

May—June 2013 Volume XXXXII Issue 3





When you combine Chapter Campouts & State Campouts - That's FCRV

What's New This Issue Welcome 4 New Advertisers

- Alliant Credit Union
- Lakeside KOA
- Allstate Insurance
- Interstate Battery

Opt Out of Embers
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Colorado's Corporate
Sponsorship Program
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Tips for the Teen Queen
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Did you hear?
The fairgrounds will
spray 3 times this summer to get rid of those
nasty stickers.

Because of a lightning strike near Bill's home this Embers issue was delayed.

Spring Fling is over and we had a great weekend. See pictures on page 3 & 4. Start making you plans for Statewide.

Fall Statewide Aug. 30 - Sept. 2 Kiowa, Colorado



Fall Statewide Planes, Trains & RV's Labor Day Weekend Kiowa, Colorado

Let's Go Camping Retiree Rally
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June 10-14
Ft. Collins, Colorado

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Loana, Ashlee Yanke, Sami Seymour bring in flags riding in a 1926 Dodge touring car. Art Hanson from the High Country Campers chapter is proudly driving his car.







We will have more pictures in next issue.







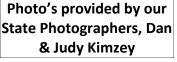




























Photo's provided by our State Photographers, Dan & Judy Kimzey

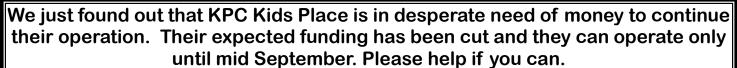
Colorado Field Staff getting information for Spring Fling from Loana.

There will be more Spring Fling pictures in the next Embers issue.



1

Important Information Below



Chapters or members who donate money to support this group can mail a check made out to Family Connections. Their address is below. Family Connections is a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Their official incorporated name is Pikes Peak Family Connections, Inc.

For more information go to their web site at familyconnectionsco.org 2503 Holiday Lane - Colorado Springs, CO 80909 - Tel: (719) 634-5439

Please help if you can.

STAR GAZERS CHAPTER NEWS FOR MARCH, 2013

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

Six Star Gazers attended the annual planning meeting on February 8. They brought back a lot of good information about the organization on both the state and national level, and shared upcoming plans that we will look forward to. They also brought back the results of the surveys which were done last year. They are excited about upcoming plans for this year as well as the national Campvention to be held in Gillette, WY in 2015.

SOMETHING'S FISHY!



The Star Gazers met at Bass Pro Shop in February. I don't think anybody went crazy and bought a shiny bass fishing boat, although we are a group who like to fish! We ate dinner at the Islamorada Restaurant in Bass Pro Shop. Several of the group tried alligator, which was pronounced that it tasted like chicken. One member ordered chicken, and declared that it "tastes like alligator." Twenty-two members and one guest were in attendance at the meeting hosted by Lon and Sharon Kraft.

STRIKE!!!!!!!!

The March gathering, after being postponed one day due to the March blizzard, took place at Northglenn Lanes bowling alley. Nobody bowled a perfect game – Surprise! - but we had a fun time trying. After our monthly business meeting, the group moved on to Texas Roadhouse for dinner. Hosts for March were Gary and Deonn Walter. Eighteen members and one guest attended.

Submitted by Pam McCuskey, Secretary Star Gazers

COLORADO RETIREES AT THE NATIONAL RETIREE RALLY in RAYNE, LA

Potty Race: Here are the results of one of the events at the Rally

A team of 2 people, one sits on a cart with a potty attached and the other pushes (blindfolded) the cart on a course and is timed. The person sitting on the potty must direct the person pushing which direction to go. They must not hit any of the items on the course or cross the side lines. The onlookers are loud and try to confuse the direction.

<u>Sandy Wingert</u> & Willy Walker took 1st place in the "Potty Races" <u>Sid Walker</u> & partner took 2nd place in Men's Doubles "Bolo Horseshoes" <u>Willie Walker & Vodean Benham</u> took 1st place in Women's Doubles in "Bolo Horseshoes" <u>Sid Walker</u> & partner took 1st place in Men's "Bean Bag Toss" <u>Sid & Willie Walker</u> took 2nd place in Mixed "Bean Bag Toss" <u>Sid Walker</u> & partner took 1st place in Men's "Washer Toss" <u>Willie Walker</u> & partner took 2nd place in Women's "Washer Toss" <u>Willie Walker</u> & partner took 2nd place in Women's "Washer Toss"

Congratulation to all our Colorado Retirees for participating in these games and winning!!



Retirees who attended the 2013 Retiree Rally in Rayne, LA Front Row

Jean Van Etten, Vodean Benham, Darlene Gibson, Linda Anderson, Sandy Wingert, Willie Walker, Lois Joiner.

Back Row

Will Benham,
Lou Gibson,
Biff Anderson,
Joe Wingert,
Sid Walker,
Linda Heasley.
Not Pictured
Jim Heasley
Jim & Barbara Galvin

Rocky Toppers April Campout Chapter News April 2013

Camp Host: Deb and Roger Hill; Camping Theme: Earth Day

We held our meeting at Famous Dave's, an outstanding location. The

food was superb and the service was equally superb.

Rocky Toppers went to KOA in Colorado City just south of Pueblo. What a beautiful place. We had camped there couple years ago and it remains a great place to camp. They have a new club house to use, hot tub, miniature golf course, dog walking area and a great store to get things anyone forgot.



We got there early Thursday evening and what a surprise. The camp ground was packed and there were still several inches of snow on the ground. The managers made arrangements for us, as most the spaces were still occupied due to the snow storms and so many people could not go north or south. As it turned out the Colorado Sun melted the snow and we got to meet some great people from other clubs. We shared the club house very comfortably and had time to share some experiences.

