

District Newsletter

December
2023

DG Brian Gertiser
1st VDG Raleigh Peck
2nd VDG Corinna Christensen
Montanalions.org

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

District Governor Message - DG Brian Gertiser

Hello fellow Lions of District 37,

What a great month we have had here in Montana. The weather for the most part has been fantastic, and travel has been wonderful. I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and were blessed with family and friends. It was quiet around our place, but my niece and her family plus my brother and his wife visited us the weekend after.

Our Governor visits are progressing and will be mostly done this month, it has been a joy to see all the different projects Lions have been working on. There are Christmas gift bags, food drives, candy sacks for kids and a whole host of different community activities. My home club is getting ready for our towns Christmas Stroll on the 2nd of December, we will be selling Brats and Hot Dogs.

During some of my visits I am queried about different dues and memberships that are available to Lions clubs. What I have found and is there just as many ways as there are Lions Clubs. For example, some Lions Clubs only charge the membership for the District and International Dues, they then make up the difference with game and fines during the meetings. Some clubs have a special assessment to cover their clubs' expenses. Just remember, clubs cannot use community funds to pay club expenses. Still some clubs have special family rates or first year Lion discounts. It is up to the club to decide. Another question is what types of memberships are available?

Lions International is encouraging Lions to start thinking “outside the box”. What I understand this to mean is, what will work for your club. With the pandemic we learned a vast number of

ways to meet, do service, fund raise and connect. We can use those lessons even today. Some clubs are still using Zoom during their meetings, others have just in person meetings, and still others are going totally virtual. Again, what will work for your club. Brainstorm with your members, set some goals, be flexible and have some fun.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, be safe, stay warm and remember “We Serve”.



Changing the World with International President Dr. Patti Hill

The purpose of my life on this earth is to help others achieve their potential. If I'm not doing that, I should be!

Dear Lion,

You and your fellow Lions serve your community at the local level, but never forget that you are part of an incredible global network of dedicated volunteers who are united in our mission of service. Together, you are changing peoples' lives for the better, every day, all around the world.

From helping to prevent blindness to supporting children and families affected by childhood cancer to protecting our environment, you are delivering care and kindness and bringing hope where it's needed most.

There is no greater calling on earth than to join together to give of our time and our talents to help those in need. That's what Lions do—that's what *you* do. Thank you for your commitment to creating the change that empowers others to achieve their potential.

Yours in service,

Dr. Patti Hill
International President



GST Report - PDG Dennis Kopitzke

Global Service Team
Global and Montana Service
December, 2023

NEWEST DISTRICT ENDORSED PROJECT: DIABETES . . . NOW WHAT?

Dear Lions Club Members:

I hope this message finds you well. I'm Leanna Schwend, the founder of SugarBEAT Enterprise, and I'm excited to introduce you to our **Diabetes . . . Now What?** pilot program.

At SugarBEAT Enterprise, we are passionate about enhancing diabetes knowledge, skills, and management, particularly in rural and tribal communities in Montana. Our program is set to make significant impacts in our communities, and we believe the Lions Clubs support could be invaluable.

We're looking for partners who share our commitment to bettering the lives of individuals with Type 2 Diabetes. In today's digital age, having a user-friendly solution at your fingertips and on your schedule is paramount, especially for those in rural areas.

If you feel this is a worthy cause, we are happy to discuss potential sponsorship opportunities and joining us in this endeavor. Please feel free to reach out to: Leanna Schwend, leannaschwend@gmail.com; Box 289, Forsyth, 59327; 406-351-2117 or Sarah Pratt, sarahkarismed@gmail.com; 406-346-2930; and we can set up a time to connect! Learn more about our mission & team: www.sugarbeatenterprise.com

Our sponsorship stake holders currently include: The Montana Beef Council, Rosebud County Healthcare Center, Talen Energy, First State Bank of Forsyth, Cowboy Meats (Forsyth), YC Family Dental (Forsyth) and Forsyth Lions Club.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to the possibility of collaborating with the Lions Clubs of Montana to make a real difference in our communities.

