



# Black Forest Community Club Newsletter



December 2012



*“Everyone is Family in the Forest”*



## December Club Events:

December 8	Saturday	6 PM	Christmas Potluck—Bring a Dish to share
<b>December 18</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9 AM</b>	Christmas Baskets <b>**NOTE DATE CHANGE**</b>
December 27	Thursday	7 PM	Board/General Membership Meeting

## January Club Events:

January 10	Thursday	7 PM	Elections – PAY YOUR DUES!
January 24	Thursday	7 PM	General Membership & Board Meeting

**\*\*\*Remember to pay your dues for 2013.** Annual dues are \$15 per family. Elections will be on January 10, 2013. Consider this your notice that everyone needs to send in their dues (unless you have paid next year in advance) before the end of 2012. New members who paid after August 1 are paid up through 2013. Dues must be paid before the end of the year in order to be able to vote in January elections.

**\*\*\*Upcoming Elections:** Included in this newsletter are the candidates for each office along with a brief biography.

Reminder: BFCC Board and General Meetings will continue to be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at 7 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings.



## INTERESTS SURVEY

In an effort to get an organized list of people and their interests in the BFCC, we ask that all members fill out this survey and return it to with your renewal check to:

**Black Forest Community Club**

**P. O. Box 88034**

**Black Forest, CO 80908-8034**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Interests (Please check all that apply):**

- |                            |                                       |                 |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Black Forest Festival___   | Seedling Tree Program___              | Membership___   |
| Hall Maintenance___        | Club Programs___                      | Refreshments___ |
| Hall Rental Management___  | Chili Cook-off___                     | Game Night___   |
| Lawn Maintenance___        | October Fest___                       | Land Use___     |
| Black Forest Assistance___ | Community Wildfire Protection Plan___ |                 |

As you can see, there are many places for helping hands. This is just a reminder of what the Community Club is and why people join. We need your participation in order to keep these activities going. **Please take time to send in this form promptly & be expecting a phone call. Thank You!**

# Answers to the Stinky Water Problem

*Eddie Bracken*

Many have been wondering about the status of the Club's water supply from our well. You may have noticed a petroleum smell from the water and CGRS has tested the water for contaminants. CGRS is the contractor for the State of Colorado who is managing the contamination problem existing in the area around the corner of Black Forest and Shoup Roads. In the past six months the monitoring wells have detected a plume of benzene in a portion of the area that was included in the original area affected by the leakage from the tanks located on the gas station at the SW corner of Black Forest and Shoup. As an aside, these tanks have been replaced with new fiberglass tanks. There has been a Colorado State Trust Fund established to deal with this contamination problem.

The bottom line is the Club's water supply has been contaminated by benzene, hence the petroleum odor. The Club has posted signs in the Club advising that the water is not suitable for consumption. The Club has also made arrangements for bottled water to be used for consumption. To rectify this problem, in November 2012 CGRS installed a carbon filter that should purge the benzene from the water. The filter media will have to be replaced on a quarterly basis. The cost of the new filter system as well as quarterly replacement of the media will be born on a continuing basis by the Trust Fund in perpetuity. CGRS is sampling the water supply in the Club and will advise us when the water is safe to drink. In the meantime continue to use the bottled water that is furnished by the Club for drinking and cooking purposes.

The root cause for this benzene contamination is still being investigated by CGRS and their plan is twofold: what is the source of the contaminant and what approach they will use in dealing with this relatively new problem. We will keep you posted as this problem is dealt with.

# Annual Treelighting / Santa's Arrival via Firetruck / Children's Christmas Party

Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM



Meet us around the corner Christmas tree at 6:30pm while Black Forest Girl Scouts Troop 4333 hang their tree ornaments. The girls will be making the new ornaments this month and will not be available for our usual day time tree decoration. (We work with the cherry picker truck drivers who work during daylight hours. See photo. Thanks MVEA guys!) Come early and support our Girl Scouts in their effort to add to this community tradition. The Pine Creek Chorale singers will help us with singing Christmas carols around the tree and later inside. As you have seen in the past, this is a

talented and entertaining group of young people. After the Black Forest Fire and Rescue firemen deliver Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus to the parking lot, everyone can accompany them into the hall for cookies and punch and a chat with Santa. There will be ornament making for the children.

