

Rare Meat

October 2026

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The newsletter of the

ALBANY & TROY LIONS CLUB 1925 2025 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

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 Sep 9 at the Hub:

Guests: DG Ed Balaban and PDG Ed Pike

District Update: DG Ed Balaban opened the meeting with remarks and provided an update on the status of the district and officers, as well as the new, tighter timeline for club dues. He noted that, as a 501(c)(4) organization, our status and club privileges could potentially be revoked for late or missed bills.

IPDG Barbara Bentley runs leadership training on the 3rd Monday of every month.

Service Awards: Ed presented four chevrons and congratulated members on milestones in their years of service: Lion Jerry Gordon — 35 years; Lion Dennis Fagan — 20 years; Lion Michelle Baker — 15 years; Lion Ruth Sano — 30 years.

Jerry also presented a Key Award for bringing on 2+ members to Queen.

New Member Induction of Anshu Chandra, sponsored by Jerry Gordon.

Additional discussion: PDG Ed Pike spoke about his role as an eyeglass collector and club starter. He discussed putting together service fairs and member events and offered to come back on a Saturday to provide training on creating an event.

Fall Conference — Lake George — November 14. Members were encouraged to share what our club is currently working on. Topics mentioned: LCIF Community Impact Grant, Brandel Murphy Grant for work with youth.

Jerry discussed Zone Chair Logan from UAlbany club and the Zone meeting: October 28, location TBD.

Report of the board meeting held on Sep 9 on line:

Because of limited attendance, this was an abbreviated meeting.

We discussed a funding request from Queen's Guardians of Al Fitrah. On Dec 18-20, they will be feeding over 800 people from marginalized communities, and disabled and mental health populations. She requested $1500 toward a total budget of $5000. All present voted "aye" and a subsequent email poll added 4 more positive votes, sufficient to pass the motion.

More →

MEMBERSHIP

VICKI ADLER
MICHELLE BAKER
EVA BASS
DR. ROB BRASS
DR. ANSHU CHANDRA
PAUL "BATMAN" COLLINS -HACKETT
DOUG DAVIS
DENNIS FAGAN
DR. STEFAN FOSCO
QUEEN GHAFFAR-ADJEI
JERRY GORDON
MARYANNE GORDON
DR. VICI HARRIS
CHRIS HORAN
LARRY KRUG
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CARRIE LOVE
KRISTIN MCVEIGH
MELISSA MILTON
NIKKI MILTON
CARMEN MORALES
SHAWN NEWTON
MICHAEL O'BRIEN
RUTH SANO
GREG SHELDON
JODI SHELDON
ERIC THOMPSON
DR. ALLEN ZIEKER

LIONS INTERNATIONAL Kindness matters

We discussed a funding request from Carrie's Collective Souls Holding Space for $800 to support ongoing community programming; requested funds will support programming during the 2026–2027 program year. Except for Carrie's abstention, all present voted "aye" and a subsequent email poll added 4 more positive votes, sufficient to pass the motion..

Carrie said that on 9/23, she would be taking 40 3rd-graders to the Grafton Peace Pagoda for an introductory experience. And on Halloween, Wonderland, her headquarters at 289 Hudson Ave in Albany, will be hosting a special event.

October meetings



Our next general meeting will be on **Wed, Oct 7**, at **5:30 PM**, at the Hub, 498 1st St (corner of Quail), Albany. B

Board meetings will continue to be held on-line on the **third Monday at 7:30 PM** (Oct 19 is the next one). All members are welcome, but only board members can vote. Here's the link: **https://meet.google.com/dus-eyyy-vby**

Our first Zone Meeting will be **Wed, Oct 28**, at a location still TBD.

Save **Sat, Nov 14**, for the 20W Fall Conference in Lake George.

Officer training

If you're an officer, or might be one some day, I strongly suggest you set aside a few hours on Saturday morning, Oct 10, for some **on-line training**. See the flyer on page 3 for registration directions.

Service Carnival

We've been invited to join the Lions Service Carnival (see flyer on page 4). This is a chance to display literature and info on all the 501(c)(3) orgs that our members run and that we support: Albany Victory Gardens, AVillages, Bridge Tha Gap, Collective Souls Holding Space, Eden's Rose Foundation, Fond-des-Blancs Eye Clinic, Global Eye Project, Guardians of Al Fitrah, RED Bookshelf, Scripps National Spelling Bee. (Sorry if I've forgotten any.) We'll be discussing this at our Oct 7 meeting.

