

PARK PLAZAS

Community Connections



On a sunny autumn afternoon, the Brocks relax on the back patio with their dogs Severus and Augen.

Beth and Glenn Brock

SALUTING A SPECIAL PAIR OF AIR FORCE VETS

Beth and Glenn Brock first met on a Texas tennis court in December 2005. As they began dating—and discovering shared favorite pastimes, such as mountain biking—they soon found something else they had in common: Both are USAF veterans.

Beth actually grew up in a Navy family. Her father and grandfather graduated from the Naval Academy. (As an example of how small a world the military really is, Beth tells me her dad was with the younger Admiral McCain when he learned that his son, the late Senator John McCain, had been shot down and captured by the North Vietnamese.)

She considered the Naval Academy herself but decided to accept an Air Force scholarship offer. Beth went to USC, studying computer science, and became a software developer for the Air Force. She served for seven years, from 1983 to 1990, based in Omaha and then in Germany. “I was lucky that the industry was relatively new,” Beth recalls. “It was very challenging, and we were often on the cutting edge. It was exciting to create something you could see being used almost immediately.”

With her first husband, also an Air Force officer, she had two daughters, one born in Nebraska and the other overseas. When it came time to return to the U.S., Air Force policy prevented married officers from being based together. There’s still some residual bitterness on Beth’s part. “I wasn’t ready to be a single mom with two preschoolers. I loved the work I was doing and would have preferred to stay in the Air Force, but I decided the four of us needed to be together.”

Like Beth, Glenn came from a military family. His dad was an Air Force recruiter in Alabama when Glenn enlisted at age 17. “It’s a good thing we didn’t meet when we were both in the service,” Beth notes with a smile. “Because I was an officer and he was an enlisted man, we couldn’t even have dated.”

For three years, beginning in 1979, Glenn was stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base, where he worked as a flight simulator technician. “The only thing I knew about Albuquerque was Bugs Bunny getting lost,” he says, also smiling. “But New Mexico soon became the first place that felt like home to me—where I belonged. When I left for my next posting, in England, I told myself I would be back.”

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Beth gets her Air Force commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1983. Her father, Commander Douglas Lawrence USN, and her mother, Mary Alice Lawrence, proudly pin on her bars.



Jeanne Hertz – Flying High

Now that she’s retired from the real estate business, Jeanne Hertz (Manzana Plaza) is crew chief for her partner, Johnny Lewis, who owns Santa Fe Balloons. She’s been working with him for 10 years, modestly describing her current role: “Now I just play on hot air balloons.” They give passenger rides daily, from May through October, in the badlands north of Santa Fe. Jeanne has lived in her Park Plazas townhome since 1985. She proudly identifies Johnny as “one of the first modern-day balloon pilots in the world. He’s been doing this for 51 years!”



SPOTLIGHT
on your neighbor



A post balloon ride celebration.

PETS of Park Plazas

BLESSING of the BEASTS

Heartfelt thanks to Rev. Duchess Dale for her Animal Blessing, which was appreciated by both the pets and their human parents.



Lou Wolter – Homecoming Time



Since August 2015, Lou Wolter (Chamisa Plaza) has been editor of *Park Plazas News*, the PPCSA's official publication. More than a decade earlier, he spent three years as our Park Plazas manager, recognized for his gracious, deliberate and generous style. In mid-2005, Lou and his wife Carolyn Lumbard "retired" to Florida's Gulf Coast—but the move turned out not to be permanent. This time, Lou is returning to Des Moines, Iowa, where he has deep roots. With a PhD in Mass Communications, Lou was a professor of advertising and public relations at Drake University. He also served as the University's first director of marketing. In addition, Lou designed and coordinated Drake's Integrated Corporate Communications graduate program. As they head back "home" to Des Moines, we wish Lou, Carolyn and little dog Chaco all the best. THANK YOU for your contributions, Lou, and a VERY HAPPY 89th BIRTHDAY!!



GATES

of Park Plazas

Sometimes a gate is just a means of getting into a front or back yard. But here in Park Plazas, interesting or unique gates can serve to distinguish our relatively similar homes. Many residents have put plenty of creativity into their front gates (off the cul-de-sac) and occasionally their back gates (often facing a walking path). *Community Connections* is planning to highlight a "favorite" gate every issue or two. Take a look around and let us know about gates you think we should feature, including your own. Send your ideas to ParkPlazasCommunityConnections@gmail.com.



