

Carson O Piñon!

Carson Community Association

Annual, (sometimes semi-annual), Newsletter

Editor: Elizabeth Brownrigg, PO Box 40, Carson, NM 87517

Winter 2012



Photo by Elizabeth Brownrigg

NEWS FLASH !!!!!

-Elisabeth Maier & Rob Hughes

On December 5, 2011, the Carson Community Association received the 501(c)(3) Federal tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service. This will not change the basic mission of the CCA, which is to support the Carson Community, but rather, it will allow us to pursue our goals more efficiently.

One of our most pressing community needs is fire protection, and the purpose of the tax-exempt status enables the CCA to receive funds to equip the new Carson Volunteer Fire Department and to train fire fighters.

With this tax exempt status the CCA can now receive tax-deductible donations of money or equipment for the Volunteer Fire Department. This is key, as it dramatically increases the likelihood of large donations because the donors can write them off. This status also exempts CCA from paying any federal income tax on all funds received.

A big thank you goes to Art and Sharon Wilbur and other volunteers who spent many hours on the application process for the 501(c)(3).

WORRIED ABOUT WILDFIRE AND YOUR HOME?

**HAVE A PROFESSIONAL
ASSESS YOUR DEFENSIBLE SPACE.**



**BRETT BOWER IN CARSON
758-9587
BBOWER@TAOSNET.COM**

Steps Completed Toward Being Recognized by Taos County as a Volunteer Fire Dept:

- 1. A two-thirds vote from the community members to add an amendment to our by laws for the creation of a volunteer fire department.**
- 2. An application for a 501(c)(3) from the IRS, which was approved in December 2011 and is effective from July 2011.**
- 3. One acre of land approved by the State Fire Marshall's Office for the fire station.**
- 4. Fifteen local members are in training at the Ojo Caliente Fire Department. There are 5 members currently in training as First Responders, for a total of 72 hours and a cost of \$1331.25. They also have completed CPR training paid for by the CCA.**
- 5. Maps that depict the district and identify the range and township and the location of residences and water wells.**
- 6. Written permission from 5 residents for use of water wells, plus a well adjacent to the future fire station.**
- 7. Two sirens in place that are 2 1/2 miles apart with 120 decibals.**
- 8. A Carson Volunteer Fire Department 2012 Emergency Response List.**
- 9. Carson has radio communication with Ojo Caliente Fire Department 24/7 for emergency response for the surrounding Carson area.**
- 10. We have researched obtaining surplus equipment from New Mexico State Agency for Surplus Property in Santa Fe.**

- ATTENTION -



THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED

CARSON FIRE DEPARTMENT

SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

***FROM • CARSON • CARSON ESTATES • STAR
• TWO PEAKS • GREATER WORLD • ANYWHERE ON THE WEST RIM***

*OUR MAIN SERVICE AREA IS THE WEST RIM FROM
NORTH OF TWO PEAKS TO SOUTH OF THE CARSON POST OFFICE*

ANYONE INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF OUR NEWLY
ESTABLISHED FIRE DEPARTMENT, PLEASE CONTACT
ART WILBUR AT 751-0496 OR 779-7280
FOR AN APPLICATION

- BENEFITS -

- TRAINING WITH OJO FIRE DEPARTMENT
- STATE RETIREMENT
 - \$100 / MO AFTER 10 YEARS OF SERVICE
 - \$300 / MO AFTER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE
- SAVING PROPERTY AND LIVES FROM
POTENTIAL WILDFIRES & STRUCTURE FIRES
- LOCAL EMT SERVICE FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

CCA Board Members



*Rob Hughes, Elizabeth Brownrigg, Terry Wolff, Elisabeth Maier, Art Wilbur
Absent: Bob Logue, Jerry Boxberger
(Terry Wolff is standing in for Richard Hawley until the next elections.)*

Of the Night

-Mike Lindsay

*When it's dark
And the door is closed
Am I alone?*

*It's quiet, all is still
I am alone*

*And yet, and yet
I feel a presence
Something is with me*

*Fear is not what I feel
But an emptiness
That is complete*

Bit in the Butt

-Scott Stephens

Needing to be somewhere soon, quickly I dumped the woodstove ashes in their designated spot out back as usual. Then off I went, gone all day.

I got home in the evening with a few chores yet to do. While toiling behind my workshop I felt something was amiss, but I couldn't quite put my finger on what it was. I finished what I was doing and headed toward my outhouse- *except it wasn't there!!* Huh??! I ran up to find only the scorched tin roof in its place on the ground! My deluxe outhouse was reduced to its lid! I had accidentally gotten some of the sleeping live embers from my woodstove that morning against the wood walls of my privy, and during the course of my absence, a towering inferno smote my structure and singed its neighboring piñon tree up 25 feet! And I had just been telling some friends the week before how they should be more cautious with fire!



Photo by Elizabeth Brownrigg

Please donate \$\$\$ to the CCA!

The CCA has slated a number of projects to improve our community. These projects take money and volunteers. The most current projects being planned are:

- Raising money to establish a volunteer fire department in Carson, (\$\$\$)
- Adding a portale to the Community Center/ FD meeting house, (\$1000)

Any amount of money you can donate will be greatly appreciated *and is now a tax write-off*. Also, please remember your Carson Resident Annual Donations- \$10 per household. Cash is acceptable. Checks and money orders may be made payable to “Carson Community Association” or “CCA”. Please send donations and dues to: CCA, attn: E. Maier, Treasurer, PO Box 101, Carson, NM 87517.

Mountains Have a Power

-Christopher Gallup

*Well the sunset paints the mountain sky with the colors right outta God's eye.
The twilight puts the day to bed as the stars light up the stars ahead.
When the mountains are a callin' me; well you know I gotta go,
Yeah, hear the wind whisper through the aspen trees on a high mountain meadow.
Hear a peregrine falcon cry on high, see the mighty golden eagle soar
Takes my spirit above the trees and with the wild creatures I roam.
The mountains have a power I can feel it when I'm there.
A magical spiritual presence of the earth, water, fire, and air.
And my spirit will be there with the bear, the mountain lion, the deer.
I am the mighty golden eagle.
Running wild through the forest, mountain lion now am I.
Flyin' high above the mountain, golden eagle now am I.
Loving, kissing flowers, hummingbird am I.
Well, the mountains have a power; I can feel it when I'm there
It's a magical spiritual presence of the earth, water, fire, and air
And the Creator is there, a soft quiet voice, a whisper on the wind
Tellin' me forget what I have learned and remember what's forgotten,
That I'm part of a goodness so much greater than fear
The mountains got power I can feel it when I'm there.
It's a magical spiritual presence of the earth, water, fire, and air,
And my spirit will be there.*

THE MESA CHARTER SCHOOL – Working with the Community to Create a New Public School Option for Our Children

-Amanda Allalunis

Charter Founders Ask for Community Input: Parent/Community Meetings and Surveys are Now Available.

Amanda Allalunis and Lisa Joseph, two founders of the future Mesa Charter School, are actively seeking community input about the development of the school. Mesa Charter will primarily serve students in the Mesa Vista Consolidated School District living in local rural areas such as Tres Piedras, the Greater World Community, Carson, and Cerros de Los Taos. In an effort to reach as many parents and students as possible, Mesa Charter will be holding Parent and Community Involvement Meetings throughout the month of March in various locations. Current meeting dates and locations include:

Friday, March 9, 6:00pm at the Tres Piedras Fire House, Tres Piedras

Saturday, March 10, 2:00pm at the Poco Loco General Store, Carson

Tuesday, March 13, 3:30pm in the Cafetorium , Mesa Vista Elem School, Ojo

Monday, March 19, 4:30pm at the Greater World Community Visitor Center, 2 miles west of the Gorge Bridge on HWY 64.

Child-friendly snacks and activities will be provided at these meetings.

“It is important to gather as much community input as we can in order to create the best possible school for students,” says Amanda Allalunis, one of the founders of the Mesa Charter. “There are too many children in this area who must travel more than 30 miles just to attend school. A rurally-located public charter school has the potential to change the lives of those children.”

The charter founders are also collecting community surveys from any parent or family interested in the school. Surveys are available in the common room of the Tres Piedras Post Office, at the Poco Loco General Store in Carson, and online at www.tpce.org/mesacharter.html. Please submit the survey by March 31.

Hi Neighbors

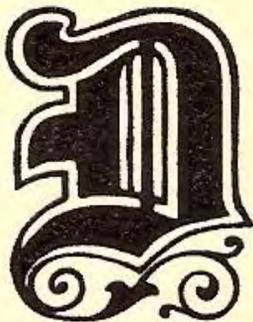
-The Old Man

Getting old isn't for wimps. The longer your experience, the more troubling it is to be what is needed.

Want to congratulate the community on the effort so far toward a fire department. We need more cohesion within the community. This is important to us all. It's not all about fire. As a group, more can get done, and easier.

When a group or an individual cares about trying to improve themselves there should be help with the obstacles encountered. For instance, take the "market" on the high bridge. Most of the people involved there are proud to be self-sufficient. This is a rarity this day and age. The county and state went to great effort to block the independence of these people. Thousands of our tax dollars were spent needlessly to end the "market". The government took away their pride. Without pride you have nothing.

Just a thought: maybe we as a growing community could exercise a little influence towards correcting this travesty. Anytime an individual is trying to do for himself, we should do what we can to strengthen the effort. Just a thought. I'm enjoying my later years immensely. So many of you are so thoughtful. I cannot start a project without someone offering help. Thank you all.



Karen P. Dwyer LISW

Caring Professional

Counseling

Adults & Couples

Insurance & Sliding Scale

(575) 770-6396

Remembering

-Jerry Boxberger

When I was growing up, families used to spend a lot of time reminiscing about things that had happened. I find myself forgetting things that I have not talked about for a long time. Before all the modern electronic technology, (and I'm talking even before TV), people would reminisce about what past events and about family information. Some of this is lost these days.

