



# Rare Meat

April 2025



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

## OFFICERS 2024-2025

President:

JODI SHELTON

1st Vice-President:

QUEEN GHAFFAR-ADJEI

2nd Vice-President

GREG SHELTON

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

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YOUR SUBMISSIONS  
ARE ENCOURAGED!

## Report of the board meetings held on March 17 on line

Lion Ruth received a \$500 grant from Price Chopper to purchase Spanish books for our Little Free Libraries. We also got \$1250 from Stewarts. Jerry reported that thanks to a tardy donor, the seal campaign now stands at \$1785.

Ruth reports that we bought 396 chocolate bunnies from Lions Eye Institute. Eva took 100 at \$2.50 each splitting the list price. Lions Jerry & Maryanne bought 24 for Lansingburgh Boys & Girls Club. Total so far we have sold 356. We still have 40 available and will donate any that are not sold by Easter.

On March 13, Queen's Guardians of AL-Fitrah and the Albany Leos held a very successful event that fed about 100 homeless and folks battling substance abuse from Cap City Rescue Mission and the shelter on Sheridan Ave. They supplied them with personal-care and clothing items, including Bombas socks and underwear from the Interfaith Partnership. The Leos wore their new T-shirts.



Leo Layah

There is a zone meeting at SUNYA on March 26. Let Jerry know if you'll be there and he will report attendance for the whole club before the 3/21 deadline.

Jerry will rummage through our "souvenir" collection at Eva's office to find something appropriate for the raffle. We'll be inducting new member "Batman". [See story on page 3]

Batman has stepped into the breach and taken over the Spelling Bee project. He has secured Capital Rep for the morning of March 29 for the event, with a training session for judges and others on 3/21. 35-40 students will be competing. [See story on page 4]

Our next general meeting will be at Margarita City on April 2 at 5:30. [See page 2]

## MEMBERSHIP

VICKI ADLER

MICHELLE BAKER

EVA BASS

JOANN BEACH

DR. ROB BRASS

PAUL "BATMAN" COLLINS

-HACKETT

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

NIKKI MILTON

SHAWN NEWTON

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

RUTHANN RICHARDS

RUTH SANO

GREG SHELTON

JODI SHELTON

SUE SHIPE

MIKE SUSKE

CHLOE TARLEN

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER

## What is Mission 1.5?

Mission 1.5 is the drive to grow to a minimum of 1.5 million Lion members worldwide by July 1, 2027, so we can meet the growing needs of our communities and serve more than 1 billion people annually.



Our next meeting:

Our next meeting will be **live** on **Wed, April 2** at **Margarita City** at **5:30 PM**. So we can start on time, please try to arrive by 5:15 to have a few minutes to place your dinner order, socialize and generally unwind. We need a headcount, so if you haven't already done so, please let me know whether you'll be there. Call or text 518-366-5299.



### 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.



Easter is right around the corner!  
Get your solid milk, dark or white chocolate Easter Bunnies to help support  
The Albany and Troy Lions Club,  
The Lions Eye Institute and your sweet tooth!  
Only \$5 each  
Limited supply - we will deliver locally before Easter  
albanytroylions@gmail.com or call  
Lion Ruth at 518-859-3796

*We've got more to sell. Call Ruth now!*



Exclusively Albany  
**LIONS**  
CLUB  
ALBANY AND TROY  
Solid Bunny  
made with delicious  
Real Chocolate  
Net Wt. 6.25oz (176g)

For more info, visit [www.lionsclub.org](http://www.lionsclub.org) or call 518-859-3796

## Zone Meeting and Social

*Refresher in Lions geography: Multiple District 20, which comprises all of New York State and Bermuda, is divided into 11 districts (N, E-1, E-2, W, Y, O, R-1, R-2, K-1, K-2, S). We're in District W, which has Schoharie, Albany, and Rensselaer counties as its southern border, the MA and VT borders on the east, Canada on the north and St Lawrence, Herkimer and eastern Oneida counties on the west. District W is further subdivided into 5 Regions (L, I, O, N, S). Each Region has a Zone A and a Zone B, except ours (Region O), which has only one Zone. The 7 clubs in our region/zone are Albany & Troy, Bethlehem, Duane, Greater Ravena Area, SUNY UAlbany Campus, Town of Wright/Schoharie Valley, and Waterford. District leadership encourages Region and Zone chairs to have group meetings once or twice a year.*

On March 26, the new SUNY UAlbany Campus Club hosted our first zone meeting in several years. There were around 30 Lions present, including 7 A&T Lions, with pizza, salad, cookies, cupcakes and soft drinks to quell our hunger. An assortment of PDGs spoke about clubs working together on joint projects, the importance of growing our membership, and leadership training for club officers. The highlight of the evening (for us) was DG Holly McConchie inducting our newest Lion, Paul "Batman" Collins-Hackett. They're in the photo with Lion Queen Ghaffar-Adjei, Paul's sponsor.



A supplemental issue

Watch your email for a supplement to this issue with these important items:

The Spelling Bee winner's name (see page 4). What we're doing for Earth Day. Slate of candidates for next year's officers (if you're interested in anything, please let Jerry know asap).