For more information on Montana and Global service contact: PDG Dennis Kopitzke, GST Leader; djk_7491@rangeweb.net; Box 1266, Forsyth 59327; 406-346-1488.

DOES YOUR CLUB NEED A JOLT?

Global Membership Team - December 2023

Montana Lions District 37 has a group of members willing to come to your club and help. We will facilitate a meeting to develop a plan for the club to move forward. This interaction will be without judgement or guilt on anyone's part. We will not be telling you what to do, but the club will decide its path going forward.

The steps we will address will be:

#1 What does your club do well?

#2 What can your club do better?

#3 What opportunities does the club possess?

#4 Pick the 3 most important things to do over the next few years.

#5 Identify What, Where, When, How and the one member responsible to get it done.

Our Goal is to strengthen Montana Lions Clubs to be their best. Contact PDG Richard Gessling email; gesslingdds@gmail.com call or text 406-425-3785 for information and/or schedule a date. **We look forward to helping your Club.**

BRANCH CLUBS

Did you know that Montana District 37 has a branch club? On October 26, 2020, a group of six friends who had a passion for Diabetes Awareness chartered a new Branch Club, sponsored by Sunburst Lions Club. They had contacted PDG Mike Collins (the current District Governor) to find out how they might be able to accomplish this. PDG Mike C. contacted then 1st Vice DG, Mike Tobin in Sunburst to find out if the Sunburst Lions Club, located 26 miles north of Shelby, would be willing to sponsor a branch club. PDG Mike T. took it to his local club and it was a unanimous decision to take on a branch club. What does it mean to “sponsor” a branch club? The most important thing to understand is that every member of a branch club is a member of the host club. They pay their dues to their host club just like any other member would. The Shelby Club elected their own officers, set up their own bank account and the club sent a check to their host club for all of their members’ dues.

Here’s how easy the process was:

The soon to be members of the Shelby Lions Club completed membership applications. The sponsoring club secretary created a branch in MYLCI where **EVERY** club has a tab for “My Lions Club” and under that tab is “Club Info” and right under their club name is a button labeled “**Manage Club Branches**”. When that button is clicked on, it will have “Add Club Branch”. Once the information is entered for the branch club, the members can be entered attached to the branch. Every Branch has its own officers, and the sponsoring club can set up the branch offices under “**local titles**” and assign branch members as the President, Secretary, Treasurer and any other officers the branch decides to have.

Each year, the host club secretary needs to update any officer changes in the branch. The Button for “Manage Club Branches” now has a second option – “Edit Branch Club. This could be a wonderful way to expand our membership into communities that want a Lions Club but can’t get to a 20+ membership to receive their own charter.

LCIF - December 2023

Why Should Every Lion and Every Lions Club Donate To LCIF?

Why Doesn't Every Lion and Every Lions Club Donate to LCIF?

Every Lion should donate annually if not more often to support the work that "Our Foundation" does every day! You and I are members of an International Organization that meets the needs of fellow human beings in need anywhere in our world. Most of the time we are totally unaware of those needs, and while we may not be able to physically be there-there are Lions that can be and are there with the assistance they need. That should be our personal contribution to support "Our Foundation."

Every Lions Club should make a donation at least annually to "Our Foundation." Our donations as a club do not come out of our pocket, but from the support our communities give us for our service projects. Lions Clubs International Foundation is one of our "endorsed projects" we need to support as a club!

There are many occasions and opportunities to donate as an individual or as a club. We can make individual or club donations as natural disasters occur. We can make individual or club donations as our district receives grant money to show our appreciation for International's support.

If we averaged \$10 donations for every Lion in Montana and \$500 for every Lions Club in Montana this Lionistic Year, we would donate over \$45,000- a small percentage of what Montana has received from International every year for the past 10 years!!!

Write a check to LCIF and send it to LCIF, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL USA 60523-8842 or go to donorassistance@lionsclubs.org this month.

**Yours in Lionism,
Lary Garrison, LCIF Co-Chair District 37**

PLUSOPTIX

PlusOptix Update – for the 2023 school year (August 2023 to June 2024), the state has screened 17,895 students with 2,304 refers. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!! I want to give a big **THANK YOU** to the following clubs for sending in screening numbers:

Billings Heights, Billings Lions, Butte Mile High, Cut Bank, Tobacco Valley, Flathead Valley, Fort Benton, Gallatin, Red Lodge, Seeley Lake, Sidney, Sunburst, Whitefish and Winnett.

