

FIRESIDE EMBERS



January—February 2013
Volume XXXXII Issue 1



Free to Colorado **FCRV**
Members - Founded 1967

Survey results will be presented at the Planning Meeting - Some eye opening Ideas!

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CHAPTER OFFICERS WORKSHOP

and

PLANNING MEETING

February 9, 2013

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Arvada Presbyterian Church
5592 Independence St.
Arvada, CO

We should change the name of this meeting to "General Membership Meeting", because it is for all members not just chapter officers! See the next page for all of the details. 5 lucky people will win...?

Board members will hold the Breakout Sessions

Loana

She does whatever she wants



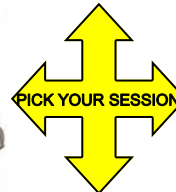
Carl Bird

Presidents Job hints



Bill Eckman

Vice Presidents Do What?



Coral Yakel

Field Directors aren't the Boss

Vodean Benham

What is the Treasurer's favorite Word?



Jewel Shields

Non Officers - Campout Ideas



Carter & Ann Bloomfield

Secretary — letter writing hints



Heddy & Ron Servant

Board Members



Will there be some M&M's at the workshop?
Only those who attend will know.

Ranger Laura Wilder
will speak to us at the
workshop



Chatfield State Park

CHAPTER OFFICERS WORKSHOP and PLANNING MEETING
February 9, 2013 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Arvada Presbyterian Church - 5592 Independence St. - Arvada, CO

Listed below are some of the topics to be covered

- **Break out sessions**
 - **State Parks Guest Speaker**
 - **Embers Cost Study**
 - **Corporate Sponsors**
 - **Survey Results**
- **Leadership Changes next 5 Yrs**
 - **2015 Campvention**
 - **2013 Campvention hospitality**
 - **Spring Fling Planning**
 - **Statewide Planning**



Cash prizes and Door prizes

Loana will have 25 wonderful door prizes that we will draw for during the day. Also, at the end of the day 5 lucky people will win \$15 cash to help pay for your gas expense. If you traveled 50 miles or more to get to the workshop, we will **double it to \$30.**

ACTIVITY	SPRING FLING	STATEWIDE
Registration	Yes	Yes
Parking	Yes	Yes
Set-up/Stage Decorations	No	Yes
Flag Ceremonies	Yes	Yes
Door Prizes	No	Yes
Help w/Security	Yes	Yes
Help w/First Aid & Safety	Yes	Yes
Saturday Night Hospitality	Yes	No
Breakfast Potluck set-up	Yes	No
Saturday Breakfast	No	Yes
Friday Night Dinner	No	Yes
Saturday Night Catered Meal	Yes	No
Different Games/Activities	Yes	Yes
Clean-up	One person from each chapter	One person from each chapter

Nearly all of the chapters have completed their elections by this time, so it's time to share those responsibilities with new officers.

The first half of the Chapter Officers workshop will be geared to the chapter officers, while the second half will be planning the 2013 state campouts.

Please come with ideas for a Statewide theme and encourage your chapter to volunteer and sign up for some of the activities.

Bring a sack lunch or there are several fast-food restaurants within a mile and half from the church. Coffee and lemonade will be furnished.

Ashlee Yanke, our Teen Queen will be selling doughnuts and buttons to raise money for trip to Campvention in Iowa.

What you had to say in your Survey results

First of all thanks to everyone who completed their surveys. We gave each adult in a household a survey, so we estimate that the Field Directors gave out about 1200. We had 767 surveys turned into Irene Backes. Irene received surveys from two chapters after the cut off date and were not included in the final figures. We are very pleased with the number of surveys completed.

