

For information about membership or upcoming programs, contact:
Cooperative Extension Office
1675 C St, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 786-6300
Fax: 786-6312



AMGA NEWSLETTER

June 2014
Volume 16, Issue 6

Message From Lynne Opstad Co President AMGA

It's spring! By now most of you will have your gardens planned; plants bought, and maybe even fully planted gardens. In the early morning I like to do my "garden survey". With a cup of coffee in hand I slowly walk my gardens, bending down to see what's coming up, waiting for that first shoot to appear or flower to bloom. I hold my breath waiting for the first flowers, but in a way don't want to see them because that means the end of summer is nearer. I want to slow everything down, enjoy working in the dirt, seeing the flowers slowly developing to their peak. With all this sun nature insists on going fast, "Bloom, Bloom, Bloom," the sun is telling the plants. So, I enjoy it while I can, spending as much time in the garden as possible, looking, smelling and touching the plants and listening to the birds.

The cutting of the trees in our Town Square Park and my husband's talk of retirement has made me think about what kind of town I want to live in. For each person and stage of life the qualities that define a desirable living place are different. Parents want a good educational system for their children; outdoors people want easy access to recreation, boating, hiking, etc. Most people want interesting jobs that pay a living wage, affordable housing and friendly people to live around. For myself, and I would assume other gardeners, it is a town where many "green spaces" exist. Green spaces, whether in the form of established parks, natural areas, or small pockets of green all add up to a desirable feel to a community.

Have you ever noticed how you relax when looking at the color green? I've noticed when I fly south during the winter, the first time I set my eyes on green trees and grass, my eyes noticeably relax. Or when I'm walking in a big city, down a corridor of tall buildings, and come upon a park, I experience the same sensation, my whole body relaxes. I feel more at home and at ease.

I was recently in Vietnam and to my great surprise found that the Vietnamese value parks. In both Saigon and Hanoi there were parks in the middle of their very busy, noisy downtowns. Not just green spaces, but well kept, clean parks, with plantings and pots overflowing with flowers. In a developing country with the average annual wage of \$4,800, they appreciate the value of parks in their communities. In a city such as Anchorage, with our bounty, what value do we place on our green spaces?

So where does Anchorage fit in the "desirability" scale of cities? I would say we have it all, but we need to value what we have; to preserve and build on it. Anchorage is a great place to live regardless of your stage of life. As Master Gardeners we can help our city retain its desirability by insuring that green spaces exist, by supporting the existing spaces and encouraging our community to develop more so that we don't become a city of concrete. Let's not be the city where "They paved paradise and put up a parking lot."

Inside This Issue....

Message from Lynne Opstad
Amy Olmstead, Drip Irrigations
Treasurer's Report
Lewisia Tweedy
Cool Facts about Black-billed Magpies
Growing Young Gardeners: Hands on Lessons
Growing Young Gardeners: Book Reviews
Devil's Club: the Devil's Walking Stick
Shade Tolerance
Bird Chatter
Tips on Potato Planting
May Herb Study Meeting: Herbs to Use Every Day
Garden Event Calendar

Amy Olmstead: Drip Irrigations

By Sheila Toomey

Shout it from the rooftops! Clue the paparazzi! Call the Pope!

Forty-eight Master Gardeners witnessed a certified miracle at their May 19th meeting: Amy Olmstead demystified drip irrigation and convinced a roomful of skeptics that we can all install a simple system in our own yards.

Anyone can do it, she said. It's good for plant health and frees up all that time you spend soaking thirsty flowers, veggies, shrubs and trees.

It also conserves water by directing just the right amount to just the right spot.

If the idea of lining your whole yard with tricked out hose is daunting, Amy suggested doing it in stages. Start by choosing a single bed, then break the project down into doable segments.

Begin with a rough sketch of the bed -- where are the plants, what is the best route for the hose? What is the best way to water the different plants -- drip, sprinkle, mist?

