

# The New Communiqué

**District 45 – Vermont Lions Charities**

*District Governor Lion Sherry Lee Juairé*

**In Lionism, In Service, In Friendship**

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If you get this issue by US mail, send us an email to be added to the email list. This year will complete the circle for new communications in Vermont Lions Clubs. Send articles to the Communiqué Editor by email if possible. Snail mail will still be accepted. The next issue will be March 1; the deadline is February 20 for all articles, announcements, photos or ideas for articles.

Email to:

[Communique@d45lions.com](mailto:Communique@d45lions.com)



**D. G. Sherry Lee Juairé writes:**

Happy New Year Vermont Lions; a special thank you for your efforts to make our district so successful! Our reports show that the district increased membership to 1251 last fall. We've a way to go, but we are heading in the right direction. Letting our Beacon of Hope Shine is the challenge we received from our International President. Tell your community and the world what we, as Lions, are doing. It will help to recruit members and advance work of Lionism in our communities. As I said in the last Communiqué, "It doesn't

matter how big or small the project is, but informs the community; the Lions do give back." ***Let the Beacon of Hope Shine!***

Retention is a big concern of any Lions district or club. While visiting clubs, I am asked what can be done to bring members back to monthly meetings, or participate in activities. There could be several reasons why members disappear. It could be conflict between members, a feeling of not being important in the club, perhaps they don't like the way the club is run. Consider surveying your club members with a questionnaire; seek their opinions about what would make the meetings better or more interesting. You might have to mail this to each member, handing it out at a regular meeting, is probably not going to get it in the right hands. Get ready for some surprise answers.

Be prepared to listen to new members' ideas about the current club projects or maybe an idea about a new club project. I talked with a new member last fall, who was already discouraged because, "the chair person wouldn't listen to a new idea for a fund raiser." I bet you've heard this line, "We tried that years ago, it didn't work." Why didn't it work? Was it a good idea? Perhaps a new chair or approach would make it work. Put yourself in their position before you veto an idea for advancing the club and its standing in the community.

Did you see the article in the January Lions Clubs International Magazine? Page five presents an interesting story about welcoming new Lions. The article highlights the welcoming of Lion Kerri St. Lawrence into the Swanton- Missisquoi Lions Club. Lion St. Lawrence is a special education teacher who was looking for a place to put her energies to further help her community. Getting in the International Magazine is a real honor for any Lion and their club. Congratulations to you, Lion Kerri, and your club. ***Let the Beacon of Hope Shine!***

## **WOW, Deerfield Valley Lions Shine!**

The Whitingham/Halifax Lions Club saw their praises all over the newspaper after their efforts last fall to feed the hungry.



Club Secretary Mark Hanna shared an article from the Deerfield Valley News about the work of the Lions Club. The club members worked for 3.5 hours on Friday night getting ready to distribute “literally tons” of food to the more needy families in their area on Saturday. The article says they helped with the food security of 52 families. They also presented cheer-up poinsettias to another two dozen families. In total, they helped 176 neighbors in their area, raising awareness of the shocking rise in the “food insecurity” of Vermont. This really let the community know that Lions do give back. Hanna said, “Every year the demand goes up, every year we meet it.” As seen below, Santa even came to help the Lions pack all the food for delivery.

***Let the Beacon of Hope Shine!***



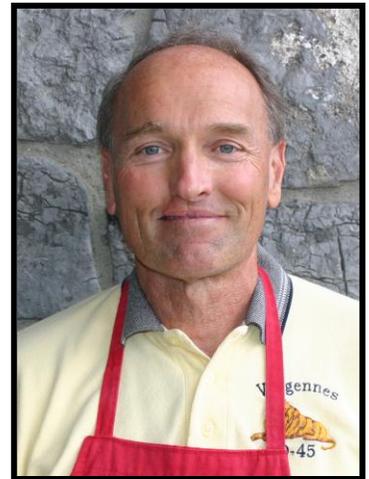
**Melvin Jones** said, “You can’t get very far until you start doing something for somebody else.”

**We Serve.**

## **Food from the Heart**

“Today in Vermont, local food shelf groups are being asked to do more than ever in the communities they serve, writes Vergennes Lion Harry Kurth, chair of the 2011 food security program.

In 2010 some 21 Lions Clubs participated in the “Food from the Heart” program. Collecting more than 25,000 pounds of food and more than \$10,000 in cash purchased a lot of food to help those in need around Vermont.



