



### From the Desk of The District Governor

Happy Holidays from my family to yours! I hope the holiday season will bring much joy, friendship and service to you and yours!

I am looking forward to the Winter Forum, we will be packaging food with the Outreach Program, we have signed up to pack over 20,000 meals. Please get your orders for the case of food into CS Tanya as soon as you can. Cost of a case of food is \$77.00. If you or your club would just like to donate a box that can be done as well, the donated boxes will go to the Vermont Food Bank.

With our Winter Forum fast approaching, we would appreciate you signing up early. We have deadlines for food and need to know how many people to order for. We are trying to keep the cost down, so only Lions registered by the deadline will be guaranteed lunch. So please sign up early. Thank you!

I would like to Thank everyone for their hard work in making District 45 as great as it is! Many people put in a lot of time, energy, and love, and I want each and every one of you to know that it does not go unnoticed. Thank You!

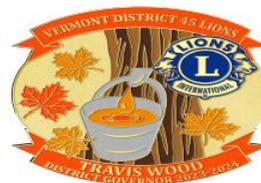
If you have not gotten your club visit scheduled, Please reach out to me and let's get it on the books.

We are looking for Clubs that would be interested in putting handicap accessible swings in the local parks and playgrounds. Please reach out to me for more information, we are looking for a matching grant from LCI.

Happy Holidays! Let's ROAR!!!

*DG Travis*





Winter Forum  
Canadian Club  
Barre VT

- 8:45-9:10 Coffee and Breakfast
- 9:10-9:15 DG Opening
- 9:15-11:00 Honorary Meeting
- 9:15-10:00 Food Packing
- 10:00-10:45 Food Packing
- 10:45-11:00 Break
- 11:00-11:15 Food Packing
- 11:15- 12:00 Clean Up Food Packing
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch
- 1:00-3:00 Cabinet Meeting





Outreach Food Case Order Form

Date of Packaging and Pick Up is January 13th at the Canadian Club in Barre Vermont. This will be done at our January Forum.

Two ways to purchase:

Send your order Form and Payment to CS Tanya Letourneau. Make Checks payable to Vermont District 45.

1. Come enjoy the Forum and help package the food, and take your club boxes home with you.
2. Send your forms and payment and check the box to donate to the Vermont food Bank and we will get them there.

Our Goal this year is to package 23,500 meals, this year's meal is cheesy Macaroni And Cheese. We look forward to all your help making this very important service project a huge success.

\_\_\_ Will attend and take the food cases home with me

\_\_\_ Please donate our boxes to the Vermont Food Bank

# \_\_\_ Cases ordered X \$77.00 per case

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_



January Forum Registration Form

8:30 am-3:00 pm

Saturday January 13th

Canadian Club

414 E Montpelier Rd

Barre VT 05641

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate food Allergy, and special requests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cost \$25.00 per person Please make checks out to Vermont District 45 Lions

Deadline for registration is Monday January 2nd. Any reservations after will be accepted, food will not be guaranteed if you register after the 2nd.

Please mail checks and registration forms to CS Tanya Letourneau 55 Jericho RD Essex Junction Vt 05452



Vermont Lions District 45  
Agenda  
Winter Forum  
Saturday January 13th 2024  
Canadian Club  
Barre VT

- Meeting Called to order -District Governor Travis Wood
- 4 Point Opening Pledge, Song, Toast, Prayer
- Introductions -CS Tanya Letourneau
- Roll Call -CS Tanya Letourneau
- Review and Approval of previous minutes -cs Tanya Letourneau
- Financial Report -CT Loreen Teer
- Honorary Report- IPDG Kathy Dorman
- Vermont Lions Charities Report- PDG Merry Souza
- LCIF Super Raffle- PDG Betsy & PDG Merry
- Global Leadership -2nd VDG Brenda & PDG Pam
- Global Membership- VDG Deb Savery
- Membership Minute
- Old Business
- New Business
- Questions on committee reports
- Lions ROAR!!
- Fundraising
- DG Closing remarks
- Adjournment

\*\* All other committee reports will be printed and available on the table to pick up\*\*



## *Vergennes Leos Project*

Vergennes LEOs are very involved with and passionate about projects that benefit the earth and increase our stewardship of the environment, animals and the land. In the summer of 2023, they began a two-stage project in Addison County and received help to reach their goals from an LCIF Grant.

