

District Newsletter

April
2024

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

What's Inside the Newsletter?

P. 1-2	DG Brian Gertiser Message		
P. 2	1 st VDG Raleigh Peck Message	P. 13	Official Call for The Convention
P. 2-3	2 nd VDG Corinna Christensen Message	P. 13	Convention Club Delegate Formula
P. 4	IP Dr. Patti Hill Message	P. 13	Memorial Form/ Registration
P. 4	PlusOptix Report	P. 14-19	Convention Forms
P. 5	GLT Report-New LCI Portal Launch	P. 20	Special Notices
P. 6	GST Report	P. 21	Save the Dates-Upcoming Events
P. 7	GMT Report	P. 22	Websites
P. 7	LCIF Report	P. 22	Contact Information
P. 8-10	Club Spotlights	P. 23	Club Anniversaries
P. 11	MT Sight & Hearing Foundation	P. 23	District Meeting Dates
P. 12	Endorsed Projects	P. 24-27	Minutes – Jan 13 th Cabinet Mtg

“Where there is a need, there is a Lion” District Governor Message - DG Brian Gertiser

Hello Dear Lions.

Spring has finally started to show up here. The rhubarb is starting to come up and the trees are starting to bud. Clubs are making their plans for summer projects serving their communities and improving the lives of their neighbors.

District 37 Convention is coming up soon and I hope to see you in Havre. The Havre Lion's Club has been working hard to make this a wonderful and worthwhile event for everyone. I visited the Havre club recently, and the planning committee is doing an excellent job of putting everything together.

We will have officer training available to incoming club officers available on Friday plus a host of informative presentations during the convention. There are also tours of Havre and Havre underground. I heard the underground tour is a lot of fun and very interesting. Friday evening will also be a lot of fun as the Havre Club will be serving their world famous Pronto Pups.

Past International Director Jennifer Ware will be our guest this year and I think everyone will find her a delight to get to know. As a side note, she has put her name in to become international president of Lions, so be sure to talk to her about it.

Conventions are a great way to introduce newer Lions members to Lions from around the state. It is also a wonderful way of getting new ideas for projects and fundraisers to bring back to your home club. That is what is so wonderful about Lions, our willingness to help not just our neighbors at home but our worldwide neighbors.

Call your friends and I will see you in Havre.

Yours in Lionism,
District Governor, Brian Gertiser

Vice District Governor Message 1st VDG Raleigh Peck

Well, it's supposed to be spring and as a "normal Montana" it only felt like it in February. I'm afraid I don't have much to report for March other than Deb and I took three weeks to vacation in the sun. Pretty relaxing and now it's back to work getting the last few club visits in and of course, prepping for the SD37 Convention. Looking forward to seeing many of you there. If you haven't attended before, this one in Havre is about as "Central Montana" as we can get and I know the crew there is going to put on a GREAT show for us.

I do have a request - do you know of someone who can dedicate about 6 to 8 hours a month to make some calls and invite themselves to a couple of club meetings? I'm in need of a few dedicated lions, preferably past club presidents, to be Zone Chairs. Please contact me if you are or know of a person that has the skill and maybe not so much will. I'd greatly appreciate it. I would love to discuss the easy details of the position with you or them.

Lastly, I am honored and have been training diligently to be your next District Governor and I know, with the help of all of you, it will be a great Lionistic year.

Yours in Lionism
1st VDG Raleigh

Vice District Governor Message 2nd VDG Corinna Christensen

March Adventures: A Recap from Corinna Christensen, Lions District 37's 2nd Vice District Governor

Hey everyone, Lion Corinna here! March has been a whirlwind of activity, and I'm excited to share some of the highlights with you all.

I kicked off the month with visits to two incredible Lions clubs: the Missoula South Side Lions and the East Missoula Lions. It was fantastic to connect with fellow Lions, hear about their projects, and discuss how we can continue making a positive impact in our communities.



Next up, I headed to Denver, Colorado, for the Regional Lions Leadership Institute. It was an inspiring experience, learning from other Lions leaders and gaining valuable insights that I'm eager to bring back to our district.

Back home, I hopped on Zoom for a meeting dedicated to planning our upcoming Montana Lions Leadership Retreat. I'm thrilled about the opportunity to bring Lions members together for a weekend of learning, networking, and collaboration this fall.

During the month, I had the privilege of attending a Zoom meeting with 2nd International Vice President A.P. Singh from India. It was an enlightening experience to hear about his vision for the Lionistic year 2025-2026, especially considering that I'll be serving as the Montana Lions District Governor during that time.



Looking ahead, I'm gearing up for the Montana Lions District Convention in Havre on April 19-20. It's always a highlight of the year, bringing Lions from across the district together to celebrate our achievements and set new goals for the future. You can find more details about the convention and other Lions activities at montanalions.org.

And of course, I've been busy closer to home too! As the co-chair for the Ennis Lions Easter Egg Hunt, I've been working hard to ensure it's a memorable event for everyone in our community.

It's been an incredible month filled with new experiences and opportunities to serve. I'm grateful for the support of my fellow Lions and excited to see what the rest of the year has in store for us.

In Service,
Lion Corinna Christensen
2nd Vice District Governor
Montana Lions, District 37



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! Let's think of others this holiday season.

Dear Lions,

There is strength in numbers. Throughout my 34 years of service, I've always been grateful for the close teamwork and friendships that I've experienced volunteering alongside my fellow Lions.

Teamwork generates fresh perspectives and inspires others to join the good work we do—work that would not be possible without your dedication to service, which is shared by Leos and Leo-Lions. When we bring young people into our clubs, everyone benefits. We can learn from one another, help even more people together and strengthen the future of our service.

So collaborate with your Leos, or start a new Leo club. Encourage young people in your circle to become Leos and Lions, so we can grow our clubs and grow together through our service.

Yours in service,

Dr. Patti Hill
International President

PLUSOPTIX

PlusOptix Update – for the 2023-24 school year (August 2023 to March 2024), the state has screened 26,633 students with 3,361 refers. Thank you to everyone for sending in totals!

Also remember to bring your S-12 machines to the convention to be upgraded.

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

GLT Report - PDG Mike Collins

Global Leadership Team, April, 2024

THE NEW LION PORTAL IS READY TO LAUNCH!!

Many of you may have received the email regarding the new Lion portal launch. Here are the details of the timing of the launch. We do not know when we will be receiving the invitations to access the new Lion Portal, so what we have at training for the upcoming Havre Convention will depend on if that access has come to Montana District 37 or not. Here is some important information to prepare you for launch.

Phased rollout for Lion Account Users

Our target launch window is April 15 – May 13*. During this time, all current Lion Account users will receive an email inviting them to access the new Lion Portal**. We're doing this phased rollout to ensure staff are available to provide the best support possible and offer you a positive introductory experience.

- **Now – April 11:** MyLion, MyLCI and Insights will continue to function as normal.
- **April 12 and beyond:** MyLion, MyLCI and Insights are no longer available.
- **April 15 – May 13:** Invitations to access the new Lion Portal sent via email on a rolling basis to existing Lion Account users.

Please note: User permissions will not change. In other words, those who can report service, access member data and other key functions remains the same.

- **May 13 and beyond:** All visitors attempting to access the previous digital tools will be automatically redirected to the new Lion Portal.

*Dates are subject to change. Our number one goal is to create a positive experience for Lions and Leos. If determined more time is required to ensure the product is in an optimal state, the dates may be adjusted accordingly.

**If you don't see the email in your everyday inbox, please check all spam and junk folders for it first before contacting Member Support.

Note that the new Lion Portal will require a unique, unshared email, and phone numbers will no longer be supported as a log in credential.
Information and resources

Be sure to visit lionsclubs.org/portal-updates for the latest information and resources, which includes handy how-to videos for help accessing the new portal once you've received your Lion Portal invitation email.

We appreciate your support and thank you for your continued service as we prepare for the new Lion Portal – together.

Sincerely, Sue Ben
Chief of Technology, Lions International

GST Report - PDG Dennis Kopitzke

Global Service Team; Global and Montana Service - April, 2024

Montana Lions District 37 supports eight endorsed service projects. In this article the final 4 endorsed projects are highlighted. Additional information is available on the district website: www.montanalions.org Use the tab, about, then our causes.

Lions Gift of Sight: Lions Gift of Sight is a full-service eye bank that obtains, medically evaluates, and distributes donor eyes for cornea transplants, research and education. By providing more than 1000 corneas for transplant and 1000 eyes for research every year, the eye bank helps ensure that as many people as possible receive the gift of sight. Lions Gift of Sight provides tools training and resources to eye banks to help them develop the capacity to serve the needs of the corneal blind.

Contact: PDG Dan Sturdevant, Box 275, Clancy, MT 59634; 406-439-9297; sturdydan@gmail.com; www.opthalmology.umn.edu

Montana Association for the Blind: The **mission** of the Montana Association for the Blind is to promote the economic and social self-sufficiency of blind Montanans through the facilitation of quality education, learning, training, and employment services and opportunities, and to foster an understanding of blindness. Our **vision** is of a Montana in which blindness is perceived and understood to be ordinary and respectable part of life and in which the skills and tools of blindness are readily available to all who may benefit from them. We envision an environment which blind Montanans have ample and equal opportunities to achieve and control our homes, communities and nation. **Contact:** Lion Rhonda Cochrane, 1802 West Park, Anaconda, 59711; 406-490-2669; rhondacochrane67@gmail.com; www.mabsop.org

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation: The Foundation was established in 1981. It is a not-for-profit foundation that involves all the Lions clubs in the State of Montana. The Foundation is dedicated to helping the sight, hearing and speech impaired. The Foundation provides aid to the blind and visually impaired, is involved in sight conservation and restoration, provides aid to the deaf and hearing impaired and provides social and human resource referrals. **Contact:** Lion Jessica Fausey; Box 1925, Columbia Falls, MT 59912; 406-253-1737; lionjessicafausey@gmail.com; www.mtlionsshfnd.org

Montana Youth Diabetes Alliance: The Montana Youth Diabetes Alliance is a non-profit organization started in 2019 to fulfill the unmet needs of the Montana Type 1 diabetes community. Our **mission** is to enrich the lives of youth with Type 1 Diabetes and their families while offering safe, fun and educational opportunities through camps and other events. MYDA provides financial assistance for out-of-pocket expenses associated with self-management supplies and networking resources to navigate diabetes-related support systems.

