



# GMCA ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

## Welcome to the Neighborhood

Greetings neighbors, and welcome to GMCA! If you live in Green Mountain Estates, you're invited to participate in all of our community events and initiatives, brought to you by the Green Mountainside Civic Association, a non-HOA organization run by neighborhood volunteers and funded by voluntary annual dues.

Last year, we cleaned up the neighborhood by disposing of almost 150 cubic yards of waste at our June and September Clean-Up events. Our family-friendly events included the Independence Day Parade, National Night Out Block Party, and Easter Egg Hunt. We had a busy Community Garage Sale weekend with over 35 homes hosting sales. See the next page for details and a complete list of our FREE events.

In addition to organizing neighborhood activities, GMCA promotes the preservation and creation of parks and open spaces. GMCA has worked with the City of Lakewood to obtain grants for the construction of Mountainside Park, Foothills Park, the Community Garden, and the Foothills Elementary Field of Dreams. We also purchased and maintain the welcoming signs at the entrances to our neighborhood.

Although we have not raised our voluntary \$25 annual membership dues in over 15 years, we have seen a 35% decrease in membership during that time while facing rising costs. GMCA would like to continue promoting the activities that make our community a great place to live. We DO NOT want to eliminate events. Therefore, membership dues will remain at \$25 for 2023 with the hope that more of our 1,100 homes will join GMCA! Without a return to historic membership participation, dues will increase to \$40 in 2024. Please join us this year! Dues are payable online at [greenmountainstates.org](http://greenmountainstates.org) or by check at the address on the enclosed membership form.

GREENMOUNTAINSTATES.ORG  
FACEBOOK: @LAKEWOODGMCA

## GMCA Board

### President

Diane Rhodus  
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### Vice President

Dave Wiechman  
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### Secretary

Sally Grady  
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### Treasurer

Larry Carlson  
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### Board of Directors

- Ken Bowen
- Nicole Dallek
- Amy Hribar
- Tom Kubicz
- Karen Morgan
- Elizabeth Saeva
- Glenn Schlesinger
- Tucker Volk
- Andrew Wood



# GMCA in the Community

**COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE** - GMCA organizes this multi-address garage sale event each June. Volunteers post maps and item descriptions at neighborhood entrances to increase turnout and help neighbors advertise for their sales.

**NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP** - This event occurs twice annually in the Spring and Fall. GMCA places large dumpsters in the Green Mountain United Methodist church parking lot where members can dispose of large items or yard waste that are typically not accepted by the local trash pick-up services.

**INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE** - Join the families of Green Mountain as they parade on bike, wagon, or foot on a short route through the neighborhood. Pets are welcome. Refreshments, snacks, and decorations are provided.

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT** - This national event is held the first Tuesday of August and provides an opportunity for citizens and police to become acquainted. Lakewood first responders are present to answer questions. Last year, participants enjoyed running the sirens and lights in the police car!

**PROMOTING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS** - GMCA collaborates with community organizations such as Foothills Elementary School, Green Mountain High School, and Lakewood Church of Christ (LCC) to organize and promote local events.

**ADOPT-A-FAMILY** - During the holiday season, GMCA partners with Foothills Elementary to identify families in need. Our neighborhood has been very generous in contributing to this effort.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN** - The garden is located behind Foothills Elementary School next to the playground. There are six student plots for members of the school's Garden Club and sixteen community plots. If you are interested in a plot or the student Garden Club, contact Diane Rhodus.

**HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST** - GMCA recognizes the best decorated homes in Green Mountain Estates with photos of the best holiday displays featured on our website and email bulletins.

**COMMUNITY MEETINGS** - GMCA holds meetings the first Thursday of every month at 7 pm in Green Mountain United Methodist Church. All neighbors are welcome to attend and engage with the board to improve our neighborhood. We discuss upcoming events and community news,

**BLOCK PARTIES** - GMCA encourages permitted block parties and contributes to them. This is a great way to generate neighborhood camaraderie and meet the wonderful neighbors that make up our Green Mountain community.

**UPDATES AND ALERTS** - Our email bulletins and Facebook page are a great way to stay informed about the community events described above as well as local safety alerts.