The toughest part seems to be figuring out what bits and pieces to buy to attach to the main hose once it's laid out. A handbook distributed by Amy -- and available at Far North Garden Supply (Boniface and Northern Lights) -- lays out options -- too many options, actually. "Daunting" raises its ugly head after a few pages. It might be better to just plunge in.

Far North has a wall full of the needed gadgets, plus Shawn and Shane who work there are nice and helpful.

Alaska Mill and Feed is also carrying drip irrigation supplies this year, Amy said.

Starter kits are available for beginners, but Amy advised against buying them. Inevitably they will lack something you want for your set-up, and will have a bunch of stuff you don't need. Supplies are pretty cheap so best to buy them individually, she said. A small yard will cost about \$50 for the basics.

Beginner systems can be customized and changed as a garden evolves over the years. Or as the installing gardener gains confidence.

As she made her pitch, Amy actually did the tasks necessary to attach multiple drippers and sprinklers to both the main line and the auxiliary quarter-inch hose, making it look easy. Or at least doable for the DIY challenged.

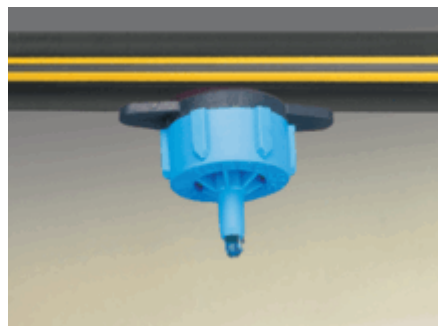
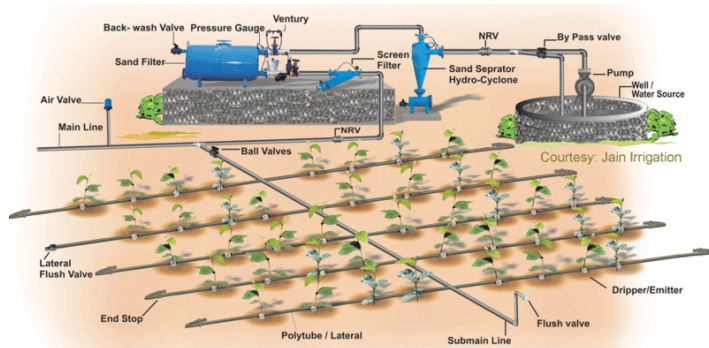
An appreciative audience snacked on food provided by Fran Durner, Margaret Love and Martina Steinmetz.

This was our last membership meeting of the season. It's time to put everything we've talked about over the

winter into practice in our gardens. Next meeting is September 15th.

Check your emails for notice of garden tours scheduled for most Monday evenings June through August.

Happy Gardening!



photos from wikipedia.org

Treasurer's Report:

Balances 3/31/14	
Checking	2538.31
Saving	12672.54
<hr/>	
Dedicated Funds	\$6439.40
Revenue:	
Education-AMG	48.25
Interest	1.56
Membership	80.00
	<hr/>
	\$129.81
Expense:	
Newsletter	341.00
Operations	227.99
Programs	497.98
	<hr/>
	\$1066.97
Balances 4/30/14	
Checking	1599.59
Saving	12674.10
<hr/>	
Dedicated Funds	\$6439.40

Lewisia tweedyi: Lewiopsis tweedyi

By Gina Docherty



Photo by Gina Docherty

Lewisia tweedyi is a challenging plant to grow. According to several long time rock garden enthusiasts, this plant came to Alaska a long time ago & was grown by Aline Strutz & a man named Walt Mayer, and distributed through local plant sales. There is a photo of Aline Strutz (1970's) on the Anchorage Museum website, kneeling in front of a rather large patch of tweedyi - <http://www.alaskahistory.org/detail.aspx?ID=155>

From Wikipedia: *Lewisiopsis tweedyi* is a flowering plant and sole species in genus *Lewisiopsis*. The species, formerly known as *Cistanthe tweedyi* and *Lewisia tweedyi* is now classified in the *Montiaceae* family. The plant is known by the common names *Tweedy's pussypaws*, *Tweedy's lewisia*, or *Tweedy's bitterroot*. It is endemic to western North America in north-central Washington and adjacent British Columbia. It commonly grows on well-drained slopes often on rocky slopes or in rock crevices from low elevation ponderosa pine sites up to the drier part of the Grand Fir zone of the North Cascades. The flowers usually have a coral, apricot, or pink color.

