

The Communiqué

**District 45 – Vermont Lions Charities
In Lionism, In Service, In Friendship**

June 2015

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Send articles to the Communiqué
Editor by email if possible. Snail
mail will still be accepted. The
next issue will be July 1; the
deadline is June 20 for all articles,
announcements, photos or ideas
for articles. Email to:
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A Message From District Governor Ken Emery:

I believe there is a saying: "Time fly's when you are having fun! And I believe it is true as my year as being your District Governor ends on June 30th.

It started out at the 97th annual International Convention in Toronto where International President Joe Preston 'sung' his theme 'Strengthen the Pride' to all the District Governors Elect. Challenging us all to 'Strengthen' our Districts.

Carrying such theme back to District 45, we started off at Austine (whom would have known what would happen in November) Green Mountain Lions Camp. One year later, it is the Green Mountain Lions Camp which I believe will be just as strong and exciting as before. Best wishes to Lion Brian Steckley, Lion Kris Lemire and the rest of the Green Mountain Lions Camp committee and staff on a successful 2015 camp.

Then off to 'God's country' Derby to visit our fellow Lions in the 'Kingdom'. Even though I have lived in Colchester for over 30 years now, I still consider the 'Kingdom' my home away from home.

In November, a great Fall Conference was held with inspiration from artist 'Gwendolyn Evans' and ending up with another fantastic 'LCIF Super Raffle' which this weekend the District will award a Melvin Jones Fellows to some well deserving Individuals.

Throughout the year, we have been celebrating District 45's 60 years of service to Vermont and its residents. Many various historical items were on displayed which brought back memories for many Lions.

In March, the House of Representatives of Vermont honored the Lions of Vermont District 45 for its 60 years of service. In my 14 years of service, first time ever received a standing ovation from non-Lions for what we do.

We also had a very special day in March celebrating our youth: Speak Out, Peace Poster, Twin State Soccer, Leo's and Green Mountain Lions Camp. Besides the contestants participating in the Speak Out Contest, who can forget the heartfelt words from Lion Kristen and Kiel, both former campers of GMLC.

In between all of these, visiting all of the clubs in the district, attending various events including 'spinning the big wheel' to judging the 'Mardi Gras costumes', it has been one very busy, busy year.

And we ended the year with the 60th annual Spring Convention at Mt. Snow in West Dover, Vermont, a location that has hosted many Spring Conventions in previous years.

Congratulations to DGE Pam Nichols and 1st VDGE Joe Wilson on being elected to their respective positions at this year's convention. They will be our 61st and 62nd District Governors for District 45. Who will be the 63rd to lead us in the 100th year of Lions Club International? With them as the District leaders, along with IPDG Tommy as GMT Coordinator and myself as GLT coordinator, I believe our District 45 has been strengthened.

Congratulations to all the clubs and individuals who won awards or received special recognition at this year's convention. Between membership growth (as of May 25th we have 1201 members including 95 new members joining this past year) and new activities and projects throughout the District, I believe District 45 has been strengthened.

I want to give a great big 'thank you' to CS Cindy and CT Loreen for their directions and 'push' to keep me going. And besides CS Cindy and CT Loreen, I would also like to say 'thank you' to Lion Carmelita, Lion Linda and others for those long rides and that evening 'blue light'.

And finally, want to say thank you to PDG Steve, PDG Sherry Lee, PDG Merry and PDG Betsy for 'pushing' me to move forward into this role. As much as I hesitated, it definitely has been a very pleasurable, grateful and rewarding year.

Thanks for letting me to be your DG.
Take care. Hope to see all on the Lions trail.

DG Ken Emery

District 45 Calendar

June 2015	
7	Norshaft Lions 9th Annual Pancake Breakfast – 8 am – 11:30 am at Shaftsbury Elementary School, Buck Hill Road, Donation \$6.
23	Shelburne Art at Hand – Art at Hand allows visitors who are blind or visually impaired to explore Shelburne Museum with specially trained guides. Tours are free but pre-registration is required. Phone 802.985.3346 ext 3392, email mtrow@shelburnemuseum.org , or complete the form in this Communiqué. Supported by the Colchester Lions Club, the Shelburne Area Lions Club, The Essex Lions Club and the Vermont Lions Charities on behalf of Vermont Lions D45.
July 2015	
18	Twin State Soccer Games - Saturday, July 18th - Castleton State College, Castleton VT - 4:00 p.m. Girls, 6:30 Boys
August 2015	
15	DGE Pam Nichols First Cabinet Meeting – Springfield American Legion. Additional details to follow.

