

HOSTING

Rapid City Area Hospitality Association News

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NOTES FROM NANCY

Nancy Brady, Editor

DUES TIME!

It's that time of the year again. Please put us on the "bills to be paid" as soon as you receive your new application. Our fiscal year is from October to October. I don't know why these dates, either. Anyway, look for your application for the upcoming year in the mail.

43rd BUFFALO ROUNDUP

The 43rd running of the buffalo in Custer State Park, the premier attraction event for the fall in South Dako-

ta, will be held on Monday, September 29 at 9:30am. Admission begins at 6:15am from the Wild Life Loop in the park. Staging areas for parking are designated with shuttles to take visitors to the viewing areas.

Visitors and journalists come from around the world to see this event, even though it comes and goes in a flash. When the buffalo come over the hill by the hundreds, cowboys whooping and hollering, the thunder of the herd makes your hair stand on end. It is like no other experience. Viewers are only a few hundred feet from the herd when it passes, and eventually the buffalo are herded into the pens for sorting, vaccinating, and sale.

Warm coats are recommended, as it is chilly in the morning. Breakfast can be had at both viewing areas, and

lunch at the corrals. By the way, a park pass is not necessary to get in.

This unusual activity is a wonderful suggestion to pass on to your guests. They may not know about it, but you can be assured it will be the highlight of their trip—and they just may stay another day.

BUFFALO ROUNDUP ARTS FESTIVAL

Another annual event in the park prior to the buffalo roundup, the Buffalo Round-up Arts Festival, is held at the State Game Lodge.

There will be booths, demonstrations, entertainment, art displays of all media, and a chilli cook-off besides. This event is on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, September 27-29. A park entrance license is required for this one, but a one-day license is available.



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NOMINATING COMMITTEE SELECTIONS

The nominating committee has submitted the following names to fill positions on the Board of Directors for the upcoming year.

President - Conrad Rupert - The Maze
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President's Message

Ginny Wagner



Well it is September and we are all dragging from a very busy summer.

One of my dear sales directors from another hotel called and asked me to lunch this week. The thought of that date in just a couple of days just gave me such energy and I just got to thinking....what a wonderful idea to share lunch with our employees.

We could walk around with lunch coupons and just hand them out on the spot. Or we could buy lunch for the person and three coworkers of his or her choice. We could also arrange for the employee to have lunch with the company manager. Better yet, we could bring a sack lunch for one person

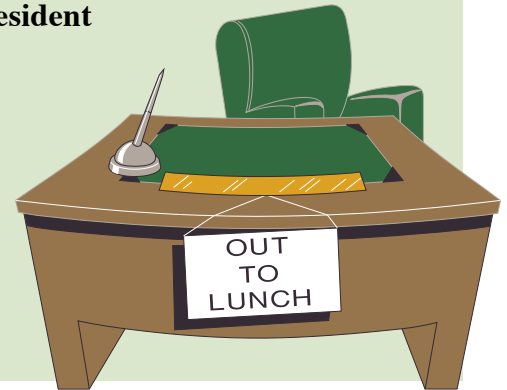
for a week. People want to feel what they do make a difference and they are made to feel important.

Appreciation for your people heightens morale, and creates such positive energy.

Well I have to go; I'm taking someone to lunch.

Ginny Wagner, President

Rapid City
Area Hospitality



OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

When you have a need or your guests ask for recommendations or suggestions, think of our friends and associate members first. They support us—

LET'S SHOW OUR APPRECIATION.

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Microtel – New General Manager

Chrisbro, LLC and the Microtel Inn and Suites would like to welcome new general manager, Anna Vandegrift, to our team.

Anna comes to us with eleven years of hospitality experience and a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in Hospitality Management.

Anna is also a trainer for the South Dakota Office of Tourism On-line Customer Service training.



Anna Vandegrift

Now Hiring - Multimedia Marketing Manager

This position will direct the Rapid City CVB's online presence by managing the Web site and implementing viral marketing efforts. Please send resumes to: Rapid City CVB, PO Box 747, Rapid City, SD 57709 or Giesel@visitrapidcity.com.

Magazine Names Rapid City among 50 Next Great Adventure Towns

Rapid City, SD (Aug.20, 2008) –

National Geographic Adventure Magazine has named Rapid City as one of 50 Next Great Adventure Towns in its September edition, which hit newsstands August 12.

Moving to a new town is a long-term investment, the editors wrote. "So this year we selected 50 innovative towns that aren't just prime relocation spots right now, but smart choices for the future," the magazine said. "Not only do they have the action. They've got a plan. Now we're giving you a plan too."

