



“Service Through Fellowship”



October 2012

District 37N

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District Governor Message



Greetings to our 37N Lions, Lioness and Leos Members!

October has been a busy month for our Lions with service, fundraisers and a great Convention in Kallispell. We have ended our first quarter of the Lions year on September 30th with **39 new members** to our fellowship! Keep the momentum going and know that our service and lively fellowship continues to attract members to our clubs. However---we only grow when you, each individual, invite another to serve. **Stay fearless and keep asking** for the sake of our communities and those who need us most around the world.

Our gathering in Kallispell at the Lions District 37N Convention was historic, thanks to your participation! For the first time, our District Convention was broadcast live on the internet. Another first was that our District 37N Twitter page was displayed live on the Convention floor, allowing all to participate with electronic messaging and “tweeting” that we could see in Kallispell. Was this endeavor seamless and perfect? No, not at all! We faced many technical challenges and our Lions stepped up to work through these to bring this Convention to those who could not physically join us. My personal thanks to all who attended electronically and physically for this outstanding gathering of fellowship, leadership, learning, and service.

Please know that your service is my daily inspiration!

Sincerely,
DG Laura Dickerson



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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Malaika Orphanage is a scary, slum, squatting abandoned building which is home to 135 children in Johannesburg South Africa.

The director is Osman who every morning goes out and begs for bread to feed his children. The children are then off to school and return to a bowl of porridge with beans, which is their only food for the day.

Director Osman was sponsored to come too the US to tell his story and plead for monies to help his children.

1VDG Monte Weisser's niece volunteered at the Orphanage and can verify his story and their desperate need for a safe place for the children.

A Colorado donor has gifted 3 acres of land near the Kruger national Park. The area is big enough for the orphanage and garden.

Unfortunately, the social structure of the country, Osman and his volunteers are not taken seriously by firms that would do the work to construct the orphanage. The European and American volunteers are attempting to bridge the gap.

Estimate that \$30,000 US would be sufficient to build a new Orphanage.

Website : <http://www.malaikaorphanage.cfsites.org>

I challenge all clubs in District 37N to donate \$200 to the Malaika Orphanage.

Ps: checks to be made out to:

District 37N

Send to:

c/o Lion Mike Collins

143 River Place

Kalispell Mt 59901

Memo Malaika Orphanage fund

Submitted by Lion Joyce Budau , director of International Relations

Photos for Lion Joyce Budau's Article on Malaika Orphanage:





Emerging Lions Leadership Institute

September 16-19 found three of our District 37N Lions attending the Emerging Lions Leadership Institute in Tampa, Florida. Congratulations to ELLI Graduates:

Cabinet Secretary Jessica Falcon, Kalispell Sunrisers

Lion Verna Love, Butte Mile-Hi

Lion Mark Cragwick, Butte Mile-Hi

A hearty thanks to these three Lions for taking the time to attend advanced leadership training. We look forward to your continued service and leadership in District 37N!



Montana sets new monthly record for number of eye donors.

August was a record for donors to the eye bank. There were 58 donors in August and it was the second highest number of corneas transplanted at 87 in Montana. The record is from May 2011 at 92. To fully appreciate how great August was, even though not record breaking, the third highest Montana corneal transplant month was 71 in January 2012. So 87 is definitely worth celebrating. Way to go Montana.

SightLife for the year through August has had 3,699 corneas transplanted, there were 5233 for all of 2011 so a record is looking good. There has been 2728 eye donors, 3853 in 2011. The transplant % is 72.2.

Countries served in August by volume were USA, Japan, Egypt, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, Turkey, Syria, Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Canada, El Salvador, Germany, Nigeria, Israel, Singapore, Venezuela, and the UK.

