



Rare Meat

July 2024



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

OFFICERS 2024-2025

President:

JODI SHELDON

1st Vice-President:

QUEEN GHAFFAR-ADJEI

2nd Vice-President

GREG SHELDON

3rd Vice-President

Secretary:

JERRY GORDON

Treasurer:

RUTH SANO, Club

LARRY KRUG, Char Fund

Tail Twister:

SHAWN NEWTON

Lion Tamer:

SHAWN NEWTON

Directors, 1st year of 2:

DAVIA GADDY

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER

Directors, 2nd year of 2:

MARYANNE GORDON

MIKE O'BRIEN

Membership Chair:

CHRIS HORAN

Marketing Comm Chair

Immediate Past Pres:

EVA BASS

ALBANY & TROY LIONS

PO Box 192

TROY, NY 12181-0192

(518) 512-2722

info@albanytroylions.org

ALBANYTROYLIONS.ORG

Rare Meat editor:

JERRY GORDON

JERRYGORDON@JUNO.COM

518-235-8232

YOUR SUBMISSIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED!

Welcome to the first issue of LY2024-2025. Our new District Governor is Lion Holly McConchie from the Galway Lions Club. That's her pin in the upper left corner of this page. Did you know that Galway is the smallest incorporated village in New York? And yet, they've had a successful Lions Club for 45 years with 63 members currently and a Leos club (and a Lioness club, when they were still a thing). She's the fifth DG from Galway.



On June 5, we held our annual installation dinner at the Copper Crow on Broadway in Albany, the same place where we had our holiday party. Unfortunately, it's a bit noisy if we're trying to speak, but it all worked out. Outgoing King Lion Eva installed all the officers and board (see the list to the left) and Jerry presented a few awards.



Lion Eva installs incoming King Lion Jodi Sheldon



Incoming 1st VP Queen Ghaffar-Adjei and 2nd VP Greg Sheldon.



Lion Davia Gaddy received a Robert J Uplinger Distinguished Service Award



Lion Eva was awarded a Melvin Jones Fellowship.

Pictures were extracted from Queen's video of the event.

MEMBERSHIP

VICKI ADLER

MICHELLE BAKER

EVA BASS

JOANN BEACH

DR. ROB BRASS

JANE CHOUINIÈRE

DOUG DAVIS

DENNIS FAGAN

DR. STEFAN FOSCO

DAVIA GADDY

QUEEN GHAFFAR-ADJEI

JERRY GORDON

MARYANNE GORDON

DR. VICI HARRIS

CHRIS HORAN

LARRY KRUG

DR. DAVID LEVINE

KRISTIN McVEIGH

SHAWN NEWTON

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

RUTHANN RICHARDS

RUTH SANO

GREG SHELDON

JODI SHELDON

SUE SHIPE

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER



Report of the board meetings held on Zoom on June 24

There was a problem with the Zoom link that had been sent out, so we quickly established a Meet.Google meeting. Unfortunately, not everyone got the email and some folks missed the meeting.

Lion Jerry started off with a serious problem: With two recent resignations, we're down to 26 members, which in itself is about average for clubs in our district. However, 13 of them are on the board, and the other 13 are completely inactive. They pay their dues and some of them are otherwise generous, but we never see them at meetings or other functions.

In talking about possible solutions, Jodi brought up an idea from the 100th anniversary committee. [On June 24, the Gordons, Sheldons and Mike attended the first meeting of the 100th Anniversary Committee in Saratoga. See below for meeting & event details.] At that meeting we proposed approaching other orgs, businesses, social groups, etc, and asking them to preform 100 acts of service during the year from Sept '24 to Sept '25. Their participation would be promoted in the memento/ad-book that will be distributed at our event, on social media and elsewhere. Hopefully, they would attend the event and even become Lions.

Other thoughts included the importance of in-person, social meetings. Jerry has secured the back room at the Metro 7 Diner (on Rte 7 across the street from Keeler Motors) for our meeting on Wed, Sept 4, at 6:00 PM.

