

District Governor Newsletter

September
2019

DG Verna Love
1st VDG Mike Collins
2nd VDG Michael Tobin
www.montanalions.org

MONTANA FORUM September 27 & 28

The 2019 Montana Forum will be held in Helena on September 27 & 28. The event will be held at the Kleffner Ranch which is located 1 mile south of East Helena on Highway 518.

Friday night events include a social and a live auction to benefit the Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation.

Please bring auction items.

Saturday includes a wide variety of educational and informative presentations including: Club and Community Needs Assessments; Goal Setting for Club Success; Fundraising and Service Project Development; informational presentations associated with the Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation, MSDB Low Vision Reader Project, Plusoptix, and North American Membership Initiative (NAMI).

The Forum concludes on Saturday night with a prime rib dinner and a presentation by PCC Ben Apeland (Montana candidate for International Director).

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The \$45.00 registration fee includes hors d'oeuvres on Friday night, lunch snacks, and prime rib dinner on Saturday. Room reservations and Saturday morning breakfast will be the responsibility of attendees.

See the Registration Form and Forum Schedule attached to this newsletter. For more information and to register for the Forum, contact PDG Dan Sturdevant; Box 275, Clancy, 59634; 406-439-9297; sturdydan@gmail.com.

DG Verna Love 2019-2020 Message

This is an exciting time to be in Lions – especially in Montana!

There are some really great things going on in our district - 37.

First and foremost, I would like to thank you, the 1,672 members, and 66 clubs within this district for entrusting me to lead as your governor.

As Lions Clubs International approaches its 103rd year, being the largest volunteer service organization in the world, Montana, has at least 3 clubs that have been involved in this effort for 91 plus years! In that we can celebrate.

With Montana being the fourth largest state in the union, and, being a single district, we are one of the largest districts in Constitutional Area 1; with that being stated, here are some interesting facts about district 37:

Our International president, Dr. Jung-Yul Choi visited Montana in May of this year. He arrived in Bozeman, and toured, Bozeman, Townsend, and

Ennis. This doesn't usually occur except for a special interest.

The North American Membership Initiative, (NAMI): We were selected to be a proto type district to help the entire world –wide attempt to improve membership retention and leadership development in our service organization.

There were only 9 districts selected in North America, (including a cyber club), with Montana being the only single district to participate in this pilot program. More details will be forthcoming in future newsletters and forum discussion though out the lions year.

We have organized a Women's Symposium scheduled for November 9th, 2019, a project that many other districts in Constitutional Area 1 have not done.

We have received grants from LCIF in excess of \$200,000. In speaking with 740 in-coming District Governors, this was unbelievable! Therefore, investing in LCIF Campaign 100 works; so we encourage the clubs within our district to further their contributions.

This is my goal as district governor for District 37 2019-2020:

- a.) To close the gaps reaching back to when we were part of a multiple district.
- b.) To add new clubs and members.
- c.) To increase the quality of our clubs' service and meetings.
- d.) To re-assess the needs of our quality of service and visibility to the communities we live in and serve.

- e.) To provide training for club and cabinet officers in leadership positions.
- f.) To facilitate the needs of those that we serve in a way that is more meaningful.

My message is very simple, which, drew me to Lions 8 years ago; Our International President, Jung-Yul Choi states the same: “We are a world-wide organization that focuses on diversity and servant leadership”, we promote the following world-wide causes and objectives:

1. Diabetes
2. Vision
3. Hunger
4. Environment
5. Childhood Cancer

I, and my governor’s team follow an “open door” policy, and we are just a phone call away.

Please remember to visit our website at <http://news.montanalions.org/> for more news and updates.

As we schedule and make our rounds of visiting with you in the coming months, we wish you well and hope you and your club have an exciting year of service!

Thank you for allowing us to be AT YOUR SERVICE!

Lions: We Serve

USA/CANADA FORUM



The USA/Canada Forum is fast approaching! There is still time to register. The largest and best Lions Club Leadership training event in world, the USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum is for you! With over 70 seminars training sessions related to developing quality Lions Clubs, thousands of Lions Leaders share their experiences.

You may register by following this link on line: HOME PAGE - USA/Canada Lions Leadership Forum:

<https://lionsforum.org/>

So far we have 12 Montana Lions registered for attendance. We hope to see you there!

**MyLion
July 1, 2019**

July 1, 2019 is the start of the 2019-2020 Lions year and the start for the use of MyLion as the essential reporting tool for clubs as they report to LCI.

