



Rare Meat

August 2025



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

OFFICERS 2025-2026

President:

QUEEN GHAFAR-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

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**YOUR SUBMISSIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED!**

Report of the board meeting held on Mon, July 21, on Google.Meet

Because of technical issues, not everyone who wanted to could join the meeting.

We could not get a status report on our grant apps for the 2026 Spelling Bee. Queen will follow up with Batman. Jerry suggesting asking Brandel-Murphy for \$1250 to match our \$1250. That \$2500 would be the basis for asking NYS&BLF for another \$2500 to give us the requisite \$5000.

At our last meeting, we agreed to participate in St Catherine's Lansingburgh Hockey tournament. We voted to be silver sponsors for \$500. (Because we didn't have a quorum, an email vote in the days after the meeting provided the necessary votes for passage.) [See page 4]

We voted to be Tee-sign sponsors (\$300) for NABA's golf tournament. (Because we didn't have a quorum, an email vote in the days after the meeting provided the necessary votes for passage.)

Our new Little Free Library will be opened at Knickerbacker Park in Lansingburgh this coming Wed AM. The Lansingburgh Boys & Girls Club will keep it filled with books from the RED Bookshelf. Thanks to Lion Ruth and her PiS Bob for buying and assembling the library. [See page 4]

Jerry again reminded everyone for our need for a Membership Chair. Queen thought it might be a good job for one of our newer members, but Ruth thought the position requires some experience and familiarity with Lionism. Jerry reminded them that a two-person committee was certainly acceptable and perhaps preferable.

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, Aug 18 at 7:30PM** on Google Meet.

Here's the link if you'd like to attend:

meet.google.com/qgy-wxoq-zzj.



Bring a potential member to a meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

VICKI ADLER

MICHELLE BAKER

EVA BASS

JOANN BEACH LOVER-
IDGE

DR. ROB BRASS

PAUL "BATMAN" COLLINS
-HACKETT

DOUG DAVIS

DENNIS FAGAN

DR. STEFAN FOSCO

DAVIA GADDY

QUEEN GHAFAR-ADJEI

JERRY GORDON

MARYANNE GORDON

KHALEL "NIGHTWING"
HAMLIN

DR. VICI HARRIS

CHRIS HORAN

LARRY KRUG

DR. DAVID LEVINE

KRISTIN McVEIGH

NIKKI MILTON

SHAWN NEWTON

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

RUTH SANO

RICH SCHMIDT

GREG SHELTON

JODI SHELTON

SUE SHIPE

ERIC THOMPSON

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER



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. **This project earned us \$177 last year, but with greater participation, it could be a lot more.**

A bit about our new club president ...



Tyhisha "Queen" Ghaffar-Adjei is a long-term dedicated humanitarian/philanthropist who's loyal, compassionate, passionate, with a vivacious heart, and sense of purpose.

Her 501(c)(3) is The Guardians of AL-Fitrah, which she has run since 2007. It specializes in providing food, clothing, and spiritual enlightenment to the homeless, poor, wayfarer, forgotten (disabled), and hurt & broken souls. (Fitrah means the natural & pure state of a human being).

Her professional background includes: Nurse (LPN), Massage Therapist (LMT), Esthetician (LE), Reflexology (cert. Laura Norman), Brennan healing science practitioner (AdvDip), Reiki master (cert.), and Realtor (Weichert Realty Fontaine & Associates).

And our new international president ...



A.P. Singh, of Kolkata, India, was elected to serve as international president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 107th international convention, held in Orlando, Florida from July 13 through July 17, 2025.

International President Singh is a practicing chartered accountant and has family business interests in automobile dealerships.

A Lion since 1984 and a member of the Calcutta Vikas Lions Club, International President Singh has held many positions within the association, including district governor and council chairperson. He has served as GMT international coordinator for four years and as a member on a number of ad hoc board committees. He was chairperson for the 2017 DGE seminar in Chicago, USA, and has served as faculty at more than 50 ALLIs/RLLIs, RLLIs, FDIIs and LCIP certification programs. He has also served as multi-national coordinator for Campaign SightFirst II, CA leader for Campaign 100, member of the LCIF Steering Committee and as chairperson of the National SightFirst Committee of India.

International President Singh has participated in and presented seminars at area forums in all constitutional areas. He was the co-chairperson of the Organizing Committee for the ISAAME Forum in Kolkata, India. In recognition of his service to the association, International President Singh has received numerous awards, including multiple International President's Awards, as well as the Ambassador of Good Will Award, the highest honor the association grants its members. He is a major gift donor for Campaign SightFirst II and Campaign 100, and a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

In addition to his Lion activities, International President Singh is accredited with the initiation of various service programs in collaboration with other trusts, foundations and corporate houses. He has worked on establishing a web-based Lion leadership development platform, a micro-finance program, and has organized multiple large-scale online events to keep Lions engaged.

International President Singh has three children.

"Lead to Serve, Serve to Lead."

