

June 7, 2009

We've enjoyed several days with frequent rain showers over this last week, and many folks have commented on the dozens of shades of green as the trees and grasses spring up. This morning dawned with bright sunshine, but clouds have again piled up to the east and west, so we may be in for another shower.

Reports have come in that a moose cow has been sighted with twins. Keep in mind that moose are very unpredictable, and both bulls and cows can turn vicious quickly if they feel threatened or that their calves may be threatened. Some folks were seen walking along north Ottawa on a "moose sighting" excursion, and were warned about just how dangerous moose can be. Moose are indeed incredible creatures, but so big that they move faster than all but the fastest sprinters. I'm sure most owners are aware of how dangerous the moose can be, so I would ask that you encourage your guests to watch and photograph from inside their vehicles or homes to be safe.

As the new fiscal year begins, I would like to remind all ATV riders about the Board established ATV policy. If you have an ATV you are encouraged to pick up a copy of the policy for a quick review. ATV riders must hold a valid, State issued, operator's license to operate any vehicles in Crystal Lakes. The speed limit is 20 mph. PLEASE do not "cut donuts" in the roads with your ATV, motorcycle or bike. With the budget constraints, we want to protect our roads in every way possible. Please help by driving the speed limit and doing your part as a caretaker of the property to limit road damage.

Of course the other wildlife species are active and enjoyed as well. The deer are fattening up, a bobcat has been seen thinning the rodent population near Basecamp, and the various raptors are soaring above all of us, keeping a sharp lookout. While you are on the mountain, take the time to enjoy these "permanent residents".

The CLVFD is looking for anyone who may have access to scaffolding that the department could borrow to use while they paint the firehouse. Contact the office if you might be able to help them meet that need. (970) 881-2250. We'll put you in touch with the firefighters and auxiliary who are working on that project.

The Road & Rec. Annual Report was sent to the Web master Saturday. It should be on the Web very soon, as should the new fishing regulations. Staff are in the process of updating all the documents on the web.

The CLRRA Annual Meeting will be held next Saturday at 2 p.m.; registration begins at 1:00 p.m. The office will close from 12:30 p.m. to allow office staff to get to the W&S Building to assist members with registration. Discount coupons can be picked up for the Saturday evening barbeque when you register at the Annual Meeting. You may pick up your seedlings on Saturday, June 13th from the Greenbelt Management Committee if you placed an order with them earlier.

For a wonderful morning experience, be sure to attend Breakfast at the Lake, Sunday,

June 14. That is always one of the summer highlights, a real treat for all attendees. Don't miss the opening ceremony at 9:00 a.m.

The warning siren demonstrations are scheduled for the conclusion of the R&R Annual Meeting, Saturday, June 13, and again Sunday June 14, at 8:30 a.m. These will be demonstration soundings only, and will be conducted for the full three minute sounding.

The Fishing Board has changed its meeting time this month to Sunday, June 14th at 9:00 a.m. in the Wapiti Center. They will also meet at 4 p.m. Saturday, July 4th, following the fishing derbies, in the Crystal Room.

Other upcoming events:

June 14th - Greenbelt Management Committee Demonstration in Filing 13, Tract I from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

June 17th - Greenbelt Management Committee with USFS 1:30 p.m. in the Wapiti Center

June 20th - Board Meetings, June 20th

June 27th - Special Trash Day, June 27th 9-3 at compactor

June 27th - Greenbelt Management with USFS 1 p.m. in the Wapiti Center

June 28th - Bear Aware Team, June 28, 9 a.m. in the Wapiti Center

July 3rd - Picnic Concert July 3rd at the south deck – 5 p.m. Navajo tacos available for purchase for picnic supper, or bring your own.

Performing Artists:

Donna D Karaoke - 5 p.m.

The Michel Family Singers - 6 p.m.

Susan Vance Campfire Sing-a-long - 7 p.m.

July 4th - Fishing Derbies 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. Beaver Lake

July 4th – Fireworks in Red Feather Lakes at dusk

July 5th – CLVFD Fun Day and Parade

Have a great week. We hope to see you at the CLRRA Annual Meeting.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

June 21, 2009

Happy Father's Day; Happy first day of summer!

I hope you have been able to honor your Dad by thought or in person on this, their special day.

The CLRRA Board asked that I remind you about the deadline to get your reservations and meal payments in for the 40th Anniversary celebration, scheduled for July 25th. The meal is being catered, and an accurate count must be provided; so reservations are necessary and must be received here in the office by July 1st. Late sign-ups can not be accommodated for the dinner event. Included in your CLRRA Annual Meeting Notice was a full page printout with the reservation tear-off form included for your convenience. The meal will be served from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

40th Anniversary events will begin at 2:00 p.m. and include the presentation of several Mountain Productions plays on tape in the Wapiti Room. A schedule with times for the various taped performances will be handed at to attendees. I understand the productions will include the famous "Princess Red Feather" performance, a truly outstanding and historic experience.

The CLRRA Board approved dedicating the Crystal Room as an "historical" room where photos and other items can be displayed for the members' enjoyment and perusal. Attendees should plan on spending time enjoying some of the archived photos, which will be on display – including several photos of "first time" events, such as the first airplane to land here, etc.

Many previous Board and committee members and staff have been contacted, inviting them to this celebration as well. It is the Board's hope that we will all be able to catch up on news with many of these dear friends.

Due to the deterioration and resulting risk of collapse, the A-framed arch was removed this last week. Staff found that there was only a saucer sized diameter of solid wood remaining in the base of each of the huge logs which formed the "A". We are fortunate that the structure did not collapse or cause serious damage or injury. A photo of the arch appears in the Annual Report if you would like a reminder of the arch for your memory book. Some of the "old timers", myself included, remember the 2"x 4" barrier gate and the tire spike, both of which were located in that same area years (and years) ago! The Board has not decided on any replacement, but if you have suggestions, please let them know.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

June 30, 2009

Plans are made for a big July 4th Weekend.

July 3rd: Picnic Concert on the south deck.

5:00 p.m. Donna D. – Karaoke

6:00 p.m. Michel Family Singers – Patriotic and folk songs

7:00 p.m. Susan Vance – Campfire songs

July 4th: Annual Fishing Derby at Beaver Lake (LEAVE YOUR DOG HOME)

9-11 a.m. Kids, ages 5 to 16

(Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.)

1-3 p.m. Ladies and Seniors

Craft Sale in Red Feather Lakes – POA Bldg.

Fireworks in Red Feather Lakes at dusk

July 5th: Old Fashioned 4th of July – sponsored by CLVFD

10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Games for kids, "freebies", raffles, silent auction, logo sales, food

1:00 p.m. parade (Line up at Fire Station at 12:30)

Vehicles, ATVs, horses, costumed walking units welcome.

\*\*Beaver Lake will be closed to all other fishing Thursday, July 2nd to Monday, July 6th.

Restaurant Hours:

Thursday, July 2nd: 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Dinner Menu

Friday, July 3rd: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Picnic Concert Specials of select Mexican dishes and Navajo tacos

Saturday, July 4th: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Early-bird dinner for those who want to head to Red Feather for the fireworks – burgers and brats

Sunday, July 5th: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Featuring their breakfast buffet with omelets to order

Monday, July 6th: 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Pizza

Security personnel have been hired on a limited basis to provide patrol services beginning Friday, July 3, 2009. You may see their Anlance vehicle on property. Their officer will assist with speed and traffic control, fishing patrol, ATV monitoring, etc.

Have a very safe holiday weekend.  
I'll keep you posted.

Jody

July 5, 2009

Hopefully your July 4th celebrations brought you plenty of good food and family fun. Word is that the Fishing Derbies were very successful, although many folks really had me worried because they continued to fish even though there was quite a lightning storm in the area. Most recently, I've heard warnings that if you hear thunder, there is a chance that lightning could strike dangerously close to you. (Many of us have previously been taught to count the seconds between seeing lightning and hearing thunder to estimate the distance to a thunderstorm. That precaution has been updated to the instruction to take cover if you hear thunder, according to emergency services.) Fortunately, the fishing derby participants remained safe.

The CL Volunteer Fire Department has quite a crowd of youngsters enjoying the games and free items available today at their Fun Day. Looks like one of the favorites this year is having the kids dress in fire gear and getting photographed by an engine. I understand there are several youth who've tried on helmets and boots – they may be our next generation of firefighters! Treat them well and train them right! I think several of them have already become very proficient at sounding the fire-engine horns!

A property owner inquired this week whether we would have the weed spraying program as in past years. Unfortunately, the volunteer who helped with that is no longer at Crystal Lakes, but I do encourage all of the members to spray the noxious weeds they find on their property, especially thistle. The procedure is to clip the stem and bag the blossom/bud before it goes to seed. Then spray the remaining stem so that the weed-killer is absorbed by the plant into the root and killed. The weed-killer that we use when we spray the road easements and greenbelt areas is "Curtail", which we located and purchased at Poudre Valley Coop in Ft. Collins. I understand that some of the Round-Up products are also effective. Do not cut the tops off and let them fall to the ground, as thistle apparently is very hearty and can finish its growth cycle and produce seeds after being cut, according to some reports I've heard.

Remember the Greenbelt Management Committee and USFS presentation next Saturday, July 11th in the Wapiti Center at 1 p.m. The program is very informative and your questions are thoroughly answered during discussion. Take advantage of this opportunity to gather additional information about the forest on your property, beetle infestation treatments, fire mitigation, etc. If you miss the Saturday meeting, there will be another session on Wednesday, July 15th at 1:30 p.m. following the members' potluck lunch in the Wapiti Center.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

July 12, 2009

The brief shower and clouds this afternoon are a welcome change from the heat yesterday and today. I know we are spoiled when 80 degrees seems too hot! Anyway, things smell fresh after the shower. There are several reports of bear sightings, moose and deer sightings, osprey sightings and the mosquitoes are all big enough to each haul off a small truck! Wow, be sure to wear plenty of bug spray with Deet!

Carol Strazer, one of our property owners who is very active with the hiking group and does a good deal of hiking otherwise as well, has asked that everyone be reminded to keep their dogs on leash or completely under voice command and with them. Carol has received several complaints from folks who have experienced dogs running loose while they were out hiking. The Larimer County Leash Law does apply here in Crystal Lakes. Dogs should not be allowed to run loose, for their own safety as well as for the safety and enjoyment of other folks who are out walking. As many of you remember, we have had large and small dogs killed by mountain lions, moose and coyotes. Several dogs have gone missing also, and we have no idea what may have happened to them. Please keep your pets with you and on leash.

