



Rare Meat

August 2011



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

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**YOUR SUBMISSIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED!**



Report of the board meetings held on Wednesday, July 20, at the Alexis Diner

The club presented a Robert J. Uplinger Distinguished Service Award to Lion Terry Page for “her unassuming, on-going and sincere dedication to ‘getting things done’ in making our club an important force for good.”

We would have done this at the Installation Dinner, but she couldn't be there. [Also see page 4]

We approved extending our quarterly Regional Food Bank work schedule into the future.

Lion Elaine reminded us that Aug. 26 is our next blood drive.

KL Tom appointed the following committee chairs: *PR* – Lion

Ruth; *Blood Drives* – Lion Elaine; *Programs* – Lion Kathy; *Visitations* – Lion Mike O; *Volunteer Coordinator* = Lion Carol; *Calling* – Lion Mike O; *Nominating* – Lions Diane & Ruth; *Fundraising* – Lions Paul (chair), Kathy, Ruth, Carol & MaryJoy.

KL Tom reported that he and Lion Diane, and Lion Ruth and Bob Sano went to the Guiding Eyes open house, where they presented our check for \$320. We also received a Most Improved Donation award, since our 2010 donation of \$533 was so much greater than our 2009 donation of \$50.

Lion Diane reminded us that we're participating in Boscov's "Friends Helping Friends" Day on **Tuesday, October 4**. We'll need folks at both Boscov's (Clifton Park and Colonie Center), so mark your calendar now and be prepared to sign up.

Lion Elaine mentioned some problems some of our clients were experiencing with LensCrafters. Rather than complaining to them, Lion Paul suggested the “honey vs vinegar” approach; we will bring them a tray of cookies in appreciation for all they do for our club and the



MEMBERSHIP

HOWARD ADLER

VICKI ADLER

JOANN BEACH

DR. TED BELHUMEUR

BARRY BERBERICH *

DR. ROB BRASS

CHRISTOPHER BURKE

JANE CHOUINIERE

DOUG DAVIS

NICK DEMARTE

URSULA DESSINGUE

KATHY DORN

DENNIS FAGAN

MIKE FARRELL

ALEX GILLIES

DIANE GILLIES

JERRY GORDON

MARYANNE GORDON

PDG DAVE HARRIS

DR. VICI HARRIS

DIANE BURKE HART

TOM HART

ELAINE HAYNER

CHRIS HORAN

HON. JERRY JENNINGS

MARYJOY

PAM KHAMBANONDA

LARRY KRUG

DR. DAVID LEVINE *

KRISTIN McVEIGH

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

CYNDY OTTY

TERRY PAGE

BOB PRATT

CAROL QUANTOCK

RUTH SANO

VICKIE SHAHINIAN

PAUL VERGONI

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER *

* AFFILIATE MEMBER

people we send to them. Also, KL Tom will be calling a meeting with the relevant parties to review our eye-glass distribution procedure.

We discussed whether we should establish a regular schedule for doing meals at Joseph’s House, or perhaps finding an additional shelter in Albany we could feed. We decided to do one more at Joseph’s House, maybe in November.

Since 1946, *Fight for Sight* has invested in the future of eye and vision research by funding promising scientists early in their careers. Fight for Sight is holding a fund-raising event on Aug. 27 at the E. Greenbush Fire Company. We voted to donate \$75, and KL Tom will see if there’s some way we can participate to increase our visibility in the community.



In an e-mail vote on July 28, we decided to again participate in NABA’s Low-Vision Technology Fair. It will be at the Beltrone Center off Wolf Rd on **Wednesday, October 19**, from 10AM to 6PM. We’ll need folks to sit at the table and distribute information, so mark your calendar now and be prepared to step forward.

Our next meeting...

Our next general meeting won’t be until September, but of course your board of directors will be working tirelessly over the summer. All Lions are welcome at the board meetings, which are on the 3rd Wednesday (August 17 is the next one) at 8:00 AM at the Alexis Diner, so if you need a “meetings fix,” you know where to find us.

