



# Rare Meat

November 2016



The newsletter of the  
Albany & Troy Lions Club

Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

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RUTH SANO

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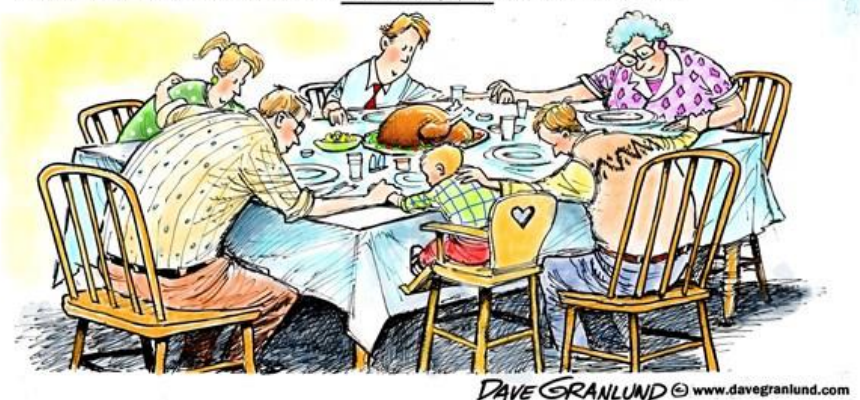
JERRYGORDON@JUNO.COM

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**YOUR SUBMISSIONS  
ARE ENCOURAGED!**

## Thanksgiving...

It's not about what's on the table.  
It's about what's around the table.



### Report of the meetings held on Wednesday, October 6, at the Red Front (board meetings are now held right after the general meeting)

#### GENERAL MEETING

Lion Jerry introduced our visitors: PDG Ed and Lion Elizabeth Stano, and potential Lions Keith Woodard and JJ Stone

PDG Ed Stano is District GMT (Global Membership Team) chair (among other things). He spoke about the importance of increasing membership and making sure that new members receive proper orientation and are given something to do. Working on projects is more important than attendance at meetings. Switching to his District Centennial Coordinator hat, he noted that LCI has reached its goal of serving over 100,000,000 (that's one hundred million, for those who are numerically challenged) people in the 100 years since our founding. Centennial Service Challenge areas are youth, environment, vision and hunger.

PDG Ed then inducted new members John and Michele Bianco.

Lion Jerry talked about the District's Relieving Hunger project, which arrived too late for the last *Rare Meat*. It will be on Saturday, October 29, at Crossgates Mall. We need volunteers. [See page 7]



#### MEMBERSHIP

VICKI ADLER

MICHELLE BAKER

JOANN BEACH

JEFF BENNETT

JOHN BIANCO

MICHELE BIANCO

DR. ROB BRASS

CHRISTOPHER BURKE

JANE CHOUINIERE

DOUG DAVIS

URSULA DESSINGUE

KATHY DORN

DENNIS FAGAN

MIKE FARRELL

JERRY GORDON

MARYANNE GORDON

PDG DAVE HARRIS

DR. VICI HARRIS

DIANE BURKE HART

TOM HART

ELAINE HAYNER

CHRIS HORAN

LARRY KRUG

DR. DAVID LEVINE

FRAN MCDOAL

KRISTIN McVEIGH

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

TERRY PAGE

CAROL QUANTOCK

RUTH SANO

VICKIE SHAHINIEN

SUE SHIPE

JJ STONE

PAUL VERGONI

ELENA WATSON

KEITH WOODARD

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER

Lion Jerry informed the membership about the status of our playground-update project. They are having a Fall Festival this coming Sunday at the Watervliet Dome from noon-6 with lots of kid-friendly activities. Tara Burke is planning on attending our November meeting. Also, PDG Dave Harris has very generously donated \$1000 to the project. He is a Watervliet resident, and you can see his comments about it on page 5.

### BOARD MEETINGS

JJ Stone and Keith Woodard submitted their membership applications and checks at the general meeting. The board voted to welcome them into the club.

Lion Jerry announced that New Lion John has volunteered to be on Lion Fran's fund-raising committee.

In addition to someone from RISE talking to us in November, Tara Burke will be visiting us to review the playground project. We will also be working on the seal campaign after the general meeting, but before the board meeting.