This gate at the home of **Dennis and Kathleen Jung** (2891 Plaza Blanca, in Clavel Plaza) was Sharon Shoemaker's initial inspiration for a feature on Park Plazas gates. Dennis built the gate about eight years ago and decorated it with things he had around the house, including treasures he and Kathleen had collected on trips to Bali. Dennis is an award-winning novelist who will be part of our 2018 Artists Studio Tour on October 20. (See page 4.) So you'll have an opportunity to walk through Dennis's gate to visit with the author and enjoy the couple's beautiful garden.



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Decades later, Glenn realized his vow. He and Beth started out spending time in Ruidoso, including their young grandson. Later, the Brocks rented a vacation house in Lamy, so they could beat the Dallas area's steamy summer heat.

By then, both were in the airplane business. Glenn is in the training department at American Airlines, while Beth is a home-based systems engineer for Lockheed Martin. As her asthma became more troublesome, she explains, it made sense to relocate to New Mexico. They've now lived in their Cordero Plaza townhome for just about a year. "Park Plazas has so much to offer," Beth says. "We were impressed by the tennis courts as well as the walking paths, and our two dogs have made friends at the dog park." Glenn adds: "We knew instantly that Park Plazas checked every box on our list."

I ask Beth to sum up what military service has meant to her. After a brief pause, she responds: "Having grown up in a military family, I had a sense of obligation. I believe in protecting our country and preserving our rights, showing strength without being aggressive. I was gratified to

find that others in the military felt the same way—always prepared but doing everything we could to avoid war."

Relaxing on their back patio on a beautiful early-autumn afternoon, Glenn answers my question from a different perspective: "Being in the Air Force from 17 to 23 really defined me as an adult. It formed the foundation of my success in life."

- Jane Morris

To the Veterans
of Park Plazas:

On behalf of the entire
community, we salute
you, one and all, and
thank you for your
service to our country.



Your Business Is Our Business!

We will be creating a page on our website for Park Plazas homeowners/residents to list their businesses. These listings will **not** represent an endorsement by *Community Connections*, but will simply provide information. If you would like to have your business included, please send information via email to:

ParkPlazasCommunityConnections@gmail.com.

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- **Board Member(s) Absent:** Ryan Goodman
- **Number of Residents in Attendance:** Six
- **Short-Term Rentals** - Residents and Board continued discussion on short-term rentals (STRs). Attorney has advised PPCSA that rules can only go so far and a better solution might be language in the Covenants that addresses STRs. Board discussed need for a workable plan that would move the issue towards resolution.
- **Exercise Equipment in Common Areas** - Resident asked about removal of Fitness Trail exercise equipment and plans for replacement. A second resident suggested inspection of equipment to determine if any could be repaired instead of purchasing new. During discussion, it was also suggested that a survey be sent out, including a range of options of interest.
- **Architectural Committee** - Re-inspections will begin in October. Approximately 30 houses need a range of repairs.
- **July Flood Repairs** - Six areas within Park Plazas are being worked on, using both outside contractors and PPCSA groundskeeping staff. The City has been sent notification of a claim based on inadequacy of storm sewers.
- **Tennis Courts** - Board discussed additional striping at the tennis courts for pickleball.
- **Reserve Funds Study** - Has been placed on PPCSA website, www.ParkPlazas.com.

OCTOBER
Board Meeting
Wed., October 24
6:30 pm

Residents are encouraged
to attend.

Helpful TIP *Glass Recycling: How We Do It*

For more than a year, we've been successfully recycling glass in Ristra Plaza. I have teamed up with friend and neighbor Deanna Anderson to make the effort work. Here's what we've learned.

When we started out, we thought once a month would be good. But we weren't getting full tubs of glass, so we cut back to once every six weeks or so. For us, this seems to be the right schedule.

On the Tuesday morning of our recycling week, I put two blue recycling tubs outside my garage. I also print little notices (two per sheet of paper) and put copies in all the mail slots. (We are one of the larger cul-de-sacs, with 18 townhomes.) By Friday afternoon, we typically have two fairly full bins. Deanna and Mark load them into their SUV over the weekend and deliver them to the recycling drop-off center at 1142 Siler Road. Mission accomplished!

