



Rare Meat

April 2016



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

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1st Vice-President:

ELAINE HAYNER

2nd Vice-President

VICKIE SHAHIINIAN

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JERRY GORDON

Treasurer:

PAUL VERGONI, Club

LARRY KRUG, Char Fund

Tail Twister:

TOM HART

Lion Tamer:

MARYANNE GORDON

Permanent Director

PDG DAVE HARRIS

Directors, 1st year of 2:

URSULA DESSINGUE

FRAN MCDOAL

Directors, 2nd year of 2:

MARYANNE GORDON

MIKE O'BRIEN

Membership Chair:

KATHY DORN

Immediate Past Pres:

CAROL QUANTOCK

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**YOUR SUBMISSIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED!**



Report of the general meeting held on Wednesday, March 2, at the Red Front

Our guest was District Governor Paula Flisnik. She brought 15-, 20- and 25-year

chevrons for Lions Carol Quantock, Bob Pratt and Kristin McVeigh, respectively, and she brought us up to speed on various district projects and programs:

- ◆ Redistricting of MD20 is being considered. This will change the district boundaries to ensure that each district meets LCI requirements for the minimum number of clubs and members. 20Y2 (us) will probably be combined with 20W (to our north), resulting in a much larger district. Watch for more on this next year.
- ◆ The district will construct an emergency storage building containing disaster equipment, located at Camp Badger in Spencer, NY. Funds left over from LCIF's Sandy Relief grant will be used.
- ◆ All districts are now participating in the Lions SEE (Screening Eyes Early) program. Like NABA's KidSight program, Lions SEE does vision screening of pre-schoolers.
- ◆ Zone Chair Patti Southworth and Lions for Children Service Chair Brenna Uline have developed a program to minimize loss of members. It's called "Hi, my name is and I'm leaving your club!" and will be debuted at the state convention.
- ◆ 20Y2 has received several grants from LCIF (\$10k each for Pre-K Lions Quest and Lions Quest and \$1500 Anthem Foundation for the health fair at the Albany Public Library last Oct). And the Saratoga Lions got \$5k from NYS&BLF towards a community health center.

She also spoke about increasing volunteerism, various outreach projects and improving our communications, among other topics too numerous to cover here. Her testimonial dinner is Friday, May 20, at the Glen Sanders Mansion in Scotia.

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

Committee reports:

Blood drives: See pages 2 and 5.

MEMBERSHIP

VICKI ADLER

MICHELLE BAKER

JOANN BEACH

DR. TED BELHUMEUR

JEFF BENNETT

DR. ROB BRASS

CHRISTOPHER BURKE

JANE CHOUINIERE

DOUG DAVIS

MEGAN DAVIS

URSULA DESSINGUE

KATHY DORN

DENNIS FAGAN

MIKE FARRELL

JERRY GORDON

MARYANNE GORDON

PDG DAVE HARRIS

PHIL HARRIS

DR. VICI HARRIS

DIANE BURKE HART

TOM HART

ELAINE HAYNER

CHRIS HORAN

LARRY KRUG

DR. DAVID LEVINE

FRAN MCDOAL

KRISTIN MCVEIGH

LAURA MONA

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

TERRY PAGE

BOB PRATT

CAROL QUANTOCK

RUTH SANO

VICKIE SHAHIINIAN

SUE SHIPE

PAUL VERGONI

ELENA WATSON

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER

Programs: Lion Kathy absent.

Used glasses: Lion Tom absent; no report.

Voice-mail log: Lion Jerry forgot to send it out; will send out 2 months next time.

Eyeglass requests: Lion Maryanne has issued 2 vouchers and has 5 outstanding applications. She read an email from a client who was unhappy with the care she got at LensCrafters. Maryanne will check with LC for their side of the story.

Hearing requests: Lion Doug sent out three applications in the last month, but none has been returned.

Since no one is going to the district convention in Buffalo, there was no need to elect a delegate.

Various members agreed to take 3 NYS&BLF raffle tickets: PDG Dave will take one, the Gordons & Vergonis will split one, and Lions Chris, Mike, Vicki and Larry will take one. This will allow the club to present one Uplinger award.

The Seal Campaign has brought in \$1265 so far from 25 donors.



Ta med et potensielt medlem til et møte

If we keep repeating "Bring a potential member to a meeting," it will soon become old hat. So as part of your continuing education and to keep the thought fresh, we'll say it in a different language each month. This is Norwegian.

Our next meeting ...

