

Anchorage Chapter



Volume 8, Issue 9

# ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER September 2006

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## The President's Corner by Dana Klinkhart

A master gardener from Yuba City, California, scheduled her visit to Alaska during our wettest weather in August. Ellie Cary arrived at our front door in a downpour to tour our garden. She graciously shared her master gardening experiences with me. In her county, the University of California Cooperative Extension Service offers applicants a 14-week (56-hour) series of classes in plant science, pest control, and horticulture. After passing a written examination, first-year master gardeners are expected to devote a minimum of 50 volunteer hours to activities mutually agreed upon with the Master Gardener Program Advisor. Each year thereafter, master gardeners volunteer at least 25 hours. The program is offered every two years and only 50 are selected from hundreds of applicants. Yuba City master gardeners serve their community much like we do. They field questions on gardening from the community at the Cooperative Extension office, at farmers markets, or plant clinics. They also offer presentations on gardening to groups and organizations. Classes are taught by master gardeners in horticulture and members write articles for their newsletter. Sound familiar? We had a lot to share and her visit passed quickly. Because her trip was tightly scheduled, she had to depart but we promised to stay in touch in hopes that our paths will cross again.

It can stop now. We have enough rain, don't you think? The wet weather has forced me inside to take care of indoor projects that have been ignored. I must admit that the gray days of August have been productive. The family has enjoyed the fresh rhubarb pies and the soups that were made from the tasty fresh vegetables. While some of the plants seemed to have smiled at the climate, others just pouted. The primroses and the fuchsias maintained their structure and bloom but the delphiniums and the oriental lilies were very sad looking. In fact, the oriental lilies showed signs of botrytis and the delphinium toppled with the weight of the moisture. The living wreaths made of wax begonia and those made of impatiens took on a life of their own. They were never more beautiful. Because of inclement weather, the photographic moments were scarce. I was forced to exercise patience while waiting to take my new digital camera out for a test drive. So until the sun shows up, patient I will be.

The focus last month on 'Pass Along Gardening' brought to mind a particular plant that I have enjoyed in my yard. When we moved to our new place seven years ago, my friend brought me a start from her patch of *Oenothera fruticosa* or commonly called sundrops. It's appropriately named for its brilliant yellow blossom. A sundrop in bud reminds me of a California poppy with its tint of apricot color. This herbaceous perennial loves full sun and a well drained location. It is hardy to zone 4 and does beautifully in a bed well away from the house. Sundrops light up the garden in July and continue showing their brilliance until it gets cold. As a cut flower, they do well, too. They spread by under ground runners so it's best to plant them where they are free to roam. Sharing them through division will invite them to bloom the first spring after planting but they can be started from seed. The Sundrops with all their radiance are a favorite in my garden.





Thais Thomas talking with master gardeners at the August 21st MG Field Trip

## More Lovely Gardens By Jo Anne Banta

Flower gardens or wind gardens, all were wonderful. August's AMGA tours took us to the home of Thais Thomas near Lake Hood and to the Rasmussen's wind garden, complete with flowers, on the Inlet.

Tall yellow ligularia and pink astilbe form a background for iris and lilies in Thais' front garden. Rocks frame striking evergreen contortas (weeping spruce?), and nearby a metal raven with crabapple in its mouth stands guard over spirea, four types of gentian and rock garden specialties. Beneath a variegated maple, rhododendrons, azaleas and peonies flourish. Scotch pine and native red twig dogwood intertwine in a glorious combination – Thais says the dogwood came from Knik years ago.

Large granite rocks form individual beds to make Thais' small back yard appear spacious. In her warmer coastal climate surrounded by warm rocks, plants that many of us find "unhardy" seem to thrive. (I spied Trillium and Euonymus, both of which I tried unsuccessfully to grow in Cordova.) There are several rhododendrons already setting next year's buds, among them white Crete and purple Catawbiense Boursault); holly (Ilex verticillata), both male and female dwarf varieties; a twelve-year-old Northern Lights azalea; and a Norland apple drooping with yellow fruit. A small lily pond fed by a trickling waterfall, is surrounded by lush greenery and by the contrasting coppery foliage of Rosa rubifolia and artemesia.

