THE OPTIMISTIC VIEW

October 2013

Ride For Youth cruises into the sunset…

It was a beautiful Fall day for all the activities involved in the **Ride For Youth**. The best poker run hand winner ($250) was Jim Childers of Spearfish; he donated $100 back to the Club. The closest to run time winner ($100) was Curt Jacobs of Spearfish & the worst hand winner ($50) was John Nelson of Rapid City. The poker walk best hand winner ($50) was Alison Kennedy. Event Chair & fellow Optimist Dick Rutherford reported that initial reports have a net of $1,612 for our grant fund & Chamber sales up 20% over 2012 making our 1st year with this format a success.

Special thanks to our Sponsors: Whites Queen City Motors, Lynns Dakotamart of Belle Fourche, Crow Peak Brewing Co, & Lucky’s 13.

Past President Dixie Richardson & Event Chair Dick Rutherford working the numbers at the event.

Front: VP II Janette Hettick, Chamber Volunteer Madaline Custis, Secretary Sandy Mattern. Rear: President Nancy Grassel

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At the Noon Meeting 09/25 the Howard Johnson Express Inn of Spearfish was presented with the Business of the Year Award by the Spearfish Optimists. Owner Jared Tordsen was on hand to accept the award from outgoing President Dixie Richardson. He & his brother have owned the property for 2 ½ yrs & are very supportive of the Optimists, Jared stated that it is important for the community to support the youth and he feels the Optimists’ is an incredible program.

October 1st begins a new fiscal year for our Club & with it a new slate of Officers & Board. Special thanks to the time commitment & leadership role taken on by each for this upcoming year. The names of the new Officers along with their contact information can be found on the left column of page I of this newsletter, the same is true of the new Board Members on page III right column. Special thanks to the outgoing Officers & Board for their efforts & hard work, it has been greatly appreciated!

There are plenty of ways to get involved in our Club whether you are a member now, or considering joining we do not ask any more or less time than you have available in your schedule to offer. This is an important time of year for our Club as unpaid members must be dropped from the roster, if you are a member & wish to continue, please pay your dues. Meetings are weekly & can be attended whether you are a member or just wanting to stop in to see what we are all about or hear one of our speakers. We NEED strong attendance at our meetings to continue to bring in the great speakers we get.

Our Club is part of Optimist International which has over 2,900 Clubs in 35 countries throughout the world consisting of around 87,000 members. We operate autonomously from each Club seeking to offer the greatest impact for the youth in our area.

**RIDE FOR YOUTH HIGHLIGHTS:**

Below event Chair Dick Rutherford with Street Rod winner Bart Samuelson standing in front is his 1967 Chevelle & outgoing President Dixie Richardson.
Steve Babbitt (Guest Speaker) 11/06 - Steve has been teaching photography at a college level for 20yrs & is the BHSU Prof. of photography. He has been making photographs of the Western United States for the past 25yrs and his work can be found in the collections of The Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris, France; The Getty Museum Library, Malibu, CA; the Sioux Falls Civic Fine Arts Center, Sioux Falls, SD; The Dahl Fine Art Center, Rapid City, SD & the San Francisco Art Institute. Much of his work is abstract landscapes which are hard to identify. If you haven’t taken time to listen to an artist, I encourage you to utilize your lunch break, you might find yourself becoming inspired or looking at life in a new way. Steve sees things we miss & he will share stories & information that are well worth your time. Our Hills are filled with fascinating people, getting to hear from them at our meetings is awesome! Check out his awesome website here: http://www.stevebabbittphotography.com

Sian Young (Guest Speaker) 10/30 - Sian is the Spearfish Arts Center Events Coordinator & will be talking about The Big Read that just started. This is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts that is designed to revitalize literature in American culture & to encourage people to read for pleasure & enlightenment. The Big Read is managed by Arts Midwest. Spearfish is one of only 77 communities in the nation participating in the program which takes place from September 2013-June 2014. Not only is this an awesome opportunity for Spearfish, but an easy way to come find out more about it without having to feel like you are making a commitment. Meetings are open to all.

Calendar of Events:

10/09 Students of the Month Pizza Ranch Noon
New President Nancy Grassel’s 1st Meeting
10/14 Board of Directors Meeting Wilde/Hunt Law Firm 5:30pm
Open to Everyone (210 W. Grant St. Sprfsh)
10/15 Chili Feed (Northern Hills Training Center) Sprfsh Pavilion 5-7pm
$7.00 per person, kids under four eat free
10/16 Football Books Distribution Meeting Pizza Ranch Noon
10/23 David Wilson (Assist. Prof. of Arts BHSU) Pizza Ranch Noon
10/30 Big Read (Sian Young Sprfsh Arts Center) Pizza Ranch Noon
11/06 Steve Babbitt (Prof. Mass Commun/Photo) Pizza Ranch Noon
11/11 Board of Directors Meeting Wilde/Hunt Law Firm 5:30pm
Open to Everyone (210 W. Grant St. Sprfsh)
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