



An association of private donors, public participants and the City of Steamboat Springs

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Fall came as expected. The colors at the Park were vibrant and we bid farewell to another glorious summer as we watched the leaves change. We have so much to be grateful for. Our staff, members and volunteers have made it all happen above anybody's expectations. We appreciate the work and commitments from all the people who made last summer the best ever. If you came to the Park, you must have noticed all the activity!

We started the summer with our own designated and reserved 30 parking spaces. Parking was a lot easier this summer even during sports events. The trail edges project was completed. Bob Enever stayed on top of the tractor all summer while Jay Kopf, Jeff Morehead and the members of the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps stayed on land with shovels and dirt. The guided tours attracted a record number of guests.

The free concerts sponsored by Strings were packed and the weather helped participants to enjoy the soft grass of the Green. Yoga brought in 3,000 people and a large donation. We now have two changing tables in the bathrooms to accommodate our youngest guests. We created and published a popular children's activity book made possible by a matching grant. For the first time, children did not want to leave the Park until they finished the activities. The Penstemon Garden was redesigned and it looks stunning.

Birds of the Valley, a book by Bob Enever, will soon be published. Mike Kintgen of the Denver Botanic Gardens contributed many exotic plants which will be a "must see" next year. Glow in the Park was a meaningful event in the lives of all who attended and we hope to continue this event into the future.

Next year will start a new era when Jennifer MacNeil joins us as the Park Manager to help us with fundraising and administration. Reservations for events and weddings are open for next summer. Please consider our Park for all of your friends and family events.

Colorado Gives Day is coming soon and we appreciate your giving during this campaign. Your support allows us to grow and to prosper. Mark Tuesday, December 10th on your calendar!

The holidays are coming soon and we wish you a year filled with good news and joy. We count on you to support our effort to grow and bloom. We are one of the few Botanic Parks that remains free to the public. Until we see you again, a blanket of snow will cover the Park and we will be dreaming of Spring 2020.

Sincerely,
Sonia Franzel, President of the Board

SECOND ANNUAL GLOW IN THE PARK • AUGUST 15, 2019



Glow In The Park | Photo: Jeff Morehead



All of the lanterns will be composted in the Park so that the wishes stay where they were made and launched.

SOME GLOW IN THE PARK SENTIMENTS

And in the end...the love you take is equal to the love you make.

Peace on earth and in your heart!

The most wasted of all days is one without Laughter.

Wish. Joy. Love. Full Hearts.

May the candle be the warmth that you gave
And the pond be the gentle current that carried you away.

BEHIND THE SIGN(S)

Text and Photo by Mary O'Brien

Blue signs, green signs, white signs and black signs. What are all these? Blue signs are for trees, green signs are for shrubs, white signs are for everything else, until this year when it was decided to switch to black signs (but this will be a slow process). With hundreds of new plantings each season and plants moving and dying, maintaining signs at the Yampa River Botanic Park has been a long-term commitment and challenge.

Early on, it was decided that the Park needed its own engraver. Bob and Audrey Enever researched engravers and our first one was purchased in 1998. Audrey had the primary responsibility for keeping the signs made and updated. Later, Park Supervisor Gayle Lehman helped with sign making and Bob Enever kept the engraver in good working order. In 2012 a second engraver was purchased to replace the outdated one. Gayle took over sign making with the help of volunteer Andoni Cameron for a couple of years and other volunteers pitched in. In 2018 the job was taken over by Mary O'Brien.

The Vision Express engraver is connected to sophisticated computer software that allows each sign to be created online and then sent to the engraver, but that also means each sign must be made individually. Since the Park receives plants from all over the West, as well as the world, verifying their correct names can be a challenge. Each plant name is researched to verify its scientific, family and common name before a sign is created. So far over 300 new signs have been created this year. We have also experimented with various types of sign holders and just this year we have found a local source, JDW Inc., for fabricating holders to our specifications.

The Park's goal has always been that signs be maintained at the highest professional level. This has been and will continue to be a journey of finding the right materials and keeping up with the plants.