Our initial plans were to go to the Graneros Gorge, a gorgeous area, for community service and do some litter clean up. But the snow had melted and left a muddy and wet area which spoiled our plans. Most of us then went to visit Bishop's Castle. Having never been there, what a spectacular sight. With it being a little chilly and wet, we did not get to see the entire structure. However what we did see was amazing and outstanding. This is a must see place anytime you have some free time on a weekend. Several of said we had to go back. You could spend the whole day there in amazement of what this "One" man has accomplished.

In the evenings we spent time at the club house playing a variety of games. We also had a "trade movies (cd)" day in which we all brought in our movies to trade for movies we have not seen. That was an interesting idea and movies went quick. Everyone is looking to the next movie trading night. Due to the weather, we did not get to have our usual "fire pit" chat. That is always a good time to share experiences of the past winter and tell stories.



Last but not least a few folks had frozen water pipe from the past winter, so this became an opportunity to get together and fix a few leaks. Finally we have a "Hilly Billy" front jacks/stand. One of our members used a "regular jack", "a hydraulic cylinder jack" and a "six by six" to rest the front of his trailer. (photo submitted).

Well that is it for the Rocky Toppers this month. Next month we are going to "River View" just outside Loveland Colorado, also a superb camping facility.



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Farewell

Duke Dwyer – 3-12	Former member of the Silver Foxes
Joe Fenton – 4-12	Former member of the Gray Wolves
Jerry Hill – 2-27-13	Father of Jerrilyn Eaton of the Rolling Renegades
Carrol Fedelleck	Member of the Aurora Gate Keepers
Archie Smith – 3-8-13	Former member of the Colorado Eagles
Nancy Toth – 3-9-13	Member of the View Finders
Eva Pinske – 3-21-13	Former member of the Gypsies
Rick Holt—4-14-13	Son of Bill & Judy Holt of the Rock N Chair Roadies

Remembering

Gene Abbott was a longtime member of NCHA/FCRV having joined the Sundowners Chapter in 1979 with his wife Julie. Gene loved to travel and camp as well as to encourage a little fun and deviltry in the group each weekend. He was always willing to take an office or repair a problem with their rig. He was also famous for the commercial area for the 2007 national camp-vention that he organized. Both he and Julie were always involved with an office with the club, being field directors or helping on a national committee.

Gene was also very active with the Patriot Guard Riders and other veterans organizations, from helping school kids understand the military to serving ice cream at the VA hospital. Gene was intensely proud of both the United State and of his service in the Army. His trailer and campsite was usually easy to find by the number of lights and flags that he had displayed. He also gave his time at Christmas, serving as a "most excellent" Santa for day cares, schools, and at his Dr.'s offices.

On November 16, 2012, Gene passed away with his beloved Julie and family and friends nearby for support. His long battle against the effects of Agent Orange, including carcinoid cancer, prostate cancer, diabetes, skin cancers and dental problems was finally finished. Julie would like to thank everyone for their cards, calls and support the last couple of months.

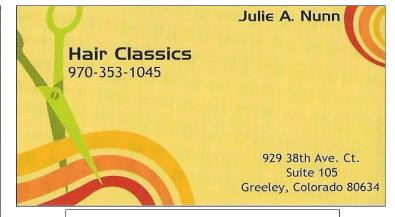
Please remember Gene for the joy that he found in life and the strength that he left behind.



At the Fall Statewide Campout we hold a special ceremony to remember those who have passed in the last 12 months. We ring the bell for each one.







10% discount to all FCRV Members!

Keep receiving the printed Embers or opt-out

For many years we offered the Embers newsletter as a subscription news letter for a small annual subscription fee. As Colorado FCRV grew we realized that only about 300 families out of 850 were paying for the Embers and keeping up with the news and happenings in Colorado FCRV. The Colorado FCRV board decided that we need to do a better job of communicating with you the members.

Over the last three years we purchased a multi functional printer that prints 11x17 paper on two sides in color or black, folds and staples and mail merges each copy with your address. We also purchased an inexpensive software program that sorts the newsletter for the post office so we can mail at bulk rates. We then purchased a bulk mail permit. This automates the process except for the bundling and putting the finished newsletter into the proper us mail bags. Then the FCRV board said lets give this newsletter free to all Colorado members.

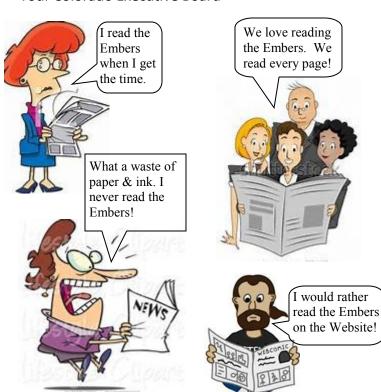
Recently we completed a survey and asked if you could read the Embers on the website would you be willing to stop getting the printed version. We were surprised that a significant number of members would consider doing this. Ron Costello did a cost analyst on the Embers and if a significant number opted out of getting the printed version it would save us a fair amount of money.

Our intentions are still the same, we want everyone to get the news letter! So far we are able to pay for the cost of the free newsletter and still fund all of our other expenses. However, if you either don't ever read the newsletter or are comfortable reading the newsletter on the website, we should not ignore the cost savings it would give us if you decided to opt out.

Below is a form that you should fill out and mail to Loana if you want to opt out of receiving the printed copy of the Embers. Don't do this if you are doing it just to save Colorado FCRV a few dollars. Do it only if you are not reading the Embers or will faithfully read the newsletter on the Colorado FCRV website. coloradfcrv.com

Sincerely,







YES I want to opt-out of receiving the printed copy of the Embers.

I realize that I can read the digital copy of the Embers on the Colorado Website.

Print your name and address below and <u>sign</u> this form.