Partnering with Otter Creek Wildlife Rescue, the LEOs set about first creating wildlife corridors that could be used to support the soft release of injured mammals and birds. The LEOs went to the rescue first to discuss the plans and to attend a class led by Wildlife Rehabilitator & Educator Craig Newton about birds and owls. He brought several birds and spent time answering questions and explaining the connections between choices people make and their impact on the wild community. At another day event, the LEOs planted trees and bushes along brush hogged corridors of land. Each tree and bush was selected to fulfill a specific role in the creation of habitats to support the transition of rehabbed animals back to the wild.

The second phase of the project involved preparing the site and purchasing a shed that would serve as a home for rehabilitating owls. Matching funds from an LCIF grant, Otter Creek Wildlife Rescue and fundraising by the Vergennes LEOs and Lions made this project a reality. The process and interviews with both rehabbers and LEOs can be watched at <https://youtu.be/Y28BSMFYxmA>.



## *Windsor Lions*

Windsor Lions participated in our town's Trunk or Treat where we gave out 262 pieces of candy on Halloween to area youth.



## ***Strafford Lions***

The Strafford Area Lions Club held its second annual Chili Cook-Off on October 14 in Barrett Hall in South Strafford. There were 13 contestants and at least 75 tasters. All had a wonderful time tasting delicious chili with family and friends. The Club raised over \$2,300. The winners were chosen by the vote of the tasters. Meg Teachout won 1st Place with her Easy Peasy Venison Chili, the 2nd Place winner was Cassie Maclay with her Sausage with Beans Chili, and the 3rd Place winner for the second year in a row was Patti Morgan with her Three Bean Vegetarian Chili.



## ***Heartland Lions***

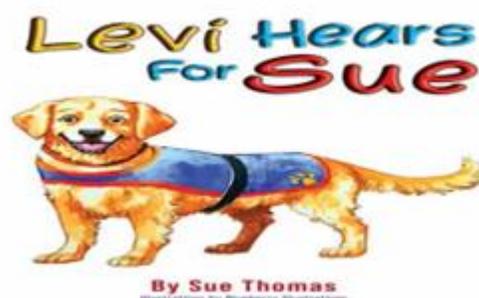
Heartland Lions have been busy. They took part in Trunk/Treat in South Royalton; they also worked on the Community Thanksgiving Dinner with the Vermont Law & Graduate School. They helped with meal preparation, packing and delivery of meals going out to some 160 community members and then served another 200 in the dining room. They also donated books to the local libraries *Levi hears for Sue* written by the late Sue Thomas.

A little background on Sue - at the age of 18 months, she became profoundly deaf; the reason is definitely not known. Speech therapists helped her develop her voice, and she also became an expert lip reader.

Levi is Sue's hearing dog. He is known by several of Sue's co-workers as "Levi the Wonder Dog". One of his prized possessions is his bunny toy. Levi can do multiple things for Sue, such as alerting her when someone calls her name, rings the doorbell, push the down button on the elevator, and even retrieve files.

Sue shared about her work experience at the FBI, Thomas started out as a fingerprint examiner, then she became a lip-reader for an undercover surveillance team. Thomas spent four years working for the FBI, from 1979 to 1983.

Sue was also the guest speaker at the 2018 D45 Spring Convention sharing her story. She was an honorary member of the Heartland Lions Club. She had a home in Tunbridge VT and attended the Heartland Lions.



**Manchester Lions**



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

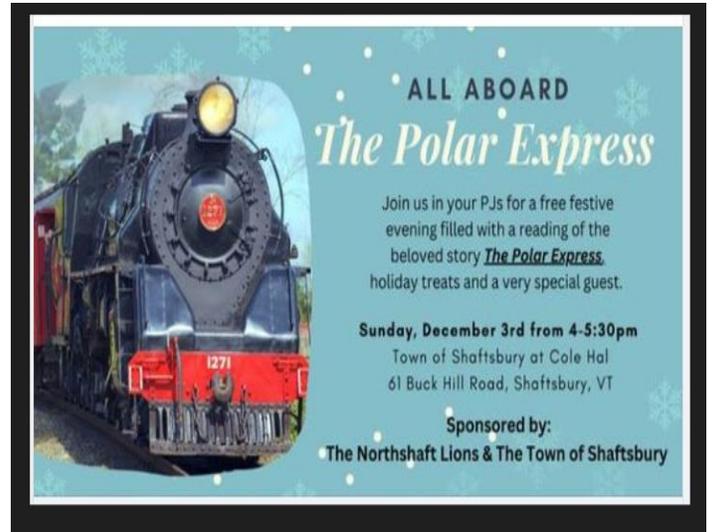
\$40.00 Adult  
\$35.00 Child  
2 and under free on a lap

**Springfield Lions**

Springfield Lions are holding their annual Christmas tree sale Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1pm-8pm; Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9am-8pm and if needed Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9am till gone; at the Springfield Plaza in Springfield.



