

District Governor Newsletter

June
2019

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

Courtesy and Respect Empowers
www.montanalions.org

IPE Dr. Jung Yul Choi Visit to Bozeman

International President Elect Dr. Jung Yul Choi and wife Lion Seong-Bok Yang visited Montana on May 14-16. On Tuesday, May 14th, our guests enjoyed a meet and greet with approximately 40 Montana Lions and then enjoyed a great meal at the Open Range Restaurant in downtown Bozeman.



PID Gary Tschache Memorial

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IPE Dr. Choi and Lion Seong-Bok Yang

Wednesday morning was spent attending a meeting of the Gallatin Empire Lions Club and visiting the PID Gary Tschache memorial.

Late that morning our guests and 15 Lions from around the State traveled to Townsend and had lunch with members of the Broadwater County and Helena area Lions. Several Lions participated with the 3rd graders as they took part in a Skype presentation arranged by the Broadwater Lions Club. The author of the book "A Is For Attitude" joined the students and teachers in a discussion of the book and how it can affect the attitudes of everyone.



Townsend 3rd Graders and Lion Bob Brastrup

The afternoon was spent visiting Virginia City. Wednesday's event finished with a visit to the Ennis Lions park and a potluck dinner with the members of the Ennis Lions club in the newly renovated Ennis Senior Citizen center. The center was renovated with the help of an LCI grant.



Ennis Lions Club and Renovated Senior Center

IPE Choi and Lion Seong-BoK Yang departed for Columbus, Ohio early Thursday morning.

Dr. Choi's visit gave Montana Lions a great opportunity to showcase 3 of our clubs, feature significant service projects, inform Dr. Choi of the challenges facing Montana Lions Club and allow him to meet a variety of great Montana Lions.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to DGE Verna Love (Dillon), 1st VDGE Mike Collins (Kalispell) and 2nd VDGE Michael Tobin (Coutts/Sweetgrass). They will assume district leadership positions on July 1.

EMERGENCY GRANTS

As spring rains and snow melt continues there will be continuing issues with flooding. LCIF has emergency grant funds available Grants may be awarded for a maximum of \$10,000.00. For more information contact district grant writer PDG Lary Garrison, 406-855-6997; lionlarygarrison@gmail.com for DG Dennis Kopitzke, 406-346-1488; djk_7491@rangeweb.net

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; 1st vice president; 2nd and 3rd vice presidents; secretary; treasurer; membership chairperson; LCIF coordinator, club service chair person, and communications & marketing chair.**

ZONE CHAIRS

As the 2018-2019 Lions year winds down Zone Chairs are reminded to send final zone meeting reports to the district governor. Remember that each zone is allowed \$100.00 to put on a zone social. Contact district treasurer PCC Dan Krum for information on payment for the social event.

SERVICE GRANTS FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE JUNE 30

Clubs will have the opportunity to receive a special grant for all new Lions reported between April 1 and June 30.

Apply for the grant beginning in July. Officers of eligible clubs will receive the application via email in July to apply for a Service Grant for New Members, which awards a total of \$35.00 for each new member in two installments on December 31, 2019 and June 30, 2020 club statements if new members stay active

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

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

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, was successful, in starting 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, 2nd 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 was successful and the club has been created. PDG Jim Johnke and PDG Melody Whitcher will serve as Guiding Lions. It is anticipated that a charter night will be held later this summer.

“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, 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 9th Street West, Kalispell, 59901; 406-253-1226; 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.

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 2nd Street West, 59101; 406-256-8770; 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

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.

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

In the early months of the 2019-2020 Lions year the district is planning several major events that will emphasize leadership, membership, and service

Plans are in the works to hold a **Montana Forum** in Helena on September 28. This will be a great opportunity to meet other Lions, discuss issues affecting all Montana Lions and get participate in informational presentations that will be of value in any role that a Lion might be involved in at the club or district level.

The district's **Leadership Retreat** will be held at Buck's T4 Lodge in Big Sky on October 4 and 5. Selected Lions will have the opportunity to attend the event and receive valuable

training related to being a more effective leader at the club and district level. More information and invitations will be mailed early this summer. All expenses associated with attending this training will be provided by the district.

Leadership: GLT Leader, PID Dave Hajny; Box 1489, Ennis, 59729; 406-682-4586; 406-596-4596; 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

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

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 4-5 – Big Sky

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**