A few words from DG Barb:



I want to encourage EVERYONE who can to attend our first Cabinet Meeting on **Saturday, September 6th** at the Holiday Inn & Suites in Latham. We will be having a presentation from Guiding Eyes for the Blind, a guest speaker from NABA (Northeastern Association

for the Blind at Albany), information about Lions SEE grant opportunities, and an open discussion about our District goals and idea sharing! Plus, PCC Mark Whitney will be doing portal training and club officer/zone chair education in the afternoon. I'm looking forward to a fun and energizing day to start off our Lions year!! I ask that you please give some serious thought to being in attendance!

Our 100th Anniversary!

See page 6. Our club's 100th Anniversary will be celebrated on **Saturday, October 11th** 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.

Buy your ticket and/or become a sponsor now at tinyurl.com/Lions100th.



LIONS DISTRICT 20-W 1st CABINET MEETING

Saturday, September 6, 2025

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Latham
400 Old Loudon Road, Latham, NY 12110
9:00 AM Registration

Meeting Start Time 9:30 AM
\$40 per person, Includes Lunch

Dress: Business Casual (Lions Shirt, etc. Uniform not necessary)

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Guiding Eyes for the Blind
- Guest Speaker from NABA
(Northeastern Association for the Blind at Albany)
- Lions SEE Grant Information
- District Eyeglass Recycling Program
- District Goals

AFTERNOON

Portal Training & Club Officer/Zone Chair Education
*Not required but highly encouraged for all,
even if you are not a Club Officer or Zone Chair.*

PLEASE REGISTER By 8/31, using the below link or QR Code

www.tinyurl.com/20WCabinetMeeting-1



Register Here

You can: Register and make payment online or
Register and mail your check *

* If paying by check, please make payable to: DISTRICT 20W LIONS CLUBS and mail to
Cabinet Secretary Patty Murphy, 11725 Duaneburg Road, Delanson, NY 12053.

Lodging Reservations can be made by calling the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Latham.
(There isn't a room block for the cabinet meeting)

*Please share with all members of your
club and encourage them to attend!*



**Bring your
sorted glasses
to be recycled!**



Lansingburgh Hockey

From September 2 through September 8, 2025, St. Catherine's Center for Children will proudly host the 3rd Annual Lansingburgh Connects Hockey Clash, benefiting our Lansingburgh Connects Program.

Hockey is more than a sport—it's a community. Players and fans from all walks of life come together through their love of the game and their shared desire to give back. The Hockey Clash offers a unique opportunity to do both: to enjoy the sport we love while making a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families in our community.

The event will feature a 50/50 raffle, silent auction, and free public admission, with a suggested donation of personal hygiene items, cleaning supplies, or non-perishable food. All proceeds directly support youth and families in the Lansingburgh School District.

Lansingburgh Connects is a collaborative initiative between the Lansingburgh Central School District, St. Catherine's Center for Children, and Rensselaer County Children's Mental Health. The program connects students and families with critical mental health, medical, and social resources to support student achievement and family well-being. Our staff meet families where they are—whether at home, school, or in the community—to ensure their needs are met with compassion and care.

As a leading human services provider in the Capital Region, St. Catherine's has been able to do so much good thanks to the generosity of friends like you. That's why we invite you to become a sponsor of the Lansingburgh Connects Hockey Clash. Your partnership will have a direct impact on the lives of the children and families we serve.

The Albany & Troy Lions are proud to be a Gold Sponsor of this event and we'll have an active presence.

Odds 'n' Ends

- ⇒ Look at what I found on Facebook! The third Big G Classic community weekend took place on July 27. Brothers Marquis and Gerald Campbell Jr., founded the tournament in honor of their dad Gerald, a longtime city of Albany resident and worker who passed away in 2020. They say the weekend encompasses his spirit of reaching out to kids and giving back to the community.
- ⇒ Also on July 27, Queen's Guardians of AL-Fitrah, with the help of the Albany Leos, fed about 70 homeless folks and those suffering with mental health or substance abuse issues.
- ⇒ On July 23, we installed our third Little Free Library at Knickerbacker Park in Lansingburgh. It will be maintained by the Lansingburgh Boys & Girls Club with books provided by Batman's RED Bookshelf.



Jim Bulmer, executive director of LB&GC, and Queen renew an old friendship.



Happy Birthday!

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

5th: Chris Horan

30th: Shawn Newton

**Happy Anniversary!**

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

Chris Horan: 16 years + 3 yrs with Guilderland

Vici Harris: 23 years



Mon, Aug 18: Lions BoD meeting, see page 2

Sat, Sep 6: 20W cabinet meeting, see page 4

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

Register Today!

26TH ANNUAL

NABA

VISIONARY

GOLF TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025 - 9AM SHOTGUN START

ALBANY COUNTRY CLUB
300 Wormer Road
Voorheesville, NY 12186

nabavision.org

Sponsorship Opportunities Still Available!

- ✓ Prizes
- ✓ Lunch
- ✓ Contests
- ✓ Reception

Buy your ticket or become a sponsor at <https://tinyurl.com/Lions100th>



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