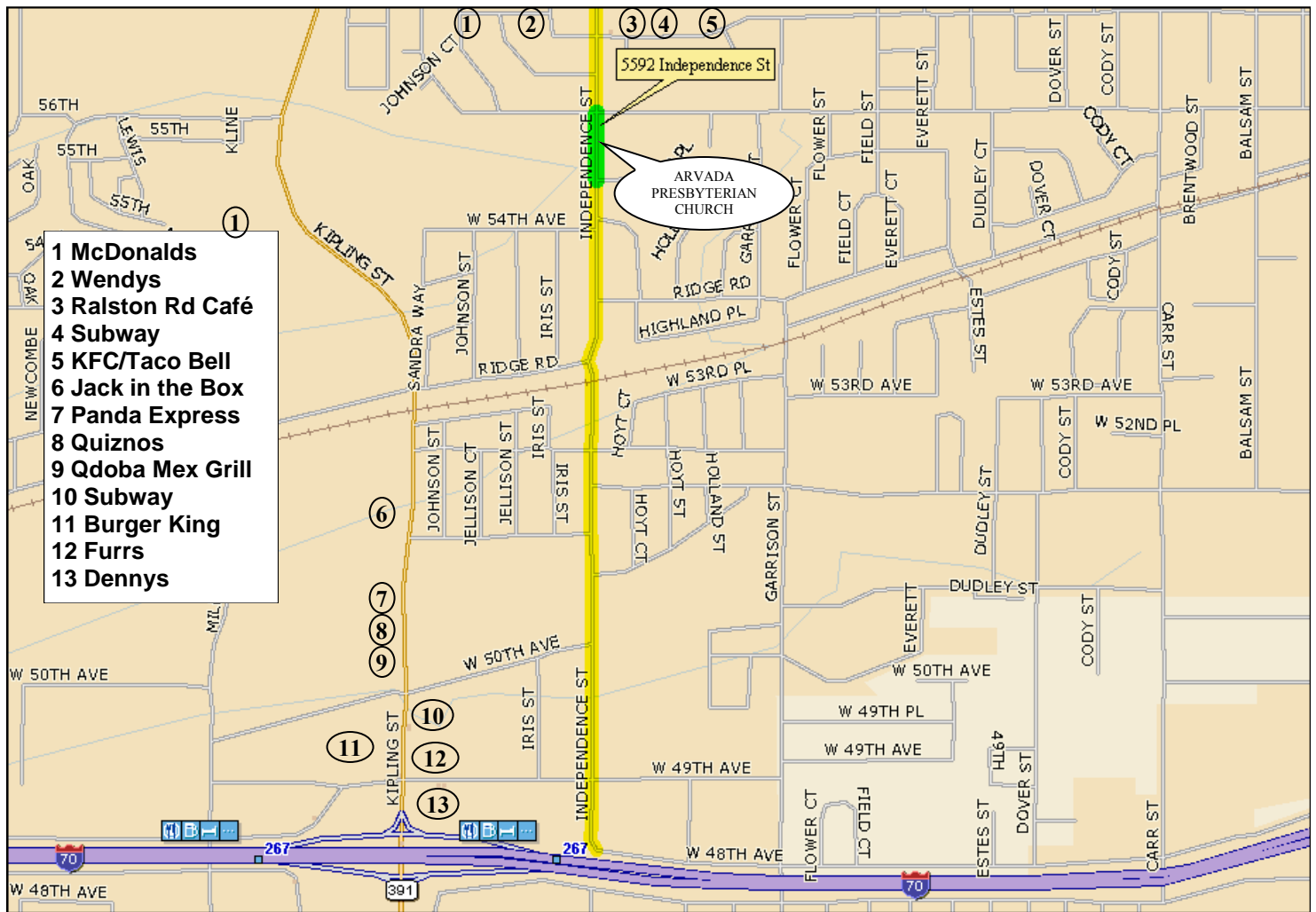
- We had 525 comments on why they don't come to Spring Fling and Statewide. We will give you the top 10 reasons at the workshop.
- We had 48 suggestions on where we could hold our State campouts. We will give you the top 5.
- We had 47 suggestions on events to add to our State Campouts. We will go over the top 7.
- 21 surveys suggested events we should drop

from State campouts. Top 3 will be discussed.

- 475 people felt they would consider reimbursing your Field Directors for some of their expenses.
- A whopping 663 people said their Field Directors are giving you enough information.
- 93 surveys had suggestions for additional content in the Embers. We go over the top 10.
- 271 people said they would consider not getting the Embers by mail and read it in the website.
- There were 136 suggestions on ways we might improve Colorado FCRV. We will review the top 10.

Loana and Bill will share their thoughts at the workshop. At the April Field Staff meeting we will go over the survey in detail and work on implementing many suggestions in 2013.

Because of church security, the main entrance that is adjacent to the parking lot to the south will be open until 9:15 am, after that time, the side entrance which is to the west, will be open until 9:30 am. After that, you will have to call Irene on her cell phone for someone to come and let you in. Irene (303) 912-2840 Loana (303) 229-4131.



CAMPFIRE COYOTES SEPTEMBER CAMPOUT

The Campfire Coyotes decided to venture into Wyoming and South Dakota for their September campout. On Monday September 10th, 19 of us arrived at the Pony Soldier RV Park in Lingle, Wyoming.