The taxonomy is quite confusing, but through genetic testing, scientists can determine lineage. The family *Montiaceae* was newly adopted in the APG III system and includes members of the *Caryophyllales* formerly listed in *Portulacaceae*. The *Montiaceae* family includes plants like 'pussypaws', 'spring beauty' & miner's lettuce (*Claytonia*).

Lewisia was first described by Captain Meriwether Lewis, of Lewis & Clark Expedition, 1774-1809, and later was named for topographic engineer Frank Tweedy. Frank made botanical collections from 1881-1891 for the US Geological Survey of Montana, Idaho, & Washington. He collected the plant that would become his namesake near Mount Stuart of the Winanatchee range in May 1882. Other Northwest native plants bear his name, such as Cascade Reedgrass (*Calamagrostis tweedyi*) & Tweedy's Willow (*Salix tweedyi*). This plant was the first lewisia to win the Award of Garden Merit in 1901.

Cultivation: Tweedyi is draught tolerant. It has a fleshy red root that can grow up to 2-3 feet long, although many are much shorter. Perfect drainage is required to prevent water logging & death. The soil should be rocky with a top dressing of sharp rocks. It should do well if planted similarly to *L. cotyledon*. Planting on a slight slope will also help improve drainage.

The seeds have a sweet honey scent which is not present in other species of lewisias. The odor attracts ants, which carry the seeds away, eat the outer skin, & drop the bared seed some distance from the parent, slowly increasing the size of a wild colony. Unfortunately it does not set seeds very easily in captivity, so is cultivated from cuttings or from seeds gathered in the wild.

In hotter climates, *L. tweedyi* appreciate a little shade, but in Alaska, they will tolerate full sun easily.

[Other sources: <http://www.paghat.com/lewisia7.html>]

Cool Facts about Black-billed Magpies

Black-billed Magpies are familiar and entertaining birds of western North America. They sit on fenceposts and road signs or flap across rangelands, their white wing patches flashing and their very long tails trailing behind them. This large, flashy relative of jays and crows is a social creature, gathering in numbers to feed at carrion. They're also vocal birds and keep up a regular stream of raucous or querulous calls.

- Historical records of the American West indicate that Black-billed Magpies have been associates of people for a long time. Magpies frequently followed hunting parties of Plains Indians and fed on leftovers from bison kills. On their expedition, Lewis and Clark reported magpies boldly entering their tents to steal food.
- Like most members of the jay family, the Black-billed Magpie is a nest predator, although eggs and nestlings make up only a tiny portion of the bird's overall diet.
- The Black-billed Magpie makes a very large nest that can take up to 40 days to construct. It's a lot of work, but a study found that it only used about 1% of the daily energy expenditure of the pair. Laying eggs, on the other hand, takes 23% of the female's daily energy budget.
- The Black-billed Magpie frequently picks ticks from the backs of large mammals, such as deer and moose. The magpie eats the ticks or hides some for later use, as members of the crow and jay family often do with excess food. Most of the ticks, however, are cached alive and unharmed, and may live to reproduce later.
- The longest-living Black-billed Magpie on record was at least 9 years, 4 months old and lived in Idaho.

Source:

http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/black-billed_magpie/lifehistory

Growing Young Gardeners: Hands On Lessons

By Amy Reed, MG

This time of the year, many fantastic programs are offered that focus on teaching our youngsters about gardening and plants. While some of them will have passed by the time of this publication, they will be something to mark on your calendars for next year.