Our maintenance staff will be replacing the wooden deck on Tami Bridge this week. The bridge will be closed from Tuesday morning at ~7:00 a.m. through possibly Thursday afternoon. Tami Road will have signs posted about the road/bridge closure. The alternate routes to North Ottawa will give you an opportunity to see the lake and enjoy some different scenery. Allow a few extra minutes for the drive and enjoy the experience. Here's another opportunity to remember that the Speed Limit in Crystal Lakes is 20 mph, with a 10 mph limit at Basecamp. Watch for the osprey or the eagles as you make the loop around the lake.

Remember, the Greenbelt Committee is sponsoring another seminar with the USFS on Wednesday, July 15th here in the Wapiti Center at 1:30 p.m. The GMC reported several folks were able to attend the Saturday meeting and had very positive responses to the presentation.

The Boards meet this coming Saturday, Water & Sewer at 8:00 a.m., Joint Boards at 10:00 a.m. and Road & Rec. at 1:00 p.m. Members are always welcome. The Hearing Panel meets Sunday, July 19th at 1:00 p.m. in the Wapiti Center. The Community Fund Association will hold their Annual Meeting July 25th at 10 a.m. and the CLRRRA 40th Anniversary Celebration will fill the afternoon with a variety of events. The Bear Aware Team's regular monthly meeting is scheduled for July 26th from 10 to 1.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

July 19, 2009

As I write this note there is a young doe munching on aspen leaves in the fenced area in front of the Restaurant. Guess she stopped by for lunch at one of the best eateries on the mountain!

The pine pollen is coating everything with a golden glow; at times it looks like entire trees suddenly poof a mist of gold dust. I always wonder if some critter has jumped in the branches and triggered what looks to be a mini explosion of pollen, or if there is some mechanism in the tree's make-up that does that. Does anyone know?

Several motorized dirt bikes have been seen in Crystal Lakes. Dirt bikes and other small motorized vehicles fall under the ATV category for vehicles, must have a Crystal Lakes ID plate and visibility flag attached, and may only be driven by licensed vehicle operators. If a motorcycle has a current state license it is not considered an ATV since it is "street legal". Be aware that all vehicles must be "street legal" to operate on CR 73C. If you have questions about the ATV policy, you may pick up that information from the office at any time. It also appears on the Web site in the R&R Property Owners' Handbook.

#### BIG DOINGS NEXT SATURDAY, JULY 25TH AT BASECAMP

The C.L. Community Fund Association will hold its Annual Meeting in the Wapiti Center Saturday, July 25th at 10:00 a.m.

The 40th Anniversary event is scheduled to begin at 2:00 p.m. in front of Basecamp with opening ceremonies and welcoming speeches. Everyone is welcome to come enjoy the presentations and videos of Mountain Productions plays, meet and greet old friends, and enjoy music by Donna D. Those who have reservations for dinner may pick up their meal coupons at the Welcome booth, which will be set up in front of the Restaurant as well. The Restaurant will be closed from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. to accommodate the Anniversary participants, and will re-open at 5:00 p.m. with a full dinner menu for those who missed getting their reservations made. Come enjoy the day. You are welcome to bring your lawn chairs for seating in the picnic area behind the Restaurant.

Parking for the 40th Anniversary celebration will be available in the area east of the restaurant, at the Wapiti mail sheds, and in the shop and W&S Bldg. area. There will be volunteers to assist you with parking. Access to Basecamp from Tami Road to the Restaurant area will be closed to through traffic at 1:30 p.m. It is suggested that you plan to drive around by way of Tami Road to Blackfoot Road to Kanawha Court to Wapiti Drive for parking. As you find parking, please be sure that you are not blocking emergency vehicles/fire trucks that must have clear egress in case of an emergency.

#### Lost Pet!!

If anyone has seen a large turtle, please call the office. C.L. property owners report they have lost their male African tortoise. This tortoise can travel quite a distance; the female

was found about 1½ miles from their cabin after the pair went sight-seeing, so keep your eyes out for this guy. He is reported to be in the 10" to 12" size, but not indigenous to our mountains so will need to find his way home before winter arrives!

Jim Jackson, DOW Officer, attended the R&R Board meeting and reported that several bear sightings have occurred. He urged everyone to be extremely cautious with garbage and trash, as the lure of food will attract the bear and keep them returning. Everyone is also reminded that Un-welcome Mats should only have nails or screws that protrude ½" to ¾". Longer nail or screw spikes are cruel and can cripple the bears rather than simply discouraging them from entering through the door or window where the mat has been placed. Attend the New Owners' Orientation for a full presentation by the Bear Aware Team of how to live with wildlife in Crystal Lakes. The next orientation will be held August 8th at 1:00 p.m. in the Wapiti Center.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

July 27, 2009

A cold front moved through this morning with temperatures now below 70 degrees, and a thunderstorm rumbling around the edges of Crystal Lakes. So far we've only had a light sprinkling of rain, but it's been enough for the flies and mosquitoes to want to move inside. Each time the doors open I think we get another half dozen insects trying to come in and hide. Wonder if they know something more than we do?

Last week I mentioned that safety poles and flags were required on dirt bikes. That is my error. The ATV policy requires the poles and flags for three and four wheel ATVs, but does not require them for dirt bikes. As property owner Steve Keating pointed out, there is no place to attach a pole on a dirt bike. Thanks, Steve, for writing back with that correction.

The Crystal Lakes Community Fund Association (CLCFA) has developed a Neighbor-to-Neighbor Campaign to help property owners alert their neighbors if nothing seems to have been done about spraying or removing pine beetle infested trees. You may request that a copy of the letter be emailed to you and used by you as a concerned property owner to inform your neighbor(s) about beetle killed trees on that neighbor's property, and possible remedies. If needed, names and addresses may be requested from the Crystal Lakes office by a property owner who wants to contact their neighbor. If you decide to share your concern with your neighbor(s) about their lot(s), please provide the names and addresses of each letter mailed, and by whom, to the office. The lists will be held for the CLCFA to help them determine the effectiveness of this campaign. The Community Fund Board appreciates all efforts made by Crystal Lakes members to help fight the pine beetle infestation.

Owners who phone the office for fire permits are reminded that they may do so during office hours. Permits are not issued or valid if the request is left on voice mail.

It was delightful to see so many past owners attend the 40th Anniversary Celebration last Saturday. Although cloudy at times, the weather cooperated enough that many folks enjoyed Donna D. on the back deck, and no one was "rained out". What a treat to see so many of you here and reminiscing. Now we need to begin building more great experiences so that we have plenty of new material to add to the next decade's list of accomplishments and advances.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

August 2, 2009

It's a bright and sunny summer day today, following some very chilly, rainy days this week. Tuesday night the temperature fell to 33 degrees, and yesterday morning there was frost on Tami Bridge! While much of the country "cooked" this last week we had rain and hail, and most everyone found a jacket or heavy sweater to stay comfortable. As we often hear, Colorado weather is always changing.

We've had reports of a bear break-in to a shed this weekend. Please be sure you don't have anything that would attract the bear to your lot – food, garbage, bird food, etc. We must be vigilant.

Everyone is reminded that Association Policy prohibits shooting guns/firearms within the Crystal Lakes Subdivision. This is a safety issue that exists for the protection of all members, guests and wildlife. Be sure your guests are aware of this policy.

The Greenbelt Management Committee contacted USFS, who has agreed to hold the two remaining instructional/informational gatherings, which are scheduled for Wednesday, August 19th at 1:30 p.m. and Saturday, September 12th at 1:00 p.m. in the Wapiti Center. Discussion will continue with regard to the pine beetle issue as well as other topics. The potluck will be held between 11:30 and 1:30 on Wednesday, 8-19-09, to accommodate the August USFS meeting. The potluck time changes were noticed to the membership in previous months so that these informational meetings could be conducted for the members' benefit. Please plan to attend the USFS gatherings, as the foresters include a variety of information in each meetings and supplement previously presented information.

The next New Owner's Orientation will be held this coming Saturday at 1:00 p.m. in the Wapiti Center. Bring your questions and learn more about Crystal Lakes. There will be presentations by the Bear Aware Team and the CL Volunteer Fire Department, as well as information from the Greenbelt Management Committee, the Fishing Board, and the Community Fund Association.

Saturday, August 15th, is the second date for Special Trash collection from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. or until the container is full. There is a fee per cubic yard for the non-household trash you bring, and additional fees to cover hazardous materials, appliances with refrigerant, etc. But, this does provide you with a handy location to dispose of some of those awkward items.

A property owner reported finding a few pine beetles attacking two trees on his property, which he sprayed himself in late spring. He was able to dig into the bark to remove the beetle, but called to say that it appears the beetles are still in the process of flying. He is hopeful that he was able to remove the beetles trying to infest his trees, but will continue to examine the trees and monitor their health into next year.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

August 9, 2009

Is autumn already on its way? Early mornings and evenings have turned extra cool the last few days. And, there was frost on Tami Bridge last Saturday morning. But, the twin fawns frequently seen by the office haven't lost their spots yet; so we must have a few more weeks of warm weather to enjoy before the aspen all turn golden.

Several more folks have mentioned finding the pitch tubes and saw dust indicators of pine beetle infestation on their Ponderosa and lodge pole pine trees. It's an excellent idea to continue checking your trees to determine if they are infested, giving you a head start on your selected method of disposing of the trees. The USFS will be holding their next seminar at 1:30 p.m. on August 19th in the Wapiti Center; and the topics will include mistletoe and other infestations.

We had an excellent turn-out for the New Owners' Orientation Saturday, with eighteen new members. A special thanks to Jim and Jane Tiffin, from Bear Aware, to Ronnie Owens from the Greenbelt Management Committee, and to Martin Hongsermeier, R&R Board member for attending as well. The CL Community Fund Association had their large photo board on display, and information was also shared about the CLCFA's contributions to the community. It was great to meet these new owners, some of whom have already joined the GMC as volunteers. Welcome these new neighbors to Crystal Lakes!

Remember, this coming Saturday the Boards hold their regular monthly meetings. Also Saturday is our second Special Trash Day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. or until the container is full. You can dispose of non-household items at the special container by the trash compactor for a minimal fee, based on the size of your trash, or whether it is hazardous.

