

**Broadmoor Garden Club
General Meeting Minutes
November 11, 2022**

Call to order: 9:30

President: Jennifer Sundman

- Jennifer thanked Pam for leading last month's meeting in her absence.

- Jennifer reported about her visit to Trinchera Ranch near Ft. Garland to learn about conservation efforts in the San Luis Valley. It directly corresponded with the date of our October meeting.
 - Our hosts at the ranch were the staff of Colorado Open Lands, the organization that joined us at 12 Mile Ranch this past summer for our Colorado On the Road adventure. Their CEO Tony Calligiuri will be our program speaker this coming May.
 - The ranch is over 180,000 acres and is the largest parcel of privately owned land in Colorado. It is also fully protected by conservation easements. In addition, it is part of the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Sangre de Cristo Conservation area stretching from the Sand Dunes into northern New Mexico. The land was once owned by Malcolm Forbes and stretches to the tops of several of our state's 14ers including Blanca Peak, Little Bear and Mt. Lindsay. It is now run as a hunting lodge with a big emphasis on conservation. It has a conservation officer on staff who is working diligently to reintroduce rare San Juan trout into the watershed and manage the forests and grasslands for wildlife and general health. I took the masthead photo from our November Newsletter just outside of the lodge - it was a gorgeous time in the valley with yellow cottonwoods and a big blue sky.
 - October 14 was packed full. We drove to the little town of San Luis, the oldest town in the state, and saw the oldest water rights in Colorado in one of the acequias. It was lined with milkweed. We met with a wonderful young farmer who is the 6th generation living on that land...his 3 year old daughter is the 7th generation. He has recently added a conservation easement to his land.
 - We also learned that the northern part of the San Luis Valley has 2 aquifers. One is finite, and when the water is gone, it is gone. This is the aquifer that used to spout artesian wells in the area. We heard that during the time of the early explorers the whole valley was covered in about 6 inches of water. No more. The second aquifer is recharged but not nearly fast enough to keep up with demand in our changing climate. Colorado Open Lands and other conservation groups are working to help ensure agriculture will be able to continue in the valley with innovative plans.

- Jennifer introduced 2 guests: Missy Elliott from the Garden Club of Denver and Pat Hamilton of the Santa Fe Garden Club .

- Jennifer asked for any corrections or additions to the October, 2022 minutes. Hearing none, the minutes were approved as posted. She thanked Cheryl, Amy, and Beth.
- Jennifer has asked 3 members to serve on our 2023 Nominating Committee. Per our Bylaws, the Board needs to vote to approve the slate, which they did on Tuesday. She was happy to announce that Brigitte Foss will Chair the committee this coming year, assisted by Cheryl Kilgore and Kim Walsh. She thanked them all.
- We currently have 4 openings in our club. Please check the Policies and Procedures section of your Yearbook for specifics on how to propose a new member. Letters should be delivered to Beth Downs by the November 30th deadline. Before proposing someone, please take time to make sure in your mind that your candidate would have the willingness to chair committees as well as the time and interest to participate fully in our club.
- Lynn Cool presented another fun installment of our MYSTERY MEMBER game! After showing a timeline of pictures – baby to current family pictures, and learning fun facts, our mystery member was Liz Bevington!

STANDING COMMITTEES:

First Vice President: Pam Thatcher

- The Board decided to support Westside Cares this year instead of Silver Key due to a change in program that didn't fit as well with our club.
 - Westside Cares provides care and compassion to our neighbors in need. A few of the services they provide: rental assistance, utility assistance, Goodwill vouchers, onsite clothing closet, food pantries, backpacks full of supplies for school children, and Thanksgiving gift cards.
 - Members can bring one of these items as a gift to the December meeting: Peanut butter, small jam/jelly/fruit spread, canned soups, canned milk, canned fruit, cereal, pasta sauce, and used gloves (even onsies that can't find their mates).
- OR
- A gift can be purchased via Amazon that will go to Westside Cares. To do this: go to this website: westsidecares.org. Follow the prompts under the "Give Help" heading: In-Kind Needs; Food/Toiletry Donations; Shop our Amazon Wish List.

Second Vice President: Lynn Cool

- New Member Orientation will be held on Thursday, Jan. 19th at 9:30am at Kay Klunder's home (2669 Spring Grove Terrace 80906). Here are the members who will be asked to attend: Chairs of Conservation, Flower, Horticulture, Photography and Civic, new members and sponsors. It is hoped you will give a brief description of your committee's goals and welcome the new member's participation. Additionally, our President, First VP and GCA Representative will also describe their duties and Kay will describe the big picture of our membership in GCA.

