The Communiqué

District 45 - Vermont Lions Charities In Lionism, In Service, In Friendship

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www.vermontlions.org

A Message from District Governor Walter Hastings

Hello Lions,

Springtime is coming, despite the recent storms I have faith that spring will soon be here.

I know clubs have been busy and I'm sure you have elected your club leaders for the upcoming year. Club secretaries please be sure that you complete the LCI form PU101 on the MyLCI Website. Not only does this ensure information is received by LCI, your DGE will also receive this information to update next year's directory.

I am in hopes to see you all at the Spring Convention, May 4-6, 2018 at Mt. Snow. We have a fun weekend planned. You must make your room/meal reservations thru Mt. Snow, no later than April 27. If you are attending for a day please complete the meal registration form and submit to CT Lion Brenda, no later than April 27. Our guest speaker will be Sue Thomas, FB Eye.

Friday night, we will have a buffet and a game show called "Lions Tales". Where teams can compete. Saturday following breakfast we will have our traditional business meeting, followed by the Melvin Jones Luncheon. And in the afternoon, we will be having a Lions Darby Poker Walk, be sure to bring your decorated Darby, event will start at 2:30pm, walk will be approximately 1 mile around the grounds at Mt. Snow. Prizes will be awarded. Saturday night will be the traditional banquet. Sunday, we will close the weekend with our memorial service and brunch.

The entire month of May is the District's CAMPAIGN FOR SIGHT to support Vermont Lions Charities efforts to fund vision projects throughout the state. I encourage your club to support the campaign. More on this later in this issue.

Looking ahead to June, there are some ways in which you can volunteer: Special Olympics will be in Burlington on Saturday, June 2 and on Saturday, June 9 we will gather at Covenant Hill Camp in Cabot, site of our Green Mountain Lions Camp for a cleanup day to prepare for summer camp. You will find information about these opportunities in the Communique and on our website.

In closing, I would like to thank you for all that you do. In hopes to see you at Mt. Snow!

DG Walter

District 45 Calendar and Events

4/27 - 4/29	Georgia Lions Food Trailer at the VT Maple Festival			
5/4	Arbor Day			
5/5	West River Valley Green Up Community Celebration			
5/4 - 5/6	D45 Spring Convention			
	5/4 6:00pm D45 Dinner Buffet			
	5/5 9:30am D45 Cabinet Meeting			
	5/5 - Noon Melvin Jones Luncheon			
	5/5 2:30pm Vermont Lions Derby Poker Walk			
	5/5 7:00pm D45 Dinner Banquet			
	5/6 7:30am D45 Memorial Service			
5/6	Middlebury Maple Run (Breakfast by Middlebury Lions)			
5/18 - 5/20	New England Lions Council Spring Weekend			
5/24	VABVI's 29th Annual Dinner & Auction			
5/28	Memorial Day Parades			
5/31 - 6/3	Vermont Dairy Festival			
6/2 - 6/3	Special Olympics Vermont Summer Games			
6/9	Work Day at Green Mountain Lions Camp			
6/16	Training session for all new club and district officers - Vergennes			
6/22 - 6/23	SLAM T1D 8th Annual Vermont Summer Classic			
6/27	Helen Keller Day			
6/29 -7/3	101st Lions Clubs International Convention: Las Vegas, NV			
7/1 -7/13	Green Mountain Lions Camp - Teen Session			
7/4	Independence Day Parades			
7/15 -7/21	Green Mountain Lions Camp - Youth Session			
7/21	44th Annual Twin State Soccer Cup			
7/22	District organizational meeting – Readsboro			
8/18	D45 Cabinet meeting – Springfield Elk's Club			
8/19	Bennington Battle Day Parade			
9/8	Maple Leaf Half-Marathon			
9/20 - 9/22	USA/Canada Forum			
9/29	Hungry Lion Bike Tour			
11/3	D45 Fall Conference & LCIF SuperRaffle – Colchester			
1/12/2019	D45 Cabinet meeting – Barre			
3/16	D45 Cabinet Meeting – Middlebury			
5/2-5/4	D45 Spring Conference 2019 – in Rutland			
Don't see your club's activity listed? Email it to the <u>Communique</u> !				



