



**BLACK FOREST COMMUNITY CLUB
AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER
“Everyone is Family in the Forest”**

Schedule of BFCC Events

Thurs., Aug. 1, 6-7:30pm	Last chance to vote for Keeper at Jazz in the Park
Sunday, August 4, 6pm	Keepers Dinner
Friday, August 9	Biergarten Fundraiser
Saturday, August 10	Black Forest Festival
Thursday, Aug. 22, 6:30pm	General Meeting Board and Officers

Everyone is invited to attend the meetings and the events.
For Line Dancing classes, etc., check bfcommunityclub.org.

2024 Keeper of the Keys to the Black Forest by Barbara Hosmer

This year's Keeper of the Keys will be announced on August 4 at the Keepers' Potluck Dinner to be held at the Black Forest Community Center starting at 6pm. Beverages and table settings will be furnished but everyone is asked to bring a covered dish to share. As a suggestion those with last names starting with A-H are asked to bring a salad, those starting with I-S an entrée and T-Z a dessert. (I hope we have a lot of Zieglers attending!) This event is for the entire community as a start to the fun we have at the Festival on August 10.

Picker Munson

Picker Munson grew up in Black Forest. He follows the tradition of his family of heavy equipment operators in assisting when heavy equipment is needed.

Picker owns Munson Landscaping and Excavating which has about 18 employees.

He has a long history of assisting the Black Forest Community Club and the Black Forest Community Foundation with



maintenance and construction projects including preparing the old Fire Department building site after its 2012 demolition and the 2013 Black Forest Fire for the current uses as the Log School Park and construction of the Black Forest Pavilion. That project included installation of the commemorative pavers at the east end of the Pavilion.

Prior to the 2013 Black Forest Fire Picker built the retaining wall at the east entrance of the Community Hall. This tiered wall provides a seating area near the front door, and increased parking in front of the Community Hall with access to Black Forest Road.

After the 2013 fire Picker Munson hauled mulch to cover the Log School Park area after rains had created mud and also re-graveled the Community Hall Parking lot.

It was Picker, with his water tanker, who saved the historic buildings, including the Black Forest Community Hall, in the center of Black Forest during the height of the devastating 2013 fire. Picker has also mitigated several areas of the north Community Club Property. Picker was able to help a severely burned horse after the fire. The horse was successfully transported to veterinary care and survived.

Jeff and Kristen Schickler

Jeff came to Colorado from New York in 1984 and settled in Forest Collins. He has been in the food industry all of his adult life. Kristen is from Maui, Hawaii but lived in Fort Collins at the time they met. Jeff has a small business management degree and Kristen has a BS in landscaping design for CSU.

They have two grown sons, Christopher and Sean.



They have lived in the Black Forest Community since 2002 and own and operate the Firehouse on the Run BBQ and the gas station. They moved to the BF Community for the charm and love where they live...close to the park and the Community Center. Their home burned in the 2013 BF fire and they have rebuilt. During COVID, the Firehouse on the Run stayed open for pick up and delivery options.

In addition to providing services to Black Forest with their business, Kristen has served on the longstanding Black Forest Educational Opportunity foundation board for five years. They also donate to the Black Forest Boy Scout Troops, and hold fundraisers for Wolford School and the Black Forest Festival.

Last year when the catastrophic fires occurred in Lahina, Hawaii, Kristen raised \$3200 in Black Forest (also a fire-impacted community) for Trilogy, a fire assistance organization in Hawaii to support the Lahina Catamoran business which suffered damage to their boats while pulling people out of the water during the Lahina fire.

Jeff is an avid fly fisherman and Kris loves gardening and hiking.

Oliver and Patricia Hunnybun

Oliver and Patricia Hunnybun came to Black Forest in fall of 2011. Oliver works for Western Digital in Tech support and Training and both operate Doggie Daycare and Boarding in Black Forest.



They participated in the Black Forest Business Group from 2012-14 after the 2013 fire. This group raised over \$3,000 for the Black Forest Fire Department.

During the 2013 Fire they assisted horse owners and hosted nine dogs and seven cats. During the 2019 Bomb Cyclone, they assisted neighbors with water, care packages and gift certificates.

In 2019 Patricia founded Black Forest Prepare to provide residents and businesses with information on

survival, preparedness, self-defense and awareness. This included crime prevention, self-defense classes and introduction to weapons. Additional topics were hydroponics, planting, and raising livestock. COVID 19 shut down this effort.

During the 2019 Bomb Cyclone power outage they provided water, care packages, groceries and gift certificates to neighbors.

Coordination of the Grab-Bag program for local firefighters was done in 2020.

Assisting in the removal of extra mulch from the Black Forest Slash and Mulch Site by hauling mulch to others in the forest occurred in 2023, along with repairing the wooden bench at the Old Log School Park and providing photographic services at the 2013 Fire Remembrance event. Oliver helped to measure the space to the Artisan and Business Booth Fair and created the map used to reserve the booths. He also created the 2024 Black Forest Biergarten fundraiser Logo.