The sign-up sheet is available in the office if you plan on attending the 4 x 4 Outing on August 22nd. That is always a late summer favorite, and I understand that this year it will not be necessary to have a 4 wheel drive vehicle to make the trek; 2-wheel drive will suffice.

You still have three weeks to get your well water meter reading cards back to the office. The deadline to have those cards turned in to the office is August 31st, and over a hundred members have yet to respond. The meter reading is a state mandated report. Failure to get the card back to the office can result in a fine, so get those cards turned in. There is a box on the office counter for you to drop your meter reading card into. You must file a meter card annually even if your well is not operational, including the reason if the well is not producing water. Operational wells must have a water meter and those meter readings must be reported.

Great news! The male African tortoise that had been missing for almost a month was found by Mountain Security. The tortoise was making his way on Osage Trail when found, and brought to the office to be returned to his owners. I understand there was quite a reunion between the two tortoises – I can only imagine just how tortoise would show

their excitement? I'm just amazed that he was able to survive; and very happy that he didn't experience colder weather during his adventure. Our summer host, Walter, offered him a few mixed spring greens while he was waiting to be claimed; and the tortoise just chomped those leaves up in big gulps.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

August 14, 2009

The Crystal Lakes Community Fund Association is asking for baked goods donations for their bake sale at the Crystal Lakes Arts and Crafts Sale. That event is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 6th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Wapiti Center. The CLCFA will be accepting your baked goods from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m., and will have lots of delicious treats for sale during the day.

**9th Filing Boundary Update:**

Many of you will remember that several owners in Crystal Lakes 9th Filing were informed their property boundary was inaccurately marked. When the USFS re-surveyed the boundaries in 2006, the newly established boundaries heavily impacted several lots within the 9th Filing. Prior to the last election Marilyn Musgrave was assisting the 9th Filing property owners with their request that Congress restore the lot lines to the original boundaries, noting that the 7.23 acres of overlap does not improve the quality of USFS lands available to the public. Some owners in the dispute will lose water and wastewater improvements as well as their cabin if the new boundaries are allowed to remain. The boundary issue continues to go unresolved for the Filing 9 owners. After speaking with one of the property owners whose lot is severely impacted by the new survey, I learned that Representative Betsy Markey and Senator Michael Bennet have begun working towards a resolution of the issue. Your 9th Filing neighbors would greatly appreciate your letters or email to the Colorado Senators and Representatives for support of HR 1858 for the restoration of the original property boundaries. Also if you know others who would be willing to write their Congressional representatives and senators asking for their support, that would also be of great assistance.

A sample letter follows for your convenience, or create your own. Also, the mailing addresses for the two Colorado Senators and seven Colorado Representatives are included. I've also included Betsy Markey's Fort Collins address as well. Electronic addresses for each can be found at several sites if you search for Colorado Senate and Representative contact information on the internet.

Thanks in advance for your assistance. I'll keep you posted.

Jody

Sample Letter:

Date:

Name

Address

City & State, ZIP

Honorable "Insert Name":

As a property owner in Crystal Lakes subdivision, Larimer County, CO 80545, I strongly

urge you to support HR 1858 to restore the boundaries of several properties within the Associations' 9th Filing to the original boundaries. Individuals who purchased these lots have over the years made improvements, including in some cases built homes on the lots, paying property taxes over all the time. The boundary adjustment impacts these owners, in some cases by removing much of their lot including their home, while the addition of the few acres to USFS lands does nothing to enhance the lands available to use by the general public.

Sincerely,

Your Name  
Your Address  
Your City, State & ZIP

Mailing Addresses:

US Senators (2) and Congressional Representatives (7) from  
the State of Colorado:

Senator Mark Udall:  
The Honorable Mark Udall  
United States Senate  
317 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0605

Senator Michael Bennet:  
The Honorable Michael Bennet  
United States Senate  
702 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-0606

Representative Diana DeGette:  
The Honorable Diana DeGette  
United State House of Representatives  
2335 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0601

Representative Jared Polis:  
The Honorable Jared Polis  
United States House of Representatives  
501 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0602

Representative John Salazar:  
The Honorable John Salazar  
United States House of Representatives

326 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0603

Representative Betsy Markey:  
The Honorable Betsy Markey  
United States House of Representatives  
1229 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0604  
(And/Or)  
123 North College Avenue,  
Suite 220  
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Representative Doug Lamborn  
The Honorable Doug Lamborn  
United States House of Representatives  
437 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0605

Representative Mike Coffman  
The Honorable Mike Coffman  
United States House of Representatives  
1508 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0606

Representative Ed Perlmutter:  
The Honorable Ed Perlmutter  
United States House of Representatives  
415 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-0607

August 23, 2009

It was with deep regret that yesterday I received the resignations of Diana Ward and Helen Bowlin from their positions as co-managers of the front of the house at The Restaurant. They have both worked extremely hard to make The Restaurant a success, and the entire membership has benefited from their efforts, enjoyed the warm welcome and ambiance they along with the entire restaurant staff created, and frequently patrons have ordered their special desserts right along with the meal orders to be sure that piece of pie is still available. We will be sad to see Helen and Diana leave, but must respect their decisions; and wish them the very best in their future endeavors.

In that light, there are positions open in the Restaurant for wait staff and a Front of the House Lead Wait Person. Wait staff are paid \$4.26 per hour and tips. Because the Restaurant is still operating at a deficit, as of July 31st the Restaurant balance for the Fiscal Year 09-10 was (\$6,325.96), we will not hire a Front of the House Manager at this time, but the Lead Wait Person position will start at \$8.00/hour plus tips. Applications are available at the office. Both wait staff and Lead Wait Person positions are for Part-time Regular employees. We hope to have already filled the Back of the House Assistant Cook/Dishwasher position.

Every effort will be made to keep the high quality you have come to expect at The Restaurant. Anthony Orr, the Restaurant Manager and Lead Cook, will continue to prepare some of the best food on the mountain for your enjoyment. Many unsolicited comments have been received from Crystal Lakes members, their guests, and Red Feather and Glacier View residents, that we have the finest dining on the mountain. We have every intention of keeping and even improving our reputation.

Other issues:

Ann Watson, Wapiti Bugle editor, writes:

"Someone sent me a very nice photo of a bobcat. Sadly my email dumped a few messages in August, so I don't know who it was. The message had 3 photos including a bobcat, hummingbird and scene, file titled `photosforwapitibugle'. Please let me know if you might know who sent it to me. I need the information for the Wapiti Bugle by Sunday."

From Tammy J. Williams  
Public Affairs Specialist  
USDA Forest Service  
Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest & Pawnee National Grassland

Please see the following release regarding our planned prescribed burn. If anyone is interested in attending the burn, please contact John Bustos at 970-295-6674 or Tammy Williams at 970-295-6693

Prescribed Burn Planned for the Week of August 24

Fort Collins, Colo. (August 21, 2009) – The Canyon Lakes Ranger District on the Roosevelt National Forest is planning to continue work on the Sheep Creek 2 Prescribed burn Starting Monday, August 24 and continue burning through the fall as conditions allow.

Firefighters will burn 80 acres of Colorado Division of Wildlife land first. This area is located in the upper Cherokee Park State Wildlife Area, south of County Road 80C and north of the George Creek Gauging Station. Once that unit is completed firefighters will begin burning a 1,000 acre unit located west of the confluence of Sheep Creek and the North Fork of the Cache la Poudre River; east of Black Mountain. The goal of the burn is to reduce hazardous fuel loadings, improve forest health, improve wildlife habitat, and to protect private property, watersheds and forest habitat from catastrophic wildfire.

Recently, favorable conditions have occurred, making it an appropriate time to start burning again. Also, firefighters and equipment have returned from out-of-state fire assignments providing adequate staffing and support for the operations.

Stringent planning is also taking place before ignition occurs. There will be a minimum of 33 firefighters attending to the burn and four fire engines are expected to staff the burn. Half of the burn's perimeter is already blackened from burning last fall and part of the perimeter is a road, providing access for our fire engines. This helps ensure the burn will stay in the perimeter identified. As with every prescribed burn, specific conditions for fuel moisture and weather must also be met before we ignite and will be monitored throughout the burn.

For the latest on prescribed fires on the Canyon Lakes Ranger District, please call our recorded incident information line at 970-498-1030.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

September 1, 2009

Your choices for rest, recreation, shopping and dining activities for the Labor Day weekend:

The Restaurant at Crystal Lakes will be open Friday for lunch and dinner, Saturday for breakfast, lunch and dinner, Sunday for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Monday for breakfast.

Friday, Sept. 4, 2009

Lunch 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Dinner - Barbecue Ribs Special 4-8 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 5, 2009

Breakfast 8-11 a.m.

Lunch 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Dinner - Prime Rib Special 4-8 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 6, 2009

Breakfast Buffet 8-11 a.m.

Lunch 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Dinner - Rotisserie Chicken Special 4-8 p.m.

Monday, Sept 7, 2009

Breakfast - Pancake Bar 8-11 a.m.

Monday night pizza will be discontinued. The Restaurant will not be open on Mondays.

The Crystal Lakes Arts & Crafts Sale will be held in the Wapiti Center, Crystal Room and front lawn on Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There are always unique and clever crafts, great holiday gifts in abundance, and delicious baked treats to enjoy.

The Crystal Lakes Community Fund Bake Sale is held in conjunction with the craft sale. Baked goods donations can be dropped off at the Crystal Room on Saturday afternoon from 5-7 p.m. and early Sunday morning from 8-10 a.m. The CL Community Fund Bake Sale Booth will be open until the goodies are sold out.

There are a variety of events in Red Feather Lakes on Saturday for your enjoyment as well.

Stay safe and enjoy your weekend. I'll keep you posted.

Jody

September 13, 2009

We had snowflakes in the air yesterday, as the promise of winter arrived in a chilly blast. The fragrance of pine logs burning in campfires and fireplaces greeted us this morning as the day dawned bright and clear.

Loads of happy shoppers explored a remarkable variety of arts and crafts at the Annual Arts and Crafts Sale last Sunday. The Community Fund bake sale and the Crystal Lakes Volunteer Fire Dept. booth both seemed busy and active. Thanks to all who participated as crafters, thanks to those who donated goods, and thanks to all who shopped.