**Northshaft Lions**





**Barre Lion's Club  
Christmas Trees Sale**

**Friday, December 1st, 2023**

**Time: 11:30 AM - 6:00 PM**

**Saturday, December 2nd, 2023**

**8:30 AM - 6:00 PM**

**Sunday, December 3rd, 2023**

**8:30 AM - 12: 00 PM**

**Tatros's Appliances**

**@ 272 Morrison Road**

**Barre Vt 05641**

**Only 100 available**

**\$40 each**



**Vermont Filipino-American Club Branch**

**Will support/assist the christmas trees sales**

## LIONS SERVICING OUR GLOBAL CAUSES



DIABETES



ENVIRONMENT



HUNGER



VISION



CHILDHOOD CANCER

Presented by Arlington Lion Susan Toth & Arlington Lion Jeanne McDermott  
D45 Forum  
11/4/23



HUNGER

### SERVICE PROJECT SHARE IDEAS

- Community Garden – Pack up flowers
- Prepare and serve holiday meals for the community
- Offer potluck dinners once per quarter
- Prepare and deliver hot/cold meals for shut-ins – similar to "Meals on Wheels"
- Host a hotdog eating contest. Lions match \$ amount raised based on the # of hotdogs eaten!
- Create baskets for low income & shut-ins throughout the year; add a special one at Thanksgiving
- Host a Bean Soup community-based project – create the soup in gallon bags to handout either at the food pantry or another designated location



#### Give a Gift of "Cozy" Soup!

- Easy
- Delicious
- Affordable

#### Recipe - 6 Bean Soup

- 1/3 cup Pinto Beans
- 1/3 cup Green Peas
- 1/3 cup Black-Eyed Peas
- 1/3 cup Black Beans
- 1/3 cup Great Northern Beans
- 1/3 cup Kidney Beans
- 1 tsp. Dry Mustard
- 1 tsp. Paprika
- 1 tbs. Dried Chopped Onion
- 1 tbs. Dried Garlic Powder
- 1 tbs. Oregano
- 1 tbs. Vegetable Flakes
- 1 Veggie Bouillon Cube (opt.)
- 1 can of Diced Tomatoes (opt.)

## Bean Soup Mix in a Jar

This soup mix is full of beans! Be warned it looks prettier in the jar than in the bowl - but it's a tasty, hearty soup that will fill you up. Can also be assembled in a Gallon plastic zip lock bag

Prep Time: 10minutes Cook Time: 2hours hrs Total Time: 2hours 10minutes

### Ingredients:

- ½ cup each Pinto Beans, Green Peas, Black-Eyed Peas, Black Beans, Great Northern Beans, Kidney Beans
- 1 tsp. each Dry Mustard, Paprika
- 1 tbs. each Dried Chopped Onion, Dried Garlic Powder, Oregano, Vegetable Flakes
- 1 Veggie Bouillon Cube (opt.)
- 1 can of Diced Tomatoes (opt.)

### Instructions:

1. In pint size (500 ml) jar, layer beans and peas in order listed above or as you prefer.
2. In small bowl, mix remainder of ingredients. Place in a small plastic bag or wrap well in plastic wrap to keep separate from beans and peas.
3. Place spice pack on top of beans and peas. Seal jar.
4. Decorate, label and include Cooking Directions.

### Cooking Instructions:

1. Remove spice pack.
2. Rinse remainder of ingredients well, then drain.
3. Place bean mix in pot and add 6 cups water and bring to boil. Boil for 10 minutes to remove any toxins from beans.
4. Remove from heat and let stand for 1 hour. Drain, rinse, drain.
5. Return to pot, add 7 cups water, 1 can (14 oz/398 ml) diced tomatoes (opt.), 1 Veggie Bouillon Cube (opt.) and spice mix  
Bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer for 1 to 1 1/2 hours.
6. Adjust seasoning to taste  
Makes 9 cups.

