



Rare Meat

February 2011



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

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**YOUR SUBMISSIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED!**



Report of the meeting held on Wednesday, January 5, at the Red Front

This was supposed to be our visit from DG John Samples, but he had to cancel due to health issues. We discussed the three projects that Lion Terry had proposed by e-mail before the meeting:

1. Collecting recyclables at the Schaghticoke Fair. This got rejected pretty quickly because of the labor required and logistics problems,

plus it turns out that except for water bottles, everything else is in paper cups.

2. Another work session at the Regional Food Bank. This seems like such a good idea that we decided to do it quarterly. Our tentative schedule is the 2nd Tuesday evening of January, April, July and October. Lion Terry will see if this fits in the RFB's schedule. [More on page 4.]

3. Providing a meal at Joseph's House. Most thought this was a good idea, but we had too many questions to approve it. Lion Terry will try to get someone from Joseph's House to come speak at a meeting to answer our concerns.

Lion Tom reported that the NJ Recycling Center continues to send us thank-you letters for all the glasses we send them, and that CONSERNS-U, who got our 50:50 money from the 85th dinner, was thrilled with our generosity.

Report of the board meetings held on Thursday, January 20, at the Alexis Diner

KL Diane announced that DG John's visit would be on May 4. Our February and March speakers will be from Joseph's House and RISE Radio, respectively. April is the School-Nurse Dinner, June is the Installation Banquet, and that's it for the year. She also noted that next week, a few A&T Lions are meeting with some Bethlehem Lions to discuss territories. Several A&T Lions visited the Johnstown Lions and had a great time.

We received the annual request from the New York State & Bermuda Lions Foundation to buy 3 \$100 raffle tickets. This will enable us to

MEMBERSHIP

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PAM KHAMBANONDA
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GORDON MILLER
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BILL MILLER
MICHAEL O'BRIEN
CYNDY OTTY
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VICKIE SHAHINIAN
PAUL VERGONI
CHRISTINA ZHU-WEAVER
DR. ALLEN ZIEKER *
* AFFILIATE MEMBER

present an Uplinger Award later. As they have done in the past, 3 individuals volunteered to buy them for the club.

Because Easter Bunny sales have not gone well for us the past few years, we decided not to participate this year, but instead, we will make a \$200 donation to the Lions Eye Institute.

Loin Ruth reported that she has sent in our annual grant applications to Stewart's, Walmart and WGY. Last year we got over \$14,000 in grants.

Diane had received an e-mail from a PR Rep for National Income Life who wants to help us with our "fundraising, charitable, marketing and recruitment goals" at no cost to us. This will require further investigation.

We accepted the membership application of Mary Joy. [See page 4.]

Lion Maryanne reported that the Nurses Dinner is proceeding on schedule.

Visit to the Johnstown Lions Club

On Thursday, Jan 13, Lion Mike O'Brien spoke to the Johnstown Lions Club about VCB, formerly Vacation Camp for the Blind, but now Visions Center on Blindness; a contingent of A&T Lions went with him. Here's KL Diane's report: "Our meeting last night in Johnstown was wonderful, the members were extremely welcoming to us and we really enjoyed all of them. They had 11 members in attendance and we had 5 from A&TLC (Lions: Michael, Tom,



Diane, Elaine and Vicki). The meeting was great, the food was superb (so much so that we would all like to go back, even if we just go there for dinner). Lion Michael did a fabulous job with his presentation and it was VERY well received. I did take a picture of the group on my cell phone but it is a little dark."

Lion Elaine said, "By the way, you ... missed a lovely dinner & evening. ... The food was fabulous! I mean really fabulous. We had the most delicious scallops I've had in years. Really, the owner, Patricia of the restaurant by the same name, was congenial, just about all of the Lions were also. Lion Michael gave a great presentation, and that club is going to come to one of our meetings soon. They are very sociable, delightful, joined right in chatting with us. I think a great time was had by all!"

