

BLACKFOREST CHAPTER OF AARP # 1100

“TO SERVE, NOT TO BE SERVED

January 2012

February Meeting — Host and Hostess: Waldo & Joanne Pendleton, Howard Pease, Janet Hoover **Greeters:** Lou & Ruth Schwarzman

We still have openings for Host and hostess for May, and September meetings **and Greeters for** December and a second person for January, March, April, May, and September **2012**. Please check the lists and be sure we have you on the list you were signing up for as both went around at the same time.

February we will host the **Heart Attack and Stroke class** open to the community from 9 to 11 AM before our meeting and our speaker at the meeting will be Walt Sealy and how to make our home safe with fire prevention outside the house.

Remember at our October meeting we voted to change our dues to \$10.00 per year. We will not ask for a donation as in the pasted. Just dues payable in January for 2012. If you can not make a meeting you can mail them to Lavonne Hidy, 13165 Black Forest Road, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80908.

Would the person that brought the cucumber dish and the green bean with tomato dish to the December meeting be willing to share your receipt with us? If you are willing to share please give it to Gwen and she will print in next newsletter.

Kay and Edna are working to provide a trip to **Washington DC, our Nation’s Capitol in April of 2012**. These trips do help our finances as we receive a donation after the trip from the trip. The trip is open to members, friends, and neighbors. The polka club also participates in this adventure. If you like to travel or know someone that does please get in touch with Kay or Edna. Several people really want to make this trip but it requires 40 to make it a go. I hear they have lots of fun on the trip. They play games, enjoy snacks and watch movies as they travel.

Next **Senior Social on January 25, 2012** starting at 1 PM. in the Fellowship Hall of the Black Forest Lutheran Church. We have a group that enjoy Mexican Train Dominions. If you have a favorite game you may bring it and invite others to join us. We have some that enjoy handwork and you are welcome to bring it or just sit and visit with us. Anyone wanting to learn about crochet we can help with it also. For information or to volunteer to help please call Lavonne Hidy at 495-4021.

Notes from the Sunshine Committee: Cards sent to Bill Bishop and Ray Rozak who had surgery on their shoulders. A card was sent to Nancy Lunacek who was not feeling well. We hope they are much improved. Christmas cards were sent to Louise and John Bledsoe, Robert and Jessie Coward, Don & Linda Suurr, Dorita St. Dennis, Kathleen Carroll, Dorothe Ingram and Imelda Evans. Both Gwen and Lexie received letters from Dorita. If you would like to read one please let them know. If you know someone who needs a card please call Lexie at 495-2408.

Items to help us share with others

	December 2011	Year 2011	Year total– 2010
Campbell’s Labels	16	263	377
* special offers for additional point are given to pre-school but we only count labels.			
Stamps	718	7242	6823
Pop Tops	8 oz.	8 lbs. 11 oz	9lbs. 10 oz.
Boxtops for Education	53	598	215—\$21.50
Black Forest Cares	4lb. 6 oz	31 lbs. 4 oz	99 lbs.
Donation Jar	\$ 88.81	\$437.40	\$562.83
Shred It Event	593 lbs.	\$238.00	
Day of Service 2010	148 lbs food	\$179.36.	
Day of Service 2011	166..2 lbs food	\$269.94	Better than last year

First Step Pre-School needs lids from frozen juice cans and the small containers that salad dressing and other single serving items come in with an individual meal from carry out. Please save for them and bring to a meeting. They also need the end of cans frozen juice comes in.

Check the Share Table: There are some tablecloths and place mats. If you have something to find a new home for put it on the share table. Check at the end of the meeting to see if someone could use it. Several items have found new homes or someone knew a need for them. We need someone to set up and close the share table at the end of our meeting.

Gwen will try in February to have the Annual Handout ready. If you have any questions or information please let her know. This lists our officers, Committees, budget, and the items we collect for others.

Meet Our New Members

Gary and Pat Beres were born and raised in Cleveland , Ohio. They have three children and seven grandchildren. They worked in Real Estate for 34 years.

N. Lynn Hall was born and raised in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. She lived in Atlanta, Georgia for 23 yeast, moving from Birmingham Alabama to Colorado Springs in 2011. She has two children Kristin Ashley and Justin Brett. She has work with her husband, Mike Hight in his insurance business since they married in December 2000. They are also in Real Estate with Barbara Harris. They enjoy taking care of Dogs.

Dr. Mike S. Hight lived in Atlanta, Georgia, Birmingham Alabama and New York City. Two children Kristi and Justin. He worked in Insurance Risk Management. He enjoys spending time with his wife and helping take care of the dogs.

Welcome everyone to our Chapter.

We will have more about new members next month.