A special thanks goes out to each restaurant volunteer for their willingness to assist with the many different jobs involved in providing meals at the restaurant over Labor Day Weekend, and this weekend as well. Bruce and Becky Finger, Bryon and Sharon Fessler, summer hosts Walter and Cheryl Borra, Steve Shapland and Bob Leaumont, and CLRRRA Board members Rex Schweers, Jim Sidebottom, Jerry Valko, David Smith, Helen Koller and Steve Smalley all worked where needed from waiting tables to washing dishes. Additionally, waitresses Carrie Manley, Leni Buhler, Janet Schrodt and Kate Kelly have worked very hard to meet the restaurant patrons' needs. And, Anthony Orr and Andrew Pomerleau spent hours cooking in the kitchen.

The CLRRRA Board has requested that additional explanation be provided regarding the profit/loss figures for the Restaurant to date. Keep in mind that each Crystal Lakes membership is assessed \$10/lot annually for the Basecamp Special Assessment. A majority of those funds, but not all, have been collected for FY 09-10. The Basecamp Special Assessment revenue line adjustments are typically made once a year. This fiscal year 09-10, the budgeted revenue billed is \$16,310.00. If all \$16,310.00 were received, an average of \$1,359.17 of revenue would be available each month to support Basecamp, which includes the restaurant.

A Basecamp/Restaurant Funds spreadsheet is calculated and included with the financials each month, but that does not include the Basecamp Special Assessment. Restaurant figures for the first quarter (June/July/August) of fiscal year 09-10 revenues and expenses are now available. August figures proved to be the best yet, with revenues almost meeting expenses for the month of August. The first quarter spreadsheet shows a negative balance of \$6,736.81. If the \$1,359.17/month from the Basecamp Special Assessment for the three months is applied to this balance for the first quarter, the loss is only \$2,659.30. That is an encouraging bottom line for the first quarter and reflects considerable improvement over last year. Accolades go out to each restaurant employee; they all worked extremely hard this summer to achieve those results. The Restaurant is open weekends: Friday lunch & dinner, Saturday all day, and Sunday breakfast & lunch.

Volunteers are needed September 16-18 to help the Greenbelt Management Committee with the forest pilot project in Filing 15. Contact Ronnie Owens if you can lend a hand at (970) 482-1792 (home) or (970) 214-8587.

The Large Volume Water Fill will be closed for a few hours on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 for repair.

The CLRRRA Board will hold a workshop with the CL Community Fund members on Friday evening, Sept. 18th at 7 p.m. A Special CLRRRA Board meeting will follow that workshop, with the Agenda set as Executive Session to discuss personnel and contract issues.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

September 27, 2009

Found! A very friendly grey adult male cat with white paws has been rescued from his outdoor adventures in the 7th Filing. If you are missing this guy, I'm sure he would welcome being reunited with his family. Call the office for further information.

Remember to sign up for Oktoberfest; the deadline is close of business (4 p.m.) October 4th in the office and the cost is \$3.00 per person. There is a Mountain Man/Woman theme this year for those inspired to dress in costume; the action starts at 5 p.m. in the Water & Sewer Building on October 10th. The Recreation Committee plans on providing quite a list of good food, and I understand there will be dancing as well. I'm not sure who is bringing the broom! Don't miss the fun.

Thanks go out to restaurant volunteers Doug and Shirla Race, Becky and Brian Finger, Sharon Elam and Rex Schweers for their help the last couple weeks. The Restaurant is open Fridays for lunch and dinner, Saturdays for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Sundays for breakfast and lunch. A beer tasting party is planned for October 24th. Adults (21 years and older) will be invited to sample a variety of micro-brewery beers, and whole pizzas will be available to order when you select the beer you prefer to purchase to accompany your dinner. The full menu will also be available.

Remember, the sort yard is open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on County Road 73C just north of the end of pavement for beetle-kill trees. I understand you can bring in logs in 8' or 16' lengths.

The Architectural Control Committee (ACC) needs a member, if anyone is interested in participating on this important committee. The ACC meets the first Saturday of every month at 1 p.m. in the Wapiti Center. Phone the office at 970-881-2250 if you would be willing to serve.

The winds today are stripping some of the aspen gold from the trees. While admiring the color on my way to the office this morning, I was fortunate enough to see a wild turkey strutting his stuff on Kanawha Court above the low volume water fill. He sure moved off the road in a rush as I slowed down to admire his display.

I'll keep you posted.  
Jody

October 12, 2009

Oktoberfest was a big success even though the crowd was smaller than in some years. Our wintry weather may have impacted attendance. Several folks brought items in for the auction; the Recreation Committee thanks Gary Wiegel, Shirla & Doug Race, Diana and Jim Ward, Cindy & Jack Goodell, Don & Char St. John, and Helen and Rick Bowlin for their generous contributions. A big thanks to the Recreation Committee for another great gathering at Crystal Lakes.

The office has been copied via an email alert regarding a scam attempt to gather identity information. This particular scam involves phone requests for Social Security numbers. Everyone is reminded to never provide identification information to unsolicited callers.

The Restaurant will close for Friday lunch during the winter. There has not been enough business to maintain staff for Friday lunch at the restaurant. The Restaurant will open Friday evenings for dinner from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday breakfast, lunch and dinner 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Sunday for breakfast and lunch 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Next on the calendar is the Beer Tasting Party, scheduled for October 24th from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Restaurant. The micro-brews to be sampled include Sawtooth ESB, Jackman's Pale Ale, Polestar Pilsner, Blackjack Porter, Deep Cover Brown Ale, Haystack Wheat and Milk Stout. Whole pizzas may be ordered to accompany your beer of choice, or customers may select meals from the dinner menu.

In response to customer suggestions, Restaurant patrons may request a smaller size serving of several menu items by asking your server which items are available in the "Crystal Size", which includes a 25% reduction in price. Similarly, those with a larger appetite may ask their server for the "Mountain Man" size (super size) of several items for an additional cost of 25%.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

October 18, 2009

What a difference a week makes! Last week we were dealing with almost a foot of wet snow! Today it's sunny, although there were some high wind gusts this afternoon, and the temperatures have been in the high 60's.

The Crystal Lakes website has been updated and revised by the new webmasters, Bryon and Sharon Fessler. The web is up and running, so check out the new look, same address: [www.crystal-lakes.org](http://www.crystal-lakes.org) More revisions and updates will be forthcoming. Share your ideas and suggestions by contacting the CLA office at [crystal-lakes@crystal-lakes.org](mailto:crystal-lakes@crystal-lakes.org).

The Fishing Board is asking everyone to avoid wading in the streams for the next few weeks while the wild brown trout complete their spawn. Be sure to keep your dogs from running through the streams as well.

Stretch your budget and enjoy a meal at Crystal Lakes Restaurant at the same time. The Restaurant will feature \$2.99 burgers next Friday evening, October 23, 2009. They'll come with your choice of fries, chips or potato salad. Add cheese for \$ .50 or a fresh green salad for \$1.99/person. Saturday will be the Beer Tasting and Pizza Party. Sample from a selection of micro brews; then order a whole pizza for \$14.99 with your choice of toppings, or from the menu, to accompany your selected beer. You must be 21 years of age and have a valid photo ID to sample beer or purchase alcohol beverages. Sunday morning breakfast next weekend will feature a short stack of pancakes (two) for \$1.99. It's the best buy on the mountain!

The next New Owners' Orientation is scheduled for November 14, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. in the Wapiti Center. Everyone is welcome.

The Bear Aware Team reported that the bears will be hibernating in the next few weeks. They have determined that the previously reported break-in this summer was actually caused by a vandal. There have been no bear break-ins for fourteen (14) months, and Jim Tiffin credited the participation of the Crystal Lakes membership in achieving this goal. The hard work of the Bear Aware Team in educating the Crystal Lakes community, and the members' willingness to take the necessary steps to discourage bears from exploring cabins, cars, RVs, and campsites for trash or food has been successful. We must remain diligent in our efforts; it does make a difference. From those who place legal "Unwelcome Mats" to those who installed electric fences around their trailers and homes, to all who scared a bear with a loud noise or a blast from an air-horn - thanks. And the bear literally benefit with their lives. "A fed bear is a dead bear." DOW

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

October 25, 2009

The Greenbelt Management Committee has prepared their order form and accompanying informational sheet for ordering/purchasing seedlings to be received and planted next June. Both the order form and informational sheet are available on the Associations' website or here in the office for your convenience. Orders and checks will be accepted at the office as indicated in the information.

We received a notice from Larimer County that Commissioner Rennels and Tom Hobbs, CSU, are informing members in this area that ". . .CSU and the National Science Foundation are hosting a Community meeting on Monday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m. at the Livermore Community Hall, on a mule deer/Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) study taking place in the Laramie Foothills. There is a copy of the flyer available in the office if you want additional information. Tom Hobbs' contact information is Tom Hobbs, Professor, Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory and Graduate Degree Program in Ecology, CSU, 970-491-5738. Email: [Tom.Hobbs@colostate.edu](mailto:Tom.Hobbs@colostate.edu).

The office was notified that Crystal Lakes resident Bill Deckler passed away this weekend. Our condolences and prayers go out to Bill's wife Carolyn and his family.

This coming Friday night, the Restaurant will entice you with mouth-watering Chicago-style hot dogs, topped with all the traditional condiments - sauerkraut, onions, peppers, cucumbers, and more. Sides include Anthony's special homemade chips. As both the Broncos and Crystal Lakes celebrate their 40 years, the Restaurant chooses to fall back to 1969 prices with the best bargains on the mountain at \$2.99/plate for the hot dogs. (We'll let the Broncos deal with their notorious striped socks all by themselves - as long as they continue with their winning ways! Go Broncos!) The goblins will gather Saturday for a special Halloween Buffet at the Restaurant for \$12.99/person. Other menu items will also be available for those who prefer something other than the buffet choices. Arrive in costume for an added treat!

Lots of folks found new micro-brew favorites at last night's beer tasting. Thanks to all who participated.

A special thanks to Mark Shepard for the six sturdy benches he and Scout Troop 548 completed and placed at various lakeshore sites in Crystal. This was an Eagle Scout project which Mark presented to the CLRRA Board, and which he finished in a very thorough and professional manner. We look forward to hearing that Mark has reached his Eagle Scout goal.

