

Volume 3| Issue 9
September 2023

Garden Gate

Fairbanks Garden Club Newsletter

FGC officers

President: Barbara H

Co-Vice Presidents:

Susie C

Lucy S

Treasurer:
Carol S

Secretary:
Janet B
r

Past FGC presidents:
Amanda R

Ruth Kn

Susie C
Barbara H



Message from the President

Hi Everyone

As I get ready to attend my last in-person club meeting, I am filled with nostalgia. I have been a member for 10 year (maybe 11) and have met so many wonderful women and gained so many friends. It is bittersweet to get ready to leave. I specifically chose Sept 21 st to start my drive back to

Boulder because I wanted to be here for the installation of the new executive ecommittee to provide just a little extra support as they take the reins. I know that the club will be in great hands under the leadership of Jane, Mary, Carol and Janet and I look forward to reading the minutes and the newsletter as a way to keep up with what is happening. I will miss each and every one of you! Best wishes to all, Barbara



FGC Committees. *Chairman

Awards (State, Pacific Region, National)

*Barbara Honner-Miller

Blue Star Memorial

*Gwenn Davies Guy

Community Beautification and Outreach

*Carol Slater

Conservation and Green Moment

*Janet Brower

Creamer's Historic Flower & Vegetable Gardens

*Althea St. Martin

Flower Show

*Becky Hassebroek

Fundraiser

*Barbara Horner-Miller

Gaming Permit

*Becky Hassebroek

Garden Tours

*Marlene Wright

Georgeson Botanical Garden

*Lucy Smyth

History/Biographies

*Janet Brower

Horticulture

*Gwenn Davies Guy

Installation of New Members and Officers

*Becky Hassebroek

Kitty Hensley House

*Janet Matheson

Fairbanks Garden Club NEWS and Events

This Month's meeting:

September 20, 2023

12:00 Noon Regular Monthly Meeting

Potluck

Hostess: Barbara H Co-Hostess: Mary F

Stone Soup Cafe. Located at 507 Gaffney Road, Fbks.

Please Phone Regrets to Barbara:

Roll Call: What garden pests did you have last summer?**Horticultural Moment / Conservation Tip****Annual Meeting - Bylaw Revisions
Plan Yearbook****Presidents' Annual Report and Recommendations****New Officer Installation (odd numbered years)**

Abby W, Stone Soup Cafe Manager, will be giving us a presentation about their non-profit organization.



Squirrels are blamed for many crimes they are not responsible for, but in this case honesty compels me to say it was the squirrels done it. I saw them.

~ Henry Mitchell

Horticulture moment:

If you're thinking about next year's flower selection as you cut the last of

your garden bouquets; think Begonias. The Begonia bulb offers a variety of color, size and shape.

There are over 1,800 species available.

Begonia's are perennial, however it requires winter storage. It's well known for its disease and pest resistance. And, is low maintenance adding to its eco-friendly (no chemical treatment needed) adaptability.

The Begonia is well suited for hanging baskets, container and in ground growth. If your goal is to attract pollinators, Begonias are inviting to bees and butterflies.



Resource: Gardenlovers.com, August 2023

Before and Now
Thanks to Liz's September pictures

FGC Committees * chairman
 Library Holiday Tree *Althea S
 Member of the Year *Gwenn D
 Membership *Becky H
 Newsletter *Amanda R
 Nominating
 As elected by Members
 Photography *Denise B
 Programs *Susie C/Lucy S
 Publicity *Barbara H
 Scholarship *Katie Di
 Scrapbook *Amanda R
 Sunshine *Sheila M
 Telephone/Non-Email * Janet B
 Website
 *Liz M
 Wildlife Gardening *Wendy A
 Yearbook. * Barbara H
 Youth Gardening / Garden Therapy
 *Carol S



Blue Star Memorial in June and now in September



Planting Golden Park in May now in September



Fairbanks Garden Club

“Preserving Historic Gardens”

41 members strong

<http://www.fairbanksgardenclub.org/>

**President: Barbara Horner-Miller
2021-2023**

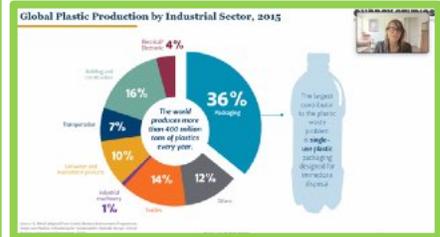


Raven Landing baskets planted and now in September

 National Garden Clubs
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
E-Mail:
headquarters@gardenclub.org
Website: www.gardenclub.org
National President 2023 - 2025
Brenda Moore
mwarshauer@gardenclub.org



Brenda Moore, NGC President, during the zoom presentation of Problems and Solutions, Single Use Plastics presented by Rachael A. Meidl. This was an excellent presentation. I think they recorded it but I am not finding the recording listed on NGC website.