Vermont Lions Charities CAMPAIGN FOR SIGHT

Annually Lions Clubs of Vermont have joined together to raise funds for those areas of the district that aren't fortunate enough to have the direct support of their own Lions club. These funds, combined with grants obtained by VLC enable us to help hundreds of Vermonters obtain eyeglasses each year. This year we have decided to change the format of the previous WALK FOR SIGHT, and instead have a month long



CAMPAIGN FOR SIGHT throughout the entire state during the month of May. Lions and Lions Clubs are encouraged to host fund raising and informational events that will benefit the VLC Shared Vision Fund. It's your club – do it your way. CAMPAIGN FOR SIGHT promotional materials can be found in our websites "<u>Club Toolbox</u>". This truly is the "Power of WE"; together we can continue to assist those in need throughout the entire state.

PDG Ken Millay & PCT George Norfleet

Vermont Lions District 45



Dear Lions Club Leaders,

It's time again to help celebrate our year with DG Walter and conduct our annual elections for District Officers for 2018-2019. Elections will be held during our Spring Convention at Mount Snow Resort on May 4th, 5th, and 6th. Specifically, elections will be on Saturday, May 5th, during our business meeting.

I am reminding all clubs that our bylaws require that all outstanding dues and payments must be paid in full to both Lions Clubs International and Vermont Lions District 45 prior to the elections in order to participate in the elections. Each club is entitled to one delegate vote for each ten members in its club. All Past District Governors are allowed to vote as a club delegate or as a past District Governor, but not both.

Reminder: All members planning to vote, please bring your signed club membership card.

DG Walter, VDG Liz, CS Carol, CT Brenda and I all look forward to see delegates from ALL clubs for an enjoyable weekend, and for the important matter of electing District Officers for the coming year.

Please contact me if you have any questions at 885-2811 or <u>breezyhill@vermontel.net</u>.

In Lions Service, IPDG Joe Wilson, 2018-2019 Elections Chair





DG Walter Hastings official visit to the Cochester Lions Club on April 4th and new member induction for Lion David Comstock by PDG Ken Emery

It's never too early to start planning....



101st LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION JUNE 29 - JULY 3, 2018/LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

Green Mountain Lions Camp Work Day June 9th





Vermont Lions Vision Screening Results

Over 22,700 Children Already Screened This Year! September 1, 2017 - March 30, 2018

Vision Screening Number of Number of Number of Club Days/Sites Children Referrals Adults Arlington/Bennington/ NorShaft 30 2,092 208 0 Barre 30 3,644 233 39 Brandon Forest Dale 9 59 675 Brattleboro 2 230 19 0 Castleton 24 2,777 314 44 7 Colchester/Essex 1.760 195 38 6 1,051 93 Enosberg Granville 2 386 43 Georgia Heartland Jericho-Underhill 7 25 Londonderry Area 564 37 Manchester Middlebury/Vergenne 28 4,111 402 36 s Norwich 4 706 72 9 Orleans 5 377 34 Readsboro 9 1 49 Richford 4 679 81 Springfield 34 3,180 298 41 298 Troy & Area 4 24 Whitingham-Halifax 70 3 210 8 Williston Total: 200 22,789 2.129 302

If your Club's screening has not been reported please contact Lion Phylis Porio

2018 DISTRICT SPEAK OUT CONTEST RESULTS

The 2018 Speak Out final competition was held at the District Cabinet Meeting on March 10th in Chester. This year's theme was "The Power of We – We Serve," and even though the theme was the same for all speakers, we were privileged to hear three very different interpretations.

