



# Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska

## Newsletter ~ November 2022

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### Messages from the Presidents

Just got back from a couple of weeks on the East Coast. As the fall colors were in full swing (not too many red, though), I was mindful of seasons and change. This was particularly emphasized when I came back and stepped out of the plane into a snowy and certainly much colder environment. There is much to be celebrated and much to grow tired of in each season. The beauty of spring plants bursting from the ground at long last and the annoyance of the weeds following (and the mosquitos!). Summer's warmth and flowers, and then having to spend hours watering. Fall's lovely colors, and having to put the beds away, then watch all the colors tumble off the branches and rake leaves. Winter brings the beautiful glory of snow, and then our back hurts from shoveling and roof raking for months. I suppose this is the Yin and Yang of life. We don't appreciate the beauty of things unless we have something to compare it to and we can take pleasure in the differences. Life is Beautiful and I am thankful to share some part of mine with you all!

**Paul**

As we get closer to the end of 2022, I have come to realize there is always something to be thankful for. One of these 'somethings' has been the ability of getting and sharing in fellowship and special friendships I've made over the many years with the "Wildflowers". I'm grateful for all the good time memories & laughs that I have shared with so many of you. Sending you my warm wishes from home to home and from heart to heart, wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving!

**Kathy**

Happy  
Thanksgiving

## What's Growing Now

The topic for the November 10<sup>th</sup> meeting was “**Remembering our Summer Gardens and Alaska Adventures**” slideshow program with member Kathy Liska. Many thanks go to the club members who shared photos of their triumphs and travels. It is always interesting to see evidence of what people have been doing and to see what treasures they have in their little corners of Eden!

We are considering workshop topics for the year. Any suggestions? Send us an email at [akwildflowers@gmail.com](mailto:akwildflowers@gmail.com) with your ideas!

## Special Wildflowers that bloomed this month

Karen Edmondson, Elaine Estey, Marilyn Barker, Peggy Pletcher and Annie Ronsse

### **NOVEMBER BIRTH FLOWER**



Chrysanthemum & Peony are November's birth flowers and together symbolize cheerfulness, friendship and abundance.

The Chrysanthemum is considered the Queen of Fall flowers. It represents friendship, joy, happiness and honor, and is available in many colors and forms, with further symbolism for each color. Potted mums are considered appropriate gifts for both men and women.

The peony is considered the King of Flowers and although not a fall flower, it is considered appropriate for the season due to its scent and delicate petals. The Peony represents honor, compassion, happiness and good fortune. Each of the many colors also have specific symbolism. Peony plants can live to be 100 years old!



♥ HAPPY ♥  
*birthday*

## Club Business

### October 2022 Treasurer Reports

#### Denali Federal Credit Union

Business Savings APYO .10%	\$7,502.97
Business Checking	\$2,957.66
CD - 6 month	\$2,504.96
CD - 12 month	\$5,019.88
<b>Balance 10/31/22</b>	<b>\$17,985.47</b>

**Morgan Stanley Balance 10/31/22**      **\$41,732.98**

**Total Assets 10/31/22**      **\$59,718.45**



## November Election

November 10th is the start date of the Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska Election time frame for the **2023 Board of Directors**.

Electronic (email) votes will be accepted from  
**Thursday, November 10 - Monday, November 15 at 5pm.**

All members were emailed the Official Ballot on November 10th.

#### 2023 Official Ballot is as follows:

**Co-President: Christie Holshouser**  
**Co-President: Kellie Staples**  
**Vice President: Barbara Baker**  
**Secretary: Mary Britton**  
**Treasurer: Cindy Walker**  
**Member at Large: Sally Byrne-Flores**  
**Member at Large: Ruth Bauman**



**NOV 10<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>**



## Membership Renewal

It is the time of year to think about renewing our club memberships for the upcoming year 2023. **Remember, to be included in the next yearbook's list of members, you will need to send in the paperwork and pay your dues by December 1<sup>st</sup>.** You can access the membership form from [www.wildflowergardenclub.org](http://www.wildflowergardenclub.org) under the membership tab. If you print a copy of the form and send in a check, the membership cost is \$20 with an additional \$15 for each immediate family member (only one yearbook will be shared in a family membership). You can also fill in the form online and pay electronically. An additional cost of \$1 per member registration will be applied to cover the processing fees of the credit card company.

We like to recognize members' birthday months in the newsletter, so there is also a spot on the membership form to include that information. Month—not year! If sharing birthday information is an issue for you, you may always write n/a in that spot on the form.

## Upcoming Meetings, Projects, & Workshops



**Fresh Holiday Wreath or Centerpiece making at Dimond Greenhouses ~ December 8<sup>th</sup> at 10am** with Darryl Leiser. The projected workshop cost will be \$30-35 per person although price may change depending on cost of supplies. **This event is open to WGCA Members and family.**



**Gnome Making Workshop December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am** with Paul Marmora at the **Alaska Wholesale Flower Market** 7437 Old Seward Hwy. **10 participants** per session. If it fills up, another workshop at 1pm. Cost to be announced. **This event is open to WGCA members and family.**



The **Wildflower Annual Holiday Luncheon** and spirited gift exchange is being planned to be held at **Central Lutheran Church** on **Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 11am-1pm**. More info coming soon! **This event is open to WGCA Members and family.**



## Member's Corner

Kathy Liska

### How to Make Ice Luminaries

Ice luminaries DIY projects are easier than you think, and the results are spectacular. Follow these steps to make an ice luminary and use your own creative ideas along the way:

Find plastic containers of different sizes such as buckets, cups, or empty yogurt containers.

Fill the bucket or other containers three-quarters full of water, then set a second smaller bucket or bowl inside, and fill with rocks so that the water in the first bucket reaches the top.

Secure in position with duct tape and leave outside to set. (You can do smaller containers in the freezer too!)

To remove the containers from the ice, set them in a dish of room temperature water. After a couple minutes you should be able to slide the containers apart. You'll be left with a solid ice luminary.

Place a tea light in the luminary. An LED is best to avoid melting the luminary. Set it on a flat stone in the bottom of the luminary to keep it dry.

You can also add materials from the garden, like twigs with red berries, evergreen twigs, or fall leaves. Arrange them in the water.

I also do ice balls by filling up balloons with water and adding food coloring.

When frozen, cut balloon away and enjoy these in the yard! Use a trash can lid to make a shallow bowl to hold them on top of a 5 gallon bucket ice lantern.

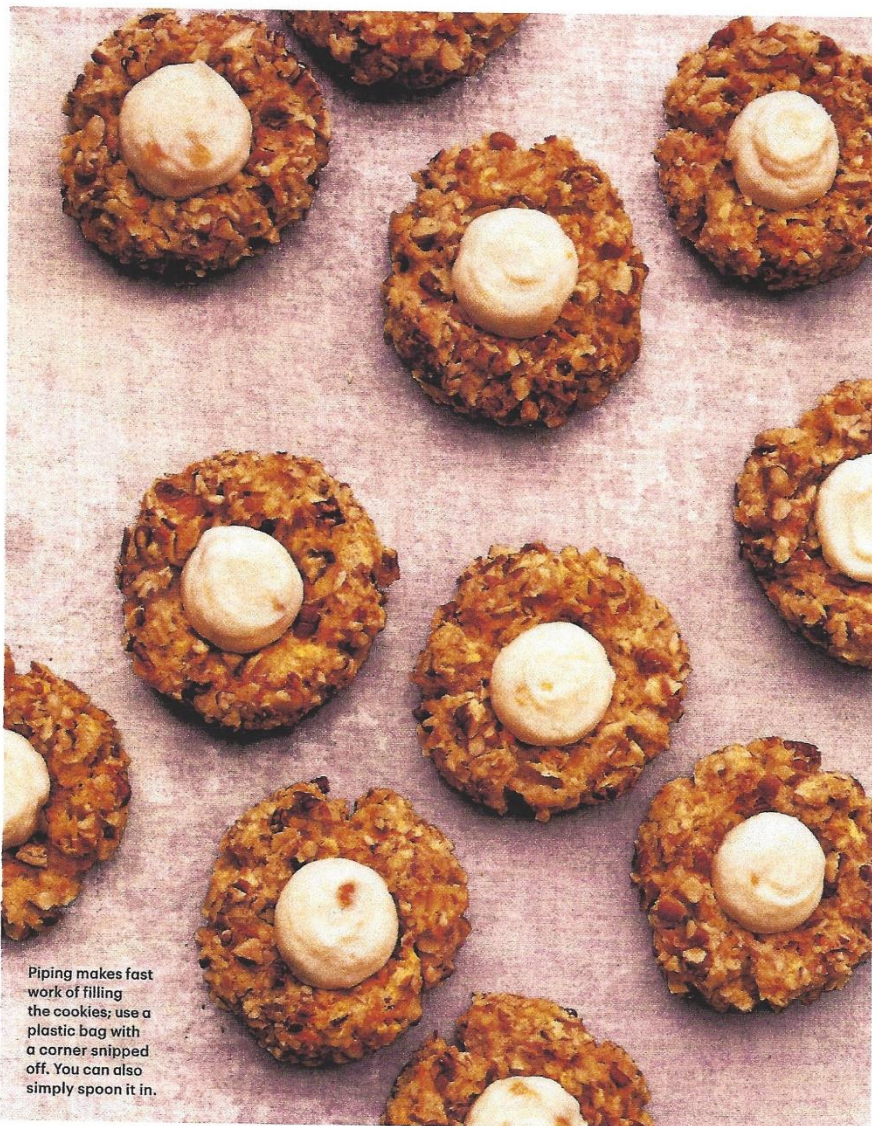


**The purpose of the Member's Corner section is to inspire and encourage each other.** Photos, gardening hacks, recipes, articles on a plant that you grow or want to know more about, something you think would be of interest to us, are all welcome. **The deadline for submitting items for our newsletter is the 1st of each month.** Send to Kathy Liska at [akliska@aol.com](mailto:akliska@aol.com) or Paul Marmora at [pmarmora@aol.com](mailto:pmarmora@aol.com)



Shared by Cindy Walker

These are ohhh soooo delicious!!!



## THUMBS UP

You can have your cake and eat it, too—as a cookie! The bases for these thumb-prints are studded with grated carrots, chopped pecans, golden raisins, and rolled oats. The creamy filling features fresh goat cheese (cream cheese would work in its place) and a swirl of apricot jam. The result? Layers of flavor in every bite.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MARCUS NILSSON

### CARROT-CAKE THUMBPRINT COOKIES

Active Time: 35 min.  
Total Time: 1 hr. 45 min.  
Makes: 1½ dozen

- 1 stick unsalted butter, melted, plus ½ stick, room temperature, for frosting
- ⅓ cup packed light-brown sugar
- ⅓ cup granulated sugar
- 1 large egg yolk, room temperature
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ¾ teaspoon coarse salt
- ¾ cup old-fashioned rolled oats
- ¾ cup packed finely grated carrots (from about 3)
- ¼ cup golden raisins, chopped
- ¾ cup pecans, finely chopped
- ¼ cup confectioners' sugar
- 2 ounces fresh goat cheese or cream cheese, room temperature
- 1½ teaspoons apricot jam

1. Preheat oven to 350°. In a large bowl, whisk together melted butter, brown and granulated sugars, and yolk. In another bowl, whisk together flour, ginger, cinnamon, and salt. Stir flour mixture into butter mixture to combine. Mix in oats, carrots, and raisins. Cover and refrigerate 30 minutes.

2. Roll dough into 1½-inch balls; roll balls in pecans to coat. Space 2 inches apart on parchment-lined baking sheets. Bake 10 minutes. Remove from oven; press an indentation into center of each cookie with the end of a wooden spoon. Bake until golden brown on bottoms, 10 to 12 minutes more. Transfer cookies to a wire rack; let cool.

3. In a bowl, beat remaining ½ stick butter and confectioners' sugar on medium until smooth. Beat in goat cheese until just combined. Swirl in jam. Fill center of each cookie with goat-cheese mixture; serve.