



**P.O. BOX 8104
RAPID CITY, SD 57709**

Volume 19 Issue 1

January 2006

From the President: It is a new year. I can sympathize with all or you who are still trying to remember to write 2006 instead of 2005 on your checks.

December Meeting: Well, not a meeting, really. A party. We had great food, lot's of chatting and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

We also had a lot of door prizes handed out. If you want to know what they were and who received them, come to the January meeting and let Mary enlighten you. A list will be published in the February newsletter for those who cannot make it.

Thanks to all who brought food for donations, to eat there and everyone who helped out. Thanks to Jim and Jeannine Albers and Darcy Dennison for setting up and breaking down the food line.

January Meeting: We will begin looking ahead to the Year 2006. If you have suggestions, input, a request for speakers or other advise, this would be a great time to present it.

Please plan to attend and let us know what "you" think are important issues facing North Rapid.

February Meeting: The NRCA holds annual election of officers at the February meeting. If you are interested in running for office, please notify one of the current officers. If you have a question about running, please call or email one of us.

Newsletter: The deadline for newsletter articles is the 10th of each month. I need time to get them into the proper format and printed. If you have a question about it, please call me or one of the other NRCA officers.

NRCA OFFICERS

- President**
Richard Dlugosz.....718-9173
- Vice-President**
Lee Dennison.....721-7585
- Secretary**
Mary Parker.....718-9292
- Treasurer**
Florence Chisolm.....343-4215

REPRESENTATIVES

- Ward 2 Alderman**
Sam Kooiker.....721-6282
Deb Hadcock.....343-1247
- Ward 4 Alderman**
Ray Hadley.....342-8899
Ron Kroeger.....348-6195
- Ward 5 Alderman**
Malcolm Chapman.....716-6210
Bob Hurlbut.....484-5856
- County Commissioner**
Mark Kirkeby.....391-6282
- School Board**
Leah Lutheran.....342-0719
Sheryl Kirkeby.....343-4003
- State House Representatives**
Jeff Haverly.....390-5839
Alice McCoy.....716-6814
- State Senate**
Bill Napoli.....341-2370

**North Rapid Civic Association
January 26, 2006 7:00 p.m.**

**** DAV Hall ****

Please plan to attend and bring a friend!

North Rapid Civic Association

Vice President's Report

by Lee Dennison

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe and wonderful Christmas. 2006 and another year has passed away. We are starting again. What will this year bring? We must press on and go forward. Hold your head high and smile always. Remember, every day is a good day; some are just better than others.

If you missed our Holiday gathering, well you missed a great time of just getting together, meeting new people and receiving some great gifts for the season. We had a very good time. I believe we should do this on an annual basis. It was relaxing and just a darn good time.

Thanks to Elliot and Leah Warshaw, their helpers and the Scouts for the delivery of our Share Baskets. It went well considering we had a couple of addresses that we had to investigate and update. Thanks again! I feel we could donate a Share basket anytime and we could keep Christmas all year. Maybe one basket once a month? Something to think about.

Elections next month you should consider holding an office and support your community. We need some new participation. Step up and serve you can do it! I will not be running for an office this year. I will sit in the audience and participate in other ways. It is a time for new leadership. We can all work together and make good things happen in North Rapid and in Rapid City. We had a strong voice at one time and now I feel we are down to a whisper. Stand up and be counted. Take time and serve.

I hope to see you at our next meeting on January 26th, D.A.V. East Madison at 7:00pm.

Pennington County News

by Mark Kirkeby

It is with high hopes and in the spirit of honor and integrity that your "Work Release Facility" may someday become news reflecting cooperation rather than what it has in the past. I have all but exhausted my energy and resources with this parcel of property and the function that it serves to our community. I continue to be frustrated with my fellow Commissioners as well as several Council members who appear to want to close their eyes on one of the most important issues facing our neighborhoods and our society in general. One thing that I will guarantee to each and every one of you, I will no longer take the diplomatic approach to resolving your concerns. It is time for honest, "Hard Ball" government to achieve the results and I am ready, willing, and able to accept the challenge to fight for you.

Your Stock Show & Rodeo is just around the corner. This event is the largest winter economic boom for the tax base of our city. It just grows and grows. I hope that you enjoy the Rodeo, the entertainment, and the many booths that will be asking for your personal purchases. I am hopeful that your new Jail expansion will be officially open for business in a very short period of time. We will face the financial challenge in discussing all the options and opportunities that must be addressed to actually finish the remaining floors. Crime will always be a major strain on your tax dollars. For the most part, our residents make minor stupid decisions on occasion and the majority do not violate the state laws that require extensive jail time and a hefty financial investment on our part.

As always, it is an honor to represent you and the importance and trust that you place in me is a huge responsibility. Please know that your calls will not only be answered, they will actually be responded to.

Jeff Foxworthy on South Dakota

If you consider it a sport to gather your food by drilling through 8 inches of ice and sitting there all day hoping that the food will swim by, you might live in South Dakota.

If you have ever refused to buy something because it's "too Spendy", you might live in South Dakota.

If your local Dairy Queen is closed from November through March, you might live in South Dakota.

If someone in a store offers you assistance, and they don't work there, You might live in South Dakota.

If your dad's sultan stops at a line curving around the middle of his forehead, you might live in South Dakota.