Black Forest Chapter of AARP #1100
Chapter Meeting, December 14, 2011

Black Forest Lutheran Church, Colorado Springs, Co.

The Regular Monthly meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM by President Charles Karlstrum. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the invocation given by Pastor Kenneth Hohag of the Black Forest Lutheran Church..

There were 47 members and 17 guests. Guest were Marge Korsekwa, Cherie Schmidt, Jill and Lou Occhi, Don John, Angelina Eastwood, Ognur Quinones, Pat and Gary Beret, Mike and Frances Vialpando, Lynn Hall, Mike Height, and Riley Rozak. (Sorry, didn't get all the names.)

Members present celebrating December birthdays: Glenda Brown, Dave Campbell, Mary Campbell, Robert Coward, Alberta Davis, Lavonne Hidy, Lexie Manfrin, Terry O'Connell and Ray Rozak.

The beautiful table decorations were made by Diane Apodaca. These were awarded as door prizes. She has also invited members to come view her home which is beautifully decorated for Christmas.

Lexie Manfrin circulated three cards for signatures. These will be sent to members who are not able to be with us today.

Gwen asked everyone to stop by the Share Table and help these items find a new home.

People were reminded that there is a table full of Christmas Cookies for our annual Cookie Swap.

2. Program: Five members of the Purple Mountaineers Choral Group from Woodland Park, Colorado entertained by singing a variety of old, new, and beautiful Christmas songs. They were accompanied by key board and two guitars and hand held accompaniments. They sang from 11:30 until 12:00 before the meeting began and again after lunch for another thirty minutes. They were our guests for lunch. Thanks to Kay Zvonkovich for having such a talented group entertain us at our Christmas Luncheon.

3. The List of Nominees for office in 2012 was presented. The members of the Nomination Committee and Chairmen of the Membership Committee and the new Catering Committee were presented. (List Attached) The Audit Committee will meet at 10:30 AM prior to our January 2012 Luncheon. Howard Pease made a motion that the list of candidates as presented by voted upon by voice. Motion was seconded by Waldo Pendleton. Vote was all were in favor. The officers will be installed in January 2012. Pictures will be taken then of the new officers.

3. Treasurers Report: Lavonne Hidy presented the Chapter Budget for 2012. (Copy Attached) She reminded everyone that much of our income in 2011 came from trips and the State Awards our Chapter won this year. We can expect a lot of competition from other chapters in 2012 for these awards. Those items which we are required to fund and those which are discretionary were pointed out. The increase in our dues for 2012 to \$10.00 is expected to bring \$125 more in income, based on a possible membership of 72. It is in our financial interest to support the trips which Kay Zvonkovich and Edna Eaton offer and seek new members. We also receive income from several Black Forest Businesses who advertise in our Monthly Newsletter. The budget was prepared in advance of the end of December and figures for 2011 are

Minutes continued on page 4

Minutes continued:

Not final. President Karlstrum has appointed the Audit Committee who will meet in January 2012. The Budget was approved as presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS;

5. Certificates of Appreciation: Several local Businesses who have supported our food drives for the Black Forest Cares Food Pantry are being recognized and thanked by our Chapter and will be presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation. One was displayed for everyone to see.

6. Committee Reports: Gwen Burk mentioned the Share Table. Ruth Schwarzman was introduced as the new Chairman of Membership. Stan Beckner will continue to get news of our Chapter in newspapers and around the community in the area. Lexie needs us to keep her informed of members who are ill.

7. Thank You: We received a thank you letter for our \$200 donation in November to the Black Forest Cares Food Bank

8. Host and Hostess: Thanks go to Don and Helen Von Gunden and Stan and Elect Beckner, today's host and hostesses. Also thanks to those who helped clean and put away everything after the meeting.

8. Calling Staff: Thanks to Janet Hoover and Rosemary Walker. E-Mail: Thanks to Don Von Gunden for sending to those on the e-mail list.

Minuets continued from page 5

10. 50/50: Today's prize was \$27.50.

11. Both the Secretary's Minutes and Treasurer's Report were printed in the Chapter Newsletter.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Catherine Arnold, Secretary, 14 December 2011

<u>Nominations—2012</u>	President:	Charles Karlstrum	
	1st Vice President	Waldo Pendleton	
	2nd Vice President	Howard Pease	
	Co-Secretary	Catherine Arnold	
		Sue Fletcher	
	Asst. Secretary	Carol Palmer	
	Treasurer	Lavonne Hidy	
	Asst. Treasurer	Electa Beckner	
	Board of Directors	Stan Beckner	2012-2013
		Don Von Gunden	2012-2013
	Still on Board of Directors:	Jim Hidy	2011- 2012
	Waldo Pendleton	2011-2012	
	Kay Zvonkovich	2011-2012	
Nomination Committee:	Bill Bishop		
	Jim Walker		
	Don Von Gunden		

Ruth Schwarzman has volunteered to serve as the Membership Committee Chairperson

Helen Von Gunden will be the Chairman for the Catering Committee, which will be in charge of ordering the food for our Holiday meals.