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Denver, CO 80260

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

NEW RV SHOW MEMBERS

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NEW CADET MEMBERS

Jim & Min Joyal	Brought in by Wayne & Cinda Champlir
Paul & Valerie Joyce	Brought in by D. Clough & Anita Maile
Debbie Pisciotta	Brought in by Doug & Maureen Miller
Jerry & Lori Benjamin	Brought in by Bob & Anna Peduzzi
Jeremy Brunner	Brought in by Ed & Vickie Brunner
Blake & Julie Bischoff	Brought in by Kim Watkins
Robert & Jennifer Lefkowitz	Brought in by Jeff & Jonna Bloomfield
Elbert & Eileen Carter	Brought in by Ed & Maria Mannerberg
Dennis & Gail Schaffran	Brought in by John & Marianne Nyman
Don & Marilyn Silver	Brought in by John & Marianne Nyman
Bob & Cheryl Taylor	Brought in by John & Marianne Nyman
Fredrick & Dolores Lewis	Brought in by Dan & Judy Kimzey
Jeff & Belinda Cox	Brought in by Abe & Karleen Williams
George & Linda Gonzales	Brought in by Mike & Geri Nolan

WELCOME BACK—WE'VE MISSED YOU Sheryl Heidenreich



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STAR CHASER HAPPENINGS

Hi everyone! Well, Spring is finally here even though we may still get some snow in what is left of March and in April. But we are all getting itchy to get out there and start camping. It should be a fun-filled camping year. In January, we went to Delvickios Restaurant in Broomfield for our monthly lunch meeting. The lunch was delicious and it was good to get together and see everyone and work on our camping schedule for 2013. Harvey and Lynn Ulmer did an awesome job finding us someplace new to go.

Our Chapter did something fun at the February meeting. Some of us met at Wings Over the Rockies at the old Lowry Air Force Base in Denver before the lunch meeting at The Emerald Grill at Windsor Gardens. Our host, Karen Leck, set up a tour of the museum plus the Project Pilot Class. We were in a class room setting with maps and rulers plotting out our flight course from one airport to another airport here in Denver. The class was taught by a retired pilot. He also had helpers in the class who were also pilots and they helped you to figure everything out. Then we went into the flight simulation room. Each of us had our own computer, steering wheel and controls and flew our planes by the course we charted. That is when the real fun began. Well, I crashed a few times but was finally able to keep the plane in the computer air. Never mind I never made it to my destination, but who's perfect! There was a lot of laughing going on, but I think some others did a better job of flying. Everyone had a great time and it was a very interesting experience.













Also, in February a number of us went to the Chapter Officer's Workshop/Planning meeting. The meeting was very informative and helpful to all who attended. Having a guest speaker from the State Parks was definitely an added bonus that was very interesting. And finally, a few of us went to the RV Show to help run the FCRV booth to get people to sign up to attend one of the Get Acquainted meetings. It can be a challenge to get people to stop and put their name down. But it is always a good feeling when you do connect with someone and you can get them excited about possibly joining the organization.

Happy camping and safe travels.

Donna and David Watkins Field Directors, Star Chasers

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JoAnn's Camper Recipes

CROCK POTBREAKFAST

- 1 32 oz bag of frozen hash brown potatoes
- 1 pound bacon, diced, or ham, cooked and cubed, or breakfast sausage cooked
- 1 onion diced
- 1 green bell pepper sliced
- 1 1/2 cup cheddar or Monterey jack cheese, shredded
- 1 dozen eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper

Place a layer of frozen potatoes on the bottom of the crock pot, followed by a layer of bacon, ham, or sausage, onions, green pepper and cheese. Repeat the layering process two or three times, ending with a layer of cheese. Beat the eggs, milk, salt and pepper together. Pour over the crock pot mixture, cover and turn on low. Cook overnight for 10—12 hours. Serves 6 hungry people. Submitted by Vodean Benham

CAMPFIRE BANANA SPLIT

- 1 banana, unpeeled
- 1 T peanut butter
- 15 chocolate chips
- 1. Create a pocket in the banana bby slicing it lengthwise down to the bottom peel, but not through it.
- 2. Fill the slot with peanut butter and chocolate chips wrap the banana in aluminum foil and toss in the campfire embers.
- 3. Cook until peanut butter and chocolate chips have melted, about 5 minutes. Carefully remove from the fire and cool slightly before eating.

Submitted by Coral Yakel

Field Staff Workshop

Here is a brief summary of some of the discussion at the recent FS workshop concerning the December 2012 survey. More information will be in future Embers.

Not attending SW & SF.

#1 item was SW & SF <u>conflict with other</u> <u>activities</u>. Not much we can do about that.

#2 item was, don't like dry camping. We have looked at 5 locations so far only one can accommodate 200+ rigs. The one location that could, is in very poor condition and electricity needs a lot of work. #3 thru #8 were items we can't do much about.

#9 was the <u>Sandburs at Spring Fling</u>. Loana contacted folks in Brush and they were very willing to attempt to fix this. We will see what they have done soon. #10 work on weekends.

Of the general suggestions, one theme came up often. People want more seminars that deal with RV's, camping, first aid, CPR & safety. The directors will work on this and you will see more of this at Statewide.

Adding an additional day to Spring Fling. There was an overwhelming number that was in favor of this. The Staff voted to do this in 2014.

Teen Queen Program received a lot of discussion. Want more participation and have better talent. This a National program and we will make suggestions to chapters and participants. There is an article in this issue with tips for the teen

queen.

More young people in FCRV. This theme was also very prevalent. Want younger adults to join. Younger people in the management of CO FCRV from the top and down. Too many older people at the RV Show booth. Bill Eckman will contact Field Directors to recommend several young adult families to take part in focus groups. We want to hear young adults tell us how and what we can do as an organization to draw more young adults.

We are very fortunate to have leadership at all levels that are willing to work hard and listen to what we can do to make things better in Colorado.