Beth Downs will give each new member the log-information for BGC and GCA. When known, the sponsors will also be invited to this event.

Recording Secretary: Amy Osborne. No report.

Corresponding Secretary: Beth Downs. No report.

Treasurer: Chelle Mason was excused. Jennifer reported.

Bank balances:

Operating \$45,000.81

Money Market \$67,910.14

STANDING COMMITTEES

Awards & Scholarships: Brigitte Foss

Brigitte reported on GCA's Scholarship Program and the GCA Fellowship in Tropical Botany that allows candidates to pursue independent field studies around the world.

- GCA has promoted advanced studies in tropical botany since 1983. The projects reach from Brazil to Madagascar to the South Pacific. Scholars continue to have a positive impact in the preservation of tropical forests.
- The Botany Fellows are selected by a team of botanists appointed by the World Wildlife Fund. They screen and select candidates and final approval is at the discretion of the GCA Scholarship Committee. GCA provides two or more grants of \$5,500 annually.
- In 2022, five fellowships were given out. The fellows conducted projects in Amazonia, Costa Rica, Panama, Tanzania, and the Congo Basin.
- GCA scholarships and fellowships are available to undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate students to help fund research projects in Botany, Conservation, Desert Studies, Garden History & Design, Horticulture, Native Bird Habitat, Pollinator Research, Forestry, to name just a few.
- We send information out to local colleges and universities in hopes of enabling Colorado students to get the necessary funding for their work.

If you know or hear of someone who would be thankful for some monetary help in his or her studies, have them contact Brigitte for more information.

Civic: Joan Schulz

- Civic has approximately \$5,000 to grant.

- If you know of an organization you think would be a good recipient of club Civic funds, please get in touch with Joan for a grant application.
- Also, a link will be on the public part of the BGC website so organizations can have access to the grant application.

Conservation: Cathy Plush

- Cathy gave a recap of the committee's field trip to the Mesa Water Treatment Plant. The projection is that within 5 years we will only be able to water landscapes one day per week. Eighteen BGC members attended, donning hardhats, for a great, informative tour, led by Sherry Coutt's brother Bob Nelson. Please see November BGC Newsletter for more information.
- GCA's Hawaii Conservation Study Conference took place Wednesday, Nov. 9, online. Bio-cultural conservation was the theme. The conference was recorded so if you missed it there is still a chance to tune in to a session or two.
- Suzy Connaughton hosted a screening of the documentary "The Seeds of Vandana Shiva" at her home. It highlighted Ms. Shiva's fight against climate change using the seed and biodiversity plus sustainable practices, as her centerpiece. We also watched the short "Big Water Summer" about a Navajo farmer contending with heat and drought.

Flower: Meredith Donner reported.

- The Flower Committee sponsored an Ikebana Workshop on October 27, attended by 15 club members.

- Instructor Jan Wolfe is a member of the Ikenobo Society of America.

- Many thanks to Anne Bradley, a student of Ikebana, for putting us in touch and for helping to organize the workshop!

- Ikebana is challenging - it put many of us out of our comfort level. It's the opposite philosophy of "more is more" that we're used to in flower arranging!

- We learned the basics of 5 different styles of Ikebana. Every arrangement is done with purpose and intention. Ikebana teaches that beauty in an arrangement comes ONLY from a beautiful spirit that never fails to contribute beauty to everything.

- Christy Metz, of Christy Metz's Designs, will present a workshop at 5:30pm on December 6th at Colorado Co-Op. The focus will be on holiday tablescape. Cost is \$50 and registration is open now. Thank you to Martha Marzolf for helping to organize this workshop and thank you to Denise Sheridan for allowing us to use her store for the workshop.

Horticulture: Mary Weller

Tracy Doherty researched and presented on Vertical Garden farming. A tour will be planned to the Valera site in Aurora next fall. She also reported about Ruth Banning, an early BGC member, and her local Ranch.

The committee is researching native plants and will include a "Native Plants Minute" at each meeting this year to spotlight a specific plant. Today's plant spotlight was on Little Bluestem grass. This grass is good for pollinators and birds. It maintains a vertical structure in winter and thrives in drought conditions. They grow to 2-4 feet, vary in leaf color, and come in different varieties.

Hospitality: Christy Walsh

Christy thanked today's hostesses Pamela Street and Kate Faricy for the lovely coffee.