And finally, Lion Mike's comments: "I'd like to thank KL Diane and VKL Tom, as well as Lion Elaine Hayner and Lion Vicki Shahinian, for representing the A&T Lions at last night's visitation to the Johnstown Lions Club. Tom did a great job driving, and the members seemed to like my VCB presentation, which I was invited to give to the club. [I'm scheduled to do the same thing at the Glens Falls Lions evening meeting, Tuesday, April 26th. Hopefully, this can also be a chance for our club to make a visitation to their club, perhaps, in larger numbers.] Thanks, Lion Diane, for your compliments! It was a great evening.! The restaurant and food were wonderful, as were the club members. They've been invited to visit our club in the near future."

Why we do what we do...

To: "Maryanne Gordon" <maryannegordon@juno.com>

Date: Wed, 5 Jan 2011

Subject: Re: Lions eyeglass program

Dear Maryanne,

Yes, Joe DID receive the eyeglasses and he was supposed to write you, but.....

So, I will thank you on his behalf and tell you that they have changed his world. It was such fun watching him walk with them for the first time and hearing this 20-year-old man joyously exclaim about how he could actually see where he was going. He felt a little woozy at first, and wore them sporadically, but his eyes adjusted in about a day.

He will be grateful to the Lions Eyeglass program for a long time. What a tremendous service you provide!

Thank you!



THANK YOU!



Thank you for the other Lions!

Once again thank you for your wonderful & generous program. The photo is of Morning Joy - a 17 year refugee from Burma who has never worn glasses (but probably has

needed them for a long time!)

The minute Lenscrafters placed the glasses on his face - his world changed - I could tell by the expression on his face

Welcome, our newest Lion...

Our most recent member is Mary Joy, who prefers to go by the single name "MaryJoy." She's a licensed optician at Troy Vision Center, where she works for Lion Dr Ted Belhumeur. She's already been to a number of our meetings, so maybe you've already met her. Be sure to give her a warm welcome next time you see her. We look forward to implanting her proposed project of providing eyeglass maintenance for nursing-home residents.

Regional Food Bank

We worked there back in October (see the Nov. 2010 *Rare Meat*) and had a great time while being of great service. We've decided to do this regularly, and the schedule for 2011 is **January 25, April 12, July 12 and October 11**, all Tuesdays, from 5:30-7:30 PM. Mark your calendar now, and sign up for any or all sessions with Lion Carol Quantock at 664-3901 or cquantoc@nycap.rr.com. Remember that friends and family are welcome to work with us. Thanks, Lion Terry, for getting us into this worthwhile project.

At the Jan 25 session, a select crowd of 6 Lions (Maryanne & Jerry, Carol, Terry, Mike and MaryJoy) plus a grandson and his friend did the work of many. It was cold, but we kept warm by sorting through and repacking several pallets of goods donated by Stewart's and Target.

Committees

In case you've been wondering who's doing what, here are our committee chairs, in no particular order:

Standing committees:

Membership: Nick DeMarte (committee members: Elaine Hayner and Cyndy Otty)

Social Services: Maryanne Gordon, Rensselaer County & Watervliet / Elaine Hayner, our portion of Albany County

Hearing: Terry Page

Programs: Kathy Dorn

Visitations: Mike O'Brien

Grants: Ruth Sano

Eyeglass & Hearing-aid collection: Tom Hart

Cartridge & Cell Phone collection: Jerry Gordon

Volunteer coordination: Carol Quantock

Telephone: Mike O'Brien

Ad-hoc committees:

Blood Drives: Elaine Hayner & Vicki Shahinian

School-Nurse Dinner: Joann Beach, Maryanne Gordon, Jerry Gordon

Scholarships: Paul Vergoni

Seal Campaign: Jerry Gordon

Wreath sales: Diane Hart

Regional Food Bank: Terry Page & Carol Quantock

Nursing Home Eyeglass Care: MaryJoy

What we need: A good Publicity/PR chair.