Please remember to send me your numbers from your screenings. I will need from you the number of students screened and the number of refers.

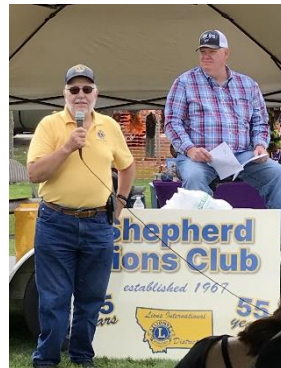
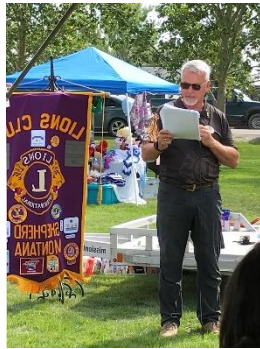
Lion David Falcon,
District 37 PlusOptix Chair
314 9th St. W., Kalispell, MT 59901; H. 406-253-1726: lion.dfalcon@gmail.com

CLUB SPOTLIGHTS - WE SERVE!!

Shepherd Lions

On September 9, 2023, during our annual Jamboree, the Shepherd Lions Club celebrated their 55th Anniversary. District Governor Brian Gertiser was on hand to present Melvin Jones Fellowship awards to three club members: Matt Beddes, Rebecca Beddes, and Agnes Beddes. The Jamboree is the major fundraiser for the Club which supports the Shepherd Lions Community Center & Park and various projects at the Shepherd Schools. **We Serve!**

Matt has been club president since 2012. Rebecca is active behind the scenes helping organize the Jamboree & other club activities. Agnes, a member since 1987, has served many terms as various officer & director positions. Other family members who are or have been Lions include her late husband, her sons & daughters-in-law, and grandchildren.

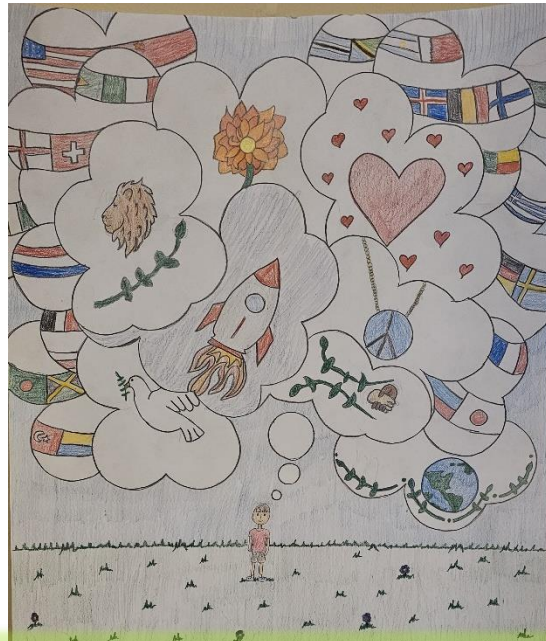


Sidney Lions

Sidney Lions was pleased to welcome District Governor Brian Gertiser to our regular meeting 11/27/23 where he did a new member induction for Lion Janelle Chamberlain. He also told us about some of the great training that is available from Lions International, and the need to use more media to increase community awareness and membership. We enjoyed a great taco bar lunch provided by our caterer, the Sidney Moose Lodge.



2023 District 37 Peace Poster Winner
Mykayla Matson, 7th grader, Ennis Schools



DISTRICT 37 ENDORSED PROJECTS

NEWEST ENDORSED PROJECT:

Diabetes- Now What? – PDG Dennis Kopitzke, djk_7491@rangeweb.net; PO Box 1266, Forsyth 59327; 406-346-1488.

