

The Voice of Colorado FCRV

FIRESIDE EMBERS



November/December 2023
Volume LII Issue VI



Founded 1967



STATE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Rick & Kathy Boatwright



Greetings Colorado FCRV,

We are Rick and Kathy Boatwright and on October 1st, 2023, we were appointed to the position of Colorado State Directors. We thought we would take this opportunity to introduce ourselves.

We moved to Colorado in 1993 and love camping and fishing at Colorado State parks. We enjoyed camping with the kids for many years, and in many states and Germany. After retiring from the Army of twenty years, I worked for a Military Contractor for twenty more years. Kathy worked for a craft company until the company closed in 2020.

We joined FCRV in March of 2012 and have become Lifetime Members since then. We have been members of the Colorado Cruisers for thirteen years. In 2016, we became the chapter's Field Directors. We both have held many positions within the Chapter. In January 2019, we volunteered to become the Colorado State C.A.M.P Directors.

As State Directors, we want everyone in FCRV to work as a team. As for Colorado, membership, conservation and wildlife are our main priorities. We want to work with all the Colorado Chapter's Field Directors to take care of the members we still have and bring new ones in. If we all work together over the next few years, we all can make a difference.

Kathy and I are very active in Colorado FCRV and we both would like to help keep Colorado moving into the next decade. We are happy to become Colorado's new State Directors.

We want to wish everyone safe and Happy Holidays!

Things to Remember:

- All e-mails need to be sent to us at fcrvcoloradosd@gmail.com IE: Minutes, Chapter's Rosters, Chapter's profile, any schedules and any questions or concerns.
- Remember that all 2024 Chapter's Schedules and Rosters need to be sent to us by 31 December 2023.
- Start thinking of ideas for things to do (crafts, games, etc.) at the state campouts. Bring them to the General planning/membership meeting in February.

2024 DATES TO REMEMBER

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Jan 12, 2024	Colorado Retiree Luncheon	Masters Restaurant, Colorado National Golf Course
Feb 10, 2024	General Membership and Planning Meeting	Christ Episcopal Church, 2950 S. University Blvd, Denver
Mar 18 - 24, 2024	53rd International Retiree Rally	Mineola Civic Center, Mineola, TX
May 16 - 19, 2024	Colorado Spring Fling	Morgan County Fairgrounds, Brush, CO
Jun 3 - 7, 2024	Colorado State Retiree Campout	Riverview RV Park, Loveland, CO
Jun 23 - 29, 2024	75th International Campvention	Herkimer County Fairgrounds, Frankfort, NY
Aug 16-18, 2024	Field Staff Campout	Parrish Ranch, Berthoud, CO
Sep 22 - 25, 2024	Southern Colorado Retiree Campout	Pueblo South KOA, Colorado City
Sep 26 - 29, 2024	Colorado Fall Campout	Pueblo South KOA, Colorado City

The “Embers” is published six times a year. Please send any information that you would like to have included in the “Embers” to: (If you do not receive a reply to your submission, please reach out again.)

EMAIL

twalorski@mercyhousing.org

Editor:

Teresa Walorski

FIRESIDE EMBERS CUT OFF DATES

Jan - Feb	Dec 15th
Mar - Apr	Feb 15th
May - Jun	Apr 15th
Jul - Aug	Jun 15th
Sep - Oct	Aug 15th
Nov - Dec	Oct 15th

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*Recipes are published when space is available.
Recipes not published will be saved for future issues.
Recipes must be typed.*

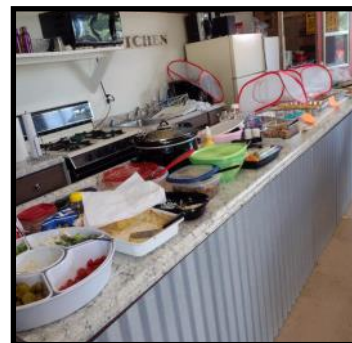
Article submission is for chapters, program chairmen and members who have news or interesting articles or classified ads that they would like to share with the membership.

