The newsletter of the



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Directors, 2nd year of 2: RUTH SANO GREG SHELDON

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Immediate Past Pres: Carol Quantock

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YOUR SUBMISSIONS ARE ENCOURAGED!

Report of the meetings held on Wednesday, January 6:

General meeting: De G., who lost her apartment to a house-fire on Dec. 22, told us of her experience. She has two daughters, ages 2 and 16, and has been working two jobs. She needs bedding, clothing and other household items. We promised her a list of resources where such things may be available. She also needs \$1800 for the security deposit and first month's rent for a new apartment. Also see below.

Board meetings:

Lion Ruth continues to update our Facebook page.

Lion Carol reported by email that Diane Lange, district childhood-cancer chair, will speak at our Feb meeting. [See page 2.]

Lions Preem and Jerry will be handling PR.

Lion Preem has submitted our Leo club application to LCI. [See update on page 2.]

Lion Tom has several hundred pairs of brand new readers. We will distribute half of them with Street Soldiers and the other half with the Pandemic Produce Market.

There were no reports from the other committees.

We discussed De's situation and approved a motion to give her \$500 plus whatever individual Lions were willing to donate. We already have \$1000 in commitments and so need only \$300 more. [See update on page 2.]

Lion Ruth has four free eyeglass vouchers from America's Best to use. Lion Jerry has no new hearing-aid applicants.

Lion Jerry reports that so far, the seal campaign has produced \$750 in donations from six donors.

The Hat Committee that we formed last month is off to a good start. Lion Ruth says, "We donated 72 hats and 30 pairs of gloves to the Troy Street Soldiers and the Pandemic Produce Pick Up Market." [See update on pages 2 and 6.]

We set up an *ad hoc* committee comprising Lions Greg, Irv and Eva to address emergency community services.

We have submitted two new grant applications: (1) \$2000 from Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation, which will pay for the Pandemic Produce Market's operation for February. (2) \$50,000 from United Way, which will allow us to complete the blueberry orchard by adding another 200 bushes, irrigation, fencing, lights, signage and other infrastructure, as well as educational programming and youth employment opportunities. [See update on page 4.]

MEMBERSHIP

IRVIN ACKERMAN VICKI ADLER JORDAN ALEXANDER MICHELLE BAKER **EVA BASS** JOANN BEACH JEFF BENNETT JOHN BIANCO DR. ROB BRASS CHRISTOPHER BURKE PREEM CABEY JANE CHOUINIERE Doug Davis URSULA DESSINGUE KATHY DORN DENNIS FAGAN MIKE FARRELL DR. STEFAN FOSCO JERRY GORDON MARYANNE GORDON PDG Dave Harris DR. VICI HARRIS DIANE BURKE HART TOM HART CHRIS HORAN LARRY KRUG DR. DAVID LEVINE FRAN McDoal KRISTIN McVEIGH SHAWN NEWTON MICHAEL O'BRIEN CAROL QUANTOCK **RUTH SANO GREG SHELDON** JODI SHELDON SUE SHIPE DR. ALLEN ZIEKER



Our next general meeting

If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, why not try a Zoom meeting? Our next general membership meeting will be on Zoom on **Wednesday**, **February at 6:00 PM**. Our guest speaker will be **Lion Diane Lange**, the district chair for childhood cancer. As usual, the board meetings will follow the general meeting.

I'll send out the link a day or two before the meeting.

A new Leo Club!

January 8, 2021 - The Albany & Troy Lions Club is thrilled to announce the formation of Albany Leo Club. The new club is a community-based (as opposed to school-based) Alpha club (ages 12-18), in accordance with LCI guidelines.

All credit for this accomplishment belongs to Lion Preem Cabey, who has been a Lion for only 1-1/2 years. The 20 charter members she is bringing in include the regional silver-glove-champion boxing team she formed when she worked for the City of Albany's Department of Recreation, the art class she works with at West Hill Refugee Welcome Center, and other neighborhood kids who have expressed enthusiastic interest.



They will be meeting on the first Tuesday on Zoom (for now) from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Their officers are

Tavion McKenzie-Johnson, President Egypt Snipe, Vice-President Chasity Bass, Secretary Jaiden Stith, Treasurer Flora Ayo, Director Lindsey Justice, Director Samira Sefadine, Director

The mission of the Leo Club will be assisting Lions with service projects (the same way the boxing team assisted with prepping the land for our blueberry orchard, planted last year) and leading their own projects that focus on food security, environment, diabetes, and sight.

Watch for news of a formal induction ceremony soon.

Fire Fund

See the two mentions of De's situation on page 1. About a week after our meeting, a friend of Eva's from church came through with a \$300 donation to go with the \$1000 that 6 Lions came up with, so we have paid her security deposit and first month's rent. In addition, Lion Maryanne provided her with a suitcase-full of gently used clothing. And we provided her with a list of resources for further financial help, as well as clothing and household goods.

Hat Committee

On page 1 we referred to it as the **Hat Committee**. Since then, Lions Ruth, Carol, Maryanne and Jodi have adopted the much-catchier name of **Warm Woolen Wishes**, which ranks them among a few of my favorite things. See their new flyer on page 6 and please step up by either contributing yarn and fleece, or volunteering your knitting skills on the coming cold winter nights. "Helping hands, creating comfort."



Cabinet meeting

The upcoming date of our next District Cabinet Meeting has been moved from February 6th to **Saturday, February 20th**. The meeting will take place via Zoom from **9:30am – 11:30am** (link to be sent separately).

