

Anchorage Chapter



Volume 9, Issue 10

ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER October 2007

From the President's Corner By Dana Klinkhart

It just didn't seem quite right to put the garden to bed in September. Our scarecrows looked a bit bewildered at being on duty so early last month but now their presence fit right into the landscape. The fall colors are defining the month of October. A particular sight to behold in our neighbor's yard is the bold red color of their winged burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*). The scent of the fall foliage from our native plants is my wakeup call to autumn. The peppery smell of the leaves tickles my senses. The musty aroma of the highbush cranberry takes my breath away. There is no mistaking what time of year it is when I stroll past it.

During the busy summer and early fall, your AMGA board of directors met with regularity, sometimes every other week. Our mission was to set in motion the plan and the details for the Alaska Master Gardeners State Conference next year. Conferences do not just happen. Conferences require planning, budgeting and the participation of many volunteers. We needed to decide on a date, a theme and a location. Keynote speakers needed to be secured. An outline of details and responsibilities needed to be created. All of this had to be accomplished in a timely manner.

You must be wondering where we are in all of this. The date of the conference is May 9 and 10, 2008. The place is the Sheraton Hotel. The theme is 'IN THE ZONE' which will refer to zones 2 and 3 and sometimes 4. And we are not finished. We hope to have gardening experts from Alaska and our own Anchorage community inspire us all as speakers. Vendors will be a very large part of our plan. They will become the 'garden fair' part of our conference. The well-known personalities that have been invited as keynote speakers are Cisco Morris, Sara Williams and Larry Hodgson.

- ? Cisco has been a gardening expert for many years on both TV and radio in the Seattle area. He is a master gardener and a certified arborist. He teaches at the University of Washington Center for Urban Horticulture, Edmonds Community College and Seattle University. He has entertained and informed many visitors from Alaska who have attended the Northwest Garden Conference in Seattle over the years.
- ? Sara is the editor of 'The Gardener for the Prairies', an author and the horticultural specialist with the Extension Division, University of Saskatchewan. Some of her talks have focused on perennials hardy to zone 2 and perennials for both sun and shade. She has a long history of gardening in cold climates.
- ? Larry resides in Quebec and is a full-time free-lance garden writer and photographer. His book credits list 'Perennials for Every Purpose' and 'Annuals for Every Purpose'. A sample of his lectures include: Gardening on the Cheep, 12 Easy Perennials for Cottage Gardeners and Tips and Tricks for Laidback Gardeners. It is reported that he has a library of 75,000 slides of plants and flowers for presentations.

I am so pleased with our progress. Our meetings have been frequent and creative. Board members have demonstrated enthusiasm, cooperation and high energy. Volunteer assignments have been promptly completed. Did I mention the fellowship we shared? Most of our meetings have taken place at a kitchen table where we've shared a snack if not dinner. Already we have spent considerable time and this will continue until the close of the conference. And this is where the general membership comes into play. To assure the success of the conference, your help is needed. Already, gardeners have called to offer to work on this project. Specific areas of need are being identified and the job descriptions will be well defined. Some chores will be smaller than others but all of them will be important. Please contact any of us on the board to inquire about how you can help. Share our enthusiasm. My line is always open to you by phone or email: 346-1631, klinkhart@gci.net



Eat Your Ornamentals

by Jo Anne Banta

Great program for September! Annie Nevaldine stepped up to the plate and gave us the "best ever" presentation after a last minute cancellation by the scheduled speaker.

Annie showed slides of her summer's photography project, vegetables in the flower garden. As usual, Annie's slides are wonderful. There were striking photographs of dark red (Merlot) leaf lettuce, blue-green Tuscan kale, and Bright Lights chard with its rainbow ribs. There were lovely dahlias grown with purple kale, parsley with marigolds, and yellow loosestrife with scarlet runner beans. Stalks of corn added height to the center of a flower barrel; zucchini grew lush in sidewalk breaks, absorbing warmth from both pavement and sidewalk; and lime lamium accented tall cardoon.

