

# District Governor Newsletter

May  
2019

DG Dennis Kopitzke  
1<sup>st</sup> VDG Verna Love  
2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Mike Collins

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## IPE

### Dr. Jung Yul Choi Visit to Bozeman

International President Elect Dr. Jung Yul Choi and wife Lion Seong-Bok Yang will visit Bozeman on May 14 – 16. Our guests will arrive in Bozeman at 4:30 on Tuesday evening. There will be a meet and greet event, at the Element Hotel, on the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup>. If a Lion is interested in attending the meet and greet please RSVP to PCC Ben Apeland (406-595-0102; [Benjamin@montana.com](mailto:Benjamin@montana.com))

Please make arrangements as soon as possible.

Wednesday will be spent visiting Lions clubs from Bozeman, visiting the PID Gary Tschache memorial, traveling to Townsend and visit clubs in the Townsend/Helena area, traveling to Ennis and possibly visiting

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Virginia City, Ennis Lions Park,  
Ennis senior center, Ennis Lions

and returning to Bozeman for dinner.

The IPE and Lion Seong-Bok will depart Bozeman at 6:30 AM on Thursday.

## **2019 District Convention Convention Summary**

Thanks to the Sidney Lions Club and the convention committee for a great convention. Approximately 145 Lions and guests attended the convention.

The featured guests were PID Marvin Chambers and Lion Lynne. PID Marvin and Lynne are from Fillmore, Saskatchewan. They made a significant, positive impact on all the Lions and serve as role models for all Lions

There were a number of great informational presentations by a variety of presenters: LEO Service Project, PDG Craig Price; Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation, PDG Dan Sturdevant and Lion Jessica Falcon; Montana Association for the Blind, Jocelyn DeHaas; Leader Dog, Lion Don Cherni; Plusoptix, Lion Dave



PID Marvin Chambers answers questions

Falcon; MSDB Digital Reader Project, PDG Jack Beckman; Lions Gift of Sight Project, Lion Sean Poppoff; Lions Clubs International Foundation, PDG Monte Weisser; North American Membership Initiative, PID Dave Hajny.

The convention kickoff was held at the Sidney Country Club with a social, music by the “Fermenters” and great food.

Saturday’s events got off to a humorous and enjoyable start with the cowboy poetry and comments by local celebrity Bill Lowman.

The business session featured the election, by unanimous votes, of Lion Verna Love (Dillon Lions Club) as our 2019-2020 district governor; Lion Mike Collins (Kalispell Lions Club), 1<sup>st</sup> vice district governor and Lion Mike

Tobin (Sunburst, Couotts/Sweetgrass Lions Club), 2<sup>nd</sup> vice district governor.

PCC Ben Apeland (Bozeman Gallatin Empire Lions Club) was unanimously approved as our candidate for a position as a member of the LCI board of directors.



Attentive convention attendees

Glendive (Glendive Lions Club) was selected for the site of the 2020 district convention. Dates for the convention are April 24-25, 2020.

The annual **Parade of Green** raised over \$26,000.00 for great service projects in our State. Thanks to all the clubs that participated in the Parade of Green.

The convention concluded on Saturday night with the annual banquet and featured presentation by PID Marvin Chambers.

Numerous awards were presented to deserving Lions. The prestigious Presidential Award was presented to Lion Dave Falcon (Kalispell Sunrisers); PDG Jack Beckman (Great Falls Sunrise) and PCC Ben Apeland (Gallatin Empire).

International President Certificates of Appreciation were presented to: PDG Lary Garrison, Lion Raleigh Peck, Lion Kim Hamlin, Lion Ron Gebhardt, Lion Amanda Siegfried, and Lion Raymond Carlson.

PDG Craig Price and Lion Wayne Gibson were elected to the District 37 Hall of Fame.

The Sidney Lions Club awarded Melvin Jones Fellowships to Lion Amanda Siegfried and Lion Raymond Carlson.



Lion Dave Falcon talks about Plusoptix

## **Zone Chair/Region Chair Club Officer Training**

On the Friday, April 25, in Sidney extensive training was offered to 39 zone chairs, region chairs, and incoming club presidents, secretaries, treasurers and membership chairs.

The training was all related to the Club Quality Initiative which will be the centerpiece for DGE Verna Love's year as district governor.

The zone/region chair training instruction included presentations related to:

- Role of Zone Chairperson
- Cross-Level Communication
- Serving as Club Consultant
- Goal Setting & Action Planning

Officer training included presentations related to:

- Understanding the Club Quality Initiative Process
- Understanding the Process of Change
- Determining the Need for Change
- Setting Goals
- Developing Plans for Change
- Implementing Plans for Change

Instructors for the training included PID Dave Hajny, PDG Lary

Garrison, DG Dennis Kopitzke, 1<sup>st</sup> VDG Verna Love and 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Mike Collins.