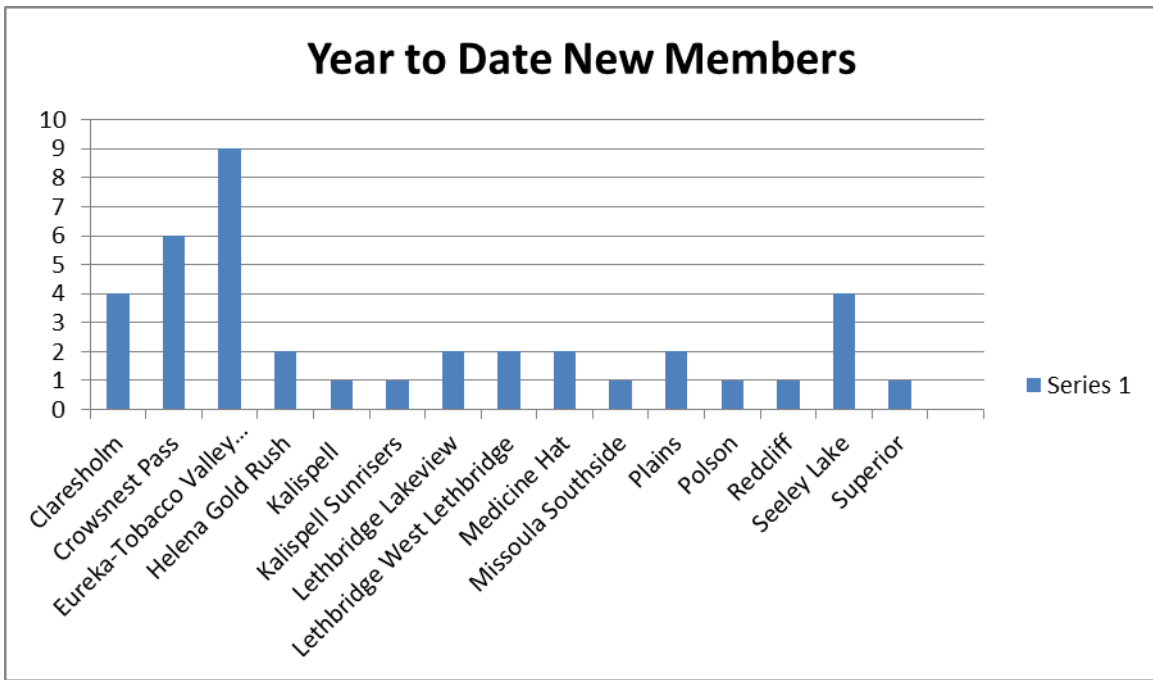
There are positions open in Montana for a Per Diem eye bank recovery technician in Billings and a regional manager for Montana. Anyone interested can contact SightLife at 800-847-5786

POSITIVE MOMENTUM



Welcome to the Eureka-Tobacco Valley Lions

Left to Right: Lions Patrick and Sue Flanary, President Adrian Miller, Roberta and Mike Skranak, Debra and Myles Hickman, Guiding Lions Jessica and Dave Falcon.



Congratulations to our 15 Lions Clubs with new members this Lions year!

Our newest club, Eureka-Tobacco Valley Lions, Branch Club, is up and running with ongoing membership gains. Our Crowsnest Pass, Claresholm and Seeley Lake Lions Clubs are the Top Three for District 37N with a combined new membership of 14 new Lions in service.

WHITEFISH LIONS—BEST PRACTICE PROJECT

The Whitefish Lions Club (Chartered in 2008) has a signature Farm to School Garden Project that has caught the attention of Lions Clubs International.

This unique project hits home on many levels:

Youth learn proper nutrition and create a potential reduction in the onset of diabetes.

The teens participate directly in the planting and harvest of the garden, connecting them in service to the land, their school, their community and the Lions Club.

The youth see the partnership between the Lions and their school. All stakeholders are working cooperatively to process the harvest and incorporate the garden produce into the school menu in creative and delicious recipes.

Teens grow in appreciation for the community members who support the Lions in their efforts to provide this garden to the community.

The teens learn that service can be both beneficial and lots of fun!

The Whitefish Lions were invited to video the spring 2012 planting of their 1 acre garden and were assisted by Whitefish Middle School students.

On September 26th and 27th, 2012, approximately 200 Whitefish Middle School students and the Whitefish Lions were the subject of a video crew sent out by Lions Clubs International to film the harvest of this incredible garden project.