Ft. Laramie 1837

The next morning our camping club carpooled to Ft. Laramie to meet a ranger who spent about an hour and a half with us talking about the history of Ft. Laramie.

It was very interesting to listen and try to imagine how soldiers, their families and pioneers lived their lives in the late 1800's and early 1900's. After this informative talk, we took a break and met at a lovely picnic area where our camping group visited and ate the sack lunches we had brought. After lunch, we met with another ranger who gave us more history and a tour of the buildings at Ft. Laramie. The tour ended just in time with a pretty good rain storm which the area hadn't had in months so we were grateful to have.

That evening we had our meeting and potluck dinner. We enjoyed a Hobo salad with everyone bringing fixings. The owners of the RV park were very kind and so hospitable. When we arrived in the room to set up for our dinner, tables were already set up with table clothes on them. We so appreciated how welcomed they made us feel and how hard they worked to make sure everything went well with our meeting, dinner and stay. Many stayed and played games and visited after the dinner.



On Wednesday morning, 17 of us left for Devil's Tower KOA in northern Wyoming as two members did not go

on. The campground lent us the movie "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" since that is where it was filmed. One of our members had a TV and DVD player on the outside of their camper so we shared popcorn and hot chocolate while we watched the movies. Unfortunately it got pretty cold that night and in spite of winter coats and blankets only about 5 finished watching the movie. The next morning, we carpooled from the KOA Campground to Devil's Tower where a ranger talked to us for a little over an hour about stories and people's beliefs about Devil's Tower and also about the Native American's religious ceremonies they have there. After the interpretive talk, our camping group walked around the base of the tower totally enjoying the beautiful views and the perfect weather. After the walk, it was lunch time and we were all hungry. Two from our group took a hiking trail back to our campground that took a couple of hours, while the rest of us went out to lunch at a local restaurant and enjoyed a good lunch and fellowship together. That evening we took a fun hay wagon ride that the KOA had arranged for our club. Again the weather was perfect and the views were wonderful and we had a great ride along with the hired hand's dog named Rock.



On Friday morning, we left Wyoming and headed to South Dakota to the Mount Rushmore KOA at Hill City. Again two of our members did not go on to Mt. Rushmore but we had two additional people join us at Mt. Rushmore. It was a very pretty and awesome KOA campground. They had a great pool, kids pool, hot tub, water slides and an wonderful playground for the kids. We carpooled that evening to Mount Rushmore to experience the Nightly Lighting Ceremony which we all so enjoyed.

That was the end of activities planned by the club but everyone stayed longer to explore the many things offered in that part of the country. All enjoyed the trip, the interpretive talks, the beautiful views and most important the time with our FCRV camping family.

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STAR GAZERS CHAPTER NEWS



A DECEMBER TO REMEMBER

The Star Gazers met at Dukes Steakhouse in Castle Pines for a fun-filled December meeting. Each member had brought 5 ½ dozen home-made cookies, so the evening began with a cookie exchange, with everyone taking home enough goodies to last through the holiday season. The restaurant wait staff taste-tested the cookies, and chose the top five winners. After the cookie exchange, everyone enjoyed a great dinner, which was followed by our meeting. The evening was topped off with a white elephant gift exchange. As always, many interesting and “useful” items were enjoyed by all. The outing was hosted by Kim Watkins, and we had 19 members in attendance.

WELCOME 2013!

Although not an official meeting, 15 Star Gazers gathered on New Year’s Eve at Comfort Suites in Highlands Ranch. We had

a BBQ dinner catered in, which was following by an evening of playing games and enjoying each others’ company. Several members spent the night at the hotel, as the hotel does allow pets to stay in the rooms. Star Gazers will never venture far away from their furry family members!

RV SHOW – ANNUAL JANUARY PILGRIMAGE

Our January meeting date coincided with the Broncos first play-off game, but we didn’t let that stop us. We met for breakfast at Pi Kitchen at the Hilton Inn Hotel in downtown Denver, followed by our business meeting.

From there we walked to the Convention Center to get a look at the latest in RVs.