Cardoon, incidentally, should be one of our ornamental favorites. A close relative of the artichoke, it is about five feet tall and is grown for its edible leaf stalks. Annie also recommends other vegetables: purple and green cabbage, flowering kale, and herbs. Her subjects come from all over the city. She says the municipality does a good job of integrating vegetables, herbs and flowers; the Museum beds feature ornamental cabbages and kale; and private gardens offer a wealth of photo opportunities.

The meeting was especially enjoyed because of its informality and open discussion. Mary Shier has long been growing vegetables and herbs together with her flowers. Dana Klinkhart's Grand Rapids leaf lettuce is a charming accent to lilies, besides providing salads all summer. Gina Docherty quit growing crucifers when her dog started eating them. Judy Christianson and Mary Shier have been planting tomatoes, chard and dill at the Pioneer Home for years; they quit growing parsley, however, because it mysteriously disappears.

We all envied the birdbath planters in Julie Riley's yard and those of her neighbors. Turns out that these Bootlegger Cove planters are really "hand-washing stations" from the early railroad days. Annie's camera, of course, made them resemble regal avian bath stations. Her photography is unequalled. (Of course, we know that from her annual "Garden Flowers" calendars.) Annie's wonderful vegetable snapshots are a result of years of experience and the fact that she takes no pictures in the sun, preferring a cloudy sky in the background.

Further discussion concerned the 2008 Garden Conference to be held on May 9 and 10 at the Sheraton Hotel, where the Atrium will be available to vendors. Speakers have been contacted but not finalized. More on this later.

Rosemary Kimball suggested cost-cutting by using frequent flier miles for speakers' transportation – start saving for AMGA. Other suggestions: stop by to view the Park Strip Rose Garden before winter sets in; and plant garlic now for a good harvest next fall. Available garden goodies included a huge aloe plant, sedum starts, lily bulbs, and walking onions.

Clematis Amended

Here are a few additions and corrections to last month's clematis article now that your embarrassed writer has finally contacted Kris Mulholland:

- The small-leafed lilac is a dwarf Korean one, Paliban, maximum height five feet.
- The climber with the Velcro-like "legs" is Hydrangea Anomala SSP, Petiolaris.
- Did I really say macropetala? (Blush!) The "fragrant white Blanc Double de Coubert is, of course, a rose.
- The clematis covering the corner is C. viticella Purpurea Plena Elagans.
- Clematis texensis, spilling over the Paliban lilac and through the front border, is Duchess of Albany.
- The shade-tolerating variegated-leaf lilac is ucubaefolia.
- The oriental lilies near the front hollyhock are Gold Band and Strawberry Shortcake.



Excerpt from: GETTING READY FOR FALL AND WINTER IN THE GARDEN

By Jim Douglas

www.seakmastergardeners.org/tips.html
[Southeast Master Gardeners website]

Berries

1. Fertilize strawberries now if you haven't done so before (8-32-16 and 2 pounds per 100 square feet)
2. Cover the strawberries with a mulch of straw or sitka spruce boughs
3. Cut back the canes of raspberries - Cut last years producers to the ground, cut the second year canes to about 5 feet in height. If you have wires in the patch – tie the raspberries to the wire to protect from snow. In spring fertilizer will work great 8-32-16 at 1.5 to 2.0 pounds per 100 square feet
4. Prune back currants, gooseberries, and other berry bushes to a strong scaffold
5. Pull what is left of the rhubarb and divide large plants now or next spring
6. If your currants were eaten by imported currant worms – rake to bare ground and get ready to treat next year with malathion
7. Cherry and apple trees need to be fertilized in spring



Tough and Terrific™ Perennials (from Minnesota)

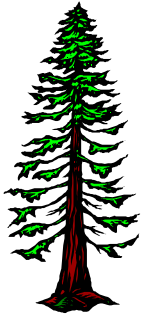
Linda McCarthy Beckworth

I was thumbing through a recent gardening magazine and was exasperated that there was nothing about plants, especially perennials, that would do well in Alaska, when I saw an article about the University of Minnesota's Tough and Terrific™ website (<http://www.florifacts.umn.edu/>). [<http://www.florifacts.umn.edu/%29>](http://www.florifacts.umn.edu/%29) Checking it out I found the following.

