

Happy Dog Days of Summer, Colorado Sisters!

*What did the CPCC do in July?*

- *Right up front we are acknowledging we have fallen behind in posting the CPCC financials on the website. Not reviewing, but posting. We're not sure what the delay is, where the holdup lies...but we'll own responsibility. We hope you understand that we are trying -- trying to get them in an easy to read format and trying to get them to you in a timely manner. Our goal is to post them monthly on the CSC website and we're renewing the effort right now with June financials available to you. It's a formidable task to get these into a readable, understandable format. If anyone wants past month summaries, please send an email to the address below and we will accommodate your individual requests. Believe us, we're trying.*
- *We're also trying NOT to bombard you with so much P.E.O. reading material at the beginning of the month. So, we've changed the CCC to mid-month, starting now!*
- *The CPCC has been busy with policy, procedure, job descriptions...pretty much what every board does at the beginning of each new board year. It's a time of revision, goal setting, planning, and doing. We're working to bring you viable options for CH operations to the 2021 Convention.*
- *We would like to give a special shout out to the law firm of Faegre Biddle Drinker & Reath LLP, which allowed one of its attorneys to review and comment on our CH employee manual on a pro bono basis. We are very grateful for the expert help!*
- *We're nearing completion of the annual financial audit. This year's examination seems much more thorough than last year. Our treasurer is actively implementing strategies to make the auditors' necessary document requests easier to fulfill next year.*

*What happened in and around the Chapter House in July?*

- *The CH welcomed interim House Manager Bill Tremmel on 6/30/2020 and he hit the ground running.*
- *For our residents, Bill reintroduced the importance of their input and is having regular interaction with our sisters in residence. They're grateful to have Bill there and share a noon meal once a week if his busy schedule allows.*
- *For the employees, Bill has met with each, identified concerns and opened lines of communication. He's holding weekly staff meetings to share goals and projects. They're feeling valued and appreciate the opportunity to contribute.*
- *And as for the physical grounds and CH building...wow! Here's a run-on sentence to identify what he's accomplished so far. Fixed the kitchen drainage system to bypass former cess pit route to city sewer, removed broken appliances and identified replacement possibilities, evaluated water heater needs and met with contractors for advice on replacing our 30 year old boiler/tank systems, identified and worked to replace all the smoke and CO detectors with a sealed battery system detector, met with contractors to mitigate fire danger from trees/shrubs/and pine needles on the property, identified plan to clean and declutter both inside and outside the building, maintained Covid-19 precautions and guidelines, posted mandatory maximum-occupancy signage in the library, dining and family room, fixed a garbage disposal in a resident room, and replaced the broken pond pump (see photo). We're impressed by his weekly progress reports!*



Interim House Manager, Bill



- The CH hiring committee has interviews scheduled for late July for the permanent House Manager. The goal is to have this position filled and ready to start on September 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The CH Trustees have been busy. They are updating the resident manual, updating the Share the Care application and policies with assistance from MF Trustees, and following up with residents after illnesses/injuries. They are pleased to report that all residents remain COVID-free during this pandemic.
- Congratulations to Joanne Majors who celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!
- Our bookkeeper, Amy and her husband welcomed their second child this month. JJ is a handsome bundle!
- A wedding took place on the grounds, and we had socially distant bear sightings.



- *A quick heads up about all this clean up...many chapters and individuals have donated or are storing donated items in the CH closets that have not been used in many years, and as a result, our closets are full! In connection with our recent fire/life-safety inspection by the fire department, we are cleaning out long-stored treasures from closets because we need the closets to store folding chairs and tables, instead of storing them lined up in the hallways and in front of exits. We are planning an "indoor fire mitigation/ come pick up your stuff" day. If items have your chapter letters on them, we'll send you an email, otherwise watch for an announcement! We can no longer store all these wicker baskets, tea services, punch bowls and un-hung framed photos, for fire safety reasons.*

*Before:*

*See something that's yours? Email us at the address below and arrange a pickup!*



*After...See something that's yours?*



*After - YES!!!!*

- Lastly, you all may already know that the CPCC was audited by the IRS in 2019 for the fiscal year ended 3/31/2018. The auditors determined that the income from CH guest stays and food service for non-residents is unrelated business income (i.e., income from an activity that is not related to our corporation's tax-exempt purpose), and therefore taxable to the corporation. Fortuitously, overnight room stays and related meals at the CH were discontinued in mid-March 2020 due to COVID safety precautions and remain so as of the date of this newsletter. Meanwhile, our CPCC board's amendments-and-corporate-structure-workgroup discovered, and the board agreed, that beginning with the date of the IRS audit finding, overnight guest rooms and related meals are now inconsistent with the CPCC's Articles of Incorporation, which read in relevant part as follows:

Tenth.

***A. The corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on: (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code, or (b) by a corporation contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Code.***

***Therefore, going forward, overnight guest room rentals at CH and related meals will not be resumed.***

***Please note*** that the occasional meals sold to our residents' daytime guests and in connection with events held at CH, including chapter meetings, were not included in the IRS' determination regarding taxable income. As of the date of this newsletter, the board intends to resume availability and sale of such meals when, in consideration of CDC guidelines and applicable public health orders, it believes it is safe to do so. ***Also note*** that we are already exploring the costs of converting the overnight guest rooms into revenue-producing efficiency apartments for additional residents, consistent with the corporation's tax-exempt purpose. We are excited about this possibility and we look forward to keeping you posted on further developments.

#### What about the Marguerite Fund?

- Via zoom the MF Trustees conducted their semi-annual meeting and approval of applications.
- The CPCC board approved their recommended 11 applications and the recipients will be receiving the \$500/month as proposed.



Please stay safe and remember to wash your hands!



**We welcome your feedback and questions!**

Colorado P.E.O. Charitable Corporation 1819 W. Cheyenne Road Colorado Springs, CO 80906

Or email us: [coloradopeocharitableco@gmail.com](mailto:coloradopeocharitableco@gmail.com)