



Rare Meat

The newsletter of the



June 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

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 general meeting held on Wed, May 6, at The Hub:

These minutes were recorded and prepared by Lion Jodi Sheldon.

The meeting was called to order with opening remarks by Queen.

Jim Edwards, President of CampAbilities, as well as Tim Peal, Treasurer of CampAbilities, both from the Saratoga Springs Lions Club, presented information about their project. They shared several videos and answered questions to help members better understand their mission and the impact of their work.

Our club is likely to make a monetary donation to CampAbilities. We are also waiting to learn when "Lions Day" will take place this year so that members may participate through volunteer work or sponsorship of a specific meal or activity.

Dave Carr, Treasurer of the Saratoga Lions Club, will provide the program information and complete the donation request form as part of our club's record-keeping process for charitable contributions.

Jim also informed the club that NABA is hosting a "Biking for the Blind" event on June 14 at Collins Park. Members discussed the possibility of partnering with the event.

Lion Jerry inducted new member Carmen Morales, who is sponsored by King Lion Queen.

Lion Ruth reminded members that club dues must be paid by June 30.

The club received an email from a young woman seeking support for a children's project at St Catherine's Center for Children. The request will be forwarded to PDG Michele and the St Cath's Branch Club for further review.

Jerry and Maryanne reported that the Installation Dinner will be held at Dinosaur BBQ in Troy on June 10. The event will be buffet style, and each attendee will pay \$15, with the club covering a portion of the total cost.

Jerry also reported that the District is holding a 50/50 raffle fundraiser to help keep district dues lower. The drawing will take place on May 8 at Van Patten Country Club. Our club declined participation in the raffle.

Lion Mike O'Brien recognized Lion Ruth for her volunteer efforts at the ACBNY lobbying event on May 4.

MEMBERSHIP

VICKI ADLER

MICHELLE BAKER

EVA BASS

JOANN BEACH LOVER-
IDGE

DR. ROB BRASS

DR. ANSHU CHANDRA

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

GREG SHELTON

JODI SHELTON

SUE SHIPE

ERIC THOMPSON

DR. ALLEN ZIEKER





Our last general meeting of LY2025-26

What: Our annual installation of officers for Lions Year 7/1/26-6/30/27. Guest installer is DG Barb Bentley accompanied by PDG John McDonald.

When: Wednesday, **June 10**, at 6:00 PM

Where: **Dinosaur BBQ**, 377 River St, Troy

Who: All Lions along with their significant others and any other guests are welcome.

\$.: Only **\$15pp**, thanks to subsidizing by the club.

Food: Buffet-style featuring boneless chicken breasts, St-Louis-cut ribs, mac & cheese, orzo salad and roasted veggies, cornbread, coffee, tea, soft drinks

RSVP via text or voice to **518-366-5299** or email to **1jerrygordon@gmail.com** no later than **Wed, June 3**. We must provide a head count the week before, so make sure you get your reservation in on time. We need a minimum of 15, or we'll have to cancel.

Our next board meeting is **Monday, June 15** at **7:30 PM** on line. Watch for the link.

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 1jerrygordon@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.**

Membership News

Lion **Dr Allen Zieker** has been a significant supporter of our club since he joined in 1998, but while he was working, he was unable to participate much. He's been much more active since he retired two years ago, but sadly, illness has sidelined him and he will no longer be on our board of directors. He has made an extremely generous donation of \$10,000 to our charitable fund, for which we are eternally grateful.

At our May board meeting, we accepted the membership application of **Dr Anshu Chandra**, an optometrist with a practice in Schenectady. She spoke to our club in January of 2025 about her Global Eye Project and the work she is doing to start and run a clinic in Haiti for the vision-impaired. Because of her heavy travel schedule, she probably won't be at too many meetings, but her work certainly falls within the Lions' mission and is worthy of our support.

Lion **Rich Schmidt** transferred to our club when he moved here a year ago from Walton, NY. Now he's moved again and has transferred his membership to the Union Springs, NY, Lions club.

Marilyn Bradley was a member of our club from Sep 2022 until June 2024. She passed away on May 11. We extend condolences to her very good friend Lion **Davia Gaddy**, who was her sponsor.

On May 28, St Catherine's held their Casino Royale, at which they honored Broadview Federal Credit Union, Alessandro & Gina Tronco of Northwestern Mutual, **The Albany & Troy Lions Club**, **Gerald & Maryanne Gordon**, and **Ruth Sano**. Unfortunately, Ruth had to attend a dear friend's memorial service in Richmond, VA. King Lion **Tyhisha "Queen" Ghaffar-Adjei** accepted the award for our club. See photo next page.



At St Cath’s Casino Royale, from left to right: Brian Bell, secretary of the St Cath Foundation board and co-chair of this event; Lion PDG Michele O’Hare, executive director of St Cath Foundation; Lion Jerry; Lion Maryanne; King Lion Queen; Lion Carmen; Chris Farrell, president of St Cath Foundation board of trustees; Amy Kramer, president of the Agency board; Kevin Doherty, executive director of St Cath Agency

Happy Birthday!

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

26th: Doug Davis



Happy Anniversary!

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

- Eva Bass: 7 years
- Shawn Newton: 7 years
- Jodi Sheldon: 7 years
- Michelle Baker: 14 years
- Doug Davis: 37 years



Mark Your Calendar

June 1 is Helen Keller Day.

Wed, June 10: Installation dinner; see page 2

Sun, June 14: Flag Day

Mon, June 15: Board meeting; see page 2

Sun, June 21: Father’s Day

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



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