The concrete pan has been poured for improved drainage across the road and parking area by the Wapiti mail sheds. The contractor explained that it will take at least seven (7) days to cure. Thru traffic will be closed until the contractor confirms that the pan has cured and the approach on both sides contoured to specs. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Have a fun Halloween. Remember that Daylight Savings Time ends next Sunday morning, Nov. 1st, at 2:00 a.m. Be sure the goblins are in before they turn into pumpkins!

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

November 8, 2009

After awakening to a light covering of "grapple" snow pellets this morning, the day has brightened and warmed into the high 40's/low 50's. Anyone who needs to remove a camper/trailer before the five-month limit on a lot is reached can take advantage of this spell of warm weather. It's a certainty that deeper, drifting snow will be upon us before long.

New Owners' Orientation will be held next Saturday at 1:00 p.m. in the Wapiti Room. Everyone is welcome to attend. Folks from several committees and representatives of the Community Fund, the Fire Department and the Bear Aware Team will also make short presentations and be available to answer questions.

Sign up sheets are on the office counter for the Christmas Party, scheduled this year for December 12th at 4:00 p.m. The Recreation Committee provides meat dishes; attendees can sign up for their choice of a potluck item to contribute. The Restaurant will have Party seating on the west side, and will be open for customers in the east seating area. I've checked with Santa and he confirms that his December plans include stopping by the Crystal Lakes Christmas Party, one of his favorite holiday gatherings. Don't miss the fun!

In response to numerous requests, the Restaurant will feature their mouth-watering, mountain favorite, prime rib dinner with choice of potato, soup or salad, dinner roll and vegetable for \$16.95 this coming Saturday. Join them for a very enjoyable evening of excellent dining.

Watch for information about a sewing/knitting group with plans to meet at the Restaurant on Sunday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to ~2:30 p.m.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

November 22, 2009

The most recent weather forecast for 3 to 7 inches of snow this evening doesn't quite match the sunshine I see out the east facing windows this afternoon. Of course, this is Colorado. . .and the weather may change drastically before sundown!

The Slash Pile remains closed until further notice. The slash pile burn is in the cooling down phase with several hot spots still actively smoking. We have roped the area off and posted signs all along the frontage that the slash pile is closed. It is very discouraging to find that someone has already dumped a new pile of slash at the site, creating a potential hazard. Please do NOT dump slash until the notices are removed. We evaluate the area daily, and must wait until the ash and the ground beneath have cooled to a safe temperature before it is safe to re-open. If you see someone dumping slash prior to that time, please report all identification you can to the office immediately. I will send an email out when the slash pile area re-opens, and we will remove the closed signs. Thanks for your understanding and patience while the cooling occurs.

I want to acknowledge and thank the Crystal Lakes Volunteer Fire Department firefighters and auxiliary who worked round the clock monitoring the active slash burn. These volunteers were willing to adjust their schedules at the last minute to accommodate the fire-watch needs, and served all the property owners by those efforts. We are very dependent on "Mother Nature" for the required weather conditions to initiate the slash burn, so it is not something that can be planned for a certain "convenient" date. When the conditions are right we check to see if there are sufficient firefighters to meet the call, and are grateful when they are so willing to help us make this happen.

Kathy Dillon-Durica from the Greenbelt Management Committee has updated the seedling order form to reflect the changes made by the forest service. The office and the web site have the revised version.

The office will be closed Thursday, November 26th. No staff will be on the premises. We will re-open Friday with regular office hours. The Restaurant will be open next Fri. evening, Saturday and Sunday as usual. If you have an emergency over the holiday, call 911.

As they said on the reservation while I was growing up, "Happy turkey-time!"

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

November 29, 2009

The slash pile remains closed. We have "stirred" the ash piles today and created more smoke as the hot spots continue to smolder. DO NOT dump slash until further notice. Thanks for your cooperation.

The Restaurant will keep the TV room open to the public during several Christmas parties, which have scheduled celebrations over the next few weekends. Watch for the posting of Larimer County signs advertising the Restaurant along 74E and 73C. Hopefully those will be finished and installed in the near future.

A murder of ravens greeted dawn and the earliest arrivals at the office this morning. They were busy pecking some tasty treats known only to themselves from the front parking area, and then played a round of squawk and hop between the aspen tree, the fence and a white pickup, which became a part of raven hide and seek. Quite a busy spot for several minutes until the thermals tempted them to fly up and away. We've warmed above 44 degrees here at the office at 2:30 p.m. It is truly a gorgeous day in Crystal Lakes.

Although there is a layer of ice on the lakes and ponds, there is still open water at the inlets. Do not presume the ice is yet thick enough to venture out on it safely for fishing. I'll try to include information from the Fishing Board members when conditions are cold enough for safe ice fishing access on the lakes & ponds. The streams are still open with ice along the edges.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

December 6, 2009

The mountain is in the grips of a real cold spell; temperatures today have edged up to 4 degrees. The contrast between yesterday's temperatures in the twenties can sure be felt when you step outside, and the light breeze sends the cold right through you. We saw lots of folks with Christmas trees they had harvested from the tree cutting areas around Red Feather Lakes yesterday. There are fewer brave souls out in the bitter cold today.

There will be a final opportunity for community members to provide their input regarding the proposed Red Feather Lakes Elementary School closure. A meeting is scheduled at the RFL Elementary School gym from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, December 10. A handout has been made available in the Crystal Lakes office for anyone asking for it from the panel which presented information to the Poudre School District Facility Design Feasibility Committee. You are encouraged to attend Thursday's meeting if possible.

Crystal Lake continued to have open water this week, even with the low temperatures. Fishing Board President Lou Phillippe suggested that if you choose to ice fish on the smaller lakes and ponds you should wear a buoyancy device and have a rope attached that reaches the bank of the lake or pond. It is always wise to have a buddy with you for assistance when you are out fishing at this time of year.

By popular request the Restaurant is planning to make "Take Out Pizza" available this coming Friday, Dec. 11. Anthony will have three choices available, all 16" pizzas, meat lovers for \$13.95, veggie for \$11.95, and cheese for \$10.95. You may phone in your order to 970-881-2106; ALLOW 45 MINUTES to 1 HOUR BEFORE PICK-UP.

Other Featured offerings for future weekends include:

Friday, December 18:

Fish & Chips, all you can eat \$8.95

Saturday, December 19:

Burger & fries \$2.99

The specialty beers from Left Hand Brewery will be available.

December 25 - CLOSED on Christmas Day.

Saturday, December 26:

Lasagna, with garlic toast and soup or salad

Select a Chianti or Sangria wine to accompany your meal.

Friday, January 1:

Full menu available

Saturday, January 2:

Dollar Taco Night \$1.00 each

Enjoy a Margarita wine cooler.

And finish you meal with a mouth watering sopaipilla.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

December 20, 2009

It sure was frigid last week. I hope you are finding toasty-warm spots to snuggle in during the bitter cold snaps we've been having, and that you are staying well. C.L. staff members have experienced a variety of "bugs" over the last couple weeks, but we seem to be slowly recuperating. My thanks to each of the staff for their hard work while I sniffled my way through a cough and cold. We are all trying to be extra sensitive about not exposing others if we have caught something; and the plan seems to be working. We each seem to have dealt with a different problem; at least so far we haven't shared the same symptoms!

The office will be closed Friday, December 25th and Friday, January 1st. No CLA staff will be on the premises on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. With that in mind, please do not leave trash outside of the trash compactor if it is full. Staff will be back at Crystal Lakes on Saturday morning and will compact the trash at that time. (In town, folks hold their trash until their "trash pick-up day", which could be six days away.) Here, everyone's trash day after the holidays can be as soon as December 26th and January 2nd. Thanks so much for your help with this.

The Restaurant will be closed on Friday, Christmas Day; but will open for breakfast on Saturday, Dec. 26. The Restaurant will be open for dinner on New Year's Day. Restaurant staff members have created several special meal offerings for the coming week-ends, to include:

- Saturday, December 26th Dinner Special of Lasagna with Garlic Toast \$6.99; add Soup & Salad for only \$2.99 more.
- Sundays - Those 21-years and older may enjoy "Mimosas for Two" at \$7.00 every Sunday.
- Friday, January 1st Dinner Special will be pizza in-house or to go. Meat combo \$14.95; Veggie pizza \$13.95; and Cheese pizza \$11.95. Please allow 45 minutes prep. time. Also available will be ham with black-eyed peas and corn bread for \$6.99; add Soup & Salad for only \$2.99 more.
- Saturday, January 2nd Breakfast - features Biscuits and Gravy \$2.99  
Lunch & Dinner - Tacos for \$1.00 each with Rice and Beans for an additional \$1.00.
- Sunday, January 3rd Ham & Egg Scramble for \$3.99

Watch for additional featured meals in the weeks to come.

The Fishing Board has scheduled a Special Meeting next Saturday, December 26, 2009, in the Wapiti Center at 11:00 a.m. Their full agenda is posted on the office counter, but basically the Fishing Board will be reviewing 09-10 fishing revenues, reviewing bids from vendors, and discussing the stocking schedule. This meeting is open to the Crystal

Lakes membership.

New Year's Eve game night is the next scheduled event here at the Wapiti Room on December 31st. I'll have the time included in next week's group email, or phone the office after Christmas for that time. Folks gather to play Board games, a variety of card games, and visit with friends while welcoming in the New Year. Everyone brings snacks to share, and the R&R Board agreed to be your certified alcohol beverage servers, available to sell you a cold beer or a glass of your choice of wine to accompany your snacks.

The office has had some inquiries about when the slash pile will re-open. Field workers have stirred the ash several times to complete the burn. Last week we were anticipating being able to move the ash away from the dump area; however, when equipment was taken into the ash there were still embers which flared into open flame. Unfortunately, someone has ignored the signs stating that the slash pile is closed, and those folks have dumped new material. We can not risk disturbing the hot ashes because the newly dumped slash may ignite from embers, resulting in another burn. So, the slash pile will remain closed, now, until we can confirm that it is totally cooled. The USFS has stated that confirmation a burn is out is reached when a foot of snow remains on top of a burn site for a prolonged period of time (1 to 2 weeks). Unfortunately, the person(s) who ignored the closed signs and dumped slash have delayed the entire membership's use of the slash pile, now, until we can be sure that the material presents no threat. Please let the office know if you see someone dumping slash prior to the slash pile being opened again. Be prepared to provide as much identification of the violators as possible. Thanks for your help.

