



# Rare Meat

July 2025



*Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925*

## OFFICERS 2025-2026

President:

QUEEN GHAFFAR-ADJEI

1st Vice-President:

BATMAN COLLINS-  
HACKETT

2nd Vice-President

DAVIA GADDY

3rd Vice-President

GREG SHELTON

Secretary:

JERRY GORDON

Treasurer:

RUTH SANO, Club

LARRY KRUG, Char Fund

Tail Twister, Lion Tamer:

SHAWN NEWTON &  
NIGHTWING HAMLIN

Directors, 1st year of 2:

MARYANNE GORDON  
MIKE O'BRIEN

Directors, 2nd year of 2:

DAVIA GADDY

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER

Membership Chair:

THIS COULD BE YOU!

Marketing Comm Chair:

EVA BASS

Immediate Past Pres:

JODI SHELTON

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!**

## **Happy New Year!**

No, not the "Let's go out drinking!" kind. It's a new Lions Year. In the upper left corner, you'll see the pin of our new District Governor Barbara Bentley from the Saratoga Springs Lions Club. The shell shape represents her love of the ocean, and T.E.A.M. stands for Together Everyone Achieves More, stressing the value of working as a team. She's also got warm spots in her heart for the Lions' dedication to diabetes awareness and the several guide-dog orgs we support.

## **Report of the general meeting held on June 4 at Margarita City**

This was our annual installation dinner and we were pleased to have DG Holly McConchie to do the honors. Your new Board of Directors is listed to the left.



**Lion Queen is our new King Lion!**



Lions Ruth and Larry will continue their very capable management of the funds of our Club and Charitable Fund, respectively.

## 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

KHALE "NIGHTWING"  
HAMLIN

DR. VICI HARRIS

CHRIS HORAN

LARRY KRUG

DR. DAVID LEVINE

KRISTIN McVEIGH

NIKKI MILTON

SHAWN NEWTON

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

RUTHANN RICHARDS

RUTH SANO

RICH SCHMIDT

GREG SHELTON

JODI SHELTON

SUE SHIPE

MIKE SUSKE

CHLOE TARLEN

ERIC THOMPSON

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER





Lions Shawn and Nightwing will share the Taittwister and Lion Tamer jobs, and Lion Jerry will continue his Secretarial duties.

### **Curious about the roles of Tail Twister and Lion Tamer?**

For those curious about the roles of Tail Twister and Lion Tamer, here's a quick explanation. The Tail Twister brings energy and camaraderie to meetings—lightening the mood with humor, collecting occasional small “fines” for things like forgetting your Lions pin, or “happy bucks” from members who share good news. The Lion Tamer

handles the practical side of things: ensuring meetings are set up, materials are organized, and everything runs smoothly.



### *Report of the board meeting held on Mon, June 23, on Google.Meet*

PDG Michele spoke to us about her vision for a specialty club at St Catherine's that would focus on mental health issues, not only among St Cath's clientele, but also in the greater community. Lion Jerry made a motion that our club sponsor this new club; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

She also spoke about the hockey tournament St Cath has been running for a few years in September at the Frear Park Hockey Rink in Troy. Because of renovations there, this year it will be at Knickerbacker Ice Arena in Lansingburgh. We've supported this in the past with an info table, and decided to do so again this year. The hockey tournament supports their Lansingburgh Connects program, a shared initiative with the Lansingburgh School District and Rens County Mental Health.

Our bill for the spelling bee is \$5000 minus a credit of \$846 for the contributions of the 47 participating schools (\$18 each) = \$4154. Lion Ruth moved that we pay this off from funds currently in the charitable fund; the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Lion Jerry made a motion that we participate in the 2026 Scripps National Spelling Bee, and that we raise the requisite \$5000 fee by applying to Brandel-Murphy Lions Youth Foundation for a \$1500 matching grant and to the New York State & Bermuda Lions Foundation for a \$2000 grant. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Lions Maryanne, Jerry and Mike reported on our upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, which will be on Oct 11 at the Gideon Putnam. We have secured the support of two Premiere Visionary Sponsors to offset the cost of the evening. The Adirondack Trust Company has written a check for \$6,000 and the Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery PLLC (Dr. Ted Wladis) has written a check for \$5,000. These generous donations will allow us to subsidize the ticket price at a cost of \$75/person. Both sponsorship groups will be recognized appropriately that evening! As part of the celebration, we'll be producing a commemorative souvenir program for all attendees. Our sponsors will be recognized on the inside front and inside back covers respectfully. There will be no other ads in the program book. We will have a "Friends of the Lions" page in the program that will recognize other donations made toward the anniversary. The levels of support are Gold \$500+; Silver \$250 - \$499; and Bronze \$100 - \$249. We have already received three Gold level sponsorships from club members. [Also see pages 4 and 6]



### *Our next meeting:*

We don't meet during the summer, but your board of directors never sleeps. Our next board meeting will be on **Monday, July 21 at 7:30PM** on Google Meet. Here's the link if you'd like to attend: [meet.google.com/qgy-wxoq-zzj](https://meet.google.com/qgy-wxoq-zzj).