### Spelling Bee

For many years, the Times Union sponsored the Spelling Bee in our area, but they recently decided to discontinue that practice. So the Spelling Bee approached Eder's Rose Foundation to be the Regional Sponsor, and ERF recommended the Albany and Troy Lions Club as the lead sponsor and co-sponsored the initiative, leveraging its expertise in program development and community engagement. Recognizing the need for broader engagement, ERF brought in additional partners: The RED (Read Each Day) Bookshelf – a well-established literacy program with school partnerships, and Albany Housing Authority – connecting with families and children who could benefit most from this initiative.

Initially, Lion Mike Suske, an ERF employee, headed up this project, but his sudden departure left us with a problem. Just like in the comics, Batman came to the rescue! As Executive Director of the RED Bookshelf and a new Lion (see page3), Paul was well positioned for this project. He lined up CapRep as a venue for our first regional competition as a no-charge contribution to the community. Following up on Mike's efforts, 38 students and their families showed up on March 29. They came from as far afield as Amsterdam, Middleburgh, Cobleskill and Northville. Paul had 5 volunteer judges, pronouncers, and other support staff to keep the morning running smoothly.

Unfortunately, I didn't catch the winner's name, but she'll be off to Washington to compete in the national finals. We'll keep you posted.



Lions Queen, Ruth and Batman in the CapRep lobby.





### **Celebrate Over a Century of Service!**

Join us for the 101st Annual MD-20 Lions Clubs Convention as we gather Lions from across New York State and Bermuda to honor our shared legacy and inspire future acts of kindness. This is more than a convention – it's a moment to reflect, connect, and empower each other to serve our communities with greater impact.

- Collection of small Lego kits for Roswell Park Cancer Institute: Each kit will be given to a child waiting for and during their treatments.
- Workshops & Panels: Tools and strategies to elevate your impact as a Lion.
- Networking Opportunities: Build meaningful connections with Lions who share your commitment.
- Hands-on Service Project
- Explore Niagara Falls: Be inspired by one of the world's natural wonders!

### **Register Today – Together, We Can Achieve Even More!**

- Early Bird Registration Deadline: April 15, 2025
- Registration Fee: \$50 in advance (\$60 at the door)
- Secure Your Spot Now: <https://md20lionsconvention.org>

**Happy Birthday!**

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

1st: Michelle Baker  
18th: Sue Shipe  
19th: Jodi Sheldon  
19th: Larry Krug

**Happy Anniversary!**

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

Davia Gaddy: 4 years  
Vicki Adler: 21 years  
Maryanne Gordon: 26 years  
Rob Brass: 27 years  
Michael O'Brien: 27 years  
Allen Zieker: 27 years

**Mark Your Calendar**

**April is Jazz Appreciation Month, Environmental Awareness Month and Leo Awareness Month**

**Wed, Apr 2: Meeting at Margarita City; see page 2**

**Sat, Apr 5: Cabinet meeting; see page 7**

Sat, Apr 12: Passover starts at sundown

Sun, Apr 20: Easter

Apr 22: Earth Day

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



**ORLANDO 2025**  
107th LIONS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

The Lions International Convention is **Sunday, July 13-Thursday, July 17, 2025.**

If you've never been to an international convention, you're missing one of the highlights of the Lions year. You can connect with Lions and Leos from all over the world and build friendships that last a lifetime. You will hear from hundreds of Lion leaders and speakers who will present their ideas and inspire you to even greater levels of service to help you make the most of your Lion experience. Convention is where we celebrate the incredible work of Lions and Leos around the globe. And you can enjoy fantastic attractions, lively cuisine, trendy shopping and iconic theme parks in one of America's truly magical cities.

Here's why you should sign up now: If you register by March 1, the registration fee is \$190 (registration only; doesn't include lodging).

If you wait until March 2-July 10, it's \$265.

And if you wait until the last minute (July 10-July 17), it's \$340.

Visit this website for answers to all your questions: <https://lionscon.lionsclubs.org/>



## Lions Clubs of MD~20W 4<sup>th</sup> Cabinet Meeting~ 2024/2025

**Saturday, April 5th, 2025**

**The Loft at War Cannon Spirits  
2849 State Highway 9N, Crown Point, NY 12928-2628**

9:30am-10am Registration

Freshly Brewed Coffee and Pasties

12pm Lunch

Fresh Garden Salad

Smoked America and Cheddar Mac & Cheese

Soft Pretzels

Flat Bread Pizza – Margareta and BBQ Chicken

Pulled Pork and Smoked Chicken with BBQ sauce, brioche roll and coleslaw

~~Roast Beef & Cheddar – Turkey & American – Chicken Salad~~

Dulce de Leche Cake

**Meal Price: \$40 Per Person**

**RSVP no later than Saturday 3/28/2025** to District Secretary Alexander Guilmette at:

[APG200@gmail.com](mailto:APG200@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to District 20W Lions. They can be mailed to Alexander Guilmette at:

**P.O. Box 2454 Ballston Spa, NY 12020**

**Overnight Room**

**Best Western Plus Ticonderoga Inn & Suites**

260 Burgoyne Road, Ticonderoga, NY 12883

(Reservations are to be called in to (518) 585-2378| There is no official room block)





# 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](mailto:ALBANYTROYLIONS@GMAIL.COM) or Lion Ruth Sano at 518-859-3796

