The Voice of Colorado FCRV

FIRESIDE EMBERS







Remember Spring Fling is one day longer this year - May 15-18, 2014



Here is our official Campvention Logo.
A special thank you to Donna Kemmetmueller Donna designed the logo from the Field Staff suggestions.





Colorado TeamLeader Highlights for 2014

Selected TeamLeaders are working on these 2014 events. We hope that you as members of Colorado FCRV will get involved in all or some of the following. Go to page 2 and read the details about each of these events. All of them will have something new and refreshing.

Campvention 2015
February General
Membership meeting
Spring Fling
Membership Growth
Gold and Silver Sponsors
Fall Statewide



Official Logo of 2015 Campvention Designed by Donna Kemmetmueller

Campvention 2015



We still need to fill a few positions as Chairman and Co Chairman of the following committees. Publicity -

Signs - Band - Hospitalities - Crafts - D.S.A.T. - Historian - Cowbov Lunch - Teen Queen Ball - Teen Queen Tea Parade - Adult Activities are adding an extra day, making - Aluminum Tabs - Entertainment.

After the above positions are filled the Chairman of all committees will be asking Chapter members to volunteer to help complete their Campvention responsibilities.

Attention all Campvention Team Leaders and all Chairman/CO Chairman. Our first meeting together will be on February 8th at 3:30 PM. This will be at the Arvada Presbyterian Church 5592 Independence St. Arvada, CO.

All Team Leaders and all Chairman/CO Chairman will be traveling to Gillette, Wyoming on June 27-29, 2014. They will have free camping with full hook ups at the Cam-Plex. This will give the leadership folks a chance to view the facilities.



February General Membership meeting

All Colorado FCRV members are invited to attend the Chapter Officers Training & membership planning meeting on Saturday, February 8th starting at 9:00 AM. Details of agenda are on page 99.

Spring Fling

Our members spoke up on the members survey in 2012 and we Spring Fling a 3 day campout. We will also be providing a free dinner to all campers. Plus some great entertainment is planned. The dates are May 15-18 at the Morgan County Fairgrounds.



Membership Growth

For many years Colorado FCRV has kept our members numbers above 800. The December 31,2013 numbers show our member families down to 766.

One of the recent decisions to help stop this decline is to add the International Sportsman Exposition show with our FCRV booth. This follows the week after the RV Show and runs from January 16-19. Since this is a expensive show we will be limiting the number of volunteers at the booth. Please continue offering prospects the free 6 month membership through the Cadet program.

Gold/Silver Sponsors

It is exciting to see our sponsorship program off to a great start. Ron Costello is the Field Director in charge of the program. We have 4 Gold sponsors and 4 Silver spon-

Our newest Gold member is Windish RV. Ron. Loana and Bill met with Jim Humble, their General Manager in December and presented the program. It took Jim a short time to see the value for Windish RV and Colorado FCRV.

The additional funds these sponsors provide will be spent for membership growth, entertainment at state campouts, some field staff expenses, and extras at state functions.

Be sure to consider any of our sponsors when you need any of the products or services they offer. We need to support them as they have supported Colorado FCRV.

Fall Statewide

Great entertainment will be provided plus more items in the works. We may repeat the free Ice Cream Cones on one day and even more!



