



Special points of interest:

- **February 3**
Sidney Soccer Sign-ups
Ranger Arena
- **February 5**
Agri-Industries
Business after Hours
- **February 6**
“Celebrating Chocolate”
MonDak Heritage Center
- **February 9**
Sidney Soccer Sign-ups
Ranger Arena
- **February 11**
Leadership Skills
Development
- **February 17**
Wellness for Life
- **February 18**
Leadership Issue Day #5
- **February 18 - 21**
Class 2C Boy’s District
Basketball Tournament
- **February 20 - 22**
Squirt Hockey
Tournament
- **February 26 - 28**
Eastern C Girl’s
Divisional Basketball
Tournament



Inside this issue:	
<i>New Members</i>	3
<i>Renewing Members</i>	3
<i>Renewing Members cont.</i>	4
<i>2008 Award Winners</i>	4
<i>Award Winners cont.</i>	5
<i>Award Winners cont.</i>	6
<i>Member Benefit</i>	7
<i>Business after Hours</i>	8
<i>Tournaments</i>	8
<i>Chamber Bucks Program</i>	8

Meet Our 2009 Board President

Lisa Aisenbrey is the new president of the Chamber for 2009. Since joining the Board of Directors in 2006, she has been Chairman of the Membership Committee and has been active in the Chamber’s strategic planning efforts.

Lisa has worked at Sidney Health Center since 2004 in health education, and just recently started in a new position as the Human Resources Administrator. She has a Bachelor’s Degree in Nutrition and a Master’s Degree in Healthcare Administration.

Lisa and her husband Jonathan have a four-month old daughter, Ellie.



Terrific Time at Banquet

The tables at the banquet were “terrific” and very appropriately set the tone for the Chamber Banquet on January 19th. The Sidney Country Club provided delicious roast beef and chicken meal before the evening program was directed by M.C. Karen Olson-Beenken

Addresses to the membership were provided by past & new president Ben Larson & Lisa Aisenbrey and Executive Director Wade VanEvery. Keynote speaker Tom Harrington provided an interesting presentation on how mining companies work with the Jefferson County people to provide sustainability once the mining is gone.

A special prize was provided at the banquet by Great Lakes Aviation. Sidney manager Cathy Zent-

ner and her staff decorated a table and brought 2 roundtrip tickets as a door prize. Alan Seigfreid was the fortunate recipient of those tickets.

The Chamber provided prizes as well with Paula Bostrom & Dave Anderson each receiving \$25 in Chamber bucks. New this year was a drawing from business cards presented at Business after Hours events and Erin Espeland received a business card holder.

Special recognition was also bestowed upon Enid Huotari for her continuous work with the Leadership Task Force. For this an honorary “Doctorate of Leadership” was conferred upon her.

In all, 140 people celebrated a successful 2008 and began another big year.

Sidney Chamber 2008 Board of Directors

Past President:	Ben Larson	Richland County Extension
President:	Lisa Aisenbrey	Sidney Health Center
1st V.P.	Marci Albin	The Lucky Buckle
Treasurer:	Lorilee Norby	Mitchell's Oilfield Service

Raleigh Peck	ElectricLand	Cheryl Olson	Mustang Run Gallery
Greg Miller	Millers' Corner	Leona Colvin	Foundation for Community Care
Rowdy Cvancara	1st Bank	Nick Lonski	Edward Jones Investments
Tim Averett	Big Sky Siding & Windows	Jodie Leland	Wells Fargo Bank
Idelle Badt	R.S.V.P.	Sharon Rau	Honorary Member
Staff:	Wade J. VanEvery, Executive Director	LaVanchie Starkey, Administrative Assistant	



Pictured front row, left to right: Lorilee Norby, Marci Albin, Lisa Aisenbrey, Cheryl Olson and Ben Larson. Second row: Raleigh Peck, Wade VanEvery and LaVanchie Starkey. Back row; Jodie Leland, Greg Miller, Nick Lonski and Rowdy Cvancara. Not pictured are Tim Averett, Idelle Badt and Leona Colvin.

