

# Pine Brook Press

A quarterly journal for, about, and by Pine Brook Hills residents | Summer 2025

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# Community Calendar

## HOA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Meetings are held quarterly at the Community Center/Fire Station (1905 Linden Drive) unless otherwise noted. All residents are welcome to attend.

See website: [www.pinebrookhills.org](http://www.pinebrookhills.org)

### BOULDER MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meets the second Monday of every month at 4:00 PM. Call 303-440-0235 for specifics.

### BOULDER MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT AUXILIARY

Meets quarterly on Sundays. Please check [www.bouldermountainfireauxiliary.org/calendar-1](http://www.bouldermountainfireauxiliary.org/calendar-1) for the next meeting or contact [aharsh@comcast.net](mailto:aharsh@comcast.net).

### PINE BROOK HILLS WATER BOARD

Meets the third Thursday of every month at 12:00 PM. Call the Water Office at 303-442-5394 for more information.

### ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Meets the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM by Zoom. Contact [arc@pinebrookhills.org](mailto:arc@pinebrookhills.org) for the link.



Photo by Joyce Colson

## SHARE YOUR PHOTOS!

Email your high resolution PBH images to [press@pinebrookhills.org](mailto:press@pinebrookhills.org)

ON THE COVER: Result of PBH Tree Trimming. Photo by Jean Vieux

# A Word From the President

By Ethan Lake



Happy summer all! It has been a busy summer mitigation season at the HOA. Thanks to your generous efforts, we have now collectively funded approximately \$50,000 worth of mitigation work through a combination of your dues at work and charitable donations to the Community Fund. I believe that this is

the largest community contribution towards fire mitigation that we have ever had. Thanks to the grant-writing efforts of the Boulder Mountain Fire Mitigation Crew our money gets multiplied 3 to 5x. Some of the work on the 26 acres of forest has already been completed and paid; the remainder is expected to be completed in the next couple of months. Last month we also held neighborhood-wide block parties co-sponsored by Firewise, Wildfire Partners, and Boulder Mountain Fire to raise mitigation awareness as well as to encourage local connections. These were so successful that they got the attention of a local RMPBS reporter covering community resilience in our foothills.

Our next bit of news concerns the Ice Cream Social. After a one year hiatus due to busy summer travel schedules, the social is returning next month on September 14th. We are hoping that moving the event out of the summer travel months will help with attendance, both from the community and from volunteers. This will be the last hurrah of our fabulous Social Chair Megan Shields, who is ending her term on the HOA to care for family members. We are at this time looking for a coordinator volunteer to help oversee efforts on the day of, as well as a couple of additional set-up/tear down volunteers. Please reach out to the HOA board ([president@pinebrookhills.org](mailto:president@pinebrookhills.org)) if you are willing to help.

This leads to my main message and request. Our HOA board has seen and will see significant turnover. Kevin Smith, Brandon Saltmarsh, and Art Markey either have or will be stepping down from their current roles. We thank them all for their hours and efforts towards improving our community. And we are pleased that Cory Tann will be filling the role of Secretary. As of January 1st, Treasurer Andy Minden and I will be the only ones continuing on the Board, and I will be in a new role. Unfortunately, this means that not only do we need a new Social Chair to help coordinate activities like the Ice Cream Social and Block Parties in 2026, but we will also need a new President and Vice President.

## FROM THE EDITOR:

**Thanks to all the HOA volunteers for their service!**



The Pine Brook Press receives financial support from the Pine Brook Homeowners' Association and advertisers.

**Please support the advertisers.**

A win-win: you benefit from their service and the Press benefits from their support.

# Fireside Chat

By John Benson



Greetings to all our Pine Brook Hills residents. I trust that you are enjoying your summer season. We have definitely had some hot days, and it looks like we will continue to have some very warm days ahead.

We have been very fortunate this year that monsoon showers have been giving us much needed rain and moisture. Unfortunately, I think the monsoonal flow will soon be cut off and we will see increased drying. Soon we will see all the grasses start to turn brown. But even the remaining green grass we still have now can be deceptive. Please do not think for one second that if a wildfire were to occur that it would not spread. The likelihood of a wildfire spreading is a huge concern for us right now, not only in our district but in Boulder County as a whole.