The final results were:

\$75.00

2nd Place

3rd Place

1 st Place	\$300.00	DORCAS LOHESE representing the Colchester Club
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\$150.00 **MASON CHARLEBOIS** representing the Vergennes Club

MAXWELL WILLIAMS representing the Brandon/Forestdale and Pittsford Clubs



From left, Lion Kathy Dorman, Mason Charlebois, Maxwell Williams, Dorcas Lohese and Lion Connie St. George

Thank you to our judges and timekeeper:

Vice DG Liz Fenwick	NorShaft Club
PDG Pam Nichols	Tri Mountain Club
PDG Stan Patch	Castleton Club
Lion Roger Ellis	Granville NY Club
Time Keeper: PDG Bob Wilcox,	Bennington Club

And a special thank you to my assistant, Lion Connie St. George from the Brandon/Forestdale Club. Her assistance was invaluable to me during my first year of coordinating this event.

Respectfully submitted, Lion Kathy Dorman, Vergennes Lions Club

Norwich and Hanover Lions meet again in the den.

The Norwich and Hanover Lions met again in the den to continue the concept of working together and discuss issues and projects that are coming to the Kingdom. We were joined by 15 Hanover Lions who reciprocated the recent visit made by Norwich Lions to their club. Norwich Lions recently assisted the Hanover Club with SPOT vision screenings at the Leverone Field House Home Show. We are hoping to work together with them on the Norwich Fair fundraiser to be held on July 19-22.

The Norwich and Hanover Lions are forming a work group to plan a bi-state Lions fund raising Road Race later this fall to benefit the cancer program at the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth



Guest Speaker Sarah Reeves talking about the success at Dismas House

(CHAD). The road race proposal was presented by King Lion Warren Thayer during the District 45 Cabinet meeting in Chester VT.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Sarah Reeves, who gave us a presentation and spoke about the programs available at Dismas House and reminded us of their <u>Celebration Dinner</u> with keynote speaker **Sister Helen Prejean,C.S.J** to be held on Sunday, April 29, 2018 5:00-8:00 PM at the Fireside Inn, in West Lebanon NH.

D 45: Together We Serve

(snippets from service activity reports)

Heartland Lions donated funds to The Upper Valley Haven, an organization that serves people struggling with poverty by providing food, shelter, education, service coordination, and other support.

Jericho-Underhill Lions Held a Pancake Breakfast. Thirteen Lions prepared, cooked, and served a pancake breakfast including: pancakes, bacon, sausage, home fries, Vermont Maple Syrup, juice, milk coffee.

MMU Leos collected food and Lion Kendal Holden transported it to Camels Hump Middle School where it is used in "Weekend Backpack" and Holiday Boxs. These two programs provide food to students who would otherwise go hungry on weekends and long holidays.

Pittsford Lions Delivered food for the local food shelf and supported the RSVP Bone Builders Program.

Richford Lions shoveled snow for elderly residents.

Middlebury Lions Guest Speakers: Jeff and Natalie Kolok came to encourage us to enter a team in SLAMT1D's 8TH Annual Vermont Summer Classic Wiffle Ball Tournament, a fundraiser to help broaden awareness about Type 1 Diabetes through education, mentorship, and the week long

Vermont Overnight Camp program operated in partnership with Barton.

Orleans Lions held their Annual Elementary School Basketball Tournament. This two day event was attended by an estimated 1000 people to watch 11 girls and boys teams compete. We raised food and cash for our "Food From the Heart" food drive to benefit our local food shelves. It was great exposure for our Club, and gave us the opportunity to inform our communities all that Lions do for them, with Pride. **Orleans Lions** provided heating oil to each of two local families in need.

A **Springfield Lion** mentored merit badge work by boy scout troop members, participated in a Scout board of review, and mentored eagle scout candidates.

A **Vergennes Lion** on vacation in Arizona assisted an elderly couple to relocate from Arizona to Missouri to be closer to their children. **Vergennes Lions** made a grand donation to the Green Mountain Lions Camp.