DATES TO REMEMBER as of January 2014

Date	Time	Event	Location
Jan 7 th	11:00 AM	Colorado Retiree Luncheon	Cinzzetti's Italian Buffet I 25 & 104 th Ave.
Jan 8 th – 11 th	N/A	Colorado RV Adventure Travel Show	Colorado Convention Center
			14 th & California Denver, CO
Feb 8 th	9:00 AM - 5:00	Chapter Officers Workshop/Planning Mtg.	Arvada Presbyterian Church
	PM		5592 Independence St. Arvada, CO
Feb. 11th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 1st Denver Show	REA Building
			Windsor, CO
Feb. 12th	7:00 PM- 8:30 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 1st Denver Show	Cabela's North
			Thornton, CO
Feb 13 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 1st Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters
			14000 E. Jewell Ave. Aurora, CO
Feb 14 th – 16 th	N/A	Colorado Springs RV Show	The Event Center @ Rustic Hills
			1700 N. Academy Colorado Springs, CO
Feb 27 th – Mar 2 nd	N/A	Colorado RV, Sports, Boat & Travel Show	National Western Stock Show Complex
			4566 Humboldt St. Denver, CO
Mar 13 th	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. 1st Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters
			14000 E. Jewell Ave. Aurora, CO
Mar 18 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. Colo. Spgs. Show	International Salon & Spa Academy
			5707 N. Academy Blvd. Colo. Spgs, CO
March 20th	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. 1 st Denver Show	REA Building
			Windsor, CO
Mar $25^{th} - 31^{st}$	N/A	National Retiree Rally	Canton, Texas
Apr 3 rd	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. Colo. Spgs. Show	International Salon & Spa Academy
			5707 N. Academy Blvd. Colo. Spgs, CO
Apr 10 th	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM	Get Acquainted Mtg. 2 nd Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters
			14000 E. Jewell Ave. Aurora, CO
Apr 25 th – 27 th	N/A	Field Staff Workshop & Campout	Fort Collins KOA Lakeside in Ft. Collins
May 8 th	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Chapter's Night Mtg. 2 nd Denver Show	Gander Mountain Outfitters
			14000 E. Jewell Ave. Aurora, CO
May 15 th – 18 th	N/A	Spring Fling	Morgan County Fairgrounds in Brush, CO
June 2 nd – 6 th	N/A	Colorado Retiree Rally	Fort Collins KOA Lakeside in Ft. Collins
July 7 th – 11 th	N/A	National Campvention 2014	Essex Junction, Vermont
Aug 29^{th} – Sep 1^{st} Sep 22^{nd} – 25^{th}	N/A	Colorado Statewide	Elbert County Fairgrounds in Kiowa, CO
Sep 22 nd – 25 th	N/A	Southern Colorado Retiree Rally	Pueblo South Colorado City KOA
41. (1			I-25 @ Exit 74 – South of Pueblo
Sep 26 th – 28 th	N/A	Field Staff Workshop & Campout	Pueblo South Colorado City KOA
			I-25 @ Exit 74 – South of Pueblo

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JoAnn's Camping Recipes

Grilled Sausage with Potatoes and Green Beans

Prep Time: 25 Minutes Ready In: 45 Minutes

Cook Time: 20 Minutes Servings: 4

Sausage and vegetables are grilled together in a foil packet. JoAnn uses double foil. This recipe is easy and delicious, and perfect for a quick meal when camping!

INGREDIENTS:

3/4 pound fresh green beans, trimmed and halved

1/2 pound red potatoes, quartered

1 large onion, sliced

1 pound smoked sausage, cut into 1 inch pieces 1/3 cup water

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon ground black pepper

1 teaspoon vegetable oil

1 teaspoon butter

DIRECTIONS:

- 1. Preheat an outdoor charcoal or gas grill for high heat.
- 2. On a large sheet of foil, place the green beans, red potatoes, onion, and sausage. Season with salt and pepper, sprinkle with oil, and top with butter. Tightly seal foil around the ingredients, leaving only a small opening. Pour water into the opening, and seal.
- 3. Place foil packet on the prepared grill. Cook 20 to 30 minutes, turning once, until sausage is browned and vegetables are tender.



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KPC Kid's Place is being reopened as KPC Respite Center with a new business partner, Lutheran Family Services (LFS), as soon as the relicensing is completed. The hope is to re-open at the very latest by January 1, 2014. This is a respite center for children, infants to 12 years old. It was started by the parents of Kevin Patrick Cullen. Kevin died from shaken baby syndrome in-

flicted by a relative. Not wanting

KPC Kid's Place Up-date

this to happen to any other child his parents felt a facility of this type was necessary for Colorado Springs. Thus KPC Kid's was created as a non-profit respite center for children. Parents or Guardians may leave their child for up to 72 hours while they get their life under control again. The Respite Center has access to many helpful & educational resources for the adults to use while the children are in a safe environment. Due to our economy, the

failure of a grant to come through & lack of funding caused the Center to be closed in June 2013, though they continued to search for a new funding source. After much research LFS has agreed to become their business partner and re-open the Center. The Respite Center will still need private donations to help their operation to continue. We will publish a needs list as soon as we receive it from LFS.