Along with raspberries, horseradish and hostas, all sorts of different, interesting plants appear: angelica gigas, yellow thalictrum, pink yarrow, pink potentilla, a striking fuchsia-colored bee balm and a fern look-alike, yarrow filipendula.

Thais has been in her home since 1988 and has done nearly all this work herself. We wondered how a potter and full-time teacher has had time to create all this beauty. (As a matter of interest, Thais does much of her ordering from Heronswood.)

Cathy and Ed Rasmussen's wind sculpture garden is a vision in itself. Created by metal sculpture artist Lyman, multiple weathered copper figures turn in the inlet breeze. A shorter "tulip" rotates slowly near a tall whirler of feathery copper disks. My favorite is a double windmill of petal-shaped blades, each twirling in its own direction. The variety of shapes and sizes creates a lovely center of interest in the large expanse of lush green lawn. Along the border, beds of flowering raspberries form a background for petunias and pansies and fade off into the native foliage above the Coastal Trail. A metal caribou gazes out over clumps of birch trees on the lawn leading back to the Rasmussen's home.



Planters of creeping Charlie, fuchsias and lobelia adorn the lower deck. The granite side continues down to form a center walk through on to a central garden where ligularia, foxglove and monkshood form a background for hostas and variegated lamium. Daylilies, painted daisies and cosmos add festive color. An outdoor shamrock occupies a favorite corner.

The stairway to the front is backed by luscious-looking red raspberries and cotoneaster while alyssum and verbena form a front border and blend into a fence of fragrant sweet peas. Hanging baskets of ivy geraniums, bacopa and verbena decorate the front deck. A huge outside foyer features a larger-than-life sculpted bear and cub surrounded by a wonderful array of pulsatilla, echinacea, amaranthus, edelweiss and annuals, including a showy double snapdragon. And so we reach the end of summer's garden tours on a very positive note. See you in September when we will learn about the art of Bonsai.



Jo Anne Banta taking notes during the MG Field trip to Rasmussen's Wind Garden



## **The Good, the Bad, the Ugly Master Gardeners Speak out on their 2006 Summer Garden**

Kathy Wartinbee - *I'd like to tell you about the lush green tomato plants with juicy red tomatoes just waiting to be picked but you would need to go visit someone else's greenhouse. This greenhouse has a few tomatoes just about to turn red. Things have been a long time coming this year.*

*The snap peas are just forming pods. The sweet peas just started blooming. I harvested the first of the cauliflower recently. I haven't a clue what's happening to the potatoes. Wonder if there is anything down under there. I don't mind the rain but it would be nice if it were mixed up with a bit of sunshine. Hope your greenhouse and gardens are better than the ones here.*

*Trying to figure out how to make it better next year will give me something to think about while the snow flies.*

Jolie McKay - *Well, I certainly picked a SUPER year to sow more grass seed! My vegetable garden was also phenomenal, though I've had to share a little too much with the slugs, thanks to the rain. But, my happiest garden venture this summer involved a bed in a shady little corner in my yard. The bed is lined in stone and I thought moss in the nooks and crannies of the rock would look great. Thanks again to our soggy summer, the moss I transplanted is thriving and the moss I am trying to grow from a moss/ buttermilk puree is coming in! Happy gardening!*

Martha Jokela - *Out behind Potter Marsh in my yard, it was rabbits, rabbits everywhere. One of our neighbors decided to release his domestic pets and they truly found good eatin' down in all the neighboring yards. I never knew how much rabbits dig - or how they know to select the more expensive perennials! Between them, the slugs, and the rain, this year was a new challenge for me (my 24<sup>th</sup> year gardening in Anchorage). It was another great summer, just really different. Fortunately the leaf miners and caterpillars my friends were plagued with didn't appear on my plants (maybe they didn't want to take on the rabbits and slugs - ha!).*

Shirley Kelly - *If anyone doubts that we had an unusually cloudy summer, I had an amarillis bloom, which has been in a northeast window since winter!*

Gina Docherty - *The good: We had the best self seeded spinach this year; the leaves were huge & delicious & they didn't go to seed until late. The self seeded plants were 3 times bigger than the ones we actually planted. The greenhouse did great - no aphids or whiteflies, only a bit of powdery mildew, & 3 slugs. We've harvested at least 60 pounds of tomatoes, & more on they way. We planted only 1*