Alaska Museum of Science and Nature: 201 N. Bragaw, Anchorage, AK 907-274-2400 <http://www.alaskamuseum.org/tinker-time>

5/12/2014 1000 Tinker Time: In the Garden

My family attended this activity, and we had a terrific time playing with bean seeds in the sensory table, putting together a puzzle of the life cycle of the bean, actually planting bean seeds to take home. We listened to story time, which focused books on the definition of a vegetable and what fruits grow on trees. My three year old really enjoyed planting a bean seed in a wet paper towel, then placing it in a clear plastic cup. By the time we were in the parking lot of the museum heading home, she could already see changes in the bean seeds!

Upcoming events:

May 19th: The Sun- Children will learn why the sun is so important to them, plants, and animals.

May 26th: Ladybugs!- Learn about this special beetle, their life cycle, and how they help the garden.

The Anchorage Museum at the Rasmuson Center: 625 C. Street Anchorage, AK
907-929-9200 <https://www.anchagemuseum.org>

*Toddler Time: Flowers 5/24/2014 10:30 and 11 a.m. Children will learn about flowers and make paper flower crowns.

*Outdoor Explore: Garden in a Bottle 6/28/2014 Creating a planter from a plastic bottle.

Anchorage Botanical Garden: 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd., Anchorage, AK
907-770-0555 <http://www.alaskabg.org>

June 2 - July 23 Junior Master Gardener Day Camp This teaches kids about gardening, soil, seeds, insects and more. Camp attendees come to ABG one day per week (Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday) in the morning (9 am - 12 pm) or afternoon (1 - 4 pm) each week June 2nd - July 23rd.

Every Thursday in the Summer starting June 5th at 1200 Storytime in the Garden Ages 3-5 year olds hear a garden story followed by a short activity.
June 28 & 29 Boreal Garden & Arts Fest This features the popular Children's Garden activities.

What a busy schedule of activities to educate and cultivate a love of gardening in our little ones! Happy Planting!

Growing Young Gardeners: Book Reviews

by Amy Reed, MG



Have you heard of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library? If you have a young child or grandchild under the age of five, this is a terrific literacy program to enroll them in. Ms. Parton, known the world over as a country music legend, envisions children from birth to age five receiving a book a month to cultivate a

love of reading. Over 700,000 children in the United States are participating in this reading adventure! Not only does my daughter enjoy obtaining mail addressed just for her, but she and I anticipate reading the wonderful stories. The past two months, in particular, have provided fantastic books that are gearing us up for spring!

The first book, *Miss Maple's Seeds*, by Eliza Wheeler, introduces the reader to a tiny woman who lives in a maple tree. Her mission is to find lost seeds that haven't sprouted and nurture them into the plants that they will become. She takes each seed on a field trip to places that it will best grow and to learn about being a seed. Miss Maple tells each seed, "The world is big, and you are small. Never forget that even the grandest of trees once had to grow up from the smallest of seeds." It teaches children that just as the seed is to grow from a tiny speck to a plant or tree, they are destined for great things. The back cover of this book has additional activities that relate to the story, such as walking through a garden or forest and pointing out how the plants started as seeds. It also encourages planting a garden or window box together with your child or grandchild to demonstrate a seed's growing potential.

Our new arrival for this month, *My Baby Blue Jays*, by John Berendt, is a fantastic description along with a collection of photographs that narrates a blue jay family from nest building through the baby birds hatching and exploring their environment. My daughter especially enjoyed the photos of the baby birds with their beaks open in anticipation of a meal! This book encourages children to look up in trees and explore their environment for animal habitats. It also suggests the additional activity of allowing your child or grandchild to use a camera to take photographs and tell a story through those pictures. We had a robin family establish a nest last spring outside our family room window, so we are excited to see if they return!



These are only two of the many books that we have enjoyed from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. For further information or to enroll your child or grandchild, visit the website: <http://usa.imaginationlibrary.com> It will cultivate seeds of literacy!

