

# The New Communiqué

**District 45 – Vermont Lions Charities**

*District Governor Lion Bruce Bushey*

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

## **September, 2009**

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Email is the name of the game in Vermont Lions District 45 for 2009. 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 volunteers a lot of time. Send articles to the Communiqué Editor by email if possible. Snail mail will still be accepted. The next issue will be November 1; the deadline is October 15 for all articles, announcements, photos or ideas for articles. Email to: [Communique@d45lions.com](mailto:Communique@d45lions.com)

**District Governor Bruce Bushey writes:** I can't believe it has



been two months already, I have made several visitations already, the organization meeting and the first cabinet meetings are behind us.

Special thanks to the Barre Lions for their great Bar-B-Q at the meeting in Brattleboro at the Austine-Green Mountain Lions Camp in July. Vergennes Lions did a great job hosting the August Cabinet meeting at Lion Charlie and Deanna

Shapiro's barn in Ferrisburgh. Both events were well attended with lots of camaraderie and sharing of Lions information and projects.

Visitations come fast and furious in the next few months with about forty to do; I'll be doing three a week. Therefore, it is very important your club keeps to the schedule. All visitations are listed in the directory on the club information page and the calendar pages. I would certainly like to have the cabinet officers attend club visitation in their area. This is a good time to get acquainted with your Lion members and gather ideas for club programs and fund raisers. By now the President and Secretary of your club should have the new 2009 -2010 Vermont District 45 Directory. There is information in this issue of **The New Communiqué** on how to access the directory online.

The MERL (*Membership, Extension, and Retention & Leadership*) team is working hard to get 2 new Lions Clubs up and running during this Lions year. When you are called on to help, please say yes. If your club needs help getting new members or bringing back old members give the MERL Team a call. They are willing and able to help you. We are a team and the more we help each other, the more we can get done in Lions D-45.

The New Communiqué was sent out by email (to about 700 Lions) at the end of June. Lions had it in their email inbox immediately. Ten days later about 600 copies were delivered to those who haven't given us their email addresses. With this first issue, we saved several hundred dollars for the district. We need to improve this situation even further. We should be able to get email delivery up to at least 80% of the district membership. If you did not get this issue of The New Communiqué via email, then please take a moment to send an email to [communique@d45lions.com](mailto:communique@d45lions.com). This will allow the hardworking committee to update the list and make sure you get good, timely communications from District 45.

*DG Bruce Bushey continued....*

Vermont-New Hampshire Lions Twin State Soccer Tournament was a success again this year. It stopped raining in time for the games. Lion Debbie and I had a great time visiting with Lions from the two states and watching the champions play. Next year's tournament will be held in Vermont at Castleton State College. We'll be looking for lots of Vermont Lions at that game.

Lion Debbie and I will be going to the USA/Canada Forum, September 24 – 26 with more than 150 other Lions from New England. There is still time to register. The information was in the July issue of The New Communiqué.

Our Fall Conference is being held at The Inn at Six Mountains in Killington, October 23 & 24. Information on this important Lions session will be sent to the Presidents and Secretaries soon. Please register early. It really helps the planning.

The new Vermont Lions District 45 website is up and running. Take a few minutes to visit the site at [www.d45lions.com](http://www.d45lions.com). You'll be surprised how much Vermont Lions information can be found here. Your club can market a fund raiser on this site, or perhaps find an idea for a new event. If you have any event coming up, contact Lion Jill Bessette to get it posted on the website.

International President Eberhard Wirfs motto is "**Move to Grow**," Let's build our membership, therefore building the service we provide our communities. Take a look at some of our former members; perhaps you can get them back.



**Marble Valley Lions** are proud to invite Lions from all over Vermont to participate in their second annual **Golf Tournament**, Friday, October 9, tee off at 9 a.m. Hosted at the Proctor Pittsford Country Club, the event will cost \$65 per player which includes golf cart and lunch. Contact Lion Dave Seward at 775.5234, Lion Steve Graham at 707.9760 or Lion Chuck Chatfield at 273.2839.

