

District Governor Newsletter

May
2023

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

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Where there is a Lion, there is a way!
District Governor Message - DG Scott Dornfeld

Reflections on the District 37 Convention

Congratulations to the Glendive Lions Club! I thank you and commend you for a great Convention. You hosted 33 clubs from our district, which is over half of the clubs in the state. The Lions that I spoke to, and there were many, were very happy and impressed with everything your club offered, from the food to the tours, from the entertainment to the speakers.



Our special guest and keynote speaker was LCI International Director Jeffrey Gans from New Jersey. ID Jeff's resume' and accomplishments in Lions are beyond impressive. If you do a google search for Lion Jeffrey Gans, you can see his many accomplishments and awards as a Lion. ID Lion Jeff's wealth of knowledge was well worth the trip. ID Jeff gave us an inside look at how the LCI Board of Directors approach the issues that come before them. He also made presentations on increasing membership, marketing and public relations for our clubs, and reporting service.

One of the unique features of Glendive is the outdoor art displayed in and around the city. A good portion of the art has been created by Pamela Harr and her late husband Harvey Rattey. Pamela and Harvey have been inducted into the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame and MT Cowboy Hall of Fame respectively. In the top picture with the "Heart of A Lion" bronze statue is Lion Melonie Beeler, Glendive Lions, ID Jeff Gans, New Jersey, Pamela Harr, artist, and me, DG Scott Dornfeld. The bottom picture features creator Pamela Harr with the dogs "Waiting for The Bus".



WHY REPORT SERVICE

In presenting this topic to clubs, I often get the feeling that this is not a priority. I am going to give a few reasons why we ask the clubs to perform this task:

Grow Partnerships

Collaborating with other organizations in your community, i.e. Kiwanis, Rotary, etc, is a terrific way to increase the visibility of your service projects. When approaching potential partners, your club's service reports provide tangible evidence of your club's effectiveness to help persuade other organizations to join with you.

Inspire Service

Your reported service projects can be viewed within our district and around the world. That means your club's creativity and impact can inspire Lions and Leos to embrace new causes and serve in new ways. Reports also help Lions International staff identify best practices to share globally.

Inform Decisions

Documented club achievements reveal what is working and what is not. For example, what if your diabetes education program is growing in attendance, but your annual club fundraiser is shrinking? Reviewing past service reports helps your club make better decisions, including choosing service activities and setting realistic goals .

Remember – in Montana, **WE SERVE**

Respectfully,
Scott Dornfeld, District Governor

TOGETHER WE CAN May 2023

Like so many of you, I'm proud to carry on my family's legacy as a Lion. But today, we're doing things a whole lot differently than my grandfather did. That's because innovation is such a huge part of our tradition, and it's how we've met the changing needs of our communities for generations.

Innovation is about embracing new ideas, new service and new ways of connecting with our communities—and it begins with each of us. So let's keep thinking about new ways to innovate. Because when we ensure that our tradition of service is as vital today as it ever was, we not only honor our past, we create a brighter future for our communities and the world.

BRIAN SHEEHAN
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

2023 DISTRICT CONVENTION GLENDDIVE, MT

Thanks to the Glendive Lions Club for a great convention. The weekend's events started on Friday with a variety of tours: Pamela Harr Sculpture Trail Tour, Makoshika State Park/Lions Camp Tour, Golf at Cottonwood Country Club, Frontier Gateway Museum, and Short Pines OHV Area.



The convention continued with a social event Friday evening with a silent and live auction, with proceeds (\$8175) split between Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation and Lions Club International Foundation.

Saturday's events featured presentations from Joe Wiegand (as Theodore Roosevelt); Leader Dog, Kathleen Breen; Memorial Service, PDG Melody Witcher and PDG Jim Johnke; Makoshika State Park, Riley Bell; LCIF Grants, PDG Mike Tobin; Montana Association for the Blind, Doug Robinson; Diabetes Education, Marci Butcher and PDG Mike Collins.

Memorial Service – Presenters, PDG Melody Whitcher and PDG Jim Johnke

Hugo Anderson, Cascade

David Black, Ennis

Virginia Black, Ennis

Helen Campbell, Denton

Craig Crandell, Scobey

Marvin Cunningham, Cascade

Jay Erchul, Hot Springs

Brian Evans, Fort Benton

Elaine Forsberg, Ennis

Melvin Hall, Plentywood

Brandon Hoffenbacker, Columbia Falls

Ronald Hoye, Kalispell Sunrisers

Bud Iwen Helena

Sue Johnson, Bozeman

Marshall Kyle, Missoula South Side

James Lowen, Havre

Alan McCoy, Hot Springs

Wesley Orr, Ennis

Donald Passmore, Choteau

Helen Robbins Nashua

Richard Rossow, Kalispell Sunrisers

Glen Schroeder, Ennis

Vernon Severson, Great Falls Sunrise

Roger Wagner, Nashua

Matt Waller, Cut Bank

The annual Parade of Green raised \$40,850. American Diabetes, \$1400; Florence Crittenton Home, \$600; Leader Dog, \$6350; LCIF, \$8750; Gift of Sight, \$600; Montana School for Deaf and Blind, \$250; Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation, \$14,450; Ronald McDonald House, \$200; Northwest Lions Eye Bank, \$8250.