Photos provided by Amy Reed

Devil's Club: The Devil's Walking Stick By Janice Berry

Anyone who's been hiking has been warned to avoid devil's club - that brushing against it will cause a rash. I gained more knowledge of the total experience with this plant when I volunteered on a trail cleanup last spring. Our mission was to chop down brush 12" off the trail. We had gloves to protect ourselves, but as luck would have it, my gloves weren't thick enough and with the very first piece of devil's club I tried to chop down I got pricked. And thus began 3 days of pain as the thorn, like a splinter that could not be removed, worked its way through my system. The pain is caused by the presence of formic acid, and can break apart into tiny fragments once embedded in skin, therefore it's advised not to try to remove the thorn because it can become infectious.

This spreading shrub has leaves like palm fronds. Yellow brittle spines cover every



Photo from Wikipedia

inch of its stem, and even are located on the undersides of its leaves. It can grow from 3-to-10 feet tall. Devil's club is hardy to minus 20 degrees F, though it's not all that tolerant of heat and sun. It is most common to the bear, deer and salmon habitats of the Tongass National Forest with its damp forest floors and moist, acidic soil. It grows in the coastal forests of Alaska, Canada and the Pacific Northwest. In the spring, bears forage the emerging plants for food as well as the red berries that appear in late summer, which birds also like. The berries are

toxic to humans.

This prickly plant is both a "weed" and a medicine. Devil's club's scientific name is *Oplopanax horridus*. *Oplo* implies weaponry, while *panax* implies cure. The "cure" in this comes from being part of the ginseng family. In Sitka, the Tlingits have long used devil's club for ailments such as coughs and colds, stomach ulcers, tuberculosis and hypoglycemia. Tribe members steep it into teas, mash it into salves, chew, sip and steam it. It's also used to ward off evil. Devil's club is also used for face painting, tattoo inks and deodorant. The plant, dubbed the "Tlingit aspirin" has not been approved for medicinal use by the Food and Drug Administration. However, according to WebMD.com, devil's club contains chemicals that might fight some bacteria, fungi, and viruses.



Devil's club can be used as an ornamental for woodland gardens, mixed with borders or grown as a specimen in a prominent shaded spot. Its thorns act as a natural

"fence." Be careful, however, because it spreads through rhizomes. It needs partial shade with moist, well-drained soil.

Photo from by Wendy Aeschlimen with permission - <http://www.nativeplantsociety.org/devilsclub.htm>

Shade Tolerance by Gina Docherty

It is generally known that many plants that are 'shade lovers' in warmer climates such as hosta, will do well in the full sun in Alaska. Why is this? What exactly does this concept 'shade tolerant' mean?

According to Wikipedia (my favorite source):

Except for some parasitic plants, all plants need sunlight to survive. However, in general, more sunlight does not always make it easier for plants to survive. In direct sunlight, plants face desiccation and exposure to UV rays, and must expend energy producing pigments to block UV light, and waxy coatings to prevent water loss.

Plants adapted to shade have the ability to utilize far-red light (about 730 nm) more effectively than plants adapted to full sunlight. Most red light gets absorbed by the shade-intolerant canopy plants, but more of the far-red light penetrates the canopy, reaching the understory. The shade-tolerant plants found here are capable of photosynthesis using light at such wavelengths. On the other hand, when less light is available, less energy is available to the plant. Whereas in sunny and dry environments water can be a limiting factor in growth and survival, in shade, energy (in the form of sunlight) is usually the limiting factor.

The situation with respect to nutrients is often different in shade and sun. Most shade is due to the presence of a canopy of other plants, and this is usually associated with a completely different environment—richer in soil nutrients—than sunny areas.

Shade-tolerant plants are thus adapted to be efficient energy-users. In simple terms, shade-tolerant plants grow broader, thinner leaves to catch more sunlight relative to the cost of producing the leaf. Shade-tolerant plants are also usually adapted to make more use of soil nutrients than shade-intolerant plants.