Congratulations to the Whitefish Lions Club for developing this innovative project!

We will keep District 37N posted on where to view this video when it becomes available.



Whitefish Middle School Students digging potatoes after a frost.



Lions Darryl Young and Kim Taylor at the Farm to School Garden



Lion Chuck Dickerson and students at the harvest.

Still Trying for Twenty?

Is your club willing to work to increase membership? The top three clubs in District 37N will be recognized and rewarded by the District for reaching the 20 member status based on their percentage of growth. These clubs will receive awards, prizes and be nominated for the Club Rebuilding Award through LCI! Of course, you don't have to stop at 20 members!



Thank you to all who participated in person and electronically making our event successful!

Special thanks to our Convention Team:

Convention Chair: DGE Monte Weisser

Committee Members: Lions Mike Collins, Frank Garner, Ron Hoye and Darryl Young.

Information Technology: Lion Bruce Gietzen

Tail Twisting, Silent Auction and Live Auction resulted in \$2,113 donations EACH to Montana Lions Sight and Hearing Foundation and the Lions of Alberta Foundation!

Thank you for your contributions and your generosity that raised \$4,226 in funding for these important Foundations!

We also wish to thank our special guests, International Director Mark and Lion Jayne Hintzmann for sharing good fellowship and their knowledge!



IPDG Sharon West presenting an International President Certificate of Appreciation to Lion President Richard Huculiak



Bavarian Echoes calling us to the Fest Hall for the Friday Night Social!



IPDG Sharon West and ID Dave Hajny present Lion Nick Hayes an International President's Leadership Medal for his service.



Nothing says fellowship like a chicken dance!



IPDG Sharon West presenting Lion President Mike Collins with an International President Certificate of Appreciation.



Lion Sheila Keller from our Tail Twister Team!

Double Trouble: Our infamous Tail Twisters: Past President Rod Leese and President Frank Garner!



SPECIAL THANKS to our wonderful auctioneer, PID Tom Lehman for sharing his time and his immense talent for our Live Auction benefiting LOAF and MLSHF!





Recognition from the Lions of Nepal for 2VDG Pauline Cooper (3rd from left) with (Left to Right) ID Dave Hajny, CC Dan Krum, PID Patti Hill, PID Tom Lehman, PIP Judge Brian Stevenson



Special Thanks to our International Guests!
Welcome to District 37N, International Director Mark and Lion Jayne Hintzmann from Wisconsin!

Do you have Women and Families in your Lions Club?

Are your members getting old? Has your club dwindled in membership? When I visit with members of other clubs in our area or at conventions I hear about these issues. The article in this month's international Lions magazine on page 43 addresses both these vital membership issues.

I pose the question to you have you asked women or families to join your club? Now I know you are protesting. Your excuses are: I do not know any families to invite or our members are not ready to change their meeting times.

If your membership is below 13 members your club do you really have a choice but to seriously think about changing your attitude to women and family friendly members? The other day I was volunteering with a woman (that had offered to help us out at a Bingo). I approached her and invited her to our next dinner meeting along with her husband. She said that she would talk it over with him because they needed to do more things together. It is that easy.

Yes, it takes time to adjust to having children at meeting and fundraisers. If you are open and are willing to stand back and see the smiles on the women and children's faces that are helping in your club you will quickly change your mind about asking them to join your club. You will always have the members that do not want change, however; life changes every day and we as clubs need to grow our membership so we can help out our communities.

Lions serve, are open to all nationalities, men, women, teenagers and children working together for the benefit of those in need!

Lion Ellen

Chair of women and families District 37N



LIONS LINKS

District 37N Lions: <http://e-district.org/sites/37n/index.php>

Multiple District 37 Lions: <http://www.md37lions.org/>

Lions Clubs International: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/>

USA/Canada Forum: <http://www.usacanadalionsforum.org/>

Lions Quarterly Video Magazine: <http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/Inn/lq-view.php?id=25>

Lions Clubs International Foundation : <http://www.lcif.org/>

International President's Theme: http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/common/pdfs/international_theme_highlights.pdf