

**Blowing Rock Garden Club September 02, 2026 Minutes
from the BRAHM meeting**

The meeting began at 11:07 which featured William Ritter who was introduced by longtime friend, Elmyra Morris. His presentation "Song to Seed" included him singing songs that he wrote and recorded. His interesting discussion emphasized genetic diversity (especially the Appalachia area) and local adaptation over commercial catalog varieties. He emphasized the importance of getting Heirloom seeds (with a capital H) from this area if you wanted to have the most success in your garden. He brought many varieties of seeds that he shared with the group including Greasy beans (not from any oil they contained, but from the nature of the shiny pod, also they are packed with nutrients). He had a number of varieties of corn. There was one type of Field corn that can grow to 17 feet. When storing beans he suggested putting them in glass jars rather than plastic bags to prevent moisture from condensation and to protect against pests like bean weevils.

After Marie then called our meeting to order, our Secretary, Barbara Law, had a motion moved, seconded and approved for last month's minutes. Our Treasurer, Tricia Aiken, announced that we are ahead in membership and are on budget for our expenses. We have a bottom line balance of \$38,775. Crystal then displayed some of the great merchandise that will be on a table at the Wildflower Bingo night that will be for sale. Members are volunteering to help with sales and also to bring table cloths and food for the crowd. We were reminded to buy our own tickets and to help sell those that are available.

There will be a social at Joyce's barn on September 13th. It will be an Italian theme. An RSVP with details will be sent out.

Our next order of business was the 2027 slate of officers. Crystal announced the following:

President: Crystal Miller

Vice President: Marie Carracuso

Treasurer: Tricia Aiken

Recording Secretary: Sandy Womble

Corresponding Secretary :Martha Ann Gilliam

The committee chairs were announced for their roles in the upcoming year.

Hospitality: Joyce Zellner, Darlene Kronemann, Peggy Appleton

Horticulture: Evenlight Eagles

Membership: Kathy Medosch, Ann Perley

Programs: Marilyn Green, Judith Phoenix

Field Trips: Melaine Campbell, Hope Estepan

Newsletter: Lynda Steele

Facebook: Anne Pope

Website: Lise Jenkins

A motion was moved to accept this panel. It was seconded and all approved.

The club celebrated Judith Phoenix for being named Boone Volunteer of the Year for 2026. And, Evenlight Eagles was celebrated for winning a Blowing Rock community service award.

Discussions are underway regarding a new garden shed and hose reel storage facilitated by coordination with the town.

There will be an apple picking field trip at the Steele's orchard on Sunday, October 4th from 12:00 to 4:00. Bring a container and a snack.

Marie adjourned the meeting at 1:28.

**Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Law**