



**BLACK FOREST COMMUNITY CLUB
MARCH 2025 NEWSLETTER
“Everyone is Family in the Forest”**

Schedule of BFCC Events

**Sunday, Mar. 16, 5pm St. Pat’s Corned Beef and Cabbage
Potluck**

Monday, Mar. 17, 1-3pm Demo Garden

Thursday, Mar. 27, 6:30pm Board & Officers/General Meeting

Everyone is invited to attend the meetings and the events.

For Line Dancing classes, etc., check bfcommunityclub.org

Valentine’s Day Social Canceled due to Snow and Cold

Fearing that the evening wasn’t going to get better, it was a group decision to cancel the Saturday night event. For all those who labored over some special dessert in hopes of winning the prizes, I hope you enjoyed them yourselves and maybe sharing with family and friends. Let’s hope the weather starts working with our calendar and stops the winter blizzards on our event nights.



**St. Patrick’s Potluck Sunday,
March 16, 5pm**

Bring your favorite corned beef dish (or what you prefer—salad, dessert, etc.) to share. Coffee, water, hot chocolate and cider will be provided. Or BYOB. Since the February Dessert Social was canceled due to weather, this will be a good time to catch up with friends.

Chuck Lidderdale Request:

Sunday, March 16 at 6 P.M. the Club is hosting the St Pat's Day Pot Luck. As a member I request that the President at 6 PM call to order a meeting of the General Membership.

Treasures Report: Posted on the BB

Minutes of BaO: Posted on the BB

The BaO has decided that the only way, short of spending \$80,000 plus on the back yard...

The Club is looking at A/C

The Club....

"Meeting adjourned - Bon appetit"

Demonstration Garden Tour and Build Information

Monday, March 17 1:00-3:00 PM

Do you want to learn more about gardening in Black Forest? Dawn Sciarrotta and Jill Gebelt are hosting a tour of the demonstration garden at the Black Forest Community Club. In addition to the tour, there will be an information session explaining how the different structures were built and the pros and cons of each of the different structures.



LINUX - Back in the 1980's it was called UNIX - and was expensive.

In 1991 a Finnish student Linus Torvalds asked the question:

Hmmm, could I create a clone? He did and he let it loose on the world under what he called Copyleft - the opposite of Copyright. You can have it for free, you can make

changes, if you let someone else have a copy it has to be for free. So what is Linux? It's a computer operating system - same as MS Windows - which is Copyrighted and expensive. Ah, and what can I do with Linux? Anything

you want to do. MS Windows has "Word" - Linux has "Librewriter". and LibreCalc and LibreDraw and other office programs. How about a web browser? Choose from over 18. Depending on how you like the looks, the functions, the layout. Cadd, games, > long list.

What if I want to try it out? Cost? Free. How? Well there are several versions. (think Ford, Chevy, GMC, Honda, etc). Personally I use Fedora. Ask Google for "Fedora download", stick a thumb drive in your computer, download and reboot. - Don't click on the button [install to hard drive - yet] and go walkabout. It will run a bit slow because it's running off the thumb drive. Once installed on your hard drive it's about 4 times faster than MS Windows.

Is it any good? Well 98% of the top web servers run ... Linux. 100% of the top 500 supercomputers run ... Linux.

**If you would like a demonstration and there are enough people I can set up a demonstration at the Club. Contact: chucka@blackforest-co.com
Subject Linux Class**

Troop 70 Scout Chili Dinner was most successful

Kevin Vider, Committee Chair, reports that 180 people attended the dinner and the Troop raised almost \$8000 from the event to run its yearly Scouting program.

The reviews on the event from many people were very positive and they are looking forward to the event next year. The Troop wants to thank the Black Forest Community for supporting Troop 70 and our mission of developing great young citizens in Black Forest.

Long time members of the BFCC remember getting various members to make the chili since the troop was not large enough to do the dinner on their own when it first formed. The chili at this last dinner was really good and there were three different kinds, great cornbread, salad, and wonderful desserts. This is a good time for the community to come together and renew old friendships over a great meal.

Black Forest Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday April 12th

Time: 11:00am - 1:00pm

Black Forest Community Center

The Black Forest Community Easter Egg Hunt is back by popular demand!

Join us on Saturday, April 12th at 11:00am at



the Black Forest Community Center for this kid-focused and age-appropriate event.

Start at the back deck of the Black Forest Community Center to find out where each age group is located, then send your kids off to hunt for candy-filled Easter Eggs!

We are excited to host this fun and safe event for the children of the Black Forest Community!