Loana Schraeder - State Director



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2013 DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	Time	Event	Location
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 rd	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



The Weekend Warriors get around Colorado alright...each season comes and goes by so fast except winter. Here we all are just itching to get back to our camping again!! Thank goodness Spring is on its way!! Plus all the RV shows.

The Weekend Warriors have been reminiscing of our past camping trips with campfires and fishing and good times with friends....HURRY HURRY SPRING TIME PLEASE So looking forward to it.

Submitted by Mary Ann Glover







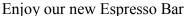
Karen Jones Bear Lake Cucharra, CO





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Teen Queen Tips

Spring is here and time to think about being Miss Colorado FCRV 2013. The pageant is held at the Statewide campout over the Labor Day weekend. Below are some tips for our 13-19 year old girls, and some suggestions for the Chapters that sponsor them.

For the girls!

- Decide NOW if you want to compete for the title, Miss Colorado FCRV 2013
- Talk to your Parents and get their approval and support.
- Talk with your Chapter about their help and support.
- Decide what your talent presentation will be. Select a skill that you are very good at and comfortable doing. It can be anything from singing, dancing, reciting a poem or displaying and talking about a skill you have. If you make your own clothing then show it off and talk about it. Anything that you are at ease doing.
- Talk with Mom & Dad about what you are choosing to do for your talent presentation and get their opinion
- PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE, AND BE READY.
- Ask your Chapter to help you by letting you perform in front of them and also talking with you and asking you questions. This will help you be more comfortable talking in front of people.
- Be sure to send your Teen Queen Registration Form back by the requested date.
- Arrive at Statewide with everything you need for the Pageant.
- Be sure you have everything you need for your talent presentation. (Don't forget the proper undergarments for your dress)
- Bring your best smile and come prepared to have a good time.

For Chapters!

- If you have girls between the ages 13-19 in your Chapter, talk with them about representing you in the Teen Queen Pageant at the Statewide campout. Encourage them to be part of the program.
- If you have a young lady to represent your Chapter, please give her all the encouragement and help that you can.
- Ask her to perform her talent for the Chapter at a meeting or campout.
- Take time to talk with her when the Chapter is present, this gives her an opportunity to get more comfortable talking in front of people.
- Ask questions about different subjects, this would make that portion of the pageant much easier for her.
- Most important be at the pageant and support your girl.

Jewell Shields - Colo. Board Member





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to convert your canopy into a fully enclosed shelter.
Keeps out rain, snow, and wind.
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2-wheel utility trailer good tires pulls good custom tarp to fit. \$350.00 Bill Holt 303-644-3762

WILDLIFE **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AT CAMPVENTION**

Al and Joanie Stone We have arranged for an educational program at Campvention this year from SOAR. SOAR is an drated, fed and received three organization which was established in 1999 dedicated to saving our avian resources through raptor rehabilitation, education, and research. SOAR'S goal is to return all birds to the wild, however, not all birds are able to be released once they are healed.

SOAR has a wonderful educa-

tional program in which they will share with us at Campvention. They will be bringing Thora (a bald eagle) and Peregrine Falcon. When Thora came to the center she was very underweight, but had no physical injuries, however, she had lead poisoning. She was rehyweeks of chelation therapy to remove the lead from her body. Her vision was still impaired and she was not able to see well enough to be released

Thora and the Peregrine Falcon love to have their pictures taken so bring your camera.

Hope you will take the opportunity at Campvention to attend the Wildlife Educational Program put on by SOAR. We appreciate SOAR coming to present a program for us. Look in your program book for time and place.



Iowa Campvention-July 14-18, 2013

Get a registration form in your last issue of Camping today or download at fcrv.org.

Colorado members this is the year to go to Campvention and see how it's done! We host in 2015 6 days of camping with water & electric plus 5 days of activities and entertainment all for only \$250. Parking is "Hobo Style" by State. Enter together and you should be parked together.



The Old Creamery Theatre Company



Heritage Wine, Cheese & Jelly Haus



RV Park office and store

RV Park & Event Center is a 60-acre campground, RV park, and event facility located near the scenic Lily Lake and Kolonieweg Recreation Trail in Amana. The RV Park has 278 water & electric sites and 48 dry and tent camping sites with optional 20-amp electricity. Three buildings are available for meetings and events, totaling over 20,000 square feet

Free Wi-Fi-Level sites-paved & gravel roads-4-vehicle dump station-Modern, handicap accessible restrooms w/ showers—Laundromat—Liquid Propane—Campground store—Picnic tables on most sites—Fire rings available—Firewood for sale/ complimentary wood from the Amana Furniture Shop if available—Pets welcome—Located in the heart of Amana Colonies.



Babi's Bed & Breakfast



Catiri's Art Oasis



Broom & Basket Shop



Kitchen&Cooper Shop Museum

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

May June 2013

Things are still pretty quiet up at the Capitol. After they got through messing everyone up with all of the gun control laws, except the gangbangers and other assorted bad guys, they may be able to accomplish some things positive. We hope so anyway. So here we go!

DID YOU KNOW?

Colorado's Newest State Park is Opening!

The Staunton Ranch, a homestead in the early 20th century, will open to the public on May 18, 2013. Colorado Parks and Wildlife has worked for the past ten years to fulfill the legacy of Frances Staunton. We honor Staunton's wishes to create a state park for the people of Colorado by preserving a place where future generations will appreciate the area's natural beauty as the early Colorado settlers once did.

Staunton State Park has been designated as a Rural Historic Landscape in the National Register of Historic Places. Not only does the park have a rich cultural history, but it also has remarkable natural resources. Stunning granite rock outcroppings, a dramatic waterfall, an impressive array of wildlife and plant species are just a few of the reasons this park was deemed worthy of conservation. Stay tuned for more details on the

THINK TWICE BEFORE YOU BUY THAT PASS!

park's future recreation opportunities and Grand Opening activities.

