

Organizations help make Imperial great place to live

By JAN SCHULTZ, THE IMPERIAL REPUBLICAN NEWS EDITOR

Did you know there are about 50 active organizations in the Imperial area?

Those volunteers do a lot for our communities, and we shouldn't forget how valuable they are. And, when you put those minds together, who knows what can result?

On Tuesday night, representatives of close to 30 of those organizations met for a "meeting of the minds," so to speak, to begin studying how they can better work together and communicate, thereby doing more for the community.

OTHER COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT IDEAS ARE BREWING.

The meeting was organized by Imperial's NCIP (Nebraska Community Improvement Program) committee with hopes that such an "organization of organizations" could prosper here, and continue meeting on a regular basis.

Based on the great comments and participation Tuesday, I can see a lot of good coming from this group.

One big project that hopefully goes forward is a community events calendar that would be accessible on the Internet and also be printed out on "table tents" that could be placed in restaurants, at motels and locations all over.

We have a great school calendar that informs us of what's happening at Chase County Schools.

But there is so much else going on in our communities. Wouldn't it be great to have a concise day-by-day calendar with all of the events going on in town? The hope for this calendar, too, is that it will list events three months or so down the road for future planning purposes.

How many of our organizations plan something on a Saturday night, only to find out later there is another major community event on the same date?

Several at Tuesday's meeting saw real value in one, big combined community calendar. It would be a great asset to those of use who live here, but also for travelers who stop for a night or two and wonder what's going on.

However, it will take some computer tech. savvy to get it off the ground, and some committee work. If you are interested in helping in that regard, let me know, or any of the other NCIP committee members—Dianne Way, Marilyn Leibbrandt, Brenda Ledall, Mary Deyle, Jo Leyland, Leslie Carlholm, Randy Vlasin and Matt Fisher.

The NCIP committee exists to work toward and support community improvement projects and efforts to make Imperial a better place to live.

The NCIP committee has a lot of other ideas brewing, some of which were built upon at Tuesday's meeting. Another one discussed was an annual community recognition of volunteers.

It's amazing what a "meeting of the minds" can turn out!