They enjoy singing with the Black Forest Choir, scuba diving and photography.

Noxious Weed Update for El Paso County by Nick Daniel, Noxious Weed Specialist

2024 has been a very busy year across El Paso County, but especially in the noxious weed world. Thus far I have had a little over 60 acres of right of ways and open space treated with more in the works. A combination of a warm start to the season and mid-season moisture has led to an explosion of a handful of weeds. I've been seeing quite a bit of leafy spurge, hoary cress, and diffuse knapweed throughout the county but mainly along arterials. In Black Forest, everyone should be on the lookout for Scotch thistle. It's having a banner year, and I'm seeing it creep further north along Vollmer Rd and is moving south along Highway 83. It's the very large thistle that has a very silvery appearance. Eradication is required county-wide, and trust me, you don't want it proliferating on your beautiful lots in Black Forest.

Another weed to lookout for is the List C, chicory. It has cornflower blue flowers and is another one to pull or mow if you see it on your land. As always, if anyone needs advice or weed identification, please get in touch: EVNoxiousweeds@elpasoco.com

Nick Daniel

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2024 Black Forest Festival Weekend

celebrating...

55 Years of Tradition

The 2024 Black Forest Festival will be held on **Saturday, August 10th**. This year marks the 55th year that the Black Forest community will be able to come together and celebrate all that makes our community so wonderful. The festival theme this year is, "**55 Years of Tradition**". For 55 years, the BF Community Club's dedicated sponsorship, alongside local church, business, and volunteer support, has succeeded in bringing the Black Forest community together for a family-friendly, fun day.

The festival aims to celebrate life in the forest and is an opportunity to highlight aspects which we hope to preserve and propagate for generations to come. You can expect this year's festival to be a great time with neighbors far and wide. The festival weekend also features a **Friday night Biergarten (August 9)** which has been a sellout in past years, so mark your calendars for that event. The Biergarten **proceeds will go to the "Project in the Backyard" fund** as the backyard needs professional refurbishment.

One of the great festival traditions each year is the creation and selection of the **festival logo**. Black Forest local artists, including some youth, submit logos that reflect the festival theme. This year's winning logo was chosen by a vote of the Festival Volunteer Team. **The logo submitted by Liz Deen (shown above) was chosen to represent the Festival this year**. You may recognize the name Liz Deen because she owns Cotton Blossom Caramel, a store local to Black Forest. If you have not been to her store, you are missing out! Thank you again to all that participated in the Logo Contest and help keep this fun tradition alive!



Schedule of BFCC Events

- July 8th Black Forest **Biergarten Tickets go on sale**
- July 13th **Festival Fund Raiser at Firehouse on the Run**
- July 19th **Festival Parade Sign-up deadline**
- **Friday, August 9th 6th Annual Black Forest Biergarten Fundraiser**
- **Saturday, August 10th Black Forest Festival**
- **Festival Schedule*:**
 - 6:30am – 9:30am – **Pancake Breakfast**
 - 8:00am – 2:00pm – **Children's Entrepreneurial Market**
 - 8:00am – 3:00pm – **Artisan and Business Booth Fair**

- Non-Profit Informational Booth Fair featuring:
 - *BFCC • Save our Wells • Friends of Black Forest • Black Forest Educational Opportunity Foundation*
 - *Black Forest Trails Association • Friends of School in the Woods • Edith Wolford Elementary • Black Forest AARP*
 - *BF Church of Latter Day Saints Genealogy and Just Serve information*
- 8:00am – 3:00pm – Live Demonstrations
 - *Mattersville Pack 22 Wolf Sanctuary • Golden Pine Roasting • Northern Lodge Art • Art with Mary and Molly*
 - *Hidey Honey • Emerge Aquaponics • Colorado Division of Wildlife • Colorado State Forestry*
 - *Emily Richards and Calypso with Dante's Nutritional Nuggets • Roots Chainsaw Demonstration*
-
- 8:00am – 3:00pm – **Live Demonstrations, Children's Games, Children's Crafts, Tractor Rides & Pony Rides**
- 10:30am – **Parade**
- 11:30am – **Outhouse Races**
(estimated start time, Outhouse Races immediately follow Parade)
- 11:00am – 3:00pm – **Beer Pavilion**
- 12:00pm – 3:00pm – **Live Music at the Beer Pavilion**
- ***Schedule Is Subject To Change**

Questions? Or need more information? Please email WeAreBlackForestCO@gmail.com.

A 30-Year Partnership: The Black Rose Acoustic Society and the Black Forest Community Club – Bob Lord

One of the longest-running tenants at our community hall is The Black Rose Acoustic Society. April of this year was the 30th anniversary of their roots-music concerts in our hall!

