

Getting to Know Kenny Fuller

By Penny Randell

If you have been a member of this mountain community for long, chances are you have heard the voice of Kenny Fuller. Recently recognized as the unofficial “Voice of Evergreen,” it is common for this gifted presenter to preside as master of ceremonies (MC), over various local functions. Born in Dallas, he lived there until 2002. After losing both his mom and dad, Fuller and wife Debbie, along with their two children, moved to Steamboat Springs, Colorado in that same year. Before the big move, he rapidly advanced from bartender to bar manager at Dallas’ Stampede Club. There he tapped into his gregarious and magical personality and learned the art of performing as a bartender and eventually a MC.

Life in Steamboat fulfilled the Fuller’s dreams of living in the mountains, and the whole family found a heightened genesis in their new town. Working as a RN, Fuller’s wife sought employment there while her husband worked as a bartender at the Hilltop Bar and Grill. Again, he moved to management, but this time he purchased the establishment, renaming it Boot Hill Bar and Grill. The club caught on rapidly and became the only actual country and western bar in Steamboat at the time. In addition, Fuller sponsored the rodeo during its three-month summer run, creating and chairing the Rodeo Entertainment Committee.

Not stopping there, Fuller built a 400 square foot dance floor on skids to accommodate the community and rodeo attendees. He hired a DJ and everyone danced under the stars until midnight. Fuller said, “It was a dream come true. We had so many friends and everything we planned came true.” While Debbie worked at the local hospital both children, Amanda and Brandon, attended local school. The whole family settled in and experienced great happiness. In fact, Amanda became the president of the local 4H Club.

But that was only the beginning. One day a couple approached Fuller, as he was working behind the bar, and asked if he would marry them. After much consideration and an educational trip to Anaheim, California he became a wedding officiate. At that time Rocky Mountain Ceremonies was born. Today he sits on the board of directors and has been marrying loving couples ever since.

It was during this time Fuller ended up in Aurora, Colorado where he attended Anthem College, studying surgical technology. He graduated at the head of his class in 2010. With his degree completed, Fuller returned to his family in Steamboat and began work at the same hospital as his wife. At the time he felt as though heaven was showering gifts upon him. He could help heal patients and marry couples at the same time. Although life was good, the Fullers believed they lived too remotely, and at that time opted to move to Evergreen.

It was 2012 when the family moved here. Fuller said the first thing he did was to visit the Evergreen Chamber of Commerce and ask how to get involved in the town. He was referred to Evergreen Recreation and Park Foundation. He also joined the Chamber, became a board member, and continued his work as a wedding officiate. In no time at all he became the event planner, organizer and MC for Evergreen’s Oktoberfest. From there he raised money for Evergreen special needs programs and scholarships. He was instrumental in capital projects such as contributing to the

mobile stage, shade pavilion and drinking fountain at Stagecoach Park, as well as the Zamboni for the lake.

When taking in the whole picture, Fuller's list of MC functions is unparalleled. Working with the Chamber and Evergreen Drive Smart Board of Directors, he has remained involved in Evergreen Skate the Lake as well as Evergreen Lake Plunge since 2013. Holding dogs dear, Fuller has been both announcer and MC for the doggie Zombie run from 2013 to the present. Continuing, Fuller has remained MC for the Summer Lake House Concert Series, the Chamber's Christmas event called Sparkle and Shine, Sculpture Evergreen, Spring Fling, and the Bluegrass Festival among others. Plus, Fuller carries the job of auctioneer at many of these events and more.

Fuller said one of his favorite events is Evergreen's Got Talent from its beginning in 2016 until today. Established by Schaumon Winter Gilman, Fuller works hand in hand with Gilman to organize and keep this non-profit up and running. Showcasing Evergreen's talented youth, the organization has raised thousands of dollars for Operation Homefront to help Military personnel and their families. In 2019 they raised over \$6000.

It would be almost impossible to complete Fuller's list of accomplishments, but it's vital that his four main endeavors be mentioned. First of all, Fuller is Vice President for the Evergreen Music Festival and can easily be reached by email concerning the event. Next, Fuller plays rhythm guitar and sings for the "Smokin'-Country-Blues-Rock" band, Sugar Ridge. When he's not singing or playing he continues with his Rocky Mountain Ceremonies whenever needed. Contacting Fuller for your wedding plans is encouraged.

Fourth: recently this unstoppable man ventured into a whole new field...CBD chewing gum. Along with partners the gum has been readied for purchase with Fuller speaking in behalf of its recognized results. Wellness Warriors offer this hand-crafted remedy, which will soon be available for purchase.

"The Voice of Evergreen," unofficial or not, is a blessing to our established mountain lifestyle. His level of giving is practically without equal. No doubt it's folks like Kenny Fuller that enrich this community. Hats off to him, and we say thanks, Kenny!

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