From the Strafford Area Lions Club

* Many thanks to all who sponsored the four Lions who walked in the Lions Charity Walk-a-thon in Tunbridge. \$700 was raised with 87 miles walked.

* As of Memorial Day weekend, the town pond will be open to the community. What a lucky community we are to have this special treasure available.

* The list of 38 homes requesting their chimney be cleaned has been sent off. Craig from Up Country Chimney Sweep will be in touch before the snow flies to schedule the cleaning.

* The Lions Club will not be offering swim lessons this summer, but we will be holding our 4th of July variety show. It is never too early to start rehearsing! Let Vince or Melvin know if you are interested in participating in this much anticipated annual tradition

Heartland Lions News

The Heartland Lions Club took part in the Vermont Lions Charities Walk-a-thon hosting an event at Tunbridge Fairgrounds. We had a total of 12 volunteers and raised approximately \$2,100. We were pleased that we could help out Vermont Lions Charities in raising funds.

We were also able to capture Sir Charles from Springfield so he will be residing with Heartland for the summer and be up for adoption in September. Keep watch for Sir Charles adventures!

Paine's Beach is now officially open for the summer months.

Lion Carol Greene

A Message From Pamela Nichols – District Governor Elect

As I sat at convention on Friday night, listening and watching all that was going on and enjoying the fun and companionship. I couldn't help but think back to the year before when I was so excited and happy I had another whole year before it was my turn. Then, all of a sudden it dawned on me my year was up! Holy cow, it's my turn! How do I follow such a kind and considerate person as DG Ken Emery, you all think he is reserved and careful but under all of that he is a very different person. As we all witnessed at convention, he is a leader with a purpose. Who considers all sides before making a decision. OK so you all know me and that is something I am working on as I am a work in progress. I have my heart on my sleeve and just love LIONS! Love the foundation, Love the people, Love the code of ethics. Something I have learned with being a lion and some wonderful people that went before me is that all is not as it seems sometimes. There are times you need to step back and take a longer look. And consider all sides of the story. Please, as we go through the year, I will make mistakes as I am only human, but give me at least the benefit of the doubt that there is more to the story. My hope is that I can bring the JOY of being a LION back to some of you! And show some joy to others as what we do brings JOY to many, AND THAT MY FRIENDS IS A MAGICAL THING.

Looking forward to serving you all.

DGE Pam Nichols

GMT Report – submitted by IPDG Tommy Walz

Not all the clubs have reported yet, but it appears we ended May with a net loss of two members in D-45, for a total of 1,197. For the year, we have lost 80 members, eleven of whom died and nine moved away. Those two categories combined account for 20% of our losses. We can do nothing about them except try to replace them. However, that also means that 80% of the Lions we've lost this year did NOT die or move away, and we can do something about that. Forty one of the 80 fall into the category of "Resigned in Good Standing." That's 51% of our losses. And that is where retention comes in.

Why did those 41 Lions resign? No doubt there are many reasons, some of which have little to do with Lionism. But this relatively large number should also raise red flags. Were they unhappy with their clubs? Did they see no purpose in belonging?

I encourage all clubs to increase their retention efforts. The best way to keep members is to keep them engaged. Make sure they have a share in the good works all of our clubs do. Give them jobs, even if they are small, to keep them involved. Examine your meetings: do they serve a purpose? Are they informational and include some fun?

Sixteen of our clubs have shown net losses this year, but there are also some big winners. In terms of sheer numbers, Norshaft is the leader with a net gain of 12 members. Troy gained 8 and Middlebury has picked up 7. Chester is the clear winner when you look at the percentage increase. They went from 3 to 7, a 133% gain. If you're wondering how they did it, contact those clubs and pick their brains.

We have a month left to make a real difference and get us up over 1200 members again. If you have some potential members in the wings, close the deal. Let's end the end on a strong upswing.

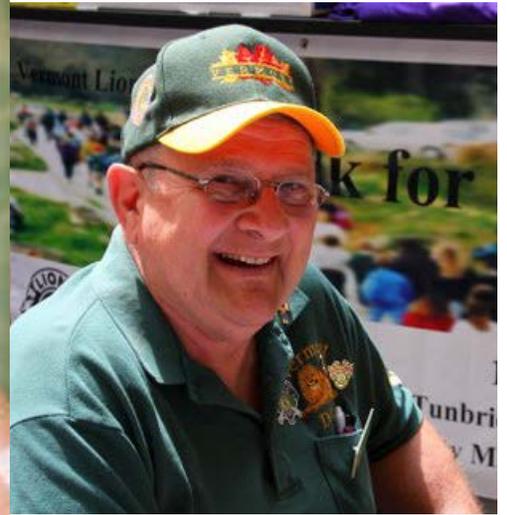


Lion Brian Steckley, chair of the Green Mountain Lions Camp had triple bypass surgery on Wednesday May 20th.
Cards may be sent to 13 Jennings Drive, Bennington VT 05021.