Valley Lions Club's Luck o' the Irish Scratch Off Lottery Ticket Raffle profits made a considerable deposit into their college scholarship fund.

Castleton Lions donated funds to SCAMP Camp. This six week camp for kids ages 6-11 is sponsored by the Castleton Community Center. Breakfast and lunch are provided daily. Tuition is low for half of the 40 campers and the other half who attend are scholarship campers, thanks to a partners like the Castleton Lions. **Castleton Lions** donated funds to support the Summer Concert Series sponsored by Castleton University for the public. **Castleton Lions** donated funds to their local high school's Project Graduation. **Castleton Lions** sponsored coffee, cider and doughnuts for the residents attending the Castleton Town Meeting night.

Whitingham-Halifax Lions invited prospective members for a free dinner and 1presentation on our clubs activities and service. It led to 12 new members in March and hopefully more to come in April.

A **Colchester Lion** baked treats for Meals on Wheels for 130 individuals

Essex Junction Lions participated in a pancake breakfast school fundraiser and also delivered bread to local seniors. **EJ Lions** also created a team to participate in the WOKO BIG CHANGE ROUNDUP and earned hundreds of \$'s for the UVM Children's Hospital. **Club members** also served cocoa and donuts at the Essex Egg and Scavenger Hunt.

No news from your club? Send your inputs to <u>communique@vermontlions.org</u> or ensure your secretary submits inputs through your clubs monthly service activity report on <u>MyLCI</u>. Photos have to be sent via <u>email</u>.



Bennington PDG Bob Wilcox, Granville KL Roger Ellis, and Vergennes PDG Larry Simino at the 4/3/18 Granville Lions meeting. "The General" will be summering in Granville.



3/20/18 Jericho-Underhill King Lion Loreen Teer receiving the D45 Traveling Lion (Lucky) from Brandon KL Patti Reynolds.



WEST RIVER VALLEY GREEN UP CELEBRATION

JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION OF THE WEST RIVER VALLEY COMMUNITY COMING TOGETHER TO KEEP OUR ENVIRONMENT GREEN!

WHAT: PIG ROAST BARBECUE AFTER GREENING UP OUR COMMUNITY.

WHEN: 12-3PM WHERE: THE TOWNSHEND COMMON FOR ANY QUESTIONS CALL: SHELLY: 221-0536 OR NICK: 365-4700

Sponsored by Valley Lion's Club Community Hope and Action and West River Valley Thrives



Getting <u>ALL</u> the Bang for our Buck – What is our REAL Impact?

Through our non-profit Vermont Lions Charities, we have the ability to ask for grant funds from organizations "like" the AOA Foundation; the Gibney Family Foundation; Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and more... there are literally hundreds of foundations out there that could help us continue our good works through the VLC. Each of them has a mission statement and a grant submission process. What they all seem to have in common is a request that we be able to evaluate our impact. In Eyeglass Recycling and KidSight it's fairly easy to evaluate our impact because we count glasses collected and kids screened. Where it gets tricky is in eyeglass assistance.

In 2018 Vermont Lions Charities has already written 54 checks to eyeglass providers. That's a solid number and easy to support. But VLC has also referred 25 applications to local lions clubs. Did they get glasses? What about all the folks that ask local lions clubs for assistance directly? I know my local lions club has purchased numerous glasses in 2018, but I also know that information has not been shared with the VLC sight and hearing chairperson. I personally think that Vermont Lions Clubs and Vermont Lions Charities combined give out close to 500 pair of glasses each year, but we can't prove it without your help.

Every club assists individuals in their own way and that's intentional. *"Your Club - Your Way"*. Some clubs still have \$50 OneSight vouchers that they are using up. Others provide gift cards. Many clubs simply write a check directly to the provider. For our data collection purposes a person has been assisted when the dollars are transferred from the club or VLC to the provider or individual recipient.

