

Volume 4| Issue 11
November 2024

Garden Gate

Fairbanks Garden Club Newsletter

FGC Officers 2023-2024

President:

Jane G.

Vice President:

Mary F.

Secretary

Janet B.

Treasurer:

Carol S.

Past FGC Presidents:

Barbara H.

Susie C.

Amanda R.



“Cultivating Community Connections.”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE – NOVEMBER 2024

Hello Everyone,

This is a wonderful time of the year when we get to celebrate with our family and friends. The entire Holiday Season is a time to give thanks and a time to give back. I have recently reached out to Hannah Hill, Executive Director of Breadline, Inc., which is home to the ‘Stone Soup Café’. I asked Hannah to let me know which kinds of canned foods they are in immediate need of at this particular time. I should have a list of those this next week and will send out an email to the club to let you all know. In the meantime, I would like to make a **‘Holiday Challenge 2024’** to every member of FGC to donate a minimum of 12 canned goods to Stone Soup this season. Their address is: 507 Gaffney Road and they are open from 7:30 am to 2:00 pm Monday through Friday. When donating, please be sure and mention you are from our club and, prior to dropping your donation, please be extra sure to guesstimate the weight of your donation, log it onto a ‘Plant America Feed America’ (PAFA) form, and turn the form into Althea St. Martin. The form can be downloaded directly from our website @ fairbanksgardenclub.org under the ‘More’ tab at top of the main page, and is also available at our monthly meetings. Our National Garden Club’s PAFA Campaign runs through May 2025. Food donations by garden clubs from all across America are being tracked.

Let’s make a big difference! And let’s keep on **“Cultivating Community Connections”**.

I hope to see you this Wednesday November 20 th . We have an interesting meeting planned at Pioneer Hall within Pioneer Park. Come enjoy fellowship with friends, learn something new about gardening, and enjoy a nice potluck luncheon.

Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Best Wishes, Jane



Fairbanks Garden Club NEWS and Events

This Month's meeting

Wednesday, November 20th @ 12 noon - 3:00 pm (Note: we will start sharp @ noon so please plan to arrive a few minutes early.)

Where: Pioneer Hall @ Pioneer Park.
Located at 2300 Airport Way, Fairbanks.

The meeting will be a **POTLUCK**. Please bring a dish or dessert to share.

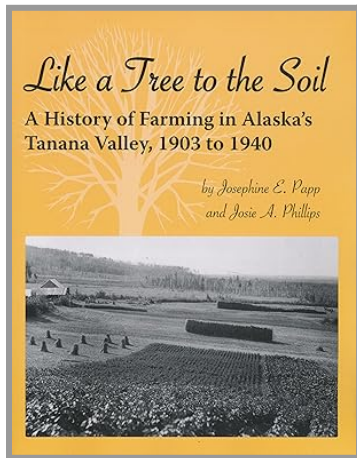
Hostess: Janet B. Co-Hostesses: Mary F. & Amanda R.

Program = "Gardening with Arthritis" with Leslie Shallcross.

Roll Call Question: What is your favorite Thanksgiving Dish?

Horticultural Moment / Conservation Tip

Gardening adds years to your life and life to your years. ~ Unknown



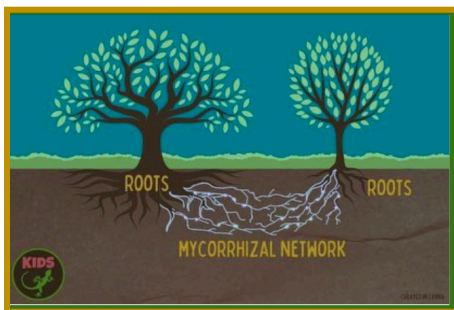
November Horticultural Moment by April S.

The Farms on Farmer's Loop

I live off of Farmer's Loop Road. And every time I drive it I can't help but smile when I pass the large hay field with the old barn. Sometimes there is even a tractor parked out there. I wonder about the people that farmed the land. I wonder about their struggles. And I wonder about the satisfaction they felt in growing their own food. I'm sure it wasn't easy for them. Nor is it for us. Each time I see a homestead for sale, I want to see it turned back into a farm. Not another subdivision.

Like a Tree to the Soil written by Jo Papp and Josie Phillips is a wonderful resource. It provides an informal history of farming in the Tanana Valley and has given me a great starting point to research further. I have already mapped out some of the homesteads as they relate to my growing efforts and those of my neighbors. We talk about the history and it gets us fired up! It's fascinating and inspiring! We want to grow more food and learning the stories of those who tilled the Earth before makes it all feel worthwhile.