**(ARTICLES MUST BE TYPED , PHOTOS MUST BE SCANNED INTO THE WORD DOCUMENT OR EMAIL include your CHAPTER NAME & YOUR NAME)
DO NOT SUBMIT MORE THAN 6 PICTURES PER ARTICLE.
IF MORE THAN 6 PICTURES ARE SUBMITTED SOME WILL BE REMOVED.**

CHAPTER NEWS

Silver Foxes

The Silver Foxes August campout was held at We RV Champions in LaVeta. 10 rigs and some visitors attended and had a great Fish fry & potluck, Wiener Roast & Smores with a sing-along from Scotty & Peggy. Also there were lots of walks, fishing and golfing enjoyed and the last day the Breakfast provided by the RV park. Lots of fun. Submitted by Waltraud (Willi) Walker



CHAPTER NEWS

Rocky Toppers

Fourteen members of the Colorado Springs Rocky Toppers RV Club completed an 8-day trip to Wyoming and South Dakota in Sept 2023. We spent a couple nights at a KOA in Douglas, WY and 5 nights at a KOA resort in Hill City, SD near Mt Rushmore. The group found the elusive Jackalope, had lunch at College Inn, currently a bar/restaurant, and was given a tour by the owner of the renovated building, a former brothel built in 1906, and saw Ayers Natural Bridge near Douglas, WY. In the Black Hills of South Dakota, we toured Mt Rushmore, the Crazy Horse Memorial and caught the laser light show. Paleontologists were tediously working uncovering bones while we visited the Mammoth Dig Site. We enjoyed seeing an abundance of wildlife including herds of bison in Custer State Park and watching the numerous black bears in Bear Country, among other animals. Needles Highway with its towering rock formations and tunnels was well worth the drive. We also went to the Cosmos Mystery Area (Interactive optical illusions), the frontier town of Deadwood, a winery and hiking, and ATVing in the area. We enjoyed evenings spent together around a campfire. Our camping group hosts couldn't have planned a better trip, itinerary and the 3 fabulous meals they provided the group during the week. Great friends, fond memories, and so many pictures! What a wonderful trip near to the end our season!





Hi All, This is Teresa Walorski, member of the Colorado OOPS

Just letting you know I will be running for Recording/
Corresponding Officer. I am hoping for your vote and support in
this process next year. I would love to have the opportunity to be a
'fresh face' in FCRV and to serve you all as best as I can.

Thank you!

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Update your home address and email address with

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Let us know at

fcrvcoloradosd@gmail.com



Colorado FCRV is in need of VOLUNTEERS

The “HELP (Volunteer) WANTED” sign is still out there
We desperately need volunteers for the following positions.

Teen Director & Assistant Teen Director

Youth Director

Historian

Conservation Director

State Chaplain

State C.A.M.P. Director

For further information, contact Rick or Kathy at
fcrvcolorados@gmail.com

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you need their products or services.



SILVER SPONSOR

- **Hitch Corner**

CHAPTER NEWS

RV Rascals

The small but mighty RV Rascals chapter had an enjoyable summer that passed by too quickly. Which means we had a lot of fun, right??

In **April**, Gary & Mary Ann Merritt hosted our first campout of the season at St. Vrain St. Park. Besides hiking around the park, members spent time at the shoreline with cameras and binoculars watching the pelicans, osprey, and herons “fishing” for their dinners. A sneaky muskrat eluded our attempts to locate its nest.

We chose Spring Fling at the fairgrounds in Brush for our **May** activity. It’s always a pleasure to reconnect with friends from other chapters at the State events. Much fun was had during the CAMP walks, playing games, snacks and meals together, and just sitting around visiting. The new game of Balloon Volleyball was more strenuous than expected.



For **June**, our host Bonnie Stone chose the AB Campground in Cheyenne as our destination. The Rascals toured the Cheyenne Depot



CHAPTER NEWS

RV Rascals

July was designated for Campvention in Richmond, IN. Due to the distance, only two Rascal families made the trek. It was six busy days of seminars, crafts, entertainment, games, hospitalities, volunteering..... ALL of it FUN. And again, it was great to meet up with acquaintances from other states. We look forward to next year in NY.



