toot! Will you get on board and bring valuable service back to those communities where Lions are no longer present?

We need to pick up speed if we are to reach our *MISSION 1.5* targets in CA1. Will you hop on board the *MISSION 1.5* train and **Just Ask** a friend, family member or colleague to join us in service? Will you help new, young and diverse members serve in the way that's best for them so that the important needs of our communities are met? Let's **Join Together** with other organizations to build our membership stronger than ever before.

Like the Johnny Cash song says "I hear the train a-comin', It's rollin' 'round the bend." Hop on board and enjoy the ride!

Challenge Accepted!

Lion Pat Vannett
Past International Director
Global Action Team
Constitutional Area Leader, CA1



President's Message Changing the World with International President Dr. Patti Hill

Dear Lion,

You are making such a big difference in people's lives every single day. Now imagine how much more your club could accomplish if everyone in your community knew of all the good they could do as part of your club.

Let's show our pride in our clubs by shining a light on our service every day. We are the global leader in humanitarian service, and we need to make sure that our communities know how we serve and how they can participate. Let's use great marketing and communication to show our communities that we are changing lives—and that they can change the world with us by becoming Lions and Leos.

Yours in service,

Dr. Patti Hill
International President

Marketing Tools and Resources

Whether you prefer traditional media or social media, online or offline, we've got everything you need to promote your club and your projects. Here are three great resources that can help.



- [Social Media for Lions Clubs](#) – Get resources to maximize your social media, including how-to videos, blogs and our [social media kits](#) with ready-to-use and customizable graphics to make your page really stand out.
- [Lions Press Center](#) – Find great resources to help you connect with your local media and share your impact stories with your community.
- [Brand and Marketing Toolkit](#) – Leverage the brand you helped build by downloading the Brand Advance kit loaded with resources, templates and tutorials to energize your marketing efforts.

Want to see great marketing in action? Then check out how President Hill is creating excitement for environmental service with her own incredible marketing video, [#LionsGoGreen](#).



Lions International Marketing Award

Great marketing can raise awareness of your club and your service, and inspire new members to join. And with the [Lions International Marketing Award](#), your club can earn recognition for great marketing that leads to new members.

So start planning your great membership campaign today to help us reach our [MISSION 1.5](#) goal, and use creative marketing to make it a success. Then submit your marketing award application by **February 1** for your chance to win a special trophy, certificates and US\$2,000 for your club.

Lions International Convention 2024 Melbourne

There's so much to be proud of as a Lion, and there's no better place to show your pride than at the 106th Lions Clubs International Convention in Melbourne, Australia!



Celebrate your service with Lions and Leos from around the world and enjoy world-class speakers and entertainment in one of the most unique and exciting travel destinations on Earth.

Visit [LionsCon Melbourne 2024](#) to learn more about all the great events we have planned for you. Your early registration discount ends **January 12, 2023**, so [register today!](#)



New Donor Recognition Opportunities

Check out LCIF's [new annual recognition opportunities](#) for qualifying individual and club donations to the foundation. These international president-themed pins, patches and medals are limited-edition recognition pieces that will change each year, so don't miss your chance to earn one for 2023-2024.





The Manchester Lions Club Presents:

The Santa Express

December 16th & 17th

Departs from RK Miles (Manchester)

Tickets on Sale at
manchesterlionselftrain.com or

The link is in our Facebook page
Manchester lions club

\$40.00 Adult

\$35.00 Child

2 and under free on a lap



Vermont Lions
District 45



Speak Out Contest 2024

Topic: "Changing the World—How can we shrink our footprint?"

*Participants: High School (or home school) Students:
Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors or Seniors*

***** Saturday, May 4th, 2024 11:00 a.m. *****

Location: Fireside Inn, W. Lebanon, N.H.

Entry deadline is Saturday, April 6th, 2024

***** maximum 8 club representative participants *****

Speech is 5 to 7 minutes long.

Judging Criteria: Address theme (20%)

Development of Theme (50%)

and Expression and Delivery (30%).

3 judges will be allowed to ask a question of each participant.

Cash Prizes: 1st \$800, 2nd \$550, 3rd \$400, 4th \$300, Plus additional prizes

*To register or for more information, please contact Lion Ken Emery
At 578-7483 (cell) or at kpemery1960@gmail.com*



VERMONT LIONS DISTRICT 45
SPEECH CONTEST 2024

"Changing the World—How can we shrink our footprint?"