FAREWELL

Leona Jurgens—11/26/13—Member of the Gypsies & Rocky Mountain Maniacs Gregory Kramer—12/11/13—Son of Marv & Edith Kramer of the Silver Foxes & Gray Wolves

ACTIVITY	SPRING FLING	STATE- WIDE
Registration	Yes	Yes
Parking	Yes	Yes
Set-up / Stage Decorations	No	Yes
Flag Ceremony	Yes	Yes
Door Prizes	No	Yes
Help w/Security	Yes	Yes
Help w/First Aid & Safety	Yes	Yes
Breakfast potluck set-up	Yes	No
Saturday morning breakfast	No	Yes
Friday night dinner	No	Yes
Saturday night catered dinner	Yes	No
Different games/activities	Yes	Yes
Clean up	One person from each chapter	One person from each chapter

CHAPTER OFFICERS WORKSHOP and PLANNING MEETING

February 8, 2014 - 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Arvada Presbyterian Church 5592 Independence St. Arvada, CO

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 workshop will be geared to the chapter officers and non-chapter members, while the second half will be planning the 2014 state campouts. Please come with ideas for a Statewide theme and encourage your chapter to volunteer and sign up for some of the activities. We plan to finish up by 3:30 PM.

At 3:30 PM we will meet with the 2015 Campvention Team Leaders and Committee Chairman/Cochairman.

Bring a sack lunch or visit several fast-food restaurants within a mile and half from the church. Coffee and lemonade will be furnished. 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's cell phone 303-912-2840 so she can come and let you in.



ROLLING WAVES CHAPTER NEWS

We had our annual planning meeting on October 20, 2013 at the AMF Lanes in Northglenn. The meeting produced a schedule for 2014 that is varied in location, type of camping, and available activities for each of the twelve campouts scheduled starting in April and going through early October. The first campout will be at Trinidad Lake State Park in mid-April.

For November, we had our chapter Thanksgiving dinner get together at the Country Buffet in Centennial.

Also in November we hosted our annual Thanksgiving dinner at Ronald McDonald house in Denver. In the true spirit of the holiday season, the menu consisted of roasted turkey, deep fried turkey, ham, cheesy potato casserole, green bean casserole, salads, sweet potatoes with marshmallows, among other yummy dishes. Dessert saw cookies and pies.



It was very fulfilling to see the residents at the Ronald McDonald house be able to share a meal together. The house was full the evening we were there and we served approximately 40 people.

December saw our Christmas potluck dinner held at the Adams County Fairgrounds 4-H Good Luck Hall on December 14. We had about 40 adults and children for dinner which was composed of traditional holiday meal items including scrumptious desserts. The evening was capped off with a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus who distributed gifts to the kids, followed by a white-elephant gift exchange. We had a fun evening of good food and friendship.

2014 kicks off with our first Chapter meeting being held at the end of January.

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Trailblazers Chapter News



This year's camping season has ended all too soon. The Trailblazers are looking forward to next year's travels and all the new adventures

that we'll have! We already have our schedule in place for next year-all the sites chosen and hosts and co-hosts signed up. Our monthly winter meetings are held at the Golden Corral in Colorado Springs. We enjoy visiting and catching-up on what



everyone has been doing since we last saw one another. Several of our members (maybe more this year!) will be escaping the cold by heading to warmer climates in January.

Our new Trailblazers officers were installed at the December meeting: Don Banta-President, Vicki Patterson-Vice-President, Judy Banta-Secretary, Judi Smaldino-Treasurer, and Board Members: Jim Jurasek, Larry Menke, Merle Newton, and Mike Smaldino. Returning in their roles with the Trailblazers is Ted Klimek-Disaster and Safety Awareness Director, Betty Newton-Membership Chairperson-Cathy Vegvary-Trailblazer Reporter, and Ray Walkowski-Field Director.

The tables were beautifully decorated with a Thanksgiving harvest theme. A BIG "thank you" to Vicki Patterson for being the host for this meeting!

