

District Governor Newsletter

July
2022

DG Scott Dornfeld
1st VDG Brian Gertiser
2nd VDG Raleigh Peck
Montanalions.org

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International Director Lion Ben Apeland

“Where there is a need, there is a Lion”

Montreal , Quebec, Canada

June 2022

In my wildest dreams I never imagined or expected, when on the day our departed Past International Director Tom Lehman suggested I join Lions and help him co-chair the Rodeo Queen Contest, that I would be where I am today.

As I walked across the stage here in Montreal, to be congratulated by the New Lions 2022-2023 Leadership, I became the third Lion from the Bozeman Gallatin Empire Lions Club stepping up to serve as an International Director.

A very special Thank You to Past District Governor Christine Lank for her loving support and keeping the long campaign road on the right track.

I am humbled and flattered by the confidence and support receive from the Lions of Montana, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Texas, throughout the campaign.

In the final days of the campaign my message evolved from verifying my candidacy qualifications, to expressing why I should be an International Director. My words came from the heart and not a rehearsed dry speech. To quote, International President Doug Alexander,

“Service is the rent we pay for our time in this world”

With that thought I realized I had not yet paid enough rent here on earth.

When I install new officers or induct new members, I always ask them to be the best they can be.

I now pledge to Lions of Montana and the Lions of the World,

I will be the best I can be as an International Director.

Ben

Contact Information: Phone, 406-595-0102; email, Lion.ben.pcc@gmail.com; website, montanalions.org

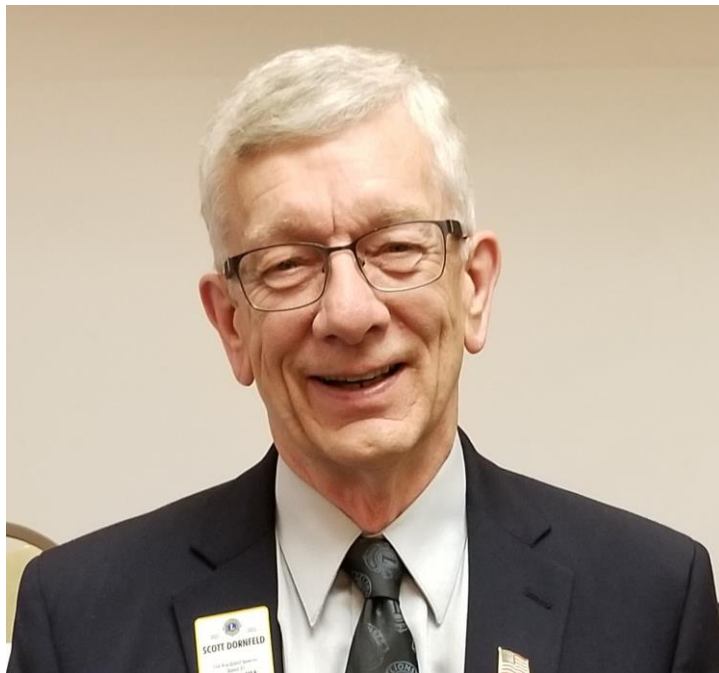


District Governor Scott Dornfeld

DG Scott was born in Minot, ND and the family moved to Montana when he was 3 years old. He was raised and went through school in Kalispell, graduating from Flathead High School. After graduation, he attended Flathead Valley Community College for 2 years. Upon completion of coursework at FVCC, he attended Eastern Montana College, Billings (now called MSUB). After graduating from EMC, he went to work for a chemical distributor as the office/warehouse manager, and later, on the road as a salesman, travelling Eastern Montana and Western North Dakota.

In 1985, he had the opportunity to spend more time at home with the family and bought a music store in Sidney, MT. He owned and operated the store for 28 years, until retirement. He and his wife, Barb, moved back to Billings to enjoy their newfound freedom. They have two children, Becky, living in Miles City, and Jeff, living in Williston, ND. They also enjoy their 6 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren whenever possible.

Scott started his life in Lions with the Sidney Lions club, serving as a director, secretary, and president. When he returned to Billings, he transferred his membership to the Billings Heights Lions club. He has served as president, secretary, zone and regional zone chairman.



