



# Rare Meat

January 2014



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

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YOUR SUBMISSIONS  
ARE ENCOURAGED!



## Report of the general meeting held on Wednesday, December 4, at Valente's Restaurant

This was our annual holiday party, so we conducted just a little business, the most important of which was the induction of two new Lions, Laura Mona and Megan Davis. PDG Dave is always a fine inductor.

For the fun parts of the evening, we are indebted to Lion Maryanne. Her "bag game" is always a well-received ice-breaker that gives everyone a chance to feel their oats (or whatever

else is in the bags). And everyone was in fine voice for our unique version of the partridge-in-a-you-know-what song. Add in the excellent food and friendly service from Valente's, and the 25 Lions + guests had a very enjoyable evening.

Almost everyone brought a contribution of toiletries and personal-hygiene items, which Lion Paul delivered to Joseph's House the next day. We had wondered just what size containers they wanted, but Paul reports: "They were very appreciative of the items we donated and didn't question the size of items."



L-R: New Lion Laura Mona, her sponsor King Lion Carol, PDG Dave, new Lion Megan Davis, her sponsor Lion Jerry. Lower left: Lion Chris Horan's ear. Photo by Lion Maryanne

## MEMBERSHIP

VICKI ADLER  
KATIE ALLEN  
DAVID AROCHO  
MICHELLE BAKER  
JOANN BEACH  
DR. TED BELHUMEUR  
JEFF BENNETT  
BARRY BERBERICH  
DR. ROB BRASS  
CHRISTOPHER BURKE  
CARL CAFFALETTE  
JANE CHOUINIÈRE  
DOUG DAVIS  
MEGAN DAVIS  
NICK DEMARTE  
URSULA DESSINGUE  
KATHY DORN  
DENNIS FAGAN  
JOHN FALANCE  
MIKE FARRELL  
JERRY GORDON  
MARYANNE GORDON  
PDG DAVE HARRIS  
PHIL HARRIS  
DR. VICI HARRIS  
DIANE BURKE HART  
TOM HART  
ELAINE HAYNER  
CHRIS HORAN  
HON. JERRY JENNINGS  
PAM KHAMBANONDA  
LARRY KRUG  
DR. DAVID LEVINE  
FRAN MCDOAL  
KRISTIN McVEIGH  
LAURA MONA  
MICHAEL O'BRIEN  
TERRY PAGE  
BOB PRATT  
CAROL QUANTOCK  
RUTH SANO  
VICKIE SHAHINIEN  
SUE SHIPE  
PAUL VERGONI  
CHRISTINA WEARY  
DR. ALLEN ZIEKER

Report of the board meetings not held on Wednesday, December 18, at the Route 7 Diner  
Everyone's very busy this time of year and we didn't have a quorum, so we had to cancel the board meeting. But we did hold an e-mail vote on two issues:

- ◆ We accepted the membership application of John Falance. Some of you may have met him when he attended the October meeting or the holiday party.
- ◆ We have 1-1/2 cartons of popcorn left (see Victorian Stroll report below) that is nearing the end of its shelf life. Since it will be almost a year before we need it again, we agreed to donate it to the Lansingburgh Boys and Girls Club.

## BRING A POTENTIAL MEMBER TO A MEETING

*Our next meeting ...*

Because the first Wednesday of January is New Year's Day, our next meeting will be on the 2nd Wednesday, January 8 - still at 6 PM at the Red Front. Our speaker will be from the Saratoga Springs Lions Club, and she'll tell us all about Camp Abilities, her club's latest venture.

*KidSight*

It's a great help to NABA if we can send a Lion to help Kathryn with the paperwork when she does vision screenings of preschoolers. Lion Ursula helped with a screening on December 10 at Philip Schuyler Academy, and Lion Christina helped on December 12 at Pine Hills Elementary, both in Albany. They screened 125 kids, of which 10 were flagged as needing follow-up by an ophthalmologist.

At this time, we know of only one January screening where Kathryn needs our help: 9:30 am on Thursday, Jan 16 at Giffen Elementary, 274 S Pearl St, Albany.

If you're willing to help with this one, please let me know ([jerrygordon@juno.com](mailto:jerrygordon@juno.com) or 235-8232) asap.