If you haven't yet checked out the new website, you may want to take a few minutes to enjoy the photos, the updated information and the new formatting. Most folks seem to find the presentation very user-friendly. Just click on <http://www.crystal-lakes.org>.

I hope your halls are decked, your bows are trimmed and your eggnog or cider is spiced just right.

If you have an emergency, call 911.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

December 27, 2009

Although Santa had to battle wind and snowdrifts, he seems to have delivered all the treats and goodies on his list, after checking it twice of course! Our maintenance workers have all been plowing roads Saturday and Sunday to open them up again. There is still an occasional snow flurry this afternoon, but the skies have had clear portions and the sun has been shining for much of today. Temperatures are below freezing, and will drop into the single digits overnight according to the latest weather forecast.

Keep close watch on your pets. DOW officer Jim Jackson notified the Bear Aware Team (BAT) leaders, who shared the information with the office that a dog died last Tuesday from injuries it received from a confrontation with what is presumed to be a bobcat. The size of the tracks and the fact that mountain lions follow the deer to lower elevations during the winter, leads DOW and BAT to believe this attack was by a bobcat. The attack occurred in Filing 13, and is the first report of any wildlife confrontation received by Bear Aware this year, according to CLA property owner and BAT leader Jim Tiffin. **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR PETS UNATTENDED FOR EVEN A FEW MINUTES.** All wild animals can be dangerous given the right conditions.

The New Year's Eve Party kicks off at 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening, December 31st. Bring snacks to share and enjoy lots of visiting, games and cards as you choose.

Finally, everyone is asked to be on the lookout for a stolen horse. A 9 year old palomino mare was stolen from her owner's property in Wiley, CO. She is a good roping horse and known on the circuit in this area. The owner suspects the thief is someone who has seen her compete or knows the horse. Since ropers travel considerable distances, the request has gone out to ask anyone who may see this mare to notify the owner Amy Wollert (719) 660-9389 or Brandon at (719) 688-2357. The mare is a dark yellow with a blaze face, 2 hind pastern markings and a wire cut on her left rear cannon. She is branded with a lazy D or W on left shoulder and has a freeze brand as well. Anyone seeing this mare, please contact Amy at the above number.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

December 31, 2009

Greetings from Crystal Lakes on the very last day of the year and of this decade! I heard on the radio that tonight is a "blue moon" and a rare blue moon at that. As you probably know, a blue moon is a second full moon in a month. This is more unique because it falls on the last day of the year and the last day of the decade! So, as the saying goes, "Whatever happens tonight happens once in a blue moon."

I do have good news. Our maintenance guys worked on the slash pile this week, and were able to move the ash and debris to the back edge of the area. We have let the ground cool for a few days, and now the slash pile can re-opened. I will head out there this afternoon after the office closes and remove the closed signs. Thanks to all who have patiently waited for conditions to cool to the point that we can safely re-open the area.

Have a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

January 14, 2010

The roads are still snowpacked and icy, although temperatures this week have climbed into the 40s for brief periods during the day.

Restaurant specials for the weekend include:

Friday:

Dinner: Pizza in house or To Go. (Allow 45 minutes for preparation. And, if the phone number is busy, please keep trying. The Restaurant has only one phone and a limited number of servers on duty, so they have to get back to it to answer. Your patience and understanding are appreciated.)

Also Friday night, All you can eat Tilapia for \$8.95. Salad bar in an extra \$2.99

Saturday:

Breakfast: French Toast for \$2.99

Dinner: Chili relleno with rice and beans for \$3.99

Salad bar an additional \$2.99

Sunday:

Breakfast: Eggs Benedict for \$5.99

Come enjoy.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

January 18, 2010

There will be a Town Meeting February 20, 2010, from 1 to 2 p.m. in the Wapiti Center. The Road Improvement Committee will present information supporting their proposal for a Special Assessment, which will be presented to the Road & Recreation Association membership by written ballot in March. The Road Improvement Committee has posted an article with photos and information about previous road improvement projects on the Associations' web at [www.crystal-lakes@crystal-lakes.org](http://www.crystal-lakes@crystal-lakes.org) Additional informational articles will appear on the web, so be sure to check for updated information; a new article should appear by week's end. Members are encouraged to attend the Town Meeting 2-20-10.

The CLRRA Board will hold their regular monthly meeting at 2:00 p.m. on February 20, 2010. Board meetings are open to the members, and folks attending the Town Meeting at 1:00 p.m. are invited to stay for the Board meeting.

Some property owners have noticed stone and timber "structures" on various Association-owned greenbelts. Some of these are thought to be made by children constructing "forts". Please remind youngsters that the greenbelts should remain natural; those "forts" would better be constructed on their family's property (to properly protect the family from whatever dangers are currently assaulting the "homestead", whether it be aliens, viscous bandits, or an army of droids!)

The deadline for Road & Recreation Association Board candidates' resumes and Fishing Board candidates' resumes is close of business (4 p.m.) February 28, 2010. All CLRRA Board and Fishing Board candidates must have their resumes in to the office by that time. The ballots will then be printed and readied for mailing to the membership in March.

The next New Owners' Orientation is scheduled for Saturday, February 13, 2010, at 1:00 p.m. All members are invited. Representatives of Bear Aware, the CL Volunteer Fire Department, Fishing Board, and Greenbelt Committee will be available to answer questions and provide pertinent information. CL staff provides basic information about both Associations.

Watch for up-coming Restaurant specials, or phone the Restaurant at 970-881-2106 during the hours they are open for information about their latest special meals. I understand several favorite specials will be included in the coming weeks, including prime rib, fish tacos, lasagna, marinated pork chops, and lots more. Watch for the day and time for your meal special.

There will be a Valentine's Day Dessert Pot-Luck in the Wapiti Center from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, February 14, 2010. Come share your Valentine sweets, sample some others' luscious desserts and enjoy the afternoon.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

February 1, 2010

The mountain weather has remained cold, but free of the heavy snowstorms that hit the southern part of Colorado over the last week. Shaded and north facing roads remain icy and snow-packed, but the snow routes are open.

Several folks have reported seeing tracks of a mountain lion tracking a moose in Filing 12, ranging from the Panhandle Stream up to Shoshoni, S. Ottawa, Penobscot and Apalachee Courts. Apparently this is a big lion based on the size of the tracks seen in fresh snow. Stay safe; be sure your children remain right with you if you're out walking, and your pets are on leash.

New Owners' Orientation is scheduled for February 13th at 1:00 p.m. in the Wapiti Center.

As promised, the February Specials at the Restaurant follow.

I'll keep you posted.  
Jody

The Restaurant at Crystal Lakes  
Featured Special for February 2010

Friday, February 5, 2010  
Pizza Night - In-house or To-Go  
Chili Cheeseburger, \$4.99

Saturday, February 6, 2010  
Breakfast: ½ order Biscuits & Gravy for \$ .99

Dinner: Prime Rib dinner with choice of potato and chef's vegetable, \$9.99  
Sunday, February 7, 2010  
Ham & Eggs Scramble for \$3.99

Friday, February 12, 2010  
Lasagna, garlic toast and chef's vegetable \$5.95  
Pizza Night: In-house to To-Go

Saturday, February 13, 2010  
Celebrate Valentine's Day early with a special dinner:  
Marinated Pork Chops, choice of potato, chef's vegetable, soup and salad bar plus a small bottle of champagne \$11.99

Sunday, February 14, 2010  
Quiche with fresh fruit and Mimosa \$6.95

Friday, February 19, 2010

Pizza Night: In-house or To-Go

Soft Shell Tacos \$1.00 each

Saturday, February 20, 2010

Breakfast: All you can eat pancakes \$2.99

Dinner: Jimmy's Fire Burger - Cheddar cheese with jalapeños and Chips \$4.99 (named after a member of the Crystal Lakes Volunteer Fire Department!)

Sunday, February 21, 2010

Danish, fruit and coffee \$1.99

Friday, February 26, 2010

Pizza Night: In-house or To-Go

All you can eat Tilapia \$8.95

Saturday, February 27, 2010

Spaghetti and Meatsauce with garlic toast \$3.99 (Back by popular demand!)

Sunday, February 28, 2010

Chicken Fried Steak and Eggs \$4.99

Danish, fruit and coffee \$1.99

February 7, 2010

A light dusting of snow continues to fall - adding to the ¼ inch we've received thus far. It's a cold and grey day, a good one to sit by the fire and cheer on the football team of choice, or select your favorite commercial between the interruptions of the football game! In any case, stay inside, warm and safe!

Remember that the Recreation Committee is sponsoring a Valentine Pot-Luck Dessert Party next Sunday afternoon in the Wapiti Center. Bring your favorite sweets to share and come have fun. Festivities begin at 2 p.m.

There may be progress in the community's efforts to keep the Red Feather Elementary School open. The Feasibility Committee concluded that it is illogical to close the school, and unanimously voted to "leave Red Feather alone". A full article is on the front page of the Coloradoan this morning, for those of you wanting to read the entire explanation. Apparently the Steering Committee will review the issue; the School Board will meet on Tuesday to vote whether to reclaim the authority to make this decision from Dr. Wilson. A Crystal Lakes property owner asked that we recognize the efforts of Red Feather Lakes residents Tom and Judy Viola, who have given an enormous amount of time to keep the school open. I'm sure there are many additional Red Feather Lakes and Crystal Lakes residents who have also worked hard at these efforts. Thanks to all who have united and supported the RFL school. Hopefully the results will be positive for keeping the school open and serving the RFL community.

I received a letter from US Senator Michael Bennet stating that H.R. 1858, the bill to provide a boundary adjustment and land conveyances between the USFS and Crystal Lakes property owners in Filing 9, has been referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. Mr. Bennet said in his letter that he will, "keep your concerns in as the Senate consider(s) this issue." I'm sure additional correspondence to our senators supporting our C.L. 9th Filing owners would be helpful.

A couple additional reminders:

- The New Owners' Orientation is scheduled for next Saturday here in the Wapiti Center at 1:00 p.m.
- There will be a Town Meeting on Saturday, February 20, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. to allow the Road Improvement Committee an opportunity to explain the needs they are seeing for road improvement project funding.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

February 21, 2010

We've received several inches of snow over the last few days. Roads are being plowed each day, but reports are that they are slick, as are the county paved roads. Use caution!