2009 Off to a Great Start with 2 New Members



The Chamber welcomes and thanks Old Dominion Freight Line and manager Russell Schmidt for becoming a member in January. Old Dominion, which is a family owned company for Thomasville NC, purchased long time member Bobs' Pickup & Delivery last

spring. This purchase gives Old Dominion a presence in all 48 lower states. Russell Schmidt and his family recently moved from Spokane WA to manage the Sidney office. Russell looks forward to becoming involved in the Sidney community.

Rhines Farming Corp., operated by Jerry & Kathy Rhines and John & Karen Rhines of Sidney became new members in January also. These families split their time between homes in Sidney and the farm in western Richland County.

Thank You to our Renewing Members!

Action Auto
 ADCOM
 Agri - Industries
 American Cancer Society
 Asian Bodywork & Natural
 Therapy
 Avis Rental Car
 B & B Builders
 Baker Boy
 Basin Brokers
 Baumeister, Joan
 Beagle Properties
 Big Sky Siding & Windows
 Blue Rock Products
 Border Steel & Recycling
 Boys & Girls Club
 Brenner & Averett
 Busch Ag Resources
 Carpenters Storehaus
 Cattle-Ac
 Cavanaugh, Greg Dr
 Chad's Furniture
 Checkers
 C.H.M.S.
 Christiansen, Curt DMD
 CHS Farmers Elevator
 Church of Christ
 Clinic Pharmacy
 Club Royale Casino
 CM Built Doors



Con's Weed Control
 Creative Solutions
 Crestwood Inn
 Cross Petroleum
 Dairy Queen
 Dawson Community College
 District II Alcohol & Drug
 Program
 Duramed
 Dynneson Ranch
 Eagle Country Ford
 Eastern Ag Research Center
 EastMont Enterprises
 Edward Jones - Enid Huotari
 Edward Jones - Jerry Hughes
 Edward Jones - Nick Lonski
 ElectricLand
 Elk River Printing
 Elks Lodge
 Exdivio Solutions
 Farm & Home Supply
 Farm Bureau Insurance
 Fink Dental Center
 1st Bank
 Flare
 Footers
 Foundation for Community
 Care
 Four Seasons Trailer Court
 Friends of Ft Union

Frontier Heating &
 Refrigeration
 Fulkerson Funeral Home
 Gem City Motors
 Glendive Coca-Cola
 Glendive Sales Corporation
 Great Lakes Airlines
 Great Plains Supply
 Gullivers
 Gurney Electric
 H & R Block - Margaret Bradley
 Hedahls Inc
 Helena Chemical Company
 Herbert, Max & Lola
 Hi-Line Home Programs
 Hi-Line Trucking
 Interstate Engineering
 Jim's Catering
 Jock Stop
 John Stockhill Jewelers
 Johnson Hardware & Furniture
 Kalberer's Heating
 Kentucky Fried Chicken
 KXMD-TV
 Land o' Lakes
 Lee's Tire Service
 Lone Tree Inn
 Lower Yellowstone REA
 M & C Beverage
 Martineau, Paul DDS

Martini Siding & Windows
 Martini Steel & Seamless
 Gutters
 McDonald's
 Mercer Farm & Ranch
 Mid-Rivers Communications
 Miller's Corner
 Mitchell's Oilfield Service
 MonDak heritage Center
 MonDak Motorsports
 Montana Dakota Utilities
 Montana Turf 'n Wheels
 NAPA Auto Parts
 Nick Jones Real Estate
 Norby, Inc
 North Star Auto Body
 NW Farm Credit Services
 Olson Plumbing
 Omni Communications
 Park Plaza
 PATH
 Paws Point
 PEDE & Associates
 Pella Lutheran Church
 Picture Perfect Photography
 Pizza House
 Pizza Hut
 Prewitt & Company
 Priceless Rent a Car
 R & J Ag Supply
 Ranger Lounge

