



Rare Meat

The newsletter of the



February 2026



Serving the citizens of Albany, Troy and environs since 1925

OFFICERS 2025-2026

President:

QUEEN GHAFFAR-ADJEI

1st Vice-President:

BATMAN COLLINS-HACKETT

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DAVIA GADDY

3rd Vice-President

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Secretary:

JERRY GORDON

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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 general meeting held on Wed, Jan 7, at Margarita City

1. Queen's "Love Thy Neighbor" event on Dec 20 was very successful. With both Lions and Leo volunteers, along with folks from several other supporting organizations (Eden's Rose, SNUG, etc), they provided hot meals, free produce and 80 kids' coats to over 800 residents of Ida Yarborough Homes, Interfaith Partnership for the Homeless, and other places.

2. **DG Barb Bentley** will be our guest at our general meeting on Wed, Feb 4 at Margarita City. Starting in April, we'll try the Albany Public Library on Washington Ave for our general meetings. Our board meetings will be at 7PM on line on the 3rd Monday.

3. Lion Batman reports that plans for the Spelling Bee are moving along. Our regional Spelling Bee will be in late March. Under consideration are the Love Albany Center at 8 Kate St or the Palace Theater.

4. Jodi & Greg will be leaving for Ecuador on Jan 10. They're taking lots of glasses to be distributed in conjunction with the Tosagua Lions Club.

5. We voted to buy 6 raffle tickets for \$100 to benefit the Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation.

6. Semajanay Losey, the mother of James, one of our more active Leos, passed away on Jan 6. Queen requested that we make a \$300 donation to an organization yet to be named. The motion passes after Lion Jodi came up with \$100 as a personal donation to the fund.

In the weeks after the meeting, we passed two motions via email:

To donate \$100 towards the purchase of a Bluetooth Stethoscope for a deaf senior at Brunswick HS who is enrolled in a BOCES Nursing program and will be attending college for nursing.

To donate \$200 to LCIF in memory of Jimmy Bass, father of our past president Lion Eva Bass. [Also see page 2]

Our February meetings



Our next general membership meeting is **Wednesday, February 4 at 6:00 PM** at Margarita City. Our guest speaker will be **DG Barb Bentley**, who will induct our two newest Lions, Carrie and Melissa. Since the restaurant would like a head-count, please let me know whether you'll be there; call or text 518-366-5299 or email ljerrygordon@gmail.com.

Monday, February 16 at 7:30 PM is our on-line board meeting. Watch for the link.

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 GHAFFAR-ADJEI

JERRY GORDON

MARYANNE GORDON

KHALEL "NIGHTWING" HAMLIN

DR. VICI HARRIS

CHRIS HORAN

LARRY KRUG

DR. DAVID LEVINE

CARRIE LOVE

KRISTIN McVEIGH

MELISSA MILTON

NIKKI MILTON

SHAWN NEWTON

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

RUTH SANO

RICH SCHMIDT

GREG SHELTON

JODI SHELTON

SUE SHIPE

ERIC THOMPSON

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER





Our deepest condolences go to Lion **Eva Bass** and her family on the loss of her father, **Jimmy Bass (7/17/46-1/15/26)**.

There will be a Celebration of his Life on Friday, Jan 30, from 10AM-noon at S.L. McLaughlin Funeral Home, 1226 Broadway, Albany.

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.**

Seal Campaign

You all got your seal campaign letters back in November. This has become our winter fund-raiser, so if you're so inclined, throw a few bucks in the self-addressed envelope. As of 1/27, we have raised \$1025 from 12 donors .



Lion Ursula

We have received one donation in memory of Lion Ursula Dessingue, who passed away last month.

Queen and the Leos



King Lion Queen says, "Our aim for the Leos this year starting in March is to travel, discover what other Leos are doing to impact their communities in these trying times. "In addition we, will be collaborating with other local youth-based programs to introduce and create solid tangible projects that champion our causes."

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

Unites people with yarn or fabric so they can help us reach our goal of 500 items by the end of 2025.

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



Helping Hands



Creating Comfort



 Bring a potential member to a meeting.

Happy Birthday!

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

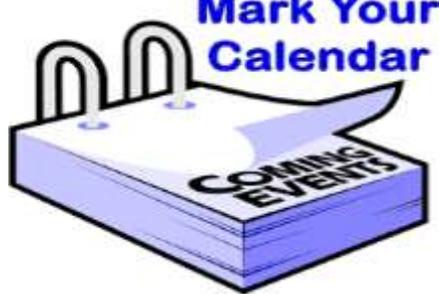
3rd: Eva Bass
5th: Dave Levine



Happy Anniversary!

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

Paul "Batman" Collins-Hackett: 1 year
Greg Sheldon: 7 years (+6 yrs with Tosagua LC)



Mark Your Calendar

February is **Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

Wed, Feb 4: Lions meeting, see page 1

Sat, Feb 7: District Cabinet meeting, see page 4

Sat, Feb 14: Valentine's Day

Mon, Feb 16: Lions Board meeting, see page 1. President's Day

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



LIONS DISTRICT 20-W 3rd CABINET MEETING

Saturday, February 7, 2026

Holiday Inn Johnstown-Gloversville

308 N Comrie Ave., Johnstown, NY 12095

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

- Membership Discussion
- "Young Members" Panel
- Marketing
- Marketing "How To's"

PLEASE REGISTER By 1/31, using the below link or QR Code

www.tinyurl.com/20WCabinetMeeting-3



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 Duanesburg Road, Delanson, NY 12053.

Lodging Reservations can be made by calling the Holiday Inn Johnstown-Gloversville.
(There is no 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!**

*Please remember, all clubs are encouraged to make a donation to the district
for the delivery of the glasses to the New Jersey recycling Center.*

Registration

www.ticketleap.events/tickets/lions-district-20-w/district-20w-cabinet-meeting-february-7-2026