A distinction may be made between "shade-tolerant" plants and "shade-loving" or sciophilous plants. Sciophilous plants are dependent on a degree of shading that would eventually kill most other plants, or significantly stunt their growth.

UV is strongest at the equator and gets weaker as you move towards the poles. This is most likely why gardeners in Alaska can grow many shade tolerant plants in full sun and get by with it. Perhaps this is why many shade plants do not fare as well in the shade here also.

However, with climate change, and increased amounts of sun & heat in our 'cool' state, all bets are off.



Bird Chatter

I love to hear Real gardeners talking, the Latin rolling off their tongue, sonorous and beautiful. I feel abashed when I take a sleeve and say

*'Do come and see that pink thing over there.'
'Ah, Centaurea hypoleuca. Very nice,' they say.
Never mind. It smiles the same for both of us.
Pam Brown, b. 1928*

Random Plant Trivia

Martigon Lily

The name Turk's cap lily, also applied to a number of other species, comes from the characteristic reflexed shape of the petals. The specific epithet 'martagon' is a Turkish word which also means turban or cap.

It is also named as Lily of Istanbul or Sultan Lily or Dragon Lily.

Tips on Potato Planting

Excerpts from "PEASANTS PERSPECTIVE",
By Curt Mueller, Master Gardener
Matsu Master Gardener Newsletter, May 2014
To read the entire article,
visit: <http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/>
Reprinted with permission

Getting an early start on the growing season is of considerable value in order to mature garden crops and reap bountiful harvests. This peasant uses a couple of methods which may be of some value to fellow gardeners.

Seed potatoes, certified and purchased from one of our own, are acquired in time to let them sprout before cutting up for seed pieces. One can store them in a warm place to promote sprouting. They've most likely come out of cold storage and need to be awakened. After cutting into pieces with a couple of eyes on each they're spread out and the cut surfaces allowed to dry and skin over for a day. They are then laid in flats on soil or a growing mix, covered with same, moistened sparingly, and left there until planting time. At room temperature they begin to develop a root system and leaves. If they need to be slowed down they're put in a cool garage. When the garden is ready they are carefully planted.

An advantage to this system is an earlier and more uniform emergence of the plants. Seed pieces that are slow in developing while in the flats can be discarded. This method will gain at least an extra week of growing time, and, we hope, a larger yield.

May, 2014 Herb Study Group "Herbs to Use Every Day" By Sharon Schlicht

Chef Jamey Walker offered suggestions for using herbs in his presentation "Herbs to Use Every Day."

Here are a few tips on using herbs:

- *Dill is used with salmon, dips and mayonnaise.
- *Tarragon goes well with fish, eggs and chicken, and it is used in béarnaise sauce.
- *Fresh basil is used in Italian and Southeast Asian cooking. Add it at the end of cooking because it is delicate; tear it to prevent oxidation or cut into thin strips (chiffonade) for garnish.
- *Chives are onion-like and go with eggs, baked potatoes and are used as a garnish.
- *Sage is a robust herb commonly used at Thanksgiving. It is used to flavor squash, sweet potatoes and sausage.
- *Chervil is delicate and difficult to find unless you grow it yourself.
- *Thyme can be used with basil and sage. It is good with poultry, quinoa and potatoes.
- *Cilantro is frequently found in Mexican foods.
- *Mint is popular with lamb, in chocolate and as a garnish. Gently bruise it to release its oils.
- *Curly parsley is bland compared to Italian parsley which has more of a kick.
- *Arugula is an herb that is good in salads.

A bouquet garni (bundle of herbs) can be made with thyme stems, pepper corns and bay leaves tied in cheese cloth. Put them into stocks and soups at the beginning of cooking; remove and discard before serving. To make an herb butter bring butter to room temperature, mix in chopped herbs, roll herb butter into a log and refrigerate. Cut off slices to serve. When substituting dry herbs for fresh herbs, use one-third to one-half the amount.

Everyone enjoyed the chef's Mint-Infused Tea, Grilled Vegetables and Herb Salad, and Herb Goat Cheese and Grape Crostini. Recipes were handed out.