*cucumber plant, & are still harvesting huge cukes; I can't give them away fast enough. No imported currant worms this year - we will have a big harvest of red & black currants.*

*The bad: The eggplants got big, but only produced 3 fruit, and the slugs got to them before we did. I must be more diligent with the hand pollination next year. The dogs ate the broccoli, slugs got the cauliflower; artichokes are late forming heads.*

*The ugly: weeds, botrytis on the lilies and SLUGS!*

Eva Hancock - *The Good: Minimal aphids and slugs. Daffodils on July 4th. Hops do fine northern exposure if you don't dig them up in June; New raised vegetable beds in place.*

*The Bad: ZERO bean germination; Peas only 6" tall. Moose attack wiped out the cole crops in late July. ZERO black currents and only two honey berry berries harvested.*

*The Ugly: Sally Arant moving away.*

Julie Riley: *The Good: I'm impressed with the first blooms on my Ligularia 'Little Rocket'. The florets are bigger than on 'The Rocket' and the plant is only 2 feet tall.*

*The Bad: My white Phlox paniculata will not have time to bloom this year. Apparently the season has been too cool, even right next to the house.*

*The Ugly: In July I saw my first burdock that was grown in Alaska soil. Today, I ran into the same weed again. Jamie, are you the one who hauled the 7 foot specimen into CES's basement storage?*

Christine Bingham - *Lilies leaning at a forty-five degree angle, some snapping off entirely from the heavy rains, Calamagrostis x acutiflora 'Karl Foerster' growing over six and half feet tall, and sweet peas just now starting to bloom? Strange summer, indeed. The petunias look like the neglected leftovers from a home improvement store after all this rain, tall with only one sodden blossom at the tip. If the Cannas, Fuchsias, Dahlias, and a few other stout chaps weren't looking so good, I would have just called it a season and composted all my container plants by now. Some of the Clematis specimens gave up the ghost this summer, but the Hostas have never looked better (which in itself is odd, because there are more slugs by far this summer in my yard). A high note: a rufous hummingbird made a brief appearance in July in my backyard.*

Rosemary Kimball - *The good: For the first time in history my fennel made bulbs. Now to cook. The August aphids never came to the greenhouse this year.*

*Limas in the greenhouse were a waste of time.*

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**





## The Good, the Bad....CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Jane Baldwin - Cold and slow spring and not very warm in July & August. Hit ice 6" down in my compost pile in mid-June. Beds didn't warm up til mid-July. Everything was late. Dahlias sat for more than a month without growing; roses slow to set buds and there were fewer flowers. Of 4 different clematis, only one bloomed this summer. Lots of aphids, fewer slugs. Many mornings with temps in the low 40's did not reach 50 degrees until noon which dampened my gardening enthusiasm. On the up side, it's the end of August and I still have asiatic lilies blooming (normally over and done by the end of July/first of August)!

Mary Shier - Well, where should I start? In the beginning it looked like a good year, then all went to hell. My green beans have 2" beans sparsely, artichokes are half the height they usually are and only 2 are showing any chokes but they are so very small. I have holes in EVERYTHI NG!! from the slugs..... Broccoli was fairly good and cabbage looks like it'll be ok. Fennel bolted and was tough...Uck. leeks are slow and very small. Squash is slow ....had to buy squash at the Farmers Market a couple of weeks ago if that gives you a clue.

Dug garlic Sunday and it turned out fairly well. Flowers are so so. Mushy deadheads waiting to be pruned. I'm so sick of squishing slugs...but when I do squish one I get a high!

Judy Christianson - My garden this year has been hard hit by rain, wind and some hail like everyone else's. All the compost put in the garden has allowed the rain to perk down into the ground. The onions, carrots and beets have been exceptional. I started pulling carrots the third week of July at 6 to 8 inches long (scarlet nantes). The elongated beets have been pushing up out of the ground and we have eaten several meals of the large ones. The green onions I just let get bigger and they are doing well. My cole plants had root maggots and after trying several different things I had to resort to chemicals. Surprisingly most of the plants rebounded and gave us nice heads although a bit smaller than the ones not treated. My peas are probably 9 feet high but my fence is only 5 feet so they are hanging over the fence and are hard to pick. They are really late in fruiting. The cabbages also got hit with slugs after the rain started. I put out slug bait on the 2 dry days and cleared up that problem. But with this rain they ARE BACK. The zucchini had 7 squash at the same time. In the flower garden the soft yellow potentillas are just now starting to bloom. The 4ft white thalictrums were fabulous this year with large clouds of flowers and now green seed pod heads. The purple thalictrum is not as tall as in previous years. My delphiniums are browning during bloom and have lost 3 more this summer. The asiatic lilies have outdone themselves. They have been gorgeous. My bearded iris and iris Pseudacoris were beautiful this spring as well as my tulips and siberian scilla. All the hostas came up late but have made up for lost time except one, it is a