Florence Crittenton Home (Helena) - Lion Danielle Vincent; 4410 Crimson Ct, Helena, MT 59602; 406-202-1348; [craftycpa@gmail.com](mailto:crafty CPA@gmail.com); www.florencecrittenton.org

Leader Dogs for the Blind - PDG Jim Johnke, PO Box 206, Winnett, 59087; 406- 928-3311; jrjohnke@gmail.com; www.lionsclubs.org/leaderdog and DG Michael Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst, MT 59482; 406-937-1215; miktob1951@gmail.com

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) – Co-Chairs

PDG Lary Garrison, 703 Conway Street, Billings, 59105; 406-855-6997;
lionlarygarrison@gmail.com; www.lcif.org

PDG Mike Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst MT 59482; 406-450-2780; miktob1951@gmail.com

Lions Gift of Sight, (Actively Endorsed) - PDG Dan Sturdevant, PO Box 275, Clancy, MT 59634; 406-439-9297; sturdydan@gmail.com; www.opthalmology.umn.edu

Montana Association for the Blind – Lion Rhonda Cochrane, 1802 West Park, Anaconda, 59711; 406-490-2669; rhondacochrane67@gmail.com; www.mabop.org

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation – Lion Jessica Fausey, PO Box 1925; Columbia Falls, MT 59912; 406-253-1737; lionjessicafausey@gmail.com; www.mtlionsshfnd.org

Montana Youth Diabetes Alliance – PDG Mike Collins; 40 Meadowlark Drive, Kalispell, 59901; 406-871-4176; mikeacollins@bresnan.net

The calendar year end is just around the corner which means it's about the time of year when clubs need to complete their tax filings including the 990-N (see training video above) and, if you have one, the required filings for your 501C3 foundations.

LCI DUES CALCULATIONS

Please remember that your upcoming dues from LCI will be calculated based on your club membership roster in MyLCI ending on 11/30/2023. These dues will be at the same rate that the July 2023 dues were charged at and reflect ½ year's dues from January through June of 2024. It's important that you remove any members that are no longer in your club and add any new members prior to 11/30 in order to pay the correct dues.

DISTRICT 37 CLUB OFFICER TRAINING VIDEOS

These videos are all accessible via the district website, www.montanalions.org under "Training" (soon to be renamed "Club Resources" with links to "Training" and "Club Documents").

All Club officers: Trainer PDG Mike Collins
Club President: Trainer PDG Mike Tobin
Club Secretary: Trainer Lion Peggy Tobin
Club Treasurer: Trainer PDG Mike Collins

Short videos about how to do specific secretary or treasurer tasks:

Activity Reporting in MyLion (23 minutes)
Monthly Membership Report in MyLCI (15 minutes)
Designating officers for in MyLCI (10 minutes)
Filing your 990-N (e-Postcard) (9 minutes)

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Any Lions club member can submit information associated with any type of Lions project or general club information. The deadline is the last day of each month. Please send in "word" format and/or photos in JPEG format to: Lion Peggy Tobin at pegtobin54@gmail.com.

PLEASE NOTE: THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER WILL BE PUBLISHED AFTER JANUARY 5TH SO YOU WILL HAVE EXTRA TIME TO SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES.

NEW CLUB WEBSITES-YOU CAN HAVE ONE TOO!

The development of each club website is being offered by Montana District 37 at NO COST! If you don't already have a domain name, Deanna can provide one for a cost of \$20/year after the first year. If you are interested in getting a website for your club, please contact Peggy Tobin at pegtobin54@gmail.com or call 406-461-4206.

SAVE THE DATES:

DISTRICT 37 ANNUAL CONVENTION
The 2024 District Convention will be held in Havre
April 19-20

MD C CONVENTION
April 26-27, 2024 Lethbridge, AB



48th Annual USA/Canada Forum
Louisville KY September 5-7, 2024
"Setting the Pace"

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS

2024 Melbourne, June 21-25
2026 Atlanta, July 3-7
2028 Singapore, June 23-27

2025 Mexico City, July 4-8
2027 Washington DC, July 2-6
2029 Minneapolis MN

DISTRICT WEBSITE & AVAILABLE LINKS:

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. In addition, the “Links To” on the district website will take you to the websites below:

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

MyLCI Login –The access point to your Lion Account (for Members, Club Officers, District Officers).