For more information about using herbs consult: Culinary Artistry by Andrew Dornenburg and Karen Page, The Flavor Bible by Karen Page and Andrew Dornenburg, and The Spice Bible by Jane Lawson.

This was the last indoor meeting of the Herb Study Group until fall. During the gardening season, the group will volunteer at the ABG Herb Garden on Tuesday and Friday afternoons starting at 1:00. Soil should be thawed and ready for planting mid-to-late May.

Garden Event Calendar

PLANT SALES

Saturday, May 31

**MatSu Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, at the Palmer Pavilion (across from the Palmer Visitor's Center) <http://www.matsumastergardeners.com>

**Wildflower Garden Club Annual Plant Sale, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, 7435 Old Harbor Road, Anchorage

**Homer Garden Club plant sale, starts 11:00, Homer Chamber of Commerce parking lot, 201 Sterling Hy, Homer

Saturday, June 7

**Anchorage Garden Club Plant Sale, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, 3734 W. 35th Ave., Anchorage

**Central Peninsula Garden Club Plant Sale, 10:00 am, Corner of Kenai Spur and Princess (Church Parking Lot)

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Wednesday, June 4

Meadow Lake Bloomers Garden Club monthly meeting, work session to create leaf bowls, 10:30 - 12:30 pm, at Birch Creek Villa, off Pittman Road in Meadow Lakes, Contact Sherry Rusher at 375-5104

Thursday, June 5

Anchorage Garden Club Monthly Meeting, Program: Trees of Anchorage. 7:00 pm, Pioneer Schoolhouse (437 E. 3rd Ave.)

Thursday, June 19

A Midsummer Gala in the Garden, Annual fundraiser for the Alaska Botanical Garden, Art, Music, Food, Libations and Camaraderie, 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm, Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage

Tuesday, June 24

Alaska Orchid Society, Annual Repotting Clinic, 6:00 pm, contact www.akorchid.org for details.

Saturday and Sunday, June 28 and 29

Boreal Garden and Arts Fest, Art, Education, Music and Local Food, contact ABG for times, 10:00 am - 11:00 am members only, 11:00 am - 5 pm general public, Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage, Cost \$8/adult, \$5/child

CLASSES

Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday June 2 - July 25

Junior Master Gardener Program, Hands on Activities for children ages 7-11 learning botany, horticulture and ecology, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm or 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm. once per week, Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage, Cost \$130/child

Monday, June 2

Perennial Gardening, Learn how to plant perennials in the right locations, times and spaces, Greg Terry, Adjunct Horticulture Instructor at UAA, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, 707 A Street, Rm 210, Register at www.uaa.alaska.edu/

continuinged, cost \$45

Tuesdays, June 3 and 10

Barbara Falls: Geology and Botany, by Les Horn, Dr. Anne Pasch and Dr. Marilyn Barker, Hike the pristine canyon of South Fork, Eagle River and learn about its geological and botanical features, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, from the home of Les Horn: 21630 Falling Water Circle, Eagle River, OLA class, see registration and cost details at <http://www.oleanchorage.org>

Tuesday and Thursday, June 3 - 5

Beginning Bonsai, Learn to work with Bonsai plants in a hands-on class. Fee includes lessons and your own Bonsai to keep, 6:00 - 9:00, Paul Marmora, Master Gardener, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Rm 201, 707 A Street, Register at www.uaa.alaska.edu/continuinged, cost \$119

Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 3 - 17

Beginning Residential Landscape Design, Covers the first phases of design, including site inventory, site analysis, conceptual design, and preliminary design, Greg Terry, Adjunct Horticulture Instructor at UAA, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, 707 A Street, Register at www.uaa.alaska.edu/ continuinged. cost \$125

Wednesday, June 4

Container Gardening for a Patio, Deck, or Balcony, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Greg Terry, Adjunct Horticulture Instructor at UAA, 707 A Street, Register at www.uaa.alaska.edu/continuinged, cost \$45

