

District Governor Newsletter

December
2018

DG Dennis Kopitzke
1st VDG Verna Love
2nd VDG Mike Collins

Courtesy and Respect Empowers
www.montanalions.org

FORUM CANCELLATION

The 2018 Montana Forum will not be held. The number of received registrations was too low to warrant moving ahead with the Forum. The district will begin an extensive review of our efforts to provide general training opportunities, officer training zone chair training and other training to district Lions.

If you have made room reservations you should take steps to cancel those reservations. If you have paid the registration fee please contact VDG Verna Love: 406-988-4385; vprosgroup@hotmail.com

NEW VOICES

The New Voices initiative celebrates women's contributions of Lions Clubs International by focusing on increasing the number of women in Lions clubs and closing the gap between men and women in leadership positions.

Leading the initiative will be the Global Chairperson and eight Constitutional Area Teams who work with district governors and the Global Action Team to create awareness conduct webinars and identify Lions who have made a difference but whose voices have not been heard.

PID Sangeeta Jatia is the global chairperson. Jatia suggests that Lions work to make clubs and districts women friendly, with late evening meetings and Sunday meetings that include family. Lions need to be the ones to educate

society that Lions are indeed both men and women. And while these Lions-men and women-work daily to meet the needs of all those they serve, she says. "We need to understand the needs of each other."

Go to the weserve.org/newvoices website to learn more about the program.

What's Inside the Newsletter?

- P. 1 - Forum Cancellation
- P. 1 - New Voices
- P. 2 – Plusoptix, G.F. Sunrise Project
- P. 3 – Membership, Service
- P. 4 – LCIF, Leadership
- P. 5 – Guiding Line Program
- P. 5 – Low Vision Reader Project
- P. 5 - Peace Poster Contest
- P. 6 – Important Dates, Websites
- P. 6 – Contact Information
- P. 7 – Montana Vests

PLUSOPTIX

The purpose of the plusoptix vision screener is to empower users to detect most prevalent vision disorders in children as early as possible. The earlier a vision disorder is detected the better it can be treated, and Amblyopia, i.e. a lazy eye, can be prevented. Both eyes are measured simultaneously from one meter away. Measurement results are compared to age specific thresholds and a "Pass" or "Refer" vision screening result is displayed, immediately. Children with a "Refer" screening result need to be sent to an eye care professional for a follow-up eye examination.

In 2018 clubs have screened 14,401 students with 1309 referrals. There are 25 S12 machines and 9 S9 machines in the State. Clubs with screening machines will work with local clubs do help do screenings.

For more information contact: Lion Dave Falcon, 314 9th Street West, Kalispell, 59901; 406-253-1226; lion.dfalcon@gmail.com



We Serve

GREAT FALLS SUNRISE

MSDB PLAYGROUND PROJECT

Recently the Great Falls Sunrise Lions completed two projects at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind as a continuation of the Lions signatory mission of sight and hearing conservation. The school playground had the need for several maintenance projects.

The playground project was to recondition the 70 lineal feet of boardwalk which is part of 325 foot Tactile Loop where students learning white cane skills can experience the different types of surfaces they will encounter in real life off of campus. Other parts of the loop are concrete, asphalt and bare gravel paths. The Lions plan on adding brick pavers to get one more surface to practice on.

During October and early November, the Lions completed the restoration of the boardwalk and reconfigured the Tactile Loop, removing and relocating the 90' asphalt section away from the trees and root problem and replacing that area with a new 90' gravel section. United Materials of Great Falls donated approximately 50% of the \$7800.00 contract.

The original project is now complete and the additional brickwork improvements are scheduled for early spring. The total project estimate is approximately \$20,000.00.



MEMBERSHIP

PDG Lary Garrison has accepted the position of District 37 Global Membership Team (GMT) leader. Clubs can contact PDG Lary: 703 Conway Street, Billings, 59105; 406-855-6997; lionlarygarrison@gmail.com.

Membership GMT Leader, PDG Lary Garrison. The District will start 2 new clubs, 1 standard club and 1 LEO club, during the 2018-2019 Lions year. District membership will be increased by a net of 56 new members.