Contact: PDG Mike Collins; 40 Meadowlark Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901; 406-871-4176; mikeacollins@bresnan.net; www.montanadiabetesalliance.org

For more information on Montana and Global service contact: PDG Dennis Kopitzke, GST Leader; djk_7491@rangeweb.net; Box 1266, Forsyth 59327; 406-853-8695.

SO YOUR CLUB MIGHT NOT NEED A JOLT

Global Membership Team April 2024
PDG Richard Gessling

Have you had a meeting where you evaluate what you are doing and also discuss what your members would like to start doing. Planning is an important part of a successful Lions Club. Maybe your club has plateaued. If you would like to discuss how the Global Membership Team (GMT) of District 37 can help, you can contact me. I am willing to discuss your club's situation and give you suggestions that you can explore or I can come to a meeting and facilitate a planning session for your Club. Success is not by accident it takes planning. I have done 4 planning sessions with clubs the last two months and they were well received.

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.**



Lions Clubs International
FOUNDATION

APRIL 2024

GIVING IS A PART OF SERVING!!

Did you know that over the years your Lions Clubs International Foundation has awarded over \$1.2 Billion dollars in grants? District 37 has over \$1 million dollars in grants over the past 12 years!

It has been announced that Matching and Hunger Grant maximum limits have been increased from \$100,000 to \$150,000. As time has gone by- damage and costs have increased for disaster and humanitarian events. Emergency grants started at a \$5,000 single option. Now there are 3 different options from \$10,000 to \$20,000. LCIF is always looking at new and better ways to meet needs at the community or district levels.

We are at 45% of our district goal for donations to LCIF for this fiscal year and with a good convention parade of green we will have a realistic chance to meet our goal. The Billings Heights Lions Club has 100% of its members donating a minimum of \$10. How about your club? How many members have done the same.

Remember that all donations, no matter what amount, are tax deductible and 100% of all donations go to grants. And, there are many options of how you can donate- from one-time donations or recurring donations.

Bring a check to the convention, mail a check to LCIF, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL. 60523-8842, or go online at donnorassistance@lionsclubs.org for other options.

Yours in Lionism,
PDG Lary Garrison & PDG Mike Tobin, LCIF Co-Chairs, District 37

CLUB SPOTLIGHTS

COLUMBIA FALLS LIONS PROVIDE SERVICE

Helping Those With Diabetes

The Columbia Falls Lions Club has a partnership with the local pharmacy to insure that anyone who needs insulin can have access to the insulin. Our club gives the pharmacy a gift card to run any charges for insulin that the patient may not be able to pay for themselves.

Providing Food Delivery

Once a week the Columbia Falls Lions Club delivers food from Super 1 grocery store to the North Valley Food Bank. Each delivery is between 600 to 1200 lbs of food.



Delivering Flags to Third Graders

The Columbia Falls Lions Club goes to the two elementary schools in our community and gives a presentation on the American Flag. The importance of the flag as well as history, and how to honor and care for the flag are demonstrated. Each student is then given a small flag with a stand to have at home. 160 3rd graders were given flags this year.

