

Meals, meetings and more at Inn at Saint Mary's

The Inn at Saint Mary's uses parties, often calling on its related catering service and meeting space amenities, to express appreciation to clients and showcase its special features.

A recent event, with

some 700 invited through social media, an e-mail blast and old-fashioned human contact, drew more than 150 people to an outdoor cookout that included visits to newly renovated rooms.

"We did use the party for that purpose," says Trish Stewart-Corwin, who became director of sales in February and handles bookings, meeting space, meals, conventions and parties for clients.

"It was my first large function here. I was a little nervous about that considering the magnitude of the response we got. Everything went off without a hitch. The staff all came together. We were able to put the pieces of the puzzle together."

The day included activities for both adults and children, including a rental bounce house, face-painting, pony rides, a clown-magician and music. Some children's events brought families to the renovated Le-Mans meeting room while games for adults led them to visit guest rooms.

"We had a few games we did, which lured people down to the rooms to find clues in the room to get a chance for a free night's stay," Stewart-Corwin says. "It was nice to have those rooms taken care of and brought up to date."

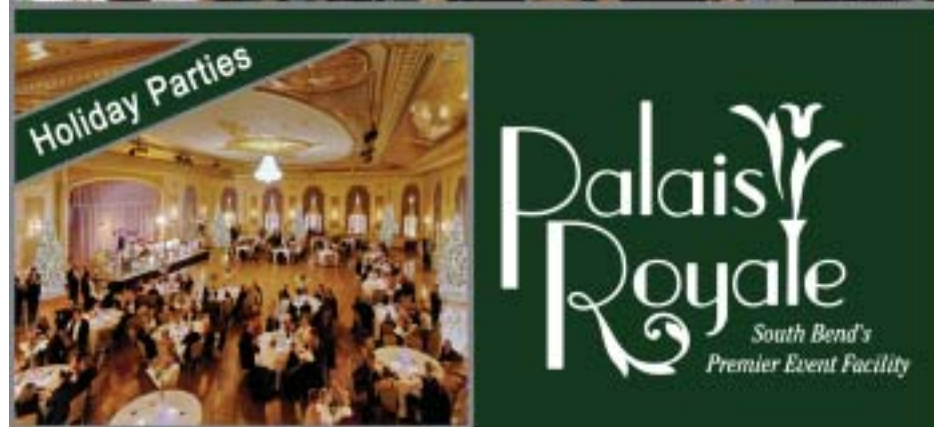
The renovation of the first floor's west side, the last stage of a project started in 2008, left the rooms with new headboards, marble countertops, flat-screen televisions, lamps, furnishings, lighting and remodeled bathrooms as well as new carpeting from the



Photos provided

TOP: The Inn at Saint Mary's offers space for corporate meetings, conventions and parties.

ABOVE: A recent event at the Inn at Saint Mary's featured activities for children including a clown/magician and face-painting. Adults were able to see recently completed renovations to the inn.



Contact Sales Manager for more information:

(574) 235-5612

www.PalaisRoyale.org

105 West Colfax Avenue, South Bend, IN 46601

LEARN MORE

For more information, contact the Inn at Saint Mary's Hotel & Suites, 53993 Indiana 933, South Bend; call 574-232-4000; or visit www.innatsaintmarys.com.

breakfast area to the fitness center.

The party included tours of the Gillespie Center next door, a 15,000-square-foot

meeting space that can accommodate up to 700 people.

In the past, the inn has held such events quarterly, Stewart-Corwin says, but she's moving to more elaborate semiannual occasions.

"We typically use Gillespie's catering for our winter event around Christmas," she says. "We also have carriage rides. We also have the Notre Dame Chorale. There's an extravagant meal that's put on by the Gillespie catering. It's a little more formal. We hire the Gillespie to prepare the food."