There are a wide variety of learning and training sites for club secretaries

as they learn to use MyLion.

On the Montana Lions website, www.montanalions.org there is a link under the heading “My Lions Service

Reporting” with the title **Visit Training Site**. This site will lead Lions into the sign-in portion of MyLion. An email address and password will be required to gain access to MyLion and the training opportunities.

Access to MyLion can be gained through <http://www.mylion.org/tools/> Lions must have established appropriate sign-in information. From this site Lions can access the **My Lion Leader Toolkit**. The site provides a wide variety of materials and tools to help with your MyLion access and use.

The LCI website www.lionsclubs.org provides for MyLion training at the “MyLCI/MyLion Link”. Again Lions must establish an account by providing an email address and password. The site provides MyLion Training that includes: (1) Report Services (2) Create District & Club Profile (3) Plan Service Projects (4) Connect With Other Lions (5) Create Personal Profiles.

By taking advantage of these great training opportunities your interaction with LCI will be much easier, successful and much more rewarding.

If you need assistance you can contact the district leadership team. They may be able to help or they can refer you to someone that can help.

DISTRICT AND CLUB COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS

Through the District and Club Community Impact Grant program, 15% of unrestricted contributions to LCIF are transformed into grants that fund local projects on a club and/or district level.

Donations may be made throughout the year, and grants can be applied for in the following Lions year. The District & Club Community Impact Grant requires a US\$5000.00 minimum donation for clubs and a US\$10,000 minimum donation for districts. The minimum donation must be achieved within the fiscal year (i.e. July 1 – June 30). Clubs and districts that meet this requirement are eligible to receive a grant, which they must apply for in the following fiscal year. Check the LCI website: LCIF-Grants-District and Club Community Impact Grants.

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.

PEACE POSTER CONTEST

It is Peace Poster time in the district; don't miss your opportunity to sponsor the 32nd annual Lions Clubs International Peace Poster Contest. The Peace Poster Contest happens to be one of the most successful programs that LCI that has stood the test of time, 32 years. This is a great way for your club to interact with the youth in your community, you get to know the kids and they get to know and trust the Lions. Peace Poster kits must be ordered from LCI by October 1st and the winning posters must be sent to the district governor by November 15th. The theme for the 2019-2020 Peace Poster Contest is "**Journey of Peace**". Lions are all about peace, help spread the word – sponsor a Peace Poster Contest in your community. I would be happy to send out detailed info about the contest and how we do it in Ennis, contact me by phone or email: Lion Jim Forsberg; mtnvw@3rivers.net; 406-682-4344.

Peace Poster kits can be purchased from the Club Supplies Sales Department at LCI. October 1, 2019 is the deadline for purchases.



The Tabletop Exhibit is a great way to draw additional attention to the contest, and encourage others to get involved. Past successful locations include libraries, community events and district, multiple district and state Lions conventions.

It's available for loan free of charge to clubs, districts and multiple districts in the United States to promote the Peace Poster Contest. Please note that due to customs regulations, we are unable to ship the exhibit outside of the United States. To learn more, contact: (630) 203-3812.



Project Pride

For 15 years or more, Lion Chuck Morelli chaired Project Pride, which teaches 1st graders about the importance & protocol use, of our American Flag. After his passing in 2013, his partner in service, Lion Diana Morelli has kept this tradition alive and well for District 37.

Lion Diana is a member of the Billings Lions Club and is a cabinet member chair in charge of this project.

To order flags or to learn more about Project Pride, please email Lion Diana Morelli, comicdragn@gmail.com or call Lion Diana at 406-652-2122. Thanks to Lion Diana for a job well done and keeping this project alive and well!

PLUSOPTIX

Hello Lions. With the overwhelmingly proven success of the PlusOptix Vision Screening Machines the Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation decided to pre-purchase TWO machines to keep on hand for clubs looking to add a PlusOptix machine to their community. If your club is interested in purchasing a machine please contact me at lion.dfalcon@gmail.com or 406-253-1726 or 406-257-2258. The cost is \$7,235.00, included is the S-12 machine with printer and labels. For \$7,015.00 you can purchase the S-12 machine. The machines are available now to be shipped or possibly delivered in person, depending on location. Keep in mind, I am willing to provide personal training at a specific location and time that works for the purchasing club, you will not have to fly blind using these machines.

With school getting ready to start, some clubs may need a refresher course on using the S-9 or the S-12. Please feel free to contact me with any and all questions.