Our next membership meeting will be on **Wednesday, April 6**, at the Red Front. Our speaker will be Geraldine DePaul from Happy Hats, a group that spreads cheer to kids at Albany Medial Center. We'll be inducting a new member, and we'll be voting on next year's board; here is the slate of candidates:

President	Chris Horan	Lion Tamer	Maryanne Gordon
1st Vice President	Elaine Hayner	Permanent Director	PDG Dave Harris
2nd Vice President	Vicki Shahinian	Director, 1st of 2 years	Kathy Dorn
3rd Vice President	Carol Quantock	Director, 1st of 2 years	Mike O'Brien
Secretary	Jerry Gordon	Director, 2nd of 2 years	Ursula Dessingue
Treasurer (Club)	Paul Vergoni	Director, 2nd of 2 years	Fran McDoal
Treasurer (Char Fund)	Larry Krug	Membership Chair	Ruth Sano
Tail Twister	Tom Hart	Immediate Past Pres	Carol Quantock

We call the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, but please try to be there by 5:45 so you can place your dinner order and have a few minutes to socialize. We like to give the restaurant a count, so please let me now whether you'll be there (235-8232 or jerrygordon@juno.com).

Blood Drive

Thanks to Lions Vicki Shahinian, Elaine Hayner, Maryanne & Jerry Gordon for working on the blood drive on March 23 at the Rensselaer County OCFS, and thanks to Lion Carol for setting it up. ARC collected enough to potentially save 138 lives, and there were 5 new donors.

KidSight

Nurse Kathryn always appreciates our help with NABA's KidSight vision screenings. There are plenty of opportunities to help in April; all are at 9:30 a.m.:

Tue 4/5	Tutor Time, 3 Spring Hurst Drive, E. Greenbush
Tue 4/12	Unity Sunshine Program, 21 1 st St, Troy
Wed 4/13	Unity Sunshine Program, 434 4 th St, Troy
Fri 4/15	Unity Sunshine Program, 50 Philips St, Albany
Mon 4/18	Albany Jewish Comm. Center, 340 Whitehall Rd, Albany
Fri 4/22	Tutor Time, 325 Jordan Rd, North Greenbush
Wed 4/27	Mapleleaf Daycare, Route 9 (10 Hemphill Place), Malta

As I've said before, It's pretty simple and it rarely takes more than a couple of hours. Why not give one a try? Please contact Kathryn Miklowitz directly at H: 346-5694, C: 915-4722, W: 463-1121ext227 or KMiklowitz@naba-vision.org.

Why be a Lion? 1

We recently provided glasses to a 66-yr-old woman from Watervliet. In a hand-written letter that was enclosed in a thank-you card, she wrote:

To the Albany & Troy Lions Club,

Just a few words of many, many thanks to everyone in your organization who made it possible for me to have a pair of glasses.

I can't tell you all that I went thru asking for help in the past year to get glasses. From my case worker, Beth, to Medicaid, Medicare, to just about begging, and many times people made me feel like that, or I was lower than low. But not with you folks. No one should ever have to feel like that, because they are asking for really needed help.

I've always tried to be the giver and not the taker, as some day it could happen to you, and with all my sickness I found that out to be true, but was also taught a good lesson, that there are still people out there with good hearts and caring souls, again, like you folks.

I really don't know what I would of done without all of you. It puts hope back in my heart, so for that I also thank all of you.

I'm just so very, very thankful to all of you, there isn't enough I can say.

With all my heart of thanks, God bless you all.

P.S. I'm writing this with me new glasses. How'd I do? ☺

Why be a Lion? 2

Lion Joann Beach is the Manager of Hospital Development and Events/Hospice Liaison for the Lions Eye Bank/Sight Society of Northeastern New York, an organization that provides ocular tissue for transplantation, medical education and research. (Lion Vicki Adler is Executive Director, PDG Dave Harris recently completed a 6-year term on their board of directors, and Lion Carol Quantock is starting on their board.) A regular part of Joann's job is writing thank-you letters to the families of eye donors for providing the gift of sight to others. After one such letter, she received this response from Mrs. F:

Thank you so much for your letter regarding my husband's donated corneas. That's just what I wanted to

hear and means a lot to me and my family and friends... I also wanted to share one great response from my high school girlfriend ... It must be so rewarding to work for an organization that does much good...

Mrs F sent Joann this note that she had received from her friend:

What a beautiful letter. I'm in tears too. Lions Club of Albany holds special meaning to my family. My father was one of the first to get help from this charity chapter. The presented Dad with his first pair of glasses when he was about 2 years old. Knowing what we know now with modern medicine, my grandmother must have had gestational diabetes when she was pregnant. Dad was an extremely large baby for the 4'10" woman. After a day of labor, in 1930, she was taken to the hospital or the delivery of Dad. He came into the world at almost 11.5 pounds. Both of them almost didn't make it.

