

La Foret

CONFERENCE & RETREAT CENTER

Providing sanctuary for all to consider the transcendent issues of life

January 2017

(719) 495-2743 ~ mail@lafort.org ~ www.lafort.org

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A Woodland Wedding Getaway

Happy New Year! It marks a new chapter in our individual book of life. Many would agree, that a wedding creates one of the most memorable chapters of life. If you, a loved one, or an acquaintance of yours is planning a wedding this new year, La Foret may be able to provide the perfect venue for you. Tucked away in Black Forest, and only 20 minutes from the Colorado Springs Airport, La Foret is a quick get-away to a wonderful woodland.

Our outdoor settings are stunning, with options for many tastes. The "Lower Fire Circle" provides tiered seating, leading focus to a wooden cross among the trees. The meadow boasts the backdrop of the forest, with Pikes Peak seen above the treetops. There are many gorgeous, natural outdoor settings here among the towering Ponderosa Pines, that you can find your picturesque wedding setting.

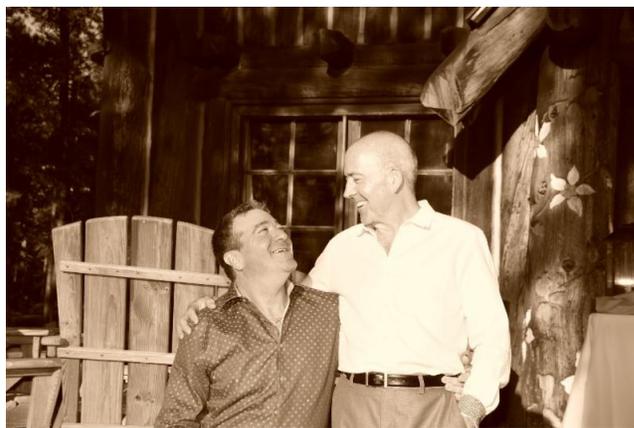
Indoor options for the wedding ceremony and/or the reception are just as lovely and so unique. The Taylor Memorial Chapel is a southwestern-style gem, designed by famous architect John Gaw Meem, and preserved on the National Register of Historic Places. Also protected on the State and National Register of Historic Places is our stunning Ponderosa Lodge. Ponderosa an outstanding, vintage, rustic style setting that will take guests' breath away. Our Inglis Hall provides the largest space, and a great sound system and nice floor for dancing!



Inglis Hall, with a lovely wedding setup

"Many years ago, my marriage ceremony was held at La Foret's Taylor Memorial Chapel. I knew as soon as I saw it that I wanted to be married in this unique building. It was a beautiful venue back then but it is even more beautiful now with the improvements in landscaping, new paint and TLC it has received over the years."

"Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for everything you did to make our wedding weekend just magical! The camp looked the best I've seen it in years and all the communication before and during the weekend was much appreciated."



Michael & Oliver had their wedding in Blue Spruce and reception in Ponderosa Lodge



In Ponderosa Lodge, for a breathtaking wedding ceremony

"The Ponderosa Lodge was filled with such love on Saturday . And it was the perfect receptacle for this love - amplifying it, making it safe, embracing it. What a special location, nurtured lovingly by you and your team. We just wanted to take a moment to thank you."

"Thank you for hosting our wedding! We had an amazing time on the beautiful property. We could not have asked for a better place to get married. Thank you to the staff for working with us to make our day go perfectly!"



We are very proud to be an open and affirming place of refuge, supporting you in whatever your religion and orientation may be. Our wish is to provide you sanctuary... Sanctuary for your unforgettable moments, priceless memories, and special connections. Weddings at La Foret are impressively priced, compared to many venues in our region....

"Peak Season" Pricing: May 1 - October 31

"Off Season" Pricing: November 1 - April 30

--Inglis or Ponderosa - \$2600 (for 8 hours)

--Inglis or Ponderosa - \$2150 (for 8 hours)

--Chapel - \$900

--Chapel - \$900

--Venue price includes: time for a wedding rehearsal, usually the day before, set-up of tables and chairs and use of sound system. Beer, wine and champagne are allowed.

--\$300 discount if rent Inglis or Ponderosa and the Chapel

--We have cabins on site available for rent, perfect to accommodate out-of-town guests, bridal party, etc.

