

Cripple Creek Mountain Estates Newsletter

October – December 2026

4th Quarter







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FREE notary & fax service for CCME owners

Ed Seal, President



A Message from the President: Taking Care of Our Community

Dear Neighbors,

As the leaves change and another Colorado winter begins making its way toward us, I find myself coming back to something I have said before: **CCME is a big family.**

Like any family, we may not always agree on everything, but we look out for one another. One of the simplest ways we can do that is by getting to know our neighbors. Introduce yourself to someone you haven't met. Check in on the person down the road. Sometimes a small gesture is all it takes to turn a neighborhood into a community.

Fall Fun at CCME

There is plenty happening around the community this fall. We have the **Craft Fair, Bingo, Poker, Movie Nights,** and other activities to give us a chance to get together, have some fun, and enjoy each other's company.

As always, new ideas are welcome! If there is an activity you think our community would enjoy, please contact the Events Committee. Some of our best events begin with someone simply saying, "You know what would be fun?"

Improvements Around the Community

A lot of work has been accomplished this year. The **gazebo and trash garage are complete**, and there is more on the way.

Thanks to the efforts of our Vice President and Grounds Director, several improvements are also being planned for the interior of the Lodge. I won't spoil the surprises, so for now I'll simply say: **stay tuned.**

I appreciate everyone who has contributed their time, ideas, and hard work to these projects. Improvements like these don't happen by themselves.

Winter Is Coming

As our weather begins to change, please keep your neighbors in mind, particularly those who may have difficulty getting around during the winter months. If you have an elderly neighbor, check on them after a storm. Snow removal is hard work, and lending a hand with a deck or driveway can make a tremendous difference.

This is also a good time to **winterize your vehicles**, make sure you have appropriate emergency supplies, and prepare for the inevitable Colorado snowstorm that arrives precisely when we would rather it didn't.

And please remember our four-legged family members. Cold temperatures, ice, snow, and wildlife can all present dangers to our pets. Keep them safe and keep an eye on them when they are outside.

Our Wild Neighbors

We have seen an increase in bears, mountain lions, moose, and other wildlife within our community. Seeing these animals is one of the remarkable things about living where we do, but please remember:

They are wild animals.

Please do not approach them, attempt to pet them, or get close for a photograph. There is a reason the word **WILD** is in "wildlife."

Just as importantly, **please do not feed wildlife.** When a wild animal becomes accustomed to people or begins associating people and homes with food, it can become dangerous. Sadly, the animal may ultimately pay the price for that behavior.

Enjoy our wildlife from a safe distance and let them remain wild.

Fire Mitigation: Thank You!

I also want to recognize the incredible fire-mitigation effort throughout our community this year.

Many residents have put considerable time and effort into clearing their properties, but I especially want to recognize our **Wildfire Mitigation Action Team** for the outstanding work they have done to make CCME safer.

The pine needle and slash drop-off program has been extremely positive, and seeing so many residents participate has been encouraging. Fire mitigation is not a one-time project. It is something we accomplish together, property by property and year by year.

Finally, a Personal Thank You

I would be remiss if I didn't take a moment to publicly thank the Board, our office staff, and all of you for the support you have given me as your President.

One of the parts of this job I enjoy most isn't necessarily sitting in meetings. It is the casual conversations I have with residents when I happen to be hanging around the office, stopping by, or even just dropping off the trash. Those conversations give me an opportunity to hear what you think, what you like, what concerns you, and sometimes simply how your day is going.

Those moments matter to me.

I began this message by saying that **CCME is a big family,** and I believe that. We take care of our community, we take care of our neighbors, and when someone needs a hand, we try to be there.

As winter approaches, let's keep doing exactly that.

Stay warm, stay safe, and look out for one another.

Ed
President



WELCOMING KENNY HAWKINS

We’re excited to welcome Kenny Hawkins to the CCME staff as our new part-time Groundskeeper!

Kenny is a CCME resident who lives here with his family, so we’re especially happy to have one of our own joining the team. He’ll be learning the ins and outs of our grounds and Lodge from Jeff and getting to know the community from a whole new perspective.

We’re excited to have Kenny on board and look forward to all he’ll bring to the CCME team. If you see Kenny around the community, be sure to give him a warm CCME welcome and say hello!