The theme for the upcoming cabinet meeting is LEADERSHIP and we will be discussing the question, "Why Not Step Up?". If you have ever considered volunteering but did not know what was involved or what would be expected, this is the meeting for you! Moderated by PCC Lion Mark Whitney, it will be a panel discussion made up of a current or former Club President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee Chair. Each panelist will give a brief bio on how they became an officer, prior training or lack thereof, how long they were in that position, their experience, learning curve, any hurdles or problems they had to overcome and if their club was supportive. There will also be time for open discussion with those in attendance.

Please RSVP to Lion Barbara Bentley if you plan on attending at bbentley@saratogaspringslions.com.



DISTRICT 20W CABINET MEETING Saturday, February 20, 2021 9:30am-11:30a Via Zoom



THEME: Leadership

"Why Not Step Up?"

If you have ever considered volunteering but did not know what was involved, this meeting is for you!

Please RSVP to CS Barbara Bentley at bbentley@saratogaspringslions.com

Lions International Convention news

A letter from Dr. Jung-Yul Choi, International President:

Due to the continuing concerns about the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the board of directors voted to transition the **2021 Montreal Lions Clubs International Convention** to a virtual event that will be delivered totally online. This decision was made with the health and safety of our Lions, staff and vendors in mind as limiting international travel and large gatherings is key to global containment strategies.



Although we are disappointed that we won't be able to host this event in person, we are excited about hosting our first virtual international convention that can safely connect Lions from around the world. We are still finalizing the details of your new convention experience, and will share those with you as soon as they are ready.

Here are some important details about the 2021 virtual convention we'd like to share with you:

Everyone's invited – Our 2021 convention will be a virtual event that's open to all Lions and Leos around the world.

Registration fees – The registration fee will be US\$50 until March 31, then US\$75 beginning April 1. The registration fee for Leos will be US\$30 regardless of date. Convention is currently scheduled for June 25-29. Additional event and registration details will be provided soon. $More \rightarrow$

Current registrants – Lions who are currently registered for convention will receive an email soon with more information about their registration options.

Elections – Executive officer and international director elections will be conducted electronically, and voting procedures will be forthcoming.

Convention updates – Check our convention website LCICon for convention updates and details as they become available.

This global health pandemic has forced us all to make decisions and changes that place health and safety first. However, we are optimistic that with each new day there is hope, and as Lions, we continue to find new ways to stay connected, safely serve our communities and continue our global mission of service.

We appreciate your understanding during this challenging time for our organization and the world, and thank you for your incredible service as a Lion.

Regards, Dr. Jung-Yul Choi International President

Grant received

We got the \$2000 grant from the Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation. This plus other Facebook contributions and \$1300 from Refugee Welcome Center will enable Greg and Jodi's Pandemic Produce Pick-up to operate for the month of February.



Happy Birthday!

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

3rd: Eva Bass 5th: Dave Levine 22nd: Mike Farrell



Happy Anniversary!

Happy Lions Anniversary to only one **February** inductee:

Greg Sheldon: 2 years with us + 6 years with the Tosagua (Ecuador) LC.

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

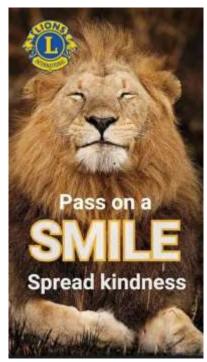




Instead of shopping at amazon.com, please shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/22-3255679. You'll get the same great deals, plus a percentage of your purchases will be donated to the Albany & Troy Lions Charitable Fund.

Bring a potential member to a meeting.







Hand Sanitizer



\$5 per bottle, or buy 4 and get 1 free (save 25%!)

Get yours today by contacting Ruth Sano at 518-859-3796 or albanytroylions@gmail.com

- All proceeds benefit the Albany & Troy Lions Club and Grateful Villages
- FDA registered and approved hand sanitizer
- Made to W.H.O. standards
- 75% isopropyl alcohol for maximum efficacy
- Contains aloe for moisturizing and counteracting the drying effects of alcohol
- Only two ingredients: a natural product without the unwanted filler of industrial sanitzers
- Fine-mist spray applicator covers hands with just the right amount.
- Glass bottles and high-quality packaging avoid single-stream waste and unnecessary plastics
- Sanitizer bottles are made to be refillable at local refill stations like the Honest Weight Food Coop





Spread the word, not the germs. Masks are two-ply cotton separated

by a coffee filter, and they're only \$10 each.

Can be hand-washed with a mild dish detergent like Dawn®. After the masks are made, **they're washed, sprayed with antiseptic hy**drogen peroxide and placed into a zippered plastic bag.





Place your order at jerrygordon@juno.com or 518-235-8232





Got Yarn?

Or extra fleece fabric?

If you don't need it anymore, we can find someone who will use it to make hats, mittens and scarves for the needy.



Warm Woolen Wishes Project



Unites people with yarn or fabric so they can help us reach our goal of 350 items by the end of 2021

This helps us help everyone

Someone stuck at home will have materials to make cozy items

We will have those items to give to the needy

Everyone wins!

If you can help us out with yarn or fabric ~ Let us know.

We will be happy to pick up it up and get it where it needs to go.

Contact the Albany Troy Lions at <u>albanytroylions@qmail.com</u> or Lion Ruth Sano at 518-859-3796









