



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

Schedule of BFCC Events

Saturday, October 4, 6pm	Oktoberfest
Thursday, October 23, 6:30pm	BFCC Board and Officers Meeting
Saturday, October 25, 2-4pm	Trunk or Treat
Thursday, Oct. 30, 7pm	MVEA Community Meeting

(ALL members are welcome to attend the Board and Officers Meetings.)
For Line Dancing classes, etc., check bfcommunityclub.org calendar.

OCTOBERFEST at the BFCC is Saturday, October 4 at 6pm

Food and drink provided by the BFCC so bring your family and friends and neighbors to enjoy brats with sauerkraut, potatoes, dessert, and more. This is a donation-based event with two drink tickets included.

Wear your dirndl or your lederhosen if you have them. (Where else are you going to wear them?)

Enjoy a beer and some good food with friends.

In addition to the leftover beer from the Festival Biergarten, there are other goodies which will be available at all BFCC events for sale. Need a Festival shirt or a Koozie to hold your beer? Check them out this Saturday at Oktoberfest.





The Ultimate Black Forest Festival Bundle

ALL FOR JUST \$25

Includes: 2025 Festival T-shirt

many sizes available

2025 Beverage Koozie

2025 and 2024 Beer Pint Glass

Black Forest Community Club Reusable Tote

**Available for purchase at all upcoming BFCC events
or while supplies last.**

Great for the Holidays!!!!

MVEA Community Meeting, Thursday, October 30, 7 P.M.



Terry Stokka has coordinated with your local electric association to have an informational meeting concerning mitigation around power lines, the fiber project and other initiatives. They will also take questions. Invite your friends and neighbors to attend. Find out about the status of Conexon Connect, the high-speed fiber-optic network the

MVEA is bringing to its membership.

TRUNK OR TREAT Saturday, October 25 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Dress up the kids or grandkids and join the Halloween fun at the annual Trunk or Treat at the BFCC. Lots of candy. Lots of costumes. Note these cute pictures of past years.

In addition, check out this:

🎃 Trunk or Treat & Children's Entrepreneurial Market 🎃

Join us for an afternoon of family fun on **Saturday, October 25th from 2:00–4:00 PM!**

Bring the kids in costume to enjoy trunk-or-treating. Plus, shop and support our young innovators at the **Children's Entrepreneurial Market**, where kids will showcase their creativity and small business ideas.

Don't miss this safe, fun, and festive community event for all ages!



The event takes place in the Backyard Area of the Black Forest Community Center, 12530 Black Forest Road. Come and enjoy the wonderful fall weather in the Black Forest.

A Sad Note:

Carrick Trcka, son of BFCC secretary, John Trcka, had a serious skateboarding accident while away at college and is in serious condition in the hospital. His parents, John and Ginny were Keepers of the Keys for 2025. Prayers are needed.

VOLUNTEERS! VOLUNTEERS! VOLUNTEERS!

Many of the important activities of the Black Forest area are available only through the time and effort offered by **volunteers!** Below are some that quickly come to mind.

- The **Black Forest Festival** cannot happen if it were not for the crew of hardy volunteers. Many are young people recruited from local churches.
- **SAMCOM (Slash and Mulch Committee)** is maybe better known as the **Black Forest slash site**. This is the place to bring your slash (tree branches and bushes and trunks up to 8" in diameter) which is ground into free mulch. Of the **382 shifts worked this season, 219 volunteers** filled these shifts. **No one is paid.** The County partners with us to help pay for the grinding and loader cost via their contract with Rocky Top Resources. Next season (starts around May 1) **you can volunteer to work a shift by going to the website (bflash.org) or calling Carolyn at 719 495-3127.**
- **AARP offers shredding of important papers once a year.**
- **Black Forest Trails Association** works on caring for and procuring trails throughout the Forest. **Volunteers** spend time picking up trash or asking neighbors to allow a trail along their property help you bike, walk, or horseback ride around our beautiful area.
- **Black Forest Community Club** is a social club that is maintained by its members. The only paid person is the cleaning person. But volunteers keep the building functioning so that the community can have a place for scout meetings, important community interest meetings, weddings, celebrations, etc. No taxpayer money goes to this building. **But many volunteers have spent countless hours over the years keeping this old building functional. The BFCC could use your help as a member to help cover some of these needs. Join the family of**

volunteers so you too can have a sense of helping preserve this wonderful meeting place. Feel free to contact the club president, Jim Collins at 562 833-2449. The most immediate need is for a few good me for a maintenance crew.

