

From the Desk of the District Governor

What a great start to the New Year! We had a successful forum in Barre on January 13th. We packed 23,500 meals for the food pantries of Vermont. The most that we have ever done. At the forum, I challenged 1st VDG Deb to pack 24,500 meals. She accepted the challenge and I look forward to helping her toward that goal!!

Membership continues to be a priority, please reach out to the resources that we have available if you need help. We have added 66 new members since July, however, we are down 4 for the year. If we can bring in 66 new members the first half of the year, we can add 75 the second half of the year. Let's make our goal one New Lion at a time.

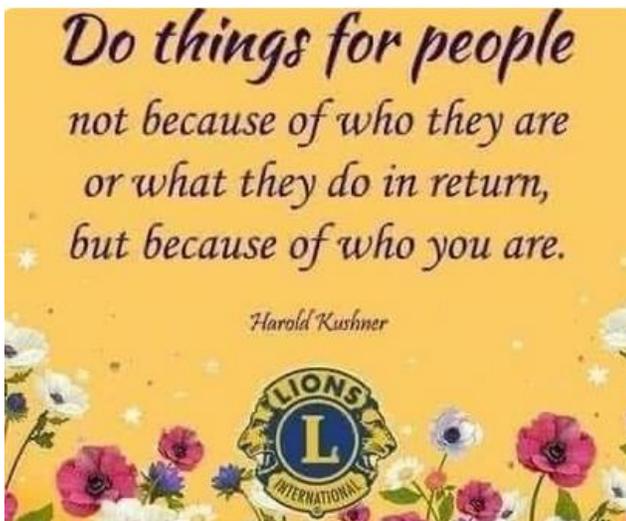
I am working with IPDG Kathy for a grant, to place handicap swings in the playgrounds around Vermont. If you have a town playground and they would like to be included into our program, please reach out to me, sooner the better, to get more information.

I still have some clubs to visit, please, reach out to me and get it scheduled. I look forward to coming out to see what you and your clubs are doing!!

Next Forum is coming up in March. The next forum will be in the Brattleboro area. I would like to get together the night before with those that are staying, and do some recruitment for the Brattleboro Lions Club. More info to follow.

Let's ROAR

DG Travis



Granville Lions:



The Granville Lions Club honored their 2023 Scholarship Winners at their January 9th meeting. Each of the students, who are currently freshmen and honors students at their respective colleges, received a \$1,000 scholarship. Pictured with their parents are Matthew Fisher with parents Robert and Michelle Bryant; Catherine Gould, with parents Kevin and Kimberley Gould; and Quinn Johnson, with parents Ray and Cynthia Johnson



On January 9, the Granville Lions Club presented the Granville Little League with a \$10,000 donation to help build a new concession stand for the Little League fields. Picture left to right are Granville Lions Vice President Michael Angiolillo, Granville Little League President Paul Garrone, and Granville Lions Foundation President Linda Ellingsworth.

Barre Lions:

Vermont Foodbank Driver, Avery Whitcomb, and Barre Lions Harry Hinrichsen and Judy Cookson stand with the 10,800 meals of Mac & Cheese that were donated to the Foodbank by District 45 Lions. A total of 23,500 meals were packed and donated to food shelves across Vermont.



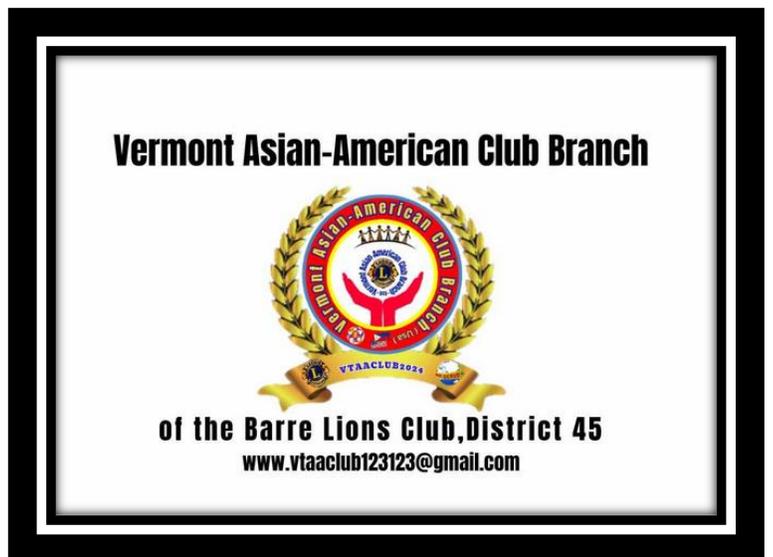
Club Excellent Awards:

Vergennes Lions and Colchester Lions



Colchester Lions accepting award!

Vermont Asian-American Club Branch: has a new name!



Vermont Asian-American Club Branch

of the Barre Lions Club, District 45

www.vtaclub123123@gmail.com

Essex Junction Lions:

Essex Junction Lions enjoyed a club visit with DG Travis Wood & PDG Pam Nicols. Looks like everyone had a great time 😊.



Springfield Lions:

On Thursday January 18th I delivered three cases of macaroni & cheese packets to the Springfield Family Center that we packaged as a service project at the January Forum/Cabinet meeting in Barre. Each case contains thirty-six packets which have six servings for a total of six hundred and forty-eight meals donated by the Springfield Lions. My next stop that day was at the Chester Family Center where I dropped off two more cases. One from the Springfield Lions and one from Lion Deb and myself for a total of four-hundred and thirty-two more meals.

Yours in Lionism,
King Lion Bruce Savery



Strafford Lions:



The Strafford Area Lions Club's cross-country ski program for kids is up and running with 24 children participating. Club member Hilary McNamee is in charge and has a good group of volunteers. These kids look like they are having fun learning to ski in the flow and beauty of the evening.



Challenge Accepted!



**I'm on a
#MissionToGrow
I just asked!**

Join Us

 **@lionsclubs**

 **lionsclubs.org**



Looking for a great way to attract new members and celebrate them and have some fun! Download MISSION 1.5 social kit with ready-to-use Facebook covers, customizable social media graphics and more so you can show your appreciation for new members and your support of MISSION 1.5.

<https://bit.ly/4aPyEVU>

Champlain Valley Lions:

Champlain Valley Lions is now in business, as volunteers, of accepting and recycling clean, stretchy sheet plastics.

Lions Mark, Russ, and Rosella (project leader) dropped off our 1st load the last Saturday of January. The main focus is keeping plastics out of landfills and waterways, and reducing environmental impacts from sourcing virgin plastics in manufacturing.

We're the latest partner with Trex (plastic lumber maker) - as other Lions clubs in VT, and service organizations everywhere, have been partnering for a few years now.

With 1,000 pounds collected, Trex provides a beautiful park bench. 980 pounds to go!

Yay - a great service project for the community.



Heartland Lions and BBRA Branch Club:

Heartland Lions & BBRA also delivered meals to the Sharon, Tunbridge, Randolph and Community Food Shelf in S Royalton. They were well received at all locations.



From International Director Steve Middlemiss

LeeAnn and I hope that everyone had a safe and Happy New Year. We were fortunate to host 2 wonderful Lions from Wisconsin, ID Lee and Lion Mary Vrieze at our State convention. They are two dedicated Lions. Our travels start again this month with trips to Minnesota and Tennessee. We are looking forward to meeting the Lions from these Districts. We will then be heading to Lions Day at the UN. We were able to attend last year, and I would recommend every Lion go at least once. It's an amazing experience.

So, we are beginning the month of February and are more than halfway through this Lionistic year. It is time we doubled our efforts to grow our Clubs. You have heard from those of us in Leadership (International, MD and District) talk about the importance of membership growth.

Membership growth translates into the growth of our ability to serve others. Serving others is why we joined. It's where our passion comes from. As the years have gone by the number of those in need has increased dramatically. How can we attempt to meet those needs if we don't make the effort to bring in more members. It's not about growth for the sake of growth. It's about increasing our service to others. Our motto We Serve is not just two words. It's who we are and what we are about.