COLORADO GIVES DAY OF CARING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2019

Colorado Gives/Yampa Valley Gives is an annual statewide movement that celebrates and increases philanthropy in Colorado through online giving.

Please join people across Colorado and the Yampa Valley in "giving where you live" on this day. It's online, it's secure and it's easy.

To make a donation to the Park on this special day of giving, go to: www.coloradogives.org/YampaValleyGives/YampaRiverBP

Your support is boosted by State Incentive Funds, which increase the value of every dollar donated. 100% of your donation will help maintain the Park, keeping it beautiful and free for all!

*Thank you for your generosity and for supporting
the Yampa River Botanic Park!*



YRBP HIRES PARK MANAGER

Your board is pleased to announce the appointment of Jennifer MacNeil as our Park Manager (new position). Jennifer will be responsible to the Board for management of the Park including the gardens, the facilities, fundraising and administration.



Jennifer MacNeil

Jennifer comes to us with experience in public gardens, office management and fundraising. From 2006 to 2009 she was the Executive Director of Sawtooth Botanical Gardens in Sun Valley, Idaho. More recently she has worked as the office and development manager for the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers. Her experience in fundraising and non-profit administration, working with volunteers and interns, as well as communications and marketing should make this a good fit as we continue to grow our gardens and programs.

Jennifer is married and has a three-year old daughter, Savannah. She and her family are looking forward to the quality of life Steamboat Springs offers. When she is not working Jennifer enjoys gardening, hiking, cooking, traveling and cross-country skiing.

Welcome aboard Jennifer!! We look forward to working with you!



The signs are ready for the garden!

2019 ANNUAL MEETING

The YRBP annual meeting was held September 14, 2019 at the Trillium House. A short business meeting was conducted at which Bob Enever, Sonia Franzel, Jay Kopf, Georgianne Nelson and Emily Seaver were reelected to the board for three-year terms. Bill Sauter, Treasurer of the Association, expressed thanks to the members for their help and the many ways they sustained the Park's operation. Our expenses to date are \$124,000 and donations are \$121,000. We hope to cover the gap with end-of-year giving. Our guest speaker, Eli Bajalia of Biotilth Horticultural Consulting, explained the soil food web and importance of improving soil structures. The event continued with guests enjoying a buffet dinner and drinks on the patio of Trillium House resplendent in autumnal sunshine.

VOLUNTEERS – OUR GRASS ROOTS

Our fall newsletter traditionally honors the many volunteers who make the Park a very special place. Whether gardening, helping with Music on the Green, answering visitors' questions in the Trillium House or being on our Board making the decisions that guide our future—volunteers define the Park.



Hundreds of hours spent by volunteers have helped create a Park that is loved, and it shows. Thank you all!

Garden Volunteers

Sister Allred
Linda Baldwin
Barbara Bradley-Rutz
Dean Brand
Chris Buck
Jessica Collier
Helen Curd
Carol Dowden
Susie Egyhozi
Bob Enever
Loretta Estabrooks
Linda Fairchild
Jack Ferguson
David Franzel
Sonia Franzel
Alden Globe
Sister Hall-Brown
Steve Hayes
Sally Hertzog
Grace Holt
Holly James
Kerry Kaster
Lisa Kirkland
Elaine Kopf
JJ Kopf
Karen Larabee
Erica Lindemann
Meme Mastoras
Karen McNish
Donna Minyard
Georgianne Nelson
Steve Otis
Carla Owsley
Karen Pharris
Jay Ross
Richard Sanford
Carol Sanford
Beth Schlechter
Sister Scott
Susan Scott
Emily Seaver
Donna Segale
Molly Shreeve
Sister Smith
Riley Smith
Jo Smith
Barb Sparks
Judy Sweetland
Dida Welch
Karen Whitney
Nancy Wilson
Sue Winters

Our Hard-Working Board Members

Sonia Franzel - President
Kerry Kaster - Vice President
Audrey Enever - Secretary
Emily Seaver - Secretary (shared)
Bill Sauter - Treasurer
Gayle Lehman - Park Supervisor
Russ Atha