1st Vice District Governor Brian Gertiser

Brian was born in Michigan, the 3rd of eight children. The family moved around the state as his father was promoted in the Michigan State Police. The family settle in Davison, MI where Brian graduated from Davison Sr. High. Brian also graduated for trade school at the same time. After graduation he started working in the heating and cooling field. One of his employers was very involved in the Optimist Club, and his neighbor was involved with Lions and often ask him to join their service clubs.

With the desire to see other parts of the country, Brian loaded up the family and moved to Bozeman. While still working in the HVAC field, Brian returned to school and earned a degree in Business Management. Brian and his Wife Deborah started their own heating and cooling business and after 26 years have retired to their home in Bridger Canyon, near Bozeman.

Brian spends some of his free time training his hunting dogs and running them in hunt tests, working on the house and several other projects including his chickens and birds.

In 1986 Brian joined the Gallatin Empire Lions for the first time, but life got too busy and complicated, and he dropped out for a short time. Brian rejoined Lions in 2001 and just recently receive his 20-year monarch chevron. Brian is a Melvin Jones recipient, Past President, held the secretary position, served as Zone Chair for Zone 13, and is currently the 2nd Vice District Governor, and the treasure of the Hyalite Youth Camp.



2nd Vice District Governor Raleigh Peck

2nd VDG Raleigh Peck was born in Scobey MT the youngest of 3 boys. At the age of 3 the family packed up and moved to the big city, Great Falls, MT. Where he attended grade school. They again moved to Glasgow AFB, MT, where Raleigh attended Jr. High and then Graduated from Glasgow Sr. High in 1980.

Raleigh got further education by working in the oilfields of Eastern Montana and Western North Dakota. When that boom went bust, he worked in a couple tire shops and a muffler shop before taking a job with a regional auto parts supply store. Where he spent 15 years working and learning about business, until July of 2000, when the opportunity arose to buy his own business. The local RadioShack franchise. Rode that wave and now is Eastern Montana's leading integration technology specialists. During the last 22 years he became known as Raleigh, Raleigh, Raleigh from ElectricLand. Ask sometime about the jingle.

1982 is when Deb Etzel arrived in his life. They have been married since 1984, that's 38 years if you're counting. Raising 5 incredibly smart children, Son Rory, Daughter Keelia, and triplet daughters Alyssa, Briana and Courtney. They have 5 grandchildren, Zoey, Oliver, Sophia, in Fresno CA and Riley and Addison in Billings, MT.

The Sidney Lions club recruited Raleigh in 2001 and he has served through the VP ranks to President plus another half year as a fill in pres. Also serving as East Region Chair. Raleigh is a Melvin Jones Fellow, received the Distinguished Leadership medal at the 2022 state convention and is currently is serving as the tail twister, again.



SERVICE FROM THE HEART July 2022

Service is more than something we do. It's who we are. And this year, I have been astounded by the service and the heart you have given to your communities. Through the countless challenges we have faced, you have brought the triumph of hope to millions in need.

I am so proud to have been a part of this extraordinary year of courage, kindness and generosity. Our service has reached beyond borders and touched the world. As we move forward, I want you to remember the unlimited possibilities that come from serving from the heart.

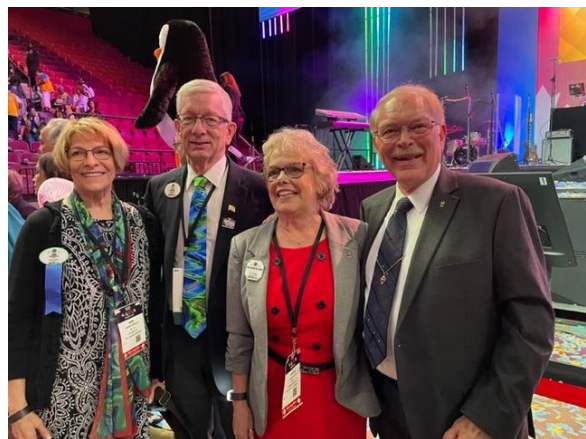
Thank you for being the steadfast heartbeat of this great association and the goodness that sustains our world. It has been my greatest joy and the honor of my life to serve you

DOUGLAS X. ALEXANDER
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

2022 International Convention, Montreal, June 24-28

We have returned from Montreal and wanted to share the following news:

- PCC Ben Apeland was voted in at the convention as an International Director for 2022-2024!
CONGRATULATIONS BEN!