### Nutrition:

Calories: 105kcal | Carbohydrates: 19g | Protein: 7g | Fat: 1g | Sodium: 666mg | Fiber: 6g | Sugar: 4g | Iron: 2mg





## CHILDHOOD CANCER SERVICE PROJECT SHARE IDEAS

- Food train for the families; provide siblings of cancer patients a day out
- 100 pairs of Darn Tough Socks "Heard you are Tough" Celebrate your Strengths"
- Knit or crochet hats; care packages for kids, care packages with self-care items for adults; provide a parent's night out
- Make pillow cases for kids. Dress up as Disney characters – visit kids in the hospital
- "Color Fun Run"
- Sponsor a family for a fun night out
- Make coloring books and deliver them to the hospital.
- Adopt a family
- Make a wish for siblings & family
- Assemble a Childhood Cancer Kit which may include:
  - Reusable Water Bottle
  - Nail Polish
  - Friendship Bracelets
  - Hand Sanitizer
  - Hat or Socks
  - Lip Balm
  - Handwritten Cards
  - Journal
  - Word Search
  - Book
- **Snowman Candy Bar Mitten** (materials needed: 1 pair of gloves, Hershey bar, decorative ribbon & string, buttons, markers, white paper, tape)





### DIABETES SERVICE PROJECT SHARE IDEAS

- Linking families together for events
- Raising \$ for diabetes supplies needed in a medical setting
- Health Fair
- "Sharps" pickup
- Provide educational medical tags for paramedics to distribute
- Walkathon Health Fair
- Popup Diabetes screening
- Work with school food service to provide healthy foods
- Diabetes meet & greet dinner for families
- Let's Play program for kids with diabetes
- Hold an exercise class
- Provide a healthy cooking demonstration, with the recipes & shopping list
- Make healthy smoothies; provide nutritional information
- Create awareness surrounding World Diabetes Day

**LET'S  
BEAT  
DIABETES**





## ENVIRONMENT SERVICE PROJECT SHARE IDEAS

- Volunteer at a recycle center; host garage sales donate leftover stuff
- Make a craft from recycled items
- Adopt storm drains for cleanout; Adopt a highway for cleanup then self report #of bags of garbage- win a prize for the most collected
- Host a Window Dresser project; install solar panels on community buildings to provide energy
- Sponsor a local compost drop-off
- Hold a school area cleanup – educate kids and adults on how to compost
- Collect pull tabs & bottle caps – donate
- Hold a work day cleanup at homes
- Get paid to recycle sneakers

# gotsneakers?

A Sneaker Recycling Organization

1. In the United States, at least 200 million pairs of shoes and sneakers end up in landfills each year.
2. Shoes in landfills can take 30 to 40 years to decompose
3. Harmful chemicals are emitted into the soil and air which pollutes our surroundings.
4. More than 600 million people worldwide don't even own a pair of shoes.

**Start a Sneaker Drive Fundraiser**  
[gotsneakers.com](http://gotsneakers.com)

All reusable sneakers from the sneaker drive fundraiser program are recirculated to secondhand markets so people can access quality, pre-owned footwear at affordable prices. All heavily used and damaged footwear is recycled to reuse materials or to convert waste into new energy.

## Did You Know?

Most people throw away their used sneakers every 125-200 days without ever thinking about recycling. Since sneakers are manufactured with materials that are not biodegradable, they remain in landfills or are incinerated, which leads to toxic chemicals in our air and soil.

The process of manufacturing sneakers produces large amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> which contributes to the serious effects of climate change and global warming. Recycling and reusing sneakers keeps sneakers out of landfills, reduces the need for manufacturing new shoes and sneakers, and supports a growing circular economy.



**VISION**

**SERVICE PROJECT SHARE IDEAS**

- Make meals for visually impaired – vision participants must eat blindfolded
- Provide books at the local library for the visually impaired; large print, braille
- Provide audio books
- Provide equipment to schools for the visually impaired; tactile, sound, etc.
- Adaptive equipment
- Bring vision camera to popup events
- Zone walk for sight
- Provide transportation for eye appointments
- Setup a blind obstacle course using different equipment and tools
- Educate students by creating visually impaired drawings
- Host a White Cane Day



**Other Forum Highlights:**



Guest speaker: Shawn Bartlett  
& Hailee Bartlett

Presentation of Melvin Jones to Shawn Bartlett

**Peace Poster Contest:**



**Lions Twin State Soccer:**





## 23 – 24 Proposed to changes to District 45 Constitution and By-Laws

To all District 45 Leadership, Cabinet members, Club Presidents, Club Secretaries, Past District Governors and fellow District 45 Lions.

At the November Fall Conference / Forum / Cabinet meeting, held November 4, 2023 at the Hampton Inn, Colchester, Vermont, the proposed changes to the District 45 Constitution and By-Laws were discussed and voted on, with the results as follows:

- 1). All non-monetary / verbiage / wording changes were approved
- 2). Increase in convention fund from \$1.00 to \$2.00 was approved
- 3). Increase in per capita tax fund was approved as amended as follows:
  - per capita tax fund to increase to \$6 as of July 1, 2024
  - per capita tax fund to increase to \$6.50 as of January 1, 2025
  - per capita tax fund to increase to \$7.00 as of January 1, 2026

Below is a chart showing how the District 45 dues will be / will change over the next 2 years.