BMFPD never drops our guard when it comes to wildland fires. We watch our weather forecasts very closely every day. We continually monitor the fuel moisture levels in our surrounding areas. We stay on top of these conditions by consistently being in the forest, snapping the twigs, watching the grasses cure out, and keeping an eye on the lightning and checking areas that have been hit by lightning strikes after storms have moved through the district.

Yes, we are always on guard and ready to extinguish a wildfire quickly and safely.

One thing you will always hear me harp on is that **if you think you see or smell smoke, DIAL 911**. This is the quickest and most efficient way to get us out in full force to start investigating and looking for a potential wildfire. **PLEASE DO NOT CALL OR EMAIL THE OFFICE**. There are times when no one is at the office or monitoring email because we are out in the field, off for the weekend, or out on other calls or training. That means that we may not get your message. Please understand that even a few seconds can cause a small fire to turn large and ugly. A message left on a Friday night will not get picked up until Monday morning. **ALWAYS DIAL 911**. Unfortunately, this still happens after almost 23 years of my being on the job.

**Join Us!  
BMFPD Is  
Recruiting!**

BMF is hosting some information sessions for community members who would like to find out more about what we do. If that is you, and you are interested in learning more, we would love to meet you, answer questions, and give you a tour. Watch for announcements for time and place. In the meantime, feel free to contact Rob Prehn at: [recruiting@bmfpd.org](mailto:recruiting@bmfpd.org). Our next rookie program starts this fall.

**AS WE MOVE TOWARD THE FALL SEASON, PLEASE REMEMBER TO BE WILDFIRE AWARE BY DOING THE FOLLOWING:**

1. **Do not park vehicles in deep or tall grasses.** Hot exhaust systems can quickly start a fire, which could spread to the area around the vehicle and beyond, not to mention burning up your valuable means of transportation.
2. **Inform your guests and workers to be keep their cigarette butts in the vehicle or house.** We have had those butts cause fires for us.
3. **If you are towing, make sure your trailer's safety chains are not dragging the ground.** Yes, sparks created by chains hitting the pavement will cause fires along the roads.
4. **Make sure you douse hot ashes in a metal bucket until they are cold and out.** Never scatter ashes out onto the forest floors. We have responded to several fires over the years caused by improperly discarded ashes.

Let's do everything in our power to prevent a catastrophic wildfire from burning down this great neighborhood. We were extremely pleased that the 4th of July holiday was quiet and boring for us. We had no issues in the district. Give yourself a pat on the back for keeping the community green and pristine.

Until next time, enjoy what is left of summer and remember fall is just around the corner, so start planning for those cooler temperatures, making sure your heating appliances are ready for the upcoming cold.

**And remember, when you see your BMFPD folks out and about, stop and say hi and thank you.**

Be safe and have fun.



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- Matt Ladwig



MATT LADWIG

Broker Associate

303-809-0259

[Matt.Ladwig@TheAgencyRE.com](mailto:Matt.Ladwig@TheAgencyRE.com)

# Auxiliary: “Before the Power Goes Out” and Planning for Boulder Mountain Handmade

By Ann Blonston

## OUTREACH AND EDUCATION: BACK-UP POWER

At the Auxiliary’s April meeting, Chief John Benson presented “Before the Power Goes Out: A Shocking and Most Electrifying Information Session That Will Leave You Amped Up and Fully Illuminated,” a discussion of back-up power options and preparedness. Auxiliary member Ann Harsh, of the Outreach and Education team, created a display of available products for emergency use.

Chief Benson reported that high wind events will recur more frequently and be more severe, which will cause more downed power lines and will prompt Xcel Energy to pre-emptively cut power for safety, with uncertain timelines for power restoration.

Chief focused on permanently installed standby generators with an automated transfer switch, powered by natural gas or propane,

while also discussing portable generators for more limited use that can be powered by solar, battery, or propane. At this time, Chief Benson found that permanently installed solar/battery back-up generators are more costly to install. (The Auxiliary will compile information on solar generators in the future.)