This year, February 12, 2011, we’ll attempt to improve the great results of 2010. At the fall conference we distributed informational posters and lots of suggestions to each club to help them make the program a success. Although this edition of the Communiqué is late, there may still be time to get an article in the local paper and publicize your efforts.

Harry Kurth is the District chair this year, contact him at: [hcnkw@earthlink.net](mailto:hcnkw@earthlink.net). He says, “In my 10 plus years as a Lion, this is the best project I have worked on, promoting Lionism and community service, on a large scale.” ***Let the Beacon of Hope Shine!***

## **USA-Canada Lions Forum 2011**

Many District 45 members have already registered for the Anchorage, Alaska USA-Canada Forum of Lions Clubs International. Lion Debbie Bushey, D-45 Chair, asks that you get registered early. This is the chance of a lifetime, go see Alaska, attend the Lions forum and explore the great north.

The forum will be held in Anchorage, September 22 – 24. Registration, which includes all the main meals, programs and speakers, is currently \$280 per person. It goes up soon. Later in the year the registration goes up. There are many hotels in the area of the convention. Go to [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) for more information or contact Lion Debbie Bushey at: [dbbushey@gmavt.net](mailto:dbbushey@gmavt.net) or 802.877.1528.

Plans are in development for a group rate to travel to Alaska, stay tuned.

## Peace Poster Contest

For more than 20 years the Lions International Peace Poster contest has encouraged young people to think about peace in the world and given them an opportunity to promote world peace. The 2001-12 contest theme is, "Children Know Peace."

Sponsoring a school or student is a great opportunity for clubs to see the talents of young people in the community. The D-45 chair for Peace Poster is Lion Debbie Savery at 802.875.2990 or by email at [tallships@vermontel.net](mailto:tallships@vermontel.net).

Full information is available on the LCI website, [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org).

## Lions Passing

Former Essex Junction **Lion Elden Bucklin** passed away in Derry, NH, at the age of 79 on January 7. He and his wife, of 57 years, Alma had lived in Londonderry, NH since 1980. Burial will be in Essex Jct. in the spring. Elden was very active in D-45 at all levels and one of the leaders of Essex Lions for many years. For more information or to send condolences, [www.peabodyfuneralhome.com](http://www.peabodyfuneralhome.com).

**Lion Paul Beck** of the Barre Lions Club passed away on December 24 at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Hospital in N.H. He had been active in Lions for many years. Donations in his memory can be made to Central Vermont Hospice, 600 Granger Road, Barre, VT 05641 or St. Monica Church Capital Campaign Fund, 79 Summer St., Barre, VT 05641.

**Florence J. "Jean" Ellis, 82**, wife of PDG Ken Ellis of So. Hadley, MA passed away peacefully at home on December 29. The funeral and burial was held on January 5. Lion Ken asks that memorial contributions be made to Western Massachusetts ElderCare, Inc., 4 Valley Mill Road, Holyoke, MA 01075. Lion Ken's home address is 12 Glenn Drive, So Hadley, MA 01075.

**Lion Rita Ferland, 81**, of the Georgia Lions Club passed away on December 12 at home. Her husband of 60 years, Lion Fabien, passed in August 2009. A Melvin Jones Fellow, Lion Rita had been an active volunteer in many Franklin County activities including Franklin County Field Days, The Vermont Maple festival. Contributions may be made to the Ascension Parish Scholarship Fund, 246 Lake Street, St. Albans, VT 05478. Information is available at: [www.bradyandlevesque.com](http://www.bradyandlevesque.com).

**Lion John Kerr** passes, see page 4.

## Essex Lions Ring the Bell



New Essex Lion members Nancy Desany and Peter Searle "thoroughly enjoyed being bell ringers at Big Lots in Essex. "It's great

to be a volunteer." :)

**Troy & Area** Lions reported a new Lion on their November report. Welcome to Lion Joanne Wursthorn of Westfield.

## Speak-Out Contest, 2011

Your Club can host a Speak-Out Contest to help *Share the Vision*. This public speaking event is for high school juniors and seniors.

Give it a try, it will warm all of your hearts to see and hear the talented junior and senior students in your area as they share their views on our International President's theme "A Beacon of Hope". It also gives your Club an association with the very people that are essential to the future of the work of Lionism.

