



Rare Meat

The newsletter of the



May 2026



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

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Rare Meat editor:

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**YOUR SUBMISSIONS
ARE ENCOURAGED!**

Report of the general meeting held on Wed, April 1, at The Hub:

First order of business was to accept the membership application from Carmen Morales.

Lion Ruth announced that Lenscrafters is now supplying eyeglasses again, with a letter from her instead of the vouchers we used to use.

Between April 6 and 10 (school vacation), Albany County Land Trust will have 6 sites around the city where they'll be feeding >50 kids. We voted to donate \$500 towards this effort.

On April 7, the Produce Pickup Project expects to serve around 2500 meals. Lion Greg announced that there is diabetes funding available from the NYS Health Department. He will pursue means for us to access it.

We spent quite a bit of time discussing officers and committee chairs for next year.

Report of the board meeting held online on Monday, April 20;

Lion Jerry announced that the district is holding a raffle to benefit LCIF. First prize is a Helen Keller Barbie doll; drawing will be at the testimonial on May 8. Send Lion Ruth \$5 for every ticket you want, and she'll send it all in.

Lion Jerry reminded everyone of ACBNY's request for sighted helpers on May 4 at the NYS Legislature. Details available from Lion Mike.

We reviewed and agreed on most of our slate of officers for next year. Jerry will call some Lions who weren't at the meeting to round out the FINAL slate.

We approved sponsoring NABA's Spring Celebration at the Copper level (\$750), which gets us 2 tickets.

We discussed possible sites for our installation dinner on June 3.

In an email vote after the meeting, the general membership approved the slate of officers, which will be published in the next Rare Meat. [See page 2]

In an email vote after the meeting, the board approved getting hearing aids for a woman from Watervliet at a cost of \$550.

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

CARMEN MORALES

SHAWN NEWTON

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

RUTH SANO

RICH SCHMIDT

GREG SHELTON

JODI SHELTON

SUE SHIPE

ERIC THOMPSON

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER



Board of Directors, July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027

President	Queen Ghaffar-Adjei	Dir, 1st of 2 years	Eva Bass
1st Vice President	Paul Collins-Hackett	Dir, 1st of 2 years	Allen Zieker
2nd Vice President	Khalel Hamlin	Dir, 2nd of 2 years	Maryanne Gordon
3rd Vice President	Greg Sheldon	Dir, 2nd of 2 years	Mike O'Brien
Secretary	Jerry Gordon	Membership Chair	Carrie Love
Treasurer (Club)	Ruth Sano	Marketing Chair	Eric Thompson
Treasurer (Char Fund)	Larry Krug	Leo Chair	Queen Ghaffar-Adjei
Club Administrator	Jodi Sheldon	LCIF Coordinator	Greg Sheldon
Tail Twister	Carmen Morales	Immediate Past Pres	Jodi Sheldon
Lion Tamer	Shawn Newton	Webmaster	Jerry Gordon *

* Jerry is still trying to offload some of the many functions he's been performing for decades. If you're willing to step up and serve your club, call him at 518-366-5299 to discuss various possibilities.

Our May meetings



Our next general membership meeting is **Wednesday, May 6 at 5:30 PM**. In addition to our usual business, we'll be inducting new member Carmen Morales, and we'll be hosting two Lions from the Saratoga club who will talk to us about Camp Abilities. Please join us if you can, and as I always request, please let me know whether you'll be there.


We'll be at the Hub (although there's no sign on it), headquarters for the Sheldons' various enterprises. For those who haven't been there, address is 498 1st St, Albany (corner of Quail). It's a long building



and you'll enter thru the white door in the middle. Snacks are usually available.. [Note that 1st Street is one-way, from Ontario St down to Quail St and beyond.]

Monday, May 18 at 7:30 PM is our on-line board meeting. Watch for the link.

Save the date! Our **installation of officers** will be **Wed, June 10** (the second Wed) at Dinosaur BBQ in Troy. The club will pick up part of the tab, so it will be only \$15pp for a nice buffet! This is one of our main social events, so bring your significant other. Watch for an email with details.


Bring a potential member to a meeting.

The district is raffling a Helen Kellen Barbie Doll to raise money for LCIF.

