

District Governor Newsletter

January
2018

DG Lary Garrison
1st VDG Dennis Kopitzke
2nd VDG Verna Love

www.montanalions.org

Newsletter

This is the first edition of the District Governor's newsletter. The newsletter will provide current information regarding the operation of the district and district clubs. The newsletter will be mailed or emailed to each club president and secretary, emailed to club members and posted on the district website.

To make comments or to submit information for publication in the newsletter contact the DG or VDG's.

MESSAGE FROM IP NARESH AGGARWAL

Born in the town of Batala, Punjab, India
In 2017-2018 we will have 1.425 million Lions trying to serve 200 million people throughout the world. Service to others defines who we are. It is our very reason to exist as a global organization. Our motto puts it in terms others can easily understand, "WE SERVE". As I prepared for my year as your international president, those words kept coming back to me. That's why I am proud to have "WE SERVE" represent my theme. Our motto is timeless. It is as relevant today as it was in 1917, and it will inspire us into our next century of service.

"Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come." Our most auspicious time-the new century has come."

MESSAGE FROM DG LARY GARRISON

The first six months started with the 100th International Convention held in Chicago and will officially end at the 101st International Convention to be held in Las Vegas.

Between these two significant events District 37 has been very active. Sometimes we forget that there is activity in all 68 Lions Clubs throughout Montana every day, improving the lives of thousands of Montanans. We are acutely aware of sight and hearing as well as other core Lions projects, but we seldom hear of many other projects unique to many Lions Clubs. The Whitefish Lions Club will be recognized in the new Lions Magazine for one such project called "Farm to Schools." Remember to designate at least one of your new projects as a "Centennial Project."

Your District Governor Team of myself, 1st VDG Dennis Kopitzke and 2nd VDG Verna Love have been busy visiting all of our clubs. WE have a few lifts to do, but we are so impressed as we do these visits in the variety and ingenuity of our clubs addressing their goals.

During the first six months we had members attend the USA/Canada Forum in Portland; District Forum in Helena; Leadership Retreat in Red Lodge; and

Leadership Seminar in Denver as well as Zone Meetings where we have active Zone Chairs.

During the next six months we will have Zone Meetings, Zone Socials (where we have active zone chairs) and our District Convention in Butte.

Remember to submit nominations for the District 37 Hall of Fame. Contact me if you need information. Wishing you a Happy New Year with many successful endeavors during 2018.

PEACE POSTER

It is my pleasure to announce the winners of this year's Peace Poster Contest: 1st Place, Lily McFaidyen, Bozeman; 2nd Place, Noni Dilishneider, Ennis; 3rd Place, Eldila Smith, Helena; Honorable Mention, Rylee Klasma, Ennis; Easton Hanson, Winnett; Parker Hanson, Winnett.

CLUB VISITATIONS

Montana is a huge State. To make sure the DG or a VDG has the opportunity to visit every club in the State a plan has been implemented to try and make sure every club has a visit from the DG or VDG. Below is a summary of the clubs each officer will visit.

DG LARY GARRISON

EUREKA, WHITEFISH, COLUMBIA FALLS, KALISPELL, KALISPELL SUNRISERS, EVERGREEN, POLSON, HOT SPRINGS, PLAINS, SUPERIOR CHARLO, MISSOULA, MISSOULA SOUTHSIDE, EAST MISSOULA, HAMILTON, LOLO, PRIORITY CLUBS, OR OTHER CLUBS AS NEEDED AND/OR REQUESTED.

1ST VDG DENNIS KOPITZKE

ANACONDA, BUTTE COPPER CITY, BUTTE MILE-HI, DEER LODGE, DILLON, HELENA, HELENA GOLD RUSH, TOWNSEND, WHITE SULPUR SPRINGS. FORT BENTON, GREAT FALLS, GREAT FALLS ELECTRIC CITY, GREAT FALLS SUNRISE, SUN RIVER VALLEY, CHINOOK, HAVRE, TURNER-HOGELAND, CUT BANK, SWEETGRASS, CHOTEAU, CONRAD, FARIFIELD, DENTON.

