

District Governor Newsletter

June
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

I hope everyone had a safe and fun Memorial Day weekend. I understand that most of Montana had some soggy weather with intermittent sunshine. I have been in NW Montana for the past week visiting clubs, plus, our children had a celebration for my wife and myself for our 50th wedding anniversary, and I can tell you it was rainy most of the weekend where we were. But everyone said they had a great time.

Now, back to the business of Montana Lions. This will be my last newsletter, because as of July 1st, DGE Brian Gertiser will be the new District Governor. Or maybe I should say he'll be installed as the next Governor at the Lions International Convention in July. He will return from Boston invigorated and ready to roll for the upcoming year.

In the meantime, I have also been making the rounds presenting certificates, awards and medals to Lions that have been instrumental in promoting Lionism with their service and passion. I presented PDG Lary Garrison, Billings Heights Lions, with a Presidential medal from International President Brian Sheehan, a Leadership medal to PDG Mike Collins, Kalispell Lions Club, for his organization and leadership of the Lions Leadership Retreat, a certificate of service to Lion Dela Chatriand, Broadwater County/Townsend Lions Club, for her work with the Lions Leadership Retreat and as Regional Zone Chair and a certificate of service to Lion Kenny Seymore, Laurel Lions Club, for his superior service as a Zone Chair.

While in the Flathead, I had the distinct pleasure of presenting a 55-year chevron to Columbia Falls Lion Will Loveall. I thanked him for his long and faithful service to Lions. He received a standing ovation from the club.

It has been an honor to serve the Lions of District 37 and I look for to serving with Lions of Montana for many years to come.

Respectfully,
DG Scott Dornfeld



Lion Mike Stratton, Lion Herb Cartmell, DG Scott Dornfeld, Lion Will Loveall, Lion Steve Holte

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

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR/SECRETARY

Lion Peggy Tobin, Sunburst Lions Club (previously Coutts/Sweetgrass Lions Club) will assume the duties as district administrator/secretary on July 1. Lion Peggy has been very active in Sunburst Lions and has been instrumental in making improvements to the district website. Take a look at the website: www.montanalions.org Lion Peggy's contact information includes, Box 408, Sunburst, MT 59482; phone, 406-461-4206; email, peggyt@northerntel.net

TOGETHER WE CAN May-June 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 GLEN DIVE, 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) being split between the Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation and LCIF.

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

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



Lions Clubs International **FOUNDATION**

Spring is in full swing. School is out and summer is coming soon. I know a lot of clubs will be closing for the summer, but what if. The spring rains are happening and the snow is melting. That means the rivers will be rising and the possibility for flooding is high. Don't forget that LCIF is here to help during times of trials like they have numerous times in the past years for Montana.

A special thanks for all the clubs and individuals that donated to LCIF during the District convention. We raised just short of \$8000. However, the down side was, of the 60 clubs in the District just over 50% attended and of those clubs only 35% of attending clubs donated to LCIF. Think about this – if something happens in your community and you need financial assistance (Fire, Flood, Earthquakes, Tornadoes, excessively high wind damage) or you have a need, (ambulance, ADA upgrade to a park, upgrade to your local food bank), and your club has not donated to LCIF, what then? Just saying.

It is my wish that all of District 37 Lions have a wonderful and fun summer. Be safe and we will see you in the next Lionistic year.

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. This process has been completed and the club level website is being tested!! 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!!** Several clubs have already expressed interest and I will be in touch with you as soon as testing is complete and we are ready to roll out to the individual clubs.

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 have been reported to LCI prior to May 15, 2023. If officers have not been reported please report the officers to LCI as soon as possible.

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

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=llYHahYzwI>

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/-wPPZq2lZSQ> Filing

your 990-N (e-Postcard) (9 minutes): https://youtu.be/G3X_kyfPGpk

PLUSOPTIX

There is a new version, that just came out for the S12C. It is 8.0.1.0. You can download it to your machine if you have a wireless connection in your home. If you do up load the new version please let me know so I can keep my spreadsheet up to date.

Thanks Dave

Lion David Falcon, District 37 PlusOptix Chair

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

2023 Boston, July 7-11

2024 Melbourne, June 21-25

2025 Mexico City, July 4-9

2026 Atlanta, July 3-7

2027 Washington DC, July 2-6

2028 Singapore, June 23-27

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: Lion Peggy Tobin (your new district administrator) at peggyt@northerntel.net.

MONTANALIONS.ORG – PROJECT REPORTING

Clubs that have tried to report their projects or other information on the montanalions.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.

SAVE THE DATE: LEADERSHIP RETREAT

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

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION BOSTON, JULY 7-11

LCI has made the official call for the International Convention and notice of proposed amendments. Detailed information on the issues can be found on the LCI website: www.lionsclubs.org

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

JUNE

Turner/Hogeland	06/30/1985
Whitefish	06/01/2009
White Sulphur Springs	06/17/1985
Winnett	06/05/1991

IMPORTANT DATES

Start of 2023-2024 Lions Year	July 1
International Convention	Boston, July 7-11
MLSHF Board Meeting	July 22, Boulder, 10:00
District Cabinet Meeting	July 22, Boulder, 11:30

MINUTES – APRIL 30, 2023 – CABINET MEETING
PDG Dennis Kopitzke – District Administrator/Secretary

April 30, 2023

Montana District 37 – Cabinet Meeting, April 30, 2023; 8:00 AM; Glendive, Holiday Inn