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation*: Information regarding programs and sight, hearing and/or speech impairments.

LCIF* (Lions Clubs International Foundation) – Information regarding the Lions Clubs International Foundation and all of the focus areas – Vision, Youth, Disaster Relief, Humanitarian, Diabetes, Childhood Cancer, Environment and Hunger.

Lions University – Find out about year/round training provided by the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum.

***Please note that the district website also provides a “Donate” button to donate to MT Sight & Hearing Foundation AND the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).**

DISTRICT OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

DG Brian Gertiser, 10680 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, MT 59715;
C: 406-539-0992; governor-D37@gmail.com; 2bjgert@gmail.com

1st VDG Raleigh Peck; 1575 10th Ave. SW, Sidney, MT 59270; H: 406-488-7447;
C: 406-480-5000; raleighgpeck@gmail.com

2nd VDG Corinna Christensen; PO Box 295, Ennis MT 59729;
C: 406-570-6742; 406corinna@gmail.com

District Secretary/Administrator; Peggy Tobin, PO Box 408, Sunburst MT, 59482;
C: 406-461-4206; H: 406-937-1215; pegtobin54@gmail.com

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

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER – 871 years of combined service!

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Big Timber | 12/12/1925 |
| Bozeman Sweet Peas | 12/08/2004 |
| Columbia Falls | 12/03/1952 |
| Conrad | 12/10/1928 |
| Cut Bank | 12/06/1929 |
| Forsyth | 12/03/1924 |
| Great Falls | 12/20/2022 |
| Missoula | 12/04/1928 |
| Roundup | 12/22/1925 |
| Seeley Lake | 12/11/1978 |
| Shepherd | 12/05/1967 |

UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETING DATES

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| MLSHF Board Meeting | Jan 13 th Great Falls 9:00 am |
| District Cabinet Meeting | Jan 13 th Great Falls 10:00 am |

MINUTES – October 15, 2023 – CABINET MEETING
Peggy Tobin – District Administrator/Secretary

Montana District 37 Cabinet Meeting, October 15, 2023; 10:30 AM; Perkins, 825 N 27th St, Billings MT

Attendees: DG Brian Gertiser, PDG Dan Sturdevant, 1st VDG Raleigh Peck, 2nd VDG Corinna Christensen; Lion Marie Hajny PID Dave Hajny, PDG Dennis Kopitzke, PCC Dan Krum, PDG Mike Collins, PDG Richard Gessling, IPDG Scott Dornfeld, PDG Lary Garrison.

VIA Zoom: Lion Peggy Tobin, PDG Mike Tobin, Regional Chair Jon Kimble, Zone Chair Margaret Baylinson, Lion Jessica Fausey.

1. Call to Order by DG Brian Gertiser at 11:30 AM
 - a) Pledge of Allegiance
 - b) Invocation: PDG Lary Garrison
 - c) Introduction/Welcome – PDG Dennis introduced guests from Forsyth - Leanna Schwend & Sarah Pratt. District Governor Opening Remarks –DG Brian thanked everyone for making the effort to be here.
2. Minutes: Motion by Dan, second by Lary to approve the July 23, 2023 minutes. Passed.
3. Financial Report: Dan presented the financial report ending September 30, 2023. He noted that the revenue doesn't come in until January and the months following. Motion by Mike C., second by Dennis to approve the financial report. Motion Passed.
4. Additions to the agenda are noted in Item VII below. There were none.
5. Diabetes Education Proposal – Leanna Schwend & Sarah Pratt. Leanna is the owner of a pharmacy in Forsyth. She and Sarah have developed a cloud-based program for diabetes education. Their goal is to complement other programs. The program has shown to have an 80% retention level and is broken up into various areas that can be done in short amounts of time. They are seeking \$40,000 to be able to provide the program to everyone. It is estimated that by 2050 one in three Americans will be diabetic. Mike C. noted that the company is a for-profit instead of non-profit. Leanna & Sarah both agreed that they would be willing to provide financial reports. Dan reminded us that we cannot donate money. We can endorse the project and the clubs can donate to the project. Lary noted that there is a possibility of receiving a grant if the criteria is met. Dennis moved to have the district endorse the project. Corrina seconded the motion. Mike T. noted that LCIF does give to for-profit companies. Following further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.
6. Old Business
 - a. Grants: **Plus-Optix grant update** – Lary reported that we requested eight machines for \$50,600. We applied for a grant for 66% and received a grant for 50%. We are \$7,867 short from what the clubs have committed to pay. We have over \$12k available from the community impact grant, and would have \$4-\$5k left in the grant if we use some of it for the Plus Optix machines. In addition, we should receive