Important Road Changes Frank Rudy

Changes to the Black Forest Intersection of Shoup and Vollmer: Over the years there have been a number of serious accidents at the corner of Shoup and Vollmer including multiple deaths. It appears most of the accidents were caused by traffic heading east bound on Shoup, who fail to stop and run the stop sign. As a result, about two years ago the intersection underwent some minor improvements ie...trees removed or trimmed to improve visibility, larger stop signs etc. Additionally, 2023 El Paso County developed a plan to assess the intersection for a long-term fix. After evaluation it has been determined the county will be moving forward with the installation of a single lane roundabout. There is no 'start' date yet revealed, but most likely not before 2026. Updates on the project can be found on the County's website at <https://publicworks.elpasoco.com/road-bridge/construction-maintenance-projects/#1694101087302-b2e19eb7-3a02>

COMMITTEES

For an organization of this size to function efficiently, many more people than the seven on the board and officers are needed. They provide direction and action but more hands are needed. A good example is the **Festival Committee which is meeting Wednesday, February 19 at 6pm in the hall. All are welcome. If you have leadership qualities, there are openings for six leads. If you want to just do some small part, you are welcome to help out where you feel comfortable.**

These are some of the committees that are needing chairmen and/or committee members:

Maintenance	Jim Collins
Welcome	Christy Collins
Membership	
Social	Dawn Sciarrotta
Festival	John Bennett
Bylaws	Leif Garrison

If you would like work on any of these committees, **contact your president, Jim Collins, at jimcolli@hotmail.com or 562 833-2449.**

Got Ideas for upcoming events at the BFCC?

What would you like for activities at the hall? Informational talks? Game nights? Food events? First aid class? CPR training? Do you have a particular skill, interest, talent, person with a story? Let me know and we will try to get it on the calendar.

Carolyn 719 495-3127. browncarolyn828@gmail.com

Music in the Park

Jeff Ader has been busy organizing the music in the park starting Thursday, June 19 and going through July 31. Plan on some wonderful summer evenings in the Log School Park and Pavillion. Dawn will be providing food and drinks for a price to be donated to the improvements to the Backyard.

First Aid Classes, CPR classes, Basic Pistol Class

Read through and see if any of this is of interest to you. If so, let me know and we will pursue having classes at the BFCC. Browncarolyn828@gmail.com

This is some of the information Franklin Blaha who retired from our fire department fifteen years ago but still teaches a little Emergency medicine has sent to me.

"I can teach certifiable classes, but CPR and First Aid training has become a big business now that organizations require it and I get charged \$30 per student for the card and book. That does not stop me from doing short single topic presentations.

I currently teach for National Safety Council and they charge \$30 for any of their courses whether it be just adult CPR, Adult Child Infant CPR or First Aid or any combination. That fee covers the textbook and certification card. All certifying agencies now charge a fee as it has become big business. Twenty years ago I was a volunteer instructor for the Red Cross. They had super condensed their classes and were charging \$120 per student for a 6-hour class that I was teaching for free. I told the students that I considered bringing a pole and jumping up on the table to do pole dances so they could get their money's worth. Fortunately, no one took me up on that. I stopped teaching for them at that point after volunteering for about 25 years. I have been teaching CPR for about 55 years for multiple agencies and they are all the same.

For the last 10 years or so I was teaching nurses and physicians from UC Health (Memorial Hospital) not just CPR but part of two other courses called Advanced Life Support and Pediatric Life Support. They do offer public courses but I do not know the costs. Two years ago, when Covid calmed down they fired me because I was the only instructor left who was not on their nursing staff, even though I had taught several of that staff how to teach the class. I think the real reason was I was too old and too ugly, but no one is allowed to tell you that.

Now CPR is covered under the Colorado Good Samaritan act, so unless you need a certification to meet a job requirement, there is really no good reason to be certified.

I have put together my own condensed course that covers:

Hands Only CPR - taught but not certified by anyone

Adult Child Infant CPR with choking and AED - one and two rescuer

Advanced use of pocket mask and bag mask

My estimate is about 4 hours for the informal CPR or First Aid Class.

First Aid would be a more condensed class and just include modules which you are likely to run into at the slash site like:

Bleeding Control & Shock

Heart Attack & stroke

Heat and Cold Emergencies

Splinting - although at your location it is more important to know what not to do than how to do splinting as you can wait for the FD to get there

The choking module is also usually added into First Aid for those who do not take the CPR class

Other stuff could be added if there is interest like poisoning and overdose.

I mention below that I teach a firearm safety/marksmanship class for children which is free and done in two four hour sessions through the gun club and I would love to be able to provide information on that to the community club members.

I also teach a Basic Pistol class which will qualify for obtaining a CCW permit in Colorado. Much more extensive training will be required for this beginning of 2025 of this year.

I can attend some of your club meetings and do mini presentations on either home defense, firearm safety of isolated first aid topics. There is no mini presentation on CPR, having only a little knowledge can prove hazardous and too much equipment is required."

Franklyn

WORDS OF WISDOM

The worst thing that happens to you may be the best thing for you if you don't let it get the best of you.

– Will Rogers –

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 \$20.00 per family per year starting March, 2025.

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

Land Use

Publicity

Membership

Hall Maintenance

Club Programs

Hall Rental Management

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

Visit our website at <http://www.bfcommunityclub.org>

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