



P.O. Box 8-737 Anchorage, Alaska 99508

NEWSLETTER, NOVEMBER 1982

NOVEMBER 1 -- The November meeting will begin at 8:00 p.m. Monday at The Pub, in the Campus Center part of the Anchorage Community College/UAA Physical Education Facility off Providence Drive. Lenore Hedla, former gardening columnist for The Anchorage Times, will present "The Wild Garden," a program on restoring native ground cover to a yard stripped bare during her home's construction. Saxifrage (Saxifragaceae) will be the featured plant family this month. A board meeting will precede the regular meeting at 7 p.m.

THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME AT ALASKA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEETINGS.

DECEMBER PROGRAM -- starts 8:00 p.m. December 13 at The Pub. The program will be "Wildflowers of Eagle Summit" presented by Verna Pratt, which was previously announced for November's meeting.

IT'S OFFICIAL -- President Verna Pratt and Vice President Mann Leiser were re-elected to the Society's board of directors last month. Newly elected officers are Secretary Catherine Penny and Treasurer Larry Haller. Newly appointed board members are Education Chairman Marianne See and Field Trip Chairman Joanne Sedgwick. Alix Jane Wennekins continues on the board as Program Chairman.

LET'S HEAR IT for retiring steering committee board members Marilyn Barker (Treasurer), Dale Bingham (Field Trip Chairman), Bjartmar Sveinbjornsson (Education Chairman), the entire slate of candidates, Elaine Thomas for the letterhead and logo design, and all who led field trips last summer. THANK YOU.

WE'RE GETTING THERE -- Verna Pratt called a meeting of botanists, horticulturists and wildflower enthusiasts of various persuasions last January and proposed forming a group. In less than 10 months we've enrolled more than 80 members. We're now The Alaska Native Plant Society, a non-profit organization with a Constitution, By-Laws, elected officers, and appointed chairmen of standing committees on field trips, programs, education, membership and newsletter. We've held three public meetings and a number of well-attended field trips. We've applied for tax-deductible status as an educational organization and expect to receive a favorable ruling from the Internal Revenue Service.

WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU. We've asked what you are willing to do to help The Alaska Native Plant Society be all it can be and the response has been excellent. Now we'd like to know what you want from the organization. We'd like your views on programs, field trips and the soon-to-be-expanded newsletter. What are your interests? What would you like to learn, see, hear, and do? Mail your questionnaire or bring it to the November meeting.

A COMMENT penned on one of the ballots returned last month noted that virtually all the candidates were interested in horticulture and asked where the botanists, taxonomists and ecologists were. Good point. They're actively serving on the standing committees; they're presenting programs, leading field trips, preparing material for coming newsletters. They headed standing committees on the steering committee and are currently serving on the board of directors as chairmen of the program and education committees. As long as botanists, taxonomists and ecologists are willing to be active, The Alaska Native Plant Society won't be just another garden club. It's up to us -- and that means you and me.

SOME PHONE NUMBERS if you need information or want to volunteer:

Verna Pratt, President.....
Peggy Pletcher, Membership.....
Joanne Sedgwick, Field Trip Chairman.....
Jerrienne Lowther, Newsletter.....