Friday - Sunday June 13, 14 and 15

Photographing Alaska's Wildflowers with Alan Rokach: Learn the art of wildflower photography from a renowned expert! Friday, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm, Saturday 9:00 am - 7 pm, Sunday 7: am - 5 pm. Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage, 907-770-3692 or www.alaskabg.org for more information

Saturday, June 14

Miniature Garden Class, A class for miniature gardeners: Children 5 and older welcome! 10:00am, Alaska Mill and Feed- details at: <http://www.alaskamillandfeed.com>

Monday and Wednesdays, June 16 - July 2

Beginning Floral Design, Learn basics of floral design in this hands on training class. Take home all your arrangements each week. 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Paul Marmora, Master Gardener, Rm 210, 707 A Street, Register at www.uaa.alaska.edu/continuinged, cost \$275

Tuesday and Thursday, June 17 - 19

Mounting and Caring for Miniature Orchids, Learn to mount and grow orchids in a more natural way without the pot! Fee includes your own Encyclia Polybulbon orchid, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Paul Marmora, Master Gardener, 707 A Street, Rm 201, Register at www.uaa.alaska.edu/continuinged, cost \$59

Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 24 - July 10

Greenhouse Design and Operation, Overview of designing, construction and operation of a "hobby" greenhouse in Southcentral Alaska. The goal of the class is to provide you with sufficient knowledge and resources to design, build and operate a home greenhouse in Alaska, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Greg Terry, Adjunct Horticulture Instructor at UAA, Rm 201G, 707 A Street, Register at www.uaa.alaska.edu/continuinged, cost \$125



Black-billed Magpie
photo from Wikipedia

Newsletter Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting an item for publication in the following month's edition of the AMGA newsletter is the 20th of every month. Items arriving after this date may or may not be included.

Educational or garden related articles, Bird Chatter, calender items and announcements are always welcome.

The Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage welcomes letters, opinions, articles, ideas and inquiries. Contact the editor, Gina Docherty, at:

Mail: 14051 Fejes Road
Anchorage, AK 99516
Phone: 345-4099
Email: amga@alaska.net
AMGA Web Site: www.alaskamastergardeners.org

AMGA Google Group:
<https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#!forum/AkMGA>

To send concerns or information to the AMGA directly, mail to:
AMGA
P.O. Box 221403
Anchorage, AK 99522-1403

If you have questions or want to make address or email corrections, please contact Jane Baldwin at:
jbaldwin@alaska.net

AMGA Board of Directors

Barbara Baker	Co-President
Lynne Opstad	Co-President
Greg Kalal	Co-Vice President
Nickel LaFleur	Co-Vice President
Cindy Walker	Treasurer
Cheryl Shroyer	Secretary
Amy Olmstead	At large (Hospitality Chair)
Sheila Toomey	At large (Parliamentarian)

Committee Chairs, Program Coordinators & Volunteers

- Broadcast Email Coordinator - Lynne Opstad
- Directory - Sandy Harrington
- Education/Advanced MG - Julie Riley, Ginny Moore
- Events Calendar - Cheryl Shroyer
- Google Group - Mary Rydesky - Administrator: Jane Baldwin, Gina Docherty, Nickel LaFleur - Managers
- Hospitality - Amy Olmstead
- Lifetime Achievement - Sandy Harrington
- Membership/Database - Jane Baldwin
- Newsletter - Gina Docherty
- Pioneer Home Gardens Coordinators - Camille Williams, Lynne Opstad
- Programs & Field Trips - Nickel LaFleur, Greg Kalal, Sheila Toomey
- Volunteer Coordinator - Sharon Schlicht
- Website - Gina Docherty

AMGA regularly meets at 7:00pm every third Monday of the month, September through May (except for December).

Meetings are held at the
Anchorage Cooperative Extension Center
1675 C Street, Suite 100
(access off of 16th Avenue)

Monthly educational programs are free and open to the public. Visitors and guests are welcomed and encouraged.