Events & IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER

10/8 CCME Community Poker Tournament (no-cash, prize based) 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM



10/10 CCME Community Board of Directors Meeting 9:30 AM

10/11 Fall Decor Paint & Assemble Class. Starts @ 2:00 PM. Sign up at CCME Office $30

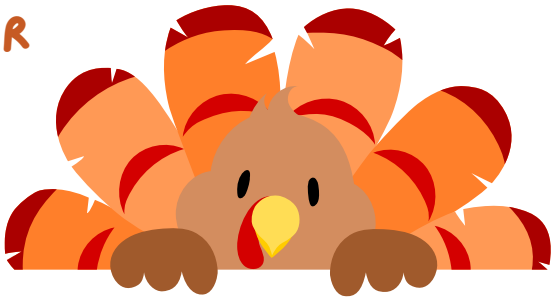
10/16 CCME Community Bingo & Costume Contest 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

10/17 Sourdough Class - Learn how to bake sourdough at altitude! 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Sign up at CCME Office $40

10/22 Firewood Exchange Program Starts - Additional details attached to newsletter

10/24 Paint & Sip - Light up pumpkins & Christmas ornaments 1:00 - 3:00 PM $5 per

NOVEMBER



11/1 Daylight Saving Time Ends

11/7 Fall Craft Fair 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

11/11 Veterans Day

11/12 CCME Community Poker Tournament (no-cash, prize based) 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM

11/14 CCME Community Board of Directors Meeting 9:30 AM

11/20 CCME Community Bingo 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

11/26 Thanksgiving Day - CCME Office Closed

DECEMBER

12/10 CCME Community Poker Tournament (no-cash, prize based) 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM



12/12 CCME Community Board of Directors Meeting 9:30 AM

12/12 CCME Community Christmas Party 5:00 PM
Sign up in office. $25 per person

12/18 CCME Community Bingo 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

12/24 Chirstmas Eve - Office Closed

12/25 Christmas Day - Office Closed

UPDATES AROUND CCME

CCME Lodge Sign



New Trash Garage Completed With 24/7 Access





Pavilion Completed





🦌 Be Mindful of Wildlife This Time of Year

As the days get shorter and our mornings become darker, please remember to keep an extra eye out for wildlife when heading out of your home. Bears and especially moose are more active around dawn and dusk, and they may be moving through properties, yards, and roads as they make their way between areas of the community.

Before getting in your vehicle, take a moment to look around and be aware of your surroundings. As you begin driving, slow down and stay especially alert for wildlife along the roads. Please give animals plenty of space and never approach them.

A little extra awareness in the early morning hours can help keep residents, visitors, and wildlife safe!



❄️ Prepare Your Home for Winter

- 🚰 Protect outdoor faucets
- 💧 Winterize irrigation systems
- 🔥 Check your heating system:
- 🪟 Check doors and windows
- 🌡️ Protect interior pipes
- 🏠 Clean gutters and downspouts
- 🌲 Inspect trees around your home
- 🔦 Prepare for winter outages


CCME
WILDFIRE MITIGATION
ACTION TEAM
FIREWOOD
EXCHANGE PROGRAM
DISTRIBUTION BEGINS
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22ND
and continues all winter.
FOR CCME RESIDENTS
There are no qualifications as to need,
but recipients must be CCME residents.
HOW TO GET FIREWOOD
Contact Emmett Skiles to get on the list
to pick up firewood.
CONTACT:
Emmett Skiles
EmmettSkiles@gmail.com



CC & Emee Adventures



The Great Office Hide-and-Seek

It was an ordinary afternoon at the CCME office. The phones were ringing, the computers were humming, and CC and Emee were doing what they do best—supervising the staff from their favorite spots around the office. Everything was peaceful... until CC had an idea. “Emee,” he whispered, “want to play hide-and-seek?” Emee’s ears perked up. “Absolutely!”

CC closed his eyes and began counting. “One... two... three...” Emee quickly dashed away. At first, he hid behind a stack of papers, but decided that was much too easy. He slipped into another room and tucked himself behind a chair. Perfect! Meanwhile, CC finished counting. “Nine... ten! Ready or not, here I come!” CC opened his eyes and discovered that Emee was nowhere to be found.

CC checked under the desk, looked behind the office chairs, and even peeked into the hallway. Still nothing. “Emee?” he called. “I know you're around here somewhere!” There was no answer, but then CC heard something. Scratch... scratch... rustle. He slowly crept toward the sound and peeked around the corner. Nothing. He looked behind the door. Still nothing.





Just when CC was about to give up, Emee suddenly jumped out and shouted, “BOO!” CC nearly jumped three feet in the air. “Emee!” he exclaimed, while Emee rolled on the floor laughing. “You should have seen your face!” CC tried to look annoyed, but he couldn't help laughing too.

“Okay,” CC said, “my turn to hide.” Emee closed his eyes and started counting. “One... two... three...” CC quietly tiptoed away and found what he thought was the perfect hiding spot. But when Emee finished counting, he walked straight over and found CC almost immediately. “Found you!” Emee said proudly. CC poked his head out and asked, “How did you find me so fast?” Emee smiled. “Because, CC, you may be good at hide-and-seek... but I'm better!”

And so the Great Office Hide-and-Seek Championship continued, with CC and Emee darting around the POA office, hiding behind chairs, under desks, and in all sorts of places they probably shouldn't have been. By the end of the afternoon, both cats were completely worn out. They curled up together in their favorite chairs for a well-deserved nap. After all, being the CCME office cats is hard work. Someone has to keep an eye on the staff!