Chief Benson reminded attendees that the Four Mile Fire and the 2013 floods led to power outages for a week and longer, ruining perishable food and placing residents with medical devices at risk. Considerations in choosing a generator include cost, minimum electric service, noise, location on your property, and battery backup. He cited average Boulder County costs of installed generators at between \$6,000 and \$11,000, with some running \$20,000 or more. Like HVAC units, generators required regular servicing.

## PREPAREDNESS PRODUCTS (THAT ARE ALSO USEFUL IN DAILY LIFE) ASSEMBLED BY ANN HARSH INCLUDE:



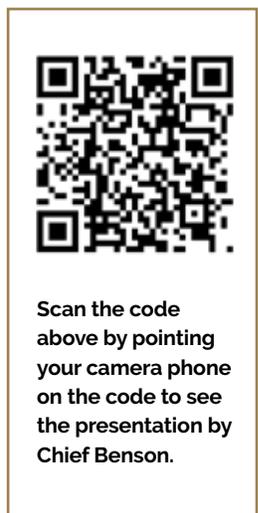
Emergency Radio with NOAA weather, hand crank AM/FM survival radio with flashlight, reading lamp and SOS siren. (product: QAUYYW 74000mWh, \$35)



Rechargeable Light Bulbs, up to 24 hours when fully charged. (\$17 for a 4-pack)



Camping lantern with multiple power supplies. (Duracell 2000 lumens #1654528, \$28)



Scan the code above by pointing your camera phone on the code to see the presentation by Chief Benson.



Power banks, battery operated candles, outdoor solar luminaria



**FUNDRAISING: BOULDER MOUNTAIN HANDMADE  
SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 8 & 9**

The Auxiliary's long-running art and craft market returns to the Elks Lodge on November 8 and 9. Preparations are well underway: Over 50 artisan vendors have already reserved market booths. Guests will see 40+ returning vendors and will be delighted by over a dozen newcomers to the market, showing fine art, textiles, woodworks, fancy foods, jewelry, pottery, and more.

Community volunteers are creating popular craft items to donate to Boulder Mountain Creates, the market-within-the-market where 100% of proceeds go to BMFPD Auxiliary. Pine Brook resident Jane Glotzer coordinates "Creates" (group crafting sessions) and collects donations from talented residents.

All residents are welcome to join in. Jane welcomes knitters, weavers, glassworkers, woodworkers, metalworkers, and toymakers.

**Consider setting aside some crafting time this fall to support your fire department. Drop a note to [bmhcraft@bouldermountainfireauxiliary.org](mailto:bmhcraft@bouldermountainfireauxiliary.org)**