And along came **August**. HOT, HOT August. Bill & Linda Snyder selected the Peach Festival in Palisade for this month's RV Rascals' activity and Mother Nature chose that same weekend to turn up the thermostat. The RV Rascals camped at the James Robb Colorado River Island Acres campground, which thankfully had electricity for air conditioner use. Thursday evening was the ice cream social in Palisade, where free peach ice cream was served by several vendors; some also had peach toppings. Yum yum. We tried several vendors, because it would have been rude to skip one, right???? (I don't remember if we actually had dinner that evening!!)

Friday afternoon was the start of the Festival at the city park with MANY booths of peaches, candy, jewelry, clothing, yard decor, wine tasting, food stands, etc.

Rascals member Joy Falls was captivated by a longhorn being displayed for pictures. Next thing we knew, she was ON that steer. It was a great "Kodak moment" that we Rascals couldn't pass up!!!



CHAPTER NEWS

RV Rascals—continued

When everyone finally had seen (& bought) all they needed, we headed back to our campers and the air conditioning!! That evening, the wind came up with a fury and rain poured down. Luckily, the Rascals had taken heed of the fierce lightning and had everything buttoned up.



On Saturday, Dave Lohnes and his grandson Lucas went fishing. The Rascals' ladies were to go to the Grand Valley Days celebration in Parachute and planned to be there in time for the parade at 10:00.

About 3 miles down I-70, the road was closed due to a HUGE boulder which fell during the previous night's storm. The detour to bypass that area took 45 min., so the ladies missed the first part of the parade. We then met up with Merritt's daughter and family to watch their kids play games, to visit booths, and of course eat lunch. When later leaving the area, Joy Falls found another "beast" to ride. On the drive back to Palisade, I-70 was open and they could see the rock that fell the previous night. Did I mention it was BIG????



Sunday: another 100*+ day. In the morning, we went to the Sunday Farmers Market for Palisade peaches, Olathe sweet corn, and local vegetables of all kinds. A few miles northeast of Grand Junction is the *Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range*. After lunch, while Dave and his grandson again went fishing and Bill & Gary rested, the ladies took a drive out to the HMA (herd management area). It was soon clear we four "mature" women weren't going to go far enough alone, in a Jeep Liberty, on a road that turned primitive, with no cell phone service to see any horses!!! But we did see some spectacular rock scenery.

It was decided to hold our evening potluck at Merritt's campsite, because they had a lot of tree shade. As we were sitting in a circle, eating, we heard a CRACK.... CRASH! By the time any of us could figure out where the noise came from and if we should move, the danger was over. A big branch just suddenly broke off the tree we were sitting under!! The outer end with all the leaves fell on top of the picnic shelter (where the food was), but luckily, the upper big, heavy, broken end of the branch caught in other branches in the tree. If the branch had completely fallen to the ground, at least two of our members could have been seriously hurt. Spine-chilling!!

September was a chaotic month for several Rascals' members, and plans to attend the two State events did not materialize.

October's activity was a chapter "recruiting" soup luncheon at Gary & Mary Ann's house. Rascal members had invited several prospective couples to join us to learn about FCRV and our chapter. But, schedules don't always align, so only three couples were able to attend. One couple did commit to join our chapter and we'll wait to hear from the others. At the end of the afternoon, we put together the RV Rascals' monthly activity/camping schedule for the rest of 2023 and most of 2024.

CHAPTER NEWS

Rambl'n Recs



September the Rambl'n Recs headed out to Palisade Basecamp in Palisade, CO. The peaches were ripe and it was a busy week. The Rivards' won most of the Bingo prizes. Then on to Bananas Fun Park, The Rockslide Brew Pub, etc. Could not have asked for more perfect weather. BIG thank to Jim and Kathy Morris for putting this together.



October the Rambl'n Rec's gathered up and did a little friendly Pumpkin Painting Competition. Prizes were awarded for 'Scariest', 'Funniest', 'Most Creative', and 'Favorite Overall Pumpkin'. There was a lot of creating, music, chatter, brainstorming, and fun! Thank you, Kathy, for leading the painting event. Our event planner was Barbara & Joe Ed Newsome. A HUGE thank you to the Englewood Eagles for allowing us to use their facility and that large room for the afternoon.

Wish I had enough room to show all the pumpkins..... we sure have some creative folks!!

Art and Judae Colton are retiring from the Rambl'n Rec's Camping Circle. They will remain on our Honorary List because of their many contributions over the years. They have been members since 2006 and we're sure going to miss them around the campfire.



