



Wildflower Garden Club

December 2019 Newsletter

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Messages from the Presidents

It is hard to believe the year has ended. We have accomplished quite a bit of updating of unclear or antiquated items while we were trying to understand the workings of the club. Hats off to the past presidents and board members—there is an incredible amount of work involved in coordinating a club. We are taking on a new, highly visible project, had a successful plant sale and have a newsletter again. Through all of it, it has been a joy to work with all of you and to see the club continue to grow this year. I am proud of the fact that we are the largest garden club in the Alaska Garden Clubs organization under National Garden Clubs Inc. I especially enjoy the atmosphere of cooperation we are fostering with other local garden groups. With so many thousands of us gardeners, united we are a force to be reckoned with when it comes to the beautification of our city.

Some people are bemoaning the odd weather we have been “enjoying” and are worried for their gardens in the coming year. I have decided that I will embrace whatever nature throws at us and grow what comes up next year. I know it will be beautiful, even if it is not guaranteed to include some of the old favorites. Worrying will not help change what happens with this climate evolving, so I will just go with the flow. There is enough for me to worry about without taking on something that I cannot do anything about. Let’s take delight in life and take things as they come and beautify as we can. I so look forward to working together for another year and enjoying our fellowship as the Wildflower Garden Club. You people are the best!!

Paul

December ... one of my favorite months for many reasons. So much going on with friends and getting together with family is always a special time for me. I do love the hustle and bustle of the season. I also find myself reminiscing about the past year and all that happened, and I can assure you it was a busy 12 months with more on my plate than I EVER expected or planned on! Taking on the Co-Presidency with Paul was a bigger deck of cards than either of us imagined. Through the months we have shuffled, dealt, and begun playing our cards while learning more everyday about just what this club and its procedures are. Now that the dust has settled, I am feeling excited about what the year ahead has to offer to us to continue on this mission to give it our all and continue to help the Wildflower Garden Club be one of the best ... though I think it has been for a long time thanks to the outstanding group of members we have been privileged to have. There are exciting programs planned, the service projects, the plant sale, the dedication of the Verna Pratt Wildflower Trail and installment of her plaque at ABG, and if all goes as intended, new workshops to offer to our members and others. It will take many hands to accomplish these tasks and make the work behind these projects light for all. I have faith that 2020 is going to be a great year, and truly look forward to being a part of this club and working together with each and every one of you as we move forward into this new decade. Now I’m going to sit back, enjoy the holidays as I wish for you and your families, and wait ever so patiently for all the seed catalogs I ordered that should begin arriving any day! Cheers ...

Kathy

What's Growing Now?

We had our annual wreath making workshop at Dimond Greenhouses on December 5. As always, Darryl Leiser was instructive, informative, and entertaining. Eighteen people were participants with almost everyone making wreaths and one making a centerpiece. It is nice to have that option. Such a fun time we had!



On December 12, the holiday party took place at Linda and Patrick Kelly's home. What wonderful hosts—everyone was made welcome and very comfortable. We had a lovely potluck, followed by our annual spirited gift exchange and even a sing-along Christmas song led by Mary Britton. An extremely pleasant way to end the year with those we fellowship with in our gardening community. We must have been decent guests as well, because the Kellys have offered to host the gathering again next year, again assisted by their helpful elf friend, Jeanette.



Good Company, Great Food, and Lots of Laughter!

We look forward to seeing you at the year's first meeting on January 9th at Central Lutheran Church at 10:00am. The program will be a talk by Jen Bersch on the difference between hemp and cannabis products and their uses. This should be a fascinating topic and it will answer many questions we all may have from hearing about the subject so much in recent times.

May you all have a pleasant and peaceful holiday season—whatever it is your pleasure to do at this time of year.



Happy Holidays!