Photo caption, front page: *In Minneapolis, MN last July. Lion Bruce had finished his DG training and was officially installed as District Governor of Vermont Lions District 45. Lion Debbie removes his DG elect ribbon, making him Vermont's District Governor.*

### **Happenings:**

The **Essex Jct. Lions Club** has changed their meeting place from the Lincoln Inn to The Hideaway on Kellogg Road, off Susie Wilson Road. The Hideaway is in the former Wilson Inn. They meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., each month.

The **Burlington Lions Club's** annual Golf Tournament netted \$40,000 this summer.

**Jericho-Underhill Lions** are celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on November 14 at the Doubletree Hotel in Burlington. They were sponsored by the Essex Jct. Lions. Information [hbdave@together.net](mailto:hbdave@together.net), or 802.343.9999.

There were 113 campers at the **Austine-Green Mountain Lions Camp** in Brattleboro this summer.

### **Cabinet Meeting Report:**

At the **August 22 Cabinet Meeting** in Ferrisburgh, five Lions were presented Vermont Lions Charities **500 Club** Pins, for \$500 given to VLC in their name. Shown here ( from left) Jackie Dutil (Brandon-Forestdale), PDG Stan Patch (Castleton), Loreen Teer (Underhill-Jericho) and Rick Dutil, chair of the VLC (Brandon-Forestdale). Also receiving a 500 Club Pin posthumously, was Lion Bill Burnett, Brandon-Forestdale.



District Governor Bushey called the meeting to order with 92 Lions in attendance from 21 clubs. The quick paced meeting provided much education to club officers. D-45 committees met to conduct business. The D-45 cabinet meeting heard reports and carried out business. Meetings began at 9 a.m., ending at 2:00 p.m.

## More Happenings:

St. Johnsbury Lions are hosting a Rib Supper and Round Robin Raffle on September 19 at The Breslin Center in Lyndonville, 5 p.m. Great prizes too, including hotel rooms, Santa's Village tickets and much more. Info: [sjsimpson@charter.net](mailto:sjsimpson@charter.net).

Middlebury Lions made a huge effort at the Addison County Fair, grossing \$56,000. They do a wonderful job operating their Lions Food Booth.

Vergennes Lions annual auction was a big success. With the assistance of their Middlebury Lion auctioneer Tom Broughton, more than \$6,800 was raised.

Vergennes Lions had great success with a new project, *Reflections on Vergennes*, under the



leadership of Lion Betsy Benton. The Mirror Art show and sale attracted the participation of 49 artists who painted or otherwise decorated their

mirror, preparing them for a silent auction and celebration of the community. Vergennes artist Ralph Torrey is shown here with committee member Lion Paul Vachon. The Vergennes Lions netted \$5,200.

Bennington hosted two pancake breakfasts for the Vermont maple industry's *Maplerama* in July. PDG Ted Thomas led the effort that brought the club a \$900 profit.

**Lions Membership Benefit:** In 2004, the Lions of Vermont signed an agreement with the Cooperative Fire Insurance Companies of Middlebury, for a special deal for all Lions members. This includes fire and auto insurance too. If you have insurance with the Co-op or get a quote, your bill will be reduced 10% because you do the good work of Lions in your area. See your Co-op Agent.

## New Directory Available

The new district Directory has been distributed to all the cabinet members, it is now available on the District 45 website: <http://d45lions.com>. The directory is password

protected; contact Lion Paul Bessette for the password. Any lion can get it; just ask through the email address below.

A few errors have been found, in the directory, you can get the corrections on the website too, or contact Lion Paul: [directory@d45lions.com](mailto:directory@d45lions.com).



