

District Governor Newsletter

September
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”

Hello District 37.

I can't believe it is September already. That means school is in full swing, it's the last month of summer, and a lot of clubs are having their first club meeting of this fiscal year. With that last statement in mind, club officers need to check that LCI has been updated and all the bills have been paid. I received 13 invoices from LCI for clubs that

have not paid their dues for this first half of the fiscal year, so please check into your club's status. Thank you.

The new web page is coming along but it's slower than expected. Not the fault of Edge, our web designer. I am just wanting to ensure it is done the way we want with the quality we want. I have seen some of the preliminary stuff and it is really going to be nice.

Your Governor's Team is in full swing for visiting all the Districts clubs, I alone have 11 scheduled for this month. When they visit don't be afraid to let them know what all is happening with your club and anything the district can do to help. We are looking for service projects that we can help with, so let us know.

DG Michael Tobin

SERVICE FROM THE HEART SEPTEMBER 2021

One of our top priorities is to ensure that Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) has the resources it needs to support the service of Lions in every district, everywhere. But it will take all of us, and the contributions of every Lion, to reach our Campaign 100 goal.

This is the final year of our largest fundraising campaign ever, and I am depending on you to help us achieve our goal. Make sure Lions in your district are focused on Campaign 100. Clubs should set achievable fundraising goals and plan fundraising activities. And as membership is strengthened focus on chartering new clubs and inspiring existing clubs to lead by example and commit to becoming Model Clubs.

I have personally seen the impact that LCIF can make in a community through my own club. I encourage you to share your own stories and let your Lions know that their support is more than a gift to our global community of Lions—it is a gift to their own community as well.

**DOUGLAS X. ALEXANDER
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**

PLAN ON SUCCESS: LCI 2021-2022 GLOBAL PRIORITIES

Membership Growth and Engagement: The growth of our association means we're always ready to serve. To grow, we must not only bring in new members, we must also keep our current Lions engaged and active.

Support Our Foundation: We are in the final year of our most ambitious giving campaign ever, Campaign 100. The generosity and support of LCIF is empowering our service around the world, and bringing hope.

Compassionate Service: As communities around the world seek to find a sense of normalcy once again, Lions have a new and great opportunity to lead by example. We can help the world recover in this time when so many are still struggling. We must keep up our innovative service efforts.

Communication: Transparency and open lines of communication are essential to great service, and therefore have always been key to Lions clubs. We must continue to focus on our connections to one another, those we serve and the organizations that support us.

DISTRICT WEBSITE MONTANALIONS.ORG

The district's website team composed of PCC Dan Krum, PDG Richard Gessling, Lion Jerry Leggate, Lion Jessica Falcon, and Lion Daniel Douthit chose EDGE Marketing and Design of Helena to redesign the district's website. The district cabinet approved the team's selection of EDGE at the July 17 cabinet meeting.

The work is just now beginning as we need to give EDGE information about ourselves. There is a critical need for photos of Montana Lions participating in service projects. Please email photos to EDGE, deanna@edgemarketingdesign.com. Thanks for your support. An excellent example of the type of work EDGE has done can be viewed at the Florence Crittenton website.

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.** As of the end of August the following clubs have not reported their 2021-2022 club officers. Anaconda, Fairfield, Great Falls Sunrise, Hot

Springs, Huntley Project, Joliet, Plains, Sun River Valley, and Turner/Hogeland. Club members, encourage your club officers to file the required report. Thanks.

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

PLUSOPTIX

Please check to make sure you have the latest update in your S12. It is 7.2.6.0. You can get it off the PlusOptix web site. If you need help down loading it let me know and I will walk you thru it. Call me at 406-257-2258 or Cell # 406-253-1726. Lion Dave Falcon

DISTRICT DIRECTORY

Work continues on the 2021-2022 district directory. The goal is to have the directory printed and in the mail to clubs prior to Labor Day. Directories will be sent to every club president and club secretary and all cabinet members. The directory is a great resource with a listing of all cabinet members and club officers and their contact information. Club meeting times, dates and locations are included. Additional information includes: listing of trustees of Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation, LEO clubs, district endorsed projects, website information, hall of fame members, variety of Lions related information, protocol for district governor visits, international officers and international directors.

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.

The registration deadline and the \$320.00 registration fee has been extended until August 15.

COVID Protocol: There will be onsite testing on Friday September 10 at the Iowa Events Center. The Forum will follow safety protocols in effect at the Iowa Events Center. Currently:

- Face coverings are NOT required for fully vaccinated individuals (shots completed at least 14 days prior);
- Face coverings ARE required for individuals NOT fully vaccinated;
- As recommended by the CDC, it is recommended that masks be worn in large gatherings;
- Hand Sanitation Stations will be available throughout the Iowa Center.

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

DG Michael Tobin, Box 408, Sunburst, MT 59482; H 406-937-1215; C 406-450-2780;
miket@northerntel.net

1st VDG Scott Dornfeld, 744 Arbor Hills Drive, Billings, MT 59105; C, 406-489-1884;
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:

September

Coutts/Sweetgrass	09/13/1934	87 years
Culbertson	09/13/1946	75 years
Evergreen	09/04/1956	65 years
Great Falls Electric City	09/15/1958	55 Years

IMPORTANT DATES

September 6 Labor Day

September Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

September 15-17 USA/Canada Forum, Des Moines, IA

October Vision Awareness Month
Lions Membership Growth Month
Leo Membership Growth Month

International Board of Directors Meeting, San Diego

October 8-9 Leadership Retreat, Polson

October 10 Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation Meeting, Helena
District 37 Cabinet Meeting, Helena
Friendship Committee Meeting, Helena

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi, Chairperson

Welcome to a new Lions year. I am thrilled to be starting my new role as chairperson of LCIF and look forward to what accomplishments the year will bring. We are now in the final phase of CAMPAIGN 100 and we are making history with LCIF's largest fundraising initiative to date. Let's continue to build on that success as LCIF supports Lions in one of the biggest comebacks the world has ever seen. As we work hard to move past COVID-19 and continue to support our Loins in the areas of vision, youth, disaster relief, humanitarian, diabetes, childhood cancer, hunger and environment let's remember why we do it. We do it because we have a world in need. There are people in every corner of this earth depending on Lions. Depending on LCIF. Let's make this the most successful year yet!

Dr. Jung-Yul Choi, Chairperson
Lions Clubs International Foundation

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

PDG Lary Garrison

We as a District donated \$534 from 5 donations during July 2021. Thank you Sidney Lions, PCC Ben Apeland, DG Mike Tobin, PDG John Mathis, PCC Dan Krum. Some of these are monthly donations and others are not, but they all add up.

There are 10 months left in Campaign 100, and we are at 73.9% to our goal of \$300 million. Fires continue to force evacuations around Montana, the United States and Worldwide. A category 4 Hurricane is headed toward Louisiana and the Southwest, Flooding in Tennessee destroyed one town. An Earthquake has hit Haiti before repairs for the last one has been completed. Human suffering around the World requires us as Lions to do our part if our motto "WE SERVE"

means anything. But, that is not all we are supporting- we also do many projects to make lives more secure and accessible experiences to disadvantaged.



Lions Jesse, Scott and Lary, members of the Billings Heights Lions club, cooked hamburgers and hot dogs for 23 Type 1 Diabetics and 14 Counsellors/parents at Lake Elmo in Billings, Montana. This was an all-day event for these youngsters where they hiked, played games, and learned how to monitor their health needs. This also occurred in Helena and Flathead Lake Lutheran Bible camp, funded from an LCIF Diabetes Grant. The day camps were in lieu of a week of camping at Flathead Lake, which was cancelled because of COVID-19. Hopefully this event will happen next summer.

Laurel Handicap Accessible Fishing Pond

The pylons are set to support the handicap fishing dock in Laurel. Picture next month. Donate to LCIF at 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL, USA 60523-8842 or online at donorassistance@lionsclubs.org

MINUTES JULY 17, 2021 CABINET MEETING

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

July 18, 2021

Montana District 37 – Cabinet Meeting, July 17, 2021; Bozeman, MT; Meeting face to face and via “Zoom”

Attendees: DG Mike Collins, DGE Michael Tobin, 1st VDGE Scott Dornfeld, 2nd VDGE Brian Gertiser, PID Dave Hajny, PCC Ben Apeland, PCC Dan Krum, PDG Dennis Kopitzke, PDG Lary Garrison, Lion Dave Falcon, Lion Raleigh Peck, Lion Marie Hajny, Lion Jessica Falcon, Lion Bob Hannon, Lion Steve Melby
Guest: PDG Dan Sturdevant

- I. Call to Order by DG Michael Tobin at 12:00 Noon
 - a. DG Tobin led the cabinet in the Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. PDG Lary Garrison provided an invocation
 - c. Roll Call – Sign in documentation
 - d. Introductions by those in attendance
 - e. DG opening comments – Excitement regarding the new Lions year. The #1 priority will be communications with special emphasis on the communications between clubs and the district and LCI; work continues on a new website that will allow easy access to virtually all district activities, LCI information and will include information submitted by any Montana Lions club; every Montana Lions club will be asked to increase club membership by plus one (1) member; there will be an emphasis on training all key club leaders within the State.
- II. Minutes – April 25, 2021 cabinet meeting; motion VDG Scott Dornfeld, second by PCC Dan Krum, to approve the minutes. Passed.
- III. Financial Reports – PCC Dan Krum provided the reports. Motion PCC Dan Krum, second by PCC Ben Apeland to approve the reports. Passed.
- IV. Additions to the agenda
 - a. Purchase equipment
 - b. Website update
 - c. PCC Ben Apeland, ID campaign
- V. General Business
 - a. Grants, LCIF, PDG Lary Garrison – Laurel, their park project is moving ahead, bidding is in process, work should start in May and be finished in October; Denton grant is pending; diabetes camp grant (\$40,000.00) has

been approved and funds have been received. There are many grant options available to clubs, contact PDG Lary Garrison for more information.

- b. Administrator's Report – PDG Dennis Kopitzke presented the report; information only, no action required
- d. Club Health Assessment – The district is down in membership; many clubs are still not meeting; the Charlo club has folded; the Lolo club has folded as has the Lewistown club.
- e. Zone Reports – None
- f. Club Visitations – Visitations have not started; plans are being developed for 2021-2022 visitations.

g. Committee Reports

GMT – Lion Steve Melby will be the GMT leader; DG Michael Tobin and Lion Steve have met and established expectations.

GLT – Team leader is IPDG Mike Tobin. The Leadership Retreat will be held in Polson on October 8-9. Invitations have been extended to 47 Lions with a commitment date of July 31. IPDG Mike Collins is preparing a training manual, with input from other Lions; training will be provided for VDG's as well as for club officers. Plans continue to be developed.

GST – Lion Jesse Gonzalez, nothing new to report

LCIF – PDG Lary Garrison will continue to serve as the district's chairperson. A pledge form associated with Campaign 100 was given to all meeting attendees.

NAMA – North American Membership Alliance; GMA, Global Membership Approach; efforts will continue to be involved in the membership efforts.

VI. Old Business

- a. Magnetic Signs - The signs have arrived and efforts are being made to distribute 4 signs to every club.
- b. Virtual Diabetes Club – DG Mike Collins continues to work on establishing a state wide virtual diabetes club.

VII. New Business

- a. Communications/Website – DGE Mike Tobin will lead the effort to update the district website and develop a district communication plan. Efforts will be made to contract with a business that can develop and manage the district's website. The contractor needs to have experience working with non-profits.

Six proposals were received with EDGE from Helena selected as the contractor that will work with the district. Approximate cost \$8750.00 or \$920.00 annual fee; \$75.00 per month. 50% of the cost must be paid “up front”. Motion by PCC Dan Krum, second by PID Dave Hajny to approve the financial arrangement. Passed.

EDGE will train several Lions regarding the website. The district will continue to have input on design features. A district website administrator will be chosen.

- b. Administrator’s Contract – DG, VDG’s and IPDG will review the agreement and make recommendations for changes. DG Michael Tobin has authority to sign an agreement on behalf of the district. Motion by PID Dave Hajny, second by PDG Lary Garrison to approve the proposal. Passed.
- c. Treasurer’s Contract – No contract needed; compensation approved via district budget
- d. Endorsed Projects – Annual reports may be submitted in writing or made verbally at the first cabinet meeting of the new Lions year. Approved via unanimous consent.
- e. Policy Update – Cabinet members reviewed the proposed changes/updates. Proposed change, Article 6, Section A: All appointees must be in good standing of clubs within the District. Motion by CDG Scott Dornfeld, second by PCC Dan Krum to approve the change. Passed.
- f. Lewistown club, designated funds – There is \$3807.38 being held by the district associated with the Lewistown club. Motion by PDG Lary Garrison, second by VDG Scott Dornfeld that the funds be held by the district and be available for the possible growth of a new Lewistown Lions Club. Passed.
- g. 2021-2022 Training – Training will happen in 2021-2022.
 - i. Leadership Retreat will be held on October 8-9 in Polson; final plans for the event are moving ahead.
 - ii. Governor Training – Ongoing training will be provided to the district governor and vice district governors. Plans continue to develop aspects of the training
 - iii. Region/Zone Chair Training – DG Tobin, VDG’s Dornfeld and Gertiser, IPDG and other key Lions will be used to help train region and zone chairs as well as club officers
- h. Administrator’s Financial Report – Information only
- i. 2021-2022 Directory – Same format as in the past several years; copies of the directory will be provided to every club president and secretary, cabinet

members and others with a need for a directory. Approximately 170 copies will be printed and distributed prior to Labor Day.

- j. 2021-2022 Cabinet – Almost all positions have been filled. There is still a need for a Zone Chair for zone 13.

VIII. Additional Items

- a. District Equipment – DG Mike Tobin is making plans to secure equipment (computer, flash drives, passwords, email addresses, mailing addresses, other related) to provide transferable equipment and information from current DG to incoming DG thus maintaining continuity in the leadership needs of the district.
- b. Website – Issue addressed earlier in the meeting.
- c. PCC Ben Apeland, ID campaign – PCC Ben continues to be a candidate for International Director. He is collecting information from LCI on the details associated with his candidacy. Quarterly reports will be provided to the cabinet.

Note: IPDG Mike Collins provided a farewell message to 2020-2021 cabinet members and wished new administration, cabinet and Montana Lions the very best in the 2021-2022 Lions year.

Next meeting: October 9, 11:00 AM, Helena (exact location to be determined)

Adjournment: 1:37 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Kopitzke

PDG Dennis Kopitzke, District 37 Administrator/Secretary
July 18, 2021