

Garden Gate

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February 2024

Fairbanks Garden Club Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – FEBRUARY 2024

Greetings Everyone,

Thank goodness the unforgiving frigid temps of the recent deep cold snap are behind us now and we can begin to look to the brighter lighter days of February and early springtime to come! It's also that time of year when we can all start seriously dreaming of our garden plans, whether it be planning layouts or ordering seeds and getting seedling starts going.

We have various projects that are ongoing right now: the logo contest, ticket sales for the quilt raffle, annual award submissions, and tracking 'Plant America Feed America' food donations. Don't forget to cast your vote for the logo of your choice by the deadline of Monday February 25th. And please continue with your efforts to sell as many quilt tickets as you can. You can turn in stubs & ticket proceeds to Althea St. Martin at our meetings and load back up with more tickets to sell 😊.

We have a full and interesting agenda for the upcoming meeting on Wednesday the 21st. Will have some information about the summertime Alaska State & Pacific Regional Garden Conventions. And, specifically, we will be forming a new committee designed to put forth a collective effort representing Fairbanks Garden Club's contribution to the Regional Convention. Looking for volunteers!

Come learn about this new effort, and more, at our next meeting.

Happy Belated Valentine's Day to everyone.

Best Wishes,

Jane



Fairbanks Garden Club NEWS and Events

This Month's meeting

February 21, 2024

12:00 Noon Regular Monthly Meeting

Hostess: Althea S. Co-Hostess: Mary F
Address: Pioneer Hall in Pioneer Park 2300 Airport Way
Please Phone Regrets to Althea:

Roll Call: What company do you recommend for ordering seeds?



Horticultural Moment / Conservation Tip

Program: "Pruning Roses" with Millie Peek

Out of gardens grow fleeting flowers but lasting friendships.

~ Beverly Rose Hopper~

Join Zoom Meeting

Horticulture moment:

Green Roses Are Not That Rare, But They Are Very Unusual.

"Green roses are said to have been around since about 1743, but were not cultivated until the mid 18th Century. They may even be one of the oldest roses of all, along with the single or wild roses. They are true roses, but unlike other varieties of roses, they don't have petals - they only have sepals which are green anyway.



And, unfortunate as it may be for us - a bit of a disappointment - **all flowers are really only modified leaves** which appeared about 130 million years ago.

However, that doesn't really matter because we can appreciate their beauty a lot more than we would have if they had stayed all the one color. Nature selected for color because it was a very beneficial trait to ensure pollination and hence, survival of the species.



These roses without beautifully colored petals can be an added attraction for any rose garden, depending on whether you like them or not. This rose is very special for another reason. It shows us a little of what the first flowers may first have looked like as they gradually mutated into the dazzling array of colors we see today - as they modified their leaves to make themselves irresistible to insects, birds and other potential pollinators."

For more information - <https://www.all-my-favourite-flower-names.com/green-rose>

January 17, 2024 Denali Center Lunch meeting pictures

Denali Center Nursing Home

Hostess: Carol Co-Hostess: Mary

link to google album: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/8vBvrKygsD5xmw7N9>

December 13, 2023 Holiday Potluck Meeting pictures

Walden Estates Community Center

Hostess: Lucy S. Co-Hostess: Marilyn B+ Potluck

link to google album: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/NUzqAKcUsaZ2gL3GA>

National Garden Clubs

Brenda Moore, NGC President, theme for 2023-2025 is

“Go Green–Plant America”.

<http://nationalgardenclubs.org/>



winter 2024 *The National Gardener*

link: <https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2024-01/tng-winter-2024.pdf>

Join us June 2-5, 2024, for the National Garden Clubs annual convention in Westminster, Colorado. We are going to have lots of fun!

