



Rare Meat

The newsletter of the



August 2014



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**YOUR SUBMISSIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED!**



Report of the board meetings held on Wednesday, July 16, at the Route 7 Diner

KL Carol reported that our September speaker will be Dr Mabel Cheng, an ophthalmologist on the Latham/Niskayuna border who's recently been added to our list of eyeglass-collection sites. The DG's visit will be in October.

We ended up with 18 donors at the blood drive on July 9. KL Carol will try to get the official results from the Red Cross.

Lion Laura advised us about a free seminar at Albany Law School on July 24 that will explain the implications of the NYS Not-for-Profit Revitalization Act, which took effect on July 1.

Lion Tom reported that because of the weather, we didn't ship any glasses between last November and June, but we did continue to collect them. With the warmer weather, Tom finally got around to packing them; he shipped 7500 in July. This is more than half of last year's total (11,300), and it brings our shipments to over 100,000 since Tom became chair and we started counting in July, 2006.

There was an article in the July 9 Times-Union that said a group of citizens is trying to resurrect the Rensselaer Festival. This was apparently a very successful operation that was run for a number of years by the Rensselaer Boys & Girls Club, but they ceased about 10 years ago. It's a "family festival" with rides and food and craft booths, and it seemed like a natural event for us to get involved with to boost our community awareness. We had a speaker-phone conversation with the committee co-chair. We're considering selling popcorn and/or cotton candy. The event is only two months away (Sept 19-21), but there are still a number of issues up in the air. This led to consideration of the Albany Jazz Festival and LarkFest; all options are being looked at.

Lion Maryanne reported no eyeglass applicants for the last month.

Lion Carol may have a hearing-aid request; she's waiting for a return call from the prospective applicant's daughter.

Lion Jerry sent an application to the Lions Eye Institute for a woman from Liberia who needs cataract surgery.

Lion Ruth reported that we received a \$1500 grant from WGY.

MEMBERSHIP

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VICKIE SHAHINIEN

SUE SHIPE

PAUL VERGONI

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER

As noted last month, we received a request from the Hearing Conservation Society for a donation to help buy new Alertmasters for all the loan-out centers. They cost \$360 each; we voted to buy one. (It's a visual alert system for the deaf.)

We agreed to again participate in NABA's Low-Vision Technology Fair, which will be held on October 15. They've moved it from the Beltrone Center in Colonie to St Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church on Whitehall Rd in Albany. It will cost us \$50.



Bring a potential member to a meeting

Our next meeting ...

Our next general meeting is not until September 3, but you're welcome to join us at any board meeting. They're on the 3rd Wednesday at 6:00 PM at the Route 7 Diner in Latham, across from Keeler Motors.

Blood Drive

Thanks to Lions Kathy, Paul, Carol and Jerry for working at the July 9 blood drive at Colonie Town Hall. Traffic was sparse, but it did pick up a bit during the second shift. The official results: 16 presenting donors, including 2 first-timers; 12 units collected; 36 potential lives saved.

Buying on line...

If you're planning on making a purchase at amazon.com, do it from SMILE.AMAZON.COM instead. You can specify Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) as your charity of choice, and they'll get 0.5% of your purchase price.

On a personal note ...

Our deepest sympathies go to Bob and Lion Ruth Sano on the sudden passing of Bob's father.

Happy Birthday!

Happy August birthday to these A&T Lions:

1st - Paul Vergoni
5th - Chris Horan
9th - Megan Davis



Happy Anniversary!

Happy Lions Anniversary to these August inductees:

Kathy Dorn - 4 years
Chris Horan - 5 years
Vici Harris - 10 years

Lions International Convention

More than 20,000 Lions attended the 97th International Convention in Toronto from July 4-8. Representing our club were Lions Maryanne & Jerry Gordon and Lion Ruth Sano; we let non-Lion Bob join us so he could take the picture on the right. Words alone cannot describe this fantastic experience, so we've got several pages of pictures. Scenes of Toronto are interspersed with convention pictures, mostly of the parade. 10,000 Lions from all over the world marched through downtown Toronto, some in their native attire and some in various Lions uniforms. It lasted for four hours and was truly a sight to behold. Most of the pictures (the better ones) were taken by Lion Ruth; the others were by Lion Jerry.

The 2015 and 2016 conventions will be in Honolulu and Japan, respectively. In 2017, which is the Lions 100th anniversary, it will be in Chicago, home of LCI headquarters. It should be absolutely fantastic, so start saving your pennies now.







With our new friends from Staten Island