Glacier Gateway



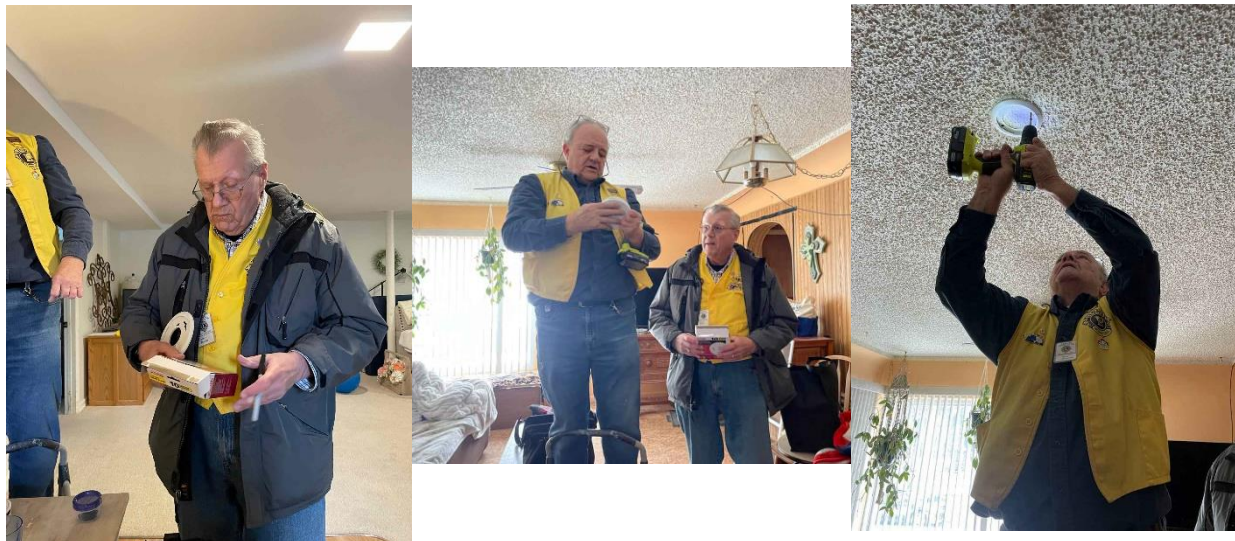
Ruder

Elementary



GREAT FALLS SUNRISE LIONS SERVE SMOKE ALARM PROJECT

Saturday, March 23rd, the Great Falls Sunrisers Lions Club completed a Red Cross Smoke Detector Project. They installed 45 alarms in 17 homes and served 41 people. It was a huge success, and they will continue interfacing with the Red Cross on this project when they get calls from one or two people and need to get these done. Jack Beckman wanted to acknowledge Neil, Mitch, Tom and Mike for their help in making this event happen.



You can learn more about this project by going to www.redcross.org/sound-the-alarm.html

How You Can Get Involved

Help the Red Cross Sound the Alarm about home fire safety through education, volunteering and providing financial support.

Home fires claim seven lives every day, but having working smoke alarms can cut the risk of death by half.

That's why the American Red Cross is rallying volunteers to **install free smoke alarms nationwide**, as part of our *Sound the Alarm* events.

This year we'll install free smoke alarms, create escape plans and share fire safety information.

HAMILTON LIONS WELCOMES FOUR NEW MEMBERS

The Hamilton Lions Club is proud to welcome 4 new members. Jason Watson, Tom Redmon and Phyllis Ruana were inducted into our Club in February and March and are pictured below. Also pictured are sponsors Dan Rothlisberger and John Orlando. Mark Boehne transferred into our Club from Moscow Idaho in March. We warmly welcome each of them into our Lions "family" and look forward to their participation in our Club activities in Service to our valley.



SUNBURST LIONS SERVES PROM DINNER

The small community of Sunburst does not currently have a café, let alone an "elegant" atmosphere where students can go to have a memorable Prom Dinner. On March 23rd, with about eight inches of snow on the ground, a group of Sunburst Lions prepared, decorated and served a fabulous dinner at the Sunburst Methodist Church for 20 students and several adults.



**MT Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation
Poster for MLSHF Raffle**



**Help Support Your
MONTANA LIONS SIGHT & HEARING FOUNDATION
YOU COULD WIN ME!!** Contact a Lion for tickets.



2024 Polaris Ranger 570 with Roof

Tickets: \$20.00 each or 8 for \$100.00
Drawing: April 20, 2024

Need not be present to win

Thank you for Supporting the Foundation!



Return ticket stubs and money to:
Lion Monte Weisser 533 West Arizona Kalispell, Montana 59901



Where are your Glasses Donation Boxes?

Now available on the website under “Donate”

Go to <https://www.montanalions.org/eye-glass-drop-off-locations/>

Please continue to send your drop off locations to Lion Peggy Tobin at pegtobin54@gmail.com or Jessica Fausey at lionjessicafausey@gmail.com

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; www.florencecrittenton.org

Leader Dogs for the Blind - PDG Jim Johnke, PO Box 206, Winnett, 59087; 406-928-3311; jjohnke@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

OFFICIAL CALL FOR THE CONVENTION

The annual District Convention shall be held on April 19 and 20 in Havre, Montana. The convention starts as registration commences on Thursday at 7:00 PM at the Best Western Plus Havre Inn & Suites.

CLUB DELEGATE FORMULA

Policy Manual, Article 8, Section B: Club Delegate Formula

Each chartered club in good standing in Lions Clubs International and this District shall be entitled in each annual convention of this District to one (1) delegate and one (1) alternate for each (10) members, who have been enrolled for at least one year and a day in the club or major fraction thereof, of said club as shown by the records of the International office on the first day of the month last preceding that month during which the convention is held. The major fraction referred to in this section shall be five (5) or more members. Each certified delegate, present in person, shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote only on each question submitted to the respective convention. All eligible delegates must be members in good standing of a club in good standing within the District.

Montana District 37 grants full delegate status to each past district governor who is a member of a club in such district independent of the club delegate quotas.

MEMORIAL FORM

Each club secretary is asked to complete the memorial form for any Lions who they lost since April 1, 2023 until now so that they can be honored and remembered at the upcoming convention in Havre. Please upload a picture if one is available. The link to the form is www.montanalions.org/memorial-necrology-service/ THANK YOU!!

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Early registration for the District 37 Convention in Havre has been extended through April 5th!! There is still time to register and attend the 2024 District 37 Convention. See the registration form below or go to www.montanalions.org to register online.

