

## **February 2026 Women's Group Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Carol Smith, Claudia Henning, Teresa Wallace, Cyndi Hamilton, Carol Rankin, Pat Nash, Amanda Baker, Sherry Talbot, Laurie Hawkins, Shannon DeBord, Lori Clark, Maureen Latham, Jean Busch

The Meeting began with introductions and welcome to Laurie Hawkins, who recently moved to the ranch. It was great getting to know her a little bit more.

{Note that the January Meeting was cancelled due to snow.}

### **Recap of Fall Dinner - held November 1, 2025**

Comments were that the attendance was less than expected, as well as a number of folks who signed up and paid but did not attend after all. There was a lot of food left over. Thoughts were that the night before was Halloween and perhaps other gatherings caused overlapping conflicts. The price was right since the WG cooked and served the meal instead of catering this year (to hold down cost), so cost was not a negative factor. The theme of Ski Lodge was great, as was the food menu and taste, and games were fun. Only negative comment mentioned was that the cheese fondue was too messy. Also, it was "too much work" for those preparing and serving the food.

### **This Year's Fall Dinner - November 7, 2026**

The date for this coming November dinner will be November 7th, which will not conflict with the Halloween festivities and parties. December is still too busy and with a higher possibility of bad weather. We will have a flyer for "save the date" starting soon so people can put it on their calendar early. Several ideas of themes for this year were discussed: "Let's go to the Movies" (suggestions of directors chairs, megaphone, quotes from movies to guess, popcorn and other movie treats, etc)... "60's and 70's" , "Golden Books and their characters", and "patriotic theme for 250/150 yrs". No vote was taken or decision made yet. Other thoughts and ideas are welcome.

### **July Picnic- Date Saturday, July 11th**

The date is confirmed for our picnic potluck and raffle. It'll be the weekend after July 4th so as to not interfere with all the 250/150 anniversary of US and CO activities. If anyone is interested in being the collector of the raffle items, let Carol Smith know. This can be several persons working together as well.

### **Craft Show/ Flea Market, Saturday May 30**

This year we will emphasize the craft show more as many of the items for sale were beautifully hand crafted. The tables will once again be free to sign up to display and sell. We will be advertising this event earlier to hopefully get more interested buyers/lookers. Whether or not the electronic recycling truck will be coming is yet to be known, and at what cost since they have moved from Pueblo to Colorado Springs. The discussion as to whether to cook the popular hot dogs or have other food such as a chili cookoff contest has yet to be determined.

### **Welcome Gals notes -**

In 2025 they welcomed 14 new owners with their goodie bags and information on the ranch. This year, there have already been 4 visits. They have been creating bags to have ready ahead but need more maps and bags. The group okayed the purchase of these needed items, with some of the laminated maps to be used "for sale" to owners as well. For us, approx cost of maps will be \$2.50, and bags 50 cents thru Amazon.

### **Other thoughts -**

Some suggested that we have a Women's Group logo design for our communications. Shannon D and Claudia will research possibilities.

Claudia also brought up a discussion on having some tangible goals to use our funds for. Many of the initial projects, esp since the MOC was built, have been accomplished. Some of these are the purchases of book shelves, chair and table holders, bathroom cabinet, game and puzzle shelving, shelving for the WG Closet, basketball and pickleball equipment, cleaning equipment, etc. If we have goals for needed items for our funds, this may create more interest in fund raising. Initial thoughts to try to create ideas for ways to help decrease echo or change the flooring material in the MOC will not be allowed to be done per the Metro Board. Thoughts were expressed about providing cameras around the dumpsters, new signage at the bridge entrance, more speed limit signs around the ranch, having a flagpole at the MOC or a larger one at the guard shack, and/or seeing what equipment the fire department may be in need of, such as water backpacks, that we could help raise money for. Several women agreed to look into some of these thoughts for more info to bring back to the March meeting.

Teresa and others suggested we purchase more solar lights to be used in December - it was agreed to buy \$200 worth of the better quality solar ones (\$16 each). Jean also will look into the cost of better Christmas decor for the guard shack to help it look less "haphazard".

The treasurer report from Jean shows we have over \$3,000 in our account.

Laurie Hawkins wondered if there is any interest in starting a Bunco group. A couple at the meeting expressed interest and if anyone else is interested, please contact Laurie at [hawkinslaurie@yahoo.com](mailto:hawkinslaurie@yahoo.com) to let her know. Ideally, 12 persons are needed to play. A time and day will be decided depending on the persons interested.

### **Craft - Earrings project**

The women who could stay after the business discussions were over, created a pair of earrings for themselves with a patriotic theme. They turned out great, esp as we ate Valentine cookies and visited together!

We missed those who were not with us this Saturday and hope you can join us next month on **March 14th at 9:00 am at the MOC**.