Mike Baran
Evelyn Berge
Karen Bomberg
Kathy Connell
Angela Cosby - Parks & Recreation Director
Carol Dowden
Bob Enever
Sally Hertzog
Ernie Jenkins - Parks Supervisor
Jay Kopf
Georgianne Nelson

Advisors/Committee Members

John Duffey
Ernie Jenkins
Jeff Morehead
Kathy Olsen

In-Kind Donations

Ace at the Curve - Marc Swanson
Big Air Catering - Steve Carlson
Denver Botanic Gardens
- Mike Kintgen
Gecko Landscape & Design
Hale's Landscape Supply
JDB Technology Solutions
Lotus Designs Studio - Kathy Olsen
North American Rock Garden Society
Northwest Graphics - Jeff Swoyer
Steamboat Brochure Delivery - Scott & Crystal Maughan
Steamboat Springs Chamber Resort
Steamboat Stoneworks - James Lewis
Western Tree & Lawn Management - Dan Jendral
Windemere Landscape & Garden Center

City of Steamboat Springs

We gratefully acknowledge the help of every City department especially Parks and Recreation, Finance, City Manager and City Council.

Garden Sponsors

Carol's Garden - Carol Fox Endowment
Community Cultivation Garden
- Community Cultivation
Coreopsis Garden - Philip Lloyd Family
Corner Garden - Yampa Valley
Community Foundation
Crevice Garden - Doug & Heidi Shurtleff
Doris' Arbor Garden - Georgianne Nelson
Dorothy's Garden
- Carol & Rick Dowden Endowment
Eagle Garden - Erica Lindeman
Fairy Garden & Stumpyland
- Kerry & Laura Kaster
Foliage Garden - Anne & John Halverson
Garden for All Seasons - Over The Hill Gang
Grove Garden - Michelle DenBleyker and
Brad & Sarah Dekoter
Hidden Garden - Pat Wessel Endowment

Jeff's Garden & South Berm - Jeff Morehead
Junior Master Garden - Junior Master Gardeners
Lynne's Garden - Russ & Shine Atha
Maddy's Garden of Light - Susan & Alden Globe Endowment
Medicinal Herb Garden - Mary O'Brien
Murphy's Blue Garden - Stu Roberts & LuLu Gould
Painter's Garden - Barb Sanders
Penstemon Garden - Audrey Enever
Pioneer Garden - Virginia & John Amato
Rainbow Garden - Orange/Red - The Strangis Family
Rainbow Garden - Purple - Ted & Patty Grossman
Reflecting Pond Garden - Buddhist Community
- Barbara Bradley-Rutz
Rose Garden - Bob Alter
Sascha's Garden - David & Sonia Franzel
Sensory Garden - Deb Babcock & Dave Wierman Endowment
Spring Bulb Garden - Susan Dreska
Sundial Garden - Kae Jenkins Garden Endowment
Tranquility Garden - Bush Family
Waterwise Garden - Janet Kilby & Rick Healy Endowment
Windigo Garden - Sally Hertzog
Yin-Yang Garden - Gecko Landscape & Design

Music on the Green Volunteers

Evelyn Berge
David Franzel
Kathy Connell
Sonia Franzel

Trillium House Volunteers

Audrey Enever

Guided Tour Volunteers

Evelyn Berge
Audrey Enever
Sally Hertzog
Carol Dowden
Sonia Franzel
Georgianne Nelson



Winners of the 2019 Fairy House Contest

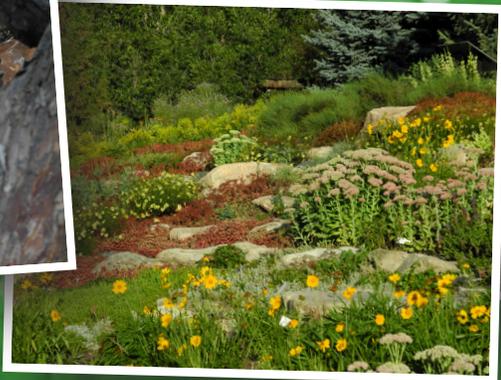
From left, Sienna Moran, Grace Luschka and Mia Luschka.
Not pictured, Liliana Grathwohl. Photo: Jeff Morehead

A WALK IN THE PARK

Text and Photos by Carol Dowden

Summer 2019 was the greenest, lushest, most beautiful I've experienced in twenty years of work at YRBP. Instead of featuring one garden I thought I'd take you on a walk through the Park.





