

THE FUNERAL CONSUMER SOCIETY OF COLORADO
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NEWS & VIEWS

(Published bi-annually in April & November)

FCSC NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2017

FCSC MISSION STATEMENT

FCSC was founded a half century ago with the goal of helping families find funeral or memorial services at fair prices, but it has greatly expanded to include education of all end-of-life topics.

ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY MAY 6, 2017

LOCATION CHANGE: Malley Sr. Recreation Center, 3380 S. Lincoln St., Englewood. It is one block east of Broadway at the intersection with Englewood Parkway (on the west side) which is named Girard Ave. (on the east side.) There are three parking lots: one across S. Lincoln Street from Malley, one behind Malley and one across Girard Ave. from the side entrance to Malley. Parking is free on Saturdays—disregard the signs which say for Malley members only.

Times: **9:00-9:30 a.m. Coffee, tea and refreshments in the Ballroom**
 9:30-10:00 a.m. Business Meeting and Election of Directors
 10:00-11:59 a.m. Presentations and discussions (see pg. 3)

*Note: Your Board meets on the fourth Thursday of the month six times a year, plus the annual meeting where we invite speakers. Please feel free to join us at 10:30 a.m., at the **Englewood Library** (see the Web site: www.funeralconsumercolorado.org). Call ahead at **303-759-2800** to learn the exact date of the next Board Meeting.*

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Has your Membership expired? Please check the address label for your Dues Date (for example, DD: 01-Jul-17), above your name. If this date is past or coming up soon, you must **renew your membership now** to remain active. Dues are \$10 for one person and \$20 for a couple, for two years. If the year indicated is 2018 or 2019, you are paid up until then. If you see DD: Life Member, you paid more to join as a life member prior to 1999 and owe nothing more. **Voluntary contributions are always appreciated.** Remember, we are strictly a volunteer organization, and no one is paid. All funds are dedicated to expenses of the society. NEW

MEMBERS are welcome! We know there are people out there who don't know the **Funeral Consumer Society of Colorado** (FCSC) exists. There are many people who don't know what our purpose is (see the FCSC Mission Statement). Help your friend by giving them a newsletter!

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

To look at a summary of Legislative Bills that have recently been introduced or acted upon in the Colorado Legislature, go to: www.leg.colorado.gov

The Colorado End-of-life Options Act:

<https://www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/Initiatives/titleBoard/filings/2015-2016/145Final.pdf> was signed by Governor Hickenlooper and made in effect in early January 2017. The law can be accessed through www.leg.colorado.gov (click on "Laws", then enter the statute number 25-48-101; you can also see it at the Compassion and Choices web site: www.compassionandchoices.org/colorado. **As of February 20, two bills are working their way through the legislative process (no other bills have been introduced that concern issues of death at this time):**

HB17-1027 - The bill removes the July 1, 2018 repeal date for the Emily Maureen Ellen Keyes Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Fund, continuing it indefinitely. It is now in the House Appropriation Finance Committee.

HB17-1096 - Endowment Care Cemetery Authority is intended to ensure that income will always be available for the maintenance and care of the cemeteries. The bill was approved and signed by the Governor on March 16, 2017.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

In keeping with FCSC's Mission Statement of informing and educating consumers, the Board agreed last year to provide information booths at **Senior Law Day** (in October), and three Senior Resource Days. **Board Member Barbara Wagner** will keep us informed on when new Law Days will occur, and if FCSC will be present. There will be informational materials and notepad handouts at each, and the 6-foot banner will be displayed.

Board Member Grant Steffen has been requested to give two Outreach speeches at Windsor Gardens on Wed., April 12, 2017, and one at the Jeffco District Attorney's office on Tues., April 25, at 1:30 (one of the "Triad" presentations). See the Web site for additional talks, and more details. These Outreach Presentations are free; contact FCSC if you would like your group to hear his talk, and ask questions about the funeral industry.

A new page is now on the Web site called "**Community Education**". Lists here will cover Outreach talks, info about Sr. Law Days, and a new section called "Community Resources", by new volunteer, **Jill Ross**. See our Web site: www.funeralconsumercolorado.org

OTHER NEWS

FCSC is revising the 2014 Member Handbook, available for all FCSC members. This is issued to all new members as part of their membership package. **Existing members can purchase a copy for the price of \$10.00.** Order from FCSC, P.O. BOX 4743, GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80155-4743, or order one through our e-mail: fucosoco@yahoo.com.

FCSC has created a new tri-fold flyer, one which makes it clear that our main mission is education on end-of-life issues. These are being distributed in waiting rooms of nursing homes, hospices and hospitals, as well as being given out to prospective FCSC members. They are also being used as handouts at the upcoming public events.

2016-2017 FCSC BOARD MEMBERS

Our current Officers and Directors are listed below. Term on the Board expires in the year in ().