- Our 1st Vice District Governor, Scott Dornfeld completed District Governor Elect training during the 2022 LCICON in Montreal. He was officially sworn in and the now Past District Governor Mike Tobin removed Scott's "Elect" ribbon to complete the transition.



- The following proposal for an increase in LCI dues was passed at the convention:

The Board of Directors undertook an extensive review of Lions Clubs International's financials, including the implementation of substantial budget reductions. After much consideration, the board proposed to adjust dues \$7 over a three-year period.

Under the proposal, international dues would be adjusted according to the following schedule:

- \$3 increase on July 1, 2023
- \$2 increase on July 1, 2024
- \$2 increase on July 1, 2025

DISTRICT WEBSITE

Our new website, www.montanalions.org is up and running. It is getting more visits week over week, which means it is being used. We have followed the use of the website with metrics which is information about how many visits, how long, how many pages, which pages and new versus returning visitors. We want to encourage all of you to take a look and see what is offered and to determine how you can use the website. Less than 90 members have visited the site. When you start at the home page, take the time to look around and get a feel for what is available and how to access the information. You will be amazed at how easy the directory of officers and clubs is to access. You can search if you want to find what you are looking for. The by-laws and constitution are on the site along with the current and archived monthly newsletters. You can send photos and news articles about your club's activities after the event or before if you want to notify Montana Lions about an upcoming event. You can use the site to help a potential new member to understand what Lions do in Montana. There will be more information every week as clubs post more information and we continue to add to the site. If you have any suggestions about the web site you can contact District Governor Scott Dornfeld or Website Chair Richard Gessling at, gesslingdds@gmail.com Thank you for your support.

SCAM ALERT

Hello Montana Lions,

We have been receiving many reports of Lions receiving scam emails and text messages. The emails contain requests to help families with various tragedies. It may appear that the email comes from a person that you know. The texts and emails will usually ask you to go buy some gift cards and then text or email the numbers. Asking to buy gift cards and send the numbers is **always** the sign of a scam. If the email or text has a web link in it **DO NOT** click on the link.

It does not appear that either the montanalions.org or Lions Club International web sites have been hacked. Most likely your information came from someone's personal computer being infected. If you have donated via a link or gift cards, please contact your local authorities.

From PDG Mike Collins

The district will never use email messages to ask club members for donations.

Four Signs That It's a Scam

- Scammers PRETEND to be from an organization you know. Scammers often pretend to be contacting you on behalf of the government. ...
- Scammers say there's a PROBLEM or a PRIZE. ...
- Scammers PRESSURE you to act immediately. ...
- Scammers tell you to PAY in a specific way.

LEADERSHIP RETREAT

The Leadership Retreat has been re-scheduled for October 28 and 29 in Helena. If you want additional information, have questions or concerns, contact IPDG Mike Collins, mikeacollins@bresnan.net 406-871-4176



Lions Clubs International **FOUNDATION**

While the final totals are not available, 2021-22 has been the most successful Lionistic Year in District 37 for Campaign 100 with over \$32,000 in donations. At the same time, we received a \$75,000 grant toward the purchase of a state of the art new ambulance for the Denton, Mt. Community to be delivered in August.

As this Lionistic Year ends we know that our work as Lions will not end. The needs of our communities, our district, our nation and our world not only will continue--but will expand. Our Lions Clubs International Foundation allows Lions Clubs and Lions Districts around the world to meet some of these needs with grants for Childhood Cancer, Diabetes, Disaster Relief, Disaster Preparedness, Community Recovery, Hunger, Leo Service, Quest, Sight First and Matching Grants resulting in the ability to explore countless opportunities for meeting these needs. At the present time we are working on a \$20,000 Community Recovery Grant for Red Lodge.

This year Immediate Past District Governor Mike Tobin will join me as District 37's LCIF CO-Chair. This will make a huge difference in helping clubs throughout District 37. Immediate Past International President Douglas Alexander will lead the Lions Clubs International Foundation for the next year. The new International Director team may make changes to grant programs availability and options and we will attempt to make any changes known as soon as we get updated information.