A copy of the updated District 45 Constitution and By-Laws will be sent to District 45 leadership, Club Presidents and Secretaries and Past District Governors. A copy of such is available to all District 45 Lions upon request.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself or PDG Walter Hastings if any questions.

In Lionism, Past District Governor Ken Emery, Constitution and By-Laws

Administrative Per Capita Tax 1/1/2024	\$5.00
Capita District Convention	\$0.50
1/1/2024 - 6/30/2024	\$5.50
Administrative Per Capita Tax 7/1/2024	\$6.00
Capita District Convention	\$1.00
7/1/2024 - 12/30/2024	\$6.50
Administrative Per Capita Tax 1/1/2025	\$6.50
Capita District Convention	\$1.00
1/1/2025 - 6/30/2025	\$7.50
ALSO 7/1/2025 - 12/30/2025	
Administrative Per Capita Tax 1/1/2026	\$7.00
Capita District Convention	\$1.00
1/1/2026 - 6/30/2026 and going forward	\$8.00





## Speak Out Contest 2024

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

To all Club Presidents, Club Secretaries and fellow District 45 Lions.

At the District 45 Spring Convention, to be held the weekend of May 3, 4 and 5, 2024 at the Fireside Inn, West Lebanon, New Hampshire, District 45 will once again host our 'Speak Out' (otherwise known as Speech) Contest. At the Spring Convention 2023, we had 5 students participate representing 5 club in the District, with knowledge of 2 other clubs having hopes to have participants without success. The following is some key information for this year's contest:

- To be held the Saturday of Spring Convention (May 4, 2024). Contest will start at 11 (subject to change), with lunch to be served after all participants are done. Prizes are to be awarded after (or during) lunch.
- Judges will be one per region plus a guest judge.
- Subject for the 2023 - 2024 contest: 'Changing the world - how can we shrink our footprint.'
- Prize money will be as follows: \$800 for 1st, \$550 for 2nd, \$400 for 3rd, \$300 for 4th, \$250 for 5th, \$200 for honorable mention - 3 maximum. Total of \$2,900. Part of this money is coming from Vermont Lions Charities.
- District would pick up the costs of lunch for contestants only. Club chairs would need to pick up their own lunch costs.
- Clubs are asked to pick up the costs of meals for families and friends.
- Deadline to enter District contests is April 6, 2024 (based on District contest being May 4, 2024).
- Maximum number of participants will be 8 with preference of 2 per each region.
- IF there are more than 8 clubs within the district participating, a 'runoff' will have to be held in the Region that has more than 2 to determine who can go to the district contest. This 'runoff' must be held no later than 2 weeks prior to the district contest, (being no later than April 20, 2024). There would be NO prizes for this runoff. If there are only 8 clubs in the district that are able to participate then there is no issue.
- All clubs are responsible for their own contests and prizes.
- Please let me know by March 1, 2024 IF your club is interested in hosting a speech contest, DO NOT hesitate to reach out to me for directions / suggestions in hosting your contest.

In Lionism, Past District Governor Ken Emery, Speak Out Contest Chair





From International Director Steve Middlemiss

LeeAnn and I hope that everyone had a safe and Happy Thanksgiving. This time of year allows us time to reflect on what we have to be thankful for and maybe reflect on how we can serve the needs of others who are facing challenges in their lives.

And that is what being a Lion is all about, serving others. That is what Mission 1.5 is about. Growing membership to 1.5 million members to provide more service with the goal of serving 1 billion people per year. Last year we served 530 million individuals. That's quite an accomplishment but we want to do more. In order to do so we will need to have 1.5 million members and we would like to reach that number by June 30, 2027. We have time but we really need to start now in order to accomplish our goal.

Mission 1.5 will be accomplished from the ground up. That is where the true growth will come from. Membership growth will come from you!! The individual members.

We all have a passion to serve, that's why we are Lions! Why not share that passion with our family, friends and co-workers. Share how important being a Lion is to you with them. Ask them to serve alongside of you at your next service project. The understanding of our service work is what attracts new members. Our growth will allow more service.

LeeAnn and I hope that each of you are able to share the upcoming holiday season with family and friends. Stay safe and Happy Holidays.

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*

PS. I have received some updated information regarding the solar ovens. The cost is 150 Euros per oven. If there are any clubs or individuals interested in donating to this cause, I would suggest a dollar amount as opposed to a number of ovens where the dollar to euro exchange is different every day.