Duration of Speech	LESS THAN	FIVE MINUTES	5-7 Minutes Required	Total Time	Total Points
Addressing the Theme (20 Points)	Effort made to address the Theme was lacking in quality (0-4 Points)	Good effort was made to address the Theme (5-10 Points)	Very good effort was made to address the Theme (11-19 Points)	Outstanding effort was made in addressing the Theme (20 Points)	
Developing the Theme (50 Points)	Effort to develop the Theme was lacking in clarity & organization (0-24 Points)	Good effort was made to develop the Theme (25-39 Points)	Very good effort was made to develop the Theme (40-49 Points)	Outstanding job was done of developing the Theme (50 Points)	
Clarity & Expression (30 Points)		Good effort of expressing the points being made – relatively confident in presentation (1-14 Points)	Very good effort of expressing the points being made – shows confidence in presentation (15-24 Points)	Excellent effort of expressing points being made – very confident & dynamic in presentation (25-30 Points)	
Name					Total Points





Heartland Lions Club

Cordially invites you to our 17th annual

Valentines Dinner-Dance

Saturday, February 10, 2024

5:30 pm to 10:30 pm

Social hour begins at 5:30 pm

Dinner served at 6:15 pm

Dancing from 7:00 pm until 10:30 pm

Live music provided by Club Soda Band

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Many door prizes including a **\$500 Cash Grand Prize**

Fireside Inn

25 Airport Road

West Lebanon, NH

Discounted room rates available.

Tickets: \$125/couple (advance purchase only, please make purchases by February 1)

All proceeds go to local charities.

Please contact:

HeartlandLionsClub@charter.net or call (802) 291-2429

<p>Heartland Lions Club Presents "Truckload of Love" The 17th Annual Valentines Dinner & Dance Saturday, February 10, 2024 Social (cash bar): 5:30 PM - Dinner: 6:15 PM Dance: 7:00 PM - 10:30 PM with the Club Soda Band Fireside Inn & Suites 25 Airport Road, West Lebanon, NH Door Prizes - Grand Prize: \$500 - 50/50 Raffle \$65 per single \$125 per couple</p>  	<p>Heartland Lions Club "Truckload of Love" 2024 Valentine's Dinner & Dance</p> <p>Name: <u>SAMPLE</u></p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City/Zip: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SAMPLE</p>
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**There's still time to get those diapers in to your local Parent/Child Center
and help those families who need our support.**

There are still clubs that have not visited their local parent/child center. You still have time to talk to your clubs and decide to participate in this most urgent service project. If you don't have time to have a full-fledged diaper drive, decide on donating money to your PCC or better yet, take that donation and go to a box store and buy an array of diapers (and wipes if you're really feeling the Love). Give that center a call and find out what sizes they need the most and let them know that you'll be over with a most generous donation and know you've done something that will be welcomed and appreciated by the littlest Vermonters with smiles and giggles, the best kind of thank you.

AND as promised, for the club that donates the most diapers (yes, you should count each one, sorry) I will donate \$100 for that club's administration fund!!! What club wouldn't like to have that donation in their pocket?

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So, get crack'n and get those diapers in, get those totals in and thank you for all you do in the name of Lions for District 45.

Yours in Kindness and Gratitude,

FVDG Deb Savery. (and Springfield Area Parent/Child Center Specialist)



Vision Screening Report

November 2023

Kids are back in school, and the Lions are out in force. Now the fun begins! So far this year I have had five clubs report their service of vision screening. Castleton, Enosburg, Norwich, Springfield and Strafford have been hard at work screening a total of 4764 students with 567 referrals during 35 sessions so far! Go Lions!!! This is a great start and I look forward to many more reports to come.

With all the new schools coming on board it is important to remember that we all work for the good of the children so when a school ask a club to start screening it is important to check and see that they fall within that club's service area. If a club isn't sure of their area, contact me and I will make the necessary inquiries. This will help prevent a club from having to travel unnecessarily long distances and further help keep communications open between clubs so we can promote supporting one another as we would all like to do.

I hope to have great news for the next Communique regarding vision screening equipment and how we can enhance what we already do effectively for the children in our vision screening program. It's been quite a project to research new cameras, learn new things about vision and how we can screen for even more abnormalities, and see what advancements cameras have and what they can do now-a-days. As I need to present my findings to Vermont Lions Charities first and get their thoughts and recommendations at the November meeting, I am confident we will be able to improve what we already have established as a great standard for caring for the vision of our youngest Vermonters and improve that service tremendously. I had hoped to have everything in place for this report, but good things take time and even more time if they are to be done well. So, thank you for your patience and understanding with this delay. I promise you...it will be worth the wait.

So, get those reports in as soon as you can so I can report out and share the great things District 45 is doing in our vision screening program.

Yours in Kindness and Gratitude,

FVDG Deb Savery

Vermont District 45 Vision Screening Coordinator