If you ask about acoustic music in the Colorado Springs area, folks will undoubtedly mention The Black Rose and the BFCC. In 1994, several local musicians formed this nonprofit organization to promote folk, bluegrass, Americana, swing, fiddle tunes, Celtic, and other musical styles played on traditional instruments. Today, The Black Rose and our beloved log hall have become *the* home of acoustic music in the whole Pikes Peak Region.



Photo: Todd Ryan

Be sure to check out the fun interview video of the history of the Black Rose with vintage pictures of the community center here: <https://www.tbras.org/kcme-interview>
Many other historical articles and items here: <https://www.tbras.org/history>

The Black Rose offers, intimate, acoustic concerts on 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month through the year. All the good stuff about the Black Rose and its activities is here:
www.blackroseacoustic.org
www.youtube.com/blackroseacoustic
www.facebook.com/Black-Rose-Acoustic-Society

Black Forest Summer Jazz Series has three more Thursday events:

August 1 Academy Jazz Ensemble

August 8 Kicks Quintet

August 15 Triple Play

Bring your chair or a blanket and enjoy an evening at the Pavilion starting at 6pm. Food and snacks available.

Long time Black Forester Michael Ralph Ayer was born in Alexandria, Virginia on December 14, 1957.

Mike passed away on June 11, 2024 on the beloved Ayer Homestead from health issues. Mike grew up in Black Forest and graduated from Falcon High in 1976. During his High School days, he played basketball, track, enjoyed Ski Club, National Honor Society, and participated in school plays. Mike was well known for his bright orange van! Mike loved playing his guitar and singing. He was part of a couple of garage bands and loved playing at various Black Forest events. Mike owned and operated Ayer Saw Shop for many years. Mike loved Jeeping, boating, and riding motorcycles over the years! Mike leaves behind his beloved daughter Emma Lange, her husband Rob, and 2 beautiful grandkids, Oliver age 2 and Maddie age 9 months. Mike was proceeded in death by his parents Richard and Shirley Ayer. He is survived by his sister Susan Gordon and her husband Bob, niece Kelley Taylor Baca, nephew Luke Taylor, and several great nieces and nephews. Mike will be sorely missed, especially the big smile that everyone loved so much!



Mack and Yong Sharp will participate in the upcoming La Foret Retreat

Mack Sharp, past president and longtime member of the Black Forest Community Center and his wife Yong have been asked to teach a line dance session during an upcoming "Wholeness and Wellness" weekend activity at the La Foret Retreat here in the Black Forest. See link for details: <http://www.laforet.org/refuge>

Mack and Yong will teach some basic Line Dance background information, instruct attendees in 10-15 Line Dance steps and then teach them 3 to 4 dances during their slotted hour and a half session. These two also teach a "donations only" Line Dance Class every Wednesday at the community center from 1130 until one. All donations for those classes go to the community center.

Mack and Yong announced that they will donate a portion of their earnings to our club. The Black Forest Line Dancers have donated more than \$10,000 over the past five years that it has been in existence at our club. Mack wanted our community to be aware of this activity at La Foret and has provided the below information for anyone that might be interested and would like to participate in this weekend event. Sounds like it will be fun weekend.

Black Forest Community Club Membership Application

P.O. Box 88034

Black Forest, Colorado 80908-8034

WEBSITE:

www.bfcommunityclub.org

Please send this application to the address above. Membership is \$15.00 per family per year.

Monthly newsletter — (circle one) Electronic Hardcopy

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

\$15.00 Active Membership (Must reside within Black Forest Preservation Plan boundaries) (Voting)

\$15.00 Associate Membership (Outside Black Forest Preservation Plan boundaries (Non-voting)

Circle any interest from those listed below:

Black Forest Festival

Hall Maintenance

Land Use

Club Programs

Publicity

Hall Rental Management

Membership

BFCC Property Development

Pay Your Membership Dues Online! You can now pay your membership dues online via PayPal. Just go to www.bfcommunityclub.org and click on "Become a Member" on the left side of the home page or "Click Here to pay online." You do not have to have a PayPal account to use it. You can choose debit or credit with VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER, or AMERICAN EXPRESS. Choose this easy way to pay your membership dues or use the membership form above.

Don't Know If Your Membership Is Current? Just look at the address label and note the year date in the upper right corner. If it says 2024 or later, you are up to date. For those getting your newsletter by email, there is a similar designation. If you have questions, contact Chuck at 719 495-8675.

Hall Rental Manager: Jeff Ader (cell: 232-1882)

The Black Forest Community Club Newsletter is a publication of the Black Forest Community Club, a non-profit, social club organized around a theme of community service. Subscriptions are included exclusively with club membership. Membership is open to all adult residents of Black Forest. Annual dues are \$15 per family. For membership information write to the following address or visit our website. Black Forest Community Club, POB 88034, Black Forest, CO 80908-8034. Or fill out the membership form in this issue.

President: Leif Garrison
Vice President: Kelly Marchbank
Secretary: Mindy Geiser
Treasurer: Cherie Erler

Director: Tiffany Coles
Director: Sherrie Lidderdale
Director: Jim Collins

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