



Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska

Newsletter ~ October 2026

P.O. Box 240563
Anchorage, AK
99524

FB: Wildflower Garden Club
akwildflowers@gmail.com
wildflowergardenclub.org

Message from the President

As you're reading this, I'll be enjoying time with family, chasing the sunshine, viewing fall colors, and walking on a sandy beach in North Carolina. It's become an annual tradition that helps stretch out the time before ole man winter appears. That said, it was a rush to get everything put away before the first snow fell. But it sure is nice to relax for a moment before the holiday season begins.

As the garden season ends, we begin to focus on the business at hand for WGCA. Over the next three months we will enjoy a slideshow of our members' 2026 successes, finalize the 2027 budget, share a fellowship with our "Friendsgiving Potluck" while enjoying two crafts, make a wreath or centerpiece at the December workshop, and end the year with our fun holiday potluck and spirited gift exchange. Before we know it, 2026 will be done and dusted!



Sweater weather? More like 'better find that other glove' weather!

In the Loop

At the October 8th monthly meeting we shared photos of our flowers seen through our eyes from behind the lens. They say beauty is in the eye of the beholder, yet we were treated to the beauty of members blossoms being a virtual viewer with “A Kaleidoscope of Summer Blooms” slideshow presented by Kathy Liska, and our Wildflower photographers who sent them her way. Thank You!!!

(Apologies to those on Zoom who experienced the lack of sound technical difficulties.)

Special Wildflowers that bloomed this month

Cindy Calzada, Joyce Goodell, Donna Kellar, John Horstkoetter, Charlie Kempton, Paul Marmora, Madge Oswald, Tim Pack, Fran Pekar, and Kathy Zins



Marigolds and Cosmos are the birth flowers for October. Both of these popular flowers are easy to grow and provide color in the garden until the first frost of the fall.

Marigolds, a member of the aster family, and more specifically the *Tagetes* genus, have three main types: French, African (also called American), and Signet, which appear in orange, yellow, red, and bicolor, as well as other color combinations. The flowers have been linked to optimism and prosperity, cheer and joy, love and strong emotions, wealth and success.

Cosmos bloom in a number of colors, from orange, red, and yellow to pink, purple, and white. The colorful petals radiate from a yellow center. A member of the daisy family (Asteraceae), cosmos make a fantastic addition to flower gardens. Native to Mexico, the annual flowers are daisy-like and sit atop long, thin stems that can grow up to six feet tall.

The genus comes from the Greek word *kosmos*, meaning order and harmony of the universe. The flowers have long symbolized order, harmony, and balance. Others believe it is a sign of peace, love, joy and innocence.



Club Business

September 2026 Treasurer Reports

Nuvision Federal Credit Union

Business Savings	\$8,007.14
Business Checking	\$6,129.27
CD-12 month (matures 5/1/27) 3.40%	\$5,279.07
Balance 9/30/26	\$19,415.48
Morgan Stanley Balance 9/30/26	\$61,588.36
Total Funds 9/30/26	\$81,003.84



Upcoming Meetings, Projects, & Workshops

November 12th – Holiday Craft Workshop, “Friendsgiving” Potluck & Food Drive
Members and Family Activity

***11:00am-1:00pm at Central Lutheran Church**

This will be an **in-person only** meeting with two crafty, fun, and sociable hands-on projects with Christie Holshouser & Kathy Liska, followed by sharing in fellowship with a “**Friendsgiving**” Potluck.

We will also participate in our annual Food Drive. Please bring canned or shelf-stable food items to donate into the bins set up for the Lutheran Social Services Food Bank.



A SignUp Genius RSVP will be emailed in mid-October and used to let others know if you plan to bring an appetizer, main dish, side dish, or dessert. This helps create a well-rounded luncheon! The club will provide beverages.

December 3rd – Fresh Holiday Wreath or Centerpiece Workshop
Members & Family Activity

10:30am-12:30pm at Dimond Greenhouses

A SignUp Genius Registration will be emailed in mid-November.



December 10th – Holiday Party Appetizer Potluck
Members & Family Activity

***11:00am-1:00pm at Central Lutheran Church**

A SignUp Genius RSVP will be emailed in mid-November.



*Note time change for these gatherings.

Announcements

Membership Renewals 2027

It is the time of year to think about renewing club membership for the upcoming year. **Remember, to be included in the Yearbook's list of members, you will need to send in an online or printed application along with your paid dues no later than December 1st.**

Join us for Educational Programs, Workshops, Community Events, Friendship & Fellowship!

Individual annual membership fee is \$20. Family membership is available for an additional \$15 for each immediate family member. Only one yearbook will be shared in a family membership.

You can access the membership form from the following link.

[The Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska - Membership](#)

To mail a renewal, print a copy of the form and mail it in with a check. You can also fill in the form online and pay electronically. An additional cost of \$1 per member registration will be applied to cover processing fees of credit card payments.

Name Badges will be ordered for new members who joined in 2026 free of charge.

Returning members who have misplaced their name badge can reorder for a fee of \$15 by checking the box on the application form and including the replacement cost along with the application submittal. Badges are ordered only once per year.

We like to recognize members' birthday months in the newsletter, so there is also a spot on the membership form to include that information at your option. Month-not year!

The WGCA 2027 Grants application period is open!

Please share this opportunity with those you know who may be interested in applying. Information and the application can be found using the following link to our website.

[The Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska - Our Grants Program](#)

The goal of the **Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska (WGCA)** Grants Program is to encourage botanical education by funding scholarly studies, scientific research projects, or work in the areas of Horticulture, Floriculture, Landscape Design, Forestry, Botany, Agronomy, Plant Pathology and/or allied subjects.

- Individuals, Schools and Non-Profit entities engaged in work in the above listed fields may apply for grant funding until the **deadline of January 31, 2027.**
- Organizations must have 501(c)(3) status.
- All applicants must be based in the State of Alaska.

The total amount to be awarded each year is determined by the WGCA Executive Committee. The minimum request considered will be \$200, the maximum \$1,000. The number of awards will vary each year dependent upon the number of applications received, the amount of money requested, and the total amount to be awarded.

A Note of thanks received from one of the winners of the State Fair Jr. Zucchini Contest. Such a nice gesture and surprise!