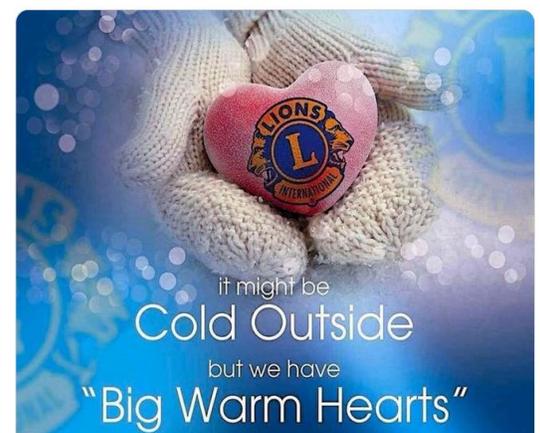
As I mentioned in my December article, share your Passion for serving with others. Your own story is part of the key to others joining, then ask them to serve with you on your next project.

You'll get them hooked.

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,

Lion Steve & Lion LeeAnn



Mark your calendars – District 45 Spring Convention

Convention News!!!

Mark your calendars and save the date May 3,4 & 5 will be our District 45 Spring Convention It will be held at the Fireside Inn and Suites, in West Lebanon NH.

Not to be missed!!!

Friday Night Entertainment will be a Carnival themed Murder Mystery Dinner Party. We are looking for 19-24 People that would like to be participants in the mystery. Reach out to the DG if you're interested.

The weekend will be a Carnival theme. We are having a carnival games fundraiser to support our LCIF Mission. There will be games, cotton candy, popcorn, pretzels, snocones. I hear there will be only one kind of Circus animal available.....LIONS!!!!!!!!!!!!

More info to come on times and other festivities!!

One thing we are looking for is a DJ that we can have on Saturday Night. Anyone have any leads please let the DG know.



May 3, 4, 5, 2024 at Fireside Inn & Suites, West Lebanon, NH

We hope that you plan on joining us for a fun filled weekend with

ID Steve Middlemiss & Lion LeeAnn joining us.

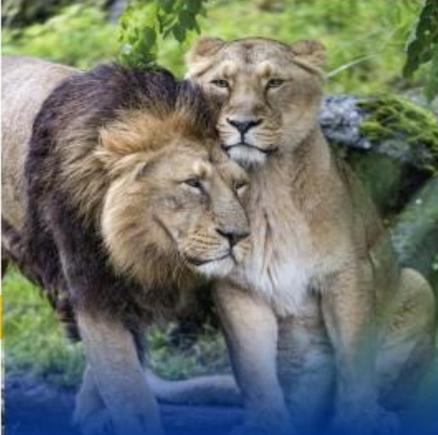


Looking to the futureplease be sure you come to Spring Convention to vote for your 2024-25 DG Team:



Candidate Deb Savery for District Governor:

<p style="text-align: center;">Personal History</p> <p>Married: Lion Bruce, May 20, 2000 Family: Matthew, Christina, and Mark Grandchildren: Briseis, Madesn, Garrett, Mckenna, Colton, Kimberly Dennis</p> <p>I have been a longtime resident of Chester, Vt for the past 44 years. The two jobs I am most proud of is owning and operating a State Registered home-based daycare out of my home for 12 years. This led me to working toward and obtaining my Batchelor's degree in Early Childhood Development from Vermont College of Norwich University in my late 40's. After, I obtained a position at Health Care and Rehabilitation Services of Southern Vermont where I was a case manager working with individuals with developmental disabilities for almost nine years. I left there and did another year in the same position at Lincoln Street, Inc. I'm now "Retired", but work freelance providing services as a personal care attendant for individuals and their families on an as-needed basis. (I also substitute teach at my granddaughter's daycare. Some things you just can't give up entirely).</p>	 <p>Debra A. Savery 137 Maple Ridge Road Chester, VT 05143</p> <p>Home: (802) 875-2990 Cell: (802) 289-2499 Email: tallships53@gmail.com</p> 	 <p style="text-align: center;">Debra Savery SPRINGFIELD LIONS CLUB</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Candidate For</i> 2nd Vice District Governor 2022-2023 1st Vice District Governor 2023-2024 District Governor 2024-2025</p> 
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<p style="text-align: center;">My Lions History</p> <p>Charter Member of Chester Lions Club for 20 Years Springfield Lions Club Member for 5 Years Melvin Jones Fellow</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HAVE SERVED IN THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:</p> <p>President Secretary Treasurer Region Chair Zone Chair Fidelco Guide Dog Liaison Twin State Soccer Director Vision Screening Coordinator Newly elected VLC Secretary</p> <p><i>Many of these offices were multiple years.</i></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">How & Why I'm Here...</p> <p>I have been a Lion for over 25 years. I joined Lions to honor my father who was diagnosed with Macular Degeneration in his early 50s and was declared legally blind soon after. Both my parents were tremendous role models for me growing up, teaching me how to be respectful, honest, trustworthy, and generous. They've also taught me and my siblings to help others wherever and whenever we can. I've always tried to follow in their footsteps. I feel I have done so by raising my children to the same values and by becoming a Lion. I also feel they would agree that the Lion motto is a most appropriate one... We Serve.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">We MAKE A LIVING <i>by what we</i> GET We MAKE A LIFE <i>by what we</i> GIVE -Winston Churchill</p> 
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Candidate Lion Tanya Letourneau First Vice District Governor:



Tanya Letourneau
55 Jericho Rd.
Essex Junction, VT 05452

Cell: (802)324-4160
Email: vtliontanya@gmail.com



I have been a lion for six years.

In the six years I have been a lion I have personally grown more than I ever thought possible.

I have become the person I only had a dream of becoming.

Kindness is MAGIC

My Lions History

Member of Williston Lions Club
For 4 years

Member of Essex Junction Lions
Club for 2 years

Champlain Valley Lions Charter
Club Sponsor Member

HAVE SERVED IN THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

Cabinet Secretary

Zone Chair

Club President

**New England Lions
Council Member**

Food From the Heart Chair

Super Raffle Committee



Why?

Lions help people,
I love helping people.

Lions change lives,
I want to change lives.

Where there is a need
there is a lion.

I want to be
the best lion I can be.




We Serve
If you have the power to make someone happy, do it!
The world needs more of that.
#kindnessmatters

Candidate Drew Perry for Second Vice District Governor:

DREW PERRY
 For
 2nd Vice District Governor
 2024-2025



DREW PERRY
 For
 2nd Vice District Governor
 2024-2025



**Thank you
 for
 your
 consideration**

186 West St
 Apt 1
 Essex Junction, Vt. 05452

Call or Text:
 (603)505-5371

Email:
 andrew.j.perry95@gmail.com

We Serve

DREW PERRY
 For
 2nd Vice District Governor
 2024-2025



I've been involved with service organizations my whole life.

In 2011 my family became members of the Grange where I have held the position of Marketing Chair since 2013

In 2012 I was awarded BSA's highest honor, the rank of Eagle Scout

From there I attended Northern Vermont University where I studied Adventure Leadership.

Post college my wife and I moved to Essex Junction and joined the Lions.

DREW PERRY
 For
 2nd Vice District Governor
 2024-2025



Leadership History

Lions Leadership Positions

- Zone Chair
- President
- E.J. Board of Directors
- E.J. Chartered Organization Rep.
- C.V.L. Club Sponsor Club Member
- C.V.L. Charter Luncheon Committee
- Super Raffle Committee
- Green Mountain Lions Camp

Awards

- Vermont Lions Charity's 500 Club Award Recipient

Other Accomplishment's

- B.S. Adventure Leadership Northern Vermont University
- A.S. Digital Media and Marketing Northern Vermont University
- Eagle Scout - 3 Palms
- B.S.A Troop 521 Londonderry N.H.
- Leadership Training Certified Instructor
- National Youth Leadership Training Londonderry Grange Hall #44
- Social Media and Marketing Chair



Get to know me

My wife and I have been Lions for 5 years. We originally got involved to serve our community as we both we're new to Essex Junction and have been in and around service organizations our entire lives.