WHO'S IN THE GARDEN?

Text and photo by Carol Dowden

There is no grass growing under the feet of featured volunteer Carol Sanford. But there ARE vegetables, flowers, vines, etc. – anything else growing in the soil where she likes her hands to be.

Carol and her husband Richard spend four months a year in Steamboat Springs and eight months in Scottsdale, AZ. They both spent their Wednesday mornings this summer meeting new plants and new people with the Social Gardeners.

Carol has been gardening since she could hold a trowel. From helping her father at their home in the Chicago area, to growing herbs on an apartment windowsill, to growing food in a commune for nine months, to gardening forty years in the Sonora Desert she has rarely been away from the soil.

She is a docent at the Desert Botanical Garden; member of an organic community garden (last year they donated over 1.5 tons of fresh produce to a local food bank); active in Spaces of Opportunity which promotes urban gardening by creating small community gardens on vacant/abandoned lots; and has turned her backyard from a cactus/succulent garden into a butterfly and hummingbird oasis. She is nearly finished with her master gardener certification.

After losing longtime spouses, Carol and Richard were married five months ago. Part of their summer in Steamboat was spent training for a honeymoon trip, this fall, hiking the Salkantay Trail in Peru to Machu Picchu, followed by two weeks of exploring the Galapagos Islands.

As if her plate isn't already full to overflow, Carol spends time with a daughter and teenage grandson and is a paddler on a 30-member dragon boat team (45' long narrow craft with twenty paddlers, a drummer, and a steer). The women (age 28 to 78) are all breast cancer survivors and have raced throughout the western U.S. and internationally (last year Florence, Italy, next year France). They compete (and win medals) to show they will not let a cancer diagnosis limit what they can achieve.

We've been fortunate to have these snowbirds land in Steamboat Springs!! We wish them a great winter and look forward to seeing them again next summer.



Carol Sanford in the Garden



Male Mallard | Photo: Bob Enever

BIRDS IN THE PARK

Text by Bob Enever

The Yampa River has a lot of ducks, but the most common is the Mallard. Mallards are large hardy ducks that live on the river year-round in patches of open water, except when the river is completely frozen. Flocks of 200-300 are seen on open water every winter at the Steamboat Springs Christmas Bird Counts. They are year-round residents across all the US but many fly north to breed in Canada and many fly to the southern states to winter in warmer climates. Mallards are also very common in Europe and across southern Asia.

Mallards nest on the ground and they are found throughout Colorado, with a large concentration in Northwest Colorado. The males are very colorful, the better to attract females, but the females are in plain dappled brown plumage to do the opposite; be as inconspicuous as possible. During the nesting season they are very vulnerable to predation while sitting on eggs.

Mallards are dabbling ducks so they are usually seen on shallow waters where they frequently tip their bodies up to graze on underwater plants. In breeding season they find insects and crustaceans as protein for their eggs and chicks. In the cities they can be very tame in ponds when they are fed human food.

A female duck, possibly a Mallard, successfully raised a brood of chicks, well hidden in Lynn's Garden, a few years ago as shown in Jeff Morehead's picture.