Please ask your sight and hearing chairperson to email <u>sight@vermontlions.org</u> with the name, town of residence, date, and dollar amount of assistance provided toward eyeglasses for all persons already helped in 2018, and for each person assisted going forward. With this information we will be able to fully describe the Vermont Lions impact. We will be able to say "*Vermont Lions Clubs and their charitable foundation have assisted XXX residents to obtain or repair eyeglasses in the district; at a cost of \$XXX"*. With this information we will be in a better position to start asking for grant funding, and to promote our REAL impact throughout the state.





SLAM T1D, Inc. will host its 8th Annual Vermont Summer Classic WIFFLE® Ball Tournament on Friday, June 22nd through Saturday, June 23rd 2018 at the famous Little Fenway complex in Essex Junction, VT. The Middlebury Lions are fielding a team. We haven't a hope of winning, but we hope our participation will raise awareness about

diabetes and earn a few camper scholarships to attend the week-long "Vermont Overnight Camp" for kids with T1D. If you are interested in joining the Middlebury Lions team email <u>middleburylionsclub@yahoo.com</u> and we will get you a T-Shirt. If you would like to help the Middlebury Lions raise funds for T1D click on the <u>Donate</u> button above. if you don't trust all this electronic stuff you can always mail us a check at Middlebury Lions, PO Box 5, Middlebury, VT 05753 – Please put SLAM T1D in the memo field.

COME SEE THE GAMES on June 22nd.

You would be hard pressed to find a better method to network with folks who are making a difference in the lives of Vermonters living with diabetes.

As Joe Maddon, manager of the Chicago Cubs said, "Even though I had a player like Sam Fuld who has Type 1 diabetes, it wasn't until I attended this <u>SLAM T1D</u> tournament that I realized how difficult and dangerous the disease is, and how much someone has to do just to stay alive. It really opened my eyes." <u>SLAM</u> <u>T1D WIFFLE® ball tournaments are an</u> off-the-hook fun way for people with and without this awful disease to come together, raise awareness about T1D, and have a great time playing America's favorite backyard game with a bit of a Big League vibe.



https://www.crowdrise.com/Middlebury-Lions-Club-Slammers



Colchester Líons Club Walkíng Club 2018

TUESDAY NIGHTS, 10 CONSECUTIVE WEEKS APRIL 24TH = JUNE 26[™] DIFFERENT LOCATION WEEKLY WALK AT YOUR OWN PACE OR WITH A GROUP NO FEES**. NO RACE. <u>PURELY FOR FUN</u>.

REGISTRATION: 5:30 P.M. = 6:00 P.M. GROUPS LEAVE AT: 5:30, 5:45 AND 6:00 P.M.

<u>LOCATION OF WALKS:</u>

April 24th: Bayside Park May 8th: Airport Park May 22nd: Rossetti Natural Area June 5th: Windemere Fishing Access June 19th: Niquette Bay State Park** May 1st: Fort Ethan Allen May 15th: Creek Farm Plaza May 29th: Colchester Pond June 12th: Union Memorial June 26th: Bayside Park

For more information, please contact Lion Ken Emery at 802-578-7483 or email at <u>kpemery1960@gmail.com</u> or visit the Colchester Lions Club website: www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/colchestervt







A unique camp experience for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Teens and Youth website: <u>http://GreenMtnLionsCamp.wixsite.com/gmlcamp</u>

Gene Farrar Memorial Raffle

Lion Gene was a former chairman of the Green Mountain Lions Camp. All funds raised, through this raffle, provide scholarships for those youth who want to attend OUR Green Mountain Lions Camp

Drawing to be held at 2018 Spring Convention May 4 -6 at Mt. Snow Tickets are \$5 a piece, 5 for \$20

Send a check payable to "VLC" along with your Name, Address, and Telephone # and number of tickets desired to: Gene Farrar Memorial Raffle c/o PDG Ken Emory 146 Eagle Drive Colchester, VT 054463 **Top prize – Telescope Patio Furniture Set donated by the Granville Lions club**

See full Prize Listing

Many, many more prizes as well (see list – MORE PRIZES ARE WELCOME!!!! For more information, including donating a prize (which are welcome!!) please contact PDG Ken Emery at <u>kpemery1960@gmail.com</u> or Lion Julie Simpson at <u>jasimpsonvt@gmail.com</u>.