Jan Eccher	(2019) President	Barbara Wagner	(2019) Education
Anthony Bowerman	(2019) Membership Serv.	Judy Taylor	(2019) Media
Jim Taylor	(2018) Treasurer	Larry Clarke	(2018) Phone Sec.
Em Putnam	(2018) Secretary	Grant Steffen	(2019) VP, Phone Sec.
Lew Dunlap	(2019)	Andy Sweet	(2020)
Jennifer Bishop	(2020)		

We have gained three new Board Members within this past year: **Lew Dunlap, Andy Sweet, and Jennifer Bishop**. There is also a new volunteer, **Jill Ross**, who joins us at many Board Meetings. You are welcome to attend any of these meetings; fresh ideas are always encouraged. Also, if there any volunteers out there willing to help the Society with some of our mounting tasks, please contact us! The phone number is 303-759-2800, e-mail address is: fucosoco@yahoo.com. Be sure to look at our Web site: www.funeralconsumercolorado.org.

A REMINDER:

There are several web sites by other organizations which erroneously describe FCSC as a "funeral home". We are in the process of notifying the various sources and clarifying this mistaken identity. We are not a charity nor a funeral home, nor a funeral insurance plan, nor prepayment plan. We are not affiliated with any mortuary. We do not make decisions for our members. We are a voluntary educational organization, which provides end-of-life information to help you, or your survivors, make these choices. Although we are not antagonistic toward the funeral industry, we are a force promoting consumer choice and fair dealing from them.

Speakers for the May 6 Annual FCSC Meeting:

---Questions, answers and discussion to follow presentations---

Dr. Charles Hamlin, MD, will talk at the meeting about the End-of-life Options Act. (We are especially pleased that Dr. Hamlin's time allows for this presentation---FCSC has been trying to schedule him for many annual meetings!)

Sandra Sigler, LLC, is an active member of the American, Colorado, Kansas, and Denver bar associations, along with the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. She does primarily probate litigation, contested guardianship and conservatorship proceedings, will contests, and matters arising from the financial exploitation of elders.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY April 1, 2016 - March 31, 2017:

<u>Income:</u>		<u>Expenses:</u>	
Contributions	\$ 915.00	FCA dues & donation	\$ 2,046.75
Handbook Purchases	\$ 220.00	Printing (newsletters, etc.)	\$ 1,600.00
Interest & dividends	\$ 775.97	Postage	\$ 2,194.37
Membership fees new	\$ 690.00	Telephone	\$ 855.04
Memb. fees renew	\$ 1,890.00	Education & Advertising	\$ 1,042.05
Other Income	\$ 0.00	Other expenses	\$ 328.95
Total income	\$ 4,490.97	Total expenses	\$ 8,067.16

Even though income is down and expenses are up, along with the reserves, your organization is financially sound.

FCSC CONTRACT PROVIDERS and FCSC member prices (as of March 2016)

Note: All direct burial prices *include* a minimum casket. Basic funeral and graveside service prices do *not* include a casket. Funeral followed by cremation includes rental casket. Contact the provider for more information or prices for other services.

Stork Family Mortuary

1895 Wadsworth Blvd.

Lakewood, CO 80214

303-237-5350

direct cremation with no services or viewing: **\$925**

direct cremation with memorial services: **\$1,445**

direct burial, no services: **\$1,395**

graveside services (plus casket): **\$1,575**

traditional services (church or chapel) + casket: **\$1,890**

ship out charges (no casket plus airfare) **\$995**

funeral service with cremation after: **\$2,175**

M.P. Murphy & Associates Funeral Directors

7464 Arapahoe Rd Suite A-3

Boulder, CO 80303

303-530-4111

Mail to: P.O. Box 21450, Boulder, Co 80308-4450

direct cremation, no services **\$995**

direct burial, no services: **\$1,475**

basic traditional funeral: **\$3,580**

graveside service: **\$3,380**

funeral, cremation after: **\$3,580**

(Less 15% of all prices for members)

Bohlender Funeral Chapel

121 W. Olive St.

Fort Collins, CO 80524

970-482-4244

direct cremation- no services: **\$995**

direct burial-no services: **\$1,495**

traditional funeral: **\$1,600**

graveside services: **\$1,395**

funeral-cremation after: **\$2,100**

Cappadona Funeral Home, Inc.

1020 East Fillmore Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80907

719-520-1817

Mail to: P.O. Box 8151, Colorado Springs, Co 80933

direct cremation, no services **\$825**

direct burial, no services: **\$1,645**

basic traditional funeral: **\$1,840**

graveside service: **\$1,540**

funeral, cremation after: **\$2,315**

PLEASE tell us if you move

If you have changed your mailing address, **please notify us** by sending the form below (or by E-mail: fucosoco@yahoo.com) by USPS to **FCSC, P.O. BOX 4743, GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80155-4743**. You can also use this form to pay dues, or to make a donation to the Society to keep us financially strong. If you know someone who is not a member, they can use this form to join.

Member Name(s): _____

Please check appropriate box: I am a current (____) new (____) member of FCSC.

Old address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

New address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email address: _____

I would like to make a donation to the Society in the amount of: _____

Enclosed are my dues for the next two years: (\$10 per adult member) _____

Please send an FCSC information brochure and application to: