



# Wildflower Garden Club Newsletter

## June/July 2019

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FB: Wildflower Garden Club

A Member of National, Pacific Region, and Alaska State Garden Clubs

### Messages from the Presidents

The lilies are coming into full glory now. It has been an interesting season. Early rain was nice, but then it dried up and the heat exploded. It meant lots of watering to keep things green. We have had a lot of smoke to deal with, which makes being outside difficult for many of us. Have you noticed that lilacs are being attacked by a new leaf miner (some people are talking about fungus, but Julie Riley has been investigating and has pointed to a leaf miner)? In spite of it all, we are in our gardens as much as possible, rejoicing in our little friends rewarding us for their care with flowers, by spreading and by giving us things to concentrate on. Don't look too closely at the fireweed; the blossoms are awfully close to the top... but we have the State Fair first! **Paul**

Finally, some relief of sorts from all the record heat that we had over the past few weeks! It was all I could do to keep up on the watering around my yard, especially the hanging baskets. Now I finally have some time to do the much needed weeding and other garden projects that have been on my list that have been put off.

Paul and I have been busy working with the ABG Design Committee and Director Mike Monterusso to get Verna's and Sally's memorials installed. It won't be long until these two projects are complete.

I am also working on Fair stuff with it only about 4 ½ weeks away from the First Entry day. No grass growing under these feet! I look forward to seeing you all at the Fair or again in September at our monthly meeting. **Kathy**

### What's Growing Now

At the State Convention in Ketchikan in June, our club was well represented by Janet Hartmann. Our scrapbook lovingly put together and tended by Shirley Luedke was awarded first place for Alaska.

Our yearbook, which Tobi Harvey put so much effort into was awarded first place - Class 4 for Alaska and second place - Class 3D for the Pacific Region. Excellent work by these dedicated women and their helpers!



The annual **Plant Sale** on June 1 was a success for the club. The new craft corner garnered much interest and participation. Plan on making examples of your crafts for the sale next year—the craft corner was a success!



Five members from our club, Paul Marmora, Kathy Liska, Jeanette Bock, Kathy Zins and Chris Wood attended the first of four required **Flower Judges School** sessions in June, learning about Lilacs, Iris, the mechanics of design, and flower show procedures. A few also spent extra days taking the Advanced Master Gardeners class that was included as a collaborative course study by the WfGC and AMGA. The second Judges course will take place in October with African Violets and Conifers as the horticulture study and more show procedure learning. (Low Profile designs by Kathy and Paul for Judge's recertification test).



Eight members enjoyed a nice day on the **Wildflower Walk and Talk** led by Amelia Walsh on the Turnagain Trail.



## Announcements



The Trellis making workshop with the Anchorage Garden Club on July 20 was a lot of fun! This was the first joint workshop in a long time, if ever, and it was a lot of fun to work together and make garden art for the yard. WfGC member Sharon Hennem did a fabulous job on her trellis piece!

State Fair is coming up in August. Kathy Liska, Horticulture manager, is looking for help with both entry day and for clerk duties during judging. Positions are available in both the Crops and Flower departments. You do not need to be an expert by any means: duties are simple and well explained in each department. The two entry dates are on Wednesdays, August 21 and 28, and the two judging days are Thursdays, August 22 and 29. Get in touch with Kathy Liska

([akliska@aol.com](mailto:akliska@aol.com) or 907-337-2196 before the Fair or 907-301-0317 during the Fair) if you are interested in helping out and for more information. It is a very fun time for all involved, and you have entry to the Fair and parking on the days you are working. Remember this year our club is not only sponsoring the Juniors Zucchini contest, but this is our first year to sponsor the Grand Champion Award for perennials.



The Lyman Whitaker Kinetic Wind Spinner in Sally Karabelnikoff's honor has also been installed at ABG, outside the education center at the far end of the Verna Pratt Wildflower Trail. It can be seen from the end of the Wildflower Trail, from the Perennial Garden and, of course, from the Education Center. We are still waiting for a small plaque to be placed in front of it. It's really a must see!