Our family always had a radio. It was a large unit that had three batteries you could order from Montgomery Ward. We would sit around in the evenings listening to our favorite programs, and Mom always had a list of the ones we liked so we could all make sure we had our chores done in time to be in the house to listen.

Was thinking about my school days at Ojo Caliente High School, now Mesa Vista. All the grades were in one building, with different rooms. Basketball was on a dirt court. Sometime around 1950, we did get a gymnasium that was moved in from Los Alamos. That was first class for us.

Another thing I was thinking about was that we never heard of a two-hour school delay or a cancellation because of snow. The bus driver would just put on tire chains and keep going. In the 1940s and early 1950s there was a school bus that ran from Carson and met another bus at Taos Junction that came from Tres Piedras.

I had some great times and have fond memories of my days on the bus going to Ojo Caliente. I started in 1943 and went all the way, graduating in 1955.

Love Never Fails

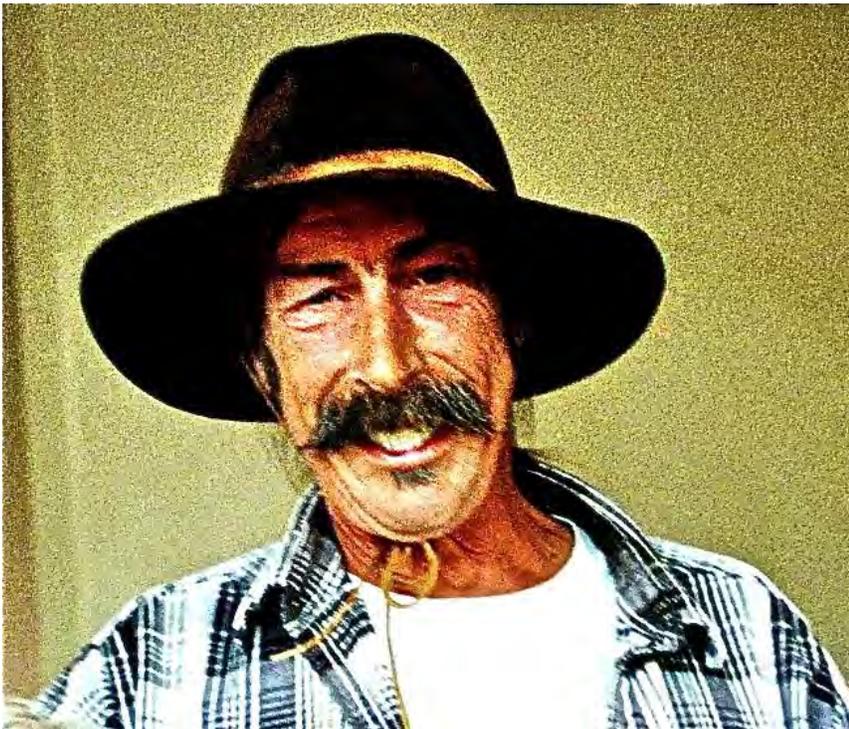
**To nourish the one next to you is to be an
instrument of peace.**

**Please donate to the Carson Food Bank.
751-3090**

Clifford Hickey, 2/13/1952 – 2/16/2012

The Carson Community lost a long-time resident and all-around colorful character when Clifford Hickey died this February 16th. Cliff was well known and widely appreciated west of the Rio Grande for his friendly nature and sense of humor. He enjoyed a simple life on the mesa, socializing with his many friends when he wasn't on the job as a firefighter. In the off-season Cliff worked as a construction laborer, federal emergency worker, and movie extra. He was most proud of his small part in a western film that starred Kevin Costner as Wyatt Earp. He was always ready to go for wood or go fishing, or hunt for fossils or mineral specimens. He was a devoted dad and granddad. His grandchildren remember him as "the best grandpa ever". His oldest friend Mickey Phoenix of Houston recalls that as she grew up with Cliff, "He was big-hearted and full of laughs. He liked Indians and animals."

Starting out in Ohio, Cliff's family migrated to Houston where Cliff's dad worked for NASA on the Apollo program to put men in space. Eventually Cliff found his way to Carson where he lived nearly three decades. He was preceded in death by his brother Donnie, his beloved daughter Lalania, and his good dog Lucky. He is survived by his parents Thomas N. and Barbara (Blanch) Hickey, his sister Jeannie, and his grandchildren Paris and Coltan. Clifford will be sorely missed around Carson. He was 60 years old.



Poco Loco General Store

In the heart of downtown Carson

New products in stock:

- * Heirloom, Non-GMO seeds from Bakers Creek
- * Ground Yak from Arroyo Seco, NM
- * Ground Beef from Velarde, NM
- * Fresh Prosciutto
- * Just Desserts™ Carrot Cupcakes & more!

Coming soon:

- Other Beef cuts from Mora, NM
- Farmers & Artist Market? Come in and fill out a survey; let us know what you think.

**Always serving sandwiches & specials.
Pizza on Friday, Saturday & Sunday.
Bulk ordering available.**

**Open 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Tues-Sun
751-0223**

We need your support!