Decorations for our December meeting were truly festive! Garlands, Christmas ornaments, snow globes, and miniature stockings (which were knitted by Sue Frindt and every couple received one!) decorated the tables. Our hosts for December were Ron and Sue Frindt and Larry and Sue Menke.

We had a Christmas card exchange and played some fun Christmas Trivia. We found out whether Santa's reindeer were male or female and how to say "Merry Christmas" in various languages. Can a group of Trailblazers agree on a Christmas song in fifteen seconds and then sing it together? Well, we certainly did!!!

Sue Menke also had gifts of raspberry jam for everyone! The Trailblazers would like to thank members Gene and Gundi Brunson for the plates of delicious German cookies that were raffled off at the end of the meeting! We had a wonderful time and look forward to seeing each other in January.

The Trailblazers would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year! We would also like to wish all the FCRV-ers safe travels and Happy Trails for all your upcoming travels and adventures! Submitted by Cathy Vegvary



Attention All 2015 Campvention

Team Leaders. Committee Chairman & Cochairman

We will be meeting together for the first time on Saturday, February 8th at the Arvada Presbyterian Church. See map on page 5. Meeting will start at 3:30 PM. Call Loana if vou can't attend.

SOGGY CAMPFIRE COYOTES EVACUATED -RETURN AS "ST.VRAIN FLOODBUSTERS"



othy Clark and Debi Melton (both center front) with their (non-Coyote) work group

On Saturday, November 16, some Campfire Coyotes returned to the St. Vrain State Park campsites we were evacuated from on September 12. Our mission was to help restore the beautiful park we had been enjoying when the rains --- and the river --- came to our doors. The first two days of our September campout had some nice spells when we all sat outside and kibitzed, although there were some scattered showers. But Wednesday night, our meeting was interrupted by numerous cell phone warnings of flash floods. Sitting in the midst of many dry gravel "ponds" in a long and wide prairie some 30 miles from the foothills, and with the

river itself some distance from our campsites, most of us felt confident that we had no cause for worry. That confidence disappeared about 7:00 the next morning with firemen knocking on our doors. "You need to evacuate. A dam has broken upstream. You've got a little time but not much." The imme-

diacy of that threat was made more pronounced as some Coyotes stepped out into water already sitting around their campers or had to wade to unhook cords or to hook up tow vehicles. Despite that, several members went out of their way to help make sure everyone else was ready to roll as quickly as possi-

ble. As Dorothy Clark said, "You've never seen an RV club get all moved out of a campground so quickly!" And as we pulled out of the park, we realized that the exit road actually was very close to the alreadyoverflowing river. Later that day, we heard that I-25 (on the eastern edge of the park) was closed due to the high water, and still later that the park's only exit road had been washed out to a depth of twelve feet and many campsites were flooded!









Knowing the park had not yet re-opened made us especially curious when we learned of a planned volunteer clean-up day to be held on Nov. 16, so past-president Dorothy Clark, current president Debi Melton, and I (Pat Heath) signed on as some of the 119 volunteers (approximate ages 10-83). We arrived at 8:30 am and were treated to coffee and doughnuts as we listened to a description of the damage done. We were also given a safety briefing along with official "FloodBusters" stocking caps and work gloves, and then divided into 10-person work crews and told what was expected of us that day. We would be using "McLeod's" (heavy chopping/raking tools similar to those used for fire-fighting), shovels, rakes, and brooms to dig up and re-surface 41 campsite aprons, clean debris from two day-use areas and five camping loops, and shore up a portion of one of the ponds. We were very relieved to see that the park did have a number of bobcats and dump trucks (and personnel) to assist.

> Two Ameri-Corps volunteers were assigned to each of the groups as supervisors. They led us (with our chosen tools safely in hand), across the park to each group's assigned eight campsites. Dorothy and Debi luckily ended up at the same campsites we had been in when evacuated and discovered that our reservation cards were still in the site markers, albeit a bit water-damaged.

> Two-and-a-half hours of chipping, shoveling, and raking rocks and gravel ensued and kept us too busy to notice how hungry we were getting. But the State Parks had a great hot picnic lunch ready for us, and Channel 9 and Channel 31 news crews were on site. Park personnel told them of our group's personal connection to the flood and the park, and Dorothy and Debi each did excellent jobs of telling our flood story "on camera" --and stressed our FCRV commitment to all of our great Colorado outdoors.

(News photos courtesy of 9News)

Happily full but decidedly less energetic, volunteers returned to our assigned spots where we rapidly worked off any regrets we may have had about lunch. Luckily, 26 Colorado Parks and Wildlife employees also came to assist, and all of the assigned work was completed by "quitting time" at 3 pm.

In addition to the "feel good" vibe that always comes with volunteering of any kind, we three felt especially glad that we had returned to "our" park to help. We were awed by the extent of the damage inflicted by the roughly seven feet of water that inundated 70% of the park (including the entire park entrance building) and heard how dis-spirited the park caretakers had felt about the amount of work that would be needed to restore the area. The presence of so many volunteers showed them that this park and the work they do is very much appreciated by the public they serve.

The park is not expected to re-open until sometime next spring; Campfire Coyotes will learn more from St. Vrain Park Staff at our January meeting. (Story by Pat Heath)



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STAR GAZERS NEWS

NOVEMBER – The Star Gazers headed to Ft. Collins to tour the Budweiser brewery. It was a very fascinating tour followed by the always welcome sampling of the many products made by Anheuser Busch. We were able to hold our meeting in their hospitality room while sipping our samples. Unfortunately the Budweiser Clydesdales were not in residence that day or it would have been a perfect tour.

After our meeting we met at Mainline Ale House in Ft. Collins for a fun and rowdy lunch. Twenty members and 2 guests were in attendance. Our hosts were Bobby and Tina Hosford.

DECEMBER – Our annual Christmas dinner/meeting/party was well attended and great fun. We met at the home of Mike and Tami Andersen. Mike, who is an executive chef, prepared prime rib with au jus and stuffed chicken for the group. Needless to say they were to die for! Everyone brought accompanying dishes, and we had a real feast. After dinner we held our business meeting, then got down to the real business of the evening – our white elephant gift exchange, accompanied by much laughter and good natured teasing. Twenty-one Star Gazers and 1 guest attended.

Submitted by Pam McCuskey Star Gazers Secretary



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on a Campvention involves more people



then a regular Spring Fling or Statewide. There are many more events that happen at Campvention.

Soon the folks that have volunteered to be committee Chairman will be contacting members to staff their committee's. Some committees need only one or two people, others may require several.

Colorado members have always stepped forward when there is a need. We thank everyone for your help.

Roy & Loana Schraeder - Bill & JoAnn Eckman Campvention Chairman & Cochairman



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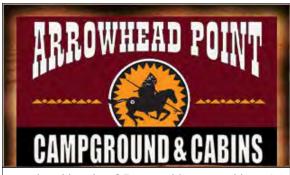
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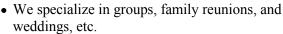
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WELCOME NEW CADET MEMBERS

David & Charlene Pearson brought in by Dick & Paula Lieberman Richard & Kaye Kurtz brought in by Paul & Arlene Powell Gary & Lana Cabral brought in by Dennis & Marcy Ervin Brian & Cathy Ervin brought in by Dennis & Marcy Ervin

Attention All Campvention 2015

- . Team Leaders
- . Committee Chairman
- . Committee Cochairman

We will be meeting together for the first time on Saturday, February 8th at the Arvada Presbyterian Church. See map on page 5. Meeting will start at 3:30 PM. Call Loana if you can't attend





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Sincerely,

Your Colorado Executive Board

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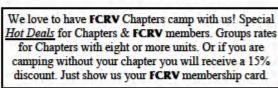
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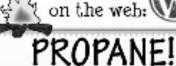
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LEGISLATIVE NEWS

JAN - FEB 14

AS WE WAIT IN BREATHLESS WONDER AS TO WHAT STATE SHAKING NEW LAWS AND REGULATIONS WILL FLOW FROM THE WONDERFUL HALLS OF THE STATE CAPITAL, WE OFFER YOU SOME BEAUTIFUL COLORADO SCENES PLUS SOME SAD NEWS ON THE RV NEWS.

