



JANUARY 11 2019

CREVICE

Alaska Rock Garden Society

January Meeting

Penstemons—Kathy Swick

**Reading of Proposed Constitution, by-laws
and Standing Rules (attached)**

January 19, 2019, 2:00 P.M.

Elks Lodge, 17111 N. Eagle River Loop Rd.

**(Enter through the side door on the left side of the building. Volunteers
needed to arrive at 1:30 PM and help set up tables & chairs.)**

Greetings!

It's time to renew your Alaska Rock Garden Society membership that expires at the end of the calendar year. We have some good programs lined up for this year, and a lot of educational opportunities.

There are several ways to pay your dues. Mail a check, pay on line, or bring your dues to the January meeting.

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ARGS Constitution – EDITED **DRAFT**
(A Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society)

Article I: Name

The Name of this organization shall be the Alaska Rock Garden Society (ARGS) a chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society.

Article II: Purpose

The Purpose of this organization shall be to encourage and promote:
Interest in design and construction of rock gardens
Cultivation of rock garden plants
Plant exploration, conservation and study of habitats, growth forms,
And geographic distribution

Article III: Membership

Membership shall be open to any person interested in rock gardening and pays annual dues. Each member is eligible to vote and hold office. There shall be four classes of membership – Individual, Family, Life, and Honorary.

Family Membership shall mean two or more persons at the same address (two votes)

Life Membership is an individual who pays Life Membership dues.

Honorary Membership shall be reserved for a person who has performed special services for the Chapter. Such membership shall be proposed by the Executive Board and voted on at a regular meeting.

Membership shall be on an annual calendar year basis.

Article IV: Dues

Dues paid after September **New member dues paid after September 1st of any calendar year shall apply to the remainder of that year and the entire following year.**

There shall be a three (3) one (1) month grace period, ending March 31, after which membership and privileges cease.

Dues shall be determined by the Executive Board and shall be stated in the Standing Rules.

Article V: Officers

Elected officers shall be Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer

The terms of office shall be two (2) years

The Chairperson may serve only two (2) consecutive terms

Election of officers shall take place in November of the even-numbered years; and the new officers shall assume their duties the following January

Chairperson must be a member of NARGS, and it is preferred that all officers be members of NARGS



ARGS Constitution – EDITED **DRAFT** (continued)

Article VI: Executive Board

The Executive Board shall consist of the Elected Officers, Immediate Past Chairperson, Newsletter, Website, Program, and any Special Committee Chairpersons appointed by the Executive Board of which five (5) persons shall constitute a quorum

The Executive Board shall conduct most of the business of the organization. Members who desire to present a topic which may require considerable discussion at a **General Membership meeting, should present such topic to the Executive Board at least two (2) weeks prior to a General Membership meeting.**

There shall be at least three (3) Executive Board meetings each year.

The Executive Board may:

Approve the payment of all normal operational expenses.

Approve payment up to \$1000.00 for special workshops or projects without the approval of the General Membership.

Executive Board meetings are open to all paid-up members of the Chapter; only Executive Board members are entitled to vote.

Fill any mid-term vacancies.

Article VII: Amendments

This constitution may be amended at any general meeting by a 2/3's Affirmative vote of the members present, provided that the Proposed amendment has been submitted in writing, read at a Previous meeting, and distributed to all paid members.

Article VII: Dissolution

The Chapter may be dissolved with the assent given in writing and signed by not less than 2/3's of the voting members. Upon dissolution of the Chapter, any assets of the Chapter shall be transferred to a non-profit corporation, association, trust, or other organizations recognized as a tax exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the IRS code, such as the Alaska Botanical Garden and/or the George Georgeson Botanical Garden, along with the proceeds from the sale of any and all assets owned by the Chapter. The Executive Board shall make the decision regarding disbursement of assets.

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ARGS By-Laws – EDITED **DRAFT****Meetings:**

Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Meeting may include field trips, special speaker arrangements, discussions, workshops, or plant sales.

Meetings shall be open to the general public.

Officer Duties:

The Chairperson shall:

Preside at Executive Board Meeting and General Meeting.

Appoint Standing Committees, and Chairpersons of Special Committees.

Appoint a Nominating Committee in May that consists of two (2) persons plus the Past President.

Serve on the Nominating Committee after completion of term in office.

