

# District Governor Newsletter

March  
2021

DG Mike Collins  
1<sup>st</sup> VDG Michael Tobin  
2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Scott Dornfeld  
[www.montanalions.org](http://www.montanalions.org)

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## Message from District Governor Mike Collins

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

Hello Montana Lions,

For me, March in Montana represents the hope of spring. We get a glimmer of spring and new beginnings. There are signs that Covid-19 is starting to diminish, and the number of people being vaccinated is growing. March usually has me thinking about

planning for my vegetable garden. What is my vision for how my garden is going to look? What am I going to plant?

This is something we should be doing in our Lions clubs. It is especially important to have a vision for your lion's club. How will your club look by this fall? We need to make some plans for our Lions gardens. What types of service should we be planting? How can we grow our membership? This should be done with written goals and action plans.

Lions Clubs International encourages the use of SMART goals.

**SPECIFIC** – A specific goal has a much greater chance of being accomplished than a general goal. You will have more focus if your objective is clear.

**MEASURABLE** – When you measure your progress, stay on track, meet you target dates and experience the exhilaration of achievement that spurs you on to continued effort required to reach your goal. If you can't measure it, you can't manage it.

**ACTIONABLE** – Make sure you have some control over the accomplishment of your goal. If there is nothing you can do, you won't succeed.

**REALISTIC** – Goals should be challenging but not so much that there is no chance of achieving them.

**TIME BOUND** – Set a timeframe for the goal: next week, in three months, by the end of the year. Putting an end point on your goal gives you a clear target toward which to work. Record the goals that your club will pursue to enhance its value to the community and to club members below (use additional pages as necessary).

Once you have a goal or goals turn them into an action plan.

HOW? (Action Steps)

WHEN? (Deadline for completion)

WHO? (Person(s) responsible for action)

HOW WILL WE KNOW? (How we will know if the goal has been accomplished)

My hope that Montana Lions Clubs will emerge from the pandemic with a new focus and able to provide greater service to our communities.

["The secret of getting ahead is getting started." – Mark Twain](#)

Kindness Matters,  
District Governor Mike



# District 37 Convention

Date: April 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**TIME: REGISTRATION 1PM-5PM**

**WELCOME AND KICK OFF 6PM**

LOCATION: RED LIONS HOTEL

20 N. MAIN STREET KALISPELL MT 59901

Join us in Kalispell for the District 37 Convention. We have some great speakers and fun events planned. Club officer training is going to be offered on Friday at 10am – 2pm.

Register for the convention by April 1<sup>st</sup> and receive 2 FREE drink tickets for the Friday Night Social!

For more information contact PDG Monte Weisser, 406-756-8528

Registration form is attached to this newsletter.

PDG Jim Johnke and PDG Melody Whitcher  
Winnett Lions Club  
Box 222, Winnett, MT 59087  
[Wmel46@yahoo.com](mailto:Wmel46@yahoo.com) or [johnke@gmail.com](mailto:johnke@gmail.com)  
406-928-2311 or 603-491-0676

We are the chairs for the Memorial/Necrology Service at the District's 2021 Convention to be held in Kalispell on April 24 and 25. During the service we will be recognizing deceased Lions. During the Memorial Service will be asking a club or family member to assist by receiving a memorial rose.

We are asking for each club's help by securing information about Lions who have passed between April 2019 – January 2021. Please take a few minutes to complete this form and return it to us prior to April 1, 2021.

Lion's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years as a Lion: \_\_\_\_\_

Service Projects:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Club Offices Held:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

District Offices Held:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Awards:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: If possible, please send a photo.

## **CLUB NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

Any Lions club member can submit information associated with any type of Lions project or general club information. Please send in "word" format and/or photos in JPEG format to: PDG Dennis Kopitzke; [djk\\_7491@rangeweb.net](mailto:djk_7491@rangeweb.net)

### **DISTRICT 37 HALL OF FAME**

The District 37 Hall of Fame nomination form is included with this newsletter, pages 16 & 17. The nominating form, for 2020, must be received by the District Governor at least 30 days prior to the district convention, April 24-25, 2021.

### **DISTRICT 37 CONVENTION BID FORM**

The District 37 Convention Bid Form, for the 2022 district convention, is included with this newsletter, pages 18 & 19. The bid form must be received by the District Governor at least 30 days prior to the district convention, April 24-25, 2021.

## **District 37 Help Wanted**

Webmaster:

Are you looking for a fun way to contribute to your Montana Lions District? Or maybe your resume needs a bit of a boost? You could be the District 37 Lions next volunteer web admin! We're looking for someone who knows WordPress and enjoys working with websites to oversee our website. Programming skills are not necessary but strong knowledge of WordPress and plugins is key!

NAMI Team:

The North American Membership Initiative is a program to revitalize Lions Clubs in our district. We need Lions who are willing to start new clubs and increase membership for existing clubs in Montana. This will require attending meetings (zoom for now) and making plans to increase membership. This will include travel once Covid-19 has subsided.

Zone Chairpersons:

The Zone Chairperson is the link between the clubs and the District Leadership Team. The Zone Chairperson is a full member of the District Cabinet. Develop & grow new members Identify and develop future and clubs. leaders at all levels. You will get to know the clubs in your area by visiting them and holding three zone meetings throughout the year.

If you are interested in learning more about these roles, email me at [mikeacollins@bresnan.net](mailto:mikeacollins@bresnan.net) or 406-871-4176



During a basketball game in Winnett, our club sells 50/50 tickets for the Winnett school's athletic department. The Lions Club just received this thank you card.

## **LCI CHARTER AND ENTRANCE FEES WAIVER FLEXIBLE PAYMENTS**

The LCI Board of Directors has passed another resolution to help our clubs:  
**Charter and Entrance Fees Waiver** – The LCI board has waived all charter and entrance fees from January 1 through June 30, 2021.

**Flexible Payments** – No clubs in good standing on December 31, 2020 will be suspended or canceled through June 30, 2021 for late payment of dues. Full payment is required to be received before June 20, 2021 to avoid suspension or cancellation.

**Please note** – Clubs placed on financial suspension on December 31, 2020 will remain on suspension until the full balance is paid. Those clubs will still need to address their outstanding dues or make arrangements for repayment with the Accounts Receivable Department at LCI to avoid cancellation scheduled for March 1, 2021.

## **CLUB MEMBERSHIP BILLING**

This past year has been unlike any other as the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted our world in so many ways. To support our Lions during these challenging times, the Board of Directors approved a resolution stating that no clubs will be suspended or canceled through December 31, 2020 for late payment of dues.

Currently, there are a record number of clubs that have not yet paid their balances. We want to make sure you are aware of some important dates and action items that will impact our clubs so we can all work together to support them during this difficult time.

**October 25, 2020** – The District Team will be advised on clubs that have not paid their balances within the suspension parameters.

**October, November and December Statements** – The statements will include a suspension warning to inform clubs of their past due status.

**January 1, 2021** – Clubs will be placed on Financial Suspension if balances over 120 days are in excess of US\$20/member or over \$1,000. Clubs released from Financial Suspension can expect to be billed for dues for January-June 2021.

**March 1, 2021** – Clubs previously suspended will automatically be canceled if their balances are not paid in full.

**March-June 2021** – Canceled clubs may be reactivated to Active Status upon receipt of their payment and approval from the district governor.

**May 8, 2021** – The suspension cycle will again review clubs for balances unpaid over 120 days with cancellation following on June 29 if payment has not yet been received.

**DG RECAPS** will be mailed regularly each month. The District Team should review the report and communicate with clubs to encourage payment prior to the end of this calendar year.

We will be sending the list of clubs in suspension to our District Team and Global Action Team leadership each month to support the districts.

Please let us know if you have questions about the process or the timeline. LCI can then ensure that our clubs stay in good standing and continue their great work in time when Lions are needed more than ever.

[membershipbilling@roar.lionsclubs.org](mailto:membershipbilling@roar.lionsclubs.org)

## **United in Kindness and Diversity – Dr. Jung-Yul Choi March 2021**

Lions: Where your service goes, kindness grows. Because you do more than make a difference in people's lives—you inspire them to do the same for others. And the more your community knows about how much your club has accomplished, the great impact you'll be able to make.

Sharing your club's stories is the best way to promote your club and service activities. We are now already more connected than ever before through virtual meetings, social media and even traditional media. So share your success, inspire your community, and let people know how they can be a part of your service.

## **PLUSOPTIX**

Hi Lions:

I wanted to let you know that there is a new update for the S12's. It is version 7.2.6.0. You can get it off the web site if you have a wireless connect. The web site is [PlusOptix/support](http://PlusOptix/support).

PlusOptix is offering a trade in allowance for your S09 if you are looking to upgrade to the S12 machine. This deal will last until Dec 31, 2021. They are giving you \$2250.00 on your S09. If you would like more info contact Pam Ruhoff at [P.Ruhoff@plusoptix.com](mailto:P.Ruhoff@plusoptix.com). Or call 800-488-6436 ext 711.

Pam will be at our District Convention in April 23, 24 2021. Please bring your S12 and we will get them updated to the current version. We are having a breakout session with her so if you have any questions she can answer them for you. Hope to see as many of you there as possible. Thanks for all the hard work you do in your communities.



I still have one S12 left to sell. If you are looking for one please let me know. See you at the Convention. Lion Dave

## **2021 LCI International Convention Virtual Convention**

Due to the continuing concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic, the board of directors voted to transition the 2021 Montreal Lions Clubs International Convention to a virtual event that will be delivered totally online. LCI is still finalizing the details of the new convention experience, and will share those with all Lions as soon as they are ready.

**Everyone's Invited** – The 2021 convention will be a virtual event that's open to all Lions and Leos around the world: June 25-29.

**Registrations Fees** – The registration fee will be US\$50.00 until March 31, the US\$75.00 beginning April 1. The registration fee for LEOS will be US\$30.00 regardless of date. Convention is currently scheduled for June 25-29. Additional event and registration details will be provided soon.

**Elections** – Executive officer and international director elections will be conducted electronically, and voting procedures will be forth coming.

**Convention Registration and Updates** – Check our convention website: [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) and click on the LCIcon tab to register and to get convention updates and details as they become available.

We appreciate your understanding during this challenging time for our organization and the world, and thank all Lions for your incredible service as a Lion.

## **Websites**

Visit the district website: [www.montanalions.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.mtlionsshfnd.org)  
Information regarding programs and sight, hearing and/or speech impairments

## **Contact Information**

DG Mike Collins, 40 Meadowlark Drive; Kalispell, MT 59901; H 406-752-3473;  
C 406-871-4176; [mikeacollins@bresnan.net](mailto:mikeacollins@bresnan.net)

1<sup>st</sup> VDG Michael Tobin, Box 408, Sunburst, MT 59482; H 406-397-1215; C 406-450-2780; [miket@northerntel.net](mailto:miket@northerntel.net)

2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Scott Dornfeld, 744 Arbor Hills Drive, Billings, MT 59105; C, 406-489-1884; [Sdornfeld51@gmail.com](mailto:Sdornfeld51@gmail.com)

District Secretary/Administrator; PDG Dennis Kopitzke, Box 1266, Forsyth, 59327; 406-346-1488; 406-853-8695; [djk\\_7491@rangeweb.net](mailto:djk_7491@rangeweb.net)

## **DISTRICT VESTS**

The district has a number of vests for sale in a wide variety of sizes. Contact PID Dave Hajny for more information on the vests. 406-596-4596; [whodat@3rivers.net](mailto:whodat@3rivers.net)

**The vests are great looking and a great way to support our district and Lionism.**



## **LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION The Need for Donations**

Dear Fellow Lions,

Once again, our nation has been invaded with unspeakable human suffering and death from long lasting freezing temperatures and an off-season tornado.

About 30 years ago Judy and I managed Redwood Retirement in Napa, California. About a week before Christmas the temperature dropped below 32\*f for three days

freezing the attic plumbing for a water fire suppression system. Four days before Christmas the attic pipes thawed and many of the elbows and tees failed damaging 46 of 96 apartments. Ceilings and insulation fell onto furniture and appliances along with the water. Some residents were sent to nearby sister facilities not affected while others went to be with family until their apartments were once again inhabitable. Those of us that stayed endured a bone chilling cold from the high humidity that hung in the building for weeks. The only bright spots were that we still had our regular water supply and electricity.

Literally hundreds of thousands of people (many fellow Lions) will face more than we did for months to come. Warmer temperature will not solve many of their challenges. LCIF is approving \$10,000 Emergency Response Grants and \$15,000 Emergency Recovery Grants to Districts in the affected areas. But that is not all, because of the magnitude of this crisis other Grants will be made that only International can initiate.

Judy and I are each making a \$50 donation to meet this crisis. We are asking each Lion in District 37 to make a donation of at least \$5, knowing not all Lions can do so. I have also asked all clubs to make a donation at this time.

Donations may be made through [www.lcif.org](http://www.lcif.org) or mailed to Lions Clubs International Foundation, Department 4547, Carol Stream, Illinois 60122-4547, USA.

Thank you for ANY donation you can give. Yours in Lionism,

PDG Lary Garrison, District 37 LCIF Chair

## **LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (LCIF) Emergency and Community Recovery Grants**

LCIF continues to award emergency grants, \$10,000.00 and Community Recovery Grants, \$15,000.00 for situations associated with cold weather, tornados, floods, downed trees and damage to structures. Grants can help pay for water, food, clothing, bedding and medications.

COVID-19 has drastically affected the ability for all our Montana clubs to raise funds and do service projects. The club I am in had two of our major fundraisers canceled, forced us to go to Zoom meetings and curtail service projects, yet we continue to support LCIF.

It is possible that your club an continue your past support with a donation at this time of year? Montana received almost \$1,000,000.00 in grants over the years, many for

floods and fires. Perhaps your community or county has received one. Perhaps your community of county will need one! Our Foundation depends on contributions from Lions members and clubs to meet these disasters. Donations can be mailed to: LCIF, Dept. 4547; Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547.

Yours in Lionism, PDG Lary Garrison; LCIF Chair

## **CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:**

### **February**

Hamilton Lions – 1930 – 91 Years

### **March**

Bozeman Lions – 1954 – 67 years

Plentywood Lions – 1986 – 35 years

Polson Lions – 1967 – 54 years

Red Lodge Lions– 1947 – 74 years

Sidney Lions – 1971 – 50 years

Wolf Point Lions – 1990 – 31 years

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

Mar. 20                Lions Day with the United Nations

Apr.                    Environmental Awareness Month

Apr.                    Family and Friends Month

Apr.                    Leo Club Awareness Month

Apr. 2-5                International Board of Directors Meeting (Gdansk, Poland)

Apr. 22                Earth Day

Apr. 23-24            District Convention, Kalispell

Apr. 24                World Wide Induction Day

Apr. 25                Cabinet Meeting, Kalispell

Apr. 25                Lions Worldwide Induction Day

## **District 37**

### **Advertising and Publicity Reimbursement for 2020-2021**

District 37 has made available funds for reimbursement of advertising expenses for the July 2020- Jun 2021 Lions Year. District 37 will reimburse clubs in good standing up to \$100.00 for expenses for advertising expenses such as social media advertising, google ads, newspaper, radio, or other paid advertising.

It is highly recommended that the advertising should be used to promote your club and club projects, attract new members, and increase public awareness of your Lions club. While the funds may be used to promote a fundraiser, please emphasize what your club is raising the funds for. Social media advertising allows you to get a much bigger impact for your dollar and can be targeted to specific demographics, so it is highly recommended that these funds be used for that type of advertising.

Requests for reimbursement can be made by submitting an Advertising and Publicity Reimbursement Request to DG Mike Collins either by email or postal mail. Please send one request for funds rather than sending multiple small requests. The form will be published in the newsletter and on the web site. All requests must be submitted by June 1. 2021.

We Serve

DG Mike Collins

Montana Lions District 37 will reimburse individual Lions clubs for expenses for advertising your club for the Lion's year 2020-2021 up to a maximum of \$100.00 per club. It is recommended that this be used for attracting new members and/or publicizing your club using electronic or social media but is not limited to this.

## District 37 Advertising and Publicity Reimbursement Request

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Describe advertising done (type of media, purpose, duration of ad):

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Describe results of advertising (new members, fundraising results, new followers):

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Amount requested (receipts required):

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Club Representative Signature

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District Governor Signature

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**All requests must be submitted no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

Please email signed form and scanned receipts to

[mikeacollins@bresnan.net](mailto:mikeacollins@bresnan.net) or Mail to DG Mike Collins, 40 Meadowlark Dr.,  
Kalispell, MT 59901

**Nomination Form  
District 37 Hall of Fame**

Date:

Candidate's Name:

Candidate's Address:

Candidate's Phone #:

Candidate's Immediate Family:

Family Addresses:

Sponsor:

Sponsor Contact

Information:

**CRITERIA:**

Date Candidate joined Lions:

Candidate's current Club:

List of all clubs in which Candidate has held  
membership:

List Past Club Offices held:

List Current Club Offices:

List District positions held:

List LCI positions held:

List all Lion's awards and honors received:

Is candidate a Life Member of District 37 or LCI? \_\_\_ If so, how long?

How many new members has candidate sponsored?

State reasons why you think this member is a worthy candidate for the District 37

Hall of Fame:

List any other information that you feel may be applicable:

Please feel free to include any news articles.

Note: This form/application must be filed with the District Governor at least 30 days before the District Convention.

Additional Comments:



**2022 DISTRICT 37 CONVENTION BID FORM**

This form must be received, by the district governor at least 30 days prior to the current year convention. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Note: All correspondence will be sent to the Chairperson)*

Chairperson's mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of full service Motel Rooms: \_\_\_ Meeting Rooms: \_\_\_ Campsites: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Location and seating capacity for the following activities:

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Location</b>
Social	(     )	_____
Business sessions	(     )	_____
Breakfasts	(     )	_____
Luncheons	(     )	_____
Friday Night Social	(     )	_____
DG Banquet	(     )	_____

2. Attach information on what makes your area attractive as a District Convention site.

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 and/or Convention Bureau: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Convention experience of Chairperson and others:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. Bid submitted by:

Host club(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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



Help Support Your  
**MONTANA LIONS SIGHT & HEARING FOUNDATION**

**YOU COULD WIN ME!! Contact a Lion for tickets.**



**Polaris Basic 570 Ranger with a Dump Box & Roll Bars**

Tickets: \$20.00 each or 8 for \$100.00

Drawing: April 24, 2021

*\*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