Southeast Colorado's canyons

We know the words "National Grassland" don't usually make hikers' hearts go all pitter-patter, but bear with us. Because Southeastern Colorado's Comanche National Grassland isn't all chiggers and ticks. It's home to some of the state's coolest (and least-traveled) canyons.

Picture Canyon houses an easy 2.6-mile loop trail that winds through the one-time home of Plains Indians. Archaeologists theorize ancient hunters traveled the canyon as many as 12,000 years ago, and the canyon walls are still marked with red and black petroglyphs.

Crack Cave, an opening in the rock walls along the Picture Canyon trail, is closed to hikers for most of the year. The cave is only opened for free tours on the days of the Spring and Fall Equinox, when thousand-year-old markings on the cave's walls are briefly illuminated by sunlight.

Picketwire Canyon offers the most strenuous hiking in the Grasslands, with out-and-back options that stretch from two to 17 miles in length. The Picketwire Canyonlands are home to more rock art, but also more than 1,300 apatosaurus and allosaurus tracks left about 150 million years ago.

Getting there: To reach Picture Canyon, leave Springfield south on Highway 287. Reach the town of Campo after 20 miles, and turn right onto County Road J. Follow this for 10 miles, then turn left onto County Road 18. After five miles, turn right at the Picture Canyon sign and drive another mile to the trailhead.

To reach Picketwire Canyon, leave La Junta on Highway 109, and drive 13 miles. Turn left onto Vogel Canyon Road (County Road 802), and drive eight more miles. Turn left onto County Road 25, and follow this six miles to the Corral Parking Area. From here, drive or hike a high-clearance jeep road three miles to the canyon parking area.

The Colorado Birding Trail

Birdwatching is not cool. But that doesn't stop million of Americans from grabbing their binoculars and donning their goofiest outfits every year to try it out. Because cool or not, there's something deeply rewarding about seeing wild things in their natural environment.

But if you want to see birds (or deer, elk, or bighorn sheep) in the wild, it helps to know where they are. So Colorado's Division of Parks and Wildlife has put together the Colorado Birding Trail: a comprehensive, free guide to the state's best wildlife viewing.

NOW THE SAD NEWS - VW Kombi: The end of a motoring era

The BBC's Wyre Davies says this is the end of the line for the Volkswagen Kombi

Related Stories

The Loop: Happy campers

My childhood in the back of a VW camper. You can always hear a VW Kombi van coming before you can see it. Beauty, in the case of the Kombi, really is in the eye of the beholder - or the driver. Without my Kombi, I'd be lost"

Paulo Enrique Veras

Beach vendor and Kombi owner

With the unmistakable sound of its air-cooled engine, if the Kombi ever had the motoring equivalent of sex appeal in its youth, that allure has faded with old age. Practically made for the streets and beaches of Brazil, thousands of beat-up old Kombis are still the modern-day version of the horse and cart. Engines and chassis that should have been retired years ago keeping thousands of small businesses afloat. I watched from the shade of a palm tree as beach vendor Paulo Enrique Veras emptied 90 beach chairs, 60 umbrellas, several sacks of coconuts and a volleyball net from the back of his vehicle on Rio's Ipanema beach.

"Without my Kombi, I'd be lost," he said. "I've been using it for years and there's nothing else that can really do the same job." Mr Veras' old white Kombi, with its dented bodywork, might not be the sleekest thing on Ipanema, but it is very practical. As soon as he has finished unloading for a tough day's graft on the beach, the Kombi rattles off down the seafront to pick up another load for another vendor.

Time warp

At Volkswagen Brazil's sprawling factory at Sao Bernardo, on the edge of Sao Paulo, visiting the Kombi production line is like stepping back in time. Kombis are still largely built by hand. Elsewhere on the site, smaller and newer cars are largely built by robots in an increasingly high-tech operation. The Kombi, somewhat reassuringly, is still largely built by hand. The vehicle is pretty much based on the same model that was first built here in 1957, having been launched in Germany seven years earlier. The rattling old air-cooled engine was replaced with a water-cooled version in 2005, and there have been some modifications to the vehicle's height and performance. But overall, the box on wheels that used to take me and thousands of other children to school here in the 1970s has not changed much.

Final Kombi—And now it is all now coming to an end.