National Garden Clubs We can make a difference. Everyone plants native plants that the pollinators will love. Take the challenge. Share with your friends and neighbors.

Does your club have a project planned for next year? Perhaps this could help.

Applications are being received for NGC's Plant America Community Project Grants; the deadline is October 15. NGC Clubs and near-clubs (many clubs in a close geographic area) can apply. Projects should be visible within the community, and can relate to many different areas from planting trees and shrubs, creating community gardens, raised beds in a retirement community, landscaping blighted areas, etc.

Projects can be continuation of existing projects but the grant is for efforts in 2024. **The maximum application amount is \$2,000.**

Information can be found at:

<https://gardenclub.org/plant-america-community-project...>

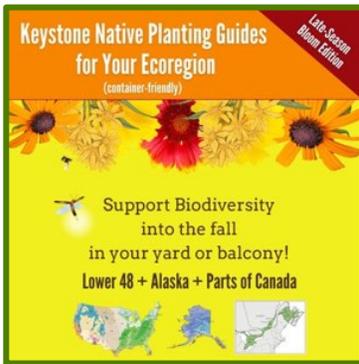
Application forms are posted at:

<https://gardenclub.org/.../plant-america-grant...>

Make sure you read the "application instructions" at:

<https://gardenclub.org/.../plant-america-grant...>

If you have any questions, contact David Robson at PlantAmericaGrants@gardenclub.org.



LATE-SEASON KEYSTONE NATIVE PLANTS BY ECOREGION
CANADA (ECOREGION 8.1 ONLY)



ALASKA



Download the full guides for more options & details: BNPark.org



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

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/>



Pacific Region Garden Clubs

Pacific Region Convention

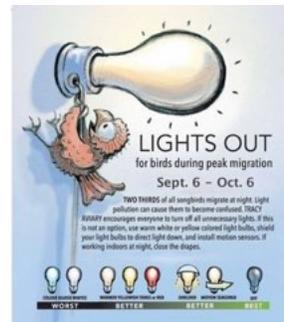
Aug 21-23, 2024 Alaska



The Greater Eagle River Garden Club works hard . It's that time of year.... time to start cleaning up our gardens and get ready for the next season! Several members helped clean out the gardens at the Eagle River Welcome Sign and the Blue Star garden this weekend (photos from before the start of clean up). Thank you everyone for your time and great conversation. It was a labor of love and we even got some tulips planted for spring!

Anchorage Garden Club

A NEW look for Fairbanks Garden to Liz Masi and Becky Hassebroek. ladies.



Club website thanks Looking GREAT



<https://fairbanksgardenclub.org/>

Fairbanks Garden Club August and September Events: Tours

Gwenn sent these pictures Susie Zi

tour 8/16/2023





Fairbanks Garden Club members working hard at Creamer's Garden

September 1, 2023

Ways to stay forever young WHILE GARDENING:

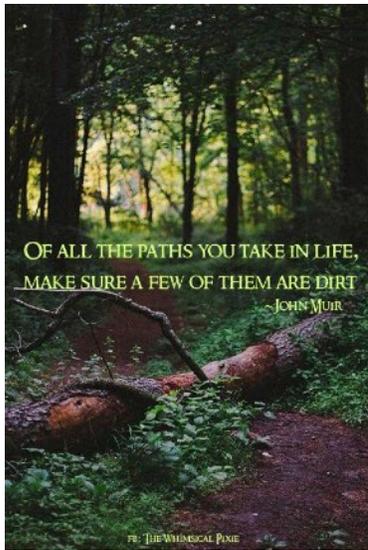
EXERCISE. Help to get the body into better shape while gardening.

EAT RIGHT. Grown veggies are good ingredients longer & happier life diet.

STRESS RELIEF. Gardening can help reduce the level of the stress hormone.