Rules and ideas for success are available on the D-45 web site, [www.d45lions.com](http://www.d45lions.com). Included is a step by step guide to insure a timely and successful contest. Also included is a sample Speak-Out form used by some clubs, last year, to show what awards might be given participants. Your club will have to decide what is best for you. There is another form to be completed by the club coordinator on the site, and a judging form for your contest. Advise students who may want to participate to go to the website for all details

Jackie Dutil of Brandon-Forestdale is the D-45 contest coordinator. Call or email with any questions: 802.247.3490 or [jdutil775@comcast.net](mailto:jdutil775@comcast.net).

## Norshaft Lions Build Skating Rink

Lions from the Norshaft Club built a new skating rink and warming



shed at the village park in Shaftsbury. The club financed the project and provided the labor too. Their money contribution was more than \$3,000. *Let the Beacon of Hope Shine!*

## Vermont Lions Charities Report

Fellow Lions,

Many Lions are not aware that the fiscal year of Vermont Lions Charities is also the calendar year. We messed up on elections at the Fall Conference. So, at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> cabinet meeting, we need to elect a treasurer for 2011. Lion John Sprague has once again consented to serve. He may be re-elected by the time you get this letter.

Keeping in mind the FY of VLC, Inc., I ask clubs and individual Lions to support our foundation projects throughout the year. Please prepare your club budgets, to make your contributions in the FY. That includes "Food from the Heart" program On February 12 (see earlier article); the "Walk-a-thon" to be held on May 7 at the Rutland Fairgrounds; and the "Big Dine Out" program in the fall. Of course your club budgeted donations should be paid in the correct FY.

Another way, award a 500 Club Membership to a deserving Lion or local leader; this would help to build the *Shared Vision Fund*. Call me with any questions on how to build Vermont Lions Charities.

Yours in Lionism,

*Lion Rick Dutil*, President

***Let the Beacon of Hope Shine!***

*Continued from page 3.* **Lion John Kerr**, 81, passed away at home on December 8, with his three sons and wife of 57 years, Mary, at his side. A charter member of the Brandon-Forestdale Club, he was a Melvin Jones Fellow and past president. He served as Liberty Day chair for D-45 for many years. Contributions in his memory should be made to Vermont Lions Charities.

### **V.D.G. Steve Simpson writes:**

It's time for clubs to set up their nominating committee and put them to work planning for 2011-12. The change in leadership officially takes place on July 1, but elections take place in March or early April. The Nominating committee should have the slate announced on the first meeting of March; elections take place not later than the first meeting of April. The secretary must submit the form PU-101 to district and LCI not later than April 20. Questions, contact Lion Steve, [vdg@d45lions.com](mailto:vdg@d45lions.com).

## **30 Years Later**

Troy and Area Lions helped make a dream a reality in Westfield, when they assisted in building a new playground area next to what used to be the old graded school. Thirty years before a local resident passed away and left land for the playground. The children from Westfield now go to school in Jay. They will very much appreciate this new playground close to home.



Last November the Lions helped to make a difference. Using state and federal grants the town was able to finance this \$130,000 project. Several Lions and many other local volunteers were there at 8 am on a cold Saturday morning in November to make this dream come true. ***Let the Beacon of Hope Shine!***

**VT Lions Charities  
VT Lions D-45  
60 Main Street  
Vergennes, VT 05491**

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Vermont Lions District 45  
Cabinet Meeting  
**Saturday March 5th, 2011**  
Holiday Inn  
Rutland

<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>9:00 – 9:15 AM</b>	<b>Opening Session</b>
<b>9:15 – 10:15 AM</b>	<b>Vermont Lion Charities</b>
	<b>Sight and Hearing</b>
	<b>Club Officer Training</b>
	<b>New Member Orientation</b>
	<b>Zone Session</b>
<b>10:30 – 11:30 AM</b>	<b>Honorary</b>
	<b>Austine Green Mountain Lions Camp</b>
	<b>Speak Out</b>
	<b>Diabetes</b>
	<b>Leo Program</b>
<b>11:30 – 1:00 PM</b>	<b>Luncheon with Speak Out Contestants</b>
<b>1:00 – 2:30 PM</b>	<b>Cabinet Meeting</b>

**ADDITIONAL EVENTS**

**Silent Auction 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM (Items for Silent Auction will be greatly appreciated)**  
**200 Club Tickets**

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**Please send registration to:**  
CST Merry Souza  
3126 Vermont Route 78  
Highgate Center, VT 05459

**No Later than February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Club \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed