

District Governor Newsletter

April
2022

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

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Message From District Governor Michael Tobin

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

Happy Spring District 37. I see that my grass is starting to get green, and my lilac bush has new buds on it. I guess spring actually is here. As the days grow warmer and sun stays longer everyone is ready to start getting out of the house and doing things. So, let's all start with the District 37 convention April 29-30. There are still rooms and seats available. This also may be the one time you can meet with an International Vice President, especially one from District 37, 2nd Vice International President Dr. Patti Hill. This may very well be a once in a lifetime convention. So, get registered (Montanalions.org) and come and enjoy the fellowship and fun of this District 37 convention.

With everyone wanting to get out and do, now is a good time to recruit new members. The challenge is still out there for each club to net at least one new member. I have noticed that a lot of the clubs have done exactly that with some Clubs inducting more than one new member.... way to go!

DG Michael Tobin

SERVICE FROM THE HEART

April 2022

You have united your district behind your ambitious plans and have given them the support they need to accomplish the vision you all share. Your exceptional courage, strength and wisdom have inspired your team and your Lions to do more, and become more, despite the incredible challenges we have faced. Now let's show them the results of their hard work.

You know what it will take to achieve your membership, service and giving goals- and it's up to you to ensure their success. Here are some ways to meet your goals.

Utilize entrance fee waivers – Talk to your Lions about entrance fee waivers and encourage them to invite new members.

Start new clubs – Continue to create new service opportunities by chartering new clubs and specialty clubs across your district.

Encourage Model clubs – Reach out to your club leaders and make sure they understand the impact their clubs can make as Model Clubs.

Make Campaign 100 a success – Give your Lions , and the community they serve, the opportunity to give back by hosting a district wide fundraiser for LCIF and Campaign 100.

Take pride in what you have accomplished and how far you've come and keep pressing forward because this is your moment and your opportunity to lay the foundation for the future of your district.

DOUGLAS X. ALEXANDER
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

OFFICIAL CALL FOR THE CONVENTION

The annual District Convention shall be held on April 29 and 30 at the Holiday Inn, Great Falls. Official start of convention, 1:00 PM on April 29.

**2022 DISTRICT CONVENTION
GREAT FALLS, APRIL 29-30**

AS USUAL WE WILL BE HAVING THE SILENT AND LIVE AUCTIONS AS A PRIMARY FUNCTION OF FRIDAY EVENING.

AS A PRELUDE AND LOOKING AHEAD WE WOULD LIKE

EACH CLUB

TO MAKE SURE TO PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR.

THIS AUCTION IS A MAJOR FUNDRAISER FOR THE DISTRICT. THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR WILL DIRECT FUNDS RAISED TO WORTHY LIONS SERVICE PROJECTS. CLUBS AND CLUB MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE AUCTION ITEMS.

THE “PARADE OF GREEN” WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CLUBS TO DONATE TO SPECIFIC PROJECTS.

**PLEASE RESPOND WITH YOUR DONATED AUCTION ITEM, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO:
GREAT FALLSLIONSCONVENTION2022@GMAIL.COM**

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

1. Registration is completely on the www.montanalions.org site.
2. YOU will need to complete all selections for the event or for separate meals.
3. This registration DOES NOT INCLUDE the registration for your room. For this you MUST call the convention hotel HOLIDAY INN GREAT FALLS, 406-727-7200, use code SLC for the convention rate of \$109.00
4. PAYMENT will be online as part of the registration process.

5. QUESTIONS? www.greatfallslionsconvention2022@gmail.com

Convention information from PDG Jack Beckman, Convention Chairperson

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.

The logo features the text "Lions: We Serve" in a bold, sans-serif font. Each letter is a different color: 'L' is pink, 'i' is orange, 'o' is red, 'n' is yellow, 's' is green, 'W' is blue, 'e' is purple, 'S' is red, 'e' is yellow, 'r' is green, 'v' is blue, and 'e' is purple. The text is set against a white background with a subtle shadow effect.

Montana District 37 Conference Agenda

Friday, April 29th Business Session

9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Morning Tours – Black Eagle Dam, Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center, Montana School for the Deaf and & Blind

1:00 P.M. – 1:20 P.M.

Welcomes – District Governor, Mayor of Great Falls, County Commissioners

1:20 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Invocation

1:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Flag Presentation and National Anthems

2:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Rules and Protocols

2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Montana School for the Deaf and Blind

3:30 P.M. – 3:45 P.M.

MSDB Award

3:45 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

MSH Foundation Awards

4:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Lions Clubs International Foundation

5:00 P.M.

Adjournment

Friday, April 29th Evening Events

6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.

Dinner

6:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

Silent Auction and Bidding

7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Door Prize Raffles

7:40 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.

Live Auction

8:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Silent Auction Closes

9:00 P.M. – 11:00 P.M.

Hospitality Room



Montana Lions District 37

Montana District 37 Conference Agenda

Saturday, April 30th Business Session

8:00 A.M.	Call to Order
8:00 A.M.-9:00 A.M.	District Business – Recognition of Guest
9:00 A.M.-9:10 A.M.	Nomination for Convention – 2023
9:00 A.M.-9:20 A.M.	Nomination for District Governor – 2022-2023
9:20 A.M.-9:30 A.M.	Nomination for 1 st Vice District Governor – 2022-2023
9:30 A.M.-9:45 A.M.	Approval of Campaign of Ben Apeland for International Director
9:45 A.M.-10:00 A.M.	Coffee Break
10:00 A.M.-10:45 A.M.	American Red Cross Disaster Services
10:45 A.M.-11:30 A.M.	Leader Dog Presentation
11:30 A.M.-11:55 A.M.	Memorial Service
12:00 Noon-1:00 P.M.	Lunch
1:00 P.M.-2:00 P.M.	Brian Lodgson – CAN YOU HEAR ME?? – Communication
2:00 P.M.-2:45 P.M.	NWLERC – The Complete Story of Eyeglasses Recycling
2:45 P.M.-3:00 P.M.	Coffee Break
3:00 P.M.-3:30 P.M.	Plusoptix
3:30 P.M.-4:30 P.M.	Meet and Greet Your Leaders: Patti, Dave, Ben
4:30 P.M.	Adjournment

Saturday, April 30th Evening Events

6:00 P.M.-7:00 P.M.	No Host Bar
7:00 P.M.-7:15 P.M.	Governor's Toasts and Comments
7:15 P.M.-8:30 P.M.	Conference Banquet
8:30 P.M.-9:00 P.M.	Keynote Speaker – International 2 nd Vice President Patti Hill
9:00 P.M.-9:30 P.M.	Final Comments, Awards
9:30 P.M.-11:00 P.M.	Adjournment to Hospitality Room



Montana Lions District 37

Help Support Your

MONTANA LIONS SIGHT & HEARING FOUNDATION

YOU COULD WIN ME!! Contact a Lion or any trustee of the Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation for tickets. Check out the MLSHF website for additional information.



2022 Polaris Basic 500 Ranger with a Dump Box

Tickets: \$20.00 each or 8 for \$100.00 Drawing: April 2022 at the
District Convention

Contact PDG Monte Weisser for tickets or to return tickets with payment:
533 West Arizona, Kalispell 59901; monte014@gmail.com

Need not be present to win

Dues Adjustment Resolution Will Be Voted on at 2022 International Convention

Lions Clubs International supports clubs and members around the world so we can advance our global mission of service together. Our international support and the work of Lions Clubs International is fueled by the international dues of our incredible members.

In recent years, it has become increasingly clear that the services Lions Clubs International has been able to provide to members with the available budget is no longer in line with what Lions need and expect.

The International Board of Directors voted in October 2019 to approve an international dues adjustment resolution that would be voted on at the 2020 International Convention, but it was postponed due to the cancellation of our 2020 convention and the move to a virtual convention in 2021 as we adapted to the pandemic. *The new dues adjustment model will be voted on at the 2022 International Convention in Montreal.*

The Board of Directors undertook an extensive review of Lions Clubs International's financials, including the implementation of substantial budget reductions. After much consideration, the board proposed to adjust dues \$7 over a three-year period.

Under the proposal, international dues would be adjusted according to the following schedule:

- \$3 increase on July 1, 2023
- \$2 increase on July 1, 2024
- \$2 increase on July 1, 2025

We realize the association has been reluctant to adjust dues over the years, and we have not adjusted international dues since 2011. The proposed adjustment will help cover our costs and allow us to suitably serve our members' needs. With that said, the Board of Directors did not take this issue lightly, nor are we minimizing the value of each dollar that our members contribute.

As we consider this dues adjustment, it is essential that we keep in mind that our global efforts and initiatives support more than 1.4 million members in 50,000 clubs around the world. Through the support of staff, we are able to serve globally on the level that we do, keeping members and clubs fully supported with service resources, training events and software, club operational support, hybrid convention, international meetings, language services, technology, Foundation support, leadership support, and everything else we have come to expect as Lions.

A dues adjustment will allow Lions Clubs International to provide improved support to Lions and to continue to invest in improving programs and digital products such as our website and MyLion. It will also allow us to invest in new programs such as the Learning Management System (LMS), development of new curriculum such as digital literacy, training videos, global advertising, marketing automation, digital and video storytelling and other tools and initiatives that will enhance our impact, our brand, and our membership.

Essentially, we have to decide whether or not we want Lions Clubs International to continue to grow and thrive. Lions is more than a way of life. It's also an investment of money, time, energy and passion. As with any good investment, the more we put in, the more returns we see.

I hope that you will see this adjustment as we do: as an investment in the future of Lions. Through your support, we can ensure that Lions are positioned for success in the future.

Yours in Service,

Douglas X. Alexander
International President

HELENA LIONS CLUB FOUNDATION DONATION TO HELENA BABE RUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

The Helena Lions Club Foundation donated \$4000.00 to the Helena Babe Ruth Baseball Association to help fund a playground to be built at Ryan Park in Helena. This park has eight baseball fields, that young boys and girls will use all summer for Babe Ruth baseball and other activities for children. The playground equipment will be a new part of the park that people can bring their children to play on. The Helena Lions Club has sponsored a Babe Ruth team for over 60 years and this donation puts a cap on the \$38,000.00 the new playground equipment will cost. Installation will start in the spring of 2022 and the Helena Lions Club will help with the installation.

2022-2023 CLUB OFFICERS

This is the time of the year that all Lions clubs are responsible for reporting their 2022-2023 club officers. The preferred means of reporting club officers is via MyLCI. Club officers should be reported to LCI prior to May 15, 2022.

LEADERSHIP RETREAT

Due to a low number of signups and an issue with the hotel property the Leadership Retreat Committee has elected to move the Retreat from May 6 & 7 to the fall. New dates will be established in the next few weeks. If you have questions or concerns, contact IPDG Mike Collins, mikeacollins@bresnan.net 406-871-4176



Over 4 Million Children are homeless because of the War in Ukraine.

Our Lions Clubs International Foundation has already dispersed over \$200,000 to Lions Districts in countries affected by this despicable act of aggression! Over 4 million children have been evacuated to Poland, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Austria and safer parts of Ukraine.

To date our Lions Clubs International Foundation has awarded over \$200,000 in grants to Lions Districts in all of the above countries. \$15,000 grants have been awarded to District 121 in Poland, District 119 in Hungary, District 124 in Romania, District 134 in Ukraine, District 122 in Slovakia, District 134 in Ukraine and District 114-O in Austria to name a few.

As the refugees move further into Europe, Lions districts welcoming numerous refugees will become eligible to request grants of up to US\$15,000 through the Lions Clubs International Foundation's Designated Grants for Refugees.

Lions stand for peace and understanding, and we unite through kindness to serve those in need. Your donation to LCIF's REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS FUND will help ensure that Lions are there to help them find the safety and security they desperately need.

Judy and I have made a \$100 dollar donation to this fund. We have made other donations to LCIF this and other years and have designated a Legacy Gift upon our deaths. I mention this so that you will understand we do not just ask for your support of Lions Clubs International Foundation, but that we are committed to its causes.