2ND VDG VERNA LOVE

BOZEMAN, GALLATIN EMPIRE, BOZEMAN SOURDOUGH, BOZEMAN SWEET PEA, ENNIS BILLINGS, BILLINGS HEIGHTS, ROUNDUP, SHEPHERD, WINNETT, ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE, BIG TIMBER, COLUMBUS, LAUREL, JOLIET, RED LODGE, BAKER, GLENDIVE, SIDNEY, CULBERTSON, PLENTYWOOD, SCOBAY, WOLF POINT, NASHUA, FORSYTH, HYSHAM.

IMPORTANT DATES

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Trustee Mtg.

January 13 – Helena – 10:00 AM

District Cabinet Meeting (Conference Call)

January 17 – 7:00 PM

District Convention

April 27-28, Butte

District Cabinet Meeting

April 29 – Butte - TBD

LCI Convention

June 29-July 3 – Las Vegas

District Cabinet Meeting

July 21 – Lewistown – TBD

District Leadership Retreat

October 5-6 - Butte

DISTRICT DIRECTORY

A district directory was mailed to every club president and secretary. The directory has also been posted on the district website. If there is a need for corrections contact 1st VDG Dennis Kopitzke. An update was provided in November and a 2nd update was sent in January 2018.

District Convention

The 2018 district convention will be held in Butte on April 27-28. PDG Steve Hadnagy and his convention committee will put on a great convention. This will be an affordable event with great educational opportunities, a chance to meet old friends and make new friends, and at the same time have fun and have an enjoyable weekend. Stay tuned for

more convention information as it becomes available.

Leadership Retreat

PDG George Chenoweth is leading a committee that is moving ahead with plans to hold a District 37 Leadership Retreat on October 5 and 6 in Butte. There promises to be a great lineup of great speakers, an opportunity to improve leadership skills, gain new knowledge, meet and network with fellow Montana Lions. Stay tuned for more details as plans are developed.

Websites

There are several great websites that will be useful for every Lion. Visit the district website montanalions.org to find a wealth of valuable information regarding almost every aspect associated with the operation of the district. The website has easy to use links to: club information, how to use the website, district events, governance, directory, service projects, membership, brochures, online training, Centennial Challenge and much more.

The LCI website, lionsclubsinternational.org also has a wealth of information available to all Lions: general information, service projects, membership, club improvement, online training, media and news releases, LCIF.

From the LCI website club officers can access **MyLCI**. From this link officers can access all types of information regarding their club and the district: member information, club information, statements, service projects, reports (membership, activities, officers). Club reports now have to be filed via MyLCI.

LCI also offers a tremendous amount of information regarding Lionism through its **e-book** educational offerings.

The LCI website offers **model club constitution and by-laws**. If your club needs this type of information check out this website link.

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation website is a great source for information regarding the Foundation and the services it can provide to those in need of help with sight, hearing and/or speech impairments. www.mtlionsshfnd.org/

MyLion Revolutionizing Service

The new MyLion Mobile App is now available. LCI celebrates 100 years with the unveiling of MyLion – a world-class mobile app designed to make service volunteering fun, fast and easy. Get ready to connect and serve with Lions everywhere—right from your mobile phone.

Learn more and download today at:
www.mylion.org

NORTHWEST LIONS EYEGLASS RECYCLING CENTER

As president of NWLERC I would like to thank the Lions clubs of Montana for sending their glasses to us. It takes a lot of work to collect as many glasses as you have. We in the Northwest have been inspecting, cleaning, reading prescriptions and classifying eyeglasses for mission's to countries throughout the world for the last thirteen years. We would like to continue this operation with you. Since our inception we have collected 2,217,718 pair of glasses with 236,514 being sent on 284 missions. We have a saying in our organization which states, "Changing Lives. One Pair of Eyeglasses at a time." Kirby Kee, President

GRANTS

DG Lary Garrison has been extremely active in helping clubs get grants to help with their community service projects including the most recent grants to help Ennis, Seeley Lake, and Baker, DG Lary has a great grasp of the grant process and is willing to help clubs with their grant application. There is a tremendous amount of LCIF money available to help clubs through grant programs: Humanitarian Matching Grant (old Standard Grant), disaster relief (Emergency, Preparedness, Community Recovery, Major Catastrophe); Lions Quest, Diabetes, LEO, District & Club Sharing (old Core 4); a new grant that is just being developed, District and Club Sharing Grant.

Clubs are encouraged to contact DG Lary for more information on grants and how a club might qualify for grant funding.

Centennial Legacy Projects

Connect with your community and build your Lion legacy by planning a Centennial Community Legacy Project. Create a lasting legacy of your service contributions.

All Lions Clubs are encouraged to complete a Legacy Project by June 30, 2018.

Raise Your Community Visibility

- Post new Lions signs
- Donate a park bench
- Sponsor a park fountain

Provide a Community Gift

- Refurbish a park or playground
- Refurbish park equipment
- Fund resources for the visually impaired
- Donate a vehicle to community organization

Make a Community Impact

- Build a clinic
- Expand a library or school
- Develop a training center
- Equip a hospital, clinic

Promotional signs, decals and bronze plaques are available from Club Supplies.

Promote the activity via social media and local media.

Lion Jerry Leggate has obtained a \$600.00 grant to support the Centennial Legacy program.

Forum Review Committee

A committee has been formed to review all aspects of holding an annual Forum. Past forums have been held in Bozeman, Billings and Helena. Forums have been held in the fall to provide another State wide opportunity for Lions to learn, meet friends, share ideas and have an enjoyable experience. Attendance at all the forums has been an issue. The committee plans on coming with a plan to increase attendance at forums and make the forums a great experience at the best cost possible.

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Lion input is always welcome. Send comments to: PID Tom Lehman, PCC Dan Krum, PDG Richard Gessling, VDG Dennis Kopitzke, VDG Verna Love, Lion Jon Kimble.

New Administrator Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

Lion Jessica Falcon, Kalispell Sunriser Lions Club, will assume the duties as the administrator of the Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation.

Lion Jessica has an extensive background of service as a Lion, experience in professional duties that will serve her well in the position and knowledge of social media and how it might best serve the Foundation. Lion Jessica has served as a Foundation trustee for several years and has inside knowledge of the workings of the Foundation.

Lion Jessica can be contacted via email, lion.jfalcon@gmail.com; phone, 406-253-1737; mail, Box 1925, Columbia Falls, MT 59912.

Plusoptix

Another year to do vision screening has rolled around. Please get out into your communities and start scheduling schools. There are a lot of schools that do not have anybody but the Lions of District 37 to help them. The children of the great State of Montana need all the clubs in District 37 to do their best so every child will have a chance of better vision. Remember our motto: WE SERVE. Be aware of the need to screen children that attend Day Cares.

Please send Lion Dave Falcon totals: number of children screened and the number of referrals. Lion Dave Falcon, Lion.dfalcon@gmail.com.

Hall of Fame

Any Lion may nominate a candidate from the District to be included in the District 37 Hall of Fame.

The district governor must receive the nominations 30 days prior to the annual convention (Butte, April 27-28). Each candidate must have 15 years of service, been a participating member of a district cabinet for 5 years and not be a member of current Executive Committee.

For more information contact DG Lary Garrison.

Cabinet Positions

The 2017-2018 Lions year is half over. It is not too soon to start to put together the 2018-2019 cabinet. If any Lion is interested in serving in the district cabinet as a region chair, zone chair, or other cabinet position contact 1st VDG Dennis Kopitzke. Detailed information regarding specific positions will be provided.

As of this issue of the newsletter the district is also in need of Lions interested in serving as a VDG and eventually moving up to the position of District Governor. Contact DG Lary, VDG Dennis or VDG Verna if interested in serving. More information about the position will be provided.

Contact Information

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Billings, 59105; 406-896-1746; 406-855-
6997; lionlarygarrison@gmail.com
1st VDG Dennis Kopitzke, Box 1266,
Forsyth, 59327; 406-346-1488; 406-853-
8695; djk_7491@rangeweb.net

2nd VDG Verna Love, 820 N. Montana
Street, #10; Dillong, MT 50725; H 406-
299-1510; C 406-498-5796;
vprosgroup@hotmail.com

It's Great To Be A Lion

LIONS

WE SERVE

**PLEASE PASS THIS
NEWSLETTER
INFORMATION TO
OTHER CLUB
MEMBERS. THANKS.**