Election Results: Lion Brian Gertiser (Gallatin Empire) was elected as the 2023-2024 District Governor; Lion Raleigh Peck (Sidney) was elected as the 2023-2024 1st Vice District Governor and Corinna Christensen (Ennis) was elected as the 2023-2024 2nd Vice District Governor. Havre was chosen as the site for the 2024 district convention which will be held on April 19 and 20.



The convention concluded on Saturday night with great food, valuable message from ID Jeffrey Gans and presentation of awards.

ID Jeffrey Gans in his second and final year as an International Director. ID Gans is from Voorhees, New Jersey and is a member of the Camden Lions Club. He has received a wide variety of awards including Grand Master Membership Key Award, International President's Award, several International President's Certificates of Appreciation, LCIF Helping Hands Award, Club and District Lion of the Year Awards. ID Gans is a progressive Melvin Jones Fellow.

ID Gans provided a message centered on the need for continue service from all Lions, the need for an increase in membership and the responsibility of all Lions to be active in recruiting new members. ID Gans emphasized the great contributions made by all Lions at the local state, national and international levels.

ID Lion Jeff's wealth of knowledge was well worth the trip. ID Jeff gave us an inside look at how the LCI Board of Directors approach the issues that come before them. He also made presentations on increasing membership, marketing and public relations for our clubs, and reporting service.

The final action at the convention was the presentation of awards. The awards were presented by District Governor Scott Dornfeld with help from PID Dave Hajny and ID Jeffrey Gans.

PDG Mike Tobin, LCIF Chairpersons Medal
Certificate of Appreciation, Lion Dave Falcon (Kalispell Sunrisers)
Certificate of Appreciation, Lion Dela Chatriand (Townsend)
Certificate of Appreciation, Lion Kenny Seymore (Laurel)
Presidential Medal, PDG Lary Garrison, (Billings Heights)
Leadership Medal, PDG Richard Gessling, (Red Lodge)
Leadership Medal, Lion Peggy Tobin (Sunburst)

The Glendive Lions Club presented Melvin Jones Fellowships to:

Lion Pamela Harr
Lion Mike Newton
Lion Melanie Beeler
Lion Debra Wagner-Anderson



Lions Clubs International **FOUNDATION**

"Only that which is absent can be imagined" Marcel Proust

I am going to tell a short story of two Lions Clubs with the same 'absence' in their communities- One in New York City and the other in rural Denton, Montana. They both had older ambulances in dire need of new modern units. One would cost about \$50,000 and the other almost \$300,000. Why the difference? Time and equipment. The first about 30 years ago and the second last year.

What is my point? OUR "Lions Clubs International Foundation" supported the purchase of both ambulances, but at much different monetary support. This is only one example of the increased financial demand on OUR "Lions Clubs International Foundation".

The first Disaster Relief Grants were \$5,000, but now are \$10,000. A new Community Recovery Grant provides \$20,000. Major Recovery Grants start at \$50,000 while the new Childhood Cancer and Diabetes Grants range from \$10,000 to \$150,000. Hunger Grants range from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Leo Service Grants cover \$1,500 to \$5,000. Lions Quest Grants range from \$1,500 to \$150,000. Matching Grants are \$10,000 to \$150,000 and Sight First Grants vary according to need.

2.2 Billion People have vision impairment or blindness. **1/3 of young teens** experience bullying. **1 in 11** people have diabetes. **300,000** children aged 0-19 are diagnosed with cancer every year. **1 in 9** people lack enough food to be healthy or active. **300** people die from measles every day. **Weather-related** disasters are increasing in frequency and size. **A devastation is occurring every day somewhere in the world!**

As of April 1st of this Lionistic Year 20 of 1529 Montana Lions (0.013%) and 1 of 60 Lions Clubs (0.017%) have donated a total of \$7,611 to LCIF. If you or your club did not donate at the District Convention please send a check, in any amount, to LCIF, Dept. 4547, Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547 USA or donorassistance@lionsclubs.org. or call 1-630-203-3836. Thank you.

Yours in Lionism,
PDG Lary Garrison, LCIF Co-Coordinator for District 37



This is one of five coin collectors the Cody Lions Club in Wyoming are using to raise funds for Diabetes. So far, they have raised over \$4,700 in donations. What project could your club use one of these for if we explored what the cost would be?