## **TALES OF THE POST-SERVICE TRAIL UPDATE**

**November 2023**

Again, Karol and I need to thank you so very much for all your and support for our last two years serving as an International Director for the Lions of the world.

We started the Lions year working diligently in our Skowhegan club and District 41. The autumn saw me gain a new total knee replacement on October 9. It was scary going into the hospital, but in hindsight useless fretting! They say I exited the OR at 3:04 p.m. (not that I was aware!), but by 6:35 they had me out of bed and walking. While it was a short walk and with a walker in case, I felt like falling over, it showed me all was in place. At 4.5 weeks, I have 96 degree flexion and the walker has been gone for nearly two weeks. Thank you all who have written, texted, and phoned with your concerns and encouragement.

We met Lions from all over this planet, but the most enjoyable gathering of Lions was the Homecoming September 28 on DeMillo's floating restaurant in Portland. Lions from all over Maine and New England were there to celebrate Karol's and my journey the last two years. So many thanks are due from us to two Maine PDGs, Lion Ann McFarland and Lion Norm Hart, for organizing this fun afternoon. We also thank all of you who came to Portland to celebrate with us.

But now we are back to our PID Lions roles, as the election as an ID does not end at becoming a PID but is a life-long avocation. November 3-5 found us in MD 20S, Long Island, NY. The district had issues with their convention scheduling and lost their scheduled ID guests. My surgeon gave me permission to fly as the airtime from Bangor to LaGuardia was only an hour or so.

We had a great time with the Lions of New York and were treated to a tour of the Guide Dog Foundation in Smithtown on Friday. So many Labradors to watch in their training cycles! What a treat that venture was. The next day was a fun fall conference/convention with all the usual trappings: memorial service, reports, awards and general fun. One highlight was a very expansive Brunch instead of the evening banquet to which so many of us are accustomed. Seemed to increase the turnout as all were able to return home late that afternoon.

The second highlight was re-meeting Lion Jack Weber, a ninety-nine-and-a-half Lion whose 100th is the weekend of the MD 20 convention. He is still an active and erudite Lion who recently published an extensive history of Lions in NY. The proceeds benefit the Brandel-Murphy Foundation furthering Lions projects, particularly for youth, throughout MD 20.

So if you have a need, or even just a question, you know how to reach us - we do still know how to travel to you.

I thank all of you again for this honor to serve Lions and the world. We trust that we do our best to represent all Lions world-wide, and plan to continue this service to you wherever we are needed.

Many thanks again!

Lion John W. Youney, Past International Director 2021-2023  
& Lion Karol Kish Youney, Partner-in-Service

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



**Dear Lion,**

You and your fellow Lions serve your community at the local level, but never forget that you are part of an incredible global network of dedicated volunteers who are united in our mission of service. Together, you are changing peoples' lives for the better, every day, all around the world.

From helping to prevent blindness to supporting children and families affected by childhood cancer to protecting our environment, you are delivering care and kindness and bringing hope where it's needed most.

There is no greater calling on earth than to join together to give of our time and our talents to help those in need. That's what Lions do—that's what *you* do. Thank you for your commitment to creating the change that empowers others to achieve their potential.

Yours in service,

**Dr. Patti Hill**  
**International President**



## **Earn Your Special *MISSION 1.5* Pin**

We're on a mission to invite more members so we can bring even more help to those who need it. And when you bring a new member into your club, you can earn a special [MISSION 1.5 Sponsor Pin](#) that celebrates your achievement.

All Lions have the opportunity to be recognized, so take a look at all the [MISSION 1.5 awards](#) you can earn. Let's keep working together to be the change that our communities and our world needs while achieving our **MISSION 1.5** goal of reaching 1.5 million members by 2027.



## Lions International Convention 2024 Melbourne

Want to really see how your part of something greater? Then join us for the biggest Lion event of the year—the 106th Lions 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, 2024**, so [register today!](#)

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***D45 LCIF Super Raffle:***

