

District Governor Newsletter

July
2021

DG Michael Tobin
1st VDG Scott Dornfeld
2nd VDG Brian Gertiser
www.montanalions.org

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Message from District Governor Michael Tobin

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

Happy 4th of July my fellow District 37 Lions! As your new district governor, I'm excited about the upcoming year and what the future has in store for our district. I expect to have a lot of fun growing our district and preparing for the future. That being said, I'm starting with an all-new redesigned website. This website will be a one-stop shop for all things Lions. This will be the only website you will need to remember – montanalions.org. From there you can go anywhere else for Lions. All of our district info will be there including all our clubs. All of our clubs will need to participate in providing the information on the website and keeping it current and

correct. This will ensure that our communications improve. One of my other goals is to improve communications between the district, all of its clubs and LCI, again ensuring that all information is timely and accurate. Another goal of mine is to improve our training – president, secretary and treasurer at the club level and governor, zone and region chair training at the district level. In order to grow District 37, I would like to see every club induct at least one new member in the upcoming year. You can do more, but I'd like to see at least a net plus one - you can do it!! We may be a relatively new single district, but we are vibrant, strong, excited and dedicated to being Lions!

DG Michael Tobin



District Governor Michael Tobin

DG Mike was born in Helena, MT, graduating from Helena High (go Bengals). After graduation Mike joined the US Navy retiring as a Senior Chief (E-8) after 24 years. Moving his family back to Helena, He started his own Window and Door business.

After 9/11 he felt the need to continue his public service so he closed his business and was hired by INS (Immigration and Nationalization Service) as an inspector where he was stationed at the Sweet Grass POE, (port of entry). After over 10 years as a Federal Law Enforcement Officer he retired a second time.

He currently drives bus for the Sunburst School District #2. Mike is married to Lion Peggy and they have two daughters Michelle and Meghan.

Mike is a member of the Coutts/Sweet Grass Lions Club. He has served several terms as club president and LCIF Coordinator. He has served as zone chair for zone 7 for two years prior to becoming 2nd Vice District Governor



1st Vice District Governor Scott Dornfeld

1st VDG Scott was born in Minot, ND and the family moved to Montana when he was 3 years old. He was raised and went through school in Kalispell, graduating from Flathead High School. After graduation, he attended Flathead Valley Community College for 2 years. Upon completion of coursework at FVCC, he attended Eastern Montana College, Billings (now called MSUB). After graduating from EMC, he went to work for a chemical distributor as the office/warehouse manager, and later, on the road as a salesman, travelling Eastern Montana and Western North Dakota.

In 1985, he had the opportunity to spend more time at home with the family and bought a music store in Sidney, MT. He owned and operated the store for 28 years, until retirement. He and his wife, Barb, moved back to Billings to enjoy their newfound freedom. They have two children, Becky, living in Miles City, and Jeff, living in Williston, ND. They also enjoy their 6 grandchildren and 1 great-granddaughter whenever possible.

Scott started his life in Lions with the Sidney Lions club, serving as a director, secretary, and president. When he returned to Billings, he transferred his membership to the Billings Heights Lions club. He has served as president, secretary, zone and regional zone chairs.

4th of July

Remember America

Be Safe



2ND Vice District Governor Brian Gertiser

Brian was born in Michigan, the 3rd of eight children. The family moved around the state as his father was promoted in the Michigan State Police. The family settle in Davison, MI where Brian graduated from Davison Sr. High. Brian also graduated for trade school at the same time. After graduation he started working in the heating and cooling field.

One of his employers was very involved in the Optimist Club, and his neighbor was involved with Lions.

With the desire to see other parts of the country, Brian loaded up the family and moved to Bozeman. While still working in the HVAC field, Brian returned to school and earned a degree in Business Management.

Brian and his wife Deborah started their own heating and cooling business and after 26 years have retired to their home in Bridger Canyon.

In 1986 Brian joined the Gallatin Empire Lions for the first time, but life got too busy and complicated, and he dropped out for a short time. Brian rejoined Lions in 2001 and just recently receive his 20-year monarch chevron.

Brian is a Melvin Jones recipient. Past president of the Gallatin Empire Lions Club, held the secretary position, served as Zone Chair for Zone 13, and is currently the treasurer of the Hyalite Youth Camp.

UNITED IN KINDNESS AND DIVERSITY – DR. JUNG-YUL CHOI END OF YEAR MESSAGE

This is a year that we will never forget. Because more than any other, this is the year that you showed the world the true depth of a Lion's courage. Your conviction to stand for others, to inspire hope and to serve has been the difference for so many people in your community and around the world.

I'm so proud to have been a part of this extraordinary year of kindness, innovation and safe service. As we move forward, we will continue to meet this global challenge together. Because we are Lions. In good times or times of great need—at all times and in all places—where there is a need we will be there.

Thank you for your bravery and commitment to making our world a better place for all people. It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve you.

Regards,
Dr. Jung-Yul Choi
International President

PU 101 CLUB OFFICER REPORTING FORM

This is the time of the year that clubs need to select their club officers for the new Lions year. The 2021-2022 Club Officer reporting form is available for download on the LCI website: www.LionsClubInternational.org; search for 2021-2022 PU 101. The form has been emailed to current club presidents, first vice presidents, secretaries, and treasurers. If there are questions contact a district leadership team member or the district administrator. **If you have not reported your 2021-2022 club officers please do so as soon as possible.**

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

MONTANA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF & BLIND FOUNDATION LIONS CLUB PARTNERSHIP

MSDB set a goal to provide all low-vision students in the state with updated technology – saving students from having to push a cumbersome cart with a magnifier down the hall with them to each class. With the help of Lions Clubs throughout Montana, they met that goal before the pandemic hit – equipping students with the technology they need to succeed at both home and school.

Lions Clubs often support projects providing vision support, so Clayton-Bye reached out and was invited to attend their conference.

They set a goal to raise \$300,000 and purchase 100 devices for Montana’s low vision students.

“We said if we can meet that goal in two years it would be a dream come true and we met it in eight months with the Lions,” Clayton-Bye said, “We want to continue to dream big to open the doors to Montana’s deaf, hard of hearing, blind, low vision and deafblind.”

USA/CANADA FORUM

The Planning and Host Committees continue to plan the finer details of the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum.

Thank you to all of you who have pre-registered. I know I’m not the only one looking forward to being with like-minded Lions for an inspirational weekend of leadership, friendship, and service! It’s not too late to register (the current fee is \$320) but some of the hotels have filled up, so don’t stay on the fence too long.

There are so many interesting things to do in Des Moines, and we are bringing some new features to the Forum, this year to complement the many things you already enjoy. There will be something for everyone at #1LionsForum2021! Together in Service.

The 2021 USA/Canada Forum will be held in Des Moines, IA on September 9-11, 2021. The forum will be conducted “in person”. For more information and to register for the forum contact: USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum, Box 723, Rapid City, SD 57709; 605-723-4007 or access the forum website at: www.lionsforum.org or to register on line at: register@lionforum.org

WEBSITES

Visit the district website: www.montanalions.org to find a wealth of valuable information regarding almost every aspect associated with the operation of the district.

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

The Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation website: www.mtlionsshfnd.org
Information regarding programs and sight, hearing and/or speech impairments.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Sdornfeld51@gmail.com

2nd VDG Brian Gertiser, 10680 Bridger Canyon Road, Bozeman, MT 59715; C 406-539-0992; 2bjgert@gmail.com

District Secretary/Administrator; PDG Dennis Kopitzke, Box 1266, Forsyth, 59327; 406-346-1488; 406-853-8695; djk_7491@rangeweb.net

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES:

July

Billings Heights	1957	64 Years
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August

Baker	1946	75 Years
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Ennis	1948	73 Years
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Huntley Project	1954	67 Years
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IMPORTANT DATES

- July 1 Start of the 2021-2022 Lions year
- July 17 Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation quarterly meeting, Bozeman
- July 17 District 37 quarterly meeting, Bozeman



This is the final year of CAMPAIGN 100!

Thank you to every Montana Lion and Montana Lions Club that made a donation to LCIF over the past 3 years. Over those 3 years your donations and donations from other Lions and Lions Clubs around the world allowed LCIF to provide the following:

1,338 Humanitarian Grants totalling \$53,378,717

311 Vision Grants totalling \$45,756,445

1,029 Disaster Relief Grants totalling \$26,930,113

378 Youth Grants totalling \$12,186,042

142 Diabetes Grants totalling \$7,240,547

54 Childhood Cancer Grants totalling \$3,646,114

303 Hunger Grants totalling \$2,168,927

64 Environmental Grants totalling \$1,907,739

Millions of lives were made better because of these grants, supported through your donations. Please take a few moments to consider what we have done to

improve lives here and around the world. 245 people die every day from Measles. Every night 800 million people go to bed Hungry. Every year our planet and its inhabitants are experiencing a 15% rise in Natural Disasters. 400 million people are living with Diabetes, many undiagnosed. Every 2 minutes a child is diagnosed with Cancer. 253 million people are Blind or Visually Impaired. 2 of 3 children report being victims of Bullying. **THE NEEDS CONTINUE TO INCREASE!**

This year I am asking every Montana Lion and Montana Lions Club to donate to LCIF. No Donation is too small-or too large. Mail donations to LCIF, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, Illinois or go to lcif.org/donate.

Thank you for your support, Lary Garrison, LCIF Chair

Lions Year

2021-2022