CHAPTER NEWS

Trailblazers

Chapter News

Trailblazers



The Gunnison KOA, was the site of our August 21-24 campout. Thank you to Ron and Sue Frindt and John and Peggy Fulks for hosting this campout.

Our hosts provided a welcome dinner for everyone on our first evening, which included sloppy joes, chips, and dessert. We were all happy to be back in

Gunnison once again, enjoying each other's company, the beautiful area, and of course all the animals that wander around the campground looking for a carrot or two (which you can get in the office).



The Trailblazers celebrated our 25th Anniversary while in Gunnison, which included a sizable potluck lunch (no one went hungry!), games, and a 25th Anniversary cake. The hosts provided everyone with fun gift bags, including party hats!



The evening was spent around the campfire. This was the first wood campfire we've had for a long time!

We welcomed a gentleman from France, who was bicycling across the United States and a young lady visiting from Australia, to our campfire. We all enjoyed talking with them and hearing about their adventures.



We played games, exercised (thank you, Joyce!), explored the area, and enjoyed a little shopping downtown! We also got to experience a microburst one evening. Lots of branches came down, with the only damage to our hosts' American flag pole. A branch came down and broke it right in half. That was enough excitement for one evening!



Another great campout! We all enjoyed the fun, the food, and each other! Safe travels everyone!



CHAPTER NEWS

Trailblazers

Trailblazers Chapter News



We all made our way to Mt. Princeton RV Park, in Buena Vista, for our September 11-14 campout. Thank you to Dave and Daphne Turner, our hosts for this campout.



Monday evening, our hosts provided a "snack" for all of us. Actually, it was a meal! We had Frog Sandwiches, chips, dessert, and other munchies. It was a great meal. After the meal, Dave and Daphne had a game ready for us. Before the campout, they made a ball of cling wrap. As they wrapped, they added prizes-lottery tickets, coin and paper money, and other great prizes. Our task was to unwrap the ball of cling wrap. Dice were used to pass the ball from person to person. The number six was chosen. The person to your left rolled the dice until a six came up and then the ball was passed to that person and they could try to unwrap it to get to the prizes. That went on until the last prize-a pair of Halloween socks! We had a great time!

Our hosts, before the campout, asked each rig attending to bring a can of vegetables. The cans were collected when we arrived at the campground. For our lunch the following day, our hosts made a delicious soup from the cans everyone contributed. Meat was added, along with spices and broth. Members contributed sides and desserts. It was a wonderful meal. Dave and Daphne have been on two RV caravans and this meal was one they had while traveling with their group.



In the afternoon, we were invited to visit the ranch of Connie Hatfield. Connie talked to us about her family and earlier days of Buena Vista. She also shared with us her time working at the correctional facility in Buena Vista. What an amazing lady!



On Wednesday, our hosts cooked breakfast for us-omelets in a bag. All you need is a quart size ziplock, eggs, we added other ingredients that they had available, and into a boiling pot of water they went. The omelets were excellent and no muss, no fuss!

The rest of the day was on our own. Members hiked, drove to St. Elmo, shopped downtown, read and relaxed, or played board games.

Another campout that we will have wonderful memories of. Safe travels to everyone!

Chapter NEWS

Woodland Wookies

The Woodland Wookies September Campout turned out great! The Knoll behind Tarryall Reservoir. A Big Thankyou goes out to our Wagon Master Steve ! Our weather was pretty darn good for all of the activities and fun! ATVing along with Kayaking ! A hunting young Coyote was spotted! Happy Fall Y'all.. For Labor Day Weekend camping on the Reservoir brought The Glovers a trash munching bear!



CHAPTER NEWS

Colorado Cruisers



September 15th – 17th Colorado Cruisers campout with the theme of the Hillbilly Carnival was held at Mountaindale RV Park, Colorado Springs, Co. Hosted by Gaby Usmar and family.

Friday's get together was Hillbilly Stew, Pig Farts in a pot (Beans and Ham) serviced with bread.

Saturday afternoon, we had carnival games and a costume contest. Kathy Boatwright won the costume contest with Troy Ellis coming in second.

Saturday evening we got together for our Potluck/Meeting. Afterward we all sat by a fire with everyone telling old and new stories.