## DG Bushey Promotes Peace Poster

District Governor Bruce is encouraging lots of Vermont participation during his year. Clubs should sponsor the contest in their local schools. Contact the art teacher and make them an offer. Peace Poster kits are available through Lions Clubs International; your club secretary can order them. Last year more than 350,000 budding artists participated around the world. Lion Julie Simpson (St. Johnsbury) is district chair, contact for details at [sjsimpson@charter.net](mailto:sjsimpson@charter.net) or call 802.626.5704. Children between the ages of 11 and 13 are eligible to enter. This framed print, of the 2009 winner, is being raffled as a D-45 fund raiser, \$1.00/ticket.

## District Governors' Visits This Fall

Tuesday, Sept. 1, Orleans  
Thursday, Sept. 3, Ludlow  
Tuesday, Sept. 8, Valley  
Wednesday, Sept. 9, Manchester  
Tuesday, Sept. 15, Norwich  
Wednesday, Sept. 16, Troy  
Thursday, Sept. 17, Arlington  
USA Canada Forum, Sept. 24 – 26, Tennessee  
Thursday, October 15, Chester  
Monday, October 5, Castleton  
Tuesday, October 6, Norshaft  
Tuesday, October 13, Bennington  
Friday, October 16, St. Johnsbury  
Monday, October 19, Whitingham-Halifax  
Tuesday, October 20, Barre & Springfield  
Wednesday, October 21, Derby  
Fall Conference, October 23 – 24, Inn at Six Mountains in Killington  
Monday, October 26, White River Junction

## Vermont Lions Charities Report

### It's New, the Big Dine Out!

Now that the "Walkathon" has completed the Shared Vision Fund, founded by PID Jules Coté, VLC, Inc. is embarking on a new fundraiser that can easily be carried out by every Lion in D-45.

Each region of D-45 will solicit the participation of ten or more restaurants in their area. VLC will purchase a \$50 gift certificate from cooperating restaurants. Each restaurant will donate two \$25 gift certificates, the drawing date is October 24, Fall Conference.

There will be one winner of all the \$50 certificates for each region. All of the \$25 certificates will be drawn, individually, as a second prize, yielding 20 to 30 winners in each region.

Tickets cost \$20 each and are being sent to each Lion in Vermont. Please make every effort to either buy the ticket or sell it to a friend or neighbor. The plan is to sell at least one ticket for each Vermont Lion. This will generate about \$25,000 to carry out the work of Vermont Lions Charities.

The Lion who sells the most tickets will be presented a free weekend at the D-45 May Convention.

Demands are growing rapidly for services from our clubs, thus creating more demands on VLC. At the August 22 board meeting, we approved a \$250 eye glasses bill; \$400 assisting a club in purchasing a hearing aid; \$500 to build a handicap ramp; \$500 for eyeglasses assistance in an area not covered by any club.

VLC recently received contributions of \$1000 each from the Middlebury and Enosburg Falls Lions Clubs. Almost \$1,500 was received in memorial contributions since our last report.

Yours in Lionism,

*Lion Rick Dutil*

President

officers reported at the cabinet meeting that MMR's (Monthly Membership Reports) are coming in, but every club needs to send in MMR's on time. The club secretary fills out the form, on line, and sends it to LCI by the first of the month previous. DG Bruce Bushey said, at the Cabinet meeting, "All months must be filed even if there is no activity during the month. Instructions have been sent to every Secretary and President by the CST."

The most important member of the club, from the district and Lions International standpoint, is the secretary. The secretary keeps the club in the loop by filing reports each month. If reports are not filed, the district and LCI don't know how many members are in the club, or what they are doing. Bills for dues are sent to clubs based on how many the secretary reports. If dues bills are not correct it is because membership numbers are not up to date at LCI.

A Zone Chairs duty is to call the club secretaries who have not filed. Zone Chairs may help the secretary to file reports. Members are also reminded to give the secretary any change of address, as this must be filed with the district and LCI as well.

Most import, from the District 45 standpoint, is using your email address for club and district communications. Your secretary and president have been asked to submit all addresses to the Communiqué editors.

More than 700 Vermont Lions received *The New Communiqué* on July 1 via email. Those without a listed email address got it by snail mail two weeks later.

**VT Lions Charities  
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**Address Service Requested**

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