*\*\*\*This is also a good time to bring non-perishable food items for the Christmas baskets that will be assembled Tuesday, December 18 at 9am.\*\*\**

## The Year of Transition

Eddie Bracken

Several months ago I decided not to run for office in the Community Club as I was frankly becoming "burned out". Several other folks were feeling the same way. To be perfectly frank the "70 and over group" will one day, hopefully later than sooner, no longer be around and the Club will need to find new leadership if it is to continue as a viable organization in the future. In retrospect, I wasn't planning to just walk away from the Club and all it does for the community and I had planned to continue to help out at the Festival, Oktoberfest, etc. Thinking back on my original decision it wasn't fair to the Club or its membership and I have decided to run again this time for the position of President. **PS: I am a glutton for punishment, just kidding!** Several of the other folks who decided to look for a reduced role have decided likewise. So we have decided to designate this new year as **The Year of Transition**. What do we mean by this? It means that we are going to reach out to folks by personally contacting them to take an interest in leading the Club in future years. We will be looking for folks who will understudy the current leadership positions and, in a year or so, can step into the position. Secondly we will be looking for folks who will take over positions like the Club's program function and plan for future social or educational events or the newsletter as an example. We will still solicit volunteer desires through the membership form that we ask you to fill out every year. Judy Augustine, Marie Turner and Sherrie Lidderdale have put a new face to this and are also reaching out to younger members of the community to join the Club and become active members of the organization. Frankly, we need new blood and ideas for continued growth. We old, or should I say older, types may be becoming stale and we need some innovation as we move forward. Please join us this coming year and help us sustain the Club into the next millennium.

# ***ELECTIONS at Annual Membership Meeting*** ***Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM***

**Ed Bracken** – *President*

**Barbara Barfield** – *Secretary*

**Judy Augustine** – *Vice President*

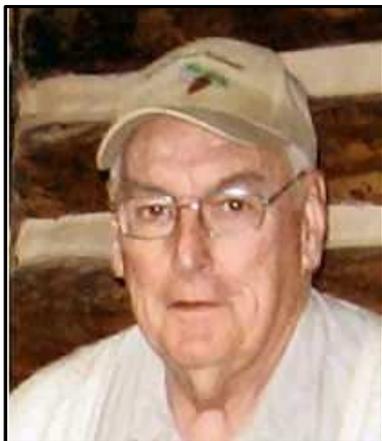
**Jeff Spector** – *Treasurer*

**Bill Brugh** has one more year of his 3-year term on the board.

**Larry Fariss** has two more years of his 3-year term on the board.

**Pete Burleson** has agreed to run for the newly open board position.

## ***Eddie Bracken*** ***Candidate for President***



Eddie Bracken retired from the Air Force in 1992 after 33 years of service. For the first 25 years of his service he held various positions in fighter aircraft operations culminating as the Commander of a Tactical Fighter Wing in the United Kingdom, operating the F-111F. He had over 5,000 airmen under his command. The last 8 years of his service was focused in Logistics operations. He was the Vice Commander of an Air Logistics center that had over 25,000 civilian and military personnel assigned. He served a three-year tour in the Pentagon where he was the Director of Air Force Logistics Plans and Programs. In this capacity he was responsible for the formulation, advocacy

and execution of a \$50 Billion yearly budget for Air Force Logistics operations. His last assignment was at Wright Patterson AFB as the Chief of Staff for Air Force Logistics Command. In that time frame, Air Force Logistics Command had close to 90,000 military and civilian personnel assigned. Since his retirement from the Air Force he worked as a consultant to numerous aviation and space companies advising them on long range plans, financial strategies and business process re-engineering practices. He also worked on various studies for Air Force and Department of Defense. In the last eight years he has volunteered in a pro-bono status for numerous activities in the Pikes Peak region such as the El Paso County Planning Commission, the Colorado Springs Airport Advisory Commission, the Pikes Peak Combined Federal Campaign Board of Directors, the Chamber of Commerce's Eliminating Barriers to Business Working Group and the Black Forest Fire Department where he serves on the Board of Directors.

## ***Judy Augustine*** ***Candidate for Vice President***

Judy has most recently served the Black Forest Community Club as a Board member. This past year she helped organize the Log School Heritage Days' celebration. She also is a regular part of the team that works to put on the Black Forest Festival. Her volunteer service goes back to her days in Girl Scouts and includes being a docent at the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, volunteering at Bent's Fort National Historic Site, and while there, travelling between La Junta and Albuquerque, NM, describing the Santa Fe Trail to Amtrak passengers with the National Park Service Rails and Trails program. She can often be seen in the club's kitchen helping during events. Her previous offices in the BFCC have been vice president and secretary.