Getting back to the 100th: Saratoga has booked the Gideon Putnam for Saturday, Oct 11, 2025, at 6 PM. The event has to generate \$15,000 for the Gideon, which means our target attendance is 150 people at \$100 each. Considering all the Lions from other clubs, and past IPs and other bigwigs that are expected to attend, we think this is attainable. We'll also publish a memento/ad-book that will include histories of the clubs and other interesting stuff worth saving.

We discussed the Lions Free Library (a temporary name – we need something snappier) and decided that our first installations ought to be in the Hive area and at Lansingburgh Boys & Girls Club. We all agreed it was a worthwhile project, but we need a committee to establish a budget and make it actually happen.

Greg & Jodi's Produce Pickup Market donates thousands of pounds of free food to West Hill residents every week. They're open from 10-2 every Monday and Wednesday. We should formalize our relationship so we can identify this as a Lions project.

Jerry brought up the SEE (Screening Eyes Early) program. Problem #1: Marilyn Bradley, who had agreed to chair the project, has resigned from the club due to health issues and family responsibilities. Problem #2: The last three *Rare Meats* have asked for volunteers willing to commit to one or two screenings per month. Other than Jerry and Allen Zieker, no one has raised their hand, and only Jerry has actually passed the test and been certified. Until and unless more Lions step up, we will not proceed with the grants we'll need to buy the \$8000 screening camera.

We approved spending \$250 for a Tee sign and other publicity to support the Lions Eye Bank's upcoming golf tournament on Aug 5.

Back in April, we received a request to help send 11-yr-old Maddie to a camp for kids with dyslexia. The total cost is \$5000. We committed to donating \$500 if the family could come up with the rest. They were successful! Maddie starts camp in a few weeks, and we'll be sending our check this week

Lion Ruth reported that South Colonie High School has been helping to sort and pack used glasses. We shipped 1200 to NJ in June, bring the total to 12,400 for LY'23-'24. Also, we bought glasses for two children.

Once the '24-'25 district directory is available, we will arrange for Leo training and diabetes training. (For the first time in 10 years, Lion Jerry is not doing the district directory.)

Our next meetings:

Our next board meeting will be on Monday, July 15 at 7:30 at BTG. We'll be sorting the various historical materials that Jerry had been storing. Our next general meeting will be in September.

We're on a mission to grow!

MISSION 1.5 is a dedicated effort to grow our membership to 1.5 million. We have committed the next four years to reaching this historic Lions Club membership goal. Every Lion has an important part to play. Together, we can grow Lions Clubs to extraordinary new heights, serving an untold number of people in need. Our Global Membership Approach is designed to revitalize existing clubs, charter new ones and inspire all Lions through fellowship and exciting service.

We will be having several webinars to learn more about **Mission 1.5** in the upcoming months. In the meantime, learn more by visiting lionsclubs.org/mission1.5.

Earning Some Green by Going Green

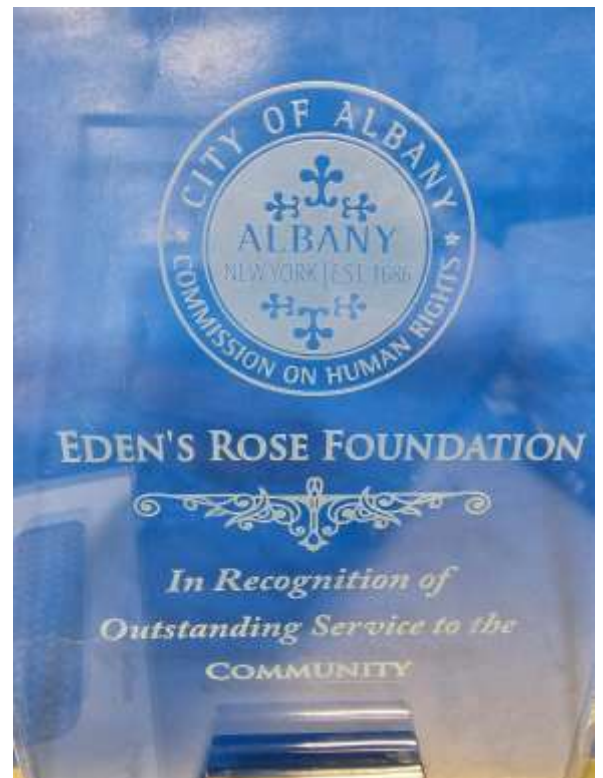
You've all got your CLYNK recycling bags; I hope you're using them. If you need more for yourself, **or for any friends or family members who are willing to help us out**, contact Lion Jerry at 518-235-8232 or jerrygordon@juno.com for more bags.

