

HICS Association 2011 Reunion

The 2011 HICS Association Reunion will be in Rapid City, South Dakota June 23-26, 2011, at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel.

Thursday will be check-in from 2-7pm, snacks will be available.

Friday, 9am-4pm will be a bus tour to the Badlands & Wall Drug (7 hours): Stop at the South Dakota Air & Space Museum at Ellsworth AFB for US Air Force history and much more. Reload for Wall Drug, the world's largest drug store. This unique shopping emporium filled with many fun activities and displays plus your lunch break for the day on your own. Continue to a scenic adventure that takes you through the magnificent area of the Badlands National Park, where rain, wind and frost have carved steep canyons, sharp ridges, gullies and pinnacles, providing a glimpse into the relentless pace of geologic change. Approx. \$45 per person (based on a minimum of 30 passengers). Includes narration and admissions. I'm checking on adding the National Park Service D-01 & D-09 tours. <http://www.nps.gov/mimi/index.htm>

Saturday, 9am-5pm will be a bus tour to the Black Hills (8 Hours): Our tour begins with a drive through Keystone, a little gold town located below Mt. Rushmore, where fortunes were made in the days of the Old West. You will then view the famous Mt. Rushmore National Monument, our amazing "Shrine of Democracy". Then visit Crazy Horse Memorial, another awe-inspiring rock carving 50 years in the process. After Crazy Horse, have a buffet lunch at Heritage Village. Continue onto Custer State Park, which is home of the largest buffalo herd and other protected animals. Return to Rapid City via scenic Iron Mountain Road known for its pig-tail bridges and tunnels that frame Mt. Rushmore in the distance. Cost per person: Approx. \$60 per person (based on a minimum of 30 passengers). Includes narration, admissions and lunch.

Sunday, beginning at 2-3 pm we will have a Photo Shoot for a Reunion Memory Book. There is no charge to have your portrait taken; you will be **automatically** included in the Memory Book. The Memory Book is available for purchase by everyone whether you attend or not, if you don't attend you can still have your picture in the book.

We will also have a cash bar from 3-6pm. At 4:30pm we will begin the evening's festivities which will include a Slide Presentation hosted by (Need a Volunteer), and a raffle for one or two items (Need Suggestions).

Midway thru the Slide Presentation will be a dinner break. Dinner will be your choice of Chef Carved Honey Ham, or Chef Carved Prime Rib and all the fixins and for desert, Black Forest Cake.

After dinner will be the Raffle, conclusion of the slide presentation and the door prizes.

We have begun the process of finalizing the catering requirements, I will finalize with the hotel caterers when I have the money in hand. It has to be paid for when menus are finalized. The cost will be \$40.00 per person which covers the Ice Breaker and Dinner, cost of the door prizes and odds & ends (meals alone will be approx. \$3,500). It is payable to Rick French by April 1st, 2011, the sooner the better.

Arrangements have been made for discounted rooms at the Best Western Ramkota Hotel. You must call the Best Western Ramkota Hotel and make your own reservations. Call 605-343-8550, ask for the front desk and tell them you are with the **HICS Association**. The quoted room rate for a single room (1-4 persons) is \$109/night, double occupancy, before taxes (approx: \$121 after taxes). The quoted room rate for a two room executive suite is \$139/night, double occupancy, before taxes (approx: \$153 after taxes). These room rates will be in effect from Jun 20 thru Jun 30, 2011. Currently, we have only 25 rooms blocked out so make your reservations by May 15, 2011. After May 15, 2011, it will be based on availability and may not be at the quoted rate. Please make your reservations as soon as possible so that we can block out additional rooms as necessary! Again, **you must call the Hotel and make your**

own reservation. Tell the front desk you are with the **HICS Association.** If you encounter any difficulties please let me know immediately so that I can get them resolved.

Since this information is coming out so early the costs may increase a small amount come Reunion time. I will send out an update in the future. We look forward to seeing everyone and if you have any questions, suggestions or comments don't hesitate to let me know!

Looking forward to seeing you in Rapid City!

Sincerely,

Rick French
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