large chartreuse and doesn't seem to have the vigor as in the past. I lost the blossoms on my crabapple this spring so no fruit this fall. With all this rain, many of my perennials are in desperate need of division. The biggest disappointment was Green Tears nicotiana and Green Envy zinnia. Some of the nicotianas were 6 feet tall and some were 3 feet high. The flowers are not worth the trouble. They blend into the stem. I will return to Jasmine and Aztec next year. The T&M zinnia seed were not green. I have red, pink, yellow and orange in my beds with my purple, lavender and chartreuse theme beds. I have removed some of the petunias already due to rotting stems. Amazingly the greenhouse has been producing lots of tomatoes, not so with the cucumbers. I have had bouts of spider mites and just can't seem to get rid of them. So it is spray and spray some more. I should be out picking raspberries but they are now molding on the bush. I was able to pick a lot earlier so I made raspberry fluff; my grandchildren call this pie as well as jam and jelly. Oh, the woes and joys of gardening, it is so delightful.

## KALE SOUP

Submitted by MG Kathy Wartinbee

from Heart of the Home by Susan Branch. Serves about 8

1 lb. kale, thoroughly washed  
4 med. potatoes, diced  
1 lb. linguica (or, sweet Italian sausage)  
8 c. chicken stock  
3 Tbsp. butter  
2 c. canned beef broth  
2 Tbsp. olive oil  
2 lbs. tomatoes, fresh or canned  
1/2 c. celery, chopped  
1 19-oz. can garbanzo beans  
1 c. onions, chopped  
1 tsp. basil  
1/2 c. carrots, chopped  
1 tsp. thyme  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
salt, fresh pepper, to taste

Use tender part of kale only - leaves only, no stems. Chop into fairly small pieces - set aside. If using fresh tomatoes, peel, seed & chop them and set aside. Prick linguica with fork and drop into boiling water for 10 mins. to get rid of the fat. Cut into ?" slices & quarter them. (If using Italian sausage, fry it drain fat: reserve)

Melt the butter & oil in a large heavy soup pot; add celery, onions, carrots & garlic. Cook slowly till soft - add potatoes, chicken stock & beef broth. Bring to a boil; reduce to simmer and cook, partially covered, for 15 min., till potatoes are cooked through. Stir in tomatoes & garbanzo beans. Simmer 15 min. more. Add kale, linguica (or sausage), basil, thyme and salt & pepper to taste. Simmer about 7 min. more - serve.



## Central Peninsula Master Gardener News By Rosemary Kimball

I went up to the firehouse vote and as usual some of the poll workers and I "talked garden". "How are your tomatoes?" to which I replied, "green". At the end of August I am going for ripe tomatoes 2 and 3. That's each, not the usual dozen. My husband, Phil, and I still haven't had our ceremonial BLT as I gave the first tomato to my tomato sitter from last spring. It is that bad down here! What's frustrating is to get a note from Gina Docherty saying she'd harvested 60 pounds of the red globes!

And speaking of tomatoes— MG Barb Jewell of Soldotna returned from her grandsons' birthdays with a gardening page from the Seattle Post-Intelligencer about some Alberta, Canada-developed tomatoes, the Beaverlodge series, that Territorial Seed ([www.territorial-seed.com](http://www.territorial-seed.com)) is carrying. I went to the web site and was intrigued by all the other tomato varieties carried. T-S is in the Willamette Valley of Oregon where they specialize in cool-season tomatoes (that's where I learned to make piccalilli and green tomato mincemeat the first week of one September). I am growing one of the Mountain Spring variety that I got free from Kenai River Nursery (six free plants from just walking in the door in the spring!) and that plant is ripening its second tomato which makes it the leader of the pack.