Copy of Budget approved will be in Annual Handout.

Black Forest Chapter of AARP #1100—TREASURERS REPORT

Income -checking account December 1, 2011	\$3,332.21	Year to date
Dues (for 2012)	\$130.00	\$286.00
Donations		369.00
Social — 50/50	27.50	200.00
Advertising Income		60.00
Trip		750.00
Other – AARP Awards		<u>575.00</u>
Total Income	\$ 157.50	\$ 2,240.00
Expense		
Administrative	17.48	400.58
Donations (Gifts)		200.00
Memorials		45.00
Meeting Expense		300.00
Newsletter	43.54	201.82
Publicity		
Social Events (food)	300.93	847.74
Supplies (utensils, paper plates-cups)		137.88
Other (Christmas program)	<u>50.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
Total Expense	411.95	\$ 2,183.02
Balance — December 31, 2011	\$3,077.76	
3 month CD—January 2008 beginning amount-\$1000.00		
<u>Date December 31, 2011 Interest \$ 2.22 this year</u>		<u>Balance: \$1,034.95</u>

NOTES

This newsletter was published and distributed with the assistance of:

Black Forest Jeweler

Repair—Watch Batteries
Candles—Pottery
Free Jewelry inspection and Cleaning
495-8816—11425 Black Forest road

Home Care

Assisted Living-Respite-Day Care
9430 Burgess Road
Black Forest, Colorado
719-761-6413

R & R Coffee Café

11425 Black Forest Road
Black Forest, Colorado
Phone 719-494-8300

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ElderWatch—Beware Before You Pay that Bill

Fake Bill Scams Circulate in Colorado

After the holidays, many consumers expect additional bills to come through the mail. However, take a second look to make sure the bill is legitimate. Fake bills can take on different forms. Here are some examples of what to look out for.

Beware of:

Pro forma invoicing, in which you receive a bill for goods or services you never requested. Pro forma invoicing can also look like a bill, but it’s actually a ad, trying to sell a product.

A bill from a familiar company, but the amount due is not the usual payment you typically make.

Bills for a product you ordered, such as a magazine, in which the time has been extended without your consent.

A company threatening to send you to a false debt-collection agency if you do not pay immediately.

Additions to your bill from third parties on accounts you already have established, such as your cable and telephone bills.

Before You Pay That Bill Make Sure You:

Check the address, telephone number and account number listed on the bill.

If you have an existing account with the company and feel you’ve already made a payment, check with the company and verify. Use the telephone number from your records, not the fraudulent bill.

Ask for proof of your agreement. No proof, no payment.

Keep records of conversations.

Obtain proof of the company’s registration with the Secretary of State, and:

Inform the company in writing that you did not agree to purchase the product.

If you find the company to be fraudulent file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at www.ftc.gov.

Recognize, Refuse, Report, AARP ElderWatch is here to help
1-800-222-4444 or www.aarpelderwatch.org

**AARP Tax-Aide Sites
El Paso/Teller County
Feb 1 - April 17, 2012**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Tri-Lakes Cares 235 Jefferson St Monument 12:00 - 7:00 PM Appointments recommended 488-1317	Sunnyside Christian Church 2025 N Murray Blvd 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Colorado Springs Senior Center 1514 N Hancock Ave 12:30 - 5:00 PM Appointment Only 387-6000	Tri-Lakes Cares 235 Jefferson St Monument 12:00 - 7:00 PM* Appointments recommended 488-1317	Holy Apostles Church 4925 N Carefree Circle 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	Colorado Springs Senior Center. 1514 N. Hancock Ave. Open Saturday Feb 4th ONLY, 8 AM - 5 PM. By appointment only 387-6000.
Silver Key Senior Services 2250 Bott Ave 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon	Fountain Valley Community Center 5725 Southmoor Drive Fountain 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM		Silver Key Senior Services 2250 Bott Ave 9:00 AM - 12:00 noon		
Colorado Springs Senior Center 1514 N Hancock Ave 12:30 - 5:00 PM Appointment Only 387-6000	AARP Woodland Park 116 S West Street 12:30 - 4:30 PM By appointment only 719-351-6600				
All sites provide free electronic filing			*Tri-Lakes Cares. Revised hours of 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM only on Feb 16 th and Mar 15 th .		
Tri-Lakes Cares, Silver Key & CS Senior Center closed on Presidents' Day, Monday, Feb 20th					