Additional forms attached are the Convention Bid Form, and Hall of Fame Nomination and Memorial Form.



**2024 MONTANA DISTRICT 37
CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
APRIL 19 & 20, 2024
Havre, MT**

NAME & TITLE:	
COMPANION NAME & TITLE:	
ADDRESS:	
PHONE:	
EMAIL:	
CLUB NAME:	
VOTING MEMBER:	YES / NO Voting Member must bring Lions Membership Card with Lions Number

Registration	Check or Credit Card - PAYMENT DUE WITH REGISTRATION FORM	Indicate # Attending in Each Category Below	Banquet Entree - Smoked Brisket
LIONS MEMBER - Early Bird By 3/29/2024	\$85.00 Covers all Meals		
LIONS MEMBER - After 3/29/2024	\$110.00 Covers all Meals		
COMPANION – COVERS ALL MEALS	\$60.00		List Food Allergy _____ We will Attempt to Accommodate.
LIONS MEMBER - SATURDAY-SOCIAL & BANQUET	Included with Paid Registration		List Food Allergy _____ We will Attempt to Accommodate.
TOTAL DUE			

PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO HAVRE LIONS CLUB. SEND REGISTRATION FORMS TO HAVRE LIONS-REGISTRATION, PO BOX 248, HAVRE, MT 59501 email bigjimbennett@gmail.com.

Circle CREDIT CARD TYPE: MASTER CARD, VISA, AMERICAN EXPRESS or DISCOVER

CREDIT CARD NUMBER: _____
 (“Montana District” will show as transaction on bank/credit card statement.)

EXPIRATION DATE: _____ **CVV:** _____

Registration Refund Policy: Any refund request must be communicated to DG Brian Gertiser no later than April 12, 2024. Registration may be transferred from one club member to another, within the same club.

Training Planned	Friday, April 19th 9:00am - noon		Select Training & Number in Party
Club Officer Training – Offered Friday, April 19th 9:00am - noon	Club President Club Secretary Club Treasurer	Included with Paid Registration. Thursday night hotel will be reimbursed.	
Events Planned	Friday, April 19th Afternoon		Select Event & Number in Party
MSU – Northern Campus Tour	Guide Provided	Included with Paid Registration	
Havre Beneath the Streets 120 3 rd Ave 406-265-8888	On Own	Separate Fee	
Golf – Beaver Creek Golf Course 5656 US Hwy W 406-265-4201	*Weather Dependent On Own	Separate Fee	
Local Shopping	On Own		

MEMORIAL SERVICE: During the District Convention, we will be recognizing deceased Lions members at the Memorial Service. Club Presidents or Secretaries are asked to complete the Memorial Form located on montanalions.org web site under “Events” or “News” tabs.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CLUB PROVIDE ONE ITEM/ BASKET FOR THE SILENT AUCTION WHICH WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE FRIDAY EVENING SOCIAL.

THE PARADE OF GREEN WILL BE HELD DURING THE DISTRICT CONVENTION.

QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT JIM BENNETT – bigjimbennett@gmail.com or 406-301-3918 OR SCOTT DONEY – scott@ddrmt.com or 406-262-2595.

HOTELS – all hotels have a block of rooms under: Montana State Lions Convention Best Western Plus Havre Inn & Suites (CONVENTION HOTEL)

1425 US Highway 2 – Havre 406-265-2888

King & Double Queen Rooms - \$108 + Taxes (Rates valid 4/19 - 4/21)

Includes: Refrigerator/Microwave, Pool, Spa & Fitness Room, Hot Breakfast

AmericInn by Wyndham

2520 US Highway 2 - Havre 406-395-5000

King & Double Queen Rooms - \$125.00 + Taxes (Rates valid 4/19 - 4/21)

Includes: Refrigerator/Microwave, Hot Breakfast, Pool & Spa, Pet Friendly - First Pet Free

Best Western Plus Great Northern inn

1345 First St. – Havre - 406-265-4200

King & Double Queen Rooms - \$108.00 + Taxes (Rates valid 4/19 - 4/21)

Includes: Refrigerator/Microwave, Hot Breakfast, Pool & Spa

DISTRICT 37 CONVENTION BID FORM

Also available on the district website at <https://www.montanalions.org/events/> and can be submitted directly from the website

This form must be received by the ***District Governor***, 30 days prior to the start of the current year convention (2023-2024) District Governor, Brian Gertiser, 10680 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, MT 59715; C: 406-539-0992; governor-D37@gmail.com; 2bjgert@gmail.com The district convention will be held on April 19-20, 2024. The approval/non-approval of the bid will be made at the current year district convention.

Please print.

Date of Bid Submission: _____

Bid for Year: _____

Location: _____

Bidding Club(s): If this bid is being jointly made by more than one Lions Club, please list all clubs as bidding clubs: _____

Convention Headquarters: _____

Convention Chairperson: _____

Mailing Address and Email Address: _____

Phone Nbr. _____ Fax: _____

Number of full-service motel rooms: ____; meeting rooms: ____ Campsites: ____

1. Location and seating capacity for the following activities

Activity	Capacity	Location
Social	_____	_____
Business Sessions	_____	_____
Breakfasts	_____	_____
Friday Night Social	_____	_____
DG Banquet	_____	_____

2. Attach information as to what makes your area an attractive site for a District Convention. Please note items of interest in and around your community.