The story of farming in our area is quite the tale—especially the part where those that farmed before us proved that you can grow food in the North. While I am a newbie at learning about the history of farming in our area, I devour all I can to learn about it. I encourage everyone to share the bits of history that they know. Whether a new found bit you found fascinating or an old bit that should be handed down to the next generation. We need the stories to live on. It's how we hope. It's why we dream. But really, it's how we all grow.

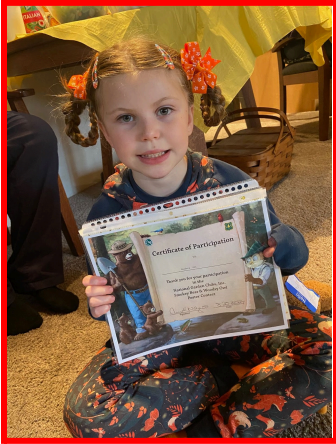


Meeting pictures and Information:

October 16, 2024 meeting was canceled due to weather.. yes we live in AK but.... better safe than sorry.

September 18, 2024 FGC meeting pictures and notes:

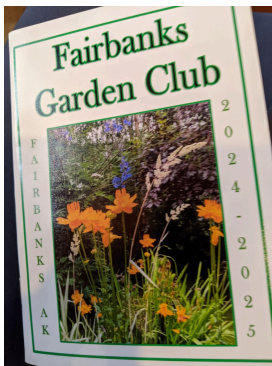
Members Attending: Marilyn B, Janet B, Susie C, Mary F, Jane G, Agnes G, Becky H, Patty K, Liz Mi, Dorthea O, Amanda R, Brenda S, April S, Lucy S, Althea S, Beverly W, Marlene W,, by Zoom Barbara H and guests Ellis O. and Isadora O.



Smokey Bear and Woodsey Owl Poster Contest Award was presented to Izzy. She placed 1st in State and 1st in Pacific Region. Besides the Certificate and National Garden Club



book "Save Seed," Amanda had a card with a \$\$ gift. Jane had a bag of goodies for Izzy, as well as a signed copy of NGC President Brenda Moore's children's book, The Saved Seed.



Yearbooks 2024/2025 were distributed to members present. Jane for compiling the information and getting it to Becky. Mary for filling the programs and hostess and co-hostess slots for each month. Jane for compiling the information and getting it to Becky. Becky for laying out and printing such a useful and concise handbook. The photos and pictures are beautiful.

September Album <https://photos.app.goo.gl/3GvJ4K8qFA5x2AxT9>

Flower Show Photos link;

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/9X9oPMAHHgLEUrh8>



July 17th tour at Georgeson Botanical Garden album link:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/duPvvtbQAkdyWrXe7>

June 19, 2024 meeting at Becky's. Enjoy.

Hostess: Becky H and Co-host Mary F.

link to the google album <https://photos.app.goo.gl/qnVixNtFMCfDqwt67>



March 20, 2024 Potluck meeting pictures

Hostess: Mary F. Co-Hostess: Jane G. Pioneer Hall, Pioneer Park
2300 Airport Way

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/x5gBUCSBvMjt1xnX7>

February 21, 2024 Potluck meeting picture

Hostess: Althea Co-Hostess: Mary Pioneer Hall, Pioneer Park 2300 Airport Way

link to google album: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/oaNuZKuqoAtgkKjK9>

January 17, 2024 Denali Center Lunch meeting pictures

Denali Center Nursing Home

Hostess: Carol S. Co-Hostess: Mary F.

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

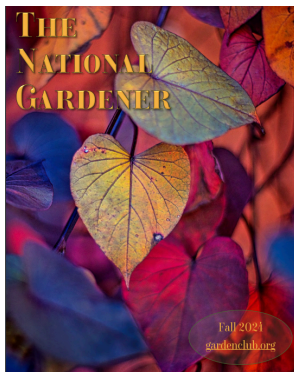
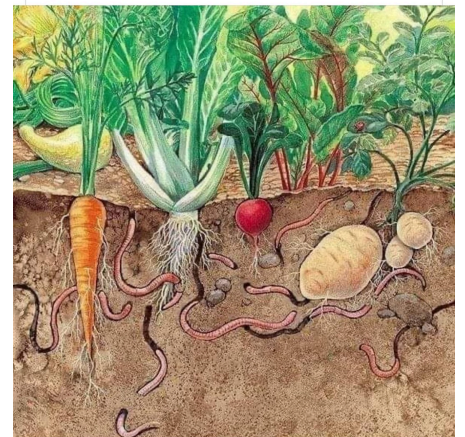


Brenda Moore, NGC President
Theme for 2023-2025 is

“Go Green–Plant America”.

