

The New Communiqué

District 45 – Vermont Lions Charities
District Governor Lion Bruce Bushey
In Friendship, In Service, In Lionism



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Email is the name of the game in Vermont Lions District 45 for 2009-10. We have been working hard to get all the email addresses of our Vermont Lions. It will save the district, literally, thousands of dollars and a lot of volunteer hours. Send articles to the Communiqué Editor by email if possible. Snail mail will still be accepted. The next issue will be January 1; the deadline is December 15 for all articles, announcements, photos or ideas for articles. **Secretaries:** Send MMR to this address too:

Email to: communiqué@d45lions.com

District Governor Bruce Bushey writes:



Survivor.....yes, it's a highly rated television show that is fun to watch and to cheer on our favorites to win the million dollars, but for us in Lions it can have a more traditional meaning.

Let's define "survivor/survival.....to remain alive or in existence; to continue to function and prosper." The choices we make in our clubs, zones, regions, districts and at the international level will have a dramatic effect on whether we continue to serve in our communities or cease to exist. Choices, we make them every day, some are easy, some are difficult. Whatever the choice, one must be made.

Tell your story, advertise your club to the community; we are the worlds largest service organization with more than 1.3 million members in 45,663 clubs in 753 districts in 205 countries. Prepare to be creative in recruiting new members. Here is one simple idea some clubs have successfully used. Divide your club into teams for recruitment, the winning team gets to eat steak and fries, the losers eat hot dogs. Ask your most dedicated members to head the program, they are the ones that believe in our work. They won't want to see the club go down the tubes. Yes, you and your club can be creative and think outside the box. All you need is to believe in yourself as a Lion, for our association to succeed.

A recruitment program will work if you have a positive attitude and a passionate belief that the work we do in Lions does make a difference. We must keep our clubs relevant in our communities and to our members. If our work is not relevant, there will be some blind or deaf child (perhaps a future Helen Keller) who needs our help and be told those awful words, "sorry but there is no one to help, there was a Lions Club here, but it went out for lack of members."

Clubs are constantly losing members, and therefore we have to constantly recruit new members to keep our legacy of service alive. What's the key to success? Ask your friends and co-workers to attend a Lions Club meeting, then ask them to assist in the work we do. If they are not asked, they certainly won't say yes. I keep hearing this won't work, they just won't say yes. Ask those clubs who do it, and ask how they do it. Ask the Burlington Lions Club. They were going downhill. They are rebuilding and are once again a force in the Queen City. Ask those who are successful, they'll give you the answers.

Congratulations **Jericho-Underhill Lions Club** on the anniversary of 30 years of Lionism! They celebrate on Saturday, November 14 at Double-tree Hotel in South Burlington. Details, hbdave@together.net or 802.343.9999.

Great Success, the Big Dine Out!

The new Vermont Lions Charities fund raiser, "The Big Dine Out," was deemed a great success by planners who made it happen. Rick & Jackie Dutil of Brandon/Forestdale Lions reported a net of \$8,200 goes to the general fund of Vermont Lions Charities. This is money ready to be used now to help Vermonters.

Tickets sold for \$20.00 each, a drawing was held at the Fall Conference in Killington on October 24. Many restaurants in each Lions region participated. VLC bought a \$50 gift certificate from each restaurant and each restaurant donated two \$25 gift certificates. The \$50 certificates made the grand prize for each region, the \$25 certificates were the consolation prizes.

The grand prizes were won by: Rick Theken (Region 1), Robert Barrows (Region 2), Springfield Lions Club (Region 3) and Derby Lions Club (Region 4).

Region 1 consolation prizes went to: Tommy Waltz, Mary Phelps, Loreen Teer, Mary Rivar, Carmelita Belisle, Paul Souza, Robert Baron, Judy Mertia, Bob Broughton, and Betty Miller, Mary Chasknay, Swanton Lions, Tom Turchin, Tish Cardinal, Harry Hinnchser, Doug Keith, Cindy Berg, Charlie Martin, Beth LaStrada, Rick Poirier, Teri Irish, Ed Pantzar, Linda Eastman, Linda McNulty and Judy McGivney.

Region 2 consolation prizes went to: Cory Foote, Stanley Bizon, John Brutkoski, Fred Zimmer, Sandy Brutkowski, Paul Fuller, Jim LaBerge, Lizbeth Larson, Charlie Liberty, Jeff Smith, Jean Rindell, Charlene Broughton, Ken Torrey, Chris Bradford, V.B. Ferris, Tony Furcinik, Russ Francis, Phyllis Reed, John Sanborn, Bruce Bushey, Mackey Gaines, L.K. Cranford, Marble Valley Lions, Pirkkanen, Chris Russ, Pam Nichols, Jim Charron, Larry Simino, Brad Lawes and John Burke.

Region 3 winners were: John Freitag, Julie Walton, Dick Fellenze, Forrest Powers, Mike Moore, Betsy Ruml, John Hawkins, Jackie Jamieson, Demo Sofronn, Bob Klein, Monie Gleason, Walton, Ken Millay, Springfield Lions, Bill Tabell, Nancy Gerlach, Emily Masteller, Sherm Wilson, Sean Plottmer, Roberta Robinson, Wes Parker, Linda Cole, David Lamb, Mike LaPointe, Kevin Anderson, John McRae, Jane Whelihan and Jade Jamison.

Region 4 consolation prize winners were: Annette Jalbert, Art Powell, Serge LeMay, Phil Gonyaw, Steve McCloud, Lori Bandy, Willy St. George, Paul Cote, David Hurton, Mark Beattie, Jim Currier, Shawn Booker, Carol Currier, Laurie Desautels, Larry Messier, Willie Dalrymple, Wade Denio, Linda Osborn, Jean Therow, Darlene Hale, Tam Brink, Sheri Burt, Robin Burnash, Dorothy Boodmenn, Ken Laston, Bill Lanzetta, Connie LaPlume.

The Brandon/Forestdale Lions Club sold the most tickets at 113. Lions Gary Gorton (Brandon/Forestdale) and Mel Coburn (Strafford) tied with sales of 58 tickets each, great job! Lion Gorton gets a free weekend at the Stratton Mountain Resort for the 2010 annual spring convention.

Happenings Around D-45



Lion Lyle Remick became a Melvin Jones Fellow at the Burlington Lions Summer picnic. PID Jules Coté presented. Also, the Burlington Club inducted two new Lions that evening to continue their drive renewing the club.

DG Bruce Bushey, along with PDG Bill Moulton and Larry Myott installed the new members.

The efforts of 20 Castleton Lions netted \$13,500 for club coffers from their annual auction in August.

Jericho/Underhill Lions sponsored a Blood Drive, they were successful in getting 68 pints donated. They have another drive scheduled for November 13.

Lion Doris Alderman reported to her club, Bennington, they provided 63 pairs of glasses and seven hearing aids in the last year. Also in Bennington, PDG Ted Thomas pulled off a successful pancake breakfast for a maple convention being held in town. They netted \$900.

These items came from MMR reports submitted by club secretaries. If you send copies to the Communiqué editors, pieces will be used in forthcoming editions. Or you can email snippets to the editors, communiqué@d45lions.com.

Thanks to Vergennes Lions

The Vergennes Lions have been building handicap ramps for many years, as have several other clubs around D-45. They recently received this thank you note:

"My husband and I just returned from a visit to our daughter and son-in-law, in Bristol. Lions Jim Kress, Scott Lynk and another Lion had recently installed a ramp for our soon to be four year old grand daughter. I'd like to express our heartfelt gratitude for this installation. She proudly showed us how she "cruises" down the ramp in her walker, with twin sister ~~XXXXXX~~ right behind her showing support. This ramp is the key to ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ independence in exiting the house to play in the backyard. We can't thank the Vergennes Lions enough. Your organization stepped up to the bar immediately upon hearing of this need, and we are forever grateful." ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, Thankful Grandparents.

The District Governor's Calendar:

Monday, November 2—Border Lions
Wednesday, November 4—Georgia
Monday, November 9—Jericho-Underhill
Tuesday, November 10—Hinesburg
Wednesday, November 11—Essex Junction
Saturday, November 14—30th Anniversary,
Jericho-Underhill Club in So. Burlington
Wednesday, November 18—Enosburg Falls
Monday, November 23—Richford
Tuesday, November 24—Burlington
Tuesday, December 1—Route 100
Monday, December 7—Heartland
Tuesday, December 8—Williston
Thursday, December 10—Pittsford
Tuesday, December 15—Windsor
Wednesday, December 16—Colchester
Monday, December 21—Strafford
Friday, December 25—Merry Christmas!

Vermont Lion Charities Report

Fellow Lions:

At the most recent cabinet meeting, October 24 at the Inn at Six Mountains in Killington the board of Vermont Lions Charities was busy with business.

Lion Ody Laroche (Swanton-Missisquoi) was elected secretary, Lion Mel Coburn of Strafford was elected vice president.

The board also approved a request from the VT Association for the Blind for \$2,000 to help pay for their large print calendars.

Discussion on the investment of VLC monies was lengthy, reviewing the "Shared Vision Fund" and how to invest it. The fund now totals nearly \$102,000. It was decided to purchase a certificate of deposit where there would be no risk in this time of economic uncertainty.

Yours in Lionism,

Lion Rick Dutil, President

More happenings in D-45:

Richford inducted two new Lions in September. PDG Larry Myott inducted Wendell "Pinky" Fortier and Kevin Chase.

Brandon-Forestdale Lions donated \$200 for the Christmas toy project in Brandon.

Longtime Colchester Lion Lucien Thibault was very active in Vermont Lions for a very long time. He and his wife Jeannine moved to Davenport, Florida several years ago. Lucien kept his membership in Colchester. Jeannine became a member of the Davenport Lions. Lion Jeannine is now 1st VDG of Florida District 35-O, she will become D.G. next July at the Australia convention. Lion Jeannine writes, "I'm looking forward to my year as DG, and our trip to Australia. I will be the 1st DG of the new district 35-O. We redistricted, and I will have 88 clubs, 20 Leo clubs and a few Lioness clubs. It will be lots of work, but I look forward to the challenge."

How to Use Lions Funds

Funds raised from the public, in any fund-raising activity, must be used to benefit the public. These funds may not be used to benefit Lions. The Articles of Incorporation of LCI expressly forbid that any part of the net earnings of a club activity be used to benefit an individual Lion or club. Since districts are created by the association to facilitate its administration of individual Lions and Lions Clubs, this means the administrative expenses as well.

The wisdom of this is clear. To finance and fulfill their basic function of service, Lions Clubs ask the public to patronize fairs, raffles, shows and dozens of other activities. This public support is sought, and given, on the mutual understanding that net funds raised will go to finance community needs. Any diversion of those funds to other purposes constitutes a breach of faith with the public that contributed those funds.

The use of any funds to finance convention trips, politics or candidates, or administrative dues, deficits or expenses of the club, district, or LCI is strictly against the rules. This means that there shall be no public solicitation of funds to defray administrative expenses of a club.

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