Sunday morning, we had our Breakfast Potluck with Flapjacks and all the fixin's to go with it.

Everyone had a very good time and thanks to Gaby and family for putting it all together.



Submitted by Rick and Kathy Boatwright



CHAPTER NEWS

Colorado Cruisers



October 13th – 15th Colorado Cruisers campout was held at Cherry Creek State Park, Denver, Co. The theme was Blast from the Past, hosted by Rick and Kathy Boatwright.

The weather was a bit cold. We had five canopies with three gas fire rings that kept the inside temperature around 70 degrees.



Friday night, we had a get together with cheese, meat and crackers. Some members supplied chips and snacks.

Saturday morning, we started with our 11th annual two mile Volksmarch walk under the solar eclipse. After the walk we enjoyed some hot tea and doughnuts.

Saturday afternoon we had a Scavenger hunt and played some old games from past campouts. From a Cheese Ball toss at the host to shooting an arrow in a bucket at 12 feet with a toy bow and arrow, everyone had a good time.

Saturday night we all got together for our Potluck/meeting, followed by the Annual Election. Rick and Kathy Boatwright installed all the new Officers and Board Members. Afterward we played Card bingo. The Chapter finished the night, sat around the fire ring, and everyone had fun talking with friends and family.



On Sunday morning, we all got together for breakfast Potluck.

Some members stayed until Monday and we had the annual bomb fire.



What a perfect way to end a long camping season.

Submitted by Rick and Kathy Boatwright

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Colorado FCRV website: www.coloradofcrv.org

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52nd FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers RETIREE RALLY

“Horsing Around”

March 18-24, 2024

Mineola Civic Center

1150 North Newsom Street, Mineola, TX 75773



REGISTRATION:

Welcome to the 2024 Retiree Rally. Everyone must complete a registration form, including second families staying as a second family in a unit, or off grounds. Submit payment with the completed form. All funds shall be in US currency, including checks and money orders. Please use print when filling out this form.

****Refund policy:** All but \$35 will be refunded if notice is received before two weeks prior to the rally. After the rally deadline of March 1, 2024, only the camping fee will be refunded. Refunds requested after the rally starts will be made after its conclusion.

Registration deadline: March 1, 2024.

Included in the fee: Full hook-ups, (30/50 amp), ice cream social, 2 dinners, and entertainment.

	<u>Before Deadline</u>	<u>After Deadline</u>	Camp-Pass staying on grounds as second family in a unit.
2 People in Unit	\$330.00	\$365.00	2 People \$200.00
1 Person in Unit	\$300.00	\$335.00	1 Person \$100.00
Camp-Pass staying off grounds			Early Bird Days: March 15-17@ \$40/night.
2 People	\$200.00		Pay upon arrival – cash/check.
1 Person	\$100.00		Will be collected by the treasurer at the registration desk

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse/Other: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip Code: _____

Cell Phone #1: _____ Cell Phone #2: _____ Email: _____

Is this your first Retiree Rally? Yes No Are you a Veteran and what branch? _____

Total number of people in Unit: _____ We would like to volunteer for: _____

RALLY PARKING:

Check if you are requesting a special needs site: _____ (Valid Handicap parking proof must be presented upon arrival. This area is reserved for wheelchairs, walkers, or those with limited mobility problems.)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

FCRV/NCHA Retiree Rally (No credit cards accepted)

Send my confirmation via : Email

Mailed

Mail checks and completed forms to:

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FAMILY CAMPERS & RVers 2024 CAMPVENTION

"Celebrating Our Future"

June 23-29, 2024

Herkimer County Fairgrounds

135 Cemetery Road, Frankfort, NY 13340



REGISTRATION:

Welcome to Campvention 2024. Everyone must complete a registration form, including second families and camp day passes. Submit payment with the completed form. All funds shall be in US currency, including checks and money orders. There will be room for you if you decide to come at the last minute. Simply bring this registration form with you.

****Refund policy:** If you are unable to attend, all except \$25 will be refunded AFTER the conclusion of 2024 Campvention.

Registration deadline May 15th - Pay before December 31, 2023, to receive a \$25 discount (\$325.00).