<https://www.gardenclub.org/2024-ngc-convention-details>



Pacific Region Garden Club

Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc. <https://pacificregiongardenclubs.org/>

Comprised of Washington, Arizona, California, Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, Alaska, and Hawaii (= WACONIAH)

Pacific Region Director 2023-2025

Carol Norquist
907-248-9563 3734 W. 35th Avenue Anchorage, AK 99517

PacRegGardenClubs@gmail.com

https://www.facebook.com/PacificRegionGardenClubs/?view_public_for=167928073784482

Pacific Region Garden Clubs



Pacific Region Convention

Aug 21-23, 2024 Alaska

Latest WACONIAH [see link below:](#)

<https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/2bc4215-d441-4740-9844-4c781966c01c/downloads/Nov23.pdf?ver=1609393624106>

Alaska Garden Clubs 2023-2025

President: **Sharron Jordon Carlson**
skj@mtaonline.net

Vice President – Chris Wood
Treasurer – Carol Norquist
Secretary- Rhonda Barnklau

AKGC Web site:
<https://www.alaskagardenclubs.org/>

Anchorage Garden Club fb page:
<https://www.facebook.com/anchorage.gardenclub/>

Greater Eagle River Garden Club fb page:
<https://www.facebook.com/greatereaglerivergardenclub>

Fairbanks Garden Club
<http://www.fairbanksgardenclub.org/>



FGC Raffle in full swing:

Lovely Quilt for the raffle made by Marilyn B. Althea has raffle tickets for the FGC members to sell. \$5 per ticket or a book of 5 for \$20. 500 tickets were made. Marilyn suggested a ticket would be a good gift for your friends and family.

February Birthdays:

Marv H. 2/18

Plant America Feed America

Fairbanks Garden Club

Food Donation Tracker for _____

Date	Circle Item donate	Name estimated weight	Contact # Organization receiving donation
	Fresh Produce Seeds Live Plants Other donated food		
	Fresh Produce Seeds Live Plants Other donated food		

FGC is participating in **Plant America Feed America**. At the January meeting, Althea S. handed forms to everyone who contributed food to the community last summer and reminded us to estimate, complete, and return forms to her. All members can track their donations of produce to non-profits, friends, neighbors and others. The form (see screenshot above) covers donations made between May 4, 2023 to May 4, 2025. The program encourages garden club members to help fight hunger in America. Over 5M kids go hungry daily.



Smokey the Bear Drawing Contest Fairbanks Garden Club entry by Isadora O second grade, daughter of Doretta O Her entry will go on to the Pacific Region Garden Club contest being the only entry for the Alaska Garden Clubs.

FGC Pacific Awards were written up and edited and sent off by Barbara H, chair of the Awards committee. Susie, Carol S, Amanda, Gwenn, Liz, Jane, and Becky helped write the particulars for the 8 applications. It was a great group effort with Barb putting all the information into the award application forms. After a few edits from the group, Barb sent the final applications to Carol Norquist, AGC award chair. Fairbanks Garden Club does amazing work which matches with many of the awards. GREAT JOB all... members that do the many projects and events and members that write up the awards.

Logo contest

" Dear Garden Club Members,

The logo committee members and members of the executive board have asked me to send the logos out for a member-wide vote where the majority vote shall determine the winner of the logo contest. Attached please find the three logos submitted to the Logo Committee. You will note I have attached them as a PDF file so everyone should be able to open them. If for some reason you have a problem opening them please let me know.

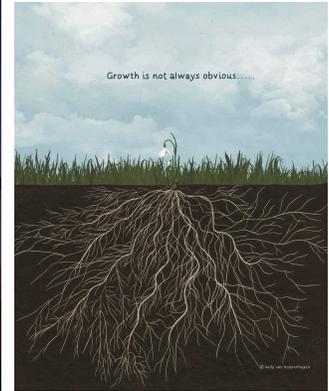
The logos are being sent out without names attached to them. Every member is encouraged to cast their vote. This includes the logo entrants, just like you would if you were running for office.

Remember it is ok to vote for yourself!

