

**JULES COTÉ**  
**PAST INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR**

Jules Coté, of Shelburne, Vermont, USA, was elected to serve a two-year term as a director of The International Association of Lions Clubs at the association's 86<sup>th</sup> International Convention, held in Denver, Colorado, USA, June 30-July 4, 2003.

Past Director Coté is a retired executive director of the Vermont Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

A member of the Burlington Lions Club since 1988, Past Director Coté has been a Lion since 1966. He has held many offices within the association, including club president, district sight and hearing chairperson, charter member of the New Hampshire Sight and Hearing Foundation, district Lions Health Council chairperson, district Journey For Sight chairperson, zone chairperson and district governor. Additionally he served as advisor to the board of the South Dakota Lions Foundation.

In recognition of his service to the association he has received numerous awards, including four club Lion of the Year Awards, the International Leadership Award and Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association grants its members. He is also a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lion activities, Past Director Coté is active in numerous professional and community organizations, including being a member of the advisory committee to the Vermont Department of Aging and Disability and a life member of the National Education Association. In the past, he served as a member of the Knights of Columbus, the Elks, the White House Conference on Disability and a founding member of the South Dakota Foundation for the Visually Impaired. He also served as a keynote speaker at the third annual Canadian Congress on Rehabilitation; a presenter for the Helen Keller 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference; a consultant to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to establish a Moroccan rehabilitation center for the blind; treasurer of the National Council of Private Agencies for the Blind and president of the Vermont Coalition of Disability Rights. He is the recipient of the 1992 Thomas J. Carroll Award for Innovative Leadership in Work for People Who Are Blind and the 1999 Vermont Statewide Independent Living Council Award.

Past Director Coté and his wife, Jacqueline "Jackie," also a Melvin Jones Fellow, have two children and three grandchildren.

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