If you have worn shorts and a parka at the same time, you might live in South Dakota.

If your town has an equal number of bars and churches, you might live in South Dakota.

If you think that ketchup is a little too spicy, you might live in South Dakota.

"Vacation" means going up north past Pierre for the weekend.

You measure distance in hours.

You know several people who have hit deer more than once.

You often switch from "heat" to "A/C" in the same day and back again.

You can drive 65 mph through 2 feet of snow during a raging blizzard, without flinching.

You see people wearing hunting clothes at social events.

You install security lights on your house and Garage and leave both unlocked.

You think of the major food groups as beer, fish, and venison.

You carry jumper cables in your car and your Girl friend knows how to use them.

Where men are men and so are the women.

There are 7 empty cars running in the parking lot at Zups Grocery Store at any given time.

You design your kid's Halloween costume to fit over a snowsuit

Driving is better in the winter because the potholes are filled with snow.

You know all 4 seasons: almost winter, winter, still winter and road construction.

You can identify a southern or eastern accent.

You consider Minneapolis exotic.

Your idea of creative landscaping is a statue of a deer next to your Blue Spruce.

Down South to you means Nebraska.

A brat is something you eat.

You go out to fish fry every Friday.

You find 0 degrees a little chilly.

You actually understand these jokes, and you forward them to all your South Dakota friends

Gang Related Violence

by Richard Dlugosz

I will keep this short and to the point. We “know” there is a problem with gangs. There has been a “continuing” problem with gangs.

It seems far too many people are willing to “tolerate” these groups. All you have to do is drive around and look at the graffiti on walls, signs, wooden fences and other solid objects.

This has been a problem in every major US city for decades. Many seem to think the “kids” will just grow up. Some do, if they manage not to be killed off by a rival gang.

I am out of sympathy for such people. I am not sympathetic for the excuses parents have for the gangster son or daughter.

Parents have a responsibility to raise their children according to “rules” of decency. Many do, but so many do not.

I “do” feel sympathy for the two young girls shot while sleeping by some “animals” who think they are somehow macho by running around with a rifle in the middle of the night.

I am “angry” about it. We continue treating gangs and their members as if these “citizens” will grow up and become productive. It seems the only “production” they are capable of is production, sale and distribution of drugs and the escalation of violence.

They are not the only ones to blame. It is also time to put the spotlight on the parents who raised them (or failed to).

How can any parent NOT know their child is a gang member? This may be true for a while, but any parent who is truly raising their child will eventually learn the truth.

We just saw stories on the news about M13 being one of the most violent gangs in the US. Guess what? South Dakota is listed as one of their places of business.

We just saw video of kids beating and killing homeless people.

Wake up! The War on Terror is not the only one we should be concerned with. We have a home-grown war right here. It is time to “eliminate” these groups.

Rapid City Public Library

The Rapid City Public Library has a new 24/7 Reference Service

Starting this January, you can use your computer to chat with a librarian anytime, day or night, seven days week.

The feature is called "**Ask A Librarian**".

Just click on the "Ask A Librarian" icon on the library's web site at www.rapidcitylibrary.org.

Parks and Recreation

You can find a PDF file at:

www.rcgov.org/parks_recreation/recreation/Newsletter.pdf

This is an informative newsletter with lot's of good information about schedules, events and other topics for everything from swimming to ice skating. Check it out.

Rapid City Government Access Channels

The Rapid City Council Meetings and the Pennington County Commissioners Meetings are broadcast almost daily. The times change each day, so check the Rapid City web site for a schedule or your local provider. The channels used are:

MidContinent Communications (Channel 98)

PrairieWave Communications(Channel 100)

Something to ponder...

The next time you hear someone in government rather casually use a number that includes the word "billion", think about it. A billion is a difficult number to comprehend. One advertising agency did a good job of putting that figure into perspective in one of its releases:

A billion seconds ago it was 1959.

A billion minutes ago Jesus was alive.

A billion hours ago would take us back to the "Stone Age".

And a billion dollars lasts 8 hours and 20 minutes at the rate our government spends it.

North Rapid Civic Association

Membership is open to all residents and/or property owners who are 18 years or older in the North Rapid neighborhood. This area is North of Omaha Street, between Campbell St. and M. Hill Ridge, and South of the Pennington County line on Haines Ave.

Members of the North Rapid Civic Association (NRCA) :

- Meet the 4th Thursday of each month for regular meetings at DAV Hall
- Sponsor Candidate Forums before each election and invite the public
- Are active in all areas of the community
- Meet regularly with elected officials from city, county and state government
- Receive a monthly newsletter

Become part of the “solution” and help improve our neighborhoods

Meet your neighbors and community leaders

If you are interested in joining one of the most influential civic associations in western South Dakota, please contact one of our board members listed on the front page.

Annual Membership Fee: **\$10 per Immediate Family Membership**

Questions: contact Richard “Doug” Dlugosz 718-9173
 Lee Dennison 721-7585

PLEASE GIVE THIS APPLICATION TO A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR

Cut along dotted lines and send to address shown

Application for Membership in the North Rapid Civic Association

Date: _____

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Home Phone: _____

State: _____

Work Phone: _____

Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Make Checks Payable To: **North Rapid Civic Association**

Mailing Address: **PO Box 8104
Rapid City, SD 57709**