Regional Food Bank

A stalwart group of 7 Lions + 5 friends and relatives showed up at the Regional Food Bank on July 12 for this quarterly service event. This is a fun way to live up to our motto, *We Serve*. If you haven’t done it before, it’s not too late to start. And if you have done it before, welcome back. Remember that friends and family (including kids) are welcome. We can’t have too many people, because they assign our task based on our group size. Our next outing will be Tuesday, October 11.

	<p><i>Make a note:</i></p> <p>Next Lions Work Night at the Regional Food Bank: Tuesday, October 11, 2011, 5:30-7:30 PM <i>Friends and family welcome.</i> Tell Lion Carol how many you’re bringing at cquantoc@nycap.rr.com or 664-3901.</p>	 <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>We Serve</p>
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Club Demographics

As we start a new Lions year, you might be interested in some statistics about our club: We have 39 members, of whom 21 (54%) are male and 18 (46%) are female. 17 of us live in Albany County, 19 in Rensselaer County and 3 live elsewhere. Our ages range from 32 to 83, with an average of 60 and a median of 63. Our years in Lionism (with our club) range from under 1 to 32, with an average of 11 and a median of 9.



What does "We Serve" mean to our club? Between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011, the Albany & Troy Lions Club:

- Collected **13,000** pairs of used eyeglasses and **173** used hearing aids.
- Provided eyeglasses for **47 children** and **73 adults**.
- Held a School-Nurse Appreciation dinner at which we hosted 60 school nurses and provided an educational speaker.
- Provided dinner for the residents of Joseph's House, a homeless shelter in Troy.
- Conducted a vision and hearing screening at a local company. A Lions audiologist screened 24 employees and a Lions optometrist screened 20.
- Sponsored a blood drive in December that collected enough blood to help 129 people. Two Lions donated blood, and 8 Lions worked 35 man-hours.
- Five Lions helped load 9400 pairs of used shoes that will be distributed in Appalachia.
- Held 3 work nights at the Regional Food Bank.
- Sponsored a blood drive in August that collected enough blood to potentially save 234 lives. 7 Lions + 3 potential Lions worked 38 man-hours setting up appointments and at the drive; 2 Lions donated blood.
- Helped with fund-raising for a Troy family that lost their home in a fire.
- Spear-headed a district-wide drive to provide a posthumous Bronze Knight of the Blind award to Dr Tom Little.
- Helped fund a 16-year-old deaf girl's attendance at a pre-college experience called "Explore Your Future."
- Helped fund a hard-of-hearing 5th-grader's trip to a Lions Camp for the deaf in Brattleboro, VT.
- Helped fund hearing aids for 4 people.
- Provided \$100 scholarships to graduating senior from 14 area high schools.
- Donated to Lions Clubs International Foundation; Sight Society of NENY (Lions Eye Bank); Regional Food Bank; Alight Care Center; Lions Eye Institute; Assoc for the Hearing Impaired; NABA; Visions Center on Blindness; Lions Hearing Conservation Society; ARC of Rens County; NYS & Bermuda Lions Foundation; Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership; Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

Happy Birthday!

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

1st - Paul Vergoni
5th - Chris Horan



Happy Anniversary!

Happy Lions anniversary to these **August** inductees:

Kathy Dorn - 1 year
Chris Horan - 2 years
Vici Harris- 7 years

On a more personal note ...

Back in late May, Lion Paul and Laura Vergoni took a two-week cruise to Alaska and they had a great time. For their next big adventure, they should learn how to take digital pictures so I can put them in the *Rare Meat*.

Folks, the only way I get items for this section is if someone tells me what's going on. 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.

Mark your calendar...

Wednesday, August 17, 8:00 AM: Board meeting at the Alexis Diner. All members are welcome.

Friday, August 26, 1-6 PM: Blood drive at Holiday Inn Express in Latham. We'll need workers at the drive, plus phone callers during the preceding weeks. Mark your calendar and get ready to step up, please.

Wednesday, September 7, 6 PM: First general meeting of the year at the Red Front. Our guest speaker is from St Paul's Center for Homeless Women & Children.

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

Dear Fellow Lions,

I was startled and surprised at last week's board meeting, for I had no idea an award was coming my way. When I recovered from my shock, I felt honored to have received an "Uplinger Distinguished Service Award."

Please accept my humble gratitude for the club's thoughtfulness.

With affection,

Debbie Page