Things are moving apace for the dedication of the Verna Pratt Wildflower trail. ABG continues to move ahead with the landscaping and terracing for the trail and we have commissioned the stand for our plaque, since logistics have changed from the original boulder idea. It was picked up on Thursday and brought to the Botanical Garden. The dedication ceremony is tentatively planned for mid-September. See a picture in the Service Projects section of the new arch at the entry of Verna's Trail.

## Service Projects

Our annual service project at the Alaska Botanical Garden is in full swing with club volunteers doing clean up along the Verna Pratt Wildflower Trail prior to events at the garden. So far, a group of us have been there twice, while others spend solo time weekly pulling weeds to keep it looking nice. Many thanks for those who are participating in this continuing project of ours. It's been a lot of fun spending time with, laughing, sharing ideas, getting to know each other better and just enjoying the trail.

The next maintenance day in the works is Thursday, August 8 from 10am-Noon. Volunteers are needed to spruce up the area before the "Wine in the Woods" event. Many hands make light work!



Marilyn Barker and Paul Marmora met with Lily at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center this month. She has taken over the establishing of the planned wildflower garden. The plan is to leave the existing garden until fall, when they will move the existing non-native plants out, build natural looking terraces to provide both height and some shade on the far side to accommodate native plants that do not thrive in full sun. In early spring 2020, we will plant the garden with native wildflowers. It should be a fun time installing the garden. Please look to see if you have any natives that you wish to donate to the garden. We will compile a list and make selections from what is available in order to make a natural looking setting. Our commitment to AWCC is to plant and maintain the garden for them. They will post a sign telling people about our donation and care. We would like to compile a list of names of people that would like to be a part of the work crew both to install the garden and to participate in monthly maintenance trips. Remember that the day you go to work, you have access to the park as a visitor. We will need at least two people per month to go down to work the garden.



# Members Corner

Lilies ... Lilies ... and more Lilies from Paul's and Kathy's gardens!

Tinkerbell



Unknown



Unknown



Unknown



Fata Morgana



Razzle Dazzle



Aphrodite



Gran Paradiso



Beautiful picture of Fireweed  
and a Bumblebee. - Janet  
Hartmann

Waiting for her Hollyhocks  
to bloom. - Alis Schmidt

Thank you all for sharing your  
summer photos with us!



## Reminders

We have three gardens we are going to tour this summer:

Please carpool with friends, so parking isn't a problem, also bring a potluck luncheon dish to enjoy at Carroll's.

At **10 a.m.** you are invited to see **Jeanette Bock's** garden at **7060 Chad St** (off Arctic Blvd. to 76th. Then a right on Chad St. follow the Street as it winds around a circle, hers will be the 4th house on the left). Jeanette has a rock garden out in front and lawn, colorful annuals and perennials. Jeanette also has vegetable raised beds in back where she grows zucchini, broccoli, onions, beets, peas, and other vegetables. 344-9256 or 444-7188

At **11 a.m.** you are welcome to see where **Paul Marmora** at **3516 Cottonwood St** grows all those plants he has for sale at our annual plant sale. You might ask him how he manages to pot up and care for so many plants, maybe pick up a few tips on how to have them ready for our plant sale each year. 360-3728.

At **Noon, Carroll Samuelson 3212 Baxter Rd** has invited us back to see new changes she has made to her gardens. We were inspired by her gardens last summer, but Carroll has found a way to inspire us again this summer!

The Potluck Luncheon will follow Carroll's tour.

Thank you, Jeanette, Paul, and Carroll for all the work you've done, and are doing, to get your gardens ready for the tour, we appreciate your willingness to share!

**NOTE: Carrol Samuelson says to "Let everyone know that her driveway is an unmarked, dirt driveway on the west side of Baxter and she will have balloons on the mailboxes to help drivers know where to turn. Also, please remind everyone to drive all the way to the end of the driveway (approx. 100 yds)".**

## Last but not least ...

If any of you would like to share pictures, other gardening happenings or have ideas of anything else you would like to see in our Wildflower newsletter please contact Paul or Kathy.