IMMUNITY BOOSTER. Exposure to dirt in the garden can help boost your immunity

PUREHEALTH



Anna's Garden: Feeding Folks for near 100 Years

Current Day
Today the Fairbanks Garden Club tends Anna's Garden. In 2004 the Club recreated Anna's farmhouse flowerbeds and in 2018, they began the revitalization of Anna Creamer's vegetable garden. Historical accuracy is maintained by planting crops that Anna planted. The Club has also introduced additional gardening techniques such as raised garden beds, compost bins, and no-weed mulching which increases the productivity of the garden. To enhance the soil and attract pollinators, one-third of the garden is planted with buckwheat and borage. Vegetable crops are rotated each year. Previous crops include herbaceous strawberries, beets, carrots, fava beans, zucchini, and potatoes. Produce harvested from the garden is delivered to local organizations to feed the hungry.

The Dairy Days
Anna Creamer raised a large vegetable garden, roughly double the size you see today. The produce fed her family and up to twenty employed farm workers. Anna grew heavy crops such as potatoes, cabbage, and rhubarb to withstand the cooler climate of Alaska. The Creamers stored some of the garden's produce in the backhouse root cellar for use over the long Fairbanks winters. Anna also created pollinator habitat by planting flowerbeds around the farmhouse.

No Weed Mulching
The greenhouse mulch by smothering the soil with horse manure, straw and even so high to the ground level that children did not want to their glads between the rows. This method did not work as the weeds were able to grow and they had to be replaced on a 4 week frequency. It took a year and a half to get the garden back to the original state. The best way to weed is to use a hoe to remove the weeds. The best way to weed is to use a hoe to remove the weeds.

Anna Creamer and her husband in 1910

Fairbanks Garden Club



Tomatoes galore!



Raileth likes to harvest too.



**Carol S, Susie, Jane, Marlene, Bev, and Mary
Carrot Harvest September 10
Evidently the voles enjoyed the carrots also.**



Updates from Althea, chair for Creamers Garden: August 29th FGC althea: I cut off the non-producing vines on the pumpkins, it was so much it wouldn't fit into composter! So, I left it out to wilt a bit. I can fill my car with it and take it home on Thursday and mulch it with my mower to add to the composter. Good moisture for composter.

I also bought row cover for tomatoes, looks ok tonight and Wednesday but will have in place for Thursday night. I think tomatoes have had too much rain, and no fertilizer, so I will spread some miracle grow around their base to give them a little boost. I have last week's almost ripe (now ripe) tomatoes ready to take to stone soup, can someone take any showing color home to a windowsill to ripen?

September 6, Wednesday

It's rainy! And I know several can't make it. But it's a good time to pull carrots and pull green tomatoes for fried green tomatoes. I have row cover and could use help covering tomatoes if there are any hardy souls with raincoats. Anyone got room to ripen green tomatoes? I'll have hot coffee to warm you..... Althea



September Birthdays:
Kristen Haney 9/10
Patricia Babcock 9/12

Blue Star Memorial September 10, 2023



Georgeson Botanical Gardens



GBG August 2 2023

Doug and I visited the Botanicals yesterday and saw the Hassebroek Promenade (beautiful gift from Marv and Becky) and the Fairbanks Garden Club wildflower garden. Actually, I don't think it looks that bad! Two-thirds of the garden is doing really well--asters, irises, wild geraniums, and more---so with a little compost and caring for the plants. I think it's ok. The pussy willow 1/3 is sort of blah and out of balance. So, a few cinquefoil plants or a silverberry bush would help the design.

The following is an update on FGC Hydrangea Project.

Three varieties of Hydrangea were chosen to be grown in various locations around Fairbanks, May 2022. Five members chose Flare, 5 chose Pinky Winky and 3 chose Pink Diamond. Throughout the past year, 3 Flare did not recover from winter dormancy. 4 Pinky Winky have been reported as growing, and one, grown by **Cathy G**, I've not been able to determine its status. All 3 of the Pink Diamond have done well throughout the summer. The following are reports and photos provided by contributing members.

Barbara reports: My Boba (outside the selection) lived through the winter and got nice leaves this summer but never set any blooms. I also purchased a Flare which was part of the project selection. It died over the

winter.

Virginia Bedford states: Both of our hydrangea survived the winter and even thrived. My niece and her son helped plant a year ago. In late August 2023, a border and mulch as added. Initially I thought they had both died but I cut off the dead buds and they took off.

Mary Fenno update: My Pinky Winky is blooming but has yet to develop to pink flowers! I'm going to try to keep it from freezing. I keep telling her to hurry up and get'er done, you're running out of time here! I gave her a shot of compost juice and 5hats all I could think to do. Any ideas that don't involve body heat or lamps that could force the blossoms more?