Lion Don Cherni and Benny (Leader Dog)

## **2019-2020 CLUB OFFICERS**

This is the time of the year that clubs need to start planning for officers for the 2019-2020 Lions year. Clubs should be making arrangements for selecting club: **president; 1<sup>st</sup> vice president; 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> vice presidents; secretary; treasurer; membership chairperson; LCIF coordinator, club service chair person, and communications & marketing chair.**

## **NORTH AMERICAN MEMBERSHIP INITIATIVE NAMI**

Montana District 37 has been selected, as a pilot district, to participate in the LCI North American Membership Initiative. NAMI is a pilot project to develop new ideas, concepts and programs to try and increase membership and retention of Lions in North America. The primary objectives include: (1) rejuvenate districts with new clubs (2) revitalize clubs

with new members (3) re-motivate members with new fellowships and exciting service.

The process of involvement in NAMI includes: (1) established a steering committee and make a commitment to the project (2) analyze the district to determine strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (3) develop a plan (4) work to get club commitment to the project (5) implement the plan.

More information will be provided to clubs as the project progresses.

Clubs will be involved with the implementation of multiple aspects of the district plan, which could include leadership development, club marketing and welcoming new members.

## **TURNER/HOGELAND LIONS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANT**

**\$10,000.00**

The Turner/Hogeland Lions Club was provided an LCIF emergency preparedness grant in the amount of \$10,000.00. The grant will be used to support the Big Flat Grocery in their purchase of a 30KW generator to help the store provide emergency services in case of a weather emergency.

## **LOW VISION READER PROJECT**

**\$100,000.00 LCIF GRANT**

Congratulations to the Great Falls Sunrise Lions Club, PDG Jack Beckman, PDG Lary Garrison, PDG Monte Weisser and the Montana School for Deaf and Blind. LCIF approved a standard grant of \$100,000.00.

The grant is part of the campaign to 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.

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](mailto:jtbeckman@bresnan.net)

## **ENNIS LIONS CLUB ENNIS SENIOR CENTER \$75,000.00**

Earlier this Lions year the Ennis Lion Club was awarded \$75,000.00 for the expansion of the Ennis Senior Center. The facility plays a key role in the community and has become the center for providing services to the local seniors as well as providing Meals on Wheels for the homebound of the surrounding area.

## **LCIF Grant Funds**

LCIF has grant funds available to Montana Lions Clubs. PDG Lary Garrison has been instrumental in helping clubs get LCIF grants. If your club has a project and you are interested in applying for an LCIF grant, contact PDG Lary Garrison, 406-855-6997; [lionlarygarrison@gmail.com](mailto:lionlarygarrison@gmail.com)

## **CENTENNIAL SERVICE CHALLENGE AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following clubs for their involvement in the Centennial Community Legacy Projects and for earning the Centennial Service Challenge Awards.

Baker, Billings, Billings Heights, Bozeman Sourdough, Bozeman Sweet Pea, Butte Copper City, Chinook, Choteau, Coutts/Sweetgrass, Dillon, Ennis, Evergreen, Eureka/Tobacco Valley, Forsyth, Great Falls Electric City, Hamilton, Helena, Helena Gold Rush, Huntley Project, Joliet, Kalispell, Kalispell Sunrisers, Lolo, Missoula Southside, Nashua, Seeley Lake, Sidney, Townsend, Whitefish White Sulphur Springs, Winnett.

## LEWISTOWN LIONS CLUB

An extensive effort is being made to start a new Lions Club in Lewistown. A team led by Paul Baker (LCI New Club Specialist) and including PDG Lary Garrison, PDG Melody Whitcher, PDG Jim Johnke, PDG Jack Beckman, 2<sup>nd</sup> VDG Mike Collins and DG Dennis Kopitzke spent 3 full days, March 25-27, in Lewistown. The team canvassed many of the businesses in Lewistown and encouraged community members to attend an informational meeting and become charter members of the club. The effort will continue with additional informational meetings on Tuesday, April 2 and a club organizational meeting on Thursday, April 4.

## “HEART OF A LION”

### GLENDIVE LIONS CLUB

The Glendive Lions Club is recognizing volunteers in their community through a life size monument of a Lion sculpted by Harvey Rattey and re-designed by Pamela Harr titled “Heart of a Lion” refers to the dedication, loyalty, love and passion to serve others.

Miniature (4 ½” x 5”) lion sculptures are available for purchase for \$500.00 each. Raffle tickets for a chance to win a miniature lion sculpture will be available for \$20.00 each or 6 chances for \$100.00. The Glendive Lions Club will have a display table at the convention with more information on the project and with raffle tickets for sale.

## PLUSOPTIX

The workable update for the plusoptix S-12 machines has been received. The manual that goes with the new update is available for downloading at [plusoptix.com/support](http://plusoptix.com/support), version 7.1.2.0.

Please send your screening results to Lion Dave Falcon. A reminder that we still have warranty cards for the plusoptix machines.