Rau Designs
 Regal Eagle
 Restorex
 Reynold's Market
 Ribbon & Rail
 Richland County Conservation
 Richland Economic
 Development
 Richland Farm Mutual Service
 Richland Federal Credit Union
 Richland Motor Inn
 Richland Pump & Supply
 Rockin 'R Auto Sales
 Security Abstract Company
 Seitz Insurance
 710 Auto Glass
 Sidney Cleaners & Laundry
 Sidney Comm. Broadcasting
 Sidney Country Club
 Sidney Gymnastics
 Sidney Health Center
 Sidney Herald
 Sidney Insurance
 Sidney Job Service
 Sidney Liquor Agency
 Sidney Millworks
 Sidney Moose Lodge #856
 Sidney Paint & Glass
 Sidney Public Schools
 Sidney Realty
 Sidney Red-e-Mix

Sidney Rental
 Sidney Soccer Association
 Sidney Sugars
 Sidney Tax Service
 Smith, Lange & Halley
 SPF #23 (Superpumper)
 St Mary Land & Exploration
 Don Steinbeisser Sr.
 Stockman Bank
 Sunrise Music
 Taco Johns
 The Depot
 The Lodge at Lone Tree Creek
 The Roundup
 Thorgerson Oil
 Tri-County Implement
 Triangle Nite Club
 Triple C Association
 ProBuild
 Union Gateway Insurance
 Upper Missouri G & T Electric
 Valley View
 IGA
 VFW
 VS Inc.
 Wells Fargo
 White Drug
 XTO Energy
 Yellowstone Chiropractic
 Yellowstone Court



2008 Award Winners

The **Sunrise Spirit Award** was presented to Sidney Health Center which is in its final year of a \$20 million building project on the hospital side of the facility and as renovations start to take shape, the public is getting a glimpse of what is to come when the three year project is complete. In 2008, newly constructed areas were opened to the public including a surgery addition, dietary services area and a spacious entry way with a new gift shop.

The new surgical suite features two operating rooms, a procedure room, a recovery area, ten outpatient rooms, a nurses' station and a family waiting area. The new area has streamlined the process for patients and their families and updated the physical plant. More importantly the innovative design is anticipated to allow Sidney Health Center to advance its services as technology changes well in the future and continue to attract highly-skilled

medical professionals to the area.

With the addition of the surgical area, the dining room and kitchen moved to the main entrance area, directly across the hall from the Clinic Pharmacy. The relocation centralized the kitchen between the hospital and extended care, and positioned the dining area in a more public locale.

Currently, construction crews are remodeling and updating existing space to enhance the



Pictured left to right, front row: Joy Johnson, Kris Gifford, Elaine Stedman, and Enid Huotari. Middle row: Phil Johnson, Larry & Tami Christensen and Dana Moos. Back row: Chip Gifford, Rick Haralson and Eldon Moos

patient experience throughout the facility. Final phases include the renovation and expansion of the intensive care unit and revamping of the inpatient rooms on the medical-surgical wing. The intensive care unit will be relocated into a larger area; and the new inpatient rooms will be roomy and aesthetically pleasing, ensuring a private and healing environment for patients, families and guests.

Representing SHC was Rick Haraldson, CEO, and Tami Christensen, Chairman of the Board.

The **Partners In Progress Award** is saved for special recognition, for people who have given just a little more of themselves.

Enid Huotari is a past director of the Chamber and was President in 1997. She currently is an active member of three committees and is chair person of one of them. She often times has two meetings in a day on a given month.

Her work within committees is extensive. As Madam Chairwoman of the Sunrise Festival of Arts Enid oversees several assistants to effectively put on one of the Chamber's largest events. She provides guidance whenever needed and does so in a very positive manner.

Enid's focus on Sidney Leadership is evident as details are discussed at each committee meeting. And she is a Sunrise Ambassador also. We can rely on her to be at Ribbon cuttings,

and Business after Hours.

Not only is she busy with the Chamber, but is president of the Lions club this year, and is active with her Church. This is in addition to being a successful Edward Jones representative!