3. Organizational support has been obtained from:

Other Lions Clubs: _____

Other Clubs: _____

Levels of Government: _____

Chamber of Commerce/Board of Trade: _____

Travel/Convention Bureau: _____

Other: _____

4. Convention experience of Chairperson and others:

5. Name of host club: _____

Chairpersons signature: _____

6. Attach a copy of minutes of club meeting where the motion was passed authorizing this bid.

NOMINATION FORM
DISTRICT 37 – HALL OF FAME

**Also available on the district website at <https://www.montanalions.org/events/> and
can be submitted directly from the website**

Date: _____

Candidates Name: _____

Candidates Address: _____

Candidates Phone Nbr. _____

Candidates Immediate Family and Addresses:

Nomination Sponsor & Phone Nbr.: _____

Sponsor Email Address: _____

Nomination Qualification Criteria

Date Candidate Joined Lions: _____

Candidate's Current Club: _____

List of all clubs in which the candidate has held membership: _____

List Past Club Offices Held: _____

List Current Club Offices Held: _____

District Positions Held: _____

LCI Positions Held: _____

List all Lion's awards and honors received: _____

Is the Lion a Life Member of District 37? _____ of LCI? _____ How long _____

How many new members has the candidate sponsored? _____

State reasons why this member is worthy of being inducted into the Hall of Fame.

List any other information that may be applicable.

Include any applicable news articles.

**NOTE: This form/application must be filed with the District Governor at least 30 days prior to the start of the District Convention to be held April 19-21, 2023-2024 District Governor Brian Gertiser, 10680 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, MT 59715;
C: 406-539-0992; governor-D37@gmail.com; 2bjgert@gmail.com**

MEMORIAL FORM

Also available on the district website at <https://www.montanalions.org/events/> and can be submitted directly from the website

Complete the information ASAP for the upcoming District 37 convention!!

The chairs for the Memorial/Necrology Service at the District's annual convention are the 1st and 2nd Vice District Governors. During the service they will be recognizing deceased Lions' service and years as a Lion, where we will be asking a club or family member to assist by receiving a memorial rose.

We are asking each club's help in securing information about the deceased Lion. We would like to have members of the club or family members in attendance for the service, as well.

Please take a few minutes to complete the following:

Deceased Lion's name: _____

Club's name _____

Number of years as a Lion: _____

Service projects involved in: _____

Club Offices held: _____

District Offices held: _____

Awards: _____

Please include the Lion's photo. Return no later than March 31st.

Submitted by: _____

Phone: _____

Thank you!

SPECIAL NOTICES

ELECTION OF 2024-2025 CLUB 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. LCI asks that officers be reported to LCI no later than May 15 of this year.

TAX FILINGS FOR 501C3'S C4'S

It's about the time of year when clubs need to complete their tax filings including the 990-N and, if you have one, the required filings for your 501C3 foundations. **The deadline is May 15th.** See the training video info below.

DISTRICT 37 CLUB OFFICER TRAINING VIDEOS

These videos are all accessible via the district website, www.montanalions.org under "Training/Resources". The officer training was held again via zoom in February and new videos have been posted on the website.

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. **You can submit Club News ANYTIME via the website under News/Submit Club News.** Here's the link <https://www.montanalions.org/submit-club-news/>

You are also welcome to email your news (hopefully with photo) to: Lion Peggy Tobin at pegtobin54@gmail.com.

WEBSITE UPDATES

The district website now has additional resources located on the "Training/Resources" page. Please note that we are currently working on a new "Tri-Fold Generator" that will be available for clubs to create their own club brochures using a tri-fold format that your club can use to share your information to prospective new members.

The club-level website is still 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

REGISTER ONLINE NOW!
EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS MARCH 29TH!!

MD C CONVENTION
April 26-27, 2024 Lethbridge, AB
**PDF Fillable Registration Form available on the
MD C Website at mdclions.org and montanalions.org**



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; peggtobin54@gmail.com

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

APRIL CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Choteau	04/26/1927
Dillon	04/26/1979
East Missoula	04/12/1967
Superior	04/03/1952
Townsend Broadwater County	04/03/1952

UPCOMING DISTRICT MEETING DATES

MLS&HF Board Meeting	April 21 th Havre, 9:00am
District Cabinet Meeting	April 21 th Havre, 10:00am (following MLS&HF)

Both meetings will be held at the Best Western Havre Inn & Suites (on the hill), 1425 US-2, Havre, MT 59501

MINUTES – January 13, 2024 – CABINET MEETING
Peggy Tobin – District Administrator/Secretary