**SIGN UP FOR GMCA EMAIL BULLETINS ---->>>>**



# GMCA 2023 Activity Calendar

Date	Event	Time	Location
Thursday March 2	Community Meeting	7:00 PM	GMUMC
Thursday April 6	Community Meeting	7:00 PM	GMUMC
Saturday April 8	Easter Egg Hunt	TBD	Foothills Park
Thursday May 4	Community Meeting	7:00 PM	GMUMC
Thursday June 1	Community Meeting	7:00 PM	GMUMC
Fri & Sat June 2-3	Community Garage Sale	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Neighborhood
Saturday June 10	Spring Clean-up	8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	GMUMC
Tuesday July 4	4th of July Parade	10:00 AM	Neighborhood
Thursday July 6	Community Meeting	7:00 PM	GMUMC
Tuesday August 1	National Night Out	5:00 PM	Neighborhood
Thursday August 3	Community Meeting	7:00 PM	GMUMC
Thursday September 7	Community Meeting	7:00 PM	GMUMC
Saturday September 9	Fall Clean-up	8:00 AM - 11:00 AM	GMUMC
Thursday October 5	Annual Community Meeting	6:30 PM	GMUMC
Thursday November 2	Community Meeting	7:00 PM	GMUMC
Thursday December 7	Community Meeting	7:00 PM	GMUMC
December 1st-19th	Adopt-a-Family	--	Online

## A Note from Foothills Elementary

BY JOSH SHAPIRO, FOOTHILLS ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

As I reflect on the first semester of school, I am amazed at the great work that has been happening at Foothills. A HUGE Shout Out to our staff, students, families, and community members who have worked together to help students learn and thrive during the first semester.

Here are some highlights of the Fall semester:

- We welcomed visitors including the Green Mountain Elementary community into our school at our open houses and community nights.
- In addition to being an official site school for student teachers at Colorado Christian University, CCU math and reading education classes met in our library each week to work with students.
- Our Girls on the Run team represented their school by completing a 5K in November.
- Our Choir, Band, and Orchestra all gave wonderful performances this semester.
- Our students did a beautiful job with the Original Works Art Fundraiser.
- Our Foothills track team trained and competed in a track meet at Jeffco Stadium.
- PTA SURPASSED their fundraising goal of \$15,000 for Runday Funday!
- We were recognized by CDE (Colorado Department of Education) with a Promising Practice award for our work during last year's PTA diversity work.
- We became the largest Whiz Kids Site in Colorado with 20 tutors and 20 students.
- Our community partners have supported our students and families through their work with Whiz Kids, PTA, and the Hub at Foothills Foodies. Many thanks to A Precious Child, Concordia Lutheran, Lakewood Connects, Christ on the Mountain Church, Lakewood Church of Christ, Rooney Ranch Elementary School, Action Center, Lakewood Police Department, Green Mountain Civic Association, as well as all of our private donors.

# Holiday Decoration Contest 2022



Each year, a group of GMCA volunteers selects the very best of Green Mountain Estates' holiday light displays in this neighborhood competition. Our community is full of creative and impressive decorations. Congratulations to the winners of our 2022 holiday decor contest! Sign up for next year's contest by following our GMCA email bulletins.



## Suggestions? We're Listening!

DO YOU WANT TO SEE GMCA HOST OTHER EVENTS? WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

At GMCA, we strive to serve Green Mountain Estates by hosting meaningful events and providing relevant information for the community. What can we do to serve you better? As noted in the letter from GMCA Treasurer, Larry Carlson, we are funded solely by your annual \$25 dues, and we are facing a constrained budget in the future with rising costs. We hope to increase GMCA membership this year so we can continue to keep our neighborhood a safe, fun, and friendly community. What else would you like to see from GMCA? Here are a few of our ideas, let's hear from *YOU!*

- Neighborhood 5k
- GMCA Meet-and-Greet/Block Party
- Green Mountain Nature Photography Contest

Please email GMCA at [gmca.lakewood@gmail.com](mailto:gmca.lakewood@gmail.com) with your comments or suggestions.