Earning Some Green by Going Green

You've all got your CLYNK recycling bags; I hope you're using them. If you need more for yourself, **or for any friends or family members who are willing to help us out,** contact Lion Jerry at 518-366-5299 or 1jerrygordon@gmail.com for more bags.

It's simple: Fill the bag with cans and bottles that are NYS-redeemable (water bottles, soda bottles & cans, beer bottles & cans). Bring the full bag to your nearest Hannaford, scan the label and drop the bag into the chute. All those nickels will be deposited right into our bank account. **This project earned us $177 last year, but with greater participation, it could be a lot more.** ***Email, call or text Lion Jerry now to get more bags.***

LEAD • SERVE • INSPIRE

CLUB OFFICER TRAINING & TIPS

Present by IPDG Barbara Bentley, 20W GLT

Ready to strengthen your leadership skills and lead your club with confidence?



Attend One of These Zoom Sessions

Thursday, September 24th at 7:00 PM

Option 1

Saturday, October 10th at 9:00 AM

Option 2

You'll Learn:

- Officer Duties & Responsibilities
- Club Administration Best Practices
- Available Lions Resources
- Tips for a Successful Year

STRONGER CLUBS
BRIGHTER COMMUNITIES

Location: *Zoom*

For questions, email IPDG Barbara Bentley at barbann22@gmail.com


NORTHERN NY
LIONS
SERVICE
Carnival
LIONS
INTERNATIONAL
FREE EVENT!
TOGETHER WE SERVE.
Making a Difference in Our Communities!
NOVEMBER 7, 2026
12 PM TO 3 PM
AT THE
MILTON COMMUNITY CENTER
310 Northline Road
Ballston Spa, NY 12020
Come and see first-hand what your local Lions Clubs do in vision screening, hunger, diabetes, education, childhood cancer and youth services.
SERVICE IN ACTION
COMMUNITY STRONG
TOGETHER WE CAN
We Serve!

Vision Screenings



On Sunday, Oct 4, we participated in Joy of Troy Church's annual health fair in Lansingburgh. Lion Maryanne womanned an outdoor sign-up table; Lion Jerry provided vision screenings indoors. VDG Patty Murphy, president of the Duane Lions Club, provided her club's screener and her expertise, while Lion Debra Brovich , secretary of the Saratoga Springs Lions, also helped with the process. Saratoga just got their screener and Deb was eager to attend a screening. We screened 7 kids with 4 passes and 3 referrals.

This was our second screening. It never made it into the *Rare Meat*, but back on Sept 2, Lions Ruth and Jerry did a screening at the South End Children's Café at their request, again with the assistance of VDG Patty Murphy and Duane LC's screener. We screened 14 kids with 6 passes and 8 referrals.

LionsUSA

Something new is afoot! We all got an email a few days ago from Lion Mark Lyon, the president of Lions Clubs International and of LionsUSA. It says that LionsUSA is "*an independent volunteer organization. Not affiliated with or representing Lions Clubs International.*"

This doesn't replace anything we're now doing. Instead, it brings Lions together to share ideas, celebrate success, discover practical tools, and learn from one another.

I suggest we all go back to that 10/1 email and click the link to sign up to Join the Pride!

Happy Birthday!

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

6th: Dennis Fagan
9th: Nikki Milton
22nd: Anshu Chandra



Happy Anniversary!

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

Jerry Gordon: 35 years
Larry Krug: 47 years



October is Vision Awareness Month & Membership Growth Month

Wed, Oct 7: General meeting, see page 2

Sat, Oct 10: Online training; see page 3

Mon, Oct 19: Board meeting; see page 2

Mon, Oct 28: Zone meeting; see page 2

For other events around the district, visit 20WLions.org

Dues are due now! **If you haven't already done so, send your check, cash or bitcoins, payable to A&T Lions Club, to Lion Ruth Sano, 26 Birch Ave, Albany, NY 12205. Do it TODAY, please! You can also send your dues via PayPal to rmsano@gmail.com (just put "dues" in the notes).**



Lions Service Areas



Diabetes | Childhood Cancer | Disaster Relief | Environment | Humanitarian Efforts | Hunger | Vision | Youth