And,

- ****** Dawn needs a committee for events/socials at the BFCC. ******
- 1) You could help every time or once in a while.
- 2) I need an email group to send you info.
- 3) I need 8-15 people.
- 4) I need event planners.
- 5) Set-up/clean-up/kitchen help/serving

The following poem was received after volunteering a shift at the slash site.

My gift to Carolyn Brown

The Volunteer

These wonderful people
Are filled with a sense of purpose,
They seem to be of a giving
And serving heart.

These volunteers donate
Millions of hours each year,
They always seem to greet you
With a pleasant smile.

I wonder where they get their drive
To show up at their scheduled time,
To do all those thankless tasks
That without them many programs would fail.

This wonderful country
Is blessed with these angels,
Giving their time so unselfishly
To help serve and mentor every cause.

Without these stalwart people
Our lives would be grey and dark,
For without the volunteer
Many people would not see the light.

So the next time you see a volunteer
Who greets you with a smile ask their name
Take a moment to thank them
For their gift to you that day.

By Richard Meese ©

Another Opportunity to Volunteer:

Upcoming Citizens' Academy

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office is excited to announce applications are now open for our upcoming Citizens' Academy. This free, in-depth program for community members begins on **Wednesday, September 10, 2025**, and runs **twice a week from 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM**, concluding with a graduation ceremony on **Thursday, October 9, 2025**.

Designed to provide a behind-the-scenes look at local law enforcement, the Citizens' Academy offers participants a comprehensive overview of the Sheriff's Office and its many responsibilities.

Topics include:

- Use of Force
- Illegal Marijuana Operations
- Targeted Traffic Enforcement
- Emergency Services (including Wildland Fire and Search & Rescue)
- SWAT and K9 Operations
- Jail Operations and Civil Processes

Attendees will also follow the course of a criminal investigation, guided by detectives who will explain each step of the process. A tour of the El Paso County Jail is included to give participants an understanding of the challenges faced by our detention staff.

The program culminates in **realistic, scenario-based training**, giving participants the opportunity to experience what it's like to serve as a deputy.

To apply, download the application from our website at epcsheriffsoffice.com/citizens-academy, or email the Community Affairs team at shrcommunity@elpasoco.com to request a copy.

There is no cost to attend, but all applicants must pass a standard background check. Space is limited to the first **40 completed applications** received. Don't wait to apply! Applications must be returned no later than 4:30 PM on August 22, 2025.

[Sheriff's Office Accepting Applications for Fall 2025 Citizens' Academy – El Paso County Sheriff's Office](#)

Quote of the Month:

“The purpose of life is a life of purpose.” Robert Byrne

Black Forest Community Club Membership Application

P.O. Box 88034

Black Forest, Colorado 80908-8034

WEBSITE:

www.bfcommunityclub.org

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

Monthly newsletter — (circle one) Electronic Hardcopy

Name:

Address:

Phone:

E-mail:

\$20.00 Active Membership (Must reside within Black Forest Preservation Plan boundaries) (Voting)

\$20.00 Associate Membership (Outside Black Forest Preservation Plan boundaries (Non-voting)

Circle any interest from those listed below:

Black Forest Festival

Hall Maintenance

Land Use

Club Programs

Publicity

Hall Rental Management

Membership

BFCC Property Development

Pay Your Membership Dues Online! You can now pay your membership dues online via PayPal. Just go to www.bfcommunityclub.org and click on “Become a Member” on the left side of the home page or “Click Here to pay online.” You do not have to have a PayPal account to use it. You can choose debit or credit with VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER, or AMERICAN EXPRESS. Choose this easy way to pay your membership dues or use the membership form above. **Don’t Know If Your Membership Is Current?** Just look at the address label and note the year date in the upper right corner. If it says 2025 or later, you are up to date. For those getting your newsletter by email, there is a similar designation. If you have questions, contact Chuck at 719 439-9662)

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

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

President: Jim Collins

Vice President: Kelly Marchbank

Secretary: John Trcka
for the

Treasurer: Cherie Erler

Director: Leif Garrison

Director: Sherrie Lidderdale

Director: Johanna Ofstedal (to serve out the year

resigning Mindy Geiser)

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

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