*Victorian Stroll*

Again this year, we sold popcorn inside First Niagara Bank. For the past two years, they've had some very popular musical groups: Reggie's Red Hot Footwarmers, Doc Scanlon, and new this year, the Tichy Boys. Last year, the problem was that we were in the rear of the bank and the crowds enjoying the music had their backs to us. So this year, we tried being in a front corner, closer to the band. But the crowds between us and the band still had their backs to us, and the place was so packed that folks couldn't get to us even if they wanted to. At intermissions, they left the building through a door on the opposite wall from us. The net result was, shall we say, disappointing.

As a result, there are some among us who think we shouldn't sell popcorn any more, but I ask you: Where else are we going to find the opportunity for 10 Lions to devote a total of maybe 35 man-hours, donate \$50 to the Chamber of Commerce, spend \$30+ on supplies, and walk away with a total gross take of \$90 (including a \$20 donation)?

We'll have to discuss this at a board meeting, of course, but I'm thinking that the only spot that might work for us would be inside the Atrium. Or maybe "some among us" are right, and it's time to find another activity. Keep in mind that making money has always been a secondary goal of this project. We've always been more interested in maintaining and projecting a public presence so that the community knows that we exist. Feel free to make your opinions known to anyone on the board.

Noteworthy: Lion Megan Davis, who got up from a sick bed to bring the popcorn machine to the bank Sunday morning; Lion Dennis Fagan, who picked the machine up on Monday (as he's done for several years); and Lion Terry Page, who allows us to store the machine in her garage all year. They're not shown in the pictures, but they certainly deserve our gratitude .



Vic Stroll pix  
Upper left: Lions Jerry Gordon and Carol Quantock; Paul Quantock  
Upper right: Lions Paul Vergoni and Laura Mona; Laura Vergoni  
Left: Lions Jerry and Maryanne Gordon and Michelle Baker; Michelle's son Jaleel  
Below: View of the audience from behind the popcorn machine.



**Make a note:**  
Next Lions Work Night at the **Regional Food Bank:**  
**Tuesday, January 14, 2014, 5:30-7:30 PM**  
*Friends and family welcome. Tell Lion Carol how many you're bringing at [cquantoc@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cquantoc@nycap.rr.com) or 664-3901.*  
**Save the 2nd Tuesday evening of January, April, July and October to work at the Food Bank.**



**We Serve**

### Coats for Kids

Thanks to Lions Michelle Baker, Joann Beach, Jerry Gordon, Tom Hart, Carol Quantock, Paul Vergoni and Christina Weary for picking up **512** coats from area dry-cleaners and delivering them to distribution points in Albany and Rensselaer Counties over the past few months. Our annual teaming with NEWS10 to help with their Coats for Kids campaign is another opportunity to live our motto: ***We Serve***.

### Blood Drive

On Monday, December 23, we sponsored a blood drive at the Holiday Inn Express in Latham. Thanks to King Lion Carol for making sure we had workers, and to Lions Carl Caffalette, Meg Davis, Diane & Tom Hart, Elaine Hayner, Fran McDoal, and Laura Mona for being those workers. The Red Cross's goal for the drive was 36, but they collected 41 units of blood, enough to potentially save 123 lives.

### Lions Conventions

The **District Convention**, for Lions in New York State and Bermuda, will be held in Lake Placid from Friday, April 25 - Sunday, April 27. It's a great opportunity to enjoy the beauty of Lake Placid and the majestic Adirondacks; reconnect with old Lions friends and make new ones; learn at the workshops; support your outgoing and incoming District officers; share your enthusiasm and your ideas; visit the Olympic ski jump; ride the bobsled run (tell *that* story when you get back!). To find out more about it and get the registration form, click on [www.md20lions.com/convention.html](http://www.md20lions.com/convention.html).

A **Lions International Convention** is a wonderful event to attend. During international convention, you will have the chance to join Lions from more than 120 countries and geographical areas – with different languages and backgrounds – marching side-by-side down the streets of the host city during the Parade of Nations. Attend seminars and vote on the association's future. And enjoy event highlights, including three action-packed plenary sessions, an exciting exhibit hall and more.