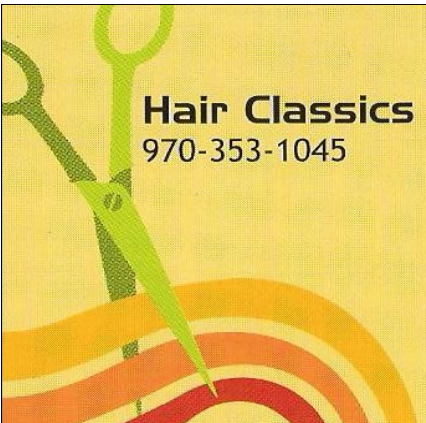


Although everyone wanted to watch the Broncos playoff game, several members had already volunteered to help work the FCRV booth at the RV show, so that commitment took precedence.



Unfortunately, they were able to catch the end of the game, which as we all know did not have a happy ending! This meeting was hosted by Ron and Gayla Henry, and we had 14 members attending.

Submitted by Pam McCuskey
Star Gazers Secretary



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LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Well things are pretty quiet right now. The smart people at the legislature have been in session for three days at this writing and they have been BUSY. Trying to find their correct seat in the appropriate house and establishing a quick route to the back door for a fast escape if needed.

A review of the Parks and Wildlife Commission has also failed to produce any new piece of news, however, we will keep a close eye on them and try to keep you all informed. Until the next time -

We'll See You Down The Road!
Bud & Ann Farnum,
Legislative Directors

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Service

If you are the owner of a motor home or other recreational vehicle, you know that upkeep is as regular as it is with your family automobile. It can be an agonizing task to find a good repair shop for your car, and finding someone dependable to work on your RV can be just as frustrating. At All Stars RV, our aim is to be the shop you can rely on, will continue to return to and will recommend to your family and friends. We strive to provide dependable, honest service from the initial point of analyzing problems and providing estimates to performing your service and repairs at reasonable rates.

JOANN'S RECIPE OF THE MONTH

YUM-YUM CASSEROLE

- 3/4 Cup cooked long grain rice
- 3 Cups cooked chicken or ham, diced
- 3 Cups shredded cheese (cheddar or mozzarella)
- 1 Cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 Tsp. dry mustard



- 1 Lb. fr. or fresh broccoli (cooked tender)
- 2 Cups mushrooms (sliced/fresh or canned)
- 1 Can cr. of celery soup
- 1/4 Tsp. curry powder

Spray or butter a 9 x 13 pan. Layer rice, broccoli, meat, cheese, mushrooms. Combine soup, mayonnaise, mustard and curry. Pour over layers. Combine Crushed croutons and butter. Top the layers. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese. Bake at 350 for 30 minutes.



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FCRV MEMBER - ROCKY RAMBLERS

Campvention 2013 - July 14-18

This is the year for Colorado FCRV members to attend Campvention in Amana, Iowa. As we get ready to host Campvention in 2015 in Gillette, Wyoming, this gives us a change to see what happens at Campvention. (See Back Pg)



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Tamra Hayden

Tradition, Tartan & Tears
Voice - Guitar - Dulcimer
2013 Schedule

- **March 16, 2 PM: Bemis Library**
6014 S Datura St, Littleton, CO 80120
303-795-3961
- **March 17, 2-4 PM: Boulder Canyon Library**
FREE call for info. 303-441-4492
- **March 17, 7:30 PM: Nissi's Coffeehouse**
2675 N. Park Dr, Lafayette, CO 303-665-2757

Take a beautiful voice, a hammered dulcimer, and a guitar and reflect on the stark beauty of Celtic singing - the Tradition, Tartans and Tears Trio will take you on a misty journey through Ireland and Scotland, with a few glimpses into how the Celtic diaspora has influenced music world wide.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Howard & Diana Boman	Brought in by Edd & Jane Dimock
Larry & Lisa Yarberry Jr.	Brought in by Larry & Marshia Yarberry
George & Martha Latch	Brought in by Carter & Ann Bloomfield
Tony & Patti Maccagnan	Brought in by George & Dianna DeBoer
Charles Byrne	Brought in by Jim Moravec
Teresa Moravec	Brought in by Jim Moravec
Ed Dimock Jr.	Brought in by Edd & Jane Dimock
Mark Innacito & Stacy Boman	Brought in by Edd & Jane Dimock
Cindy Adams	Brought in by Dave & Neleta Monroe
Stephen & Carin Clark	Brought in by Wallace & Peggy Scott
Robert & Heather Carlisle	Brought in by Lyle & Marilyn Luttrell
Robert & Brenda Rivard	Brought in by Mick & Sandy Pearl
Marlene Kingsford	Brought in by Barbara Anderson
Ron Purvine	Brought in by Vicky Patterson
Rick & Bobbie Lobberding	Brought in by Ken & Sandy Shockley
Ellis & Kathy Wharton	Brought in by Kim & Nancy Lewis
Hank & Rose Stamps	Brought in by Larry & Sue Menke
Dean & Karen Jones	Brought in by Lonnie & Mary Ann Glover
Gerald & Janet Molloy	Brought in by Lou & Darlene Gibson
Brian & Chandra Francis	Brought in by Dean & Monica Culver
LeRoy & Lavis Fischer	Brought in by Dick & Jerry Oursler
Joyce Paavola & Dennis Geisler	Brought in by Rick Kibodeaux & M. Lindsey
Don & Sharon Bolles	Brought in by Mike & Connie Davidson
Vern & Judy Martenson	Brought in by Dennis & Marcy Ervin