The 2007 Perennial Plant of the Year from the Perennial Plant Association (www.perennialplant.org), was *Nepeta x faassenii* 'Walker's Low' (Cat mint). The plant was first introduced in 1988 in Europe, is named after an European garden, and has become very popular in recent years. It's winter hardy in USDA Zones 3-8 and is listed as a Minnesota Tough and Terrific™ Perennial. It has blue-violet flowers with a long bloom time, grey-green foliage that smells fragrant when crushed, and is low maintenance. It blooms continuously if properly pruned. *Nepeta* attract bees, butterflies, and other pollinators, and is deer and rabbit resistant. 'Walker's Low' is basically pest and disease free. Plants grow 30"-36" tall and wide when grown in full sun. It can tolerate some shade in warmer climates. So far this *Nepeta* is the only one that has survived the Anchorage winter's for me.

Fifty six other perennials were rated as superior performers and made the Tough and Terrific™ list. Since Minnesota has mostly Zones 3 and 4, these should do well in most gardens in Alaska. These plants have an average of >62% winter hardiness, high rankings in floral display, stem strength, and best of all, minimal invasiveness. After reading about these, my "must have" plant list has increased substantially for next year!

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. <i>Aethionema grandiflorum</i> | 30. <i>H. x hybridus</i> 'Miss Amelia' |
| 2. <i>Agastache rupestris</i> 'Blue Fortune' | 31. <i>H. x hybridus</i> 'Miss Mary' |
| 3. <i>Aquilegia x hybrida</i> 'Songbird Mix' | 32. <i>H. x hybridus</i> 'Miss Mary Mary' |
| 4. <i>Artemisia dracunculus</i> | 33. <i>H. x hybridus</i> 'Miss Tinkerbelle' |
| 5. <i>A. lactiflora</i> | 34. <i>x Heucherella hybrida</i> 'Raspberry Ice' |
| 6. <i>A. ludoviciana</i> 'Silver Queen' | 35. <i>x Heucherella hybrida</i> 'Silver Lode' |
| 7. <i>A. ludoviciana</i> 'Valerie Finnis' | 36. <i>Hosta x hybrida</i> 'Sundance' |
| 8. <i>A. schmidtiana</i> 'Silver Mound' | 37. <i>Hylotelephium x hybridum</i> 'Autumn Joy' (formerly <i>Sedum</i>) |
| 9. <i>Astilbe x arendsii</i> 'Color Flash' | 38. <i>H. x hybridum</i> 'Frosty Morn' (formerly <i>Sedum</i>) |
| 10. <i>A. x hybrida</i> 'Sheila Haxton' | 39. <i>H. x hybridum</i> 'John Creech' (formerly <i>Sedum</i>) |
| 11. <i>Baptisia australis</i> | 40. <i>H. x hybridum</i> 'Mini Joy' (formerly <i>Sedum</i>) |
| 12. <i>Bergenia cordifolia</i> | 41. <i>H. x hybridum</i> 'Rosy Glow' |
| 13. <i>Calamagrostis x acutiflora</i> 'Karl Foerster' | 42. <i>H. spectabile</i> 'Brilliant' (formerly <i>Sedum</i>) |
| 14. <i>Fragaria</i> sp. 'Pink Panda' | 43. <i>Monarda didyma</i> 'Marshall's Delight' |
| 15. <i>Fragaria</i> sp. 'Red Ruby' | 44. <i>Monarda didyma</i> 'Petite Delight' |
| 16. <i>Geranium x cantabrigiense</i> 'Biokovo' | 45. <i>Nepeta x faassenii</i> 'Blue Wonder' |
| 17. <i>G. x cantabrigiense</i> 'Karmina' | 46. <i>N. x faassenii</i> 'Dropmore' |
| 18. <i>G. macrorrhizum</i> 'Spessart' | 47. <i>N. x faassenii</i> 'Walker's Low' |
| 19. <i>G. macrorrhizum</i> 'Ingwersen's Variety' | 48. <i>N. sibirica</i> 'Souvenir d'Andre Chaudron' |
| 20. <i>G. spp.</i> 'Alan Bloom' | 49. <i>Phlox maculata</i> 'David' |
| 21. <i>G. spp.</i> 'Summer Skies' | 50. <i>P. paniculata</i> 'Volcano Pink' |
| 22. <i>Helenium</i> sp. 'Mardi Gras' | 51. <i>P. paniculata</i> 'Volcano Purple' |
| 23. <i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i> 'Lorraine Sunshine' | 52. <i>P. paniculata</i> 'Volcano Red' |
| 24. <i>Hemerocallis x hybridus</i> 'Lady Emily' | 53. <i>P. paniculata</i> 'Volcano White' |
| 25. <i>H. x hybridus</i> 'Lady Eva' | 54. <i>Pulmonaria</i> sp. 'Opal' |
| 26. <i>H. x hybridus</i> 'Lady Florence' | 55. <i>Rubus arcticus</i> 'stellatus' |
| 27. <i>H. x hybridus</i> 'Lady Jackie' | 56. <i>Stachys byzantina</i> 'Helene von Stein' |
| 28. <i>H. x hybridus</i> 'Lady Rose' | 57. <i>Verbascum x hybridum</i> 'Southern Charm' |
| 29. <i>H. x hybridus</i> 'Lady Scarlett' | |