If you have an S-12 machine please take a look at what version your machine is on, it should be on 7.1.4.0. If it is not, contact me and I can help walk you through how to update it.

Reminder: please send your total screened and total referred, monthly. With this information we are able to purchase more machines and provide up to date statistics on the amazing work the Montana Lions do in their communities helping to alleviate vision issues for the future leaders of tomorrow.

As of June 30, 2019; 34,305 children have been screened in the State of Montana for FY 2019 with 3,906 referred.

As of August 13, the following clubs have not reported their PlusOptix statistics. Please get information to Lion Dave Falcon.

Baker, Billings, Butte Copper City, Butte Mile-Hi, Coultts/Sweetgrass, Dillon,

Missoula, Nashua, Plains, Red Lodge, Scobey, White Sulphur Springs, Wolf Point

Lion Dave Falcon, lion.dfalcon@gmail.com
406-253-1726 or 406-257-2258

FLORENCE CRITTENTON HOME & SERVICES

The Florence Crittenton Home and Services is a 119 year old organization that provides effective intervention services to parenting families and their children across Montana. The mission is to serve vulnerable families to the best of our abilities. (1) FCHS has a residential services program that provides a stable, loving home environment for infants and toddlers as their young mothers work through treatment goals, stabilization and transition back into the community. The program serves young women, 12-30 and their children (2) the transition living program provides housing and supportive services to transitional age youth women that are pregnant or parenting their young children (3) the Women & Children Recovery Program helps with components of substance use treatment for parents (4) FCHS has embarked on a project to address SUD challenges. FCHS can serve young mothers transitioning from detox and/or pursuing SUD treatment while still maintaining a relationship with their children.

For more information contact: Deniese Dempsey at 406-442-6950 ex. 204; deniesed@florencecrittenton.org or visit the website at: www.florencecrittenton.org

FORT BENTON LIONS CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT

On Saturday, July 27, local golfers showed up to support the Fort Benton Lions Club first Golf Tournament “Par-Tee” at Signal Point Golf Club.

“This was our first attempt at it and we’re pretty happy with the success,” said Henry Schnackenberg, president of the Fort Benton Lions Club.

Thirty-six golfers registered for the tournament, creating nine teams of four. A combined \$1,000.00 was awarded to the winning teams. After expenses the golf tournament raised more than \$1,500.00.

“The Lions Club will work with the Missouri River Medical Center, Benton Pharmacy, and MSU Extension to support local diabetes care and prevention,” Schnackenberg said.



TOURNAMENT WINNERS – Golfers on the green watch as Keith Ballantyne puts his golf ball toward the hole on Saturday at the first Fort Benton Lions Club Golf “Par-Tee” at Signal Point Golf Club. From left to right: Skip Ross, Orry Fruit, Keith Ballantyne and Bruce Bramlette. Their team took first place out of nine teams, winning \$500. Zach Meyer photo

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.

DISTRICT C-2 CONVENTION

Pincher Creek, AB, Canada

The 5th Annual District C-2 Convention will be held at the Pincher Creek Community Hall, 287 Canyon Drive, on October 26 and 27, 2019. Lion and Leo registration forms are attached to this newsletter.

IMPORTANT DATES

Advisory Committee

September 14 - Bozeman

USA/Canada Forum

September 19-21 – Spokane

Montana Forum

September 27-28 – Helena

NAMI

September 29 - Helena

Leadership Retreat

October 11-12 – Big Sky

Montana Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation

October 19 – Helena

District 37 Cabinet Meeting

October 19 - Helena

Women's Symposium

November 9 - Bozeman

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

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

1st VDG Mike Collins, 40 Meadowlark Drive; Kalispell, MT 59901; H 406-752-3473; C 406-871-4176; mikeacollins@bresnan.net

2nd VDG Michael Tobin, Box 408, Sunburst, MT 59482; H 406-397-1215; C 406-450-2780; miket@northerntel.net

PDG Dennis Kopitzke will serve as the district administrator and district secretary beginning July 1. District Administrator/Secretary; PDG Dennis Kopitzke, Box 1266, Forsyth, 59327; 406-346-1488; 406-853-8695; djk_7491@rangeweb.net

DISTRICT VESTS

The district has a number of vests for sale. Additional vests, in a variety of sizes, have been ordered to meet the requests from Montana Lions. Contact PID Dave Hajny for more information on the vests. 406-596-4596; whodat@3rivers.net

The vests are great looking and a great way to support our district and Lionism.



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