Gwenn wishes all good Luck to all Hydrangea gardeners in setting their plants to rest for the winter months ahead.

FGC members sharing

1. What will you miss growing from Summer's growing?
2. What harvest did you have this summer?
3. What special time do you treasure about Barbara and her officers these past few years?

Janet Brower: I just finished harvesting the lettuce I started inside (the 5 plants produced abundantly for over a month in a pot on the deck). Now the various varieties of lettuce directly seeded in my garden are ready to start eating. Perfect timing. Disappointing are some shriveled yellow broccoli and cauliflower plants. Why?

Amanda Ross: If the moose stays out of my garden, I hope to harvest Brussels Sprouts later this month along with kale. I will get the last of the zucchini and beans from the garden and from the green house, tomatoes and basil in very soon. I will miss seeing new blooms on my marigolds and petunias. What a treat to have Barbara and her officers lead us these past 4 years. What fun and exciting to have all the new FGC projects. Thank you, Barbara, Susie, Gwenn and Lucy, for the many great meetings on Zoom and in person.

Gwenn Davies Guy: My rose house is full of color and fragrance. I'm loving this time of year watching Dahlias come into full bloom.



Gwenn's roses:



Liz Masi: I am harvesting: Broccoli, Cauliflower, Kohlrabi, zucchini, cucumbers, tomatoes, strawberries, and onions, I have cabbage, garlic, ready to harvest. We had a meal of new potatoes. Carrots are coming along, not quite ready to harvest. I have a couple nice pumpkins - still green and a few small winter squashes. For those of you not sure what to do with kohlrabi. Try this recipe works great with zucchini too - especially if you wring out the extra juice. That is the secret to this recipe and the fritters frying up nice and crisp.

<https://www.thespruceeats.com/kohlrabi-fritters-2215969>



ready to pickle.

Liz continues... I appreciate and will miss Barbara's sunny can-do attitude. She is always willing to jump in and help where needed. I too thank the previous board for their dedication to the garden club and their willingness to step up and serve.

Sheila McCleary: My garden is doing great! Lots of cabbage, purple cauliflower, zucchini, yellow squash, kale, strawberries and chard. My eggplant is trying; there's a small one so far. Already gathered the rhubarb. I can see broccoli and brussels sprouts starting. Potatoes and even sweet potatoes have good foliage - will be interesting to see how they are doing underground later. Some small peppers, but oddly, they are all green while they are



"supposed" to be red and orange. Doesn't matter to me, as long as they grow! Lots of different mint and other herbs that I've been dehydrating. Lettuce and spinach in smaller containers are thriving. Not sure if the bush beans will produce. The delphiniums are so tall and beautiful! I'm just thrilled that I finally have gardens again!

Mary Fenno: I think what I miss growing from summer's growing, is walking out the door and plucking off a little fresh tomato on the plant on the railing, or pulling a carrot, shaking the dirt off and munching it while I work.

I had a pretty good harvest of cherry red potatoes. There's so red on the outside and even on the inside that they almost look like beets, but no, they are delicious potatoes! I also ended up getting plenty of zucchini and small round yellow squash that were supposed to be pumpkins, according to the package, but hey, I'll take what I can get!

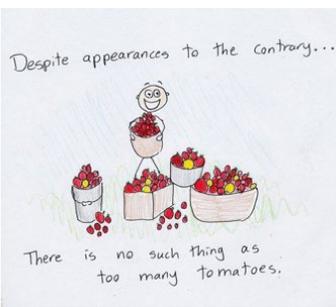
As for the last question, I would say I treasure the time I spent planting with Barbara, Gwenn, Lucy, and Susie. Standing side by side in the Hospice greenhouse, popping plugs in the pots when it's still cold or working downtown in the plaza or wherever, it's just such a joyful time. We are so happy that we made it through another winter, and everyone is looking forward to spring and summer. The laughter, chatter, ideas and plans for the future flows freely while we're up to our elbows in dirt. We don't even think twice about what we're actually doing: taking a leap of faith that once again, the magic will happen and all these tiny sprouts will grow up to become productive, beautiful plants. I think planting together has created a deeply connected root system between our members, like Pando, the massive aspen tree. So no matter where you go, we're still connected to each other. We hate to see Barbara leave, and we wish her the very best in all of her adventures!