Cadet Contest

The new members who are listed above are the results of the Cadet Contest. We want to welcome these new members and hope that all of you get involved and enjoy the fun of belonging to FCRV.

The list on your right shows the standings for both the Chapter level and the individual level. You can win both ways. The contest runs up to Spring Fling, so you still have time to get qualified to win some great things. Chapters who get 4 or more new Cadet members will be recognized at Spring Fling and all members will be served a special dessert. Individuals can win free camping at Spring Fling and/or Statewide. Contest rules were printed in prior Embers.

Chapter Rank	#	Individual Ranking	#
Colorado Eagles	4	Edd & Jane Dimock	3
Sundowners	3	George & Diana DeBoer	2
Campfire Coyotes	2	Jim Moravec	2
Rocky Toppers	2	Barbara Anderson	1
Trailblazers	2	Barbara McNelly	1
View Finders	2	Carter & Ann Bloomfield	1
Flying Monkeys	1	Dave & Nelete Monroe	1
Gadabouts	1	Dean & Monica Culver	1
Gypsies	1	Dennis & Marcy Ervin	1
Northern Lights	1	Dick & Jerry Oursler	1
Oops	1	Doug & Maureen Miller	1
Rambl'n Rec's	1	Jim & Paulette Murray	1
Road Runners	1	Ken & Sandy Shockley	1
Rocky Ramblers	1	Larry & Marshia Yarberry	1
Rolling Renegades	1	Larry & Sue Menke	1
Silver Foxes	1	Lonnie & MaryAnn Glover	1
Timberliners	1	Lou & Darlene Gibson	1
Trailmix	1	Lyle & Marilyn Luttrell	1
Weekend Warriors	1	Mick & Sandy Pearl	1
		Mike & Connie Davidson	1
		Nancy Lewis	1
		Rick Kibodeaux & Mary Lindsey	1
		Vicky Patterson	1
		Wallace & Peggy Scott	1
		Yavonne Seymour	1

RV Show Volunteers

The Colorado Teen Queen Ashlee Yanke; Bud Farnum of the *Timberliners*; Jack & Dutchi Pasco of the *Gadabouts & Backwoods Explorers*; Larry & Sandy Scott of the *Camp Stars*; Jim Klein of the *Good Timers*; Dave & Donna Watkins of the *Star Chasers*; Ginny Turnquist of the *Golden Nuggets*; Jeff & Shirley Kendel of the *Gadabouts*; Terry &

Jan Teetor, Jim & Linda Cooper and Ray & Sandy Dyer of the *Gypsies*; Hilliard Moore and Grayson Hartley of the *Colorado Eagles*; Leon & Lois Makowski and George & Jan Carlson of the *Trailmix*; Joan Cross & Sandra McDonald of the *Road Runners*; Carla Martinez and Deonn Walter of the *Star Gazers*; Doug & Cheryl Forry of the *Rocky Explorers*; Ed Brunner & Robert & April Ceder-

burg, Alex & Tanner of the *Rolling Waves*; and Sandy Richmond. Bill & JoAnn and Will & Vodean were at the show everyday helping out when needed. A special thank you to Ed & Robert & April & boys who helped tear down the booth and get it loaded.