It seems to us that for smaller cul-de-sacs, it would be possible for two or three to go together. Perhaps there could be more than one garage where the recycling bins would be placed. It would only take a little more coordination than our effort requires.

And I've now learned that Chamisa Plaza (with just nine homes) has a similar program to ours. On the first Wednesday of each month, my friend Bill Glaze also puts two blue tubs outside his garage. He sends an email to other cul-de-sac neighbors, and the bins remain out until Thursday afternoon. Bill keeps the tubs in his garage until they are full and then takes them to the recycling center.

Deanna and I joke about the preponderance of empty wine bottles in Ristra Plaza—but seriously, the variety of glass containers is striking. And occasionally, there are ones that Deanna snags to hold the dyes she and Mark use in their leather restoration business. All in all, our efforts have provided hundreds, even thousands, of jars and bottles for recycling. I'm happy to help!

– Jane Morris



NEWS to share? Let us know! ParkPlazasCommunityConnections@gmail.com.

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Special thanks to our additional contributors this month:
Duchess Dale, Bill Glaze, Pat Harrison and Jojo Kestenbaum.

Don't miss it!

Park Plazas Artists Studio Tour

You are cordially invited to spend a memorable part of an autumn day at our 2018 Park Plazas Artists Studio Tour. We are thrilled to remind you that on Saturday, October 20, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, more than a dozen talented artists will be showing and selling their works right here in Park Plazas.

Take a stroll through our community, visiting these special artists in their studios. Among the temptations, you'll find paintings in acrylic, oil, pastel and watercolor — photographs and sculpture — books and greeting cards — even handcrafted furniture and wearables — and so much more!!

What fun to spend time with neighborhood artists while you're choosing original works of art for your own home — or for the best holiday gifts ever. Many thanks to our Studio Tour sponsors, Lise Knouse & Associates, Park Plazas Specialist (Keller Williams Realty), and Pecos Trail Café.

See pages 5 and 6 for information on the 15 artists who are expected to be part of the tour. Updated listings and a printable map can be found on our website, www.parkplazascommunityconnections.org/.





Bernhard Draiscol 2838 Plaza Verde (Junipero)

Paintings and sculpture

- Of his work, Bernhard says: "I attempt to portray life, humor and whimsy," adding that his artwork "most often reflects my connection to people, places and things as I see them, with their beauty and drama."

<http://www.draiscolart.com>



Dennis Jung 2891 Plaza Blanca (Clavel)

Writer – books available

- His award-winning novels use visual imagery and a strong sense of place to transport readers to faraway locations.
- With his background in anthropology, Dennis weaves into his stories a sense of the mythical and the universal in human experience.

<http://www.dennisjung.com/>



Judy Boyd 2872 Plaza Amarilla (Girasol)

Bird watercolors and more

- Her celebrated bird watercolors feature fine brushwork, meticulous detail and fanciful backgrounds, including unique borders that tell stories about the birds' habitats.
- Judy is the 2018 president of the Santa Fe Society of Artists and a signature member of the New Mexico Watercolor Society.

<http://www.birds-by-boyd.com/>



Allen Turner 2872 Plaza Amarilla (Girasol)

Handcrafted rustic furniture

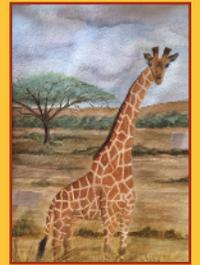
- "FUNdamental Furniture" is Allen's tempting specialty – original, organic and unpretentious.
- His handbuilt pieces combine utility with iconic New Mexico symbology.



Judy Powers 2853 Plaza Amarilla (Narciso)

Watercolors

- Judy's interest in watercolor painting began many years ago while she was working as a draftsman in California.
- After retiring to Santa Fe, Judy joined a group of artists who painted together and discovered how much she enjoyed it.
- Her subject matter includes New Mexico landscapes, and in recent years she has made notecards of her paintings.



Kathe Gilbert 2853 Plaza Amarilla (Narciso)

Watercolors

- Watercolors of Northern New Mexico landscapes, as well as still-life paintings, have been Kathe's focus for many years.
- With a degree in Fine Arts from UNM, she lived in Hawaii for 10 years, designing graphics for Maui hotels.
- Kathe's wide-ranging experience also includes working as a technical illustrator for Sandia Labs.