<https://gardenclub.org/>

Earthworms may not be the most exciting creatures, but their impact is huge. They improve soil structure, aerate the ground, and recycle nutrients, making them vital for healthy ecosystems and agriculture. By supporting biodiversity and producing nutrient-rich compost through vermicomposting, earthworms play a crucial role in maintaining soil fertility. Though they can occasionally contribute to soil erosion or minor crop damage, their benefits far outweigh the downsides. These “boring” animals are truly unsung heroes beneath our feet! #SoilHealth #EcoHeroes #Earthworms



the **Fall 2024 issue** of “The National Gardener”

magazine link:

<https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2024-09/tng-fall-2024.pdf>

The **Summer 2024 issue** of "The National Gardener" can be found here:

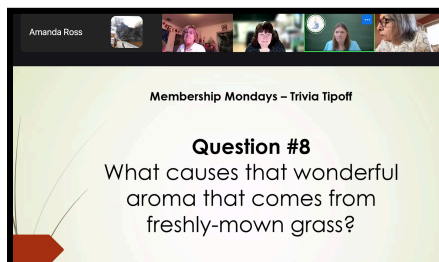
<https://gardenclub.org/.../files/2024-07/tng-summer-2024.pdf>

Spring edition 2024 of The National Gardener magazine.

<https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2024-04/tng-spring-2024.pdf>

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

Membership Monday....



Our very own Susie and Becky participated in Membership Monday hosted by the NGC membership chair and former PRGC director, Robin. Becky introduced FGC member, Susie, who shared the success of Fairbanks Garden Club's membership increase through public events that FGC participated in like Creamer's Dairy Days and gardening at Creamers Garden and GBG. There were lively presentations about increasing membership from small, medium, large garden clubs as well as state garden clubs. It was a wealth of knowledge and ideas.

NGC president, Brenda Moore enjoyed the many successful membership ideas.

Youth Sculpture Contest:

The purpose of this contest is to encourage our youth to keep our planet green and to get involved with saving the environment.

All children in 4th - 8th grades are eligible to enter, with a local garden club sponsor. Sculptures must consist of recycled, reused, and reduced materials. The sculpture is limited to a size that will fit sitting on an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper; height should be proportionate. A list of materials used, and a brief description of the sculpture should be included on the entry form.

Entry form may be found on NGC website at www.gardenclub.org

Entries will include (2) 4"x6" photographs printed on the back of the entry form.

Chairman should make photos of entries to provide as requested from the NGC website.

Club entries must be sent to your State Chairman by your state's deadline.

SCR winners will be sent to NGC by March 1.

If your state does not participate in this contest, your entry may be sent directly to the SCR Youth Sculpture Chairman.

Contest Information: www.gardenclub.org/youth-sculpture-contest

Sculpture Contest Entry Form

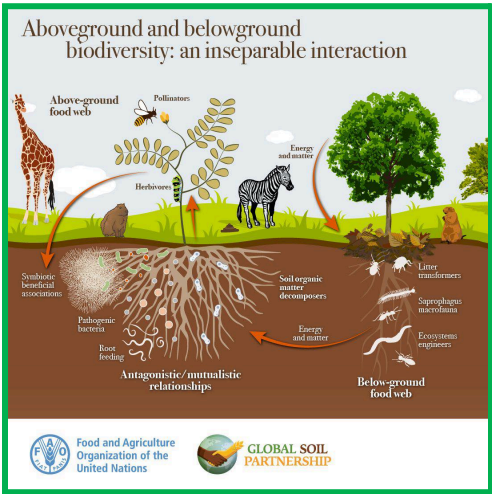
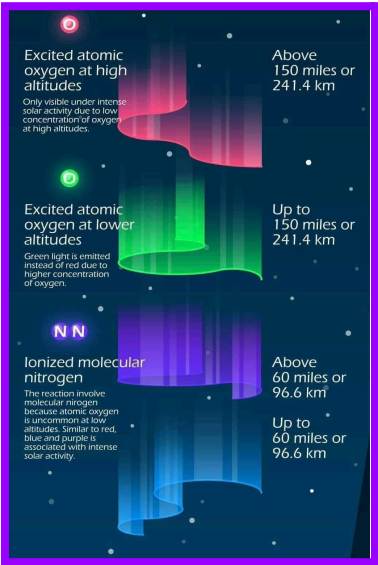
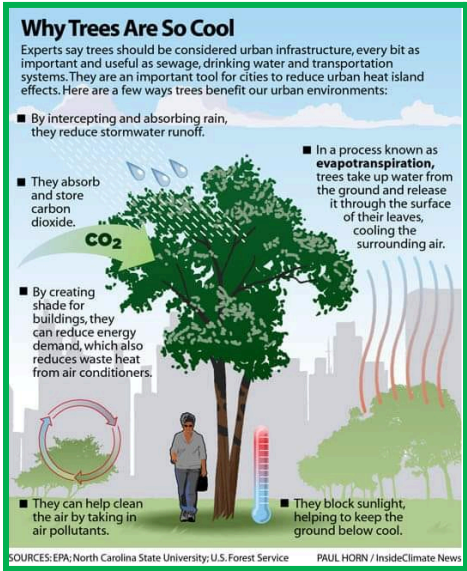




January 20, 2025	Local winning posters must be received by the State garden club or poster contest chairperson	Local garden club or poster contest chairperson
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Smokey the Bear/Woodsy Owl contest rules...

Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl Poster Contest



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

Facebook



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/>

Latest WACONIAH (August 2024) [see link below:](#)

<https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/a2be4215-dd41-4740-9844-4e781966e01c/downloads/Aug24.pdf?ver=1723164097854>



PRGC PHOTO FUNDRAISER

Entries are due by March 1, 2025. For information and entry form:

<https://pacificregiongardenclubs.org/photo-contest>



November Birthdays:

MaryBeth G. 11/05

Becky H. 11/05

Sheila M. 11/14

Joan R. 11/21

Patricia C. 11/26

Althea S. 11/27

Mary F. 11/29



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 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.

Members can turn in your PAPF donations slips through April of 2025.

Althea reminds us of the need for food in Fairbanks; keep track on the forms of your donations.



Fairbanks Garden Club Members Sharing

The questions for this month, **November**, are the following:

1. What are you still eating on from your summer harvest?
or/and
2. What is your favorite Thanksgiving Dish?
or/and
3. Recipe for that dish or whatever else you would like to share....

Janet B: Still have 1/2 a cabbage, a few carrots and kale leaves in a canvas bag with snow inside and buried in snow on my deck. Yay!

Amanda R: Carrots, potatoes, and tomatoes are still being enjoyed. My favorite Thanksgiving dish is the stuffing... I have decided it is like onion bread. But I also need the mashed potatoes, turkey gravy and turkey to make it all taste so good.

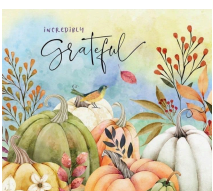
Jane G. I still have potatoes - Yukon Gold & Cal White. I have two pumpkins and a winter squash as well. Plan to use these up at Thanksgiving.

Marilyn B: I am eating. Carrots, Parsnips, Leeks, Cabbage and of course Potatoes. Tomatoes are ripened and a little bit of celery left. Thanksgiving I'm in charge of mashed potatoes and carrot sticks.

April S: We are enjoying our own carrots, potatoes and kale. And I just finished making jam from my fresh huckleberries.

My favorite dish is always the one I grew. Or raised. My giant rosemary plant that I am overwintering will provide some incredible flavor.

This year we will have roasted turkey. But it's not just any turkey...it's a 26 lb turkey that we raised ourselves. So grateful for such a wonderful harvest.





Denise B:

September Update on Denise B.'s new flower bed area thanks to her husband's hard work:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/skd8HsWQXwr9gE3c9>

August Update on Denise B.'s new flower bed area thanks to her husband's hard work:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/skd8HsWQXwr9gE3c9>

July newsletter. Attached are some pictures of the flowers in the new planter (see picture at the right) her husband installed, and a sweet picture of Denise with permission. Link for her lovely garden: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/bRCZ4haVMPYN5JB66>



Fairbanks Garden Club Committees and Chairs:

FGC Committee	Chair
Awards (AK, PR, Nat)	Barbara H
Blue Star Memorial	Gwenn G
Community Beautification and Outreach	Carol S.
Conservation and Green Moment	Janet B.
Creamer's Historic Flower & Vegetable Garden	Althea S.
Flower Show	Becky H.
Fundraiser - Garage Sale & quilt Raffle	Liz M.
Gamin Permit	Becky H.
Garden Tours	Marlene W

FGC committee	Chair
Georgeson Botanical Garden	Lucy S
History/Biographies	Janet B.
Horticulture	April S
Installation of New Members	Becky H.
Kitty Hensley House	Janet M.
Library Holiday Tree	Althea S.
Member of the Year	Gwenn G.
Membership	Becky H.
Newsletter	Amanda R.
Nominating	As Elected

FGC Committee	Chair
Photography	Gwenn G.
Programs	Mary F.
Publicity	Jane G
Scholarship	Lacey H.
Scrapbook	Amanda R.
Sunshine	Sheila M.
Telephone/Non Email	Janet B.
Website	Liz M.
Wildlife Gardening	Susie C.
Yearbook	Jane G.
Youth Gardening/Garden Therapy	Amanda R.

Two Steps to Happiness:

1. get a plant 🌱
2. get some more plants to go with your plant 🌱🌱🌱