The last edition model is powder blue with a white trim. After more than 1.5 million vehicles, from camper vans to pick-up versions to cargo models, Volkswagen will no longer make the Kombi, here or anywhere else in the world.

Franck Sowade is the production manager at the Sao Bernardo VW factory. He says legislation has finally got the better of the company's most famous product. "It was one of the very first cars to be developed by the company," he explains. "But to add the airbags, abs braking system and emissions modification that legislation now require would be too expensive and time consuming. Ageing hippies and surfers from California to Cornwall will bemoan the passing of an iconic vehicle that appealed to people who were not really meant to care about cars. Clunky ride. While this is a purely commercial decision for VW, it is not without risk. Kombis are the workhorses of Brazilian businesses. "We still sell more than 2,000 units a month," says Volkswagen's Marketing Manager Carlos Leite. He adds that the company is losing an icon while not really replacing it with anything new. But not to miss an opportunity, Volkswagen is releasing a "last edition" model. For a few thousand extra dollars you get powder-blue paintwork and a trim evoking the 60s. However fond those distant memories may be, the Volkswagen Kombi is not the smoothest car to drive. It is clunky, pretty uncomfortable on long journeys, and it feels like a very basic vehicle. But that was, perhaps, always part of the attrac-

Article written by Wyre Davies

LEGISLATIVE NEWS cont'd

4 STEPS TO PERFECT WINTER LAYLERS

December 13, 2013 in Gear

We thought we knew how to dress for winter weather. Heck, we've been doing it since we were kids. It goes base layer – insulating layers – shell. Right? Wrong. Turns out our lifelong layering system is more or less completely bogus. Or so we heard from Sierra Designs Vice President Mike Glavin, who shared these tips on staying dry, keeping warm, and not looking like a poser in the winter backcountry.

1. Leave the shell off

No matter what the marketing people say, hard shells are rain jackets. And putting one over your layer system is sort of like wrapping your cat in Saran wrap: It's not a good idea. Layers should get more breathable as they go away from your body, says Glavin, so that moisture generated by activity can wick away. Putting a shell over the system traps that moisture, leaving inner layers to soak it up. And when those layers get wet, you get cold.

2. Forget "levels of exertion"

Traditional wisdom holds that layering systems should be adjusted by your level of activity. More movement produces more warmth, and that means you'll need less layers. Makes sense to us. "That's bullsh*t," says Glavin. "In reality, you are off or you are on, and there is no middle setting." Backcountry travel has just two states of being, says Glavin: going and stopping. So "throw out that fleece/Goretex/layering crap and simply dress for the two situations you will encounter."

3. When you go: go light, go breathable

When choosing your "going" layer system, dress for the activity, not the conditions. Most people dress with cold weather in mind, says Glavin, and end up soaking their layers with sweat after just a few minutes. If you keep moving, chances are you'll need far less clothing than you think. Glavin recommends the "action suit" system devised by legendary alpinist Mark Twight: a base layer (something wicking and warm like wool or polypropylene) covered by a tight-fitting, wind-resistant "semi-permeable vapor

layer." If temperatures are below 10 degrees Fahrenheit, consider supplementing this by throwing on a down sweater or a fleece vest. For the vapor layer, avoid fully waterproof jackets in favor of something light (Sierra Designs' Cloud Windshell is a good example). This layer is meant not just to protect from wind, but to release the moisture wicked out by your base layer. When designing such layers, Sierra Designs aims for permeability of 2-5 CFM (cubic feet per minute per square meter- a measure of the volume of air that can move through the jacket's fabric). By comparison, a regular fleece has a permeability of around 200 CFM.

4. When you stop: get down fast. The whole "going" system is based on the premise (well, fact) that constant movement produces both heat and moisture. But at some point in your backcountry ventures, you're going to want to take a break.

That's when you'll break out your "stop" system: a single puffy (preferably down) jacket that fits over your entire "action suit" to warm you up without the hassle of adjusting layers.

Make this jacket easy to access and put it on as soon as you stop – before you feel cold. Most people, still warm from their earlier activity, spend the first part of their break in their "action suit." This can lead to a rapid decrease in core temperature, and leave them struggling to get back to a comfortable base.

