

Antelope Garden Club Meeting January 6th, 2025

Updated 1/11/2025

Attendees: Mary Barnes, Rhonda Basore, Ann Baugh, Linda Berg, Sharon Bryant, Sandy Caplan, Lynne Close, Donna Ellis, Lisa Fritz, Jeff Frohock, Kathy Frohock, Paula Garat, Catherine Graham, Cathy Harrison, John Hernandez, Lorie Johns, Ruth Lysak, Cynthia McSwain, Mary Moran, Julie Mosquini, Diane Nagal, Roberta Pelayo, Laura Pierce, Sharon Plummer, Linda Pysher, Val Shank, Bonnie (Hayes) Shepherd [Congratulations!], Linda Spears, Ingrid Subh, Ileen Szelka, Mary Ann Thiessen, Rita Vought, Alicia Williams, and our Honorary Member Tom Kraus.

We had one new member join today, Cindy Campbell, Linda Spears neighbor. Welcome to the Club!

Presentation

Mary Barnes gave a very informative PowerPoint presentation that encompassed the Club's projects, Board positions, committees, activities, events and donations from both the Horticulture and Administration funds. The presentation will soon be available on the Members Only website for those members who missed it. Roberta discussed prepping for the plant sale (our Big Event on 5/17/25) by scouting our yards and house plants for possible starts and divisions for transplanting. Mary has lots of 2 and 3 gallon pots and potting soil. Don't forget to put a basket type coffee filter in the bottom of your pots before adding soil!

Old Business

Minutes: the minutes from 11/24 were approved.

Treasurer's report: Roberta Pelayo reported that the Horticulture balance for November 2024 was \$11,998.06 and the Admin balance was \$1,012.53 for a balance of **\$13,010.59**. The December balances were \$11,763.86 for Horticulture and \$629.50 for an ending balance of **\$12,393.36**.

New Business

Garden Tip: Linda Berg presented on how to become a certified National Wildlife Federation habitat yard by going on line to see if your yard could qualify and if you want to apply. The website is <https://www.nwf.org/community>. The info is under Community Wildlife Habitats. Linda stressed that the important factors to encourage wildlife are food, water, shelter from predators and places to rear young, i.e. nesting boxes. These factors need to be sustained through maintenance, cleaning and vigilance towards predators and any major changes in your wildlife "guests". Thanks go to Linda for encouraging us to become members and aid our feathered and furry friends!

Meals on Wheels (MOW): Rita reported that this year's distribution came in under budget. She and Julie are very appreciative of the help in basket prepping on the Sunday before and the drivers and jumpers on Monday 11/25, as we are of the two of them for all of the preparation work to make this such a rewarding project! Rita has thoroughly enjoyed leading the MOW project for a number of years but will be handing the Chair over to Julie for 2025. Thanks for all that you've done for MOW, Rita.

Holiday Social: Laura reported that the 12/14/24 Holiday Social at the Country West's Clubhouse was attended by 35 Club members. Deli Sandwiches from Safeway (\$280), salad and desserts from Costco (\$62) and various supplies from Dollar Tree (\$10) added up to a \$352 deduction from the Admin fund. The Country West Christmas tree was lovely with our Club's donated decorations. The food donation for Country West's needier residents resulted in an overfilled box and overflowing table! Alicia said that a friend's donation of money allowed them to buy small hams to complete 7 boxes for her neighbors and another 3 for families in a church group that she leads; all were very appreciative of the effort. Mary sent out an email requesting feedback on the party which was best summed up in one comment, "I thought the party was a great success". Laura thanked her committee members of Ann, Roberta, Janice, Mary B., Paula and the extra set up help from Mary Ann and Angela for making her job easy.

YC Poinsettias: The club purchased 25 poinsettias from YC for the Senior Center and our holiday social (raffled off at the end of the party). We also were able to pre-purchase the plants for our own use resulting in 45 purchased at the same price of \$5.00 apiece. The College also donated 10 plants to the cause. Thanks to Mary B. for arranging this and Roberta for delivering them.

2025 Meeting Topics: Paula and Diane have the programs almost filled. Mary suggested that two or more shorter topics could be combined for a presentation slot. Jeff offered to give a talk on the flowers found in Shakespeare's works and Lynne C. will tell us how to prepare sundried tomatoes. Thanks!

Landscape Status: Since there hasn't been any appreciable moisture in months, Diane will coordinate a watering schedule at our landscape areas. Although the irrigation has been turned off, the spigots attached to the buildings are still working. Mary M. and Rita continue their watering in the library and the plants look great. Roberta will contact the Community Church pastor about occasionally turning on the water to the roses. Mary will contact the library about the leaky planter outside the building.

Tour Status: Cynthia reported that there is a free Wednesday Wanderings at the Highland Center next Wednesday 1/15 for anyone who's interested. Ann is on the Board there and will check for any further offerings. A suggestion was made for a road trip to the Boyce Thompson Arboretum near Superior, AZ and Cynthia will look into the feasibility of the trip. She also asked for more participants for the Club's garden tours and Ingrid offered hers for one this year.

Recognition: The following members have been helpful in November and December;

MOW basket assembly on 11/24/24 ~ Mary B., Rhonda B., Sandy, Lynn C., Angela, Donna, Lisa Anne F., Kathy F., Paula, Catherine, Lorie, Mary M., Julie, Diane, Kathie N., Roberta, Laura, Val, Ingrid, Mary Ann T. and Alicia.

MOW basket delivery 11/25 ~ Catherine, Erika, Laura, Mary Ann T., Roberta, Sharon P., Kathy F. and Lisa Ann.

Holiday Social ~ Ann, Laura, Paula, Roberta, Janice, Mary B., Mary Ann M. and Angela.

Sunshine for John ~ Julie, Roberta, Kathy and Jeff, Sharon P., and Cathy H.

Sunshine: Julie had been contacted by John who came home Christmas Eve after an emergency appendectomy. Members stepped up and provided food for John while he recuperated. He was very appreciative of the support and especially of Julie for doing this and even bringing him "the best chicken soup ever". Julie sent out 5 cards to members. Please remember to keep her informed if anyone needs help or a little pick me up.

Birthdays: Ileen has sent cards to the January birthday folks. Thanks for your continued birthday wishes Ileen, we appreciate it!

Round table: Mary read a thank you card from the YC Foundation for the Horticulture program donation. There will be a Board meeting on Friday, February 28th at 9a.m. at the Community Church and anyone is welcome to join us. Diane's husband Jim sharpens tools for a nominal fee. Roberta's answer to Cynthia's question regarding Iris dividing was to go ahead and divide them so long as the new fronds were small. Tom suggested considering set up misters for fruit trees to combat the dehydration of the leaves by the intense sun and arid conditions. This will help increase fruit production and decrease branch die back. Mary stressed that any plants brought to her house pre-sale (or to the plant sale) should be pest free as she lost two agaves to the agave snout weevil.

As there was no further business, Kathy F. moved that the meeting be adjourned at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Pierce, Secretary

The next meeting will be February 3rd.