A picture of the doll is on page 8. Give Lion Ruth \$5 for every ticket you want and she'll send it in for all of us. The drawing will be at the DG Testimonial on Friday, May 8, so get your money in **NOW**.


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 ljerrygordon@gmail.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. Email, call or text Lion Jerry now to get more bags.**

The Spelling Bee

The Spelling Bee was a resounding success! (See pictures on next page.) The Love Center turned out to be a very welcoming and appropriate venue for what is becoming one of our major events. The winner of our regional qualifier event, for the second year in a row, is **Krishna Agrawal**, a 6th-grader at Shaker Middle School. She's headed off to Washington, DC, later this month for the national championships. Preliminaries are on 5/26, quarterfinals and semifinals on 5/27 and finals on Thu, 5/28. Follow this link <https://www.spellingbee.com/index.php/watch> to watch it all, and keep an eye on #142.

<p>Happy Birthday!</p> <p>Happy May birthday to these A&T Lions:</p> <p>7th: Maryanne Gordon 10th: Vici Harris 26th: Allen Zieker</p>		<p>Happy Anniversary!</p> <p>Happy Lions Anniversary to these May inductees:</p> <p>Rich Schmidt: 1 year (+19 years with Walton LC) Eric Thompson: 1 year Stefan Fosco: 8 years Joann Beach Loveridge: 22 years</p>
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	<p>Mark Your Calendar MAY is Recycle for Sight Month.</p> <p>Wed, May 6: Lions meeting; see page 2</p> <p>Fri, May 8: District Testimonial; see page 4</p> <p>Sun, May 10: Mother's Day</p> <p>Mon, May 18: Lions BoD meeting; see page 2</p> <p>Thu, May 28: St Catherine's Casino Royale; see page 8.</p> <p><i>For other events around the district, visit 20WLions.org</i></p>
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Photo credits: Ruth Sano



The Place



Nightwing, the Pronouncer



The Audience



The Spellers



Our winner, for the 2nd year in a row: Krrisha Agrawal, age 11, grade 6 at Shaker Middle School. (See story on page 3.)



Lions and Leos



The Judges



Batman, the man who made it all happen



DG Barbara Bentley
& Partner In Service PDG John McDonald
Cordially Invite You To

**District Testimonial Dinner
Honoring the Lions of District 20-W**

**Friday, May 8, 2026
5:30 p.m.**

**The Vista at Van Patten Golf Club
924 Main Street
Clifton Park, NY 12065**

\$ 65.00

Dinner Choices:
Chicken Francaise
Seared Atlantic Salmon
Pasta Primavera (*Vegan*)

**RSVP online via the QR Code
with your dinner choice by
Monday, April 27th**

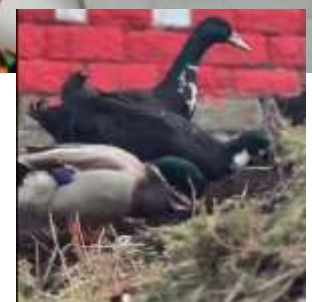
Or Mail Check & Dinner Choice to:
CS Patty Murphy, 11725 Duanesburgh Rd, Delanson, NY 12053
Checks made out to LIONS DISTRICT 20W

Dress: Business Casual



Earth Day 2026

The Club joined Eden's Rose Foundation in their celebration of Earth Day on April 25 at the HIVE, the community space between Clinton Ave and 1st St, south of Quail. Lion Melissa did a great job curating the various activities: Drum circle, face painting, seed planting, animal husbandry, free food give-away, live music, and much more.





ST. CATHERINE'S
CENTER FOR CHILDREN
PRESENTS

CASINO ROYALE

Thursday, May 28, 2026
5:30 PM
Franklin Plaza | Troy, NY

St Catherine's will be honoring Broadview Federal Credit Union, Northwestern Mutual's Alexander & Gina Tronco, and the Albany & Troy Lions Club, Queen Ghaffar-Adjei, Jerry & Maryanne Gordon, and Ruth Sano.

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**




This is the Helen Keller Barbie doll that the district is raffling off to raise funds for LCIF. See the top of page 3 for details.