These events can be anywhere in the world, but the 2014 convention is only a 6-hour drive away, in cosmopolitan Toronto, from Friday, July 4 - Tuesday, July 8. Early-bird registration ends on January 10, so if you're thinking about going, visit [bit.ly/J6gVwP](http://bit.ly/J6gVwP) to get all your questions answered and to register on-line.

### Name Badges

You all have the nice white-on-blue name badges that the club bought for you either when you joined, or when we became the Albany & Troy Lions Club back in July, 2006. These are the classic pin-on type that put holes in your clothes and occasionally elicit an "Ouch!" Some of you have the little plastic doohickey that converts it to a clip-on badge; this solves some of those problems, but it's limited in where you can attach it. Now LCI has come out with a magnetic version that's easier to attach and won't puncture your clothes or your finger. The magnet is strong enough to hold the badge on a man's suit-coat lapel.

All future members will be getting the magnetic version. If you'd like one, it will cost you a mere \$10 (unless you're one of our blind members, in which case the club will pick up the tab). Tell Lion Jerry of your interest ([jerrygordon@juno.com](mailto:jerrygordon@juno.com) or 235-8232). He'll try to order in groups to minimize the shipping charges.

### On a more personal note...

King Lion Carol and her sister hopped down to Phoenix, AZ, for a long weekend in mid-December to help their mother celebrate her 90th birthday.

*Happy Birthday!*

Happy January birthday to these A&T Lions:

- 7th - Jeff Bennett
- 23rd - Chris Burke
- 25th - Rob Brass



*Happy Anniversary!*

Happy Lions Anniversary to these January inductees:

- Fran McDoal - 1 year (+14 years with Waterford LC)
- Pam Khambanonda - 22 years

January 2014						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Years Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 6pm: Meeting at Red Front. See p 2	9	10 LCI-Con deadline for early reg. See p 2	11
12	13	14 5:30pm: Work session at Reg. Food Bank. See p 3	15 6pm: Board meeting at Rte 7 Diner.	16 9:30am: KidSight screening. See p 2	17	18
19	20 M L King Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



### Give the Gift of Sight This Holiday Season!

Support Blind Children  
By Purchasing a  
**"Through Their Eyes – The Gift of Sight"  
2014 Calendar**

Each month showcases original artwork created by Capital District children expressing their appreciation for the gift of sight.

Every calendar sold benefits underprivileged children in need of eye care. This calendar is about *children helping children.*

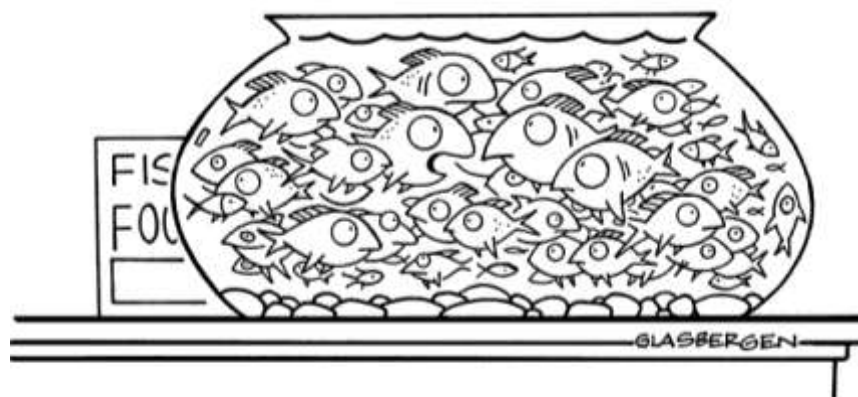


\$8.00 per Calendar / No Tax Due / Shipping Included  
Make checks payable to:  
Lions Eye Bank at Albany  
6 Executive Park Drive  
Albany, NY 12203



"If snow is made from water and water has no calories, how come snowmen are fat?"

Visit your club's web site: [ALBANYTROYLIONS.ORG](http://ALBANYTROYLIONS.ORG),  
your district web site: [20Y2LIONS.ORG](http://20Y2LIONS.ORG),  
and International's web site: [LIONSCLUBS.ORG](http://LIONSCLUBS.ORG).



"Why didn't you tell me your relatives were coming for the holidays?!"