



Laramie Garden Club
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March 24, 2004

Philip L. Dubois
University President
P.O. Box 3434
Laramie Wyoming
82071-3434

Dear President Dubois:

The Laramie Garden Club donates significant money and time to beautify Laramie. We purchase gardening books and periodicals for the Albany County Public Library. We collaborate with the City of Laramie, the Laramie Rivers Conservation District, the Laramie Plains Museum, and the Laramie Audubon Society to promote horticultural knowledge and community improvements. We have donated \$4,000 to the Laramie Ice Rink for landscaping and irrigation systems. Our members voluntarily maintain five community garden areas. Thus, we feel a strong connection to the plantings in our town. Our hearts-and-hands interests extend to a deeper, more philosophical commitment to our community, and last night, at our monthly meeting, our members unanimously voted to voice our concerns about your plans to renovate Prexy's Pasture.

Our members enjoy sharing their hundreds of years of Laramie gardening experience, yet we refuse to board the emotional bandwagon recently set in motion regarding Prexy's Pasture. Although we acknowledge the University of Wyoming's final say in the proposed renovation project, we know how closely tied the university is to the people of Laramie. We sincerely suggest that as you consider the plans for tree removal and replacement in Prexy's Pasture you consult with individuals from Laramie who specialize in this area of horticulture. We have spoken with Brett Moline, Albany County extension agent; Paul Bulgrin, parks maintenance crew supervisor; and Howard Martin, former head of landscape and gardening at the university (1976-86). They stand ready to assist you in making these difficult decisions. Another voice we heartily trust (although we have been unable to contact him) is Paul Harrison, Laramie parks and recreation manager. Using local resources will achieve two goals: to ensure that planting choices are appropriate for our locale and to make this process more acceptable to our townspeople.

If I can be of assistance, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Pat Kiovsky
President

cc: UW Board of Trustees
Laramie Boomerang