WEBSITE UPDATES

Montanalions.org

CONVENTION PICTURES will be available on the Montana District 37 website.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A CLUB WEBSITE??

At the most recent cabinet meeting, it was unanimously approved to have Edge Marketing develop a “Club Level Website” template which will provide the main brand elements of Lions. Each club will get their own logo and they will be able to add/edit their own news posts, edit the “about” section and their club’s information, and add/edit events. All of this will be at NO COST to the clubs of District 37!!

If you are interested in getting a website for your club, please contact Peggy Tobin at peggyt@northerntel.net or call 406-461-4206.

ELECTION OF 2023-2024 CLUB OFFICERS AND RESOURCES FOR INCOMING OFFICERS

This is the time of year than clubs should be in the process of or starting the process of electing club officers for the 2023-2024 Lions year that starts on July 1. Officers should be reported to LCI prior to May 15, 2023.

As your club prepares for annual elections and to welcome a new leadership team, use these helpful resources to get your incoming officers ready to take the lead.

Standard Club Constitution & By-Laws – This document outlines the election process and describes key position within the club structure as outlined in the Standard Club Structure. No later than May 15 your club secretary should report the incoming officers and directors. Make sure to provide email addresses.

Standard Club Structure – Help your Nominating Committee know what positions are available in the new Standard Club Structure. The sample structure includes the officers, board of directors and standing committees.

Club Quality Initiative (CQI) – The CQI is a strategic planning tool that helps clubs identify opportunities for improvement. The program features several steps to help club operations become more efficient and find new directions.

Lion Portal Page – As LCI prepares to launch the new Lion Portal, Lions can prepare for this new digital experience by making sure their information is correct in **MyLCI**. Get news and updates about the transition on the **Lions Portal Page**.

Managing a Club (Club Officer Team) – Lions Clubs International has designed webpages, e-Books and resource to assist your club officers in their positions. Visit the Managing a Club (Club Officer Team) webpage to learn more about each of these key roles.

Contact LCI if you have any questions by phone at 1-630-468-7084 or by email at clubofficers@lionsclubs.org

PLUSOPTIX

The Lions of Montana did a great job this year in screening children. The total number of kids screened was **32,453** and the number of referrals was 3621. Well done Lions. Thanks for sending me your screening results. I hope everyone has a fun time this summer. See you this fall.

Lion David Falcon
District 37 PlusOptix Chair

District 37 Club Officer Training Videos

All Club officers: Trainer PDG Mike Collins

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jfiAchdTuik>

Club President: Trainer PDG Mike Tobin <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IlyHa-hYzwI>

Club Secretary: Trainer Lion Peggy Tobin

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdA1Zj0KngM>

Club Treasurer: Trainer PDG 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

SPECIAL NOTICES

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

MONTANALIONS.ORG – PROJECT REPORTING

Clubs that have tried to report their projects or other information on the montanalins.org website have reported trouble with the software. This has been corrected. Try again to post under “news+> submit club news”. Report if this is not working to PDG Richard Gessling gesslingdds@gmail.com so we can get the application correct and easy to use. Thanks, this will be a help understanding what clubs are doing for fundraising and service projects.

2023 USA/CANADA FORUM

The 2023 USA/Canada Forum will be held on September 21-23 in Reno. For more information, to access the Forum website and newsletter go to:

www.Lionsforum.org www.lionsforum.org/newsletter

Information is also posted on the district website.

1ST International Vice President – Patti Hill

1st IVP Patti Hill will assume the role of our International President at the International convention to be held in Boston on July 7-11. A copy of IVP Patti Hill’s International Convention newsletter is attached to this newsletter and available on the district website.

SAVE THE DATE: LEADERSHIP RETREAT

The 2023 District Leadership Retreat will be held in Billings on October 13 and 14.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/SECRETARY

Lion Peggy Tobin, Couatts/Sweetgrass Lions Club will assume the duties as district administrator/secretary on July 1. More information to follow.

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

DG Scott Dornfeld, 744 Arbor Hills Drive, Billings, MT 59105; C, 406-489-1884
Sdornfeld51@gmail.com 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; 1575 10th Ave. SW, Sidney, MT 59270; H: 406-488-7447; C; 406-480-5000; raleighpeck@gmail.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

MAY

ANACONDA	05/07/1999	HELENA	05/03/1933
CHINOOK	05/05/1925	KALISPELL	05/04/1942
DEER LODGE	05/22/1984	LAUREL	05/25/1976
GREAT FALLS SUNRISE	05/25/1966	SCOBAY	05/18/1936

IMPORTANT DATES

MAY

Strengthen Membership Month
Lions Day at Capitol Hill

May 15 2023-2024 Club Officers should have been reported to LCI