On May 9, 2015 the Jericho-Underhill Lions Club conducted its first annual bicycle rodeo in an effort to impart safe biking habits to the young cyclists in our area. Fifteen Lions, six MMU Leos, and two local supporters, Jean Archibald and Liz Manz, set up eight stations and courses to check helmets, mechanical and size conditions of the bicycles, as well as check skills on starting/stopping, obstacle course, figure eight course combining tracking and yield skills, and entering from side streets with traffic approaching. While the event was aimed at third through sixth graders, a few well-seasoned individuals who were reintroducing themselves to biking tried the course as well. Interestingly enough, the youngsters handled the skills courses better than their elders. A good time, and good lessons learned, were enjoyed by all.



Walk for Sight photos from University Mall





More Walk-a-Thon Pictures Tunbridge



Spring Convention



Lion Brian Steckley and the Lions of Orleans making a 'generous' donation to the GMLC, one of many donations made throughout the weekend to the camp.



PCST Debbie Bushey, Vergennes Lions Club reading the 'resolutions' of the district, confirming the election of Pam Nichols as DG and Joe Wilson as 1st VDG for 2015 - 2016.



PID Carolyn Messier and her husband PDG Normand, guest speakers for the 60th annual Spring Convention.

More of the 60th Annual Spring Convention



Norshaft Lions Club receiving the "We work, We play, We serve" award.





Lucien Belisle from Colchester and 197 Helen Bigelow of the Middlebury Lions Club receiving their Melvin Jones Fellows as part of the Melvin Jones Fellow luncheon.



Remember the 18 Vermont Lions who had passed away in the past 12 months since the previous convention.

Opening Eyes – Special Olympics



Lion Jackie Coté of the Essex Jct. Lions Club Lion Gia Amorese of the Williston Lions Club and Lions Club International Opening Eyes

2015 Spring Convention Awards

LCI Leadership Award: Lion Phylis Porio, NorShaft Lions Club

Int'l. Pres. Certificate of Appreciation: Lion David LaRose, Essex Jct. Lions Club
Lion Linda Eastman, Colchester Lions Club
Lion Woody Stoddard, Springfield Lions Club
PDG Ken Millay, Springfield Lions Club
1st VDGE Joe Wilson, Springfield Lions Club

Lion of the Year: Lion Carmelita Belisle, Colchester Lions Club
Service Award: Lion Linda Eastman, Colchester Lions Club
'We Work, We Play, We Serve' Award: NorShaft Lions Club

'Green to Checkers' Campaign – First place: Springfield Lions Club
Second place: NorShaft Lions Club
Third Place: Castleton Lions Club

'Pull Tab' Campaign – First place: Strafford Area Lions Club
Second place: Jericho-Underhill Lions Club
Third Place: Swanton – Mississquoi Lions Club

No. 1 Club – Large Division: Essex Jct. Lions Club
No. 1 Club – Medium Division: Colchester Lions Club
No. 1 Club – Small Division: Williston Lions Club

Eyeglasses Recycling – First place: Colchester Lions Club
Second Place: Chester Lions Club
Third Place: Middlebury Lions Club

Hearing Aids Recycling – First place: Colchester Lions Club
Second Place: St. Johnsbury Area Lions Club
Third Place: Troy and Area Lions Club

Congratulations to all!!!

Will see everyone at the 61st Spring Convention
April 22nd to April 24th, 2016
Equinox Hotel, Manchester, Vermont

Best wishes to DGE Pam and her cabinet
For a successful Lions year.

S H E L B U R N E M U S E U M

Art at Hand

Art at Hand tours allow visitors who are blind or visually impaired to explore Shelburne Museum with specially trained guides. Participants will visit a gallery space, hear detailed descriptions of works of art, and feel tactile pieces related to our collections.

Tours are free, but pre-registration is required. To register by phone, call (802) 985-3346 x3392. To register by mail, fill out and return the attached form.

Walter Wick: Games, Gizmos and Toys in the Attic

June 23 and 25, 9:30—11:30 a.m.

at the Pizzagalli Center for Art and Education

Explore large-scale photographs, meticulous models, and learn about Walter Wick, a well-known and talented photographic illustrator.

