



# Black Forest Community Club Newsletter

January 2012



*“Everyone is Family in the Forest”*

## January Club Events:

January 4	Wednesday	9 AM	Take down decorations/volunteers needed
January 4	Wednesday	10 AM	Remove trimmings from outside tree
January 12	Thursday		Life Line Screening Preventive Health Events
<b>January 12</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7 PM</b>	<b>Elections</b>
January 26	Thursday	7 PM	Board & General Membership Meeting

## Report on Christmas Basket Program

*Shared Joy is Joy Doubled – by Gretchen Richardson*

The Black Forest Community Club wishes to thank everyone who so generously supported the Christmas Basket outreach to families whose children attend Wolford Elementary School. The purpose of the Club is to promote community, and indeed this Christmas Basket program proved once again what a caring community we live in. We all know that today’s economy has put many families into crisis, and by supporting this outreach you have given children perhaps the only Christmas gifts they will receive this year, and you have given their families enough food to last for months, even as some have no idea where they will be living from day to day as they seek to provide for their children. How can anyone adequately express gratitude for the generosity of everyone who supported this effort in some way?



Thank you to the R&R Café and Rockin' B Feed and Supply for being convenient drop-off sites to generously accept food donations. Thank you to everyone who donated non-perishable foods, and to those who donated frozen turkeys. Thank you to those who gave generous gift certificates. Thank you to those who gave amazingly generous financial contributions that allowed the committee to purchase additional foods and gift certificates, including the Black Forest Women's Club. Thank you to the Community Club families who sponsored children who will receive special packages making their Christmas wish lists come true. And thank you to the volunteers who showed up December 14 to sort, pack and deliver the food boxes and gifts to Wolford School. All of you have shared your community spirit in a generous and loving way. It is true, "Shared Joy is Joy Doubled." Christmas Joy to you – and a very Merry Christmas!

Thanks to Gretchen and all her helpers!

## ***From the "Pres" – Eddie Bracken***

Well, it has been almost seven years since I became actively involved in the Club's leadership as president for two years then a two year break while I headed up an Incorporation effort for the Black Forest Community and then back to being President for three years. I am term limited so I will gladly step away from this demanding but inspiring job.

I want to sincerely thank all of you who have trusted me, and Joan too for she had an important role in this affair, with the responsibility of leading the Club. If I have angered some folks in carrying out this role I truly apologize as I meant no personal grievance. I shall never forget the awesome cooperation and willingness to help that I have experienced over the years. We had a great venue of social events and ran the club with a sense of openness and transparency that is absent in many of our institutions today. Most importantly, fiscal responsibility to our membership was always foremost in our minds and, in my assessment, we have been excellent custodians of the treasures placed in our hands and trust.



I won't dwell on the improvements made to the club over the years as one can see for themselves the changes that have been made. I must say that individually I had little to do with making it happen. Rather it was the tremendous group of folks that came together who were the movers and shakers to make it all happen. To name a few: Don Root, Leif Garrison, Bob Erler, Ron and Roseanne Brown, George and Terry Rosental, Chuck and Sherrie Lidderdale, Jeff and Debbie Spector, Bill and Sue Buckman, Judy von Ahlefeldt, Judy and Dick Augustine, Bill Brugh, Jace and Marie Turner, Jeff Ader, Phil and Barbara Hosmer, James and Myra Woodruff, Ruth Ann Steele, Gary and Gretchen Richardson, Terry Stokka, Larry Fariss, Roger and Margaret Schutte, Dick Hoffman, Ellen Alderson, Shari Conley, Hank and Dianne Hoover, Kris Urban, Jon Ewell, Neil Wickliff, Sue Fletcher, Spook McFillen, Carrie Robertson, Bill McIntyre, Jeff Dewitt, Jack and Anna Mitchner, Lee

Orcutt and last but not least Jim and Carolyn “Mighty Mouse” Brown who has been my right and left arm over the past two years. These are the folks who we as a community owe a great deal of debt. They made it happen working cooperatively together, sharing their experiences and talents.

We had a kind of Camelot and my only wish is that this experience, attitude or whatever it is continues to grow and develop bringing new folks, new blood, new life and new ideas to the table so that we can grow and develop not only as a club but as a community pulling together. Many of you know that Joan, my wife and truest friend for over 55 years has Cancer and is a brave trooper struggling with this disease. Others in the community have similar problems so pray for them all for a speedy recovery. If I have forgotten to name someone, please forgive as I meant no offense. It is just that I have a dose of “Chemo Brain” as does Joan.

God Speed--it has been a privilege and an honor to serve you all.