Thank you again for your support of the Lions Clubs International Foundation in the past as well as in the future. If your club has a project that requires more money than it has check with IPDG Mike Tobin or myself as to the availability of a grant. Most grants are from \$10,000 to \$100,000 with some requiring matching funds from the community.

Yours in Lionism,

PDG Lary Garrison, LCIF Co-Chair

CLUB NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Any Lions club member can submit information associated with any type of Lions project or general club information. Please send in "word" format and/or photos in JPEG format to: PDG Dennis Kopitzke; djk_7491@rangeweb.net

District 37 Club Officer Training Videos

All Club officers: Trainer IPDG Mike Collins
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jfiAchdTUik>

Club President: Trainer DG Mike Tobin
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIYHa-hYzwl>
Club Secretary: Trainer Lion Peggy Tobin
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdA1Zj0KngM>

Club Treasurer: Trainer Mike Collins
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_E2y2RSeRdA

Short videos about how to do specific secretary or treasurer tasks on MyLCI/MyLion:
Activity Reporting in MyLion (23 minutes): <https://youtu.be/LoohFYDKy6u>
Monthly Membership Report in MyLCI (15 minutes): <https://youtu.be/mYIZyH8hMYA>
Designating officers for in MyLCI (10 minutes): <https://youtu.be/-wPPZq2IZSQ>
Filing your 990-N (e-Postcard) (9 minutes): https://youtu.be/G3X_kyfPGpk

WEBSITES

Visit the district website at www.montanalions.org to find a wealth of valuable information regarding almost every aspect associated with the operation of the district.

LCI website, lionsclubsinternational.org Look for: general information, service projects, membership, club improvement, online training, media and news releases, and LCIF.

The Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation website: www.mtlionsshfnd.org
Information regarding programs and sight, hearing and/or speech impairments.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Governor.sd37@montanalions.org

1st VDG Brian Gertiser, 10680 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, MT 59715; C 406-539-0992; 2bjgert@gmail.com

2nd VDG Raleigh Peck; 410 North Central Avenue, Sidney, MT 59270; H: 406-488-7447; C; 406-480-5000; rgpeck@electriclandinc.com

District Secretary/Administrator; PDG Dennis Kopitzke, Box 1266, Forsyth, 59327; 406-346-1488; 406-853-8695; djk_7491@rangeweb.net

District Treasurer: PCC Dan Krum, Box 213, Worden, MT 59088; H: 406-967-3281; C: 406-671-4209; danmar@nemont.net

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:

July

Billings Heights

07/23/1957

IMPORTANT DATES

July 1 Start of the 2022-2023 Lions Year
July 16 Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation board meeting – Ennis
District 37 cabinet meeting - Ennis

Future LCI Conventions

| | | | |
|------|-------------|------|----------------|
| 2023 | Boston | 2026 | Atlanta |
| 2024 | Melbourne | 2027 | Washington, DC |
| 2025 | Mexico City | 2028 | Singapore |

USA/CANADA FORUM: Early Registration Rate Ends on May 31, 2022

Don't forget the Early Registration Rate ends on May 31, 2022. Act fast and register so you do not miss out.

Pre-Entry Tests No Longer Required for Fully Vaccinated Travelers Entering Canada!

Starting April 1, 2022 pre-entry tests are no longer required for fully vaccinated travelers entering Canada by land, air or water. You must still use ArriveCan within 72 hours before your arrival to Canada.

USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum 2022 September 15-17 in Calgary

Join your fellow
Lions for 3 days
of exciting
speakers &
special events!



- 🍁 Strides Walk for Diabetes
- 🍁 Collecting clothing for the Mustard Seed
- 🍁 Sponsoring Jean Nelson Children's Diabetic Camp
- 🍁 Keynote speaker Catrina La May Doan, Canadian Olympian

Here is your chance to VOLUNTEER!

Hundreds of Lions are needed. You can choose from many jobs as well as the hours you would like.

What better way To Serve!

Go to the website below for more information.



For information on the Forum as well as
Registering and Volunteering go to:

www.2022lionsleadershipforum.com