## ***Jeff Spector*** ***Candidate for Treasurer***



Jeff Spector is running for the office of Treasurer of the Black Forest Community Club. Jeff has served as treasurer for the last 4 years. Jeff and his family have resided in the Black Forest for 7 years having escaped the rat race of the San Francisco Bay Area. Jeff and his wife, Debbie, have participated in the Black Forest Festival and other club event over the past six years. They enjoy being a member of the Black Forest community.

## ***Barbara Barfield*** ***Candidate for Secretary***

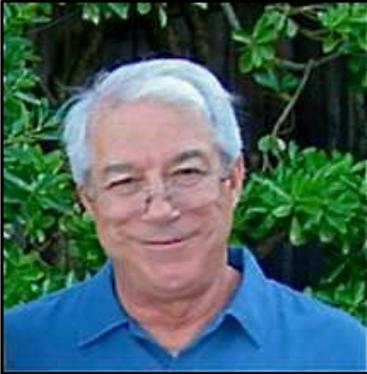
In 2002 Barbara Barfield founded Federal Employee Support for CFC Charitable Giving, Inc, a non-profit organization formed exclusively to administer the local Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the federal government's employee philanthropy program that serves the military and federal agencies in the Pikes Peak region. Mrs. Barfield is responsible for the overall operations of the local Combined Federal Campaign that raises contributions for over 3000 human health and welfare charitable organizations. She provides leadership in carrying out the policies, procedures, and activities set forth by the Office of Personnel Management in Washington D.C., and local military and federal agencies.

Her responsibilities include administration, fundraising, communications, public relations, and central receipt and accounting. Since 2002, other campaign regions have sought her organization's campaign leadership. Currently, she administers the Pikes Peak CFC region, Metro Denver CFC and Three Rivers CFC in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Collectively, her organization raises over 7 million dollars annually. Prior to the CFC, Mrs. Barfield was the Development Director and Youth Director for the American Heart Association in Southern Colorado.



# **Pete Burleson**

## ***Candidate for 3 year Board Position***



I grew up in a small farming community in western New York, graduated in electrical engineering from M.I.T. on an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation scholarship, and received an M.B.A. from Cornell University on a fellowship from Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory. I worked at the MITRE Corporation, a systems engineering company, for 32 years in Boston, Honolulu, Taipei, and Colorado Springs, as Technical Staff, Group Leader, Project Leader, and Site Leader. I have lived in the Black Forest since 1979, and except for 2 years in Taiwan, have been a member of the Community Club in most years since. I joined the Black Forest Fire/Rescue Board in 1982, and except for about 8 years following relocation to Taiwan, have been on that Board until recently, serving as Board Chair for about 15 of those years. During my tenure as Board Chair, we built two new fire stations, established 24/7 crews of three paid personnel, and lowered the Insurance Services Organization rating from a 7 to a 5 (reducing homeowner's insurance costs). I also was primary author of the Black Forest Community Wildfire Protection Plan and drafted the City Charter for the Black Forest Incorporation effort.

The problems that arise for the Community Club Board are many and varied, and require perspective, persistence, fairness and adequate communication skills to achieve successful resolution. I believe my training and experience as a MITRE manager and on the Black Forest Fire Board have given me the requisite skills, and my love for the forest the needed dedication.

# **Bill Brugh**

## ***fulfilling last year as a Board Member***

Originally from Battle Creek, Michigan, Bill was raised and graduated from high school in Knox, Indiana. He then spent four years of service in the Air Force. After achieving his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering, he spent many years traveling to satellite tracking stations around the world and this brought him to Colorado Springs in 1969. His family moved to Colorado in 1972 and they lived in Woodland Park before moving to the Black Forest in 1991. Bill retired as a Computer System Engineer from Ford Aerospace in 1995 but continued as an Engineering consultant with Lockheed Martin Corp until 2000.



Bill and his wife Norma had their 50th wedding anniversary this year. They have 4 sons, 10 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. He spends time volunteering for the Black Forest Community Club, the Division of Wildlife, Slash/Mulch program, First Step Preschool and works as an election judge. He is also in a golf league and bowling league and enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and hiking with the grandkids. Bill likes going to the Baseball College World Series every year and often goes to the Indianapolis 500.