Suzanne Field Kelly 2853 Plaza Amarilla (Narciso)

Acrylics

- Suzanne loves to paint in acrylic; she shows her colorful, evocative landscapes both in Santa Fe and in her part-time home in Maine.
- She also loves to travel and always has a camera or paintbrush handy!
- Suzanne says: "Our busy lives don't always allow us to appreciate the beauty that surrounds us. Hopefully, I can record some of that for us and future generations."

<https://www.santafesuz.com/>



Johanna Norman 2853 Plaza Amarilla (Narciso)

Watercolors and pastels

- When she retired at 63, Johanna began painting with pastels.
- Three years later, she won her first prize at an art show.
- Johanna says she has been "loving my hobby ever since" and considers herself "lucky to have good health and eyesight to continue painting."





Karen McGrath 2987 Plaza Blanca (Rosa)

Hand-knit and felted hats/scarves

- Karen makes knitted or felted hats as well as scarves, primarily for women and mostly in wool or part-wool.
- She also makes a few hats (generally not wool) for children and babies.



Ruth Valerio 3052 Plaza Blanca (Cisne)

Oil landscapes and figures

- Originally from England, Ruth has lived in Santa Fe for 25 years, moving to Park Plazas more recently.
- Working in oils with an impressionistic style, Ruth is recognized for the interplay of light, color and strong composition in her art.
- Ruth paints mostly New Mexico landscapes but also some English scenes, animals, portraits and still lifes.



<http://alexandrastevens.com/viewcollection/110784> or <http://www.ruthvalerio.com/>



Pat Luiken 3052 Plaza Blanca (Cisne)

Photographs

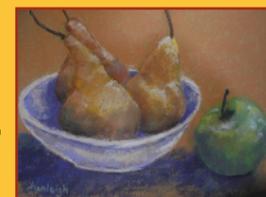
- Pat writes that “the challenge of capturing lightbeams on a flower or a bird — or on other elements of this beautiful country where we live — is what I love about photography. It’s what keeps me grabbing my camera and waiting for the right moment.”
- She adds: “Walking coyote trails with my little yellow lab, Abbey, who has such a gentle way, allowed intimate encounters with those beautiful creatures and provided some treasured images.”



Hana Hanleigh 3034 Plaza Blanca (Cisne)

Oils, acrylics and pastels

- As she approached planned retirement, Hana took up painting and found something she really enjoyed.
- Hana mainly does landscapes, mostly plein aire, as well as still lifes, which are done in the studio and are fun for her to set up and paint.
- “All of it is challenging,” she says, “but so rewarding when you achieve the success you are looking for.”



Bob Zumwalt 3034 Plaza Blanca (Cisne)

Acrylic paintings

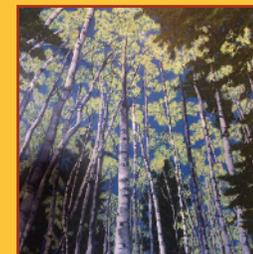
- Bob has always drawn, and his creative efforts range from stained glass to pottery to metal.
- For the past 15 years, he has mostly been painting in acrylics – people, landscapes, still lifes – photographing subjects and then painting them in his studio.
- “At 91,” Bob says, “I always have the next painting in mind.”



Judy Tormoen 3122 Plaza Blanca (Lirio)

Variety – acrylic, pastel, pen and ink, gourds, cards

- Over the years, Judy has experimented with many mediums and materials in creating art; currently she works in pastels and acrylics, with a bit of pen and ink.
- She describes her training as including “various artist’s workshops, classes, and always trial and error.”
- We’re grateful to Judy for coordinating our 2018 Park Plazas Artists Studio Tour.



Joyce Nicholson 3164 Plaza Blanca (Relampago)

Neon art

- In 1984, while visiting her son in Seattle, Joyce saw an exhibit of neon art that was shown in a black tent — and she was captivated!
- Back in Santa Fe, she discovered a neon class at the Community College taught by Maureen Havey, with whom she would collaborate for the next 15 years.
- Joyce describes neon as “another way of changing light in the environment. Having had many tragic losses in my own life, I find neon brings joy to my surroundings.”