# iCE CREAM SOCIAL & LiVE MUSIC



**Music by the Foggy Tops Bluegrass Band**



**Sunday, September 14 | 2-4pm**

**PBH Community Center | 1907 Linden Avenue | Main Parking Area**

# Water Update

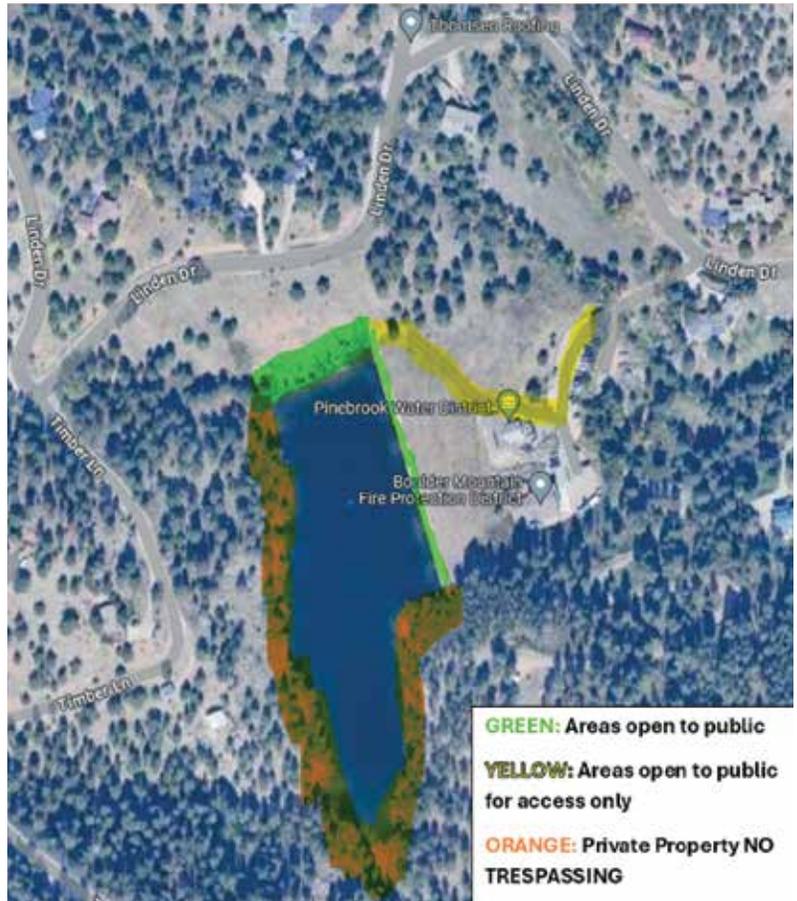
By Andrew Churnside

## WEBSITE ACCESSIBILITY

Pine Brook Water District (“The District”) is committed to providing equal access to all Information and Communication Technology. As part of this undertaking, the District is updating our website to conform with WCAG 2.1 Level AA. If you, family members, or others residing within your home need any special assistance or accommodations to access the District website, please submit a request to the District by a) completing the form at <https://pinebrookwater.org/accessibility>, b) contacting the District office by phone at 303-443-5394, or c) stopping by our office at 1903 Linden Drive.

## RESERVOIR ACCESS

The Pine Brook Reservoir has received more visitors recently (which is great; it belongs to the community!), but with more usage, some reminders of the rules seem necessary. Access is open only from sunrise to sunset starting from the community center parking lot. Please do not park along Linden, as the property between Linden and the reservoir is privately owned. You can walk up the access road to the dam and north shore – the only areas open to the public. Dogs are not allowed, and no bodily contact with the water or boats are permitted. The fishing is generally pretty good with sizable crappie, smallmouth bass, and blue gill being the primary fish caught. All fishing is catch-and-release using barbless artificial flies or lures. Please clean up your trash.



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# Architectural Review Committee

By Rob Mohr and Natasha Bodorff

Summer is here, and many of us are thinking about improvements to make to the exterior of our homes. Don't forget that the Architectural Review Committee is here to review and approve home improvement projects to ensure that all of our homes are in harmony with the natural surroundings and the neighborhood at large.

This includes such projects as repainting, reroofing, a fence, a shed, a deck replacement, or new windows. We also review landscaping structures like rock walls. Most of these can be approved on a fast track basis in a day or so. More extensive projects such as a house addition or detached garage will require a full review and discussion at the monthly ARC meeting. Usually the architect or general contractor of such projects will present the details to the committee.

We have made the application process as streamlined and painless as possible. Your first step is to go to the application web page [pinebrookhills.org/arc-online-application/](http://pinebrookhills.org/arc-online-application/), or you can point your phone's camera at the QR code in the ad on this page.

You simply fill in the blanks with some basic facts about your project and click "Submit". We will confirm by email that we

have received your application and how long we expect the review to take. We will most likely ask for pictures or links to websites showing the colors and materials you plan to use. If your project involves a color such as painting or siding, we will ask you for the manufacturer's name and specific color name. Any additional information we need can be sent by email. On the above web page, you will see more complete instructions about the ARC application process and examples of how to describe your project.

We are sure that you will find the application and approval process very easy to navigate. If you have any questions about the Architectural Review Committee, please write us at [ARC@pinebrookhills.org](mailto:ARC@pinebrookhills.org). We sincerely appreciate the support and cooperation that we receive from our Pine Brook Hills community in keeping our neighborhood as beautiful and harmonious as it is.

