

**An Open and Affirming  
Facility of the United Church of Christ**

March 2016

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**Opportunities to  
Volunteer**

- Fire Mitigation
- Antique furniture repair
- Cabin Painting
- Sewing Curtains for Ponderosa Lodge
- Window replacement
- Gift Shop clerk hours
- Stain picnic tables

**La Foret's Wish List**

- Flower pots for flowers around La Foret
- Donations for new windows
- Log benches for trails around camp
- Old vehicles: mini van, work truck, golf cart...
- Repair for our antique chairs



**Great News For Ponderosa Lodge!**

This February, La Foret Conference & Retreat Center received word that we are one of eight applications that received the maximum \$200,000 grant for the restoration of the Ponderosa Lodge! \$3,900,000 in grant money have been given by the History Colorado State Historical Fund in the 'greater than \$35,000' category. These grants are given for requested projects to preserve, rehabilitate, or purchase properties that are of historical significance. Most of the properties are on the National or State Historic register. Ponderosa Lodge is on both!

The \$200,00 along with our required matching money from La Foret of \$85,000 will go specifically for site drainage, log construction repair, chimney repair, added roof drainage, and first floor rehabilitation. This was all spelled out in a budget within the application. The general purpose of this request was to rehabilitate previous water damage and to prevent further damage. The process for spending these funds is under a very strict and arduous budget process designed to meet standards for historic reconstruction and preservation. The



**Dance in the Woods!**

Enjoy an evening get-away to La Foret! We open our stunning Ponderosa Lodge for this once-a-month dance lesson, followed by a party to practice those new moves. We aim to inspire lives - and dancing is a healthy, good-for-the-soul activity that can bring together a community. *Invite your friends!*

**Monthly Social Dance!**

Next practice party is on:

**Sun. March 20th**

Basic Two-Step lesson  
5 pm-6 pm  
Practice Party  
6 pm-9 pm  
\$10 per person

- Snacks provided!
- B.Y.O.B
- Professional instruction
- Private and semi-private dance lessons also available!

Questions? Or to sign up  
contact [Tasha](#)

[www.laforet.org](http://www.laforet.org)

La Foret's own...

**Lauren Maupin**



Lauren is a dedicated, very hard worker in several settings around La Foret. She is a talented 'head cook' in our kitchen, as she thoughtfully prepares delicious camp meals with a personal touch and a caring hand. Beyond the kitchen, Lauren is also the 'head of housekeeping.' She trains new staff and endures a variety of demanding tasks, dedicated to camper's comfort. Even more, Lauren will also be found out at the pool - as a certified lifeguard, ensuring the safety of our campers. La Foret greatly appreciates Lauren for so much of her time and hard-work, and we honor her for everything she does!

*"How I love thee...La Foret. Let me count the ways...I love to cook for all the folks who venture in each day. And making sure that where they sleep is tidy, nice and clean. And when they wake, the mountain view is really quite a scene. So if you want to take a dip and jump into the pool, I'll keep you safe and watch you play, so keep your body cool." -Lauren Maupin*

## Helpful Links

[La Foret web site](#)

construction company and subcontractors are not yet identified.

This grant will allow La Foret to continue its mission to provide a natural sanctuary to all guests to consider the transcendent issues in their group and individual lives.

This grant will allow for visibility in the greater historic conservation community, bring awareness to Alice Bemis Taylor's historic summer home, La Foret, and the work of the architect Benedict. This may set the stage for further restoration work and helpful grants. History Colorado is aware, as they are in many more of their grant projects, that there will need to be several more phases of rehabilitation.

La Foret is an Open and Affirming facility of the United Church of Christ. For further information, contact Larry McCulloch, Executive Director at 970-481-9243



*"I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach..."*

*-Henry David Thoreau*

## A Word From Our Director

The State Historical Fund grant for our Ponderosa Lodge provides La Foret with the ability to maintain and improve the incredible legacy we were given in 1944 by the Alice Bemis Taylor Estate.



## A Wedding Day... ...at La Foret

La Foret is proud to provide unique and beautiful space for couples to hold the ceremony and celebration of a new life together.

Begin your marriage amidst the artistry of our stunning Chapel, in the wide open meadow with a mountain view, or in our lovely natural outdoor chapel. Dance for joy, in celebration at Inglis Hall or step into a 'different time' with a ceremony and reception in our rustic Ponderosa Lodge.

Our options are breathtaking, well maintained, and we ensure our space will offer you sanctuary in this deeply meaningful moment of your life. Wedding groups of 2 to 200 can find comfort and joy in celebrating your love and new life together, here at La Foret.

We remain inviting and open to all denominations, lifestyles, and people in their unique walk of life. It is our joy to welcome you, and offer you a beautiful, sacred place to marry.

To find out more and for pricing, click [here](#). La Foret is pleased to create a special wedding-day package unique to you and your group, to experience the *sanctuary* that is La Foret.

## Our Past Newsletters

[January 2016](#)

[February 2016](#)

## On Our Calendar...

Mar 20 La Foret's Social Dance

April 1-3 RMC Middle/HS

[Donate to La Foret](#)

[Rocky Mountain Conference, UCC](#)

[UCC camp signups](#)

[Central Rocky Mountain Region of the DOC](#)

[United Church of Christ](#)

**Local Churches**

[Black Forest Community Church](#)

[First Congregational Church of Colorado Springs](#)

[Broadmoor Community Church](#)

[Vista Grande Community Church](#)

[Community Congregational Church of Manitou Springs](#)

Stewardship takes many forms, and this is one way we work to continue to provide you with the best possible facility and to be stewards of this gift. Your feedback tells us you appreciate our efforts.

We keep our prices as low as possible, and when big work on a historic building needs to be done, we rely on grants and donors to provide the extra funds. In this case, a shout-out to La Foret Board Member Larry Ricketts, a member at Park Hill UCC in Denver, is delightfully appropriate. He wrote the grant application and managed the process. There is a huge amount of work in this short statement. We are grateful for his patience and hard work.

Thank you, Larry Ricketts!!

Peace,  
Larry McCulloch  
Executive Director

April 22-24 RMC Women's  
May 13-15 Lakewood Men  
June 3-5 RMC counselors  
June 12-18 CRMR Jr  
June 12-18 CRMR CYF  
June 13-17 Bemis camp  
June 19-25 Chi Rho camp  
June 20-24 Bemis camp  
June 23-25 CRMR DOC  
June 27-1 Bemis camp  
July 5-7 Grandparent & Me  
July 10-16 RMC Voyager  
July 11-15 RMC Pioneer  
July 11-15 Bemis camp  
July 17-23 RMC MADD  
July 17-23 RMC Contemp.  
July 18-22 Bemis Camp  
July 24-30 First Plymouth  
Aug 18-20 RMC Leaders

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