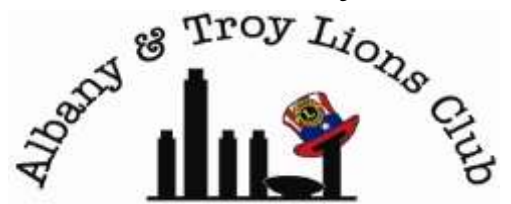




Rare Meat

The newsletter of the



January 2024



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

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**YOUR SUBMISSIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED!**

Report of the holiday gathering on Dec 6

A small but dedicated group of eight Lions and three guests enjoyed a lovely evening of fine food and camaraderie at the Copper Crow, a relatively new restaurant in Albany's warehouse district.



There were no board meetings in December, but we accomplished a lot with email voting:

- ◆ Eva's organization, Bridge Tha Gap, held their 11th annual Spirit of Giving Holiday Jam on Dec 23 (see page 5 of last month's *Rare Meat*). We donated popcorn and bags (and use of our machine, which, with Lion Dennis Fagan's help, we've retrieved from NABA. We had planned to revive our popcorn sales at the Victorian Stroll, but too few Lions signed up to help). *[Also see page 3]*
- ◆ Lion Queen's organization, Guardians of Al-Fitah, held their Love Thy Neighbor event on Dec 22 (see page 4 of last month's *Rare Meat*). We donated \$120 to help her out. *[Also see page 3]*
- ◆ We and the Hearing Conservation Society are each paying half the cost of hearing aids for a 71-year-old woman from Johnsonville.
- ◆ Every year, we typically donate \$250 to Vanderheyden Hall. We used to buy gifts, but it's been just a donation the last few years. We voted to make this donation again.
- ◆ We decided to buy 24 cases (288) of chocolate bunnies from the Lions Eye Institute. We'll sell some and donate some.



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Our next meetings



Our next **general meeting** will be on **Wednesday, January 3**, in Eva's new office space at **1215 Broadway in Menands**. Food will not be available, so if you'd like to eat during these few hours, bring whatever you want—a sandwich, perhaps, or a prepared meal, along with the beverage of your choice. There will be a microwave available to heat things up but don't plan on cooking. *The meeting will start promptly at 6:00 pm. Please try to get there by 5:45 so you've got time to socialize and get settled.*

Our January board meetings will be on Zoom on **Monday, Jan 15**. The link will be emailed a few days prior.

Earning Some Green by Going Green

You've all got your CLYNK recycling bags; I hope you're using them. If you need more for yourself, **or for any friends or family members who are willing to help us out**, contact Lion Jerry at 518-235-8232 or jer-gordon@juno.com for more bags.

It's simple: Fill the bag with cans and bottles that are NYS-redeemable (water bottles, soda bottles & cans, beer bottles & cans). Bring the full bag to your nearest Hannaford, scan the label and drop the bag into the chute. All those nickels will be deposited right into our bank account.

We're on a mission to grow!



MISSION 1.5

MISSION 1.5 is a dedicated effort to grow our membership to 1.5 million. We have committed the next four years to reaching this historic Lions Club membership goal. Every Lion has an important part to play. Together, we can grow Lions Clubs to extraordinary new heights, serving an untold number of people in need. Our Global Membership Approach is designed to revitalize existing clubs, charter new ones and inspire all Lions through fellowship and exciting service.

We will be having several webinars to learn more about **Mission 1.5** in the upcoming months. In the meantime, learn more by visiting lionsclubs.org/mission1.5.

A Celebration of 100 Years of NY & Bermuda Lions



This is the Convention NOT to miss! **May 3rd to 5th, 2024.**

Join fellow Lions in beautiful, centrally-located Binghamton, NY, for the historic 100th Annual New York & Bermuda MD-20 Lions Convention

Our programs and guest speakers are being finalized now but don't worry, they will all be worthy of 100 years of Lions serving your local communities in New York State and the country of Bermuda.

For registration info, visit <https://md20lionsconvention.org/>

Coats for Kids

This is the project we run in conjunction with News10. We pick up cleaned coats from selected dry-cleaners and deliver them to locations in Albany and Rensselaer counties, from which they are distributed for free to children in need. This year, our team of Lions (Michelle Baker, Doug Davis , Dennis Fagan, Larry Krug, Ruth Sano, and ex-Lion Tom Hart) processed 428 coats.



December Activities

Lion Eva distributes lots of Toys for Tots through her Bridge Tha Gap organization. Lions Maryanne & Jerry delivered 24 of them to the Lansingburgh Boys & Girls Club, along with Lions coloring books and packets of colored pencils.



◀ PDG Michele O’Hare, wearing her St Catherine’s hat, says, “Thank you to our friends at the Albany & Troy Lions Club, especially Ruth Sano, who has been picking up presents from our holiday tree locations five days a week! We appreciate your dedication to your “elf” duties very much!”

Lion Ruth spent the afternoon of ▶ Dec18 with Nancy Smith, program director of Lighthouse Guild in Latham, helping them wrap gifts for their visually impaired clients.



Warm Woolen Wishes

As busy as Ruth’s been, she hasn’t forgotten her wonderful Warm Woolen Wishes project!

On Dec 6, she delivered 13 coats and 50 hats from Warm Woolen Wishes Project and 60 pair of reading glasses to Capital City Rescue Mission.

On another day, she brought 86 premie hats to Ronald McDonald House.

Lion Queen’s Love Thy Neighbor Event got 36 hats, 1 scarf/hat set, 5 headband ear warmers & 2 pair of gloves

Eva’s Bridge the Gap event got 48 hats, 2 scarf sets, 5 headband ear warmers.



Happy Birthday!

Happy **January** birthday to these A&T Lions:

- 7th: Jeff Bennett
- 14th: Davia Gaddy
- 25th: Rob Brass



Happy Anniversary!

Happy Lions Anniversary to no **January** inductees

Mark Your Calendar



January is Hunger Awareness Month & Glaucoma Awareness Month

- Mon, Jan 1: New Year's Day
- Wed, Jan 3: General meeting. See page 2**
- Mon, Jan 7: Orthodox Christmas
- Sat, Jan 13: Melvin Jones's Birthday
- Mon, Jan 15: Board meetings on Zoom. See page 2**
- Mon, Jan 15: Martin Luther King, Jr, Day
- Sat, Jan 27: International Holocaust Remembrance Day

For other events around the district, visit 20WLions.org



Lions Service Areas



Diabetes



Disaster Relief



Environment



Humanitarian



Hunger



Vision



Youth



Childhood Cancer