Additional information regarding the Red Feather Lakes Elementary School is that the last Small Schools Forum is scheduled at Fort Collins High School for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23rd. Fort Collins High School is located at 3400 Lambkin Way. Parents, PSD staff and community members are invited to attend and provide input at this final community forum. Crystal Lakes members are encouraged to continue your support for Red Feather Lakes Elementary School.

The Town Meeting was very informative yesterday. Twenty-three members braved the snowy conditions to hear and see the presentation, and ask questions of the Road Committee members and the Road & Recreation Association Board. The Road Improvement presentation will soon be available on the Crystal Lakes web, so watch for that at [www.crystal-lakes.org](http://www.crystal-lakes.org). If you have questions, please take time to email the office. We can forward your questions on to the Road Committee or the CLRRRA Board as appropriate.

The CLRRRA Board approved a Wine Tasting Event, scheduled for March 20th in the Restaurant from 3 to 6 p.m. Of course, you must be 21 years of age to be served an alcohol beverage. The cost is \$12.00/person, and each person paying that fee will receive a \$4.00 discount coupon for the Restaurant dinner that evening. Sounds like there will be a fine selection of wines with a card to mark to indicate your preferences as you sample the selections. Watch for the ad in the Wapiti Bugle. Proceeds will go to the CL Volunteer Fire Department.

Both Boards participated in a surprise fire drill during their Joint Boards' Meeting Saturday. Evacuation times and response times for CLA personnel were good. Everyone got to stand in the snowy parking lot for a few minutes while inspections were performed indoors. Regular fire drills and discussion with family at home about the best escape routes, whether egress routes are clear of furniture or other items that might hinder a quick escape, where to meet when evacuation has occurred, and who to call for help (911) are all important items. It's important to review the procedures with kids and grandkids, so that they are aware of the plans. One of the saddest things I've heard is of folks going back inside a burning home searching for family, when in fact the family members had exited the back door and were safe in the back yard. I can't emphasize strongly enough that meeting places be clearly learned and practiced - front and back of the house - until everyone can be reunited. (The Board members all did well, and no one even threw a snowball at me for making that a surprise part of their Saturday agenda!)

We have and will continue to practice fire drills at Basecamp, and will also conduct them at the Restaurant with the staff there as well. We'll do our part and we want to count on you to do your part too. Stay safe so you can come enjoy the mountain!

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

March 14, 2010

Isn't it hard to believe Daylight Savings is back in effect already? Did you get all your clocks changed? If you have selected Daylight Savings dates as the days to check and change batteries in your Smoke Alarms and Carbon monoxide detectors, be sure to do that. I know some folks use Daylight Savings, some use the summer and winter solstice, and some use the 4th of July and New Years Day. In any case, be sure to check those important warning devices.

Crystal Lakes had its own private snowstorm this week. There was snow in the air Wednesday, but not much accumulation until late afternoon. Very little snow fell in Glacier View, and I've heard estimates of perhaps two inches in Red Feather; however we had between 8 inches and 14 inches (or more) blanket Crystal Lakes Wednesday night into Thursday. We have now moved into our fifth season on the mountain; as many of you know, we have summer, fall, winter, spring and mud. Of course, mud season comes and goes throughout the year!

If you haven't received your ballot from the Road & Recreation Association, it should be arriving shortly. **BE SURE TO VOTE!** A team of thirteen volunteers helped prepare the mailing Thursday. Thanks to Harold Alexander, Helen Bowlin, Herb & Sharon Cooper, George Deaton, Kate Kelly, Helen Norton, Doug & Shirla Race, Don Reffel, Jim & Jane Tiffin, and Jerry Valko for their willingness and efficiency. They had the mailing ready to be picked up by the postal carrier before noon! There were two candidates for the two Road & Recreation Association Board openings, and three candidates for the three Fishing Board openings, so elections were not necessary for those positions. The candidates will be appointed to the respective Boards in June.

Resumes are due in the CLA office by close of business March 29th for candidates interested in running for a Board position on the Water & Sewer Association Board. Water & Sewer candidates' resumes are published in the May/June issue of the Wapiti Bugle, and the W&S election is held at the W&S Annual Meeting. This year the W&S Annual Meeting will be on May 29th. You should receive the W&S Annual Meeting Notice in late April with all the meeting details.

Restaurant Specials are listed below. Remember the Wine Tasting Event scheduled for next Saturday from 3 to 6 p.m. in the Restaurant. See additional information below.

The CLA office will be closed Sunday, April 4, 2010 for Easter. No employees will be on property on that date.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

March Restaurant Specials

Friday, March 19, 2010

Dinner:

Pot Roast \$9.95

16" pizza in house or To Go starting at \$11.95

Saturday, March 20, 2010

Breakfast:

Biscuits & gravy (all you can eat) \$3.99

Wine Tasting 3 to 6 p.m.

\$12.00/participant (must be 21 years of age and have photo ID)

Participants may taste 9 varieties of wines.

Participants will help select the new house wines for the restaurant.

Participants will receive a \$4.00 discount coupon good towards any food item at The Restaurant.

Dinner:

"Surf & Turf" Prime Rib dinner \$9.99

Lobster Market price

Sunday, March 21, 2010

Breakfast:

Ham & eggs skillet \$3.99

Friday, March 26, 2010

Dinner:

Chicken Enchiladas \$7.95

16" pizza in house or To Go starting at \$11.95

Saturday, March 27, 2010

Breakfast:

Muffin & coffee \$1.99

Dinner

Stuffed pork chops \$9.99

Sunday, March 28, 2010

Palm Sunday Breakfast:

Quiche & mimosa \$6.95

Friday, April 2, 2010

Dinner:

All you can eat flounder filet \$9.95

16" pizza in house or To Go starting at \$11.95

Saturday, April 3, 2010

Breakfast Buffet

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010

Closed, so employees can celebrate the holiday with their families.

Thursday, March 25, 2010

#### Weather Window

We received between 18 and 24+ inches of snowfall Tuesday into Wednesday. The field crew has been working very long hours to keep the roads open. It's warming up into the fifties today, so when things freeze again tonight it will be very slick. The weather forecasts are in "guess mode" right now, with one forecast predicting 30% chance of snow Friday into Saturday; the other forecast is listing 50% chance of snow Friday developing into a 70% chance of steady snowfall Friday night. No predictions yet for the possible depth. I think it means that if you are headed for Crystal Lakes, be prepared for winter driving conditions and winter weather!

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

March 28, 2010

Roads are again in "melt mode" as this week's snow begins to turn from white to mountain mud. We've had icicles five feet long and dripping! And the little finches have been bathing in the puddles. We all enjoy the promises of spring after these several days of snow and blowing snow reminded us more of winter.

**REMINDER: THE OFFICE AND RESTAURANT WILL BE CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2010. THERE WILL BE NO CLA STAFF ON THE PREMISES THAT DAY.**

**\*\*\* IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY, CALL 911. \*\*\***

The Greenbelt Management Committee encourages everyone who is still intending on ordering seedlings to get their orders placed. The variety of trees becomes more limited as orders are placed, so don't miss out. The GMC will be distributing the seedlings that have been ordered on Saturday morning, June 12th in the parking lot east of the office. Plan on picking up your seedlings at that time. There should be directions about planting and care available then, or ask a GMC member if you have additional questions.

The Larimer County Wood Sort Yard will open April 3rd. It is located along CR 73C on the Bear Creek Development property, just north of Chipeta Road. It will be open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The last collection day will be Saturday, June 26th. Their News Release includes the following:

- Logs 8 ft. 3 in. or longer are preferred, though shorter logs will be accepted.
- No stumps will be accepted.
- Green slash will be accepted only at the Red Feather Lakes site.
- Slash is being accepted by a private vender and a \$15.00/pickup truck load fee will be charged.
- For further information contact Dave Lentz, Larimer County Forester, at 498-5765 or at [dlentz@larimer.org](mailto:dlentz@larimer.org).

Both the Architectural Control Committee and the Policy & Documents Committee are looking for new volunteers. If you would like to serve on either committee, please phone the office at 970-881-2250 or respond via email to [crystal-lakes@crystal-lakes.org](mailto:crystal-lakes@crystal-lakes.org).

Be sure to mail your Road & Recreation written ballot back to the office so that it is received before close of business April 19th.

I hope the Easter Bunny brings you your favorite flavor of marshmallow "Peep".

You will find the April Specials from the Restaurant listed below.

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

April Specials at  
The Restaurant  
970-881-2106

Friday, April 2, 2010  
Friday Pizza Night: In House or To Go  
Flounder & Wild Rice \$7.95

Saturday, April 3, 2010  
Brunch Buffet \$8.95  
Dinner: Chicken Fried Steak \$7.95

Sunday, April 4, 2010  
Closed Easter Sunday

Friday, April 9, 2010  
Friday Pizza Night: In House or To Go  
Marinated Pork Chops \$10.95

Saturday, April 10, 2010  
French Toast \$3.95  
Prime Rib \$9.99

Sunday, April 11, 2010  
Pancake wrapped sausage \$4.99  
Carrie's Berry Turkey Sandwich \$6.95

Friday, April 16, 2010  
Friday Pizza Night: In House or To Go  
Chicken Chili Noodles \$7.95

Saturday, April 17, 2010  
Breakfast Burrito \$4.95  
Pot Roast \$8.95

Sunday, April 18, 2010  
Biscuits & Gravy \$2.99  
Lunch Shrimp & Avacado Salad \$6.95

Friday, April 23, 2010  
Friday Pizza Night: In House or To Go  
Southwest Chicken \$7.95

Saturday, April 24, 2010  
Southwest Skillet \$4.95  
Stuffed Pork Chops \$9.99

Sunday, April 25, 2010

Quiche & Mimosas \$6.95

Muffin or Danish with coffee \$1.99

Friday, April 30, 2010

Friday Pizza Night: In House or To Go

Pork Cutlet \$9.95

Saturday, May 1, 2010

Steak Fajitas

Sunday, May 2, 2010

Brunch Buffet

April 18, 2010

We had our first rainstorm of 2010 yesterday. The seasons are actually changing! The Bear Aware Team reported that the bear will be coming out of hibernation in stages over the next few weeks, and the Team strongly urges everyone to remove the seed birdfeeders now. We must all be diligent in discouraging the bear from forming bad feeding habits – no garbage, no bird seed, no hummingbird feeders after sundown tempting them to start looking for other tasty snacks on your lot. If you have gotten out of the habit, start locking your car again so the bear can't find an easy way in to those enticing french-fry or burger wrappers and crumbs. Let's keep the break-in report at zero for the entire summer!

