

*Safe & Happy Holidays from CCA!*



CCA members, top row, L to R: Bennett Boeschstein, Karen Sjoberg, Frank Nemanich; middle row, L to R: Peggy Rawlins, Jerry Nelson, Charlie Post; bottom row, Kristin Winn, Tom Phillips. Not pictured: Charles Kerr, Steve Morrall, Joel Prudhomme

*Thank you!*

CCA would like to thank all of you who contributed in many ways this past year to create a healthier community, despite the obvious challenges. We invite you to continue the work with us into the new year. But first, a quick review of what we accomplished together:

**Highlights from 2020**

- ◆ **February:** 7th Annual Public Forum announcing the Citizens Ozone Initiative;
- ◆ Ongoing participation in the state Air Quality Control Commission rulemaking public hearings addressing emission sources such as outdoor burning, emissions from greenhouse gases and hydrofluorocarbons, and Colorado’s Climate Action Plan;
- ◆ Colorado Oil & Gas Commission rulemaking participation with written comments and online public hearing testimonies. The subsequent creation of new rules that, for the first time, prioritize public health, the environment and wildlife, as mandated by SB 19-181;
- ◆ **March, April, May:** Installation of 6 *Tri-sensor* air quality monitors throughout Mesa County, with PM2.5, ozone and VOC monitoring capabilities;
- ◆ Ongoing service and repairs for over forty air quality monitors plus installation of additional units provided by Mesa County Public Health in certain schools, the Colorado National Monument and county fairgrounds;
- ◆ Regular CCA planning meetings continued bi-monthly on Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions;
- ◆ **June:** Began installing more air quality units *indoors* to monitor homes and businesses throughout the Grand Valley;
- ◆ Got Combined Federal Campaign listing in order to receive donations from federal employee 2021 “Giving Campaign” (see details, page. 2);

**Support CCA:**  
You can make a tax deductible end-of-year donation to Citizens for Clean Air by going to our website: [citizensforcleanair.org](http://citizensforcleanair.org)  
or by mailing a check to:  
CCA, PO Box 101,  
Grand Junction, CO  
81502  
**Thank you!**

## 2020 Highlights continued...

- ◆ **August, September:** Pinyon Gulch Wildfire in Mesa County burns 139,000 acres. Smoke engulfs the Grand Valley;
- ◆ We work to bring awareness to **indoor** smoke resulting from evaporative coolers and otherwise poor ventilation systems;
- ◆ **October:** We order 9 **indoor LED** particulate monitors from PurpleAir and discover there are **5,000** orders ahead of ours due to wildfires throughout the west!
- ◆ Began a discussion with community leaders about enforcement of outdoor trash burning rules in areas where some residents demonstrate little to no knowledge of Mesa County restrictions;
- ◆ Third quarter newsletter features interviews of local county commission and state legislator candidates on air quality views;
- ◆ **November:** Participation in Mesa County Resource Management Plan public hearings;
- ◆ **December:** Receive funding for an exciting **NEW** project to begin in January; stay tuned for an announcement coming soon!



### CCA qualifies for Combined Federal Campaign

Citizens for Clean Air has applied and been accepted to participate in the 2021 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). This is the first year we have applied to the program.

CFC is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charity campaign, with almost 200 CFC campaigns throughout the country and overseas raising millions of dollars each year. Pledges made by Federal civilian, postal and military donors during the campaign season will support eligible non-profit organizations that provide health and human service benefits throughout the world.

Non-profit organizations go through a detailed vetting of their programs and finances before approval is granted to participate and be listed in the program. Federal employees can choose the organizations they wish to donate to through payroll deductions. With at least 35 federal offices in the Grand Junction area, Citizens for Clean Air hopes to be the beneficiary of some of those donations.

## A Word About Woodstoves and Fireplaces...

According to the EPA, particulate pollution from wood smoke is 12 times as carcinogenic as an equal amount from second hand cigarette smoke. Wood burning stove smoke can be extremely toxic, potentially containing over 200 dangerous chemicals and heavy metals. It may smell good, but it's not good for you.

In the Grand Valley, there are still people who heat their homes with wood stoves, some out of necessity and others out of tradition. Although modern wood stoves are EPA-certified to reduce the amount of particulate matter emitted, there are still many old, non-EPA certified stoves in operation. Even EPA-certified stoves emit pollution. A better alternative for heating homes is a gas furnace, electric fireplace, or an electric split ductless heat pump, which can cool as well as heat. **"If you own or operate a wood stove or fireplace, it is your duty to be aware of any declaration of a high pollution (red) day by the Mesa County Health Department. Check Air Watch Advisory or please call 970-248-6990."** (Grand Junction Municipal Code Section 8.20.060)

If you are burning wood inside your home, you may be risking your health and your neighbors'. If you must burn, find out how to do it responsibly at <https://www.epa.gov/burnwise/wood-smoke-and-your-health>

*Thank you for your interest in air quality!  
Stay safe, enjoy a quiet holiday, and  
may the New Year be brighter!*