

Rare Meat

December 2009



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

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**YOUR SUBMISSIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED!**

Happy Holidays!



from our house to yours

Report of the general meeting held on Wednesday, November 4, at the Red Front

Our guest speaker, Gail Kirby, an apheresis specialist from the Red Cross, talked about the continuing need for blood donors. Whole blood lasts only 42 days, and the critical components plasma and platelets last only 5 days. While they still need all donors, their current emphasis is for male plasma and platelet donors. We can help by sponsoring more blood drives. [See article on page 4]

Lion Chris Burke reminded us that Zone Chair Steve King successfully applied for a \$5000 grant from the New York State & Bermuda Lions Foundation last year; it was used to buy a special sewing machine for NABA's contract to supply Tyvek suits to the U.S. Navy. Steve is currently working on another grant for a second machine. Also, the Town of Hossick Lions recently donated two new, fully-loaded laptops; these will greatly help NABA's rehab people submit reports from the field.

Visitor Kathy Casey from the American Council of the Blind thanked us for taking out an ad in the program book of their recent Dinner in the Dark. This was a very successful function that raised \$1000 for them.

Lions Jerry & Maryanne had done some research on club shirts, and ended up suggesting pima polo shirts from Lands' End. Lion Chris suggested looking into SportsMaster, made by Standard Mfg. in North Troy. This would keep our purchase local, and help a company that NABA has been working closely with. Chris will investigate and report back.

Lion Jerry had received promotional material from a company called Enjoy the City. They produce an Entertainment-like book called

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* AFFILIATE MEMBER

SaveAround that costs us \$10 but we sell for \$20, and they'll take back any we don't sell. We agreed to get 25 as a trial. [See details on page 3.]

We had worked with the Red Front to come up with a one-price menu to eliminate the payment confusion that sometimes ensues since they stopped giving us individual checks. It actually has 3 price categories, with about a dozen selections in each. Lion Maryanne collected orders and money at the door. Everyone seemed quite pleased with the result, especially the waitress, so the plan is here to stay.

After the meeting was adjourned, we worked on a modified seal campaign. We have about 220 names in our data base, but only about 60 of them have ever donated over the last 4 years. (Not necessarily in each of the 4 years, but at least once.) Since we are also out of seals and running low on the return envelopes, we decided to eliminate the seals, and mail to just previous donors + Lions who haven't given. Thus, there were only about 80 envelopes to stuff and it went very quickly. [As of this writing, we have received a total of \$605 from 22 donors.]



But the highlight of the evening was our celebration of Lion Bill Davis's 50 years in Lions. His son brought him to the meeting. We had a cake and we presented him with a 50-year chevron.



Report of the board meetings held on Wednesday, November 18, at the Alexis Diner

We're expecting a busy day selling popcorn at the Victorian Stroll because First Niagara is offering face-painting, an entertainer, free cookies and restrooms, so we decided to buy two more cartons of popcorn to supplement the 2-1/3 cartons left from last year. The work schedule is filling up, but if we can get a few more workers, we can work five 1-hour shifts instead of four 1-1/4-hour shifts.

No final decision has been reached regarding the club polo shirts. Jerry will pursue the possibility of getting them locally at Standard Mfg. in Troy.

We voted to donate \$50 to a family with a blind member. They were burned out of their house in Troy a few weeks ago and lost everything.

We voted to contribute \$60 towards a parade banner for Fabulous Friends with Flying Fingers, a group of children that sings and performs in sign language.

Please do your dues

Lion Paul sent out dues notices at the beginning of July. As of Nov 15, 13 of you hadn't paid yet (and you know who you are). Please make your check for **\$65** payable to **Albany & Troy Lions Club** and mail it to **Paul Vergoni, 7 Davis Place, Latham, NY 12110-1181**. ***Please do it now, while you're thinking of it, so we don't have to remind you again (and again and again...)***. FYI: Only \$6 of this stays with the club; the rest goes to International (\$39), Multiple District 20 (\$18) and District 20Y2 (\$2).

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**

Our next meeting

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday, December 2 at 6:00 PM** at Normanside Country Club in Delmar. Once again, we'll be gathering for our Zone Holiday Party hosted by the Bethlehem Lions Club. We'll select our entrees that evening from a choice of three, at a cost of \$18 per person. In lieu of gifts, we'll be collecting non-perishable food items for one of the Capital District food pantries or shelters. To make your reservation, contact Zone Chair Steve King at sking1@nycap.rr.com or 489-1341 **by Saturday, Nov. 28**. "Significant others" and potential Lions are welcome!

SaveAround book

During the month of December, we'll be selling SaveAround Capital Region, a coupon book that offers savings at 86 restaurants, 21 service/retail and 30 entertainment/recreation businesses. There are at least 2 or as many as 12 coupons for each business. A list of them is on page 5 of this newsletter. The book is only \$20. We'll be selling them at the Victorian Stroll and we'll have them at our meetings, but if you're not going to be at either, contact Lion Jerry at jerrygordon@juno.com or 235-8232 to get yours now, before they're gone!

On a more personal note...

This is a new feature that I hope will add some camaraderie to the Rare Meat 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 John Krumanocker failed a stress test, so they stuck a stent in him. Fortunately, he's recovering quite nicely.