Montana District 37 Cabinet Meeting, January 13, 2024; 10:00 AM; VIA ZOOM

Attendees: DG Brian Gertiser, PDG Dennis Kopitzke, PCC Dan Krum, PDG Mike Collins, PDG Richard Gessling, PD Melody Whitcher, PDG Jim Johnke, PDG Lary Garrison, PDG Mike Tobin, ID Ben Aplan, Zone Chair Robert Jaquiss, Regional Chair Jon Kimble, Zone Chair Margaret Baylinson, Lion Jessica Fausey, Lion Dave Falcon, Lion Peggy Tobin, IPD Dave Hajny. Scott Doney & Jim Bennet from Havre

1. Call to Order by DG Brian Gertiser at 10:00 AM
 - a) Pledge of Allegiance
 - b) Invocation: PDG Lary Garrison
 - c) Introduction/Welcome – Brian is going to recommend that going forward, our January Cabinet meeting always be a Zoom meeting and we don't have to worry that meeting in person.
2. Minutes: Motion by Dan, second by Lary to approve the October 15, 2023 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Financial Report: Dan presented the financial report ending December 31, 2023. Net income is still negative which won't come in until the end of this month. He will be sending out the Dues bills at the end of January. Brian asked if the CD we have has a decent return. Dan reported about the CD we have in bonds. Brian asked about looking at other options that are currently offering up to 5% or more. Dan noted that he didn't want to move anything out of the current investment until the loss had been regained (currently \$18K). Motion by Dan, second by Mike T to approve the financial report. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Additions to the agenda are noted in Item 7 below. There were none.
5. Old Business
 - a. Club Health Assessment – Brian asked if there are any observations, questions or suggestions on the report. Richard said he will add his comments during his GMT report. Richard noted that Hot Springs Club will be folding and it's important that we are holding our own.
 - b. Website/Admin Update – Peggy reported that she completed the October Cabinet meeting minutes which were sent to the cabinet for any changes or additions and forwarded to district administration. The Tri-Fold was re-worked utilizing Ennis's word document from Corrina and the photos that Richard had of the previous District document. She updated the "Endorsed Projects" list and completed the November, December and January Newsletters, adding a new section for "Club Spotlights". The newsletters were posted to the website and Mike C. email blasted the links out to his list. The club anniversaries are now all in an excel spreadsheet by month to make gathering that information for the newsletter easier. She had a much larger number of club posts and other posts during the quarter following the discovery that several club news submissions from the website were missed. The Events were updated to include this Cabinet meeting, District 37 Convention in Havre, the MD C Convention in Lethbridge and the 2024 USA/Canada Forum in Louisville KY. As more information on these events is provided, she adds that to the event. She responded to several emails with updated phone and/or email addresses for officers in clubs or changes in other information including corrections on the endorsed projects list. She provided a mailing list for the MTLSHF for them to send out the raffle tickets. She also worked with club secretaries who contacted her for assistance with the activity reporting. Peggy reported that we continue to evolve and improve the website. She shared her screen to show the updates in the

directory that now include the Leo and Branch Clubs, updated “buttons” on the Donate page to provide 2023 Grant Awards provided by Lary and soon, a list of where to drop of eye glasses under the MTLSHF. She also reviewed the new “training/resources” page which now includes the documents which will hopefully be easier to find.

- c. Club Officer Training – Mike C. reported that we still planning to do Zoom for club officer training in February when he gets it scheduled. Training is also going to be available at the convention.
- d. Updates to District 37 Facebook Page – Brian – Peggy noted that we don’t have a link on the website for the District Facebook page. Jessica reported that she originally started a District Facebook page but was no longer set up as an administrator. Mike C. was set up as a backup on the page because they used it for ads. He will see if he can get Jessica re-added as an administrator. Brian asked about some of the other platforms. Mike C. noted that TicTok is mostly a video sight and Instagram is now part of Facebook. Jessica said that those clubs with Facebook need to tag the District Facebook page so that she doesn’t have to go hunting for the posts. Brian is going to have a session at the convention on these various platforms and how to hash tag, etc.
- e. Club Visitations – Brian reported that they are going fairly well. Corrina is behind but she and he will get together when she gets back from her training.
- f. Tri-Fold Brochure – Richard would like to get feedback on the Tri-Fold document from the cabinet.

6. New Business

- a. 2024 Convention – Jim Bennet shared his screen with the 2024 registration form (thanks to Glendive for sharing theirs). They asked about the Memorial Service and who the contacts are. Melody has requested to step down after many, many years of service. Brian confirmed that there will be several training sessions. Jim provided a preliminary budget with a profit of \$1,650 - see attached report. He asked about the convention pin as he didn’t know what it was – Ben could assist. Jim did request the \$3,000 of seed money from the district. Dan K let Jim know he can send him the request for the funds.