The **Agriculture Award** is presented each year to an individual or business that has made an impact in Agriculture, either through its promotion or its development of farming or ranching. The award is chosen each year by the Agriculture committee of the Chamber.

Tri-County Implement moved here and started business from scratch in an empty tire shop. Since 1988 they have added four additions onto the facilities to keep up with their growth

and customer service. Tri-County, operated by Larry and Tami Chtistensen is now a regional leader as an ag-machinery center.

They are proud of several services they have initiated to be a resource to ag producers, including bulk oil to control costs and cut down on environmental waste with delivery to their customers. They have added truck repair to their services in the shop. And they've taken a lead in GPS technology, having a trained specialist on staff. They credit their staff greatly for their success.

The Chamber applauds them for being the first to publicly contribute to the MSU Experiment Station expansion. They give tirelessly to the MT Legislature, MT Chamber of Commerce, Sidney Volunteer Fire Department, Sidney Health Center, and Richland Youth Hockey to name a few.

The Chamber thanks them for their support and work for the Tractor Pull last summer, and they also support many other Chamber activities.

The **Entrepreneur Award**, recognizes someone who has been in business for more than one year, who has been successful in their new venture, and who has gone beyond the ordinary to capture the public's attention. This award is one of two chosen by the Chamber membership and for 2008 chose Party Central owned by Eldon and Dana Moos.

Written on one returned ballot, "since Eldon and Dana have moved out of the Yellowstone, they have improved their lines available. They have dressed up their building to draw attention to the downtown and it invites people to come in." On another ballot was written, "They have brought a great deal of business to the area. Not only by having a good stock, but by offering rentals, and catering to all area schools.

A ballot also mentioned their involvement as a Chamber members. Eldon is a past president and Dana is currently chairperson of the Trade and Promotion committee.

The **Educator of the Year award**, sponsored by DTF Educational Consulting is chosen by the Chamber's Education Committee from nominees submitted by the principals of our schools. The selection criteria include not only the nominee's ability as an educator, but also

their involvement in extra-curricula activities and the community.

This year's recipient was Elaine Stedman, nominated by Dan Farr from the Sidney High School staff. She is in her thirtieth year of teaching, all of them in the Sidney Public Schools. Mr. Farr wrote at length about Elaine, expounding on her effectiveness as a teacher, her high expectations for students, and her professional rapport with students, staff, and parents.

He summarized his remarks with "Mrs. Stedman is a standout among the many educators I have worked with throughout my educational career. Her actions in and out of the classroom serve students, staff, parents, and the community as a whole. As a true professional, her actions are not without sacrifice, and few know the hours she spends working for Sidney students and others. The only question is, when does Elaine take time for herself?"

The **Horizon Award**, is given to a business that has been in existence for more than five years, but keeps on breaking new ground and moving forward. This is the second of the membership nominated awards, and was presented to Johnson Hardware and Furniture.

Represented at the Banquet by Phil and Joy Johnson, and Chip and Kris Gifford, their business is 94 years old in 2009. It has been in the same family the entire time, beginning as Sidney's first John Deere dealership, and changing to hardware in the thirties.

This family is proud of the slow, steady, and careful growth it has undertaken and they are being recognized now by the membership for their latest changes.

When the family bought Coast to Coast approximately five years ago they were dedicated to keeping two unique facilities for Sidney's needs. They are admired for remodeling the outsides of the two buildings to create a uniform, attractive appearance. Expanding the two stores has kept ample employment opportunities for the community. And we know they attract people to come and shop in Sidney.

In 2002 the Johnson's were recognized as the Montana Family Business of the Year, and also the featured Heritage Day family.

Member Benefit: Chamber Choices

The Montana Chamber Choices health insurance program is a health plan designed for small business members of the Montana Chamber of Commerce and/or endorsing local Chambers. Chamber Choices was created to meet the need of our small business members who were looking for more choices and increased affordability in the small business health insurance market.

Chamber Choices is a fully-insured, association health plan that currently boasts the stability of approximately 18,000 members. Employers with 2-99 employees and sole proprietors are eligible for Choices.