Paddling on Peter's Pond | Photo: Jeff Morehead

WORKING ON TRAILS *by Bob Enever*



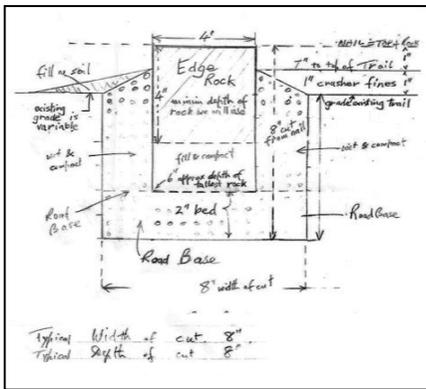
Bob Enever



Jay Kopf (red hat) and the 3 students comprised the Trail Crew, which worked all July and August this year building the rock edges for the Wide Trails. Park Supervisor Gayle Lebman (white cap) supported the crew. Photo: Sonia Franzel

When I built the Park in 1995/7, I used surplus cobblestones for the edges of the Wide Trails; pedestrian trails wide enough for equipment to get to the gardens. The cobbles have been a maintenance problem, so we have replaced them with a hopefully permanent, maintenance-free, 4" wide Colorado rock edge. This is how our team did it.

We have had an extreme shortage of labor so in 2018 I approached the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps. In 2019 they placed recruiting ads nationwide which resulted in us getting 3 college students from Georgia, Michigan and Kansas, working for July and August 2019.



My sectional drawing showing compacted gravel on 3 sides of the rock.

Unlike local labor these kids were having fun; this was their summer vacation in the mountains of Colorado, working in sunshine, with weekends camping and visiting Red Rocks. Getting paid \$15 per hour for it! They were unskilled but enthusiastic.

Jay Kopf, a Park Board Member, agreed to be on the Park Staff for two months and led the crew. He showed them how to dig the channel, compact the base, set the rock, level it, fill the edges with gravel and compact it, resulting in a sturdy edge that can be walked on, as some children and adults love to do. Jay kept them supplied with gravel and rock, all day every day. With fun daily competitions they averaged 9 feet an hour, 74 feet a day, and they completed the 3,100 feet of edges in 2 months!

The hardest part is done but the trails still need to be smoothed and finished with crusher fines, a smooth surface for baby carriages and wheel chairs.



The gravel base was compacted to stabilize the rock. Both photos: Bob Enever



The gravel was compacted on both sides of the rocks so they could withstand people balancing on them.



3,100 ft of rock edges were completed this summer. That was the hard part. Smoothing the path and finishing it with crusher fines, suitable for baby carriages and wheelchairs, will be done when labor is available. Photo: Carol Dowden

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

Sonia Frangel - President

Kathy Connell - Vice President

Bill Sauter - Treasurer

Audrey Enever & Emily Seaver- Secretary

Russ Atha

Mike Baran

Eulyn Berge

Karen Bomberg

Carol Dowden

Bob Enever

Sally Hertzog

Kerry Kaster

Jay Kopf

Georgianne Nelson

Angela Cosby - City Director of Parks and Recreation

Ernie Jenkins - City Parks Supervisor

Gayle Lehman - Botanic Park Supervisor

John Duffey, Jeff Morehead,

Kathy Olsen, Advisors

The Newsletter Crew - Georgianne Nelson,

Carol Dowden and Northwest Graphics

www.yrbp.org



PO Box 776269
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

Membership Renewal Reminder

To donate with a credit card, please visit www.yvcf.org and click on "Donate Now". Choose Yampa River Botanic Park Fund from the local non-profit funds list. Call 970- 879-8632 with questions. To donate with a check, please send your check with this form.

Name _____ Business Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email (please update) _____

Make checks payable to Yampa River Botanic Park and mail to:

Yampa River Botanic Park

PO Box 776269

Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

Volunteer Opportunities, please check your interest

Gardening Concerts Trillium House Other Duties

Check here if you would like us to contact you regarding other sponsorships or memorial/tribute giving.

Check here if you would like to receive your newsletter electronically.

Donation Levels

Forget Me Not - \$20,000 and over

Sego Lily - \$10,000 - \$19,999

Shooting Star - \$5,000 - \$9,999

Sunflower - \$1,000 - \$4,999

Trillium - \$500 - \$999

Columbine - \$100 - \$499

Glacier Lily - \$30 - \$99

Business Supporter - \$100 and over

Garden Sponsor - \$900 and over

Capital Development Fund - \$1,000 or more annually for 5 years

YRBP Endowment Fund - \$500 minimum