

# CABIN CLIPS

November, 2018

## 2018 Board Members:

Pat Baird, President

Jeff Baird, Treasurer

Ione Fejfar, Secretary

Marty Mahrt, Member

Larry Zimmerman, Member

## Inside This Issue:

Highlights from 2018 families.

New at OBHC!

We Pay Tribute To One Of Our Own!

Appreciation Night - 2018

SD Gives.

# 2018 Highlights

- 18 families hosted.
- 3 new States - Washington, Wyoming and Massachusetts
- To date total - 97 families from 33 different states
- Largest family - 2 adults and 7 children!
- 2 families with 5 children.
- 1 family with 6 children.



"A WAY TO SAY THANK YOU"

- 1 family of a father and son.
- Farthest State:
  - 2 from Florida
  - 1 from New Jersey
  - 1 from Massachusetts
- Closest State:
  - 2 from South Dakota
  - 3 from Nebraska
  - 1 from Wyoming

## MEMORABLE QUOTES

"My wife cried the first 30 minutes after we arrived and we all feel sad leaving here tomorrow. We are so overwhelmed with everyone's generosity and willingness to make our experience exceptional."

Kentucky family

"Thank you for allowing me to forget about my injuries. We are refreshed and ready to take on the world."

Nebraska family

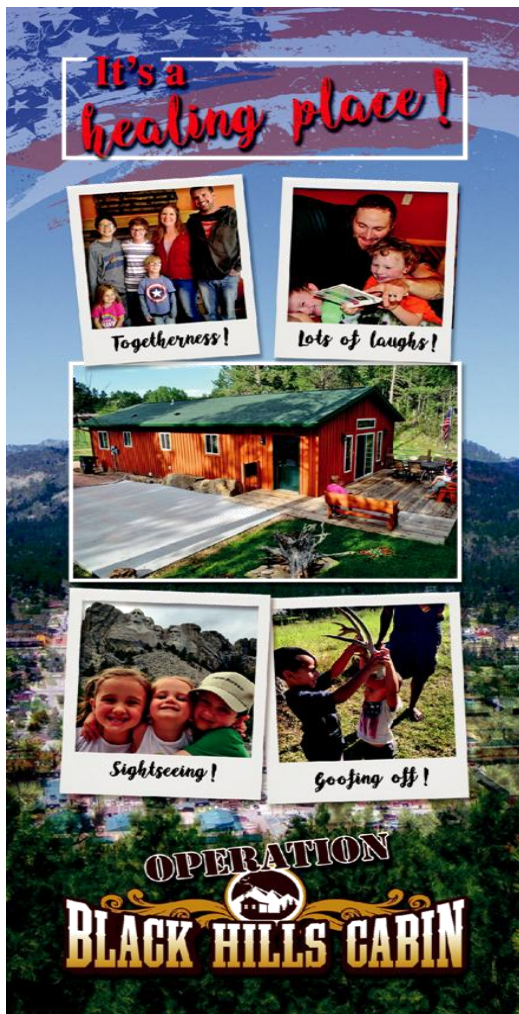
"The people of Custer, those who sponsor OBHC and the many kind folks we met on this week-long journey remind me how blessed it is to be an American and how alive the American spirit is in Custer."

Massachusetts family

# NEW AT OBHC!



Many thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Phil Geenan for providing us with an outdoor corn hole game! Game rules and bean bags are available at the cabin and many games were enjoyed by several families this summer!



OUR NEW RACK CARD - THANK YOU, JASON NAJACHT

# WE PAY TRIBUTE TO ONE OF OUR OWN!



There could be no better experience than what our families encounter at check-in. They are met with a warm welcome by our very own **Marty and Colleen Mahrt!**

Marty has served on the Board of Directors of Operation Black Hills Cabin since our inception. His actual war experience makes him invaluable to our organization. Marty served two tours in Vietnam. His first tour ended in a miraculous rescue after his F105

Thunder Chief plane had been shot down deep in enemy territory. He received the Purple Heart for his injuries. During his second tour, he launched the realistic combat training program known as Red Flag.

According to Marty, he gets the most satisfaction from presenting our families with the travel reimbursement upon arrival. Many tears are shed as these families know they desperately need this week of respite and reconnection. However, getting here has been a severe financial burden and they wonder if their cash and credit will get them home.

**What a blessing!**

Colleen is always ready and willing to pitch in whenever called. She not only graciously accepts all assignments, but actually volunteers before being asked! What more could a non-profit ask for? Whether it be providing food or help at an event or making a group presentation, they are both always ready, willing and able, and do a great job.

A quote from a 2018 family reveals the whole story: "Colleen checked us in and we figured that their 'job', per se, was done. Marty then presented a 'gift to give back' of Custer Cash and spending money for gas on a visa card. We were utterly blown away!"

**THANK YOU MARTY and COLLEEN! We look forward to many more years of service with you on the Board of Directors of Operation Black Hills Cabin!**

## APPRECIATION NIGHT – 2018



**We were able to say thank you to our 2018 business sponsors on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Our 2018**

**sponsors include:** Alpine Inn, Baker's Bakery, Bear Country USA, Big Thunder Gold Mine, BobKat's Purple Pie Place, Buffalo Ridge Theater, Buffalo Safari Jeep Rides & State Game Lodge, Buglin' Bull, Beggin' Burro, & Custer Corral, Calamity Jane's, Claw Antler, Hide, Crazy Horse Monument, Custer County Candy, Custer County Chronicle, Custer Piecemaker's Quilt Guild, Custer Subway, Custer UTV Rentals, Dairy Queen of Custer, 1880 Train, 1881 Courthouse Museum, Evan's Plunge, Four Mile Old West Town, Grizzly Gulch Mini Golf, Jenny's Floral, Jewel Cave National Monument,

Laura's Integrated Functional Therapy, Pizza Works, Presidential Wax Museum, Reptile Gardens, Rockin' R Trail Rides, Rush Mountain Adventure Park, Skogen Kitchen, Scotty & Phyllis Terrall, The Mammoth Site, Studt Construction, Top Pin Archery, and Xanterra of Mt. Rushmore. AND a special "kudos" to the many individuals who work hard each week to make sure each hosted family's time at the cabin is fabulous ~ the Board of Directors, the Selection Committee, the Treat's Committee, the Cleaning Committee, the Outdoor Maintenance Committee, Gerald, Bob, Christy, Ed, Warren, & all the donors who make this project possible ~ when each person puts in a little bit, amazing things happen! A special THANK YOU also goes to the late, great DAVE HANSON, who carved and donated the above Welcome Bear.

**OBHC is participating in SD Day of Giving. What is it you ask? "For the first time ever, nonprofits and communities across the State are uniting to celebrate generosity in the great State of South Dakota," according to their website. Mark your calendars now to participate on November 27, 2018. Go to [www.southdakotagives.org](http://www.southdakotagives.org) and click on Participants, then Participating Nonprofits. You can then search by category—Veterans. Every penny you donate through South Dakota Gives to OBHC goes directly to OBHC. SD Gives is simply a group of people who love this State, believe it is generous, and wish to support good people doing really big things. **HOW AWESOME IS THAT?****