--There are even more great deals and prices (specific days/dates, package-deals, etc) Please call our office and speak with Jane Byrne for further information 719-495-2743

'Dance in the Woods!' **Welcoming the NEW Year!**

~ Open to the public! Invite your friends! ~

Dance is a happy, health-promoting, brain-building exercise that can be fun for the whole family! Learning the language of partner dance brings about a transformation in many lives. La Foret is supporting the growth of the local community, and dance is a fun way to grow together! We welcome you with open arms, even if you've never danced before. *Especially* if you've never danced before...let it be your New Year's goal. The benefits are wonderfully life-changing!

Employee Highlight:

Julie Brooks

Bookkeeper

Julie is a wonderful member of the La Foret administrative team. Her knowledge in Bookkeeping and Marketing has been so valuable to La Foret in enhancing and streamlining our processes. She has also enhanced our sense of team with her friendly and supportive nature in the office, and she brings helpful organizational skills and great collaboration to our team.

Julie helped to launch La Foret's first self-



La Foret provides a delicious snack spread, and you are invited to B.Y.O.B. We will provide coffee, tea, water...you may bring beer, wine (21+).

There will be a WCS lesson at 6:00 pm, taught by Tasha. It will be a great introduction to some social dance moves to practice during the dance party. And she is there all evening, to help with questions and offer dance tips. We'll play music perfect for dancing Two-step, Cha Cha, Nightclub, Waltz, and of course, plenty of West Coast Swing!

Only \$10 per person, at the door. As usual, your money goes to La Foret, and the preservation of this beautiful nonprofit organization, providing safe space in support of community growth.

**SUNDAY,
JAN. 15th, 2016**

Beginner *West Coast Swing* Lesson
6:00pm - 7:00pm

Social Dance Practice Party
7:00pm - 9:00pm

-- Private and semi-private lessons are also available! Click [HERE](#) for more information! --

Letter From the Director

La Foret is an open and affirming facility of the United Church of Christ. Our operating policy states "The Board of Directors of La Foret affirm that all persons are created by God and are equal in worth and dignity. We recognize, celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts of God among us. We declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming facility of the UCC, welcoming into full participation in the Body of Christ persons of every race, language, age,

hosted summer daycamp, "Somethings Movin' in the Forest!." Julie brought her creative ideas and talents to help the 2016 daycamps to be a joyful success!

Even from a state away, now bookkeeping remotely in Utah, Julie fulfills her important duties and connects to each staff member.

We are lucky to have Julie on our staff, and give her a big 'thank-you' for all the efforts and dedication she has for La Foret, and for her contributions in making it a better place for our La Foret team.



"I grew up in Salt Lake City and graduated from University of Utah, where I attended on a gymnastics scholarship. I gained my bookkeeping experience working for a coal mine in Montana, a citrus farm in California and a school district & a dental consultant in Colorado.

I have three children and three grandchildren. I enjoy biking, hiking and DIY projects. I am happy to be working at La Foret Conference and Retreat Center. M-a-n-y years ago, I was even married at La Foret's Taylor Memorial Chapel. I knew as soon as I saw it that I wanted to be married in this unique building. It was a beautiful venue back then but it is even more beautiful now with the improvements in landscaping, new paint and TLC it has received over the years.

With life changes, I moved back to Utah, and I am so blessed to continue doing bookkeeping for La Foret. I can work remotely thanks to the marvels of computer technology and the willingness of the rest of the La Foret staff to make it work."

-Julie

gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnic origin, physical and mental ability, economic status and nationality. We joyously pledge ourselves to be an Open and Affirming facility, providing a safe welcome for a diverse people."

All are welcome here.

Larry



"Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, then your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties."

- Helen Keller

La Foret's Happy 2017!

H appy beginnings, to 2017!
A New year marks a new start, so
P lay a little more...
P ursue your dreams, and encourage
Y ourself to be the best YOU that you can be.

N ow is the time!
E njoy life in a way you haven't before...
W hatever that may mean for you.

Y ou have a place to come...
E ncouraging you to consider the transcendent issues of life.
A refuge in the woods, a
R etreat from the everyday...

...Find your peace here at La Foret. We provide the space, you create the moments to cherish for a lifetime. Design your own way event within the offerings we have here at La Foret. A wedding in the woods is a powerful memory, to cherish for the rest of your life. A retreat away from the city noise, a family reunion or attend one of many summer camps at nostalgic La Foret. There is something to look forward to every year. Call our office, 719-495-2743, we are happy to help set the stage for you to embrace the sanctuary you may hope to find in this new year. We wish you a happy 2017 and hope its off to a

wonderful beginning. Happy New Year!

Forward this email

STAY CONNECTED