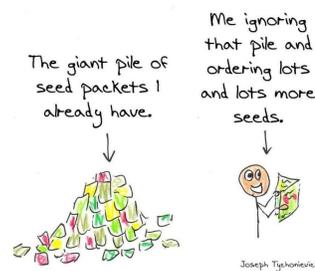
Please do not 'reply all' or send your vote to Jane. For your vote to be counted please send your selection to Liz at e.mosenthinmasi@gmail.com

Please title your email: My Logo Vote. In the body of the email, please state what number logo you are

Getting ready for the next growing season.



Gardening Humor:



Paving the WAY at the National Garden Clubs Headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri; About the Path



The permanent home and endowment trustees have approved the addition of a walking path to the NGC grounds: The NGC Path of Success

Roughly 1/4 mile long, the Path of Success will be a walking path located on the grounds of NGC's headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri and will link to the Missouri Botanical Gardens, spreading more awareness of NGC than ever before. This project will also serve as an educational platform, showing the rich history and mission of NGC.

Fairbanks Garden Club Members Sharing

What seeds are you buying for the 2024 Growing and Harvest Season OR/AND How did you survive the "Deep Freeze" or whatever else you would like to share:

Liz M This year I am going to be buying scarlet runner beans, fava beans, and a variety of different peas, and some onion sets. I have so many seeds left over from the last couple of years that I am going to try germinating some before buying any more seeds !! I do have some

squash seeds I saved from last year to try as well. For green manure I will order buckwheat, and barley. One thing I won't be buying is more cabbage! I planted way too many last year!! Liz

Barbara H: I won't be buying any seeds this year since the garden plot is a disaster and needs a total overhaul. I will, however, be buying lots of perennials as I get the front landscaping under control. 😊

Jane G I just ordered Delicata Squash seeds yesterday. I'm going for my second year of growing these. Super yummy and small winter squash - perfect for two for dinner.

Grace M Hi! The amaryllis bulbs I bought at Home Depot have livened up my living room 😊 Each of four bulbs in individual pots came up and bloomed and bloomed, a magnificent continuous showing, red, red, red. Now I am resolved to put bulbs in pots throughout the year! Grace Moore

Mary F: I am buying seeds at bestcoolseeds.com because they are the online source for Denali seeds and feature a lot of seeds that are specifically for short season areas. It's time to put in your order because they say it's taking 7 to 21 days before the seeds orders arrive In Alaska.

Other than that I am going to buy some plants in town such as some tomato plants.



During the cold spell on the Saturday the Yukon Quest was starting I planned to sell quilt tickets at the Yukon quest building but they got moved to the Morris Thompson center and they said I couldn't sell tickets in there, but I could set up and sell outside! It was -52° on the river that morning, so I had a good laugh when she

told me that but since I was downtown, I got to see the start of the race which was both brutally cold and inspiring!



FGC Officers 2023-2025

President:
Jane G

Vice President:
Mary E.

Secretary:
Janet B

Treasurer:
Carol S

Past FGC Presidents:
Barbara H
Susie C
Amanda R



FGC Committees.

***Chairman**

Awards (State, Pacific Region, National)

***Barbara H**

Blue Star Memorial

***Gwenn D**

Community Beautification and Outreach

***Carol S**

Conservation and Green Moment

***Janet B**

Creamer's Historic Flower & Vegetable Gardens

***Althea S**

Flower Show

***Becky H**

Fundraiser

***Liz**

Gaming Permit

***Becky H**

Garden Tours

***Marlene W**

Georgeson Botanical Garden

***Lucy S**

History/Biographies

FGC Committees *
chairman

Library Holiday Tree
*Althea St

Member of the Year
*Becky H

Membership *Becky H

Newsletter *Amanda R

Nominating

As elected by Members

Photography *Gwenn D

Programs *Mary F

Publicity *Jane G

Scholarship *Katie D

Scrapbook *Amanda R

Sunshine *Sheila M

Telephone/Non-Email *
Janet B

Website *Liz

Wildlife Gardening *Susie
C

Yearbook. *Jane G

Youth Gardening / Garden
Therapy *Amanda

Forget-Me-Nots