

June 28th , 2006 Bozeman BPW Local Chapter Program, Meeting Minutes

The June 28th meeting was held at First Interstate Bank at Main and Grand.

Attendance: Members Guests

Acting President Lindsey VanHemelryck called the meeting to order. She started by welcoming all of the members and guests. Today's meeting will center around two speakers, Sharon Dugger and Kay Ruh.

Program

Sharon Dugger – Girls Outdoors

Sharon got her start in retail organizing the Kids Exchange between 1995 and 2002. It was a community effort where toys, clothes and equipment were sold by consignment. Following this she began going to outdoor sports retail shows and discovered that women were an untapped market and that there was a nationwide trend to tap this market. She spoke to retailers such as Divas Outdoors and decided to sell only women specific products. Products include shoes, eyewear, sleeping bags, sleeping pads and backpacks. She drew up a business plan in 2005 and opened the store on Good Friday 2006. She is proud of her accomplishments as the end product turned out just like her vision. She is a local business woman helping to meet a need. Girls Outdoors provides clothing and equipment for runners, hikers, bikers, general mountaineering and for the gym. She will add new products as the need arises. Girls Outdoors is located at 20 N. Tracy.

Kay Ruh

In their canoes, Kay, with her husband Bill Bartlett, followed Lewis and Clark's route down the Yellowstone River from Tom Miner Basin to the confluence with the Missouri in North Dakota. The 500 miles took 2 years between 1995 and 1996. For the next section of the journey, they canoed 800 miles up the Missouri to Three Forks. A lot of the journey was done together but some by Bill alone. On Fort Peck it was very windy so they started paddling at daylight as the wind started at about 10am. They had solo canoes as it is better practice to split up the gear. They averaged 13 miles per day and their progress was helped by paddling near the shore and catching eddies to help push them upstream. They skipped some distances in the Fort Peck area as the mud flats can be dangerous as they are like quick sand. They walked 1/3 of the way, towing the canoes, as the current was too fast. This trip was accomplished over 6 years and Kay and Bill arrived at the Headwaters 200 years to the day that the Corps of Discovery passed through. Kay says that it was a journey of self-discovery as they needed perseverance, faith and confidence in themselves to complete it.

Announcements

- For June & July Marian will be in Peru so Lindsey VanHemelryck will be Acting President

Upcoming Meetings

July 10th – BPW Executive Committee Meeting

July 12th – BPW Business Meeting

July 26th – BPW Program Meeting – 3 member profiles and reports from attendees at the National BPW Conference – Tracey Jette & Lindsey VanHemelryck.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Beggs, Recording Secretary