If you visit National Forests that have been charging you a "standard amenity" fee since 2005 to visit a High Impact Recreation Area (HIRA), you should no longer have to fear getting a ticket if you don't pay that fee, unless you actually use developed facilities and services that meet minimum legal standards.

HIRAs have been an important part of the largest fee programs in the country, such as the Adventure Pass in southern California, the Northwest Forest Pass in Washington and Oregon, the White Mountains parking pass in New Hampshire, and others. You can see a list of all the HIRAs at this link.

Forest Service Deputy Chief Leslie Weldon issued a memo last May to all forests, which the WSNFC obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. the memo said: "I am directing that you not enforce standard amenity recreation fees or issue notices of required fees for any portion of a large area that has been proposed for elimination from the recreation fee program."

The places within HIRAs that were "proposed for elimination from the recreation fee program" were identified in letters from the Washington Office to the Regional Foresters based on an internal review conducted in 2011. That review, in turn, was based on the Forest Service's interpretation of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act as allowing them to charge a standard amenity fee any place that six required amenities are present (table, trash, toilet, interpretive display, developed parking, and security), regardless of whether the amenities are actually used or not and regardless of how scattered or distant they might be.

Turns out, that interpretation was wrong.

In February, 2012, about a month after the agency had completed their internal review, a unanimous three-judge panel of the federal appeals court for the 9th Circuit invalidated their review criteria. The judges ruled that the section of the law that prohibits fees for general access, passing through without using facilities and services, or camping in undeveloped areas actually means what it says!

"... the REA clearly contemplates that individuals can go to a place offering facilities and services without using the facilities and services and without paying a fee." (Decision in Adams v USFS)

The Deputy Chief's May memo came three months after the court provided that clear guidance, yet she still directed the forests to stop enforcing fees only where the amenities are not present, regardless of whether a visitor actually uses them or not or how scattered they are.

That approach obviously appears to violate the law, but when a federal agency is violating federal law, you can't just call the sheriff and have the district ranger arrested. As a citizen, your only recourse is to file a

lawsuit. And that is what a number of concerned and committed citizens have done.

So far, there have been four lawsuits challenging the Forest Service's continued parking fees at locations far from some of the required amenities and even if the visitor is off in the backcountry hiking or horseback riding, boating on a river or lake, or camping in a dispersed area with no developed facilities.

Two of the lawsuits have been settled out of court, with the Forest Service making significant on-the-ground changes to bring the HIRAs named in the suits - and only those - into compliance.

- At Mt Evans in Colorado you no longer have to pay to drive on or park alongside State Highway 5. Instead, you only need to pay if you park at either of two developed interpretive sites or at a Denver city park located on the mountain where the city contracts with the Forest Service to collect a parking fee on their behalf. Other than at those three small sites, the 14-mile-long state-owned and state-maintained highway is now free and open for the public to enjoy the scenery and for access into the adjacent Mt Evans Wilderness Area
- At Mt Lemmon in Arizona, you no longer have to pay for access to all land within 1/2 mile of the Sky Island National Scenic Byway. Instead, you only need to pay if you use one of nine developed picnic sites or visit the interpretive center. If you are using a trail that begins in one of these developed sites, free parking has been designated for your use and you can park for free on the road shoulders if the designated free parking is full.

These changes, reached by mutual agreement in out-of-court settlements, have brought those two former HIRAs into compliance with the law as interpreted by the courts. But in the rest of the nation's national forests, fees are still being charged based on the law as interpreted by Forest Service officials before they were corrected by the 9th Circuit. Even under their flawed interpretation, the Washington Office seems to be having trouble getting the Regional Foresters to do as they are told. Documents obtained by the WSNFC under the Freedom of Information Act show that in October 2012, the Deputy Chief sent out a follow-up to her May memo instructing the Regions to report to her by November 15 what they had done to comply with her May directives. In an enclosure to that follow-up memo Weldon said:

- "Beginning immediately [October 10, 2012] the region will no longer issue Notice of Required Fee, Violation Notice, or Citation for non-payment of recreation fees at sites or areas where fees will be eliminated as a result of the SAF [HIRA] Area review. This will be communicated internally only with an emphasis on ensuring that no citations are written at sites/ areas where fees will be eliminated."
- "Move forward immediately with installing, removing, and moving fee related signs on the applicable forests."
- "Notify the public that beginning January 1, 2013, fees will not be enforced at sites and areas identified for removal in the SAF Area review. Without this advance notification many people who have purchased annual (ex. Adventure) Passes may be upset when they learn that their favorite sites/ areas for which they purchased an (ex. Adventure) Pass are now free. This could result in a large number of requests for refunds, which the region may not be able to accommodate, and an increase in the number of complaints resulting in potential negative press." [emphasis added]

So far, silence.

Thus it's back to court again - the only recourse available when an agency is not following the law.

The third lawsuit, challenging the implementation of the Adventure Pass on four forests in southern California - the Angeles, Cleveland, Los Padres, and San Bernardino - has been put on hold by the court until April 1 to allow confidential settlement discussions, which are currently underway.

This week, another suit was filed, this one against the Sequoia National

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES (Cont'd)

Forest in central California, challenging the implementation of the Southern Sierra Pass at Lake Isabella and along the lower Kern River. Despite persistent citizen action, negative publicity, and as a last resort, litigation, the Forest Service has yet to get all their fee programs into compliance with the law or to notify the public that they have stopped enforcing fees at many sites, even if the "fee required" signs are still up. While the pending lawsuits run their course, here is something you can do: Learn what the law says and don't buy passes or pay fees for activities that the agencies are not authorized to charge you for.