Spend a few minutes moving around to warm up before you end your break, and take off the jacket as soon as you're ready to get going again.

IF ANY THING OF VALUE COMES OUT OF THE EARLY PART OF THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION, I WILL GET IT UP ON THE COLORADO FCRV WEBSITE. AND ---

That's it for this time.

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



Colorado FCRV will have a booth at the Sportsmen's Exposition this year. This is part of our efforts to expand our presence in new areas. The dates are January 16-19. Please stop by and say hello if you are at the show. Because of the cost we are limiting the number of volunteers we will need. Call Loana at 303-466-1239 if you have any questions.

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Chapter Presidents We need your help!

One of the most popular and most read articles in the Embers is news from chapters. This year why don't you appoint someone in your chapter to write a article two, three, four times per year about your chapter activities.

We publish the Embers every other month. Don't worry about when to send it in, just send anytime & we will publish it in the next issue.

You can send the article and pictures by email or regular mail. You can type it on your computer or hand write it, we don't care, we want to hear from your chapter.

If you have any questions please call Loana at 303-466-1239 or Bill at 303-841-6878.





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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

2013 has now past in to history, and 2014 has arrived. Now we plan as we do every year, to the making of our New Year resolutions. At times the list appears endless as we resolve to be better parents, work harder, losing some weight, be a better person, read more, go to church, to exercise more, and much more. Many of us will never keep our resolutions this year any better then we did last year.

there is a thought, two thousand years ago during the first Christmas two gifts were offered to mankind, peace on earth and good will towards man. What if we could make a resolution to become peacemakers and bring peace and good will to our community? Let me tell you a story about young peacemaker. Puring the Vietnam war, a photo was taken of a nine year old girl named Phan Thi Kim Phue. Puring a battle between North and South Vietnamese troops, an American commander ordered South Vietnamese aircraft to drop napalm bombs on her tiny village. Two of her brothers were killed, and she was burned badly. Wearing no clothes, she fled up the road toward the cameraman. Because of the pain her arms are held out sideways, and her mouth is open in a cry of agony. She suffered third degree burns over 50 percent of her body. She lived and endured fourteen months of painful rehabilitation and scores of skin grafts. Since then she married, and became a Christian, with the hope of attending Bible College. In 1996 she accepted invitations to several exemonics at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial where she laid a wreath and spoke of forgiveness. After speaking of all her pain and suffering, she was given a standing ovation. God saved my life and gave me hope. Even if I could talk face to face with the pilot who dropped the bombs, I would tell him, we cannot change history, but we should try to do good things for the present, and for the future to promote peace.

"Those who suffer the most can be the greatest peacemakers". We do not have to suffer as she did to promote peace and be a peace maker, we can be peacemakers in our homes, and our community. My New Year resolution is to be a peacemaker, and bring peace and good will to all I meet. It is something to think about as we make our resolutions this year.

May you and yours have a happy new year. Chaplain Larry and Julie Thomase.

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@g.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.
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CHAPTER OFFICERS WORKSHOP and PLANNING MEETING February 8, 2014 9:00 am to 3:30 pm Arvada Presbyterian Church - 5592 Independence St. - Arvada, CO

This meeting is open to all FCRV members, not just chapter officers. This is a chance to be involved in what is happening in Colorado. We would like to have someone attend from each of our 52 chapters.



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.

- Break out sessions
- Windish RV Guest Speaker Jim Humble 2014 Campvention hospitality? (Our newest Corporate Gold Sponsor)
- Mike Carroll Running for Nat. President (Hear his platform Plus a Question & Answer time)
- Corporate Sponsors Update

- 2015 Campvention
- Do we have enough people going to Vermont?
- Spring Fling Planning
- Statewide Planning

Corporate Sponsors Update

Bring a sack lunch or can visit several fast-food restaurants within a mile and half from the church.

Coffee and lemonade will be furnished at the meeting. The meeting will end by 3:30 PM.

From 3:30 PM until 5:00 PM we will be meeting with the 2015 Campvention Team Leaders, Committee Chairman and Cochairman. This will be the first meeting with this group. Map for the Arvada Presbyterian Church is on page 5.