Chamber Choices was founded with three charters:

1. **Cover the uninsured**
2. **Provide Member Benefit**
3. **Control premiums**

These three charters direct each decision we make on behalf of the 1500+ small businesses that trust us to negotiate, manage and administer their health insurance benefits. Since the inception of Choices in 2004, we've listened to the needs and priorities of employers and in response to their feedback we've added two additional charters for Choices:

4. **Emphasize and promote prevention and wellness**
5. **Keep the plan affordable**

Chamber Choices continues to deliver on our charters with our impressive 2009 benefits package—where we maintained a stable and affordable rate, added one more benefit plan for a grand total of 11 and added four health promotion benefits.

Each of these goals is critical to maintaining a strong, healthy and affordable health plan that small employers and employees across Montana can access. We appreciate the participation of every single organization that chooses Chamber Choices and we will con-

tinue working hard in 2009 and beyond. The new benefits for the New Year are:

NEW — Base Life Insurance Policy of \$5,000 and \$5,000 AD&D benefit

NEW — Preventive Annual Dental Exam

NEW — **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)**

NEW—Improved benefit for colonoscopies

NEW—Improved pricing for High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) options

NEW — **Healthy Wonders Maternity Management Program**

NEW — **80/20 Health First** benefit option

11 different benefit plans, including 2 HDHPs paired with a Health Savings Account (HSA).

The Chamber Choices Trust is also pleased that, over five years, we have sustained an average renewal rate in the single digits. In 2009, the Trust delivered another single digit rate (on average) to employers. "Although some groups will see an age-rate bump or an experience adjustment, the majority of small businesses will benefit from a single digit increase," said Russ Spika of Lewistown, Chair of the Trust.

"The Choices team had 60+ health insurance agents participate in a series of webinars that rolled-out the 2009 benefits. Agents were really excited to hear about the added preventive screening, especially the colonoscopy, the Employee Assistance Program, the life insurance policy — and they are already promoting and educating prospective Chamber Choices customers about the benefits of the health plan."

To learn more information about Chamber Choices, visit www.chamberchoices.com



SIDNEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND AGRICULTURE

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Hi-Line Trucking
Lower Yellowstone REA
Montana-Dakota Utilities
Mitchell's Oil Field Service
Seitz Insurance
Sidney Sugars
Stockman Bank
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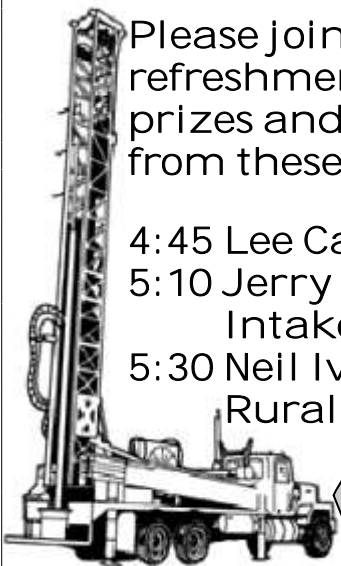
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Business After Hours Agri-Industries

1801 S Central Ave
February 5th
4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Please join us for refreshments, door prizes and hear from these experts:

4:45 Lee Candee
5:10 Jerry Nypen:
Intake Diversion
5:30 Neil Iversen
Rural Water



Live Remotes
on Eagle 93.1!

It's Tournament Time!

Help Wanted: Tournament workers for February 18-21 and 26-28. Requirements- 2 hours to have fun helping people feel welcome to Sidney as a ticket seller, ticket taker, or door monitor. Benefits- Be part of an important event in Sidney, that is held in one of the nicest facilities in Montana. You will get to know people in the community better, and learn about surrounding areas. To sign up call the Chamber office at 433-1916.

Chamber Bucks Program

Answers to frequently asked questions

- Treat them like cash and you may issue change.
- An endorsement is required on the back.
- Check the expiration date.
- You may accept them year-round.
- They are colored green or yellow-green.