



The Manor Banner

January 2013



Columbine Manor Annual Meeting & Social

Saturday, February 9th

Starts at 5:45 pm

**Columbine United Church
6375 S. Platte Canyon Road**

Spaghetti (gluten-free will be available) with meatballs or sausage, bread, salad and refreshments will be provided by the Association.

Please bring your favorite dessert to share!

Please RSVP to Hiroo Shiba at hiroo.shiba@q.com or call 303-903-8007 by Friday, 2/8/2013.

The agenda for the meeting:

- Treasurer's report and approval of 2013-2014 budget
- Nominations and Election of New Board Members
- Dinner
- A magic show so be sure to bring the kids
- Desserts and Social Time
- Raffle Drawing – do you feel lucky?



2012 Christmas Party

The 2012 CMPOA Christmas party had one of the biggest turn-outs in recent memory—we counted 82 faces, including 22 kids!



Santa was a big hit too

again this year. A total of 18 pizzas were consumed along with the salad that was served. Special thanks go to Darrell and Andrea Del Duca, Annemarie Garber, Robyn Hall, Joe Steinbach and Diane Lekic for making this year's party a successful one!

Reminder for Waste Management payment and CMPOA dues

By now you should have received your reminder letter and collection envelope to pay for your renewal of Waste Management service and annual CMPOA dues. Please contact any board member if you did not receive this important notice. You must be a CMPOA member to take advantage of the great savings through Waste Management. Members of our Association enjoy a discount for trash removal that is nearly 50% less than if contracted individually. The regular trash pickup for individuals using Waste Management is \$22.49 per month. That includes a 96 gallon container and recycling. Through the Association, each member's regular trash pickup is \$11.86 per month. That also includes a 96 gallon container and recycling, plus a 30 yard large item container to use once a year for free. (An average cost for this type of bin is \$548.00). Please send your payment check to Darrel Del Duca, 5149 W. Fremont Avenue, by February 1, 2013.

THIEVES AMONG THE CASTLES

Since August, 2012, we have had a rash of car break-ins and thefts in Columbine Manor. Cash was stolen from unlocked vehicles parked on South Platte Canyon Drive driveways in August and in early November. Over the Labor Day weekend, a vehicle on Geddes Circle was broken into and a Global Positioning System was stolen. Over \$700 of damage was done to the steering and key mechanism of a vehicle on West Hinsdale Circle in an attempt to steal the vehicle during the late summer months. Finally, on Thanksgiving night, an iPod was stolen from a vehicle parked on the driveway of a home on West Hinsdale Circle. A second vehicle on the same driveway was entered, but it could not be determined if anything was stolen. How do we prevent such activity? Keep your vehicles locked at all times. Alert visitors to your home to lock their vehicles. What do we do when we are victims of any crimes? Call the Sheriff's Department and file a report. Crimes invite surveillance. Continued surveillance will eventually catch criminals.

Notes from the President

By Dwight Storm

You will soon receive the current assessment for property tax purposes. If you determine that the valuation is more than you believe your property is worth, the ball is in your court. If the value truly is overstated and you are willing to put forth an effort, an adjustment usually can be obtained.

During the last two weeks of April we will have two meetings of homeowners that want to appeal their valuations. The first group will be the ten homeowners that experienced the highest increase in property assessed values from 2002 to 2011, if they want to attend. The second group will be others whose valuations are substantial enough to appeal.

The next step is to call the assessor's office at (303) 795-4600. It should be done early in May to obtain a face to face meeting with an assessor that understands the values of properties in Columbine Valley, specifically in Columbine Manor. I have a working relationship with an individual assessor that is willing to work with you or us in presenting your appeal. Call me at (303) 979-4586 and I will give you his name. If you need help with your appeal or meeting with an assessor, a Board member or I will assist you in the process.

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Coyote Sightings in Columbine Manor

Our community has experienced a growing number of coyote incidents: casual sightings, trespassing, pets being killed and aggression toward pedestrians. The Department of Animal Control of Arapahoe County provides the following guidelines –

- 1) Call Arapahoe County Animal Control at 720-874-6750, if you witness any coyote attack.
- 2) Be extra vigilant between early January to late March. This is the period the gestation period ends and the coyotes have extra mouths to feed.
- 3) Deter coyotes from entering your yard with a 6-foot privacy fence.
- 4) Protect your pets. Pick up small pets if confronted by a coyote. Always supervise your pets when outside, especially at dawn or dusk.
- 5) If you must leave your pet outside, secure it in a fully enclosed kennel.
- 6) If you meet a coyote, make it feel unwelcome by yelling, throwing rocks and sticks at it, spraying with a hose or vinegar-filled water gun, or banging pots and pans.
- 7) Avoid known or potential den sites and thick vegetation.

8) If a coyote approaches, use the following techniques:

- Make eye contact and make your eyes as big and be loud as possible.
- Wave your arms and throw objects at it, face the coyote and back away slowly.
- If attacked, fight back.
- Do not run or turn your back.

9) Walk with a walking stick that can be used for protection and carry noise makers or rocks to throw.

Additional information can be obtained at:

<http://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/Departments/PW/AnimalControl/Coyotes.asp>

Corrections

In the last Banner, the winners for the Yard-of- the-Month were incorrect for July and August. In July, Eric and Judy Schnittkers, 5110 W. Fremont Ave., were the winners. For the award in August, the right winners were Ernie and Linda Arellano, 5080 W. Geddes Ave.

CMPOA Directory Update

Karen Bialkowski has a new telephone number: 303-505-8141. The number listed in the current CMPOA is no longer in service. Her email address is: karenheckel@yahoo.com.

Lost and Found

A red pie plate was left at the Christmas party. Contact Robyn Hall at 303-948-8808 if it belongs to you. A large green bowl was also left behind at the party. Contact Darrel Del Duca at 303-973-5435 to retrieve it.

Board Members for 2012-2013

For names, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of your Association board members, please look on page 21 in your CMPOA Directory.

Board Meetings

The monthly meeting of your Board of Directors for CMPOA is held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. All members are welcome to attend any of the meetings. If you would like to attend any of the meetings, please call Dwight Storm at 303-979-4586 for the location.