They have about 50 rooms blocked out - The Best Western Havre Inn & Suites on the hill is the convention hotel and 35 rooms are blocked there. Across the highway is the American with blocked rooms. He’s also working with Best Western Great Northern for additional rooms. Nothing else is currently on the calendar for that weekend. Brian recommended emailing the registration form every other week. Mike C. can send the email via mail chimp but he can’t do an attachment so Peggy will put the form on the website and provide the link for the emails. Dave Falcon has invited his rep for Plus Optix and she will want about 20 minutes for a presentation and a table for her. Following discussion, it was agreed that the presenters will not be charged for tables or meals. MTLSHF, MT Youth Diabetes and some of our other endorsed project reps will want to have a table. Peggy recommended contacting all of those reps to find out who is coming. Jim said that he should have room for 8-10 tables. Jim J. noted that they will have a Polaris for raffle and Jim B. said there is an overhang at the doors outside where it could be parked. It was noted that Jenny Ware will be the International Guest Speaker.

- b. Policy Review – Dave H. reported that we are still finalizing the changes and he’ll send it out when it’s ready for cabinet review. The changes will be approved at the April meeting.
- c. LCIF Business Plan – Mike T reported that our LCIF donations are 100% over the prior year and we are at 25% of our goal for the year which is a first. We are making progress on having monthly donations from the clubs. He asked why the district isn’t giving to LCIF which it can do. Dan Krum disagreed

because it would be spending lion member money. Mike T noted that according to LCI Legal, dues are administrative dollars and can be spent on whatever the district wants. We can't spend dues on a lion member for personal expenses. Mike T. also noted that the district could have donated \$1,000 to the for-profit Diabetes – What Now? He confirmed that neither the By-Laws nor the Constitution restrict spending. Mike moved that District 37 donate \$1,000 to LCIF. Robert J seconded the motion. Lary asked that if we do this, do we want to do a Melvin Jones Fellowship. Mike said we can. Brian's question is "will the clubs feel that if the district donates will they feel like they don't have to". Mike T feels that if the District donates then the clubs would have an example to follow. Lary noted that there is \$5,000 of credit available to assist other clubs with \$500 of credit for Melvin Jones awards. Richard recommended continuing the conversation at the April meeting. Mike T. moved to table the motion until April and Robert seconded it. Dave H. recommended forming a committee to discuss this topic and have a recommendation for the April Cabinet meeting. Motion tabled.

Lary has not heard anything else from the Bozeman grant. Denton has still not closed out the grant for the ambulance and they MUST do that by April or lose the funds. Brian signed the form for LCIF for Plus Optix. We will order the machines as soon as he gets the funds from LCIF. Dave H. noted that the zones use to have auctions to raise funds for LCIF. Lary is going to work with Broadview to become a branch club.

7. Officer Reports

a. Zone/Region Reports

- i. Margaret – Zone 3 – Reported that she has visited with the clubs via phone. Adrian is interested in forming a branch club – the clubs are either early morning or noon meetings and they want to have a branch that could meet in the evening. They are also looking at the possibility of having a booth at the county fair in Kalispell and forming a "have coffee with a Lion" group. She is also looking at going to the schools to get them interested in the Peace Poster & Essay programs. Brian noted that he will be working on getting the kits so that clubs don't have to pay the high shipping costs.
- ii. Robert reported on Missoula's Christmas tree sale and noted that he is still willing to be Zone 1 Chair – he just has traveling limitations – Brian will call him.
- iii. Peggy noted that Kenny Seymour – Zone 12 – provided a written report (see attached).

b. Committee Reports

- i. GMT/Club Health Assessment – Richard reported that he has done two facilitations – one in Joliet and one with Great Falls Sunrisers. He talked to the Electric City Club and they don't even know if they want help. Jon Kimble has been working with East Missoula and has worked with Southside for assistance with that club. Eureka has lost half their membership and Richard asked Dave Falcon to check on that – the club cleaned up their membership list and removed snow birds who have not paid their dues. Richard's committee is also checking with White Sulphur Springs to see if they might be interested in forming a club. Dela will check with Chester regarding becoming a branch club. Richard also reported that Billings Heights may be interested in a visitation to Roundup in regards to becoming a branch club.
- ii. GLT – Mike C. will start the leadership retreat committee back up when he returns from his vacation.
- iii. GST – Dennis sent a copy of his quarterly report (see attached). There are still 18 clubs that haven't sent in a report in 18 months. He will also get in touch with clubs that are behind in reporting service activities. Peggy offered to assist with contacting clubs.
- iv. LCIF – - already covered

- v. Plus-Optix – Dave F. reported that he has been getting calls from the school nurses to get assistance with the Plus Optix. He noted that 21,890 screenings have been completed. There have been many referrals, but most are on Medicaid so they aren't requesting assistance. We will have about 45 machines around the state when we get those from the grant. Dave F. also reported that clubs that closed have given their machines to school nurses. Richard asked about the legality of the machines going to them, and Dave F. said they are off our books and we don't have any control over them as the clubs owned the machines. Brian noted that there are three clubs that would like to have machines. Dave H. suggested that letters go to the school nurses to see if we could get the machines back when they no longer want them. Mike T. suggested that, if possible, it would be great to present the new machines to the clubs at the convention.

8. Additional Items – Brian noted that we are actually up three members for the district.

Next meeting: April 21, 2024, Havre, Sunday morning

Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned at 12:20pm

Respectfully Submitted by Peggy Tobin
District 37 Administrator/Secretary, January 13, 2024