Many hands make light work - Sewing for Service

Is there is interest across the District in forming a Committee to produce quilts to be given away to needy causes? We could split the work so that some might produce tops, others put together the quilt - others actually quilt. All this could be done in our own home and brought together to create works that could not be made so easily by one individual.

Please let me know if you have an interest in this possible project. Thank you in advance, VDG Liz Fenwick <u>ea.fenwick@gmail.com</u>







District 45 "DARBY" Poker Walk <u>BENEFIT – DEERFIELD VALLEY FOOD SHELF</u> Saturday, May 5th, 2018 <u>2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</u>

Rules

Prize Categories: Best overall hand: 1) \$25 2) \$15 3) \$10 King's Ransome: Any hand with 1 King Ace in the hole: Any hand with 1 Ace Odd Lions: Must have 3 odd cards (not same): A, 3, 5, 7, 9, J or K. Even Stevens: Must have 3 even cards (not same): 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, Q Two cents worth: Any hand with a 2 Best Darby – Overall Best Darby – Lions Theme Best Darby – Ladies Best Darby – Male Best Group Darby's – 2 or more participants 'Biggest' Darby 'Smallest' Darby Non-Darby participant

Lions Twin State Soccer

Calendar Raffle tickets are in the mail. I want to thank everyone who responded right away with their ticket stubs and checks. It is so easy to lose sight of chances to win and to help those in need with vision and hearing challenges if we put it aside till it's closer to the date of drawings. Of course, we would love to have everyone

attend the games at Castleton University,

Castleton, VT on July 21, 2018.

Remember, top prize is \$1,000. There will be:

> 1 - \$300, 1 - \$200 on game day, 1 - \$150 on July 4th, 7 - \$100, and 20 - \$50 winners

Thanks again for your support in our effort to support Green Mountain Lions Camp for the deaf and hard of hearing, and the Sight and Hearing Foundation of NH.



DEAR ABBY: I have a suggestion about how to help the child with the broken glasses mentioned in the letter from "Trying to Help in the West" (Feb. 25). I'm a member of Lions Clubs International. Our local club donates the cost of visual screening and free glasses for those in need who seek our help.

In 1925, Helen Keller inspired the clubs to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." Since then, Lions have worked tirelessly to aid blind and visually impaired individuals in the U.S. and all over the world. Services for the boy in the letter should be available in his area, or he can be directed to the closest club. MEMBER

DEAR MEMBER: Thank you for reminding me – and my readers – about the good work the Lions Clubs do. Anyone wanting further information about this worthwhile service organization can find it at lionsclubs.org.



New England Lions Advisory Board to the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Inc.



Lions Appreciation Day at the Annual Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation Open House One Vision Way - Bloomfield CT.

> Saturday, May 19th, 2018 10:00 am until 2:00 pm

Special Lions Program at Noon

NNNN featuring Gregg Barratt Fidelco Chief of Staff Fliot Russman Fidelco Chief Executive Officer Don Overton Fidelco Client and Staff Member

Parade of Checks

Event Features and Exhibitors

Dog Demonstrations Police K-9 Demo Caricature Drawings Pace Painting Marc Youngquist Harvey & Lewis

Blindfold Walks Self Guided Tours The Dog Bond Fidelco Merchandise

Tea Cup Auction Fidelco Pups Woodside Studios iHeart Radio And More!!

Refreshments will be provided!

New England's own, since 1960 Share the Vision • www.fidelco.org