



By Jan Schultz The Imperial Republican

If a 160-mile motorcycle cruise on a Saturday afternoon, and the chance to win some cash at the same time sounds like fun, there's still time to sign up for the Mayor's Charitable Poker Run. Imperial Mayor Dwight Coleman is organizing the event for this Saturday, starting with registration at 12 noon at the city gym.

He said there's still room for anyone interested in taking part in the Poker Run, which will leave from the city parking lot, west of the library, at 1 p.m. sharp.

And, a motorcycle isn't required, either. He said he already has two vehicles, a pair of corvettes, that will be part of the group along with the motorcycles.

In addition to the fun, the mayor also has some charitable fundraising planned as part of the event. Proceeds will be donated to The Giving Circle, a group of Imperial women who donate anonymously each month to charitable causes in the community.

For the \$30 entry fee, participants will get a T-shirt, supper after the ride and the chance to win some cash for the best poker hand with which they finish.

At registration, they will receive their first playing card.

From Imperial, the group will travel to Benkelman, picking up their second card at Beth's Bar and Grill.

From there, the group will continue on to Haigler, stopping at Jake's Place to draw their third card.

The Poker Run continues on from there to Wray, Colo., stopping at Creekside Tavern, where participants will draw card number four.

Traveling north, they head toward Holyoke, Colo., where no formal stops are planned. They'll complete the 160-mile trip from there back to Imperial.

Upon returning to the city gym, they'll have a chance to complete their poker hand when they toss a dart at a wheel filled with cards. The cards will be face-up, Coleman said, so they can aim for the best card to complete their hand.

The best poker hand in the group will win \$300, second place will receive \$200, with \$100 going to third.

The \$600 prize money has been donated by area businesses, Coleman said.

Mayor Coleman and his wife, Tracy, will be riding on a 2006 Yamaha Saturday. They took a test run of the route Tuesday to make sure there would be no road construction issues.

Business sponsors supporting the event include AACE Wash Systems, Adams Lumber, DSK Irrigation, Farm Bureau Financial Services, Imperial Country Ford, Platinum T-Shirt & Embroidery, Southwest Title and Tequila's Mexican Grill.