What we've never had but could really use: A Youth chair - someone who's willing to start a Leo Club or two (one each in Troy and Albany?). Or maybe get us involved with LCI programs like Lions Quest.

If you'd like to help us spread the word or you like to work with kids, please volunteer for one of these important positions. Contact KL Diane at dbhart@nycap.rr.com or 605-8600.

And if you'd like to work on any other committee, please contact Diane or the chairperson.

Magazines

Lion Tom says the V.A. Hospital is looking for magazines. Instead of throwing them out when you're done with them, bring them to a meeting for Lion Tom, or contact him at C: 522-6666 or thart003@nycap.rr.com to make other arrangements. Magazines with dated information (like *Time* or *People*) should be less than 3 months old. But mags like *National Geographic* or *Smithsonian* can be any age.

Our next meeting...

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 2, at the Red Front at 6:00 PM. Our guest speaker will be from Joseph's House, and will answer all our questions about the proposed project of our preparing dinners for them. Ought to be interesting...

How you can help our club

Do you Google search? As few as 3 searches a day can earn HUNDREDS of dollars a year for the Albany & Troy Lions Club. So make sure to do your searches through **AlbanyTroyLions.PenniesAtATime.Com**. Or you can use the link on our web site – **AlbanyTroyLions.org**. Here's what you should do:

(1) Go to **AlbanyTroyLions.PenniesAtATime.Com**, then "bookmark" the page (add it to your 'favorites'). That then becomes the link you should use whenever you're doing any web shopping. (If you want to get fancy, you can rename it something like "Buy here.")

(2) And while you're at **AlbanyTroyLions.PenniesAtATime.Com**, click on **Install Albany & Troy Lions Club Search** near the upper left corner and follow the directions. This will put a search box in the upper right corner of your browser; this is what you should use for all searches, because we'll get a penny every time you do.

On a more personal note ...

This section is intended to increase camaraderie among our members by giving you some idea of what your fellow Lions are up to when they're not being Lions. If you think this is a good idea, you can help by giving me a few words occasionally about what's noteworthy in your life. Or tell me about some other Lion who might be too shy or modest to tell me him/herself.

Lion Cyndy Otty has a new guide dog. She reports, "The new guy is actually a *girl*; her name is Uschi (you-she). She's turning out to be a very competent successor to my previous guides, which is wonderful. She's *very* affectionate and playful -- pretty much your average two-year-old shepherd. I haven't yet gotten a good photo of her in harness nor have I had a chance to get photos of us together, but attached is one of my favorites."



Happy Birthday!

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

5th - Dave Levine
10th - Nick DeMarte
22nd - Mike Farrell



Happy Anniversary!

No A&T Lions have anniversaries in February

Mark your calendar...

Wednesday, February 2, 6:00 PM: General meeting at the Red Front. See page 5

Saturday, February 5: District Cabinet Meeting in Glens Falls. See below.

Wednesday, February 16, 8:00 AM (Note new meeting time!): Board meeting at the Alexis Diner. All members are welcome.

Visit your club's web site: ALBANYTROYLIONS.ORG,
your district web site: 20Y2LIONS.ORG,
and International's web site: LIONSCLUBS.ORG.

And remember to do your on-line shopping at ALBANYTROYLIONS.PENNIESATATIME.COM

District Cabinet Meeting



February 5th, 2011

Queensbury Hotel
88 Ridge Street, Glens Falls

Program

8:30 AM	Coffee and registration
9:00 AM	Lion / Lioness Phil Jessen, Director Glens Falls Association for the Blind
9:45 AM	Break
10:00 AM	Bennet (Ben) F. Driscoll Jr., Executive Director Association for the Hearing Impaired
10:45 AM	Break
11:00 AM	Business Session
12:30 PM	Lunch

It is appreciated if you register whether or not you have lunch.
Cost for lunch is \$22.50 per person
Please RSVP to Lion Tim Brown by January 31st