My journey to Lions started in the Scouts where I earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 2012 and 3 Palms in 2013.

Growing up in New Hampshire I always loved the outdoors and scouting brought me to N.V.U and Vermont to pursue a degree in Adventure Leadership

My wife Sabrina and I met in 2016 and bonded over our shared love for photography and nature. When we married in 2021 we opted to elope on the beautiful Kukio beach in Kailua-Kona Hawaii.

In 2020, we rescued our 4 legged son Togo, an adorable Husky Golden Retriever mix. Though he is not a Lion...

YET,

there have been talks of getting him his own vest and mane to march in the Essex Junction Memorial Day Parade

Sabrina, Togo and I appreciate your consideration!

DREW PERRY
 For
 2nd Vice District Governor
 2024-2025



**"Do not
 go where
 the path may lead,
 go instead
 where there is
 no path
 and leave
 a
 TRAIL"**



**Ralph
 Waldo
 Emerson**

Peace Poster Contest – Fall 2024 will be here soon!

Get your Peace Poster kit at: lionsclubs.org/peaceposter

For peace to be anything more than a possibility, we need to make it a priority. This year, we're asking our young students to create a poster that speaks to our world's infinite potential for kindness once we commit to pursuing the idea of peace without limits.

Students ages 11, 12 or 13 as of November 15 are eligible to participate in the International Peace Poster Contest. Entries not meeting the following deadlines will be disqualified.

- **January 15:** Kits go on sale from the Club Supplies Sales Department at International Headquarters.
- **October 1:** Deadline to purchase kits from the Club Supplies Sales Department at International Headquarters.
- **November 15:** Postmark deadline for a club to send one winning poster (per contest sponsored) to the district governor.
- **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a district governor to send one winning district poster to multiple district council chairperson.
- **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a district governor not belonging to a multiple district to send one winning poster to the Brand & Creative Department at International Headquarters.
- **December 1:** Postmark deadline for a club not belonging to a district to send one winning entry to the Brand & Creative Department at International Headquarters.
- **December 15:** Postmark deadline for the multiple district council chairperson to send one winning poster to the Brand & Creative Department at International Headquarters.
- **February 1:** International winners notified on or before this date.



THANK YOU

On Saturday, January 13, 2024, despite the inclement weather, Lions packed 23,500 meals with over 10,800 meals going to the Vermont Food Bank with clubs purchasing 13,500 which will be donated to local food shelves. Hunger is a problem without borders. Lions make huge strides in providing meals and nutrition for those in need—in hopes that one day no child will ever have to live without knowing when their next meal will come.



The mission of the Outreach Program is to provide safe water, food, medical care and education to children and those in need, at home and abroad. We have been working with The Outreach Program since 2016 and look forward to continuing.

Please plan to join us in January 2025 when we plan on packing 24,500 meals.



Vision Screening Report



After working to obtain new vision screeners, there is finally light at the end of the tunnel. Lion Bruce has been working very hard to collect the five old SPOT screeners and is almost ready to ship them out to Plusoptics for their trade-in value. New USB converter cables have been ordered and received to go with each camera and three new printers came in this very morning.

After discussions with various clubs, the locations for these new cameras have been determined. The new cameras will be going to Troy, Arlington, Deerfield, Champlain Valley, and Heartland. These locations were chosen after extensive discussions with various clubs as well as considerations to having them located in the most accessible locations to benefit as many surrounding towns as possible.

Some clubs were very vocal about their choice of vision screener, which was taken into consideration when planning the placements of the Plusoptix brand screeners. Those who wanted to stay with the SPOT screener will still use those screeners while those clubs that were willing to accept the Plusoptix screeners will receive the new cameras shortly.

Training for the new screeners will be held sometime in February. As soon as all the new cameras are in place, ZOOM training will be set up so members can see and handle the actual screener while being taught how to best operate them. Thank you to my Springfield club for helping me figure out the best way to organize such a daunting project!