Assist in the audit of the Treasurer's books or appoint an alternate to fulfill that function. (Send NARGS Executive Secretary the name of the officers of the Chapter upon their election.)

Reply to correspondence directed to Chapter

Vice Chairman: Chairperson:

Shall conduct the business of the Chapter in the absence of the Chairperson

Shall fill the position of the Program Committee Chair

Secretary:

Record the minutes of the Executive Board and General Meetings.

Read the minutes of the most recent Executive Board meeting and General Membership meetings upon request.

Reply to correspondence directed to the Chapter

Send NARGS Executive Secretary in April an account of its **ARGS activities during the past year for the purposes of a report to the **NARGS** Annual Meeting**

Treasurer:

Collect and deposit all monies due the Chapter

Pay all bills incurred by the Chapter

Keep a ledger with proper breakdown of receipts and disbursements.

Read Treasurer's Report at Executive Board and General Membership meeting upon request.

Obtain a signature card from the Bank before new officers assume their duties

Audit the ledger with an appointed member of the Executive Board and submit a financial report to the Executive Board as requested.

File appropriate Income Tax forms annually **as required by IRS and/or State regulations.**

Note: The following will appear under Membership Committee duties:

Provide Newsletter Editor with current list of members to include mailing and email addresses.

Shall send current newsletters and pertinent info to new members.

**Duties of Appointed Committees:****Program Chairperson: Vice Chairperson:**

Make arrangements for programs and field trips and keep the Chairperson and Newsletter Editor informed of details of such events

Acknowledge presentations of guest speakers with a card or gift as determined by the Executive Board.

Newsletter and The Crevice Editor and Website Editors: Coordinator:

Produce and distribute timely Newsletters to inform all members of upcoming activities.

Maintain and keep the Website updated with information provided by the Executive Board and Committee Chairpersons.

Include the ARGS Newsletter and The Crevice in the 'PUBLIC' section of ARGS website

Membership Committee:

Provide Newsletter Editor with current list of members to include mailing and email addresses.

Shall send current newsletters and pertinent info to new members.

Committees:

Program – Active

Newsletter / The Crevice Editor– Active

Website Coordinator – Active

Membership – Active

Elections – Active

Seed Exchange – Active

Library – Active

Sunshine – Active

Awards – Active

Amendments:

These By-Laws may be amended by a 2/3rd affirmative vote of all members present at a General Membership meeting, provided that the proposed amendments have been presented in writing and read at a previous General Membership meeting.

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ARGS Standing Rules – EDITED **DRAFT**

Dues:

Individual Membership	\$15.00 US	
Canadian Membership	\$20.00 US	Removed
Overseas Membership	\$25.00 US	Removed
Family Membership	\$20.00 US	
Life Membership	\$200.00 US	
Honorary Membership	None	

Plant Sales:

Anchorage
Valley

Speaker Fees:

Speakers will be paid according to the distance traveled.
Speakers traveling over 50 miles and under 100 miles will be paid \$20.00.
Speakers **traveling** over 100 miles will be paid \$50.00.
Longer distances will be paid for their Air Fare.

ARGS Chapter Awards:

Aline Strutz Award: Given in memory of Aline Strutz, who put Alaska on the world map for Alaska's plants. Her love of the plants and willingness to share is still evident through the people she mentioned and befriended all over the world

Guide Lines: This award is to be presented to a person who has contributed to the advancement of Rock Gardening in Alaska. Considerations will included contributions to the promotion of rock gardening in Alaska, leadership, projects, written articles, knowledge of and enthusiasm for the art of rock gardening and alpine plants and sharing willingly of that knowledge. Award will be granted when a person has been nominated then approved by the Award Committee. Commemoration will include a plaque titled "Aline Strutz Award" with recipient's name, the year, and a statement of the reason for the award.

Winners:

2005 Vema Pratt

President Stipend:

A stipend of \$300 will be paid to the President annually to attend one NARGS meeting, either **Western Winter Study Weekend (WWSW)** or an Annual Meeting.

NARGS Monthly Book: Door Prize:

ARGS will purchase the Book of the Month each month from NARGS to be used as a door prize at monthly meetings. **Re-write as 'ARGS will provide a book or suitable item to be used as door prize at monthly meetings.'**

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