Rooting for Healthy Trees!

Written by TREErific members
for the AMGA newsletter

As fall continues, Anchorage TREErific members continue to prepare our trees for winter dormancy by spending a little extra time and care on recently planted trees.

The first three years of a tree's growth is when it is establishing its root system and needs to be given adequate moisture to encourage the nice white absorbing roots to reach out into the planting hole, giving the tree its stabilization. To help with our task, we used 14 gallon portable drip irrigation bags called "treegator", purchased through A.M. Leonard Supply Company. The bags allowed the trees to have a slow stream of water over a few days, requiring refilling by hose weekly. We have taken them in for the winter but will have them back in place in the spring.

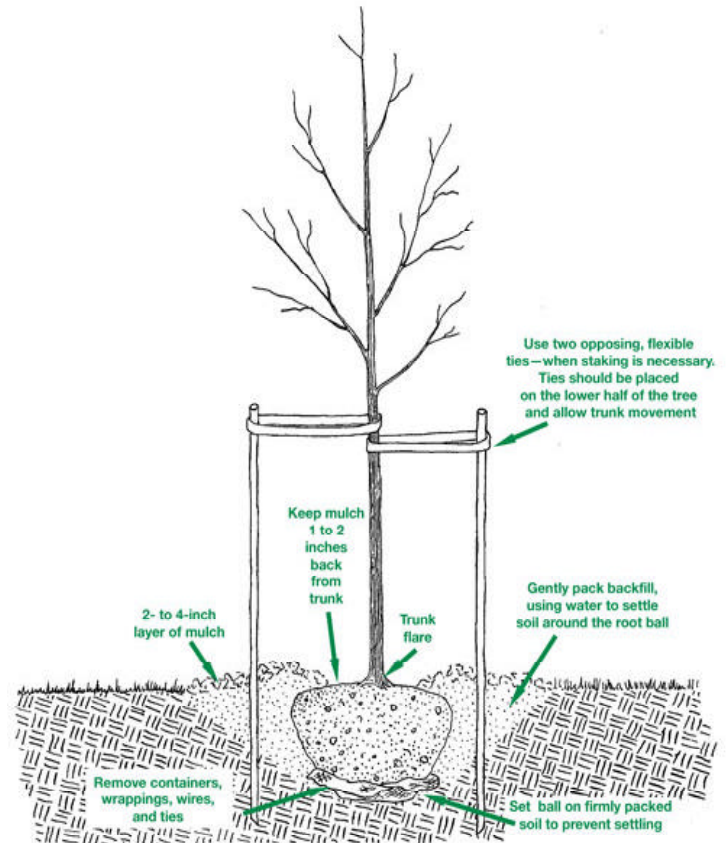
If your trees have been staked one growing season and it has been determined that it needs one more season, check to see that the arbor tape used allows the tree to sway slightly and not restrict its movement..