	<u>Registration</u>	<u>At Gate</u>
One Family in the Unit	\$350.00	\$385.00
Extra Family in the Unit (separate pay)	\$180.00	\$200.00
Week Drive-in Day Pass (June 23-29)	\$175.00	\$190.00
Drive-in Day Pass (per day)	\$30.00	\$35.00

Early Bird Days: June 21 and 22 @ \$45/night (pay upon arrival – cash/check) The gates will be open Friday at 12 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse/Guest: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State/Province: _____ Zip Code _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Is this your first Campvention? Yes No Are you a Veteran and what branch? _____

Number of people in your unit: Adults: _____ Teens: _____ Youth: 9 – 12 _____ Youth: 5 – 8 _____

Total number of people in Unit: _____

****Please list the names and ages of all youth and teens on the back of this form.**

We would like to volunteer for: _____

CAMPVENTION PARKING: (There will be no special needs sites available at the gate.)

Check if you are requesting a special needs site: _____ (Valid Handicap parking proof must be presented upon arrival.)

Please note the LENGTH of camping rig behind type:

Motor Home _____ 5th Wheel _____ Travel Trailer _____ Pop-Up _____ Number of slide outs _____

Electricity: 30 amp _____ 50 amp _____ (50amp is limited. Handicap first. Then first come, first served.)

****Bring extension cords. Water available. Bring hoses and Y connectors.**

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: FCRV Campvention

Mail checks and completed forms to:

Susan Fromholzer

137 Crandon Blvd

Cheektowaga, NY 14225

For inquiries please call (716) 359-8949.

Send my confirmation via: Email

Mail

Colorado FCRV Retiree Campout

Hosts Carter and Ann Bloomfield

June 3rd -7th 2024
Riverview RV Park Loveland CO

The information as of now.

Sites that are by the river are \$62.00 per day.

Sites not by the river are \$43.55 per day.

Reservation can be made **NOW** by phone 970-667-9910 or
You can go online @ riverviewrv.com

Then register with
Carter and Ann Bloomfield at P.O. Box 1564 Sterling CO
80751

Registration Fee: Just \$25.00 per person
(used for room rental, etc.)

We will have more info and a schedule later as we get things put together.

Name _____ Spouse/Guest _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Number of persons _____

Chapter _____ Phone _____

Type/length of rig _____ Number of slides _____

Towing an extra vehicle? _____

Total enclosed _____

Make check Payable to: Colorado FCRV Retirees

Thanksgiving is a special time to express gratitude and reflect on the blessings in our lives.

With everything going on in the world, hope you all find this comforting:



The Grateful Heart Prayer:

Dear Heavenly Father,
 We gather today with hearts full of gratitude.
 Thank you for the food on our table and the love in our hearts.
 May we always remember the importance of thankfulness.
 Amen.

The Abundance Prayer:

Dear Lord,
 We are thankful for the abundance that surrounds us.
 Help us share our blessings with those in need.
 May our hearts be generous and our actions reflect your love.
 Amen.

The Blessing of Friendship Prayer:

Dear God,
 Thank you for the friends and family who gather around us.
 Bless our friendships, and help us cherish the moments we share.
 May we always be a source of support and love for one another.
 Amen.

The Unity Prayer:

Heavenly Father,
 On this Thanksgiving, we come together as one community.
 Guide us to understand and respect our differences.
 Help us find unity in our diversity, and may peace and love prevail.
 Amen.

The Prayer of Peace:

Dear God,
 As we gather to give thanks, we also pray for peace.
 In a world often filled with strife and conflict,
 May the spirit of Thanksgiving remind us of the importance of harmony.
 Grant us the wisdom to seek understanding and the courage to promote peace.
 May our hearts be a sanctuary of serenity, and our actions be a testament to your loving grace.
 Amen.

**COLORADO CHAPTERS OF FCRV
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Colorado Retiree Luncheon

**Masters Restaurant, Colorado National Golf Course
2700 Vista Parkway, Erie, CO**

Date: Friday, Jan 12, 2023

Time: 11:30 (Please do not go into the clubhouse before 11:25)

**Cost: \$23.00 per person
(Covers meal, coffee, tea, or soft drink, tax, & tip)**

Please RSVP to Carter & Ann at

carterandann@bresnan.net