FIRESIDE EMBERS—10

2013 DATES TO REMEMBER * = tentative dates

	Time	Event	Location
Jan 4 th	11:30 AM	Retiree Luncheon	Cinzetti's Italian Buffet I 25 & 104 th Ave.
Jan 9 th – 12 th	N/A	Colorado RV Adventure Travel Show	Colorado Convention Center 14 th & California Denver, CO
Feb 5 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 1 st Denver Show	REA Bldg. at the Windsor Exit off of I-25 N
Feb 6 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 1 st Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters 9923 Grant St., Thornton, CO
Feb 7 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 1 st Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters 14000 E. Jewell Ave. Aurora, CO
Feb 9 th	9:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Chapter Officers Workshop/Planning Mtg.	Arvada Presbyterian Church 5592 Independence St. Arvada, CO
Feb 15 th – 17 th	N/A	Colorado Springs RV Show	The Event Center @ Rustic Hills 1700 N. Academy Colorado Springs, CO
Feb 28 th – Mar 3 rd	N/A	Colorado RV, Sports, Boat & Travel Show	National Western Stockshow Complex 4566 Humboldt St. Denver, CO
Mar 7 th – 10 th	N/A	Winter Executive Board Meeting	Houston, Texas
Mar 12 th – 17 th	N/A	National Retiree Rally	Rayne, Louisiana
Mar 12 th *	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. 1 st Denver Show	REA Bldg. at the Windsor Exit off of I-25 N
Mar 13 th	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. 1 st Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters 14000 E. Jewell Ave. Aurora, CO
Mar 14 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. Colo. Spgs. Show	Sons of Norway Bldg. 1045 Ford Ave. Colorado Springs, CO
Mar 15 th	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. 1 st Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters 9923 Grant St., Thornton, CO
Mar 26 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. Colo. Spgs. Show	Sons of Norway Bldg. 1045 Ford Ave. Colorado Springs, CO
Apr 3 rd *	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 2 nd Denver Show	REA Bldg. at the Windsor Exit off of I-25 N
Apr 4 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 2 nd Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters 9923 Grant St., Thornton, CO
Apr 5 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 2 nd Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters 14000 E. Jewell Ave. Aurora, CO
Apr 26 th – 28 th	N/A	Field Staff Workshop & Campout	Fort Collins KOA Lakeside in Ft. Collins
Apr 30 th *	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. 2 nd Denver Show	REA Bldg. at the Windsor Exit off of I-25 N
May 1 st	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. 2 nd Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters 9923 Grant St., Thornton, CO
May 2 nd	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. 2 nd Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters 14000 E. Jewell Ave. Aurora, CO
May 17 th – 19 th	N/A	Spring Fling	Morgan County Fairgrounds in Brush, CO
June 10 th – 14 th	N/A	Colorado Retiree Rally	Fort Collins KOA Lakeside in Ft. Collins
July 14 th – 18 th	N/A	National Campvention 2013	Amana, Iowa
Aug 16 th – 18 th	N/A	Pikes Peak Traveland Campout	Colorado City Koa I-25 @ Exit 74 South of Pueblo
Aug 30 th – Sep 2 nd	N/A	Colorado Statewide	Elbert County Fairgrounds in Kiowa, CO
Sep 23 rd – 26 th	N/A	Southern Colorado Retiree Rally	Pueblo South Colorado City Koa I-25 @ Exit 74 – South of Pueblo
Sep 27 th – 29 th	N/A	Field Staff Workshop & Campout	Pueblo South Colorado City Koa I-25 @ Exit 74 – South of Pueblo

Farewell

Rudy Stvan – 10-12-12 – Charter member of the Rock N Chair Roadies
 Gene Abbott – 11-16-12 – Charter member of the Sundowners
 Debbie Gallegos – 11-17-12 - Aurora Gate Keepers
 Ivan Rosenberg – 11-25-12 – Charter member and father of Margaret Dorn of the Camp Stars
 Jim Taylor – 12-13-12 - Trailblazers
 Myron Revard – 12-17-12 – Charter member of the Rock N. Chair Roadies
 Pauline French—12-28-12—Gray Wolves

Remembering

Pauline French, a long time member of the Gray Wolves Chapter in Colorado Springs, passed away on December 28, 2012.

She was born January 22, 1935 in Fort Scott, KS. After attending business college, she moved first to Denver and then down to Colorado Springs in the early 1960's. She worked for many years as a closer for a local real estate company. Pauline was an active member of the Gray Wolves Chapter and she enjoyed much satisfaction with traveling with her camping group. She loved driving her 1986 Minnie Winnie around the state and around the country with her Gray Wolves friends.

The National Campventions at Gillette, WY and Sedalia,

MO were a real highlight as she enjoyed activities with friends as well as getting to know people from other parts of the country.

