## The Black Hills Celtic Society

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October 2013

Serving the Celtic Communities of: Wales, Isle of Man, Cornwall (England), Galicia (Spain), Brittany (France), Scotland and Ireland



Mark those calendars

# **Upcoming Events**

- October 26<sup>th</sup>. Samhain celebration at Hamilton's Garage 6pm.
- Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting 7pm.
- Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> Regular Member's Meeting.
- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.





President Bill Knight

#### GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT-

I delayed this month's President's letter both by design and forgetfulness. Honestly I kept forgetting to sit down and write it. Secondly, though I was hoping to hear from Pam from the fairgrounds in reference to Celts Hall. At my invite she was kind enough to address our board members concerning Celts Hall. I'll admit I was not very encouraged about being able to stay at Celts Hall based on the figures she showed us concerning the monthly electric bill. The costs ranged anywhere from 600.00 down to 200.00, none of which we could afford. These figures were provided to her from BHP&L at her request. Some suggestions were then brought forward as to what we could possibly do to

reduce these costs to an affordable rate. One being to further compartmentalize the building and only keep on necessary heat etc. to prevent any water pipes from freezing. It was also questioned as to why the bills were so inflated. It was noticed that the coolers were constantly running and we then began to question what else might be constantly running needlessly helping to drive up the electric bill. It was then suggested to shut these items down and completely shut the building down for a month or two and to see if the utilities bill significantly is reduced. Pam did however have another possible option. She said that there was a caterer that was interested in this building because of the kitchen and since they would be using the building most of the time that they would be responsible for the majority of the monthly costs. We would simply coordinate with them time usage of the building. But as of this writing I have not yet heard from Pam but there are still a couple of weeks left. Pam did offer us an option of using the Lions Club building for our general meetings for 25.00 a night. We figured our board meetings could be held at board members houses if needed. As more information comes forward I will get that out to everyone.

On a lighter note there are a couple of fun events coming up. On October 26 we will be having our annual Samhain (Halloween) party at the Hamilton's garage. The party starts at 6pm. There will be costume judging, games and a best turnip carving judging. Bring your favorite potluck and beverage and enjoy the evening. And of course decorators are always appreciated. Decorating will begin at 1 pm on the 26th. If you have a favorite Halloween decoration you'd like to bring, we'd be happy to use it.

For those of us who enjoy the pleasures of fine whiskys we will be having a whisky tasting on November 10th at the Colonial House Restaurant from 4pm til 6pm. We will sample 8 different varieties. Mike said he focused on flavor and barrel so it should be well worth the cost. There will be an ample amount of food as well. Tickets are 50.00 per person. See you there!!

Thanks

Bill Knight

President BHCS



Black Hills Celtic Society Board meeting at Celts Hall October 2, 2013

Minutes were read from previous Board meeting. No corrections.

#### Old business: Celts Hall.

Pam, fairgrounds manager was invited by Bill to join in with the board members to discuss options about keeping Celts Hall. Pam had Black Hills Electric Co compile energy usage from August 2008to September 2013. This also showed the cost for each month and peak demand. As an average, the cost per month ran about 350.00. Gary asked Pam if the hall can be shut down to check for energy leaks, which Pam said could be done. She also provided us with two potential options. We could shut down Celts Hall in the winter and use the Lion's Club for meetings. The cost would be \$25per meeting. The other option presented itself

recently when a catering business inquired about renting Celts Hall for their business. Pam will keep us posted

**Whisky Tasting** 

The date is November 10 at the Colonial House from 4-6 pm. Mike said he is focusing on the age of the whisky and the barrel flavors. There will be hors doeuvres to snack on. Designated drivers will eat for free. The tickets are \$50 and the snacks are included. There will be several whiskeys to taste and sample. Gary will chair the event. Look for posters around town. Siaryn at Celtic Connection said she will help to sell tickets at the shop.

Logo

The final stages of our logo have been completed and Sally will go to Signs Express to check prices for banners and decals. We'll start with patches through Master Awards and order T-shirts later.

#### Website updates

Barb and Gary are downloading their information and there are still some glitches. Some links are broken. They are trying to rewrite the website so that individual websites using our links can edit their own information.

#### **New Business**

History month will be October 12 from 12:30 to 4:00 pm at the Rapid City Library. BHCS will have a corner set up with 1-2 tables of information. We will be answering questions and providing answers to the general public. All interested can email Sally at: <a href="mailto:halloknight@aol.com">halloknight@aol.com</a>. Or stop by and say hello.

**Samhain** will be at the Hamilton's house on October 26. It starts at 6:00 pm. Potluck. BYOB. There will be prizes for costumes and turnip carvings.

#### SCA, the local renaissance group

Have asked to be association members with us. Because this is so recent, we will be gathering more information.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. Sally Knight, secretary.



### A WORD FROM OUR SPONSORS