This is what you may not be charged a fee for on National Forests or BLM lands:

- (A) Solely for parking, undesignated parking, or picnicking along roads or trailsides.
- (B) For general access . . .
- (C) For dispersed areas with low or no investment . . .
- (D) For persons who are driving through, walking through, boating through, horseback riding through, or hiking through Federal recreational lands and waters without using the facilities and services.
- (E) For camping at undeveloped sites that do not provide a minimum number of facilities and services [at least five of these nine things: table, toilet, fire ring, trash container, designated sites, drinking water, access road, security, fee collection by an employee or agent]
- (F) For use of overlooks or scenic pullouts.

The Forest Service memos reveal that they are deeply concerned that if you have purchased an annual pass such as the Adventure Pass or Northwest Forest Pass you are going to learn your rights and demand a refund.

Which of course you should.

But better still, don't buy that pass in the first place if you are not going to be using developed facilities or if the facilities don't meet minimum standards. Don't reward bad behavior.

IN OTHER NEWS . . . NEW FEES FOR SURE; NEW LAW MAYBE

After a long period without much new fee activity, both the Forest Service and BLM have been picking up the pace. Here are some fee proposals that are in the pipeline or have been recently approved:

- Red Cliffs Recreation Area, BLM St George, Utah: fee increase and expansion of the fee area to encompass a site that is currently free:
- San Juan River, BLM Monticello, Utah: fee increase for river permits and a new fee to apply for a launch date reservation;
- Desolation Canyon, BLM Price, Utah: restructured fees for rafting permits and launch date reservation system outsourced to recreation.gov;
- Butte, Montana BLM sites: new or increased fees at Henneberry Homestead, Holter and Hauser Lakes, White Sandy Day Use, and camping on the Upper Big Hole River;
- Tonto National Forest, Arizona: review of the Tonto Pass program with possible fee increases or conversion of recreation sites to con-

cessionaire management;

- Imperial Sand Dunes, BLM El Centro, California: drastic fee increases despite BLM's persistent failure to address concerns about excessive cost of collection, questionable visitation data, and implementation as an entrance fee, which is prohibited by law;
- Ruby-Horsethief Canyon, BLM Grand Junction, Colorado: new fee for rafters for undeveloped camping along the Colorado River;
- North Fruita Desert, BLM Grand Junction, Colorado: new fee for mountain biker campground;
- Birch Creek camping, BLM Idaho Falls, Idaho: new fee for reserved camping for group sites;
- Aguirre Spring, Dripping Spring, Three Rivers Petroglyphs, BLM Las Cruces, New Mexico: fee increases for camping and day use;
- National Forests of North Carolina: fee increases at Cedar Point and Arrowhead Campgrounds, Canebrake Horse Camp, Sliding Rock Recreation Area, and the Dirty John and Panther Top Shooting Ranges. New fee at Moss Knob Shooting Range;
- Big Horn National Forest, Wyoming: Pole Creek Cabin and Sheep Mountain Lookout to be converted to nightly rentals.

Meanwhile, the current fee law is approaching its ten-year sunset date of December 8, 2014. It is likely that if Congress decides to renew or replace it they will do so in 2013, and we have begun to brief members of both Houses about our concerns, in hope that new legislation can be crafted that will work better for both the public and the land management agencies.

However if they do nothing by the sunset date, fees will not go away. Instead, the agencies say, there will be no law restricting their fee authority and they will take that as permission to charge fees to anyone, in any amount, for anything, anywhere.

If that thought sends a chill down your spine, **TAKE ACTION**. Write, call, or fax today to the oversight committees in the House and Senate, with copies to your Senators and US Representative and ask them to make recreation fee reform a priority this year!

The committee contacts are:

US Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee 304 Dirksen Senate Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone: (202) 224-4971 Fax: (202) 224-6163

US House of Representatives Committee on Natural Resources 1324 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: (202) 225-2761 Fax: (202) 225-5929

You can find contact information for your Senators at $\underline{www.senate.gov}$ and for your US Representative at $\underline{www.house.gov}$

That's it for this time.

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

RV SHOW VOLUNTEERS—STOCK SHOW COMPLEX

Howard Boehme, Dan & Judy Kimzey, and Dave & Donna Watkins, all from the *Star Chasers;* Dan & Gloria Finerty of the *Fun on Wheels/Waggin' Ears;* Jeff & Shirley Kendle, and Dennis & Marcy Ervin all from the *Gadabouts;* Barbara Drebena of the *Colorado Eagles;* Chuck Camp & Kathy Hawkins, Dean & Monica Culver, Ed Brunner & Jeremy, Bob Jordan, Rick & Teresa Walorski, Larry Cann, and Chris Holgard all from the *Oops;* Bob Blanchette & Vicky Lane from the *Gypsies;* Roger & Debbie Hardym Doug & Cheryl Forry all from the *Rocky Explorers;* Leon & Mary Makowski of the *Trailmix;* Rick Hays, Ron & Carla Martinez of the *Star Gazers.* Will & Vodean and Bill & Joann were there a lot of the time to help out when needed. Thanks to Ron & Carla & Doug & Cheryl for helping us tear down the booth and get it loaded.

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Colorado's Corporate Sponsorship Program

At the January Colorado Board meeting the Sponsorship Program was presented by Ron Costello. This program gives sponsors access to Colorado FCRV through exposure at our Spring Fling, Fall Statewide, General Membership meetings and Field Staff workshops. The businesses will also be given advertising space in the Embers newsletter and on the Colorado website. The amount of exposure depends on the level of sponsorship the business chooses.

The program currently has two levels, Gold and Silver. The program is limited to one Gold and one Silver business in five categories. The categories are: RV Campgrounds, RV Dealer North, RV Dealer South, RV Accessories and Repair Shops, and RV Financing.

The Colorado board will have the final approval of all applicants. Ron and Shalah Costello have been appointed as a Field Director to handle this program as well as being appointed a position on the board. Ron comes to us with considerable experience in this area. He has his own consulting business dealing with business and government contracts. Ron and Shalah are members of the Rocky Ramblers.

This program is a win, win for both Colorado FCRV and businesses that FCRV members deal with. Colorado FCRV benefits with the additional funds it gives us plus special considerations that the businesses give Colorado FCRV members. The businesses benefit by having an exclusive exposure to you the members to present their business.

There was also a concern about the loss of income we receive from our State campouts. There is a number of chapters and members that choose not to attend these campouts. Most of the income that Colorado FCRV receives is from the small profit built into the State campout registration fees. If you or your chapter do not attend State campouts, we would like to point out that there are several other ways that chapters can support the state. You can donate money to the Teen Queen, Teen program, Pre-teen program, Youth program, and the First Aid program. You can send your donation to Vodean Benham designating where you want the funds to be allocated. Loana Schraeder, your State Director and the Colorado FCRV board do their best to be good stewards of the monies the organization receives.

We are delighted to welcome our first Gold Sponsor, the Alliant Credit Union. They have met our guidelines and we look forward to their support. We as members can benefit from their desire to help with financing our RV's and other financial services.

2013/2014 Cadet Contest Give The Gift of Camping

Part 1 - Cadet Member Contest starts April 1, 2013 & ends September 30, 2013

Rules

Every active FCRV member is eligible 3 levels: State/Provincial - Regional - National

Changes in the Cadet Program.

- 1. The free trial period will change from 12 months to 6 months as of April 1, 2013
- 2. New Cadet members will receive a printed Camping Today.
- 3. FCRV members will be allowed to submit more than one registrations at a time.
- 4. Cadet certificates and registrations will be distributed by State/Provincial & Field Directors.

FCRV Member Winners

Any member who submits 3 Cadet registrations will receive a \$5 Mdse Voucher. Every Cadet registration submitted after the first 3 will receive a \$5 Mdse Voucher for each registration.

Maximum number of vouchers you can win is 6 (\$30).

7 Regional Winners

Each of the 7 active Regions will hold a Drawing for a \$100 gift card. After the first 3 submitted registrations, each Cadet registrations starting with their 4th submitted will qualify for the Regional drawing. A entry coupon with the FCRV members name who submitted the registration will automatically be entered. Current address of FCRV member will determine the Region coupon will be drawn in. Regional directors will hold the drawing on the dates between October 10-13. Regional Director will notify the winning FCRV member immediately after the drawing by email or phone and will mail them their gift card.

<u>Grand Prize Winner</u>

Someone will receive \$500.00 Cash

This Grand Prize has an UpGrade

If you are the Grand Prize winner and you decide to go to the 2014 Campvention you will receive this wonderful UPGRADE:

2014 Campvention registration fees will be paid plus you will receive an additional \$250 cash, for a total of \$750.00 WOW!!

Qualifications for Grand Prize: The FCRV member who has the most Cadet registrations Renew by April 1, 2014.



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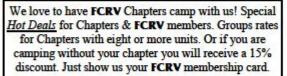
Free activities: Swimming Pool Wading Pool, Playground, Sports field, Volleyball, Basketball, Horseshoes, Bolo Horseshoes, Fitness Trail. Catch and Release Fishing, Dog Park & Library/ Fitness room.

Pay activities: Recreation center including: Mini-golf, Jumping pillow, Bumper boats, Paddle boats, Bike rentals. Arcade, Chuckwagon & Laundry.



- 24 hour Laundry room
- Basketball
- Dog park
- Fishing dock
- Fitness trail
- Library/Fitness room
- Mini-golf (\$)
- Playground
- Spa sites available

- Sports field
- Volleyball
- Catch and release fishing . Chuckwagon 5/24/13 9/2/13
 - Wading pool 5/24/13 9/2/13
 - Arcade 5/24/13 9/2/13
 - Bumper & Paddle Boats (\$)
- Lakeview sites available Recreation Center 5/24 9/2
 - Kitchenette in conference room 2 conference rooms (\$)
 - Bolo & Regular Horseshoes
 - Jumping pillow (\$)



DISCOUNTS NOT AVAILABLE ON HOLIDAYS











From Interstate 25

Take exit 269 B and head west on Colorado Highway 14 into Fort Collins. Follow the signs to U.S. Highway 287 north (about ten minutes). Take 287 north until you get to the northern edge of Fort Collins (about ten more minutes). Shortly thereafter, 287 will split off to the right to go to Laramie. Do not follow 287 at this point. Rather, continue straight into the town of Laporte. The second stoplight after this split will be Taft Hill Road (CR 19). Turn left onto Taft Hill Road (CR 19). Now get into the very first lefthand turning lane that you come to, which is about 1/2 mile down Taft Hill Road (CR 19). Turn left onto Lakeside Resort Lane and follow the concrete driveway straight through the gate.

Traveling this summer, Drive to these 3 waterfalls not named Niagra



Amicalola Falls

Dawsonville, Georgia (729 feet) One of the tallest U.S. waterfalls splashes in a wilderness about 70 miles north of downtown Atlanta. The falls are an easy walk from the park's lodge and restaurant (706-265-4703; gastateparks.org/amicalolafalls). — Photo by Jon McLean/ Alamy

Marvel Cave Falls

Branson, Missouri (50 feet) Located in a cave 500 feet below ground, the falls are included with admission to the Silver Dollar City theme park (park admission: \$60.19, adults; \$49.44, children 4-11; 800-475-9370; bransonsilverdollarcity.com). — Photo by Flickr Creative Commons





Turner Falls

Davis, Oklahoma (77 feet) The rocky, flumelike slope of Turner Falls ends in a natural pool, where swimmers cool off all summer (580-369-2988; turnerfallspark.com). — Photo by David Muench/CORBIS

STATEWIDE PLANNING: Kiowa, CO - Labor Day Weekend August 30th - September 2nd

Below are the notes from the General Membership meeting in February. Please use this information to prepare for the fall campout. There are a few activities that still need a chapter to sponsor. Contact Loana to sign up.