Membership is an issue for almost all Montana Lions Club. The cabinet is supporting plans to increase club membership: (1) Zone chairs will be asked to work with clubs in their zone to determine specific membership issues, determine what help is needed and provide resources to deal with membership issues. (2) every Montana Lions Club will be asked to increase membership by at least 5 members during the 2018-2019 Lions year. Membership forms will be provided, a brochure explaining why joining Lions is a worthwhile experience, information on recruiting and retaining members. (3) the district will work to establish regional membership leaders. The leaders will work with zone chairs and clubs to increase membership (4) the district will work to establish a Lions Club in Lewistown.

A 2018-2019 STANDARD MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT APPLICATION has been sent to club presidents and secretaries.

SERVICE

Service: GST Leader Lion Jerry Leggate, 1315 2nd Street West, 59101; 406-256-8770; jnleggate@yahoo.com. All District clubs will participate in service projects during the 2018-2019 Lions year. Each club will participate in at least 1 service project associated with diabetes, environment, hunger, and vision. An effort will be made to involve each club in a pediatric cancer service project.

AREAS OF SERVICE (Possible Activities)

Diabetes

- Promote Healthy Diabetes Related Action From Club and Family Members
- Work With Senior Centers to Provide Related Information
- Work With School Districts to Provide Related Information
- Work With Local Medical Facilities to Develop and Promote Diabetes Action Plans

Environment

- Adopt a Highway
- Arbor Day Celebration
- Community Cleanup Event
- Earth Day Event
- Tree City USA
- Park Improvement

Hunger

- Community Food Pantry
- Holiday Baskets
- Town Pump Assistance Program

Vision

- Community Eyeglass Assistance Program
- Plusoptix eye screening
- Support for Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation
- Used Eyeglass Collection Program

Pediatric Cancer

- Be Community Aware
- Seek and Support Local Non-Profits Associated With Providing Related Assistance
- Seek and Support Social Service Organizations
- Seek and Support Local Medical Facilities

We Serve

LCIF

CAMPAIGN 100

Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)
Leader; PDG Monte Weisser; 533 West Arizona, Kalispell, 59901; 406-756-8528; 406-890-9561; monte014@gmail.com. Seventy five (75) percent or at least 51 clubs will report at least 1 contribution to LCIF during the 2018-2019 Lions Year.

LCIF Empowering Service: Campaign 100 will be the most ambitious fundraising effort in LCIF history, Campaign 100 will span three years and seek to raise \$300 million. By June 30, 2021, Campaign 100 will empower Lions to serve 200 over million people each year and ensure you have resources to:

- Increase service impact:
- Help improve vision
- Support youth activities
- Provide disaster relief
- Support humanitarian causes
- Fight diabetes
- Fight and eliminate hunger
- Treat childhood cancer
- Improve our environment

Together, we'll respond to these issues with comprehensive initiatives targeted to the communities where we live and serve. Every Lions Club and Lion will be asked to contribute to this effort. To donate visit: lcif.org/BE100

LCIF DISTRICT AND CLUB COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS (DCG)

LCIF is announcing that District and Club Community Impact Grants (DCG) will be available for application beginning in July 2018. Donations made by a club or a district **during this current fiscal year** will count toward the requirements for this new grant opportunity. Funds raised by a club will remain in that club's account until the club notifies LCIF to apply the funds to the district's account.

*The program is available to both district and clubs;

*15 percent of unrestricted and/or general campaign donations will be available for DCG's;

*Only unrestricted and general campaign donations will qualify;

*Districts and clubs will be required to meet a minimum donation level to enable 15 percent of their donation to be counted towards their available funds to be accessed through the DCG program;

*For districts, the minimum cumulative donation amount is \$10,000 per fiscal year;

*For clubs, the minimum cumulative donation amount is \$5,000 per fiscal year.

**A GRANT APPLICATION WILL BE SENT TO
THE CLUB PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY**

LEADERSHIP

Leadership: GLT Leader, PID Dave Hajny; Box 1489, Ennis, 59729; 406-682-4586; 406-596-4596; whodat@3rivers.net. Montana District 37 will host 3 major leadership training events during the 2018-2019 Lions year. Leadership Retreat, Montana Forum (canceled), District 37 Convention.

The **2019 District Convention** will be held in Sidney on April 26 and 27. The start of the convention on Friday will feature opportunities to play golf, visit historical locations or visit great tourist locations. Friday evening will feature a social event and fundraising auction. Saturday features the business session with voting on several important district issues, relevant workshops that will be of interest to all Lions and the convention ends with the Saturday night banquet and message from our international guest PID Marvin Chambers. Registration and other key information will be distributed starting in mid-December.