another \$4-5k this year through annual LCIF giving that does not exceed single donations of \$5,000. Lary moved to commit \$7,876 from the district Community Impact Grant to offset the difference in the cost. Following discussion, Raleigh seconded the motion and it passed.

- b. Club Health Assessment – Brian led a discussion on the health assessment report. He will meet with the Baker Club and Raleigh and he will meet with Great Falls Club who has discussed closing. Discussion of various options (become a branch club, etc.) were discussed. Brian noted that the district is down net one. Further conversation including Jon regarding East Missoula. Per Scott, Missoula Southside is another club that had agreed to go for one more year last year.
- c. Website – Peggy reported that all 60 clubs have completed their new officers and the website has been updated with information current per that in MyLCI. She has also entered all of the current officers from MyLCI that DG Brian has completed. Deanna worked with her to improve the ability to print the various cabinet/committee directories located in the directory section of the website. Deanna was also able to add the Membership Application form to Documents located under Organization on the website so that our club secretaries don't have to go hunting for it on LCI's website. Peggy noted that eight clubs have profiles set up for club level websites. Hamilton has also expressed interest. Finally, after hearing from Cheryl in Hamilton that their club news submission hadn't reached the website, Peggy contacted Deanna and discovered that the processed was not getting completed and there were about 10 news submissions in "limbo". Peggy contacted all of the members who had written the submissions to let them know what happened and asked permission to publish some in the newsletter and some on the website. If the news was no longer timely, she asked for a follow up report on the activities involved.

Additional requests for website: update the cabinet member list; check with Deanna on having a password protection for directory section; button to request a "club in my area" and use Richard's contact info until further notice.

- d. Club Officer Training – Mike C. reported that we will go back to Zoom for club officer training. We will have to redo the training videos when the new system is realized (currently scheduled for January).
 - e. Leadership Retreat Report – Mike C. reported that the retreat was completed this weekend and had 11 participants. The total cost is going to be about \$9k but isn't cost effective for 11. Following discussion, Lary moved to continue the program at least through next year. Dave doesn't feel we should do only a year at a time. Lary amended his motion to be three years. Raleigh seconded the motion and it passed.
 - f. 2023-24 District Directory – See Peggy's Website Report above.
 - g. Endorsed Projects – MT Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation, MT Youth Diabetes Association, Florence Crittenton Home, Leader Dogs for the Blind, LCIF, Lions Gift of Sight and MT Association for the Blind. Richard moved and Dan seconded to continue these Endorsed projects. Following discussion, the motion passed.
7. New Business
- a. Endorsement of PID Manoj Shah for LCI 3rd Vice President. Raleigh moved to endorse PID Manoj Shah and motion was seconded by Richard. Motion passed. Brian will sign and send out the letter.
 - b. Updates to District 37 Facebook Page – tabled until next meeting (Jessica had to leave the meeting).

