



Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska

Newsletter ~ May 2025

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Message from the Presidents

Isn't Spring wonderful! I got to experience the season twice this year as I arrived in North Carolina to visit family. Azaleas in full bloom (and multiple colors) lined the driveways and houses—and what a beautiful sight it was. Irises, peonies, rhododendrons, among many others, rounded out the palette. It's always interesting to see that what blooms later for us blooms early there. I then got to witness Spring again upon my return to Anchorage. Green leaves: what a sight to behold! Busy days ahead as we uncover our beds, begin the process of hardening off our plants, and prepare for summer. After a long winter, it truly is the best time of the year! Kellie and I hope to see you at the many events planned in the coming months and hear all about your gardening adventures!

Christie & Kellie



What's Growing Now

Marigold Giveaway

The first garden show of the year, at the Midtown mall, was a success with our first community service project of the year. Children are always so elated to plant a marigold, and gardeners enjoy the plants and crafts we offer. All volunteers had a fun time being together and interacting with the excited people.



First Verna Pratt Wildflower Trail Cleanup

On Thursday, 08May a small, but dedicated and efficient group of hardy wildflowers met at the Verna Pratt Wildflower trail at the Alaska Botanical Garden to the get area ready for the Mother's Day opening of ABG.



Wildflowers that bloomed this month

Deb Blaylock, Janet Hartmann, Kathy Liska, Mary Moline, Jaime Rodriguez, Cindy Walker

The birth flowers for May are Lily of the Valley and Hawthorne.

Both of them are early spring flowers in the Northern Hemisphere,

Lily of the Valley symbolizes purity, humility, joy, sweetness, innocence and a return to happiness.

Hawthorne is associated to new beginnings, hope, faith, happiness, and protection (especially in springtime). Some folklore links it to faeries and death. It is symbol of May Day and traditionally the transition from spring to summer.



HAPPY
birthday

Club Business

April 2025 Treasurer Reports

Nuvision Federal Credit Union

Business Savings	\$7590.21
Business Checking	\$5029.22
CD - 12 month (matures 7/30/25) 3.34%	\$5360.01
Balance 4/30/25	\$17979.44

Morgan Stanley Balance 4/30/25	\$51,715.92
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Total Funds 4/30/25	\$69,695.36
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Upcoming Meetings, Projects, & Workshops

May 15 – Verna Pratt Wildflower Trail Spring Clean Up at ABG

10am-12pm at 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road

We have another opportunity to spruce up the Verna's trail in May. It is required that all volunteers participate in a short orientation with Rachel Shedd to learn and/or refresh us about the procedures the garden uses for future signups and wayward wildlife known to wander to grounds. Bring your own favorite tools and gloves. Please use the specific link below provided by ABG for the Wildflowers.

Thank you! www.signupgenius.com/go/2025abgwildflower

May 17 – Native Plant Garden Spring Clean at Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center

11am-1pm at Mile 79 Seward Highway in Portage from (Carpooling recommended)

More information is coming soon to your email box.

May 31 – WGCA Plant Sale!

Every year, our plant sale is one of the looked-for events of the gardening season!!!

Our sale this year is scheduled for Saturday, May 31 at our favorite location; 1300 W. Benson, the former DMV building, located on the corner of Benson and Spenard, from 9am to 3pm.

We will be able to deliver our plants to the building on Friday, May 30 from 12pm to 7pm, and set up will start on Saturday at 7am. The end of the day clean-up is scheduled from 3-5pm. Sellers must pick up their leftover plants & flats by 5pm.

Plant sales will be divided with 75% to the sellers and 25% to the club, as usual.

This year, we will not have a craft corner, as interest has waned in the last couple of years. We are going to try a garden tool garage sale scenario. The percentages will be

the same to sellers and the club, but we will also have a freebie section for things of lesser value, such as pots and well-used items. Any leftover tools will be the responsibility of the person who brought them—the pots we will take care of.

All sellers are expected to work at least part of the day. As always, there will be a potluck for the volunteers. **Here is the SignUp Genius link for the Plant Sale.**

2025 Plant Sale!

All plants need to be in good condition, pest-free, and well-watered (as watering facilities are not available at the location).

Normally, the prices should be lower than the retail stores, and values are set according to the size and rarity of the species offered. Remember, this is not a garage sale, so prices should be affordable, but not dirt cheap either. **The minimum price for plants is \$3. If you do not wish to charge more per plant, please put more than one plant in each pot, or attach the three pots in some way.**

All prices need to be in full dollar amounts, as we do not carry change.

All plants will need a yellow and a white tag. The yellow tag has the seller's initials and the price of the item, and the white tag has the name of the plant. If the price or owner's initials on the tags are unreadable, the price is determined by the tag wipers and/or the amount will go to the club. **You can get tags from the club: call or text Paul for details (907-360-3728) on how to get some. They are \$4/bundle of 100.**

Announcements



There will be a celebration of life for our long-time beloved Wildflower, Maurine Loopstra, at the YMCA at 5353 Lake Otis Pkwy starting at noon on Tuesday, May 27th. The celebration is a potluck starting at noon, and once everyone has food, the celebration will begin. Please bring a dish and a favorite Maurine story to share. We hope to see you there.