Little did she realize that her New Year's Resolution in 2011 was to prove to be so meaningful. She resolved to be of service to others. It was just a few weeks later that she was diagnosed with cancer. She was an inspiration to all as she fought the battle with cancer with much courage. Even with her death, her vow to be of service continues because she donated her body to medical science.

Pauline will be missed, but her quiet optimism, her genuine caring for others, and her adventurous spirit will live on in our hearts.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF ELDON DEAN SELLERS

Eldon was born September 23, 1935 in Abilene, Kansas and passed away December 5, 2012.

For 35 years, Eldon & Glenda belonged to Family Campers & RVers, where Eldon was on the board of trustees for 16 years and served as vice president and president.

He is survived by his wife Glenda, son Charles, daughters Deanna Sellers & Kristine Moats and grandchildren Abigail, Jessica and Benjamin.

Thank You

Glenda Sellers sent a thank you note expressing her thanks to all Colorado FCRV members for all their cards, e-mails, calls and to those who attended Eldon's services.

The family of Debbie Gallegos sent a card wanting to thank all the members of Colorado FCRV for their cards, e-mails, calls and those attending Debbie's funeral service. Your support during this time was greatly appreciated.

The "Embers" is published six times a year. Please send any information that you would like to have included in the "Embers" to: Colorado Chapters of FCRV, a Nonprofit Organization
 9850 N. Federal Blvd. #303
 Denver, CO 80260
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 1-877-679-3278 (toll free)
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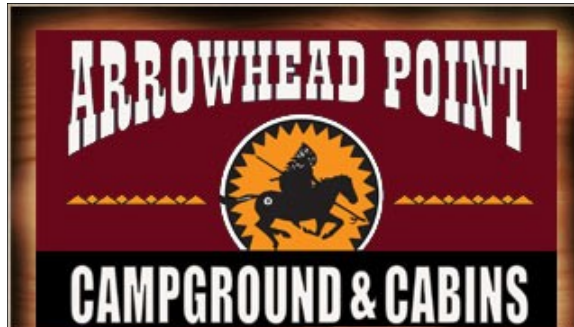
Information must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication (ex: 15th of Dec for the Jan/Feb/Mar publication). It will be included, space permitting. This includes chapters, program chairmen and members who have news or interesting articles or classified ads that they would like to share with the membership.

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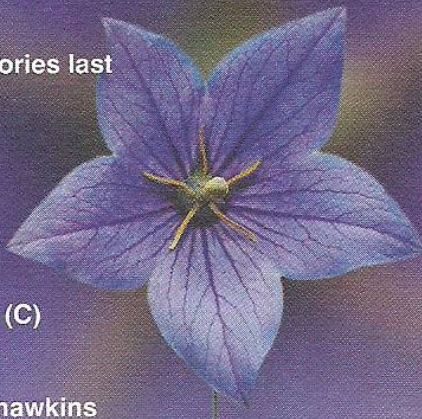
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BEAR'S LIFE continued from the last issue

Last week, Mom and Dad decided it was time to introduce me to the big white house on wheels (they call it an RV or recreational vehicle), parked next to our driveway. A lot of comings and goings were done before I finally had my first chance. Let me tell you—that is really a very big RV. Evidently, the whole RV was cleaned, inside and out, because it smelled like a chemical that I recognized.. Mom had just washed the windows and I didn't like that smell either.

Mom and Dad sat on the couch and I had to explore that. Of course, the first thing I did was a NO NO. I jumped onto the couch and was immediately told to get off!! I guess it's the same thing like inside the house. No resting on furniture, beds, etc. for me. It's always the same. So I better get used to it. Anyway, I went to work, sniffing around, trying to find a familiar smell. Nothing!! It just was clean, no crumbs, no treats, no food and no water. I was told that all that would come later. I walked up to the front and checked out that area. That was the biggest window I have ever seen. I was shown my place up front where I could sit and look out the window. A nice new carpet was laying on the floor and I was told, that was my place. I could look forward to seeing where we are going, and on both sides sat Mom and Dad. I spotted my bowls for food and water between two arm chairs. That was reassuring. At least they had my needs in mind. I made the round once more and then we all went back into the house.