Eddie Bracken

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## ***ELECTIONS for BFCC Officers/Board Member*** ***Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM***

This is the slate of officers and the board member:

President: Bob Erler  
Vice President: Don Root  
Treasurer: Jeff Spector  
Secretary: Eddie Bracken (*Kris Urban has decided not to run again*)  
Board: Larry Fariss



Two board members will continue their terms. Bill Brugh has two more years. Judy Augustine has one year.



## **Bob Erler, Candidate for President**



Bob has been a resident of the Black Forest since 1973. He served in the USAF for 20 years as a pilot including a 1 year tour in Vietnam as a Forward Air Controller and obtained over 600 hours of combat time.

After retiring from the USAF in 1981, he completed his law degree at DU and was in private practice for 11 years. He was hired as a Juvenile Magistrate for the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in 1994 where he still works.

His lovely wife's name is Cherie and they have 3 children: Perry, Katherine, and Teddy.

He was the President of the BFCC in the early 80's and was also involved for years with the Black Forest Saddle Club and the Cavalier Riding Club. His hobbies are reading and hunting and he still flies his Mooney aircraft from Meadowlake. He enjoys bicycle riding with his children. The Erlers are now raising miniature horses. Cherie is a tax specialist working for Tax and Accounting Specialists in the Black Forest.

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## **Don Root, Candidate for Vice President**

Recently retired from Farmers State Bank after 40+ years in the financial/lending industry. Currently working part time as a loan consultant in the mortgage industry to help people obtain financing for a home purchase, refinance, and debt consolidation. Specialty is Reverse Mortgages for Seniors. Previously served as President and a 3-year term on the Board for the Community Club. Currently serving on the board of several non-profits.



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



Jeff Spector is running for the office of Treasure of the Black Forest Community Club. Jeff has served as treasurer for the last 3 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 five years. They enjoy being a member of the Black Forest community.

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## **Eddie Bracken, Candidate for Secretary**

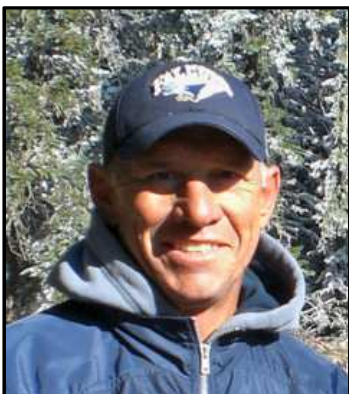
Eddie Bracken retired from the Air Force in 1992 after 33 years of service. For the first 25 years of his service he held various positions in fighter aircraft operations culminating as the Commander of a Tactical Fighter Wing in the United Kingdom, operating the F-111F. He had over 5,000 airmen under 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.

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## **Larry Fariss, Candidate for 3 year Board Position**



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.

# REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2012

**Annual dues are \$15 per family. Elections will be coming up on January 12, 2012. Consider this your notice that everyone needs to send in his or her dues unless you have paid for 2012. New members who paid after August 1, 2011 are paid up through 2012.**



## 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\_\_\_    Membership\_\_\_    Seedling Tree Program\_\_\_  
Land Use\_\_\_    Hall Maintenance\_\_\_    Club Programs\_\_\_  
Hall Rental Management\_\_\_    Chili Cook-off\_\_\_    Game Night\_\_\_  
Refreshments\_\_\_    Lawn Maintenance\_\_\_    October Fest\_\_\_  
Community Wildfire Protection Plan\_\_\_    Black Forest Assistance\_\_\_

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 and be expecting a phone call. Thank You!**

## Now is the time to un-decorate the club & tree

**Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> @ BFCC (by George Rosental)**

**Help Wanted on 4 Jan 2012 @ 9:00 & 10:00 AM.** We will be taking down the Christmas decorations in the Club (9:00 am) and the tree on the corner (10:00). Come join the bauble sorting and light untangling! For more information, call Carolyn at 495-3127 or George at 495-8849.

**More Help Wanted.** George Rosental has volunteered to coordinate the 2012 Veterans Appreciation Event (10 Nov 2012). As the 2011 event was intended as a building block, we will be forming a very small committee to coordinate 3 aspects of the 2012 event (hall decoration, the program, and refreshments). 2 volunteers are needed. Please contact George at 495-8849 or [curmegan@att.net](mailto:curmegan@att.net).

## ***Do you like Jazz, Blues or Swing Music?***

If the answer is yes, then plan to attend a concert on **the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2012 (Saturday) at 7:00PM at the BFCC Hall**. Music will start at 7:30PM and we will have some wine and cheese before the main event. Featured entertainment will be the **“After Midnight” group**. This group of fantastic musicians played at the Hall last year and they were absolutely fantastic. Some of their repertoire included Autumn Leaves, Star Dust, Blues in the Night, The Grabtown Grapple, and Flying Home to name a few songs that were in their two sets, each about an hour long. Does this bring back memories from the 50's and 60's? And for the younger folks how about listening to the music from a generation past? In a nut shell this is great music and I guarantee you all will be stomping your feet 5 minutes after they start. Just ask the folks who attended last year's event -- it was a smash hit. Tickets will go for \$10 a person and this is a bargain for this venue. Block the date on your calendar and come to join the fun. Tickets will be available in January through Eddie Bracken (495-9396) so sign up early and don't be disappointed.