New Restaurant hours will begin May 13th with dinner served from 4 to 8 p.m. on Thursdays, Friday hours beginning May 14th will include lunch and dinner, opening at 11 a.m. for lunch and remaining open through dinner, closing at 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday hours will remain the same. Watch for May Specials next week.

We've set two dates for Special Trash Days this summer: June 19th and August 21st. There is a fee per cubic yard of trash, but this does provide owners with an opportunity to dispose of non-household items without the trip themselves to the Larimer County landfill. We staff the Special Trash Dumpster from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to accept non-household trash from Crystal Lakes property owners - first come, first served until the container is filled.

From the Newsletter:

The newsletter committee is looking for a Crystal Lakes member who would be willing to serve as the committee's photographer, attending events and getting photos of participants as well as capturing pictures of the many photo ops. available in Crystal Lakes year round.

From the Web Master:

Along the same vein, pictures are also needed for the web. Details are being finalized for a photo contest for Crystal Lakes pictures for the web, to include several categories. Our web master is looking for photos from C.L. property owners of events, kids, animals, fishing, scenery, flowers, seasons, etc. So, as you snap pictures, think of saving them and entering them in the photo contest. Watch for more details. Meanwhile, if you would simply be pleased to see one of your photos selected for presentation on the Crystal Lakes web, please feel free to send those photos with the photographer's name, filing and lot, and the approximate date the photo was taken to the office and we will forward them on to the web master.

Although temperatures have warmed, the Fishing Board reported there is still quite a depth to the ice covering Crystal Lake and most of the smaller lakes and ponds. There is some open water on Snoopy Pond, but this is a very unusual year to have such a depth of ice on the larger bodies of water this late. This gives credence to the fact that some of the 11th Filing WS systems and several privately owned water and wastewater systems are

still frozen. Even though there is ice on the lakes, the conditions can change quickly and the ice may become very hazardous within a few hours. Weather events such as the rainstorms yesterday directly impact ice conditions and safety. Please don't take risks. Wait until the water opens to catch that fish!

The Bear Aware Team will meet next Sunday at 10 a.m. They plan on having a presentation by Mary McCormick with results of the Mountain Lion Study in Boulder County, the Roaring Forks Bear Study and some information about Coyote Training and urban coyote problems. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend this first meeting of 2010 for the Bear Aware Team.

As you plan your summer weekends, you are reminded that the Greenbelt Management Committee will have the seedlings here for those folks who have ordered them on Saturday, June 12, from 8 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at Basecamp. Be sure to come pick up your seedlings at that time if you have placed and paid for an order.

The streams are beginning to show faster moving water. Be very aware that as the thaw continues, the run-off can be life threatening in the fast moving waters. Stay safe.

I'll keep you posted.  
Jody

April 24, 2010

After enduring a challenging snowstorm yesterday and last night, we are dealing now with ~ 2 ½+ feet of snow and the drifts that 30 mph winds have created. The plows have been out working on roads since long before dawn this morning, and will continue this afternoon, starting up again tomorrow. They open the primary routes, then the secondary and tertiary roads – meaning they first open the main roads, then those that are not used as much, and then the courts. They are usually aware of sites where folks are located, and do their best to get those roads open in the first couple days.

I understand that power has been restored to the area. After a chilly, dark night for many on the mountain, that will be appreciated by a number of neighbors.

The Restaurant crew has made it in and the Restaurant will be open for dinner tonight, if you have a safe means to and want to get out of your cabin. Please don't risk getting stuck. They will be open again tomorrow for breakfast and lunch. If your roads are still icy and snow-packed, stay home and stay safe!

For those interested, the Panel of Counters convened yesterday and counted the ballots. The Special Road Improvement Assessment issue was approved, with 539 voting "Yes" and 480 voting "No". There were 1019 valid ballots, a record number of votes cast. Thanks to everyone who voted, and to the volunteers who served as counters: Diana Ward, Sherry Alexander, Kate Kelly, Shirla Race and Harold Alexander.

Also, my special thanks to all three snowplow workers: Rick, Cameron, and Jay, to Bev for checking voice mail from her home today; and to Marian for making it in to the office to answer your phone calls and be available to assist folks here in the office. It's been a busy day!

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

May 3, 2010

The summer schedule has started for the office, when it is open daily 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A symposium regarding pine beetle will be held next Saturday, May 8th in Estes Park at the Holiday Inn at 201 S. Saint Vrain Ave. from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. and is free. Dave Leatherman will give the keynote presentation, "Mountain Pine Beetle: The Bug That Forgot How to Read" at 8:30 a.m., with additional presentations and educational opportunities throughout the day. You may contact Estes Park Tree Symposium at [www.estes.org/publicworks](http://www.estes.org/publicworks) for additional information, or call them at 577-3588.

The Quarterly Crystal Lakes' New Owners' Orientation will be held May 8th in the Wapiti Center, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is invited.

The Crystal Lakes Volunteer Fire Department will be accepting donated items from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the following Saturdays: May 8, May 15, and May 22. You may drop off your items at the Fire Station. No heavy furniture or used appliances can be accepted, although photos of larger pieces of furniture will be on display for anyone interested in purchasing such items.

The CLVFD Garage Sale will be held Sunday, May 30, 2010 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event benefits the CLVFD.

I'll keep you posted.  
Jody

May 7, 2010

Please be aware that the opening of the Lady of the Lakes Catholic church has been delayed. The opening for this summer will be announced and bulletins posted when a date is available.

We awoke to 2-3 inches of snow this morning, and 19 very cold degrees on the thermometer. These cold temperatures and weather are delaying work on the 6th Filing water system in preparation for opening the system for the summer.

From the Restaurant:

Saturday, May 8th – Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with Mike's Margarita coolers, a salsa bar and a Mexican combo plate!

Sunday, May 9th – Happy Mother's Day! Treat Mom to Mother's Day Brunch at the Restaurant from 8:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Restaurant will feature quiche and a free glass of champagne for mothers (21 years and over), for \$8.95. For kids under 10 years old, the brunch will run \$4.95 including beverages.

Don't forget the New Owners' Orientation tomorrow at 1:00 p.m. in the Wapiti Center. See you there!

I'll keep you posted.

Jody

May 24, 2010

We had spring for about half a week, and got very hopeful that we were working toward warmer days. I was so confident this morning that I left my coat in the car! It is now snowing and the wind is howling. We've had about half an hour of sleet and hail to start the weather change and now are getting a familiar coating of some strange white substance on the cars and fence railings! That was a short spring!

Plans are in full swing for the kick-off to summer, with new Restaurant hours to include Thursday night dinners, Friday lunch and dinner, Saturday all day, Sunday – May 30 – all day, and Monday breakfast and lunch for Memorial Day weekend. The Restaurant has extended its dinner hours until 9:00 p.m. The flag raising is scheduled for Saturday at 9:00 a.m. and Water & Sewer's Annual Meeting will begin at 1:00 p.m. with Registration at 11:30 a.m. in the W&S Building. Don't forget the WS Annual Wine and Cheese Party Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Check the Bugle for additional events the next few weeks. Things will be in full swing in no time at all.

Everyone is reminded of the Fire Department Rummage Sale Sunday, May 30, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. I'm sure you'll find treasures that you won't be able to pass up. Stop by and shop! The funds go to provide communication (radios & pagers) and personal protective gear for the firefighters, as well as food and water for them when they are on an incident/fire.

Remember to plan on picking up the seedlings you ordered from the Greenbelt Management Committee on Saturday, June 12th at the mail sheds by Basecamp. The GMC volunteers won't have room to store and maintain your seedlings, so be sure to arrange to pick them up Saturday morning.

Many of you have asked about the annual assessments. The statements should be in the mail to you next week. Your current 09-10 stickers are good through the month of June. You will have until June 30th to pay Road & Recreation Association assessments, and until August 31st to pay Water & Sewer Assessments for the coming fiscal year, 2010-2011. Those of you with wells should also watch the mail for a separate letter with your meter reading card. Please read your meter and return that card to the office at your earliest convenience. The deadline for getting the meter reading cards back to the office is August 31st.

The streams are showing the impact from the thaw (that we had for three days) – by running bank to bank, with stream flow increasing throughout the day and into evening. Be especially careful walking by the streams as they are flowing so fast that it is extremely risky to be near the bank at this time of year. You could easily be swept away in the fast moving water.

Have a safe Memorial Day weekend. Be sure to thank a veteran for their service, and spend a few moments contemplating the ultimate sacrifice so many armed service personnel have given for the freedoms we enjoy.

I'll keep you posted.  
Jody

Special Notice  
May 30, 2010

Due to the high water levels from the spring thaw along Panhandle Creek, access to Otter Pond has washed out. That access is closed. Also, vehicle access to Snoopy Pond has been closed at Ottawa Way North because the road below Panhandle Dam crossing the spillway and waterworks culverts is impacted by the high run off. Maintenance crews have worked to fill the beginning washouts at the far west curve of Ottawa Way along Panhandle Creek, and staff will continue to check that location and all other roads crossing Panhandle Creek.

The streams are running extremely high and are therefore extremely dangerous because of the fast flowing water. **DO NOT APPROACH THE STREAMS DURING THE RUNOFF.**

For clarification for those of you who may be new to Crystal Lakes, here is a brief description of the warning siren system and the basics of the evacuation plan should an evacuation of this area ever be necessary.

**SIREN DEMONSTRATION:**

The warning sirens will be sounded after the Road & Recreation Association's Annual Meeting on June 12th, and sounded again the next day, Sunday, June 13th at 10:30 a.m. Sirens sounded at any other time indicate that an immediate evacuation is necessary. If you hear the sirens at any time other than these published demonstration times, you should promptly gather the items on your list to take in case of an evacuation and carefully leave the Crystal Lakes area. The white evacuation arrows on blue fields, which are attached to each street sign post indicate at least one route for evacuation. Emergency personnel will be stationed along the routes to assist you in leaving the area, should an evacuation be necessary.

Stay Safe. I'll keep you posted.  
Jody