

Donna Yost – Nominee for Treasurer

Let me introduce myself. I have lived in Glenwood Springs for almost 30 years. Previous to that I lived in Grand Lake CO for 5 years after moving to Colorado from the East. I grew up in Binghamton NY where I went to college as well. I graduated with a double major in History and Sociology. I lived in Philadelphia PA for 6 years.

I have worked in managerial positions, such as the office manager, shipping manager, and eventually production control manager of a folding carton manufacturer I worked for in Philadelphia for 6 years.

These skills were not as in demand in a small town such as Grand Lake though! I worked as a waitress and at the Post Office during my time there. I was treasurer of the local theatre company where I brushed up on my bookkeeping skills.

In Glenwood Springs I got married and had two children. Due to life circumstances, getting back into bookkeeping worked well with being available for my children. I have built my business over the past 20+ years (with a small break working for Monahan, Lampman and Hays as their bookkeeper). My long time clients (10+ years) include:

- Avalanche Ranch
- Meadowood HOA/Metropolitan District – This is an HOA and Metro District that covers an area behind the Aspen Chapel of 67 homes. I have worked for them for 14 years. Besides their bookkeeping, I am also Secretary of the Metro District for which I put together their budget for review and approval the same as any other government goes through each fall. I work with their attorney to make sure of the legality of producing the budget, public notifications, and approving it and sending it to the state. I also work with an auditor on an annual audit, which is also required by the state. I attend their monthly meetings and take notes and produce their minutes. I organize their annual meeting of homeowners.
- Oak Meadows Service Co. – This is a private water/sewer provider for a portion of Oak Meadows which is located up 4 Mile. I attend their monthly meetings as well compiling a meeting packet for the Directors which consists of financial reports, bills to be paid, over due accounts receivable, water/sewer reports. I take notes and type up their minutes. I do their monthly billing for 141 customers. I put together their yearly budgets and organize their annual meeting. I have worked for them for over 10 years.
- I also work for Alpine Angling and Roaring Fork Anglers; Cooper Wine and Spirits; Auto Glass Specialists; Aspen Mountain Tots; Aspen Custom Woodworking; Rofintug; Colby June Jewelry; Bldg Seed Architects. I also have a few individual clients who do their personal accounting.
- One interesting client is Alpine Springs Counseling. This has been a full circle client of mine. I worked for Dr. Barry Fields – a psychologist in private practice when I first came to Glenwood Springs in 1989. He started Springs Counseling, a provider of DUI Educational Classes and I was deeply involved in providing the administration of these classes both with accounting and reporting to the various probation offices. I left when I started my own business. And now, here I am – back again doing just their bookkeeping under new ownership!

Skills to be a successful bookkeeper, which I believe I have been considering my long time clients, require doing the work that is needed as required by my client. Being late, incomplete or just blowing it off is not acceptable. I treat my client's businesses as if they were my own. I do payrolls for most of my clients. This requires doing payroll tax deposits, quarterly tax returns, and yearly W-2 and 1099s on time. I take responsibility when I make a mistake.

You probably want to know why I am volunteering to be Treasurer. I think the simple reason is the same as many others who are now woken up to the need to do more. I am appalled at this President and the policies of the Republicans. I need to do something. I feel I have the basic practical skills to help you with the duties of the Treasurer. I hope my thoughts and ideas will be a contribution on top of that.

Donna Yost, Glenwood Springs