Theme - Trains, Planes, & RVs This was the unanimous choice Northern Lights will do stage decorating.

<u>Chapter Project Sales on Sunday</u> <u>Register food items with Loana</u>

Baked Goods Star Gazers

Hot dogs, Popcorn & Soda

Sliders & Root Beer

Teens

Rocky Explorers

There is still time to add food items, but you need to notify

Baked Potatoes Rolling Renegades

Ice cream sundaes & banana splits Northern Lights

Kraut burgers Rocky Mountain Revelers

Scotch eggs Brian Dimock (fund raiser for the first aid fund)??

Nachos Pre Teens

Register hospitalities with Loana (day & time):

Rocky Ramblers - 45 years Yes ?? Mountain Goats - 45 years Colorado Eagles - 45 years ?? Northern Lights - 20 years ?? Hi Country Campers - 20 years ?? ?? Pikes Peak Rainbows - 20 years ?? Trailblazers - 15 years ?? Runaways - 10 years

Chapters with anniversaries this year, you need to let Loana know if you want to schedule a hospitality!

Chapters remember to bring two door

prizes valued at \$10 each. No white

elephants, new items please.

Loana your choices.

Registration Star Chasers Will need more help
Parking Fun on Wheels & Waggin' Ears

Stage Decorations Northern Lights

Gadabouts - 5 years

Set up equipment Anyone who comes early

Catered fried chicken dinner on Friday night Field Staff w/Heddy Servant coordinating

No

Flag ceremony Rolling Renegades

CAMP Walks & Bike Rides Bill & Rita Newell

RV Decorating contest Yes

Door prizes <u>Aurora Gate Keepers</u>

Photo contest JoAnne Lien No <u>Timberliners will have to check</u>

Horseshoes <u>Ute Bobcats</u> Pet parade <u>Rolling Renegades</u>

Bean Bag Toss Will need a chapter to sponsor this activity, let Loana know ASAP

Little Red Wagon Parade Don & Coral Yakel

Cribbage Waggin' Ears

Wedgie Golf Will need a chapter to sponsor this activity, let Loana know ASAP

Breakfast on Saturday morning Silver Foxes

Bongo boards Rocky Explorers
Casting contest Rolling Renegades

Bingo (need someone to run the bingo game)

Jonna Bloomfield

Polish Poker Heddy Servant??

Sunday morning church service <u>Larrie Thomase</u>

Do we want to have another food drive and school supply drive at Statewide for Elbert County Yes

Take down & clean up Everybody

We are asking for donations from chapters or individuals to bring inexpensive (\$5.00) items for Statewide Bingo. Also small gifts for the youth Bingo at Statewide.

Colorado FCRV Retiree Rally - June 10 -14, 2013 - KOA Lakeside

1910 N Taft Hill Rd. - Fort Collins, CO 80524

The Retiree Rally is open to all FCRV Retirees regardless of chapter affiliation.

<u>Registration deadline is extended to June 9, 2013</u> Because this Embers is late we will except registrations until June 9th. <u>Please call or email us</u> and then bring your registration and money to the Rally. There is the possibility because of late registration, you may not be camped with your chapter.

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

New, opened Nov. 2012

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

7:00 card bingo, bring \$2.00 in dimes.

Thursday enjoy your day your way!

Free Chicken Dinner at 6:00 PM (No Potluck)

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

Free Chicken Dinner

Bring your Telescope

Jim Moravic will be checking out the stars

with us Wednesday Morning.

Also Under the Stars after bingo.

Thursday night we will hold a 50/50 and the proceeds will help pay for dinner.

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.

What is it Contest?

Bring something that people may not have any idea what it is.



Reservation confirmation will be mailed or e-mailed.

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

Please bring the deposit to THE CAMPOUT.

Make check to Colorado FCRV Retirees.

Don't mail registration, bring with you to the Rally. You can call us to register up to June 9th.

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.

7	Detach here and mail	<i>></i> 8
Name	Spouse/Guest	
Address		-
City, State, Zip		
E-Mail		
Chapter		
Handicap space required?		
Type and length of rig	Number of slides	
Towing an extra vehicle? Yes No (Please of	circle)	
Rally registration, per RV	\$10.00	
A camping deposit of \$36.00 is required.	<u>36.00</u>	
Payable to: Colorado FCRV Retirees	\$46.0 0	
Dinner reservations @ \$10.00 per person		
I	TOTAL	

COLORADO CHAPTERS OF FCRV A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION 9850 N. FEDERAL BLVD. # 303 DENVER. CO 80260

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This is the revised web site edition for May-June 2013. Revised 6/6/2013. At this point in time we will not be able to print and mail a copy to all members.





Colorado FCRV Retiree Rally June 10 –14, 2013



You will have time to relax



Do a little reading

Just Added to the Fun!!

- Bring your Telescope for star gazing
- What is it Contest? Bring something nobody will recognize
- Free Chicken Dinner Thursday night



You won't have to break the bank

You need to register by June 9th - Open to all Retirees

Bring Registration form to Campout & contact Ann Bloomfield by phone (970) 580-0406 - See page 27

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 (303) 466-1239 1-877-679-3278 (toll free) (303) 253-7354 fax E-mail loana-co-fcrv@q.com Editors: Loana Schraeder Bill Eckman

Send change of address notification to:

Colorado Chapters of FCRV

Information must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication (ex: 15th of Dec for the Jan/Feb 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.

(Please type or print information & include your name, address and phone number)