Fencing in our deciduous trees and applying *Plantskyd* helps protect the tree from the moose that frequent the area. On the unfenced evergreens, we find painting them with *Wiltpruf* helps them through the cold winter. (Both these products can be purchased locally.)

A layer of mulch (leaves & lawn clippings chopped up) applied around the base of the tree also helps protect the tree; just make sure it is not applied next to the trunk. Keeping the trunk flare uncovered is vital to the trees existence. Did you know that like us, trees need oxygen to live? When the trunk flare is buried too deep or it is planted with girdling roots, it is a death sentence for the tree... a slow death that can last for years. :o ([Note the diagram in the next column])

Take a look at a website: <http://www.treesaregood.com> developed by the International Society of Arboriculture on tree care for the general public. For more information, join us at our educational meetings. We are holding meetings every other month this winter and can keep you updated by emailing us at: TREErificAnchorage@yahoo.com or calling Nancy Beardsley at 343-4288 on volunteer opportunities and schedules..

We hope to see you at the Bioneers Conference the 19th through 21st of October in Anchorage and until then, take a deep breath and thank a tree.



From the "Ask a Master Gardener Files"

Q: Do you know a sauerkraut recipe? How to make it? LW

A: Unprepared as I am, I just happen to have finished my annual 20 pounds of kraut yesterday. Today is kraut salad... last week we had kraut with caraway seeds/ sausage and smashed potatoes. Life doesn't get much better!

Sauerkraut:

Finely shred cabbage. For each 5 pounds of cabbage sprinkle with 3-1/2 Tablespoons of non-iodized regular salt. Mash it as flat as you can and add another layer. I make mine in a food-grade plastic bucket that Odie's Deli got pickles in. When you have as much as you want, cover with a plate weighted down with a gallon jar of water. Cover with a clean dishtowel. Place in a warm place for 3 weeks or so. MASH the jar down every couple days to drive out the gases. Skim off anything that doesn't look like food. My kraut towards the end gets a white scum which comes out easily with my small strainer.

I use a 2mm blade on my Cuisinart to shred the cabbage. I place the bucket on my propagation mat with the thermostat at 70°. Heating pads don't work as even on low setting they get too hot and kraut going south certainly has a fragrance all its own! Don't use Kosher salt as the proportions are off compared to regular salt because of the flake size.



Central Peninsula Master Gardener News

By Rosemary Kimball

Waiting for that first frost is like waiting for a shoe to drop. Ours in Sterling comes much sooner than my friends in north Kenai or on the Hillside. By the third week of September, starting on the 16th, we'd had three 25° nights which stirred us into action

Seeing friends and acquaintances at the first Master Gardener meeting of the year is always fun and Annie was a brick to get a program up at the last moment. She doesn't know this yet, but she'd make a wonderful midwinter speaker at the Central Peninsula Garden Club... Her yard art presentation that she gave for the MGs one winter was really good.

I didn't see much slug damage during the summer after my clean up last year so I didn't put down the slug trap boards. I found that slugs are very particular about their trap boards. They like only 1/4 to 3/8 inch plywood. Forget any two-by dimension lumber. When you turn the boards every couple of days looking for the critters, that's when you try to teach them to swim in salt water.

Has anyone else seen a wee brown snail the size of the head of a pin? I've got them on one of my slug boards for the second year in a row. I was going to give them to Janice, our IPM scout and got distracted and now which board was it?

After using predatory nematodes for 15 years I got lazy again and didn't order any this year either. I did put lawn grass up tight against the stems of the broccoli and cauliflower and looked very hard for pupae when I dug the roots after the plants had finished bearing. On August 1, I did find one root (from 40 plants) that had little maggots, just starting their munchfest. I thought that was very late for them to start so they didn't get a chance to finish. Pity.