KL Chris announced that Saratoga Lion Barbara Martin will be speaking to us in January about Camp Abilities.

We agreed that we will sell popcorn again at the Victorian Stroll. Our machine is in the capable hands of Paul Quantock undergoing its refurbishment.

Lion Maryanne gave out three eyeglass vouchers just this week. There were no hearing-aid requests.

Last month, we discussed an email we had received from ARC of Rensselaer County, in which they requested toiletries and men's clothing to help out the Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless and their Sheridan Hollow Drop-In Center in Albany. We made an appeal in last month's *Rare Meat*, and a few members brought stuff tonight. Lion Jerry will deliver it.

We voted to join the New York State & Bermuda Lions Foundation for \$100.

### Sillni një anëtar të mundshëm për një takim



*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 Albanian.*



**Our next meeting ...**

Our next general membership meeting is **Wednesday, November 2**, at the Red Front Restaurant, and it will be a busy one. Our first speaker will be David Mesh, who will speak to us about WMHT's RISE program.

Tara Burke from [freelyclothing.com](http://freelyclothing.com) will talk to us about the playground-upgrade project that we're working on. See page 5.

We will be inducting our newest members, JJ Stone and Keith Woodard. And between the general meeting and the board meetings, we'll sneak in a fold-stuff-and-stamp session for our annual seal campaign.

We call the meeting to order at 6:00, but please try to be there by 5:45 so you can place your dinner order and have a few minutes to socialize. The restaurant likes a head count, so please let Lion Jerry know (235-8232 or [jerrygordon@juno.com](mailto:jerrygordon@juno.com)) whether you'll be there. Telling Jerry your intentions will be one less phone call that Lion Mike has to make.

If you're a board member, remember that we now hold the board meetings immediately after the general meeting, so be prepared to stay for another hour, more or less.

**Low-Vision Tech Fair**

On October 19, NABA held their annual Low-Vision Technology Fair. Our thanks go to Lions Jerry and Larry for manning our information table.

**Toiletries and Men's Clothing**

We're still collecting toiletries and gently-used men's clothing, including T-shirts and underwear, for the Clothing Pantry at the Sheridan Hollow Drop-In Center in Albany. The toiletries should be the personal-size items that many of us accumulate from our various hotel stays. If you've got any suitable items, please bring them to our next meeting. If you're not going to be there, please contact Bethany Schaff at ARC of Rensselaer County (W: 274-9232 x 3211, C: 390-7147 or [bschaff@renarc.org](mailto:bschaff@renarc.org)) and arrange some mutually convenient time for you to get the stuff to her, or for her to pick it up from you.

Lion Jerry delivered the contributions that Lions Elena, Ruth and Jerry brought to last month's meeting.

**KidSight**

Kathryn Miklowitz, NABA's RN who conducts their KidSight vision screenings of pre-schoolers, always appreciates our help. They're usually at 9 or 9:30 a.m. and last an hour or two. If you'd like to sign up for one or more, please contact Kathryn at C: 915-4722 or [mickeyskat@gmail.com](mailto:mickeyskat@gmail.com) for time and address details.

Most of her November screenings are in Schenectady. The only one in our bailiwick is Wednesday, Nov 30, at Albany School of Humanities, 108 Whitehall Rd.

Visit your club's web site: **ALBANYTROYLIONS.ORG**  
your district web site: **20Y2LIONS.ORG**  
International's web site: **LIONSCLUBS.ORG**  
and LCI's centennial site: **LIONS100.ORG**

**Something to look forward to**

This just in from DG James Griffith:

Congratulations Multiple District 20-Y2! The city of Albany has been chosen as host to the 2019 NYS and Bermuda Lions Convention. What a great presentation given by the Albany Convention and Visitors Bureau's Deb and Michele. There were 2 sites that were presented and the MD20 Council Chair and State Secretary will review the Hilton Downtown and the Desmond in the next month to finalize the decision. It has been since 2006 when MD20 last hosted a convention and 1999 since Albany has. What a great win for our Lions Community!