Attendees: DG Scott Dornfeld, DGE Brian Gertiser, 1st VDGE VDG Raleigh Peck, PID Dave Hajny, PCC Dan Krum, PDG Dennis Kopitzke, PDG Richard Gessling, IPDG Mike Tobin; 2nd VDGE Corrinne Christensen, Lion Peggy Tobin, Lion Jon Kimble

- I. Call to Order by DG Scott Dornfeld at 8:01 AM
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Invocation: Lion Peggy Tobin
 - c. Introduction/Welcome – DG Scott Dornfeld
 - d. DG Comments – Excellent convention; thanks to Glendive Lions
- II. Minutes: Motion by PCC Dan Krum, second by Lion Jon Kimble to approve the January 21, 2023 minutes. Passed.
- III. Financial Report: PCC Dan Krum presented the financial report. PCC Dan Krum is authorized to reinvest \$107,000.00 in CD's paying a higher rate of interest. Motion by PID Dave Hajny, second by IPDG Mike Tobin to approve the reinvestment proposal. Passed.
 - a. Notes: The request for reimbursement for expenses incurred by attending a cabinet approve event must be submitted within 6 months after the event.
 - b. Lion Don Idso provided a convention report. All events went well, good attendance: 95 registrants, 16 displays, 33 clubs represented at the convention; auction funds will be split between LCIF and Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation
 - c. Banners will be delivered to the Havre Lions Club
 - d. Projectors: DG Scott Dornfeld, DGE Brian Gertiser and Lion Peggy Tobin each have a district projector

- e. Melvin Jones Fellowships – Motion by PDG Richard Gessling, second by IPDG Mike Tobin to allow DGE Brian Gertiser to provide 2 Melvin Jones Fellowships at district expense (\$2000.00) to deserving cabinet members. Passed.

Motion by PCC Dan Krum, second by IPDG Mike Tobin to approve the financial report. Passed.

IV. Additions

- a. WWW update and the creation of club websites - Motion by Lion Peggy Tobin, second by PDG Richard Gessling to approve \$1625.00 for the creation of a master template that will allow clubs to more easily create a club website. Passed.
- b. Leadership Retreat – Motion by Lion Peggy Tobin, second by PCC Dan Krum to provide \$10,000.00 in funding for the 2023 leadership retreat. Passed.
- c. Policy Update – Motion by PCC Dan Krum, second by PID Dave Hajny to approve changes to Article 6, Section A. Passed. A copy of the approved revision is provided as an attachment to the minutes

V. Old Business

- a. LCIF Grants (IPDG Mike Tobin)
 - i. Laurel – The grant has been closed
 - ii. Denton Ambulance Grant - \$75,000; delivery expected in the next few weeks
 - iii. PlusOptix – Funds are available for 7 clubs to purchase PlusOptix machines at a tremendous discount. Contact IPDG Mike Tobin or PDG Lary Garrison for more information.
 - iv. Tri-fold Brochure – PDG Lary Garrison will be working to re-activate the effort to create an updated tri-fold brochure
 - v. Business Plan – IPDG Mike Tobin will work on preparing an LCIF business plan for the district.

- b. Club Health Assessment (DG Scott Dornfeld) – Many clubs continue to not report their service projects; DG Scott is working with those clubs. Efforts will be made to encourage club secretaries to record their clubs service projects.
- c. Website (Lion Peggy Tobin) – information provided earlier in the meeting
- d. Club Officer Training (PDG Mile Collins) – Officer training programs continue to be available on the website and via you tube. LCI will be making major changes to content in the next few weeks. Website and You Tube will be updated.

VI. New Business

- a. Administrator's Report (PDG Dennis Kopitzke) – Written report provided to the cabinet. Lion Dennis will be leaving as administrator/secretary as of June 30, 2023.
 - i. Administrator Resignation – Motion by PCC Dan Krum, second by IPDG Mike Tobin to accept the resignation. Passed.
 - ii. Motion by 1st VDGE Raleigh Peck, second by PDG Richard Gessling to hire Tobin Trails Inc. and Lion Peggy Tobin to serve as district administrator/secretary. Passed. A contract for services was signed by Lion Peggy Tobin and DG Scott Dornfeld.
 - iii. Payment of Stipends – No action was taken regarding the issue
- b. Club Visitations - Efforts are being made to complete visitations; DG Scott has 4 visits remaining; VDG Brian has 4 remaining and VDG Raleigh has 6 visits remaining.
- c. 2023 Convention Report – Lion Don Idso provided a report earlier in the meeting. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available
- d. 2024 District Convention – Havre
- e. Incoming 2nd VDG – Lion Corinna Christensen
- f. District Director – Motion by IPDG Mike Tobin, second by 2nd VDGE Corinna Christensen, the 2023-24 district directory will be in electronic format, only. Passed.
- g. Zone/Region Reports – Lion Jon Kimble reported on the activities of the West Region. Bell raids continue in an effort to create interaction between clubs. Report from Lion Margaret Baylinson is included as an attachment.

h. Committee Reports – Nothing from GST, GMT and GLT. IPDG Mike Tobin has reported on activities of LCIF.

VII. Additional Items

a. IPDG Mike Tobin – Request has been made to add “Camp Patriot” as an endorsed project. Appropriate documentation will be provided to the Endorsed Projects Committee and a recommendation will be presented to the cabinet.

Next meeting: July 22, 11:30 AM, Boulder High School.

Adjournment, 1:40 PM

Dennis Kopitzke

PDG Dennis Kopitzke, District 37 Administrator/Secretary, April 30, 2023