## ARE YOU PLANNING ONE OF THESE PROJECTS?

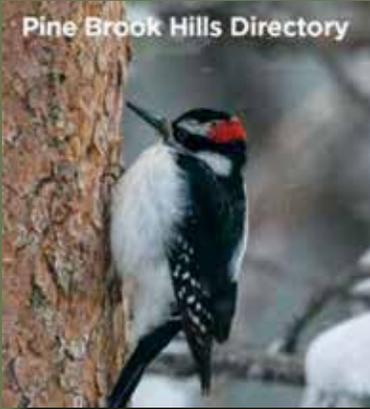
- New siding
- Exterior painting
- New roof
- Deck replacement
- Solar panels
- Fence
- House addition or new structure
- Anything on the house exterior

Don't forget to apply to the  
**Architectural Review Committee (ARC)** for approval

### Ways to apply:

- Go to [pinebrookhills.org/hoa/architectural](http://pinebrookhills.org/hoa/architectural)
- Email [ARC@pinebrookhills.org](mailto:ARC@pinebrookhills.org)
- Or scan the QR code





# Pine Brook Hills DIRECTORY

New to the neighborhood?

Do you want to be found  
in the event of an emergency?



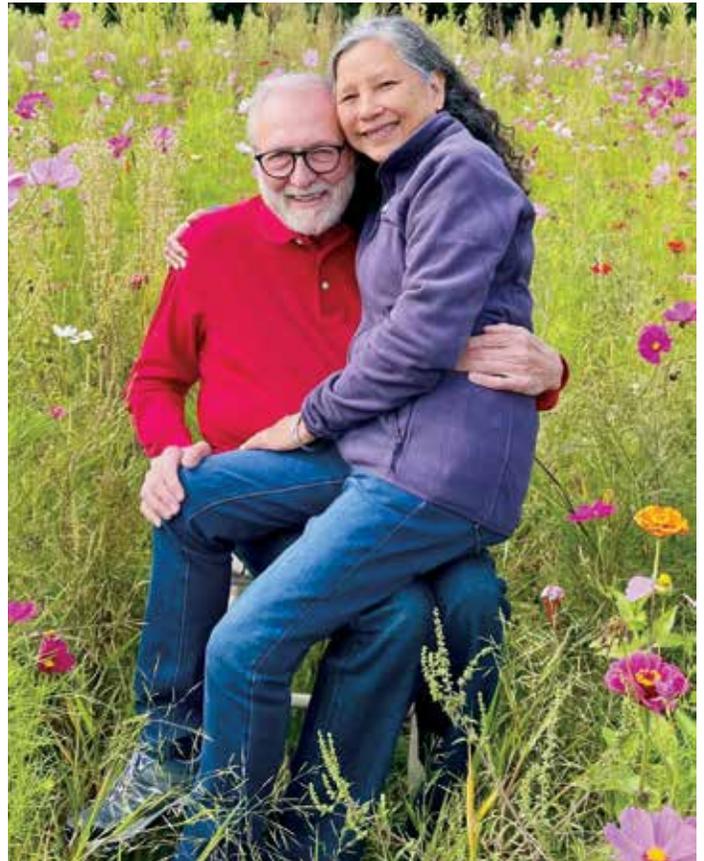
The Pine Brook Hills directory assists first responders in locating you in the event of an emergency!



You can add or revise  
your listing in the directory  
by scanning this handy  
QR code.

**Do it today!**

## PBH Resident: Tom Anglewicz



I am a retired architect with 43 years of experience. There are three of us architects residing on Pine Tree Lane.

I grew up in Detroit during the 1950's and early 1960's. My parents sent me to an all-male Jesuit prep school, for which I am eternally grateful even though it was on the other side of town, two bus rides away.

I learned a great deal, but I most appreciate that they taught me to write, and instilled respect and appreciation for good books. In high school I was editor of our newspaper, which mimicked Time Magazine. I was convinced that I wanted to be a journalist. But, on a career day outing to the Detroit News, I met reporters, most of whom were chain smokers, looked like they drank a lot, and seemed under constant stress.

During that senior year, a local architect came to talk with us. I was fascinated! I knew nothing about architecture and did not have drawing skills, other than my earlier attempts at drawing 1950's cars. At about that time, I saw a film titled "Strangers When We Meet," starring Kirk Douglas, about an architect