*Thanks to all for making this a success.*





## New Lions, a new specialty Club?

### 20 Recruitment Ideas to attract new Lions

- 1. ASK SOMEONE. ASK ONE!
- 2. BRING A GUEST TO MEETINGS
- 3. ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS & CABLE TV
- 4. HAVE A CLEAR CLUB GOAL & A STRATEGIC PLAN
- 5. LETTERS OR PERSONAL CONTACT WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES
- 6. CONTACT WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- 7. PLACE CUSTOMIZED BOOKMARKS IN LIBRARY BOOKS
- 8. HAVE PUBLIC MEETINGS AT MALLS, OUTDOORS, ETC.
- 9. HAVE A BOOTH AT MALLS, FAIRS, FESTIVALS ETC.
- 10. PLACE PAMPHLETS IN DOCTORS' OFFICES, HOSPITALS, CAFETERIAS, LIBRARIES, ETC.
- 11. CREATE VIDEOS OF YOUR EVENTS AND PROMOTE YOUR CLUB ON YOUTUBE
- 12. HOST AN OPEN HOUSE
- 13. HOLD A CLUB ASSEMBLY ONLY ON MEMBERSHIP
- 14. ASK FORMER LEOS, EFFECTIVE SPEAKING CONTESTANTS, LIONS QUEST GRADS, VISION SCREENING SCHOOL CONTACT, ETC.
- 15. MAKE THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR AN ACTIVE CLUB OFFICER THAT REPORTS AT EACH MEETING
- 16. PUT TOGETHER GUEST INFORMATION PACKETS (SEE FAMILY RECRUITMENT BROCHURE / CAMPUS CLUB RECRUITMENT BROCHURE / STANDARD RECRUITMENT BROCHURE / CLUB RECRUITMENT BROCHURE TEMPLATE)
- 17. SERVICE PROJECTS THAT SERVE A NEED IN THE COMMUNITY
- 18. INVITE FAMILY MEMBERS TO JOIN
- 19. SEND LETTERS TO PEOPLE IN THE NEWS WITH AN INVITATION TO VISIT THE CLUB
- 20. PRINT CLUB BUSINESS CARDS WITH CLUB MEETING LOCATION AND TIME

*reprinted with permission from lion melissa smith.*



*Thanks to PDG, Lion Betsy Magee for photos from the Cabinet Forum & LCIF Super Raffle.*



First Vice District Governor Notes  
December 2023

**The Diaper Brigade**

The DIAPER BRIGADE came to a close on November 4 with over 11500 diapers being reported collected. The winning club was Arlington with over 6600 diapers being collected. They went so far as to produce an amazing 3 minute-PSA that was viewed throughout southern Vermont! This doesn't even include the thousands of wipes that were collected as well. The Arlington Club will be receiving a \$100 check for their Administration Fund as a prize for all their hard work. I wish to thank every club that participated in this project. The state is in the process of releasing the promised \$120,000 that will be the last amount we will see for diapers in future. This means that within the next few months the 15-state mandated Parent Child Centers will begin to feel the effects of this loss of funding as well as the youngest of the Vermont population...and their families. So please keep these agencies in mind when you are looking for projects and places to send your generous donations.

Until next year...

**What are reportable Service Projects?**

On another note, I will be discussing service projects and what is and is not considered reportable at the January Forum. After many discussions and communications with International it has finally been clarified in a very understandable way what can and cannot be considered accountable and reportable service to International. So, if you are still unclear as what you can count toward service for your club, attend the next Forum in January. I hope to help answer your questions and settle any concerns you may still have.

Yours in Kindness and Gratitude,  
FVDG Deb Savery



Vision Screening Report  
December, 2023

Things are beginning to wind down already with vision screening for this year. Since Covid, we're finding that schools are more apt to schedule screenings well into the new year which has made our scheduling much less stressful and much easier to work with.

Well, this coming year we will have 5 new screeners to use. They are made by Plusoptix and, as well as the original screening ability, they are capable of doing the acuity testing that schools in Vermont are required to do annually. Though NO CLUB WILL BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THIS SERVICE during their vision screening events, it will be nice to know that we can if requested AND if we have the staff and additional time it would take to provide it. There will be training provided for these new screeners as well. They are not all that different from the SPOT screeners that we have now and will continue to use. The training will just be available so everyone who uses them will be completely comfortable with them.

The original 5 SPOT screeners will be retired and used for trade-ins which was very helpful in lowering the cost of these new cameras. This will be quite helpful since 3 of the original 5 cameras are either non-functioning or on their way out anyway.

So, for those of you who have reservations, it will be a matter of getting used to something new. It will take time but will be well worth the effort and patience. Lions learn. Lions grow. Lions move forward. Stagnation is not an option when we need to keep up with the rest of the world around us. So please reserve your concerns until after the training. I am confident things will work out.

As of the writing of this report, 11130 Vermont children have been screened with 1284 referrals. 10 clubs have reported in to date. I know there are more who have screened; I just have not received reports by everyone yet. PLEASE get your reports in as soon as possible. I would like to make an accurate count of all students screened by January 1<sup>st</sup>.

I wish to thank you all for the hard work, planning, scheduling and personal time put into this program. We're on a great track and I look forward to an amazing Lion year of vision screening.