American Moderns, 1910-1960: From O’Keeffe to Rockwell

August 25 and 27, 9:30—11:30 a.m.

Explore the depth and range of specifically American and thoroughly modern art.

Rich and Tasty: Vermont Furniture to 1850

October 27 and 29, 9:30—11:30 a.m.

Explore Vermont high-style furniture, previously known only to decorative arts scholars, historians and collectors.



For additional information, contact Mollie Trow at (802)985-3346 x3392 or education@shelburnemuseum.org.

Art at Hand is supported by the Colchester Lions Club, the Shelburne Area Lions Club, the Essex Lions Club and the Vermont Lions Charities on behalf of Vermont Lions District 45.

REGISTRATION

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. To register by phone, call Mollie Trow at (802) 985-3346 x3392. To register by mail, complete the form below and mail to Shelburne Museum, Attn: Mollie Trow, P.O. Box 10,

ART AT HAND

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this form and return it to:

Shelburne Museum

Attn: Mollie Trow

P.O. Box 10

Shelburne, VT 05482

You will receive confirmation materials after we process your registration.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Which tours would you like to register for? (please check):

- June 23 and 25:** *Walter Wick: Games, Gizmos and Toys in the Attic*
- August 25 and 27:** *American Moderns, 1910-1960: From O'Keeffe to Rockwell*
- November 4 and 6:** *Rich and Tasty : Vermont Furniture to 1850*

All tours will be located at the Pizzagalli Center for Art and Education

What can we do to make your visit to Shelburne Museum accessible?

The dream of a few coaches and the Lions of the two states is a reality. Over 3,168 graduating high school soccer players have had the honor to be chosen to play in the matches and over

\$524,000

has been raised for Lions projects in Vermont and New Hampshire.

The Lions Twin State Soccer Association is a non-profit corporation under the control of the Lions of New Hampshire and Vermont. The board of directors of the association is made up of 18 Lions from each state serving three-year terms. These directors in turn elect their officers. The directors all donate their time, travel and expenses to attend association meetings, travel the local Clubs in their state to promote the match, and serve on association committees to administer the game.

The Board of Directors meets every other month and the Executive Board meets on alternate months. All Lions are welcome to attend the Board of Directors meetings.

Vermont's Share of the funds Raised goes to the Vermont Lions Charities, which uses them to support projects throughout the state, including the Lions Green mountain camp for the Hearing impaired.

If every lion bought their calendar raffle tickets, there would be

\$80,000

to split between the two states for the programs and the

people with vision and hearing challenges

"We Serve"

Every lion is welcome to attend meetings.

We are looking for energetic Lions interested in being on the Board to step up and kick to The goal.

NorShaft Lions
9th Annual

Pancake
Breakfast



Sunday June 7th
8:00 am – 11:30 am
Shaftsbury Elementary School
Buck Hill Road
Donation \$6



There's a new editor for the Communiqué!!

Amy Herrmann will take over the monthly newsletter for District 45 with the incoming cabinet. The next Communiqué will be published for July for District Governor Pam Nichols and Amy will be collecting all the information and sending it out to all the e-mail addresses we have on file. Please add her address to your "safe" address lists so you will not miss anything!

amyherrmann@comcast.net

802-362-0606

You may also continue to send items to communiqued45lions.com

Thank You to all that submitted articles, photos, calendar items, Traveling Lion information and club news. You are the reason our clubs are able to get to know each other despite the distance between us. Keep up the great work and continue to share as much as you can! Huge shout-out to **PDG Betsy MaGee and Lions David LaRose and Erin Connors** for regularly sending event photos!

A special message of gratitude goes to IPDG Tommy Walz and DG Ken Emery for their supervision and guidance these past two years while I muddled through putting together the Communiqué. Also, a huge **Thank You to Lion Chuck Burkins** who always found time to add another edition (usually sent to him at the last possible moment) to the web so I could send out the newsletter link. I've appreciated the kind responses to my efforts and the lack of criticism when I have made errors. I am humbled by the gracious nature of my fellow Lions.

Lion Macky Gaines

Lions District 45 Website <http://d45lions.com/>

The District 45 Communiqué will be published each month and distributed by e-mail and published on the Lions District 45 website. Content should be e-mailed to communiqued45lions.com. Deadline for submitted for the next issue is the 20th of the preceding month.

To unsubscribe or update our contact list, please send us an e-mail.