Rapid City got high marks for its efforts to develop for mountain biking and hiking trails. Cowboy Hill inside Rapid City and the Mickelson Trail in the Black Hills west of the city are two projects that have been getting a lot of national attention.

"These days, the glimmer of gold in the Black Hills may be the reflection off a mountain biker's helmet," the magazine wrote about Rapid City in the online edition. The piece touted the area's 300 miles of two-

wheeling trails and the recent construction of the dirt-jump park at the base of Cowboy Hill.

In addition, a sidebar story featured the 109-mile Mickelson Trail, or "Big Mick," from Deadwood to Edgemont. "Gradients are gentle (it gains a bit over a thousand feet) and the southern half is mostly downhill," the editors wrote. "But its surroundings (stunning black Hills landscapes of pines and prairies) and features (four tunnels and a hundred bridges) make the route anything but typical."

Rapid City Convention & Visitors Bureau Executive Director Michelle Lintz stated, "Rapid City is a perfect hub for an adventurous lifestyle or just an adventure vacation. Rapid City is the largest community in Western South Dakota and is located in the middle of the beautiful Black Hills. Visitors and residents enjoy many outdoor activities including biking, hiking, rock climbing, horseback riding and a wide variety of other sports and activities."

Rapid City joined Grand Marais,

Minn., Traverse City, Mich., Bardstown, Ky., Mobile, Ala., Lafayette, La., Hermann, Mo., Mountain View, Ark., Peoria, Ill., Oklahoma City, Milwaukee and San Antonio, Texas among the dozen Central U.S. cities to make the top 50 list.

Although the 50 towns were not ranked, the editors of *National Geographic Adventure* selected a dozen towns as their overall national favorites. They are: Seattle, San Francisco and Hood River, Ore., in the West; Missoula, Mont., Ogden, Utah, and Carbondale, Colo., in the Rockies; Grand Marais and San Antonio in the Central region; and Boston, Battleboro, Vt., Islamorada, Fla., and Chattanooga, Tenn., in the East.

The Rapid City Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) is a division of the Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce. The CVB's mission is to market the Rapid City area as a convention and leisure destination and to promote economic growth that will enhance the area for visitors and residents.



Rapid City Area Hospitality Assoc.
 PO Box 2731
 Rapid City, SD 57709

RCAHA Mission Statement - *The Rapid City Area Hospitality Association is committed to provide its members with education, resources, and services in order that they can better serve their customers and guests, exceeding both member and guest expectations.*

Upcoming Conventions/Events:

September 2008

Sept 13-14	National MS Society – Bike Tour	150 ppl
Sept 15-17	SD Health Care Association	325 ppl
Sept 15-18	Road Trek Chapter Rally	230 ppl
Sept 17-19	SD State Medical Association	150 ppl
Sept 18-19	SD Dept. of Education – Office of Indian Education / Indian Education Summit	300 ppl
Sept 19-21	SD Region of Narcotics Anonymous	150 ppl
Sept 19-21	ND/SD Moose Lodge Association	175 ppl
Sept 20-21	SD Society of Professional Land Surveyors	150 ppl
Sept 21-24	Intl. Assn. of Electrical Inspectors– Western Section	300 ppl
Sept 21-28	Teton Club International	115 ppl
Sept 24-26	SD Assn. of Healthcare Organizations	600 ppl
Sept 25-28	American Quarter Horse Association - Region II Experience	600 ppl
Sept 26-28	Rushmore Soccer Club - Annual Rushmore Fall Classic	1000 ppl
Sept 26-28	RC Soft-Tip Dart League – BH Fall Classic	800 ppl
Sept 27-28	Peel's Salon Services – Fall Festival	800 ppl

Sept 27-29	SD Nurses Association	200 ppl
Sept 28-Oct 1	449th Bomb Group Military Reunion	150 ppl
Sept 28-Oct 5	King of the Road RV Rally	170 ppl
Sept 29-Oct 3	Berlin Airlift Veterans Association	120 ppl

October 2008

Oct 2-3	BH Chapter – American Academy of Professional Coders	125 ppl
Oct 3-4	SD Elks	125 ppl
Oct 3-5	Scrappin' Ladies – BH Rushmore Retreat	150 ppl
Oct 3-5	SD Beta Sigma Phi	175 ppl
Oct 6-7	SD High School Activities Association - Boys AA Golf	
Oct 9-10	SD Infection Control Council	110 ppl
Oct 9-10	American Technical Education Assn. – Reg. 5	250 ppl

September Dinner Meeting

Quality Inn

Tuesday, September 23

5-6pm - social • 6pm - dinner - (\$15)

6:30pm - Meeting

Reservations required - call Ann 348-6907

before noon Sept. 22

No Shows Will Be Billed.



Calendar information provided
 by Rapid City CVB.