May all your holidays be happy and safe.

Yours in Kindness and Gratitude,  
FVDG Deb Savery



## New England Lions Council

The NELC Winter meeting will be on Saturday, January 6, 2024, at the Radisson Hotel, 2081 Post Road, Warwick RI. For those wishing to stay the weekend, rooms are \$119 + taxes per night. For reservations, click visit this link: <http://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/G9666871>



### New England Lions Council (NELC) "Serving the Needs of the Districts of New England"

#### 2024 NELC "Winter Weekend"

Theme: *Celebrating Service*

January 5-6, 2024

**Radisson Hotel Providence Airport**, 2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886 / 401-298-2294

Rooms only \$119 Plus Taxes/Fees until December 17, 2023.

Call the Hotel Direct @ 833-626-1023 or the number above and ask for

New England Lions Council Room Block. Or Click/Paste this web link:

[www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/G9666871](http://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/G9666871)

Recently Renovated Hotel near Providence airport. Offers free parking has a Bar, Restaurant, Fitness Center, Wi-Fi

Friday night we can arrange a get-together at a local Restaurant. Just let President Dom Branco know.

Saturday, 1/6/2024 7:30 - 9:30 Registration

7:30 - 9:00 Breakfast - Cowesett Room

Sat. 9:30-10:30 - Goddard Room - New England VIP Fishing Tournament - Ken Barthelemy

Sat. 10:45-11:45 - Goddard Room - Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, Inc -Mark McGrath

Sat. 9:30-10:30 - Cowesett Room - Introduction to the LCI Portal - GAT Leader PDG Dawn Rice-Norton

Sat. 10:45-11:45 - Cowesett Room - LCI Constitution and By-laws - IPID John Youney & ID Steve Middlemiss

*Sat. 12PM Luncheon Featuring LCI's 3<sup>rd</sup> VP Mark Lyon*

*Saturday, 1:30 PM Business Meeting - Updates & New England Governors' Reports*

**Saturday Breakfast: -The Continental** - Assorted chilled juices, fresh baked breakfast pastry served with assorted jams, marmalade and whipped butter. Freshly brewed coffee and specialty tea.

Breakfast at \$22 x \_\_\_\_\_ Total = \_\_\_\_\_

**Sat. Noon Luncheon:** Buffet of Salad Station, Seasonal fruit salad, Roast Beef & Swiss cheese Sandwich on a potato roll, Turkey Breast and American cheese on a mini croissant, Tuna salad wrap, Potato Chips, Fresh Baked Cookies & Brownies, Soft Drinks, Bottled Water, Herbal Teas, Caffeinated and Decaf Coffees.

Lunch Buffet at \$40 x \_\_\_\_ Total = \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total = \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(s): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ DIST/MD: \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check Payable to:** NELC  
**Mail Check/Form to:** Treasurer Norm Hart, PDG  
181 Port Road,  
Kennebunk, ME 04043

**Meal Registration Deadline: January 2, 2024**

Questions/Special Diet Needs to: NELC President Dom Branco, PDG @ Cell/Text: 401-714-2819 or: [liondbranco@verizon.net](mailto:liondbranco@verizon.net)



# VERMONT LIONS CLUB

IT'S YOUR TURN TO COME HAVE FUN!

DATE

SUNDAY, DEC. 3RD

GAME  
TIME

4:00 PM

Game time

3pm

GATES  
OPEN

3:00 PM

LOCATION

GUTTERSON  
FIELDHOUSE

OPPONENT

UMASS LOWELL  
RIVER HAWKS

UMASS  
LOWELL  
HOCKEY  
PRINTS

LET'S GO! [CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE](#)  
PASSWORD - LIONS

## District 45 – Calendar

Would you like to see your club highlighted?

Club news or articles due on or before the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month

Please email information to:

[communique@vermontlions.org](mailto:communique@vermontlions.org)

Date	Hosts-Event	Location
December 3, 2023	The Polar Express	Northshaft Lions
December 3, 2023	Zone 1B Outing UVM Men's Hockey Game	UVM Gutterson Fieldhouse Burlington, VT
December 16 & 17, 2023	The Santa Express	Manchester Lions Manchester, VT
January 6, 2024	NELC Winter Meeting	Raddison Hotel 2081 Post Road Warwick, RI
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 16, 2024	Spring Forum	Evening Star Grange, 1008 East West Road Dummerston, VT
May 3-5, 2024	D45 Spring Convention Speak Out Contest	Fireside Inn & Suites W Lebanon, NH
May 17-18, 2024	NELC Spring Weekend	Vermont, TBA

