

The Riverfront & Brewery Event Centers and Hotels

The Old Brewery

Unique industrial looking building.

Currently the Barley Room with a balcony, the Rosebud Room, the southwest room with all the beautiful windows, occupy ground level.

The Pub Room and the Deck with outdoor seating are on the roof



The History

(reprinted from the Press and Dakotan)

"The first brewery in Dakota Territory, of course, was right here in Yankton. Mr. Charles Rossteuscher came to Yankton in 1860 to open a butcher shop. He was fairly successful and wanted to expand his horizons. He had a great interest in beer.

We do not know if he had any past experience as a brew master."

Rossteuscher, who served as mayor and held other local offices during his lifetime, constructed some buildings out of cottonwood, had equipment shipped up the Missouri River by steamboat and opened his brewery at the intersection of Second and Walnut streets in the summer of 1866.

Stewart noted that the Yankton Union and Dakotain was pleased to have C.F. Rossteuscher and Company in Yankton.

The newspaper stated that the brewery "is a good institution because it will furnish a beverage that will take the place of such wicked and poisonous stuff as whiskey, turpentine and the extract of logwood. It will be a moral victory to displace the use of spirituous liquors with malt, and we therefore laud the new enterprise gladly."

In 1876, Rossteuscher's son-in-law joined the business, and it became the Rossteuscher and Meyer Brewing Company.

Patrons could buy a dozen quarts of bottled beer for \$1.50 in 1878.

Rossteuscher died in 1887, and the brewing business would go on to face challenges when South Dakota became a state in 1889.

"The first order of business (for the state)? Prohibition!" Stewart said. "What a way to celebrate statehood."

The prohibition on alcohol was eventually repealed in 1896.

Rossteuscher and Meyer went through several name and ownership changes between 1887 and the new century.

In 1901, the property was purchased by Fred W. Schwenk and Martin Barth of Cleveland, Ohio, and the Schwenk-Barth Brewing Company was born.

"Schwenk-Barth was the premiere brewing company of Yankton," Stewart said. "Schwenk-Barth modernized the facility, got new equipment and started piping in the water from the Missouri River (rather than manually hauling it) to use in the brewing process."

Part of the brewery, with its tall brick smokestack, is still standing at the northeast corner of the intersection of Walnut and Second streets.

"It's a rather magnificent structure," Stewart noted.

Schwenk-Barth called its product Rose Bud Beer. At the time, many people were seeking claims on the newly-opened lands of the Rosebud Indian Reservation, a phenomenon which likely what inspired the name.

"Schwenk-Barth products were sold as far west as the Black Hills," Stewart said.

They could also be found in Nebraska and Minnesota.

According to Stewart, the Schwenk-Barth Brewing Company was worth \$500,000 in 1917.

However, the state once again voted to prohibit alcohol. The measure became effective in 1917, and the nation followed with prohibition in January 1920.

Despite attempts to sell non-alcoholic beverages, Schwenk-Barth went out of business in 1919.

An attempt to revive the brewery was made in 1934. However, Stewart said that Fred Schwenk was apparently unable to raise the funds in the midst of the Great Depression.

During World War II, the facility was used to produce industrial alcohol for the government but was never again used for manufacturing beer.

Gold Package

Barley Room
Largest Space with the Balcony

2+ days: 9am- 1 am wedding day
plus 9-4 day before for decorating
plus 1 hour day after for pickup

and the Rosebud Room \$2050 combined
if you wish to use this room with minimum setup.

Rosebud Room -if used as a Chapel \$300 = \$2350 combined

(Chapel includes practice time 6-8 pm day before & chairs, arch and setup)

- 2 Complimentary Bottles of Champagne
- Backdrop for head table
- Setup for a maxim of 500 people including head table (Rosebud Room as Chapel -250 people)
- Chair covers and chairs ties. We place the chair covers on the chairs. We provide the chair ties. You tie the chair ties. (untie, remove, fold and box them after the event). We provide cloth napkins. You fold them.
- A \$125 value Bridal Suite for the night of your wedding

Setup Explained:

Dining tables in the space with tablecloths, flatware, water glasses on them.

We have 40 different colors in napkins to choose from. We also have 10 different colors of tablecloths to choose from.

Head table, cake table, sign in table and gift table set up with floor length table cloths.

Floors cleaned, Chairs in place.

- **Wait staff responsibility during an event in this package.** *Wait staff can assist you in other things. These are noted at the end of the package pricing. Each additional item has an additional charge attached to it.*

Place ice and water pitchers on bar and head table prior to guest arrival.

Lite any candles, if asked to do so prior to the event starting.

Place 2 complimentary bottles of champagne on the head table for the wedding party to drink at their leisure, champagne glasses are provided.

Tear down tables as needed for the dance.

- **Bartenders**

Bartenders and bar setup are provided in any package as long as \$500.00 in sales is achieved. Sales means ANY sales, guests purchases, keg purchases, champagne purchases. If you wish specific alcohol on the bar we can provide this for you. Conversely if you don't wish certain items on the bar we will remove them.

If you feel you need an extra bartender, we will discuss this before the event. We have no problem providing one at no charge if there is sufficient enough alcohol purchases to justify the extra help.

No outside alcohol can be brought in, our liquors licenses will not allow it.

Your guest sometimes pay for their own drinks in a cash bar. Or we can offer you many ways to give drinks to your guests, such as tokens, tickets, open bar, kegs.
Please ask us I am sure we can achieve a workable situation.

Barley Room/Rosebud

Gold Package Continued

- **Decorating**

You may come in and decorate the day before the wedding 9am to 4pm as long as there is nothing going on in the room and we are completely through with setup. You can not decorate or be in venue spaces while we are setting up. This can cause delays in our ability to complete the setup and even cause trickle down effect in lost time on other obligations.

You may not stand on ladders or chairs. No Nails, staples can be used.

- **Cleanup**

You are responsible to remove all items you brought in. You may remove the items the next day with prior approval from management. No gifts can remain in the facility overnight. We will cleanup, sweep and mop.

If there is excessive cleanup or damages due to abuse, you will be charged for it after discussing with you first.

Addition Services

We can provide many rental items for sound or decorating. There are many tasks our staff can do such as cutting the cake, pouring punch, plating food, serving the food to all your guests.

But these are an additional charge and usually require more staff than what is provided in our packages.

Outside food may be brought in from pre-approved caterers with a \$500 fee. Caterers are responsible for buffet setup and service, plates, flatware, glassware and busing thereof. If your caterer does not wish to provide some or all of those services, we can help with those gaps - buffet service, plates, flatware and cleanup busing. Just ask for added costs.

Cakes, candies, punch, and late night snacks after 11pm - such as chips, popcorn, etc. are not considered outside catering and have no fees.

ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOL OF ANY KIND CAN BE BROUGHT IN.