Now Mom and Dad got very busy, running back and forth, carrying clothes, towels, shoes and lots of food from the house to the RV. They said we are going on a camp-out. I don't know what it is but I have the feeling I will find out soon. I watched everything and I was told that it was my job to guard it also. What a surprise! I have to watch the house (upstairs and downstairs), the garden, the entrance door, and the front yard, and I understand that is my job. Now they add to it, the RV inside and out. I suppose I can handle all this. I have been told I am growing up and everybody has to do his/her share. I know I can do it, I am young and strong and I am a Chow. I am smart and healthy and I am proud that Mom and Dad trust me. It really feels pretty good to have responsibilities. I am earning my keep in this family and I am rewarded with lots of hugs and treats and I deserve them.



Next morning, Dad drove the RV out into the street. I was put on a nice new leash (red is so becoming with my black hair) and settled down into our places. Dad closed up the house, got into his seat behind the big round wheel, and then he turned the key and the whole RV started vibrating. It really startled me so I went over to Mom's side. We moved forward and we rolled out of the place in front of our house, onto the street, up the hill, and then we were on our way. It was very exciting, I could see out the window, all the houses on both sides came and went. I looked and looked but I stayed close to Mom's side. I was so glad she was there and I could feel her hand stroking my hear. It feels so good to have her sit next to me.

We drove around until we came to a real wide street. Cars and trucks were driving fast on both sides and they didn't stop at all. It was wild, but I felt safe. Dad never looked at me, because he had to drive and he couldn't pat me either. He said he had to hold the big wheel. I have a small wheel which we take along. I pick it up with my teeth and then I run with it up and down in the back yard. This is good for me, they say, but I love it. I watched Dad from a safe distance, he couldn't hold the wheel with his teeth, it was way too big, so he had to use his hands. I can understand that. We drove for a very long time, cars were all around us, so I stayed in my place. So much to see.

Finally, we came to a wide open place with lots of other big RVs standing around. Mom said we are at the campground and we'll stay for a few days. Dad parked the RV like at home and we all went outside. People came from everywhere to talk to us, and I was introduced to everybody. I tried to be on my best behavior and everybody was nice to me. I don't meet too



many people at home, just watch them through the fence when they walk in the park. Here, they all talked to me, I feel very important. Some people had little dogs but they didn't interest me. They were too small and they were running around constantly and barking. It was pitiful! They should hear me barking, but I guess I would scare them, so I said nothing.

Dad didn't fasten my collar tight enough, so while nobody was watching, I slipped out of my collar and now I could run, which I did. It was a wonderful experience to stretch my legs after that long ride. Everybody got excited, Dad was trying to catch me but couldn't, it was absolutely great! I had a lot of fun. Finally, Dad caught up with me (I let him!) and he put me back on the leash. I liked this place very much, as it was larger than our back yard. But I promised myself to stay around our RV. I have

to do my duty and guard it, that is my job

One of the ladies brought her dog over to me so we could get acquainted. It was a beautiful big dog with blonde hair, it looked like a very warm coat. We touched noses and liked each other immediately. One of Mom's friends took me for a walk, we went to a dog park and my new friend and I chased each other around. That was really so much fun, we both enjoyed it. I wish we could do that every day. We all had a great time. People who walked by remembered my name and greeted me. It felt very good to be recognized. Everybody was so friendly.

Everything has to come to an end I guess. After a good night's sleep, we all said good-bye to each other and we all went home. While I had a great time at camp, I also was glad to be home again. That was a wonderful experience for me and I am willing to do this again soon.

To be continued

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Advance registration deadline is May 15, 2013

Monday evening there will be hospitality upstairs at 7:00 pm

Tuesday: Outdoor games

Tuesday evening, Beef Dinner, cost is \$10.00 per person

Room will be available for games after dinner.

Wednesday

Ft. Collins Museum of Discovery

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Senior price for 15 or more is \$5.00, Plan 90 minutes or more for your visit.

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Thursday enjoy your day your way!

Potluck at 6:00

Friday, 8:00 Breakfast prepared for you, before you depart.

All sites have full hookups and will be assigned by chapter.

Handicap parking is available, which will be slightly closer to the building.

In handicap parking you will not be parked with your chapter.

Reservation confirmation will be mailed or e-mailed in May.

Camping is \$36.00 per night, plus tax, for 1 or 2 people



Please send the deposit to us, NOT THE CAMPGROUND.



Make check to Colorado FCRV Retirees.

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E-mail us with questions: carterandann@bresnan.net

If you must cancel please call Carter at 970-580-0406

so your deposit can be returned .We will do our best to help you out.

Please plan to enter the campground after 10:30 am, KOA charges \$5.00 for early arrival.



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Type and length of rig _____ Number of slides _____

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