# **Larry Fariss**

**has 2 more years as Board Member**

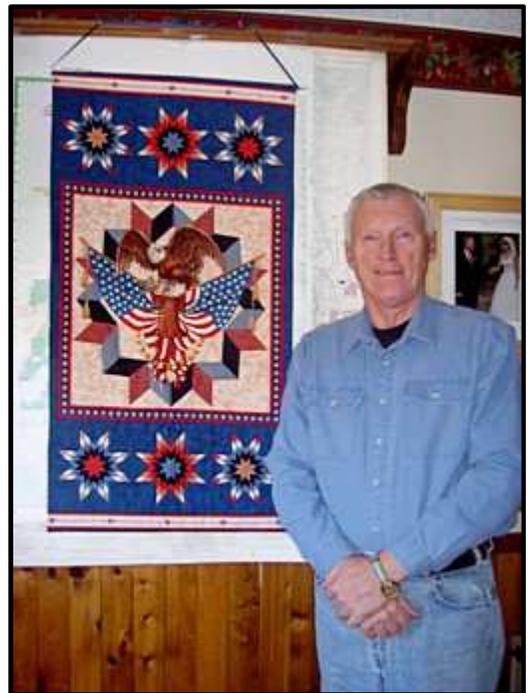


Hailing from Medford, Oregon, Larry came to the Air Force Academy where he played football and did graduate work. After a varied military career during which he and Michelle and their 3 sons lived in Texas, Arkansas, Alabama, Pennsylvania, and Hawaii, his last few years of service were here at the AF Academy. He retired with the rank of Colonel after 29 years of service and 3400 flying hours. Still an avid athlete, Larry is now serving as president of the Black Forest Trails Association. Larry organized last year's BFCC trip to an AFA football game and is willing to do the same this year.

## **Military Appreciation at the BFCC**

Saturday night about 50 people turned out in spite of the cold to honor Forest members of all branches of the military. George Rosental, a Marine, organized the event which included a rousing group of Revolutionary War songs by Ruth Ann Steele and the Forest Chorus. There were singers and musicians and a great rendering of Taps by Riley Coltrin, the grandson of Eunice Blum, one of the singers. Riley attends UCCS and is a member of the Pikes Peak Winds Youth Group. Yankee Doodle was also performed complete with fife and drum.

Following this enjoyable part of the program, Larry Fariss, an Academy graduate and retired Air Force officer, led the program through some exciting military history DVD's. The Army was well represented by Tom and Pam Devereaux, Dick Augustine, and Gary Watson. The Watsons and Devereaux's and Carrie Robertson provided tasty snacks while the Augustines took care of kitchen duties. Other Air Force representatives were two singers, Phil Hosmer and Ron Brown, and Eddie Bracken, retired general, who helped with set-up.



Judy Augustine also provided a beautifully patriotic quilted wall hanging for a drawing of military persons present. Terry Stokka, retired Air Force, drew the lucky number and is shown here with his prize.

Thanks to all who helped make this event an even better event than last year. It is an honor to celebrate those who have served our country.

# Christmas Potluck

## Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 6 PM

Join us for a Christmas meal with friends and new found friends to enjoy the spirit of the holidays. All you need to do is bring a dish to share for the potluck and we will enjoy a pleasant meal to the sound of music from Ruth Ann Steele's Forest Chorus. This is always a fun time to visit with friends before the rush of the holidays sweeps us into the frenzy of holiday activities.

*\*\*\*This is also a good time to bring non-perishable food items for the Christmas baskets that will be assembled Tuesday, December 18 at 9am.\*\*\**

## Notices

- I am missing two punch bowls. If you know where they might be, call Carolyn at 495-3127
- Thanks to Jeannie Kumjian for the beautiful flower boxes at the Club. Notice the picture on page 1 with the fresh evergreens!
- Many thanks to Judy von Ahlefeldt for all the tender care for the corner Christmas tree with lots of water and some fertilizer. It lasted another treelighting.

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**Hall Rental Manager: Jeff Ader (cell: 232-1882)**

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The Black Forest Community Club Newsletter is a publication of the Black Forest Community Club, a non-profit, social club organized around a theme of community service. Subscriptions are included exclusively with club membership. Membership is open to all adult residents of Black Forest. Annual dues are \$15 per family. For membership information write to the following address or visit our website.

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Black Forest Community Club  
PO Box 88034  
Black Forest, CO 80908-8034

**Officers:**

President: Bob Erler  
Vice President: Don Root  
Secretary: Eddie Bracken  
Treasurer: Jeff Spector

**Board of Directors:**

Director: Bill Brugh  
Director: Judy Augustine  
Director: Larry Fariss

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Visit our website at <http://www.bfcommunityclub.org>

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