With that all being said, I am very happy to announce that District 45 has screened 15075 students so far this Lion year with 1681 referrals being made. There will still be a few more screenings being performed so a final total isn't available yet, but what a great job you have all done!

Finally, I would like to take this moment to thank my wonderful husband, PCST Bruce, for being willing to take on the task of being Co-Coordinator with me during my year as District Governor. He has been very busy with emails and phone calls (as many of you know) in preparation for the arrival of the new screeners and collecting the old ones for the trade-in allowance. He will be collecting all the reports over the next year and assisting clubs with any issues that may pop up, as they inevitably do. Thank you, Bruce. His contact information is: bsavery29@gmail.com or cell: 802-289-1696. Now with 11 good screeners, we are hoping that the problems of breakdowns will be minimal this year and the new year will go much smoother.

I wish you all a warm and safe month ahead.

Yours in Kindness and Gratitude,

FVDG Deb



Congratulations to FVDG Deb – She is headed to St. Charles, IL for DG Training.



The First Vice District Governors/District Governors-Elect (FVDGs/DGEs) Training Program is an intensive year-long training program designed to equip FVDGs/DGEs with the knowledge and leadership skills necessary to support their districts and Lions International. It is organized as a comprehensive training path beginning in September with online assignments in the Lions Learning Center and culminating at the international convention.

**Highlights from the Winter Forum, January 13, 2024
Barre, VT – Canadian Club**

Packing meals, Lions Twin State Soccer, Vermont Lions Charities, Membership, Service, Leadership.....the list continues!

Guest included DG Priscilla Lauren & PDG Ricky Lauren, from MD20

What a great day with an awesome group of LIONS!



More photos from the Winter Cabinet Forum.....



Cabinet Secretary Tanya



DG Travis

Vermont Lions Charities, PDG Merry



Guest DG Priscilla Laurin & PDG Ricky Laurin

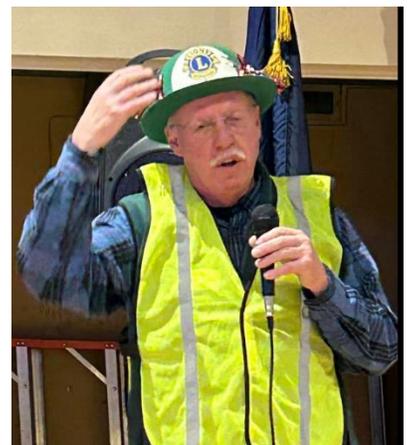
from MD20



Vermont Lions Twin-State Soccer, PDG Carol



Service/Vision, 1VDG Deb



Membership, PDG Walter



44N District Meeting

March 3, 2024



Celebrating 100 years of Service!

Location: Charlestown VFW, 365 Lovers Lane,
Charlestown NH

Registration: 9:30 AM

Meeting: 10:00 AM

Cost: \$17.00 per person



Spring is almost here! Let's brighten up the day with some flowered or tropical shirts!

Guest Speaker: Eileen Luponis, NH Food Bank

Please bring donations for the NH Food Bank

Deadline for reservations is Tuesday, February 27

Checks should be made out to Lions District 44N

Mail to: CST Gregg Kleiner; PO Box 94; Keene NH 03431

Contact information: Gckleiner1@gmail.com; 617-735-7543

Attendees: _____

Club: _____ Amount remitted: \$ _____



DG Travis Wood, PDG Walter Hastings and PDG Carol Greene attended the District 44 Mid Winter Convention in Westford MA on January 26-27. Friday night was a masked event, Saturday meeting. We also helped Lions Youth Services Project pack 10, 000 breakfast meals in 48 minutes to be distributed to NH food pantries with the Outreach Program and ending with a banquet on Saturday night.

Guest speaker was ID Lee Vrieze and Lion Mary of Wisconsin.



District 45 – Calendar

Would you like to see your club highlighted?

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

Please email information to:

communique@vermontlions.org

Date	Hosts-Event	Location
Food from the Heart February 10, 2024	District 45 Clubs 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