- c. Administrator's Report - Peggy reported that she has had a busy 1st quarter as the District Administrator/Secretary. Starting in July she published the July Newsletter, began updating the website with new officer information from those clubs who had reported their 23-24 officers, and attended the International Convention in Boston. There were several sessions to provide insight into how the new website would work. Following the July Cabinet meeting she finalized the minutes, emailed them to the district administration group (thank you for the reminder Dennis!) and sent follow-up emails to the endorsed project chairs so that we could complete the endorsements at the next cabinet meeting. The directory updates continued and she published the August newsletter and a video of photos from the International Convention. September highlights were a club visit to Choteau to honor Bob Nauck who turned 100 and to write a newsletter article for the Choteau club. She attended the Reno USA/Canada Forum where we learned that the website was now slated to be launched in January. Peggy reported that she was finally able to get in contact with the clubs who had still not updated their officers on MyLCI and completed the entries in MyLCI as she was granted Administrative status and can now assist with club officer entries. She was working on some new features for the newsletter to include Club Spotlights and simultaneously learned the clubs had been attempting to publish news on the website, but the process was not getting completed. Consequently, she published some of those submissions in the October newsletter along with an article on the Choteau club and Bob's 100th birthday celebration. She also did several Club News posts from the information she found with Deanna's help in the website back office. Dave requested that the various "pieces" of the old club directory be printed out and a PDF be made that would provide all of the club directory information in one place.
- d. Club Visitations – Raleigh reported on his club visits and scheduled visits which will total eleven through October. Corinna has set up some visits but hasn't started them yet and Brian reported that he has completed six visits. Mike T. reported that he visited Choteau and Big Timber, and both clubs have taken on his challenge of donating \$50/month for LCIF.
- e. 2024 Convention – Brian reported that the hotels have been set up in Havre for the convention. He has asked the Havre chair to meet with Glendive and Sidney. There was discussion regarding an international guest.
- f. Policy Review – Dave wants to go through the entire policy manual. Dave, Mike T, Peggy and Brian are now on the Constitution & ByLaws committee and will begin the review process.
- g. LCIF – Mike T. requested some assistance to get Denton to complete their letter to close out the grant that was under his governorship. Lary said he has been talking to Carla and he will contact her. Corinna also offered to help as she has Denton on her list of clubs to visit. It was agreed to have the executive council vote on closing out the Denton grant once the letter is received, as opposed to having the entire cabinet re-convene. Brian reported that all of the equipment has been received for the Bozeman grant but the city hasn't signed off on it yet. Scott reported there is about \$700 left over on that grant.
- h. Tri-Fold Brochure – Lary sent the information to Brian as the grant is something he has to apply for. Richard feels that we need this for achieving our membership growth. Corinna said she can print them out for her club and wondered why we don't just have each club print their own. Mike C. noted that it would be too late in the year to get a grant like the one they used for the magnetic signs. Richard wants to update the brochure, put it on the website so clubs can customize it and print off their own copies. Mike C. moved to update the tri-fold brochure and get it on the website. Motion was seconded by Richard and passed. Based on this decision, a grant would not be required at this time.
- i. Zone/Region Reports

Jon reported that he is meeting with the Missoula clubs previously discussed. The Seely Club is continuing to prep for the winter (putting together sand bags, etc.). They completed a playground last year where they had a zone meeting. Margaret's audio wasn't working so we missed her report.

j. Committee Reports

- a. GMT – Richard reported that they are currently made up of himself, Jon Kimble & Dela Chatriand and are hoping to have one more member from the East. They have reviewed information with Richard Stevenson and done zoom meetings with DG Brian. Their plan is to work with a club that is willing to meet with them and have a five-year plan. Richard noted the five steps that they would try to achieve with the club selected. It's a slow process and requires one on one. He is meeting with Joliet and his contact there is very open.
- b. GLT – See Mike C's reports above
- c. GST – Dennis is working with the 19 clubs that have not yet done any activity reporting. The list of clubs is in his written report. Brian feels that Dennis's articles for the newsletter are helping and that we are making progress.
- d. LCIF – Lary asked for anyone visiting Denton & Bozeman to assist by asking them to send in their reports hopefully with pictures so they can be put on the website and newsletter.

8. Additional Items

- a. None

Next meeting: January 13th, Great Falls, 10:00am

Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned at 12:45pm

NOTE: I received the following information from Jessica in a separate email that I didn't see until after our adjournment:

Plus Optix Report: Five clubs have turned in screening totals - 6,518 with 674 referrals. The Flathead Valley Lions have screened to date - 3,677 with 493 referrals. Clubs - please make sure your PlusOptix machines are on versions 8.0.2.0.

Respectfully Submitted by Peggy Tobin
District 37 Administrator/Secretary, October 15, 2023