Already this year the United States has had numerous fires, floods and tornados. Districts, including our own, have requests for grants in the works or awaiting approval for community projects.

Thank you for your past and future support to meet the world's needs.

PDG Lary Garrison, District LCIF Chair

DISTRICT WEBSITE

Our new website, www.montanalions.org is up and running. It is getting more visits week over week, which means it is being used. We have followed the use of the website with metrics which is information about how many visits, how long, how many pages, which pages and new versus returning visitors. We want to encourage all of you to take a look and see what is offered and to determine how you can use the website. Less than 90 members have visited the site. When you start at the home page, take the time to look around and get a feel for what is available and how to access the information. You will be amazed at how easy the directory of officers and clubs is to access. You can search if you want to find what you are looking for. The by-laws and constitution are on the site along with the current and archived monthly newsletters. You can send photos and news articles about your club's activities after the event or before if you want to notify Montana Lions about an upcoming event. You can use the site to help a potential new member to understand what Lions do in Montana. There will be more information every week as clubs post more information and we continue to add to the site. If you have any suggestions about the web site you can contact District Governor Michael Tobin or Website Chair Richard Gessling at, gesslingdds@gmail.com Thank you for checking the website out.

The district website provides a wealth of information:

Lions causes: vision, hearing, diabetes, childhood cancer, the environment.

Endorsed projects: Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation, Florence Crittenton Home, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), Montana Association for the Blind, Lions Gift of Sight, Montana Youth Diabetes.

Events: Club Officer Training

Convention Registration; Convention Information

Newsletters

Club News

Information regarding LCIF

Donation options: Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation and Lions Clubs International Foundation

Contact information: vision screening, 2021-2022 directory, District Governor

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

District 37 Club Officer Training Videos

All Club officers: Trainer IPDG Mike Collins
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jfiAchdTuik>

Club President: Trainer DG Mike Tobin
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYHa-hYzwl>

Club Secretary: Trainer Lion Peggy Tobin
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdA1Zj0KngM>

Club Treasurer: Trainer Mike Collins
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2y2RSeRdA>

IDEAS FOR SERVICE PROJECTS

Did you know that Lions who are actively engaged in Service re happier than Lions who are not serving?

Did you know that Happier People live longer?

Moral of the story: let’s get busy serving our communities.

But how? How do we serve during restrictions and a pandemic?

While our clubs have had local restrictions to our in-person gathering, our communities continue to need us. Some of our neighbors need us desperately.

New Year’s Challenge:

Step 1. Make a plan to serve, to make a difference in your community. You have options:

A: Serve as a club or

B: Serve as an individual

Which ever you choose, serve safely.

Step 2. Select a service activity that meets your community needs and restrictions.

Here are a few ideas that you can adopt to SERVE SAFELY:

FEBRUARY Service Challenge: CHILDHOOD CANCER

- Work with a local restaurant to provide take-out meals to a family whose child is in treatment;
- Drop off a casserole or meal for a family as above;
- Call a grandparent who is worried about a child in treatment and just be a listening ear for them;
- Reach out to family and friends and set a fundraising goal for a donation to LCIF in support of children's cancer services;
- Donate plasma – children with leukemia need plasma as well as blood on a regular basis;

Step 3. Report your service to your Lions Club Secretary. Follow-up and thank your fellow Lions for making sure your service is reported to MyLion.

WEBSITES

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.

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;
Governor.sd37@montanalions.org
Miktob1951@gmail.com

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:

April

Choteau Lions Club	04/26/1927
Dillon Lions Club	04/26/1979
East Missoula Lions Club	04/12/1967
Superior Lions Club	04/03/1952
Townsend/Broadwater County Lions Club	04/29/1982

IMPORTANT DATE

April

Environmental Awareness Month
Family and Friends Month
LEO Awareness Month

Apr. 23-25 LCI Board of Directors Meeting, Kona, Hawaii
Apr. 29-30 District Convention, Great Falls
Apr. 30 World Wide Induction Day
May 1 District Cabinet Meeting, Great Falls

District Convention: April 29 & 30, Great Falls