## Coats for Kids

A big thank-you to the 10 Lions who have signed up for this project. So far they have delivered 79 coats , and the program has barely begun.

## We're up to 6!



That's how many from our club are going to LCI's 100th Annual Convention from June 30 to July 4, 2017. If you've never been to an international convention, or even if you have, give some serious thought to attending this one. So far, PDG Dave Harris, Lion Ruth Sano and PIS Bob, Lions Maryanne & Jerry Gordon and relatively new Lion Elena Watson have made reservations. (FYI: Albany to Chicago is about a 2-hour flight, a 13-hour car ride or a 16-hour overnight train ride.)

Registration forms and information are available at [tinyurl.com/LCI100th](http://tinyurl.com/LCI100th). Why you should sign up now:

1. The \$130 registration fee goes up to \$180 on January 14, 2017, and to \$200 after March 31.
2. The sooner you register, the better your chances of getting into the Hyatt Regency Chicago, the hotel for NYS delegates.

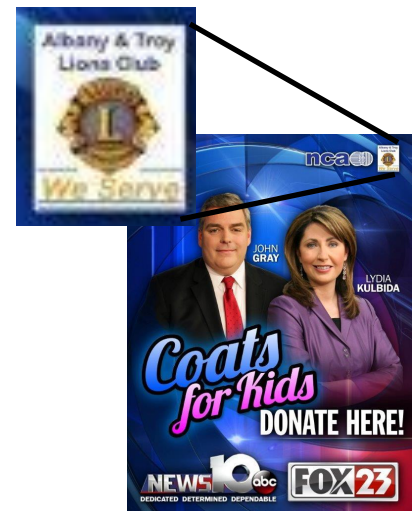
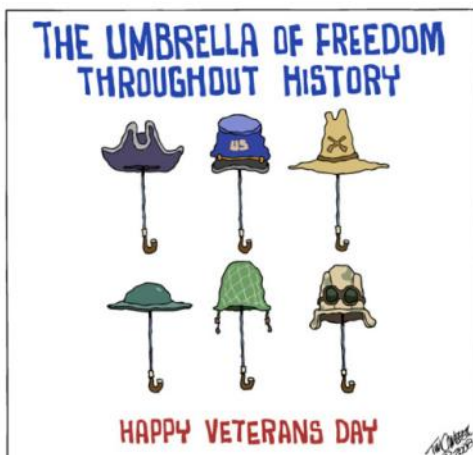
## Buying on line...

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, at no cost to you.

## On a personal note ...

PDG Dave continues to recover from his recent cardiac surgery. He's feeling a little better every day, and we hope to see him at the November meeting to induct our two new members.

Partner-in-Service Laura Vergoni is also recovering from surgery. Lion Paul hopes she'll be home from the hospital by the time this appears in print.



## The Playground Update Project

Tara Burke founded FreelyClothing.com as an on-line retailer of inspirational T-shirts. 10% of all sales are dedicated to a giving-back project. All customers are encouraged to enter their contest by answering the question, "What would you do if you could give freely?" A winner is selected a few times a year and is given up to \$1000 towards their project. Their goal is to have a winner every month.

The first contest winner is 12-year-old Sophia Shark, whose winning entry was, "If I could give freely I would give an appropriate playground to my community so kids like my brothers and their little friends could have fun and be safe." They will be buying a bright red commercial playset and rubber mulch for Brotherhood Park in Watervliet. [References: [www.freelyclothing.com/pages/donate-sophias-new-playground-idea](http://www.freelyclothing.com/pages/donate-sophias-new-playground-idea) and [wnyt.com/news/watervliet-girl-sophia-shark-on-crusade-to-beautify-playground/4250055/](http://wnyt.com/news/watervliet-girl-sophia-shark-on-crusade-to-beautify-playground/4250055/)]

The playset is \$7500 and the rubber mulch (to replace the old wood chips) is \$900, for a total cost of \$8400. The installation supervision and tools will be donated by Pettinelli & Associates (the playset vendor), and they'll be looking for 10 community volunteers to do the actual assembly and installation in the spring of 2017, as soon as the weather allows. Since this worthwhile project meets the Lions' goals of serving children and serving their community, a good portion of the required funds will come from the Albany & Troy Lions Club with a matching grant from the New York State & Bermuda Lions Foundation. Donations are needed toward the balance, which is \$2300 as of 10/26.