CarO__:

The little tomatoes are almost all finished. My one big tomato is still green. The basil was small, but delicious parsley, chives, rosemary, dill, just cut last night



Carol Slater:



1. I will miss the excitement of spending a good portion of my day outdoors with all things growing. It is truly a health tonic for me!
2. I successfully harvested kale to freeze, kohlrabi, broccoli mostly for soup, beets for pickling, carrots to munch on and store, peas to eat and share with neighbors, and tomatoes aplenty.
3. I will miss Barbara and her leadership team for the knowledge they have had. I have trusted them to guide us. I have treasured Barbara's great generosity to share that knowledge and give us her time. I will miss her positive outlook on life and her big laugh. I'll miss her!

Grace Moore: My work schedule in real estate has been less, but I am still taking clients in my real estate practice, and that coupled with need to revise my will and other personal matters has shortened my time for gardening.

However, I did buy, and plant 5 whiskey barrels the second week of June, all orphaned plants at Plant Kingdom and so happy to have a home. These and some pots from my sunroom have graced my yard. They smile at me when I walk by. Also, I finally got my small garden dug. There I



planted 6 plants. They are yet to surprise me with their growth. I enjoy the flowers as they were the best-looking Pathetic plants, varieties I might not have chosen. This year was good, but next year will be better!



Berry Berry Tasty

Berry Berry Healthy

- ✓ Naturally low in fat, sodium, and calories.
- ✓ Cholesterol free.
- ✓ Source of many essential nutrients, including dietary fiber, vitamin C and folic acid.

Antioxidants Scores for Alaska vs. Rest of U.S. Berries

Lingonberry	206
High bush Cranberry	174
Blue Huckleberry	111
Pomegranate (Lower 48)	106
Crowberry	94
Dwarf blueberry	88
Red bearberry	79
Bay blueberry	77
Alaska Blueberry	76
Wild blueberry (Lower 48)	61
Nagoonberry	56
Kaniklik	48
Red Raspberry	47
Bay cranberry	46
Cloudberry	29
Cultivated blueberry (Lower 48)	24
Red Currant	23
Watermelon berry	19

Alaska's lingonberry ranked the highest!

Alaska's berries are better!
 Researchers discovered extraordinarily high levels of antioxidants in Alaska's blueberries, crowberries, raspberries, lingonberries, and a basket of other wild fruits Alaskans commonly gather as late summer cools.

Many of Alaska's berries have higher oxygen radical absorption capacity (ORAC) than commercial fruits studied. Anything over 40 is considered very high.

Learn more at www.blm.gov/alaska

DID YOU KNOW?

"When it comes down to it, the only knowledge that really matters is, how to purify water, how to grow your own food, how to cook, how to build, and how to love. And funnily enough, we're not taught any of it in school."

September Word Search – Enjoy!



A felt thank you to all for the articles, photos and information offered for this newsletter.

Answer to last month's word find

CAN'T TOUCH THIS

Acacia	-Holly	Raspberries
Agave	Jujube-Tree	Rose
Blackberries	-Locust	Silverthorn
Bougainvillea	Natal-Palm	Spanish-Dagger
Century Plant	Porcupine-Tomato	Winter King
Crown of Thorns	Prickly Pear	
Hawthorn	Pyracantha	

BOUQUET

H L S E I S I A D B N J Q Y L W L M L
 B P S N D K B A B Y ' S B R E A T H E
 R E W N K L N M R R D N U Q V R O R A
 V G L F O M W W R D V P R T H R W T T
 Y C K L R G W M A Q S D K Z C Y R T H
 X F R E S V A H U K R C D H A G N W E
 N Y T E N O L R R M O Y I B I L C M R
 K S R B W I F A D T S D Q G R A A M L
 A S W H A O L I S P S M Y K E L R D E
 N E R S J G L T R R A N Y G M A N C A
 T S V V U W T F N E L N G Y E S A M F
 C O D F G T H H X Q L R S T O Y T M A
 T R T J S L P R K A R A V D R N I Z G
 J Y K K N N T Y E Z W L N Y T Z O F O
 P A H Q R J L N L S X N B D S X N B N
 F R D F E P B T P A O R L V L B S T M
 V P M Q F F P D M L C R K T A B Z R N
 M S P S E I R R E B M U C I R E P Y H
 L L I L Y G R A S S L F E J Q L R T Z

- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Alstroemeria | Eucalyptus | Orchids |
| Aster | Ferns | Rose |
| Baby's Breath | Hypericum Berries | Salal |
| Bells Of Ireland | Larkspur | Snapdragons |
| Carnations | Leather Leafago | Spray Roses |
| Dahlia | Lily Grass | Stock |
| Daisies | Mums | Wax Flower |