## ***Life Line Screening Preventative Health Events*** ***Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> @ BFCC***

Life Line Screening will be at Black Forest Community Club on Thursday, January 12, 2012 offering five safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical.

To be more proactive about your health and live longer for yourself, your family, and your community, call to register at 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners). You can learn your risk of having stroke or vascular disease, prices range from \$129 to \$159. There is no time like the present to take action!

These screenings are recommended for anyone 50 and older, or 40 and over with cardiovascular risk factors. They are non-invasive, painless, and take 60-90 minutes to complete. The results, which are mailed directly to you, will help you and your doctor protect your health. Stroke, Vascular and Heart Rhythm Package range from \$129.00 to \$159.00.

Call 1-888-653-6441 or visit [www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners](http://www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners) to schedule your appointment.

## ***Quote of the Month***

***“Those who bring sunshine into the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves”***

***- James Barrie***

# BFCC BYLAW AMENDMENT

This was voted on at the December 10 potluck when we had a large number of members present. The motion passed with a large majority with only 3 dissenting votes. An objection was about the opportunity of malfeasance with a long-term treasurer. The club has an accountant and one other person do an audit each year going over the books with the treasurer. Due to the increasing complexity of the treasurer's job, not many people want to take on that responsibility. But, as the bylaws state, no officer shall serve for more than three consecutive terms in the same office. Thus, we faced the conundrum of how to have continuity and stay within our rules. The following change will be made in the bylaws.

## **Article IV - Officers, Section 2. Term of Office**

The officers shall be elected for a term of one year. No officer shall serve for more than three consecutive terms in the same office ***with the exception of the Treasurer, who will not be limited as long as elected to additional terms by a two-thirds vote of the members present.***

The part in bold and highlighted in yellow will be added to this portion of the bylaws.

## BFCC's Hank Hoover receives County Parks Volunteer of the Year Award



The El Paso County park Advisory Board acknowledged the exemplary volunteer service of Mr. Hank Hoover and presented him with a 2011 El Paso County Parks Volunteer of the Year Award. Hank has served as the President of the Black Forest Trails Association that creates safe, legitimate, non-motorized, multi-use recreational trails that connect Black Forest neighborhoods and the El Paso County Regional Trail System.

Hank has contributed countless volunteer hours leading local volunteer groups to complete El Paso County Adopt-A-Park / Adopt-A-Trail Program activities at Black Forest Section 16 and Black Forest Regional Park. These volunteer efforts include trash removal, noxious weed removal, trail repairs, and other park improvement projects.

He served on the Black Forest Regional Park master plan committee and has provided valuable input regarding proposed park improvements. Hank's enthusiasm and positive attitude have been appreciated by both the Park Advisory Board and staff.

Congratulations, Hank, for this recognition for all the work you do for our parks.

# Senior Services

## Falcon Senior Services

Check out this website <http://www.falconseniorservicesinc.org> or call **495-3600 option 2**.

**For the elderly and disabled**, they provide a door-to-door and door-through-door, wheelchair-accessible bus transportation service. Any person age 60 and over and any non-elderly disabled (confined to a wheelchair, etc.) adult. General public passengers under sixty are allowed to ride their vehicles as caregivers or escorts of the eligible population that they serve.

**Service Area:** In Northern and Eastern El Paso County, FSS transportation assistance is available to eligible individuals living in Falcon, sections of Black Forest, Ellicott, and Peyton.

**Driver Help Needed:** They have enough drivers to keep the Transportation Service going – however, they still need more regular drivers.

**Donations:** Donations are not required to ride the bus, but are greatly appreciated and help tremendously toward expenses to keep this service going.

## BFCC Senior Assistance

Contact Lee Orcutt when you need a ride or if you wish to be a driver. 495-4790.

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## *Schedule of BFCC Events for 2012*

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Jan 4</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Take down decorations – Volunteers Needed!</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Jan 4</b>	<b>10:00 AM</b>	<b>Remove trimmings from outside tree</b>
Thursday	Jan 12		Life Line Screening Preventative Health Events
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Jan 12</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>ELECTIONS 2012</b>
Thursday	Jan 26	7:00 PM	Board & General Membership Meeting

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

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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: Eddie Bracken  
Vice President: Bob Eler  
Secretary: Kris Urban  
Treasurer: Jeff Spector

**Board of Directors:**

Director: Carolyn Brown  
Director: Bill Brugh  
Director: Judy Augustine

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

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