For the second time in 30 years we've seen a Stellar jay here in Sterling. He must be hanging around because he's appeared twice this September. I wonder if that's a portent of climate change? Soldotna and Kenai have had flocks of crows the last few years.

'Freedom From Tomato Day' was 10 days later this year than last, simply because 'on the plant' was a good way to store the fruit. But it is time to build the compost pile and they add to the mélange of vegetation. When I started the tomato seeds everything was so carefully labeled. Ditto,

sort of, when I transplanted. When I picked tomatoes to eat, the labels had dissolved. My two Oregon Spring plants developed some sort of a root problem and died midseason- the first time something like that has happened. The two Cobra, a greenhouse variety, must have been developed to be planted ankle high because most of the fruit was against the roof. The cherry tomatoes I was going to dress pasta with ended up in someone else's greenhouse. One tomato variety had a tendency to have green shoulders. One had the slightly squooshy texture I like in a tomato, but no flavor. And one had the acidic flavor I like but was crunchy. Does all that sound like an excuse to order the Totally Tomatoes catalog (www.totallytomato.com) and get new varieties even though I have enough seed for the rest of the decade?

Digging potatoes is probably one of my "most favoritist"



chores. Each hill is like opening a present. My husband runs the spading fork and I knuckle walk from hill to hill tossing out the proceeds which we gather up at one time in the wheelbarrow for washing and sorting. I try to wash them under a tree for the shade, but when the sun does shine on them they glow. Reports from my potato-growing friends on the central peninsula say that everyone

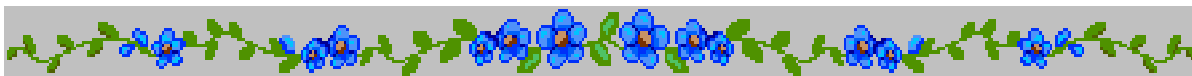
had one of the best years for yield and size!

Mignonette hollyhocks from Thompson and Morgan really do bloom the first year from seed and they are compact enough to work in a large pot. Malva just doesn't work when you want real hollyhocks.

Life's little lesson (re)learned: Don't clean out the raspberry patch on a warm, sunny day in a sleeveless shirt or you'll look like you were in a wrestling match with a sack of wild cats. Why can't I remember that from year to year?

Late note:

P.S. Aloha from the big island of Hawaii - Had the pig's foot soup at Ray's place last night [en route to airport]. Really good. [I've currently] got a lineup of a dozen papaya on the counter and am about to crash on the veranda with a book and snooze. I'm too old for red eyes!



Bird Chatter

- Lupita Weese grew huge tomatoes on her deck this summer. Some ripened nicely; not sure of the cultivar
- The first fall frost was right on schedule. Gardeners on the East side of town lost zucchini and beans the night of September 16.
- Amelia Walsh's garden was still picture-perfect mid-September.
- Martha Jokela was seen sporting a "purse" of tools during clean-up at the Anchorage Pioneer Home.
- Sue Lincoln, MG with a big heart, rescued a very large slug this summer. She said it was a hot day and he was headed the wrong direction across the driveway.
- Interested in oddly colored vegetables? Mary Shier was seen munching 'Purple Dragon' carrots as she completed accession records in the herb garden at ABG.
- Fresh International Gardens found 'White Icicle' radishes to be much more susceptible to root maggots than 'Early Scarlet Globe' or 'French Breakfast'.
- Need ideas on how to use the kale still in your garden? See the Sept/Oct issue of the Anchorage District newsletter. CES Home economist Leslie Shallcross says its a very healthy vegetable.
- The fall Master Gardener course starts in Anchorage October 17. New participants include Fran Durner, Carol Chapman, and Mike Peters from the Anchorage Daily News. Four members of the UAA grounds crew are also enrolled (Ryan Leary, Edward Mesick, Carmen Dunham, Catherine Shenk).
- For health & nutrition information (and recopies) see Extension's new publications on Alaska blueberries and lingonberries.
- A big thank you to MG