For more information contact: Lion Dave Falcon, 314 9<sup>th</sup> Street West, Kalispell, 59901; 406-253-1226; [lion.dfalcon@gmail.com](mailto:lion.dfalcon@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP

### THE KEY TO MEMBERSHIP GROWTH: JUST ASK!

Every club in the State has been asked to recruit at least 5 new members during the 2018-2019 Lions year. Thanks for helping the district meet this goal.

There are several steps that clubs can take to promote membership growth and increase retention of current members:

#### #1 – Prepare Your Club

- Decide what you want to accomplish as a club;
- What are your club goals?
- Who are your target members?
- All club members need to be encouraged to recruit new members

#### #2 – Create a Club Growth Plan

- Who will you recruit?
- Where and when will you recruit?
- What materials will you recruit with?
- Hold an informational meeting and determine how you will promote the meeting

#### #3 – Implement your Growth Plan

- Reach out to your target members
- Host the informational meeting
- Follow-up with meeting participants
- Regularly review your club growth plan

#### #4 - Welcome New Members

- Conduct a new member induction ceremony
- Off your new members orientation and mentoring
- Involve your new members

For more complete details on how to increase club membership go to the LCI website and download: JUST ASK! New Member Recruiting Guide for Clubs

*Membership GMT Leader, PDG Lary Garrison: 703 Conway Street, Billings, 59105; 406-855-6997; [lionlarygarrison@gmail.com](mailto:lionlarygarrison@gmail.com).*

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

**NOTE: Club presidents and secretaries please remember to submit your Monthly Membership Report (MMR) to LCI.**

## SERVICE

It is extremely important that all clubs appoint a **Club Service Chairperson** for the 2019-2020 Lions year. The chairperson would be responsible for the promotion of club service projects and the reporting of the service projects to LCI.

Club officers need to consider improving basic computer skills especially the use of MyLCI and MyLion. Tutorials are available on the LCI website or contact the district governor and training can be made available to individual club officers.

When searching for or beginning a new project utilize a community need assessment. LCI provides information about the assessment and club officers can download the LCI recommended assessment.

Great areas for service for all clubs in our district include: diabetes, environment, hunger, vision and pediatric cancer/youth.

**Service:** GST Leader Lion Jerry Leggate, 1315 2<sup>nd</sup> Street West, 59101; 406-256-8770; [jnleggate@yahoo.com](mailto:jnleggate@yahoo.com). All District clubs will participate in service projects during the 2018-2019 Lions year.

**NOTE: Club presidents and secretaries please remember to submit your Monthly Activity Report (MAR) to LCI.**

## LCIF

### CAMPAIGN 100

**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

As Lions we will 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: [www.lcif.org/BE100](http://www.lcif.org/BE100)

### A \$100.00 Donation:

- Provides immediate relief to four people in the wake of a natural disaster;
- Provides the measles vaccination to 100 children;
- Provides diabetes screening for 18 at-risk individuals;
- Gives access to clean water for 14 people;
- Feeds 14 disabled, elderly or low-income people;
- Funds two cataract surgeries.

**Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF)** Leader; PDG Monte Weisser; 533 West Arizona, Kalispell, 59901; 406-756-8528; 406-890-9561; [monte014@gmail.com](mailto:monte014@gmail.com).

## 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;

## LEADERSHIP

The district will provide **additional training at the district convention** for incoming club presidents, secretaries, treasurers and any other Lion that would like to attend. Training details will be provided as plans are finalized.

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 February.

**Leadership:** GLT Leader, PID Dave Hajny; Box 1489, Ennis, 59729; 406-682-4586; 406-596-4596; [whodat@3rivers.net](mailto:whodat@3rivers.net).

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

## USA/CANADA FORUM SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2019

The 2019 USA/Canada Forum will be held on September 19-21 in Spokane. The forum is a great opportunity to develop leadership skills, provide motivation and educational opportunities, provide an open exchange of ideas and support programs and goals of Lions Clubs International.

For more information contact incoming district governor Verna Love, [vprosgroup@hotmail.com](mailto:vprosgroup@hotmail.com)

## 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.

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](mailto:certifiedguidinglions@lionsclubs.org)





Everyone including Benny enjoyed the convention

## IMPORTANT DATES

- Advisory Committee Meeting  
June 22 – 10:00 AM, Butte
- Friendship Committee Meeting  
June 22 – Noon, Butte
- International Convention  
July 5-9 – Milan, Italy
- District Cabinet Meeting  
July 28 – 10:00 AM, Great Falls.
- Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Fdn.  
August 3 – 10:00 AM, Ennis
- USA/Canada Forum  
September 19-21 - Spokane
- Montana Forum  
September 28 – Helena
- Leadership Retreat  
October 11-12 – Big Sky

## Websites

There are several great websites that will be useful for every Lion. Visit the district website: [www.montanalions.org](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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

2<sup>nd</sup> 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**