At the end of August the potatoes are just starting to bloom. Ditto lilies! Things are 2 to 4 weeks later than usual down here including the slugs and root maggots. We've got a wheelbarrow load of slug boards out and I'm in the squish mode until I get the salt water pool going.

I know we're not Mat-Su with their flooding problems but in the month of August we got 1/3 of our total annual precipitation in Sterling. It is great for the potatoes but when I dug some for dinner they came up as potato-sized lumps of mud.

The garden is producing and interestingly enough, the cauliflower plants from the nursery that were root bound produced their 50¢-sized heads quickly and the ones that were frosted mid-June are doing much better and the yield from them should be fairly normal when they produce!

For the second year in about 20 we managed to get some service berries before the robins came through. I've been experimenting with making pancake syrup with our berries;

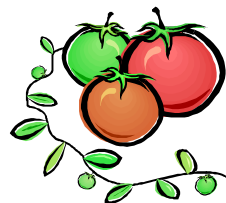
strawberries, red and black currants (very satisfactory) and the service berry. We just need to eat more pancakes as I have a couple gallons of juice in the freezer.

You know why we have winter in Alaska? Simply put, to recover from July followed by August! July is a fun month to visit other peoples' gardens and to entertain people that visit during fishing season, but August is when the work really begins: picking, harvesting, and storing. Last year I only made 4 batches of the celery/cabbage relish. This year I am going for 8. I can hardly wait for freeze up I think. Right now I shudder at the thought of a 12-month garden. Think of the weeds! The bugs! The slugs!

### Green Tomato Mincemeat

This is my husband's idea of a PIE

6 pounds of green tomatoes  
2 pounds of tart apples, cored  
2 c. raisins  
4 c. brown sugar  
2 c. strong coffee  
1 lemon, rind and all  
1 orange, rind and all  
1/2 c. cider vinegar  
1 t. nutmeg



Run all the solids through a meat grinder. Add the liquids to them in a big pot and simmer 2 hours stirring frequently. Makes about 5 quarts. Process in a boiling water bath for 35 minutes, complete the seals. This may be frozen if you have room. Diabetic? Substitute Splenda and 1-2 Tablespoons of molasses for the brown sugar.

Source: Farm Journal Freezing and Canning Cookbook.

### Food Bank of Alaska Tour



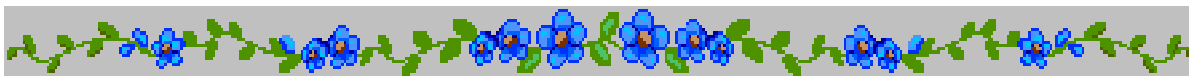
Merri Mike Adams of the Food Bank of Alaska would be happy to give Master Gardeners a tour of the Food Bank's Anchorage facility. The Food Bank accepts fresh garden produce, large or small quantities. The Food Bank of Alaska is located at 2121 Spar Ave. near Alaska Mill Feed and Garden Center. (See map on the back of the newsletter)

If anyone is interested in a tour, it can be arranged. Please contact Julie Riley at 786-6300 or [afjar@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afjar@uaa.alaska.edu).



Youth is like spring, an over praised season more remarkable for biting winds than genial breezes. Autumn is the mellow season, and what we lose in flowers we more than gain in fruits.

~Samuel Butler



## Bird Chatter

- MG Lupita Weese won a ribbon for the dahlia she entered in the Anchorage Garden Club's Flower Show. The flower came from a tuber that MG Bud Dubay gave students during one of his spring dahlia classes.
- Strut your stuff if your horticultural efforts have been recognized with a ribbon at the Anchorage Garden Club's Flower Show or at the Alaska State Fair. Let newsletter editor Gina Docherty know.
- Master Gardeners Carol Ross and Verna Pratt were interviewed by Donna Freedman for an ADN article on plant propagation entitled "Send in the Clones".
- Jeri Skille's husband Robert brought her home some pretty orange flowers from the Anchorage airport where he works. He had no idea they were orange hawkweed. After receiving a long lecture from Jeri on invasive plants, the two of them went out to the airport and dug them up. Way to go!!
- MG Nickel LaFleur is now a Certified Arborist. This summer she passed the difficult exam given by the International Society of Arboriculture.
- The 8th Annual **Potato Extravaganza** will be held in Fairbanks on September 30. It includes potato dishes as part of each of the 6 courses. (Doesn't this sound better than sampling more than 20 varieties without salt or butter?) For more info, Michelle Roberts at 456-1984.
- According to Corlene Rose, CES's IPM Program Manager, a rare beetle named after Adolf Hitler is in danger of extinction because of its growing popularity as a neo-Nazi collector's item.
- Chives can be chopped and frozen in a zip-loc and won't stick together!