Hostesses for December are

1. Mickey Wallace
2. Suzanne DuBois
3. Dorothy Kraemer
4. Suzy Marold
5. Jan Baron

The *Ho Ho Hoedown* will be held on Thursday, December 15. Cash Bar and Cocktails start at 6:00pm, and Dinner will begin at 7:00PM. Our annual event will take place at Cheyenne Mountain Country Club. Coat and Tie required. Please RSVP to Christy Walsh on sign-up genius or by email jchristywalsh@yahoo.com by December 5th, 2022. Please indicate any dietary restrictions. Tickets will cost \$75 per person. Drink tickets will be sold that evening - CASH ONLY. Cash bar prices will be: Canyon Road Chardonnay/Cabernet (blue ticket) \$7/glass, Kim Crawford Sauvignon Blanc/Apothic Pinot Noir (yellow ticket) \$12/glass, and all liquor mixed drinks (red ticket) \$15 per drink.

Pay via check at the meeting, mail to Christy or CheddarUp. <https://broadmoor-garden-club-hoedown-8806.cheddarup.com>

Photography: Mallory Sharp was excused. Mickey Wallace reported.

- The October 14 workshop with Dawn Wilson after the General Meeting was well received.
- A good group attended the November 3rd meeting and shared photos they had entered in our September BGC Flower Show, along with the judges' critiques, which were discussed.
- The next meeting will be on January 26th at 10:00am. The assignment is on LIGHT.

- From the Greek, meaning "drawing with light", the very essence of photography is light. Melani created 2 different assignments, one for novice photographers and one for more advanced learners.

Program: Lisa Stedman was excused.

- Today's Program is *The Development of American City Park Systems: from Downing to Olmstead* with Eric Metzger from McAllister House
- There will be no program in December as it is our Annual Holiday Luncheon and New Member Election.

Public Relations: Jane Cospers was excused.

Our PPP Press Release has been disseminated to Colorado Springs television and radio stations in addition to print media. Demo copies of PPP will be delivered, along with the press release, to the Gazette, the Colorado Springs Business Journal and others. List of retailers selling PPP was included in the press releases. The press release will also be put on the BGC Website.

The PR committee will conduct interviews with key authors to obtain quotes to include in "pre-written" articles on relevant topics from PPP. These articles will be prepared and offered to the media at various intervals to pitch PPP

Be sure to let the Publicity Committee know if you have a media contact we should include in our updated media list.

Ways & Means: Kate Faricy was excused. Kate Wilder reported.

Poppies, Piñons & Peas Update

1. After selling out of our first batch, we printed another 500 of Poppies, Pinons & Peas in late October.
2. Many thanks to the Ways and Means Committee for helping package, sticker and hand-deliver orders to multiple retailers from Canon City to Denver over the past week.
3. Our current sales total as of today is 810. So that, combined with the 50 we've used for display, demo and PR copies, leaves us with only 140 left to sell.
4. Orders continue to come in and we're predicting that some retailers will want to re-order more this holiday season.
5. The 810 we've sold so far equates to just over \$11,000 in net profits for our civic granting fund.
6. If you happen to stop by any of the retailers selling Poppies, Piñons & Peas, please thank them for their support! They include:
 - Bread & Butter Neighborhood Grocer
 - Colorado Coop
 - Elm Avenue Greenhouses
 - Evan Guy

- Good Earth
 - Harding Nursery
 - McAllister House Museum
 - Poor Richards Books and Gifts
 - Rick's Garden Center
 - Skyway Creations
 - Songbird & the Orchid
 - Spencer's Produce, Lawn & Garden
 - Springs in Bloom
 - Summerland Gardens
 - Sweetwater Flower Market
 - The Shop At The Gardens (Denver Botanic Gardens)
7. Also thank real estate agents Martha Marzolf, Eric Scott, Ben Day, and Michelle Blessing for their generous orders!

Yearbook: Pauline Sisson. No report.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Garden History and Design - Janene is excused. Christy Walsh reported.

- Our next committee meeting will be 10:00 on Wednesday, November 30th at Janene's home (46 Cheyenne Mountain Blvd 80906). She has received garden photos from some of the committee for our workshop that day, but hopes to receive more. Please email the garden problem spots to her soon so that Talisman will have enough time to put them into a PowerPoint presentation for our meeting.
- A Book Discussion and Potluck has been set for Tuesday, January 24 at 6:00pm. Details at December meeting.

GUEST SPEAKER

- Missy Elliott, Zone XII Rep for Judging and also a member of Garden Club of Denver, gave a presentation about GCA's Flower Show Judging Program. She reported that our zone is very low with candidates and prospective judges. She has so enjoyed becoming and being a judge. She has met a wonderful group of ladies, traveled to great cities and beautiful shows, and learned much. There is an upcoming Judging workshop in Denver. Any member can come and just observe if desired. Please contact Missy if you'd like more information at melissakeliot@gmail.com or 303 918-9340.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Adjourned: 10:50