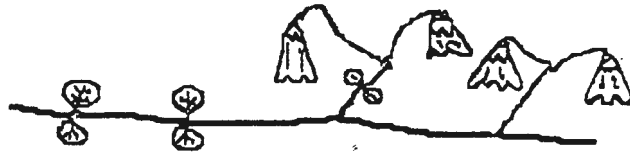


# BOREALIS

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ALASKA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 141613, Anchorage, Alaska 99514

**MEETING NEWS**---The February meeting of the Anchorage Chapter will be held on Monday, February 6 at 7:30PM in the Lunch Room on the 2nd floor of the National Bank of Alaska Building on the N.W. corner of Northern Lights and C St. The parking lot is behind the building and can be entered only from Northern Lights. From the parking lot, enter the building by the back doors, take the elevator to the 2nd floor, exit elevator and turn left. (You may have to check in with the guard on the main floor).

**BOARD MEETING**---The Board of Directors will meet at 6:45PM immediately preceding the General Meeting.

**SPEAKER**---Pete Scrup of the University of Alaska Agricultural & Forestry Experimental Station in Palmer will present a program on the Life History & Habitats of *Arctophila fulva* Pendent Grass. Pete has worked with revegetation programs on the North Slope and in the Matanuska Valley. It will be interesting to learn about revegetation efforts with some native plant materials.

**PLANT FAMILY**---The plant family to be discussed is the Araliaceae/Ginseng family. Frank Bogardus will lead the discussion. This family consists of mostly woody plants that are often prickly. Leaves are usually palmately or

pinnately compound with stellate (star shape) hairs. Often there is a stipule at the base of the petiole. The flowers are small, greenish, actinomorphic (evenly placed parts radiating from the center) and usually on heads or umbrells, or occasionally racemose. Flowers usually consist of 5 sepals-5petals-5 stamens and 5 united carpels. Fruit is usually a berry or drupe. Most plants are tropical and used as ornamental house plants. The famous medicinal plant, *Panax quinquefolium*, or Ginseng is in this family.

This family is represented in Alaska by one member, *Echinopanax horridum*, or Devil's Club, a densely thorny shrub with spines even on its leaves and berries. It forms nearly impenetrable thickets in moist shady areas with good humus soil. Although homesteaders that were given land with plant flourishing on it cringed when they saw the monster they had to contend with, they found in the end that they had the best soil of all. It has very large maple-like leaves and a dense spike of small red inedible berries. This plant is said to have many medicinal uses and was used extensively by the Indians in SE Alaska.

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## DUES ARE DUE (DUES IS DUE?)

Annual membership--

Individual-----\$10

Family (2 or more adults at the  
same address)-----\$15

Full-time Student-----\$5

PLEASE LET US KNOW ANY CHANGE IN ADDRESS OR  
PHONE \*---SOME NEWSLETTERS ARE BEING RETURNED.

**MYSTERY PLANT**---This is a small plant found in fairly heavily vegetated areas of rocky slopes. Due to its habitat and size it might easily be overlooked, except for its leathery looking, dark green, glossy leaves. They are bluish on the underside and so different from the other vegetation around it. The basal leaves are on long petioles, each leaflet has shallowly rounded lobes, and are generally arranged in 3s. The flower spike extends well above the leaves (3-5" tall) and consists of many tiny reddish brown inconspicuous petalless flowers and a few reduced leaves. It occurs in alpine areas throughout most of Alaska, and tundra areas above the Brooks Range.



**SEED EXCHANGE**---It's time to provide us with seeds that you may have collected. Bring to next meeting or mail to ANPS address or call Verna at . Doug Tryck has agreed to do our seed exchange again this year. Will someone volunteer to help him? Call Doug at

## SANCTUARY TRAVEL SERVICES, INC.

Remember When you book your travel through Sanctuary, you may designate ANPS to receive a portion of their commission, and it costs you nothing extra. Best service, too! (907) 561-1212

**PEN PAL ?**---Wolfgang Villain, an East German Alpine Gardener, is interested in obtaining seeds of Poaceae, Cyperaceae, and Juncaceae. Is there a member who would like to trade seeds with him? He has access to some from Mongolia, Siberia and Iceland. He is a retired professor of economics, and his wife teaches English and accounting. Lenore Hedla has been trading with him and says that his letters are delightful. His address is:

Westockweg 4 PSF 932  
Zwickau 9560  
German Democratic Republic

**FIELD TRIPS**---The Field Trip Season will soon be upon us! Cathy Wright is in charge of Field Trips this year. We are looking for suggestions on areas to visit and offers to lead trips. We would love some input from the Fairbanks area! Remember that people need lots of planning time. Many groups are planning their summer schedules **now!** The success of last years Orchid Trip (June 12) proves that just knowing a choice spot is all that is needed---we will arrange to have a knowledgeable person on hand to assist you. Please let us know your thoughts. Cathy can be reached at

# PUZZLE---By Marilyn Barker

Find and circle in the diagram the 44 Alaska Flowers in the word list. They are hidden horizontally, vertically or diagonally in a straight, unbroken line of letters that read forward or backward.

To find the Hidden Flower: The unused letters will spell out the "hidden" Alaskan Wildflower when read from left to right beginning at the top of the diagram.

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| ADOXA         | IRIS          |
| ALDER         | JASMINE       |
| ASTER         | LILY          |
| AVENS         | LABRADOR TEA  |
| BLUEBELL      | LUPINE        |
| BUTTERCUP     | MOON (WORT)   |
| BIRCH         | ORCHID        |
| CRESS         | PHLOX         |
| COW PARSNIP   | ROSE          |
| CROWBERRY     | RUE           |
| CURRENT       | RYE           |
| DOCK          | RUSH          |
| DRYAS         | SAGE          |
| DWARF DOGWOOD | SHIELD (FERN) |
| ELDERBERRY    | SPRUCE        |
| FIR           | SAXIFRAGE     |
| FLAX          | SUNDEW        |
| FIREWEED      | STARFLOWER    |
| GENTIAN       | SEDGE         |
| GRASS         | TWIN (FLOWER) |
| GERANIUM      | WILLOW        |
| GOATS BEARD   |               |

JKADWARFDOGWOOD  
 AMUINAREGEKCODR  
 SHIELDENSTSNEVA  
 MTMGCWHONNIATBE  
 I KAAETRODARBALB  
 NSPRUCEMLTIAPUS  
 ERIFFETFURYT IET  
 RFWILLO WPUIANBA  
 ADOXAAOTICBISEO  
 EEGASGXWNNIHR LG  
 GRASSUNDEWRSALX  
 D L L T B U T T E R C U P I O  
 E L D E R B E R R Y H R W L L  
 S S E R C L U D I H C R O Y H  
 A R R E Y R R E B W O R C Y P

## HELP NEEDED---ANPS member

Debra Delong, a student at UAF, is looking for help on germination results of Alaska Native Plants suitable for cultivation. She is especially interested in *Arnica frigida*, *Iris Setosa*, *Galium boreale*, and *Hedysarum Mackensii*. Anyone having information that might help her, please contact her at: P.O. Box 73606, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707.

## QUIZ ANSWER--- *Thalictrum*

*alpinum*, Alpine Meadow Rue.

## THANKS, READERS---Our

thanks to the following listed readers who have sent in materials for the news-letter.

Marilyn Barker  
 Dave Dolese  
 Lenore Hedla

## HELP NEEDED---(Editor's Note:)

Verna is still stuck with doing the Plant Family write-up and Mystery Plant. Won't someone help out?



Alaska Native Plant Society

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