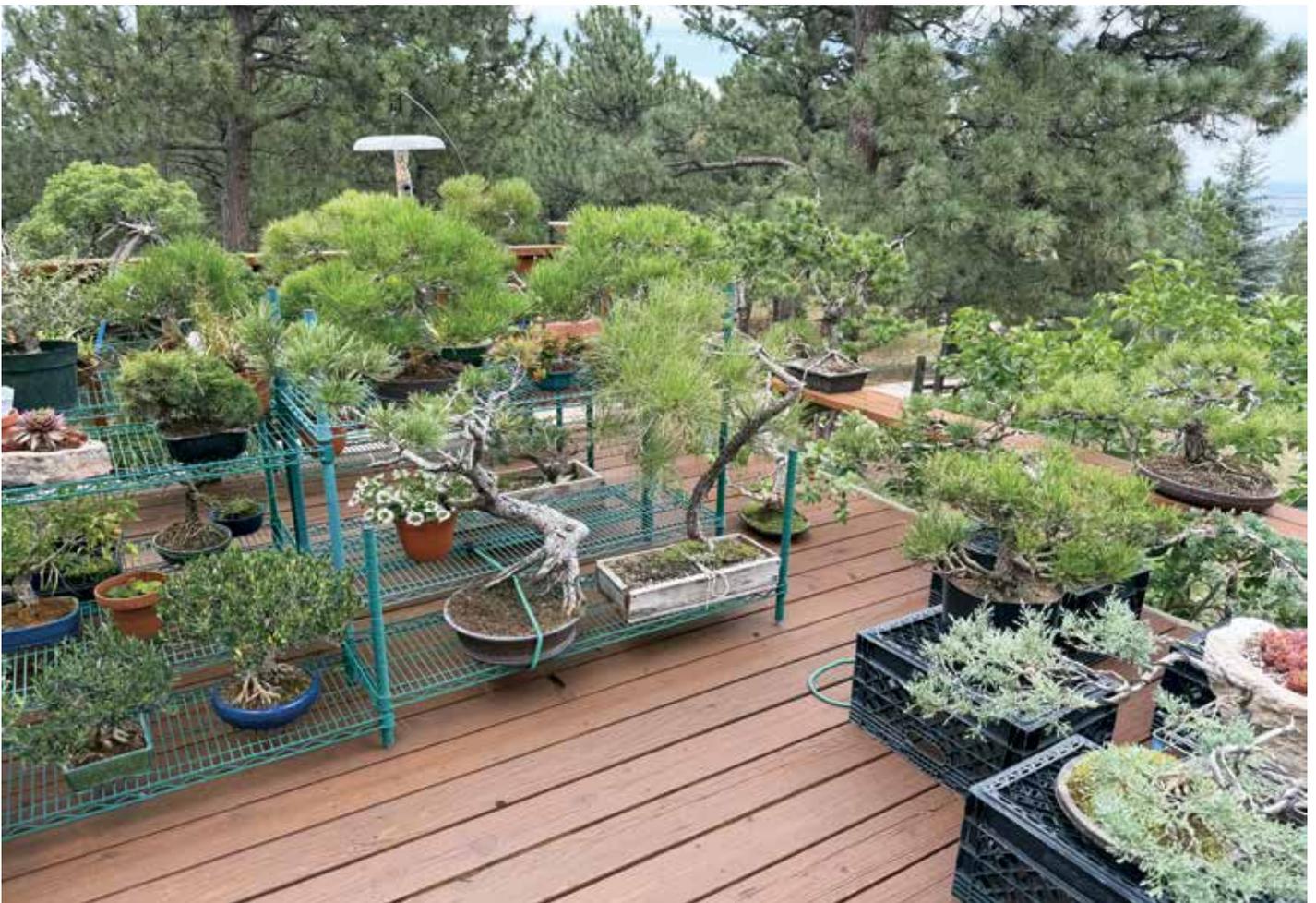
designing beautiful custom homes on the California coast, and sleeping with co-star Kim Novak. Maybe that sealed the deal!

My architectural education was unique because we had a co-op program on a trimester schedule. During the last three years, we attended class for one trimester, worked in a local architectural firm for the next, and alternated thereafter. It took us six years to complete a five-year program, but the practical experience of working in multiple firms during that time was invaluable.

For the first few years after graduation I worked in local Detroit-area firms, except for a three-year stint as an in-house architect for the Michigan State Housing Development Authority in Lansing. In 1980, I was asked to open and manage a regional design office in Dallas, Texas. During the 1986-87 recession, I returned to Detroit to work for another large national firm. I thought I was now “back home” for good. But in early 1989 I was contacted by a recruiter looking for director of a San Diego regional practice for a Seattle-based large firm.

