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**THE LIONS GATE**  
**Albion Area Lions Club**  
Wendy Graff, Editor

**JANUARY 2009**  
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**Happy New Year**  
**Chinese "Year of the Ox"**  
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**JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The monthly schedule for 2009 will begin with the Membership Dinner Meeting on January 12, 2009 at the Valenza Restaurant. Bob Rabell, Membership chairman, encourages everyone to invite one prospective member as their guest that evening. Meadville Lion Dave Hollern, Membership Chairman of the District MERLOW team, will be the featured speaker.

Prospective members are everywhere. Look for them at work, at church, among your neighbors and friends, someone you do business with and in other civic or social organizations.

**FUN AT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY**

All Lions and guests attending the Christmas dinner on December 6 had a very enjoyable evening. A big "thank you" goes out to Lion Bev Kennedy for suggesting the Blind Auction of wrapped Christmas packages for the evening's entertainment. She and Lion Mike Thompson acted as auctioneers and kept the festivities rolling along. The auction raised a substantial amount of money for the General Fund and everyone had fun participating. This could become an annual tradition.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. Committee Chairman Mike Thompson presented the award to Lion Dick Bennett in recognition of Dick's 25 years of service to the Albion Area Lions Club, and his leadership and willingness to serve on many local and district projects through the years.

**2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER RAFFLE**

The drawing for the \$35.00 Country Fair gas card was drawn at the Christmas party with Tom Duda being the lucky winner. Twenty-four of the 38 club members purchased tickets this quarter.

**3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER RAFFLE**

The prize for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter raffle will be decided at the January 12 meeting and tickets will be distributed following that decision. Please participate in this fund raiser to help build up the General Fund account.

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Happy Birthday to:  
Greg Pinte - January 9  
Dave Davis - January 18 -Happy 70<sup>th</sup>!  
Dick Bennett - January 19  
Debbie Bennett - January 25

**CLUB ANNIVERSARIES**

Dave Davis - 45 years -January 1  
Dick Osterberg - 57 years - January 1  
Sam Steff - 31 years - January 1  
Mike Thompson - 9 years - January 10  
Larry Herl - 11 years - January 12  
Donna Gruzosky - 1 year - January 14