The foliage has been losing its freshness through the month of August, and here and there a yellow leaf shows itself like the first gray hair amidst the locks of a beauty who has seen one season too many.

~Oliver Wendell Holmes

## Book review: The \$64 Tomato

Julie Riley, CES Horticulture Agent

Seldom does my recreational reading include gardening, but when friend (and Master Gardener) Jill Shepherd gave me her copy of **The \$64 Tomato** by William Alexander, I couldn't put the book down.

It could be that I was headed to Wisconsin for my annual family vacation where part of the ritual is to eat vine-ripened tomatoes, sweet corn and fried eggplant as often as possible, but Alexander's book spoke to me on many levels. It wasn't until page 247 that he started calculating the cost of growing his own tomatoes in a bad growing year.

The book starts out describing teenagers wishing for a normal father rather than one who harvests leeks from the garden in December. There were humorous chapters on what it was like to buy an old house in a small community and deal with contractors who were interested in completing only the easiest parts of the jobs.

The chapter titled "Cereal Killer", with a quote from an old Chiffon margarine commercial, made me glad that I live in Alaska and don't have Japanese beetles to contend with. I had to laugh when Alexander described his mild-mannered wife, who a few years earlier wouldn't allow guns in the house, vehemently telling someone that the only way to keep deer out of the garden was to shoot 'em. An early chapter, "No Such Thing as Organic Apples", addressed the altruistic approach the Alexanders took when they first started gardening and later "The Existentialist in the Garden" speaks to what it's like to have to rethink aspirations as one ages.

Starting out as a complete neophyte and facing numerous gardening challenges, Alexander is quite self-sufficient at tackling problems. Only once did he mention contacting the Cooperative Extension Service for help. The fact that the Cooperative Extension Service was mentioned at all made me light up, but I really beamed when a few days later a client walked into the CES office and said, "I have this problem with the shoulders cracking on my tomatoes." "I just finished reading **The \$64 Tomato**" I said, "and apparently shoulder cracking is something that commonly happens with 'Brandy Wine' tomatoes." "That's what I'm growing!" the client said.

So, **The \$64 Tomato** turned out not to be entirely recreational reading for me, but you're sure to enjoy William Alexander's writing as he chronicles 20 years in the garden. (2006, Algonquin Books)



## No Fall Master Gardener Course

The Master Gardener course will not be taught in Anchorage this fall. If you have friends who were interested in taking the course, please still have them get in touch with the CES office. A Think Spring series of 10 classes on growing flowers, vegetables and fruit will be offered Thursday evenings February 1 through April 19 and from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Those gardeners who expressed on interest in taking the Master Gardener course in fall 2006 will have priority registration for the Think Spring '07 series.

## MG Volunteer Opportunities

### AMGA Newsletter Columnist

The AMGA Board of Directors would like to see a Master Gardener highlighted in each issue of the newsletter. This would involve interviewing the MG being honored, the Extension Horticulture Agent and/or a member of the AMGA Board of Directors. The article does not have to be more than a couple of paragraphs long and would be accompanied by a photograph. Contact Julie Riley if you are interested, 786-6300, [afjar@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afjar@uaa.alaska.edu).



### Anchorage Home Show

The last big Master Gardener display of the season will be at the Sullivan Arena, September 15, 16 & 17. Master Gardeners are needed to staff the display on Friday from 4-8 p.m., on Saturday (11 a.m.-2 p.m., 2 p.m.-5 p.m., 5-8 p.m.) and on Sunday (11 a.m.- 2 p.m., 2- 4:30p.m., 4:30-6 p.m. with takedown). Please contact Roberta Landgren to schedule a time. Her contact number is 330-8277; [mrdata@arctic.net](mailto:mrdata@arctic.net).