PDG Dave Harris has lived in Watervliet all his life. When asked if he was familiar with this park, he said, "I am very familiar with Brotherhood Park. It was used for outside PE classes when I attended School 9 Elementary School, so it is very old. The most recent but also old feature is a baseball diamond and there is an old broken court for basketball (pickup-games and practice for older youth), both of which are still used. There is, however, nothing for younger children, which this project is aimed to address."

If the project is not completed, children of Watervliet will not have a safe and age-appropriate outlet for outdoor play. Currently there are only 8 out-of-shape swings and a small slide at Brotherhood Park. The number of children who come to use the park far outnumber available equipment. The playground, which was intended for 5-12 year-olds, has since become a teenage hangout. Local residents have had concerns about broken glass on the ground and graffiti on the equipment. In addition to this, the wood chip surfacing and underlying matting has become a falling hazard. Since the playground isn't that enticing to local parents, they have to travel to surrounding towns for their kids to play. Sophia, the Watervliet resident who initiated this project, doesn't want to see families leaving her area to find fun and safe places to play. Instead, she wishes they'd come together as a whole and build a playground her entire community can take pride in.

You can help by making a donation. Checks should be payable to the ALBANY & TROY LIONS CHARITABLE FUND, with "Playground project" on the memo line. Mail it to **Albany & Troy Lions, PO Box 192, Troy, NY 12181-0192**. We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, so all donations are tax-deductible and should be eligible for any matching-gift program.

## Happy Birthday!

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

5th—Ursula Dessingue  
19th—JJ Stone  
25th—Jane Chouiniere  
27th—Michael O'Brien



## Happy Anniversary!

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

Dennis Fagan—10 years  
Carol Quantock—16 years

November 2016						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Meeting at the Red Front; see page 3.	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12 Cab meeting & fall conference see p 8.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day	25	26
27	28	29	30 KidSight screening; see p 3			

*For other events around the district, visit [20Y2Lions.org](http://20Y2Lions.org)*







**District 20-Y2: Centennial Service Challenge**  
**Saturday, October 29, 2016**  
**Crossgates Mall Concourse Lower Level**  
**1 Crossgates Mall Rd,**  
**Albany, NY 12203**  
**Collecting from 10am —2pm**

## **Relieving Hunger Opportunity for Your Club**



*Sadly, millions of pounds of usable products are discarded by retail stores and manufacturers each year. Help the Regional Food Bank ensure these consumable items get distributed to agencies helping those in need.*

*The Regional Food Bank works to reduce hunger and prevent waste.  
You can help us help others by donating some time.*

**Please contact District Governor James Griffith to reserve your club,  
(M) 315-269-5370 or [jamesg@prestigehg.com](mailto:jamesg@prestigehg.com)**



**Alleviating Hunger...Together**





Lions Clubs International  
District 20-Y2: 2nd Cabinet Meeting  
Fall Conference with ID Joyce Middleton

Saturday, November 12, 2016  
Hyatt Place Saratoga/Malta,  
20 State Farm Place, Malta, NY 12020  
Exit 12 off I 87 (Northway)

**Registration begins at 9:00 AM with the Cabinet Meeting beginning promptly at 9:30 AM  
Lunch Following**

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 Friday **Friday, November 4th**. If you are attending, please send this form and your check for \$20.00 to 8 Turnberry Drive, Slingerlands, New York 12159. Make the checks out to: District 20-Y2 Lions Clubs. The fee covers: coffee, juice, fruit, pastries, the lunch buffet and gratuity.

**If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 518-463-1211 x 241.**

Thank you for your attention to this matter.  
Yours in Lionism,

Lion Michele O'Hare  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice District Governor

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\_\_\_\_ Attending \_\_\_\_ Not Attending email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: and Club: \_\_\_\_\_

The cost is \$ 20.00 mail to Lion Michele O'Hare, 8 Turnberry Drive, Slingerlands, New York 12159. Make the checks out to: District 20-Y2 Lions Clubs by November 4th.