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.



The Albany & Troy Lions Club participated in the Health & Wellness Expo at the Pride Festival in Washington Park on June 8th. Lions Jerry Gordon, Larry Krug and Ruth Sano distributed information on Diabetes Awareness and Lionism.

Congrats to Lions Greg and Jodi on receiving this recognition award from the City of Albany for their ongoing efforts to feed and house those in need. They are true Lions.



Lions SEE needs you! **This will be our last appeal. If we can't get enough Lions to hold 1 or 2 screenings/month, we will not proceed.**



The mission of Lions SEE, Inc. (Screening Eyes Early) is to decrease childhood blindness through early detection and treatment of the most common vision disorders that cause amblyopia, ensuring that all children of New York State will be able to SEE their future.



We, as a club, want to be involved in this program, but before we spend \$8000 on a screening camera, we want to be sure we have enough people to conduct the screenings. They will generally be at a kindergarten, pre-school, or day-care center and typically take 2-3 hours. Will you commit to doing 1 or 2 screenings per month? It's a worthwhile way to spend a morning or two. Text, email or call Jerry to accept or ask questions (jerrygordon@juno.com or 518-366-5299). If you're interested, read how to become certified below.

One of the (very few) Lions to volunteer is Dr. Allen Zieker. During his first 25 years as a Lion, he was too busy being an ophthalmologist to participate much, although we greatly appreciate his ongoing generosity. Now that he has retired, he's been coming to meetings and signed up to do some screenings. You should, too.

By the time we go through the grant process to pay for the screener and train everyone in its use, our first screening will probably not be for at least 4-6 months.

How to Become a Certified Eye Screener

You don't have to do this all in one sitting. Spread it out over whatever time period fits your schedule and lifestyle. Here's how to become a certified eye screener:

Go to **LionsKidSightUSA.org**. At the top of the page, click on GET CERTIFIED. Scroll down a bit and click on the **Lions KidSight Training Manual**. You can read the 16-page manual on line, but I suggest you also print it. It's got info you'll want to refer to later (unless you've got an excellent memory!).

Then, just above the manual, click on **LION'S KIDSIGHT USA TRAINING VIDEOS HERE**. Watch the first three videos (about 45 minutes total). These will give you an overview of the KidSight program and an understanding of why we're doing it. The second video especially will provide the technical stuff you need to know.

When you're ready to take the screener exam, click on **Sign In here**, just below the training manual. Sign in using username = **newyork** and password = **KidUSA**. You'll also need your Lions member number, which is listed on the club roster or is available from Lion Jerry. At some point after taking the exam, you will receive a personalized **Certificate** via email. You are welcome to print additional copies, to show schools that you and your team are truly qualified.

Happy Birthday!

Happy **July** birthday to only one A&T Lions:

25th: Jerry Gordon



Happy Anniversary!

Happy Lions Anniversary to no **July** inductees:



Mark Your Calendar

Thu, July 4: Happy Independence Day!
 Mon, July 15: Board meetings at BTG; see page 2.

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

Six things I've learned from Snapple® bottle caps:

In France, it's illegal for employers to send emails after work hours.

Alaska is the most northern, western and eastern U.S. state.

Alaska has more caribou than people.

There are more donut shops per capita in Canada than in any other country.

There are over 2000 different species of cacti.

John Quincy Adams regularly skinny-dipped in the Potomac River.

Lions Service Areas



Diabetes



Disaster Relief



Environment



Humanitarian



Hunger



Vision



Youth



Childhood Cancer



Got Yarn? Or extra fleece fabric?

If you don't need it anymore, we will turn it into hats, mittens and scarves for the needy



Warm Woolen Wishes Project

Helping Hands



Creating Comfort



Unites people with yarn or fabric so they can help us reach our goal of 1000 items by the end of 2024.

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 it up and get it where it needs to go.

Contact the Albany & Troy Lions at ALBANYTROYLIONS@GMAIL.COM or Lion Ruth Sano at 518-859-3796