Help is also needed setting up during the day sometime between noon and 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 14. If you can help with set-up contact Julie. The display will have a fall theme.

Master Gardeners are also needed to teach 50 minute classes during this event. Anything such as "Bulb Planting" or "Overwintering Tender Perennials" would make a great topic. Contact Julie ASAP if you have a topic you'd like to put on the agenda.

### Other ideas

If you have ideas for completing your volunteer hours, please let Julie know. Opportunities from now until the end of the year will be limited.



## Gardening Calendar

### September 07

Anchorage Garden Club program - Wetlands - by Holly Kent, Anchorage Waterways Council - Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd and Eagle, Anchorage - Starts at 7:30 Public invited. Website: [communitynews.adn.com/agclub](http://communitynews.adn.com/agclub)

### September 14

Wildflower Garden Club - presentation by Verna Pratt: Design and Construct a Rock Garden - Central Lutheran Church, 1420 Cordova St, Anchorage - Starts at 10:00 AM Website: [communitynews.adn.com?group\\_id=684](http://communitynews.adn.com?group_id=684)

### September 15 - 17

Anchorage Home Show - The last big Master Gardener display of the season will be at the Sullivan Arena, September 15, 16 & 17. See info this page.

### September 18

Master Gardener's Association - presentation by Paul Marmora of the Cook Inlet Bonsai Study Group.: Bonsai - Cooperative Extension Service, 2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd, Anchorage - Starts at 7:00 PM Public welcome, 786-6300. Website: [www.alaskamastergardeners.org](http://www.alaskamastergardeners.org)

### September 26

Miltonia Orchids - Central Lutheran Church, 1420 Cordova St, Anchorage - 7:30 PM  
Learn about these wonderful orchids that look like pansies from special speaker Ivan Komoda, Komoda Orchids, Maui.  
Contact: 248-1644

### October 05

Anchorage Garden Club presentation by Patricia Joyner, Community Forestry Program: Caring for Our Trees - Pioneer Schoolhouse, 3rd and Eagle, Anchorage - Starts at 7:30 PM Public invited. Website: [communitynews.adn.com/agclub](http://communitynews.adn.com/agclub)

### October 12

Wildflower Garden Club - presentation by Marge Olson: Designing Cards with Pressed Garden Material - Central Lutheran Church, 1420 Cordova St, Anchorage - Starts at 10:00 AM Bring your pressed flowers and get creative! Website: [communitynews.adn.com?group\\_id=684](http://communitynews.adn.com?group_id=684)



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

Mail: 4006 DeArmour Road  
Anchorage, AK 99516

Phone: 345-4099

Email: [amga@gci.net](mailto:amga@gci.net)

AMGA Web Site: [www.alaskamastergardeners.org](http://www.alaskamastergardeners.org)  
(The Newsletter will be on-line in living color!)





Angel found in Thais Thomas' Garden -  
Related story on page 2.

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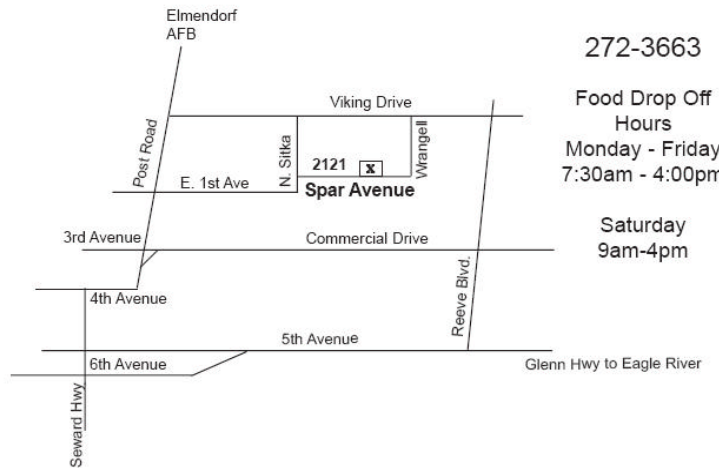
For information about membership or upcoming programs, contact:

Cooperative Extension Office  
2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd.  
Anchorage, AK 99508

Phone 786-6300

Fax Line 786-6312

### **Map to Food Bank of Alaska**



Food Bank of Alaska tours available. See article page 7.

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