## 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.

### What can I CLYNK in New York?

#### Types of beverages covered by NY's Bottle Bill

Carbonated soft drinks, including sparkling water  
Carbonated energy drinks  
Carbonated juice (anything less than 100% juice, containing added sugar or water)  
Carbonated tea  
Soda water  
Beer and other malt beverages  
Mineral water – both carbonated and non-carbonated  
Wine products  
Water that does not contain sugar, including flavored or nutritionally enhanced water

#### Types of beverages not covered by NY's Bottle Bill

Milk products  
Wine, liquor, and spirits  
Hard ciders  
Non-carbonated tea  
Non-carbonated sport drinks  
Non-carbonated juice  
Non-carbonated energy drinks  
Beverages in drink boxes or pouches  
Waters containing sugar

### District Governor's Testimonial

On May 30, Lions Jerry and Maryanne attended the DG's testimonial at the Turf Tavern in Scotia. During the Remembrance ceremony, Lion Jerry placed a rose for Lion Jane Chouiniere, who passed last October. She sponsored Lion Jerry (in 1991) and Lion Allen Zieker (in 1998), and had been a good friend of Lion Maryanne for years.

We received a District Governor's Award for the most new members inducted during LY 24-25.



Outgoing DG Holly McConchie and incoming DGE Barb Bentley.

***Dues are due now!*** If you haven't already done so, send your check, cash or bitcoins, payable to A&T Lions Club, to Lion Ruth Sano, 26 Birch Ave, Albany, NY 12205. Do it TODAY, please! You can also send your dues via PayPal to [rmsano@gmail.com](mailto:rmsano@gmail.com) (just put "dues" in the notes).

### **More on our 100th ...**

In addition to what's on page 2, you should know that next month, we'll be announcing the Eventbrite link where you can buy your tickets for the event.

To be listed on the "Friends of the Lions" page, you'll have to write a check payable to Saratoga Springs Lions, or give Jerry cash. The levels of support are Gold \$500+; Silver \$250 - \$499; and Bronze \$100 - \$249.

### *Eye-screening Children*

Last week, Lion Jerry helped PDGs Priscilla and Ricky Laurin with a screening at Rensselaer Park Elementary School in Lansingburgh. He kept the camera so we could do a screening at the Family Ties event on Saturday, June 28. We could use 2 or 3 Lions to help with moving kids in and out. Certification is not required. This is an excellent opportunity to see what's involved in a vision screening. If you're available, please contact Jerry asap by calling or texting 518-366-5299.



JOIN US AT  
**FAMILY TIES**  
JUNE 28TH 2025  
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
FREE FOR ALL  
EVERYONE IS INVITED!  
EVERYTHING IS FREE!  
JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FOOD, FAMILY, WELLNESS AND MORE.  
FREE HAIRCUTS AND COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS  
FOCUSED ON FAMILY VALUES

• HAIRCUTS • FREE • FOOD  
• RAFFLES • MUSIC • RESOURCES  
• WORKSHOPS • COMMUNITY

BARBER STUDIOS  
We Are Revolution  
518 Elevated  
Always Curin

This clipping was on page C1 of the June 20 Times-Union. Maybe you'll recognize someone.



Students from William S. Hackett Middle School and Giffen Memorial Elementary School perform during the Albany Black Chamber of Commerce and Albany Community Land Trust's annual Juneteenth Block Party on Thursday at Swineburne Park in Albany. The event, which honors the 1865 anniversary of the day enslaved people in Galveston, Texas, learned of their emancipation, included cultural showcases, vendors, music, food and more. June 19 has been a federal holiday since 2021.

**Happy Birthday!**

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

25th: Jerry Gordon

**Happy Anniversary!**

Happy Lions Anniversary to no **July** in-  
ductees:

**Mark Your  
Calendar**

Fri, July 4: Independence Day

July 13-17: LCI Intl Convention, Orlando, FL (see below)

Mon, July 21: Lions BoD meeting, see page 2

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

***Last Chance!***



**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/>

**If you're planning to attend, please let Jerry know ASAP so he can register you as a delegate.**





## Back in 1925...

- ...Calvin Coolidge was president
- ...Prohibition was the law
- ...Capone and Corleone were not
- ...Great Gatsby lived in "style"
- ...Everyone was doing the Charleston
- ...Lions became "Knights of the Blind"

And...

***Saratoga Springs,  
Albany & Troy  
Lions Clubs were chartered!***



Save the date  
to celebrate 100 years of service with us!

# October 11, 2025



**Gideon Putnam Hotel, Saratoga Springs**