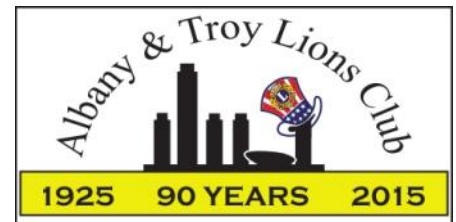
Long story short, the Lions Club of Albany were the first to connect difficult births with diminished eyesight for the infant. Someone from the charity reached out to Grandma in the hospital and they subsequently followed Dad to the point of fitting him with his first glasses at such a tender age. They also stepped forward with lens changes though many years. Considering Dad was legally blind without his glasses, this was a life altering gift.

I'm so pleased this charity continues to enrich lives. Thanks (to your husband) for your gift. I'm sure this act will bring many years of happiness to the recipients.

Help Wanted ...

It's a little disappointing that no one has stepped forward to help us in our mission, but we still have these two positions open.

1. We need a **Publicity Chair** - someone who can write press releases about our activities and accomplishments and get the word out to local media. One of the things that makes it tough to get new members is that no one knows what we do; I'm not even sure they know we exist. We can certainly use your help.
2. We need a **Fund-Raising Chair**. It won't be your job to actually raise funds - we want you and your committee to find fund-raising activities that are suitable for our general membership. We're open to any reasonable suggestions.



Buying on line...

If you're planning on making a purchase at amazon.com, do it from **SMILE.AMAZON.COM** instead. You can specify **ALBANY AND TROY LIONS** as your charity of choice, and we'll get 0.5% of whatever you spend.

On a personal note ...

Lion Larry Krug reports: "We welcomed Devyn Skye Hanson on 3/21, Valerie's 3rd at 8lb 10oz. Mary is there to help out with the other two kids. Total is now 6. As Daryl and his family are now in Colorado, all four of my kids and all six grand children live within 20 miles of each other."

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



Learn about centennial
events at **LIONS100.ORG**



Our next **BLOOD DRIVE** will be **Monday, May 23, from 1 PM - 6 PM** at the **East Greenbush Library**. We need volunteers:

- ♦ To work at the registration desk and the canteen at the drive,
- ♦ And to donate blood.

If you can do either or both of these, please sign up with Lion Carol at cquantoc@nycap.rr.com or **664-3901**.

Happy Birthday!

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


1st - Michelle Baker
 1st - PDG Dave Harris
 5th - Phil Harris
 8th - Terry Page
 18th - Sue Shipe
 19th - Larry Krug
 20th - Kathy Dorn



Happy Anniversary!

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

Jeff Bennett - 3 years
 Vicki Adler - 12 years
 Mike Farrell - 12 years
 Maryanne Gordon - 17 years
 Rob Brass - 18 years
 Michael O'Brien - 18 years
 Allen Zieker - 18 years

April 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 KidSight screening; see page 3	6 Meeting at the Red Front; see page 2.	7	8	9 District cabinet meeting; see page 6
10	11	12 KidSight screening; see page 3	13 KidSight screening; see page 3	14	15 KidSight screening; see page 3	16 NABA Gala
17	18 KidSight screening; see page 3	19	20 6pm: Board meeting at the Route 7 Diner	21 NABA Vol. B'fast; see p 6	22 KidSight screening; see page 3	23
24	25	26	27 KidSight screening; see page 3	28	29	30

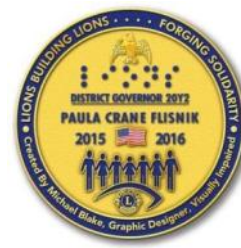
For other events around the district, visit 20Y2Lions.org



We Serve

The Third District 20-Y2 Cabinet Meeting will be held:

SATURDAY, April 9, 2016



9:30 AM Registration - 10:00 AM Meeting - Lunch - 2:30 PM Dismissal

**Hyatt Place Saratoga/Malta, 20 State Farm Place, Malta, NY 12020
Exit 12 off I 87 (Northway)**

Please share this with all your members in your club. Everyone is always welcome.

**Please either email me or mail me this form if you are not attending by
Monday, April 4th. If you are attending, please send this form and your check
for \$18.00 to 8 Turnberry Drive, Slingerlands, NY 12159. Make the checks
out to: District 20-Y2 Lions Clubs. The fee covers: coffee and donuts, the lunch
buffet and gratuity.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 518-463-1211x241.

_____ Attending _____ Not Attending email: _____

Name: and Club: _____

**The cost is \$ 18.00. Mail to Lion Michele O'Hare, 8 Turnberry Drive, Slingerlands, New York 12159.
Make the checks out to: District 20-Y2 Lions Clubs by April 4th.**



You are cordially invited to a Volunteer Recognition Breakfast

Honoring your service to

The Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany

Thursday, April 21, 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

at the Albany Airport Observation level (3rd Floor)

*Please allow us this opportunity to say "Thank you" for improving the
quality of life for persons who are blind or visually impaired.*

*Please RSVP by April 15 to Volunteer Coordinator Gail Hessney
ghessney@naba-vision.org or (518) 453-1211 ext 201*

Parking will be validated