King Lion Ruth says, "I belong to the Capital Region Photography Group and we are having an Exhibit at the Guilderland Library December 2nd - 29th. I am a pretty amateur photographer, but one of my pictures will be hanging there for all to see. There are some pretty good photographers in the group so people might enjoy seeing the exhibit in the Heldeberg Room at the Library."



A gathering of Lions (and an interloper) in Florence, Italy

It's Stroll time!

Troy's **Victorian Stroll** is on Sunday, Dec. 6, from 11-5, and again we'll be selling popcorn. But this year, we'll be inside! First Niagara Bank on Second Street has graciously offered us an indoor location. They will also have face-painting for kids, an entertainer, free cookies and restrooms, so along with the crowds from before and after Music Hall concerts, it should be a busy place. Do stop in.

Holiday Service Breakfast

We've been invited by the Troy Kiwanis Club to join them, Rotary and Salvation Army for their annual Holiday Service Club Buffet Breakfast on **Tuesday, December 15** from 7:30-8:30 AM, in the McKinstry Dining Hall (next to Schacht Theatre where NYSTI is located) on the Russell Sage Campus in Troy. It's \$7 per person. RSVP to Cary Lombardo at 265-8113 or libraryfoundation@gmail.com. Guest speaker will be Susan Scrimshaw, President of The Sage Colleges. Please bring an unwrapped toy for The Salvation Army's Holiday Toy Drive.



Blood drive



We're doing another blood drive on **Monday, December 21** at the Colonie Elks Lodge in Latham from 1-6 PM. We'll need people to make phone calls on several evenings before the drive, and we'll need people to work at the registration table and the canteen. So when we reach out to you in a few weeks, please be available.

Happy Birthday!

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

16th – Gordon Miller
 20th – Carol Quantock
 22nd – Howard Adler
 22nd – Christina Zhu-Weaver
 24th – Kristin McVeigh



Happy Anniversary!

Happy Lions Anniversary to these **December** inductees:

John Krumanocker – 33 years
 Chris Quenelle – 18 years
 Ursula Dessingue – 15 years
 Jerry Jennings – 11 years
 Terry Page – 6 years
 Elaine Hayner - 2 years
 Cyndy Otty – 1 year

Mark your calendar...

Wednesday, December 2, 6:00 PM – Our annual holiday party with the Bethlehem Lions and (hopefully) other clubs in our zone. Normanside Country Club in Delmar. See article on page 3 for reservation information.

Sunday, December 6, 11 AM to 5 PM – Troy's Victorian Stroll. We'll be selling popcorn and Enjoy-the-City coupon books inside First Niagara Bank. See article on page 3.

Tuesday, December 15, 7:30-8:30 AM – Joint Service Club Breakfast. See details above.

Wednesday, December 16, 7:15 AM – Board meeting at the Alexis Diner. All members are welcome.

Monday, December 21, 1-6 PM – Blood drive at Colonie Elks. Ask your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers to please donate.

Wednesday, January 6, 6:00 PM – General meeting at the Red Front. Our guest will be District Governor Ed Stano, who will be inducting our new members. Let's get a good turnout!



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

SaveAround Capital District

2010 Index

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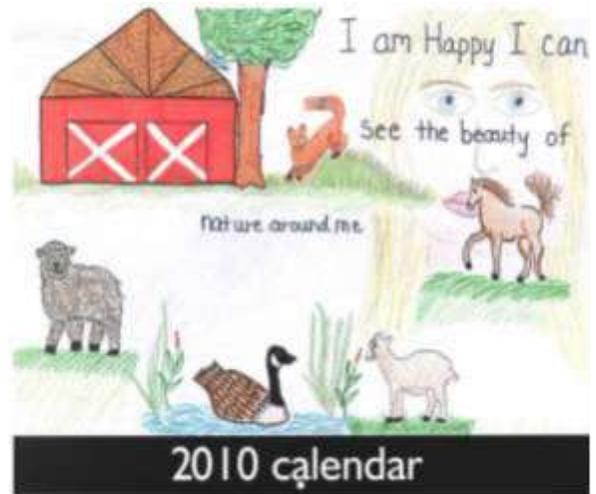
Give the Gift of Sight this Holiday Season by purchasing a "Through Their Eyes" 2010 Calendar

The Sight Society of Northeastern NY, Inc. (Lions Eye Bank at Albany) hosts a yearly poster contest "Through Their Eyes" with area school children.

The students are asked to create a picture based upon what they appreciate about being able to see.

The calendars that are produced from the posters are available for sale and the proceeds are used to help less fortunate blind children in need of eye care and educational materials. This project is about children helping children!

The Sight Society of Northeastern NY, Inc. (Lions Eye Bank at Albany) would like to extend sincere thanks to all of the Lion and Lioness club members and other organizations whose support will continue to play a very important role in the growing of the gift of sight for years to come.



For more information call

The Sight Society of Northeastern NY, Inc. (Lions Eye Bank at Albany)

www.lionseyebankalbany.org 518-489-7606

8.00 Per Calendar No Tax Due Shipping Included

Make checks payable to Lions Eye Bank at Albany

Please detach and mail to:

The Sight Society of Northeastern NY, Inc. (Lions Eye Bank at Albany)

6 Executive Park Drive

Albany, NY 12203

Name: _____

Address: _____

Ordered _____

Total \$ _____