I spent 22 years in San Diego, managing that office and later forming a partnership with an old friend from Michigan. Sad to say, I never designed any elaborate custom homes on the California coast, like Kirk. Instead of Kim Novak, I met my wife Florentina. Virtually all my work involved commercial and institutional projects: office buildings, mixed-use urban projects, and my favorites: libraries of all types. At the end of 2010, I decided to retire. I liked San Diego, but I told Florentina that I had always wanted to live in the mountains, so we did some reconnaissance, with the help of Colorado friends, and elected to purchase a home in Pine Brook Hills.

I have practiced bonsai for almost 20 years. In retirement, it has been my central avocation. It gives me great pleasure and solace. I am an active member of the Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society and have served as its program director and president. Even during the pandemic, I was content to have my books, music, and bonsai. I visited Japan in 2008 and 2020 for bonsai related trips and anticipate another trip sometime.



# Geology in Pine Brook Hills

By Kevin Smith



**Dakota Formation**

Pine Brook Hills must be among the neighborhoods with the highest number of exposed geologic formations (six) in the United States. This geologic diversity enables the wide variety of plants and wildlife that thrive in our community. This article describes the formations, their history, and where it is possible to see them, starting at the bottom of Linden and traveling uphill.

## **DAKOTA FORMATION**

The first formation one sees driving up Linden is the Dakota Formation. This is the ridge that is visible from most of Boulder. Boulder View Lane (south of Linden) and Meadowlook Way (on the north side of Linden) have houses atop Dakota Ridge that have stunning views to the East.

This formation was originally the sandy seashore of an inland sea formed about 100 million years ago. Characterized by strong sandstone rock, it withstood erosion of the nearby layers and formed a prominent landmark.

## **MORRISON FORMATION**

Further uphill, the Morrison formation formed about 150 million years ago. Dinosaurs roamed mucky swamps during this time period. Because these rocks were formed from marshy mucky soil that was softer than the Dakota formation, they are eroding away faster than the Dakota which makes the ridge fall off as one travels west.

## **LYKINS FORMATION**

In the same valley as the Morrison formation is the Lykins formation, formed about 250 million years ago. During this time period plant life first appeared on Earth. Stromatolites (which convert carbon dioxide into oxygen) were prevalent then. The generation of oxygen allowed plant and animal life to develop. This rock was formed from red mud and, like the Morrison formation, is quite soft and often covered up by erosion.

## **LYONS FORMATION**

The Lyons formation was formed about 280 million years ago when the region was covered with great sand dunes. It is characterized by smooth sandstone that easily breaks apart into layered rocks. This rock was quarried in many places around Boulder (including on Mt. Sanitas) and was used to construct many of the original buildings at the University of Colorado.

These rocks can easily be seen on the right just past the turn off to North Cedar Brook. Look for the pile of layered smooth rocks: you are seeing the Lyons formation.



Lyons Formation

### FOUNTAIN FORMATION

The fountain formation was formed about 300 million years ago as the Ancestral Rockies were eroded away. This formation is the Flatirons (as seen at Chautauqua), and we have Flatirons right in our neighborhood! This rock is characterized by coarse, unstructured sandstone sprinkled with cobbles (small pebbles interspersed in the rocks) and is seen just after the Lykins formation as one continues up Linden. It is clearly different than the fine-grained layer structure of the Lyons formation.



Fountain Formation

### FOUNDATIONAL GRANODIORITE GRANITE

The last formation visible in PBH is the underlying Granodiorite Granite. These rocks were formed about 1.7 billion years ago and are the foundation for all the rock layers in the Boulder area. The transition from the Fountain formation to Granodiorite is not always visible but Granodiorite can be found in the most western part of PBH above Linden. Interestingly geologists have no record of what happened between the formation of Granodiorite (1,700 million years ago) and the Fountain formation (300 million years old). This gap in geologic history is termed an “unconformity”. In fact, there is a sign at Red Rocks Amphitheater showing this transition – look for it next time you are there!



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# Farewell party for Jan Hendricks

Photo by Jim Adams



# WILD NIGHT *for wildlife*



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