**A 2018-2019 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT
GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION** has been sent to club presidents and secretaries.

GUIDING LIONS PROGRAM

“Leadership is more than service, it is enabling others to be more productive.”

While all Lions are welcome to take the course, it is recommended as a foundation to anyone who will work with new or existing clubs or serve (or plan to serve) in a leadership position. Upon completion of the course, you will become a Certified Guiding Lion! However, to be appointed as a Guiding Lion, please note that you must have served as club president. While the course may be valuable to any Lion, the experience of being a club president is critical to your success in guiding a new or existing club.

CERTIFIED GUIDING LION COURSE OBJECTIVES

The Guiding Lion Program is designed to assist clubs that are newly chartered, established or have a priority designation. Guiding Lions are assigned for a two-year term by the district governor in consultation with the sponsoring or established club president. Guiding Lions are limited to serving no more than two new clubs at any point in time.

Even if you are an experienced Guiding Lion, you will benefit from this course because it provides the most comprehensive overview available of the roles and responsibilities of a Guiding Lion.

The Certified Guiding Lion Course will help you:

1. Understand your role as a Guiding Lion
2. Help you develop a plan to guide the club to become self-sufficient and strong
3. Provide tools to help the club officers manage their club
4. Establish a system to track development over the course of your term

Successfully completing this course will certify you for three years. You are required to recertify every three years to maintain certification. Please also note that you do not need to be certified to be assigned to a club as a Guiding Lion, however, you must have served as a club president to be qualified for club assignment. For Information and Tools for Guiding Lions certifiedguidinglions@lionsclubs.org

LOW VISION READER PROJECT

The Great Falls Lions Clubs in cooperation with the Montana School for Deaf and Blind Children and as a District 37 endorsed project, have embarked on a fundraising campaign. The campaign will raise approximated \$150,000.00 to help purchase 50 low vision closed captioned CCTV's. The machines will help students with vision problems become more independent in elementary school and will give them a better chance to keep up with their sighted peers.

The technology will empower the students by allowing them to read any book not just large print editions. The CCTV units can be used to support education in math, science, reading, language arts, and life skills. The devices are life changing.

For more information and to provide financial support for this great project contact: PDG Jack Beckman; 301 Skyline Drive NE; Great Falls, 59404; Home: 406-453-6390; Cell: 406-231-2424; jtbeckman@bresnan.net

PEACE POSTER CONTEST

The 2018-2019 peace poster theme was:

The logo for the 'Kindness Matters' contest features the words 'Kindness Matters' in a colorful, multi-colored font. The word 'Kindness' is in shades of purple, blue, and green, while 'Matters' is in shades of yellow, orange, and red. The text is set against a white background with a subtle shadow effect.

Contest winners were:

- 1st Z. Graham, Sweet Pea
- 2nd J. Hales, Helena
- 3rd S. Browning, Winnett

Additional entries were received from Ennis and Winnett.

IMPORTANT DATES

Advisory Committee

December 9, Noon, Big Timber

Friendship Committee

December 9, 4:00 PM, Big Timber

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

January 15 – 6:30 PM Phone Meeting

District 37 Cabinet

January 16 – 7:00 PM Phone Meeting

Faculty Development Institute

January 18-21, Reno

Websites

There are several great websites that will be useful for every Lion. 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 The website has a wealth of information available to all Lions: general information, service projects, membership, club improvement, online training, media and news releases, and LCIF.

The Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation website is a great for information regarding the sight, hearing and/or speech impairments, www.mtlionsshfnd.org

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

Contact Information

DG Dennis Kopitzke, Box 1266, Forsyth, 59327; 406-346-1488; 406-853-8695;
djk_7491@rangeweb.net

1st VDG Verna Love, 820 N. Montana Street, #10; Dillon, MT 50725; H 406-2
988-4585; C 406-498-5796; vprosgroup@hotmail.com

2nd VDG Mike Collins, 40 Meadowlark Drive; Kalispell, MT 59901; H 406-752-3473; C
406-871-4176; mikeacollins@bresnan.net

**LIONS: WE SERVE
PLEASE PASS THIS NEWSLETTER INFORMATION
TO OTHER CLUB MEMBERS**

District Vests: The district has a number of vests for sale. LCI convention attendees purchased vests (\$65.00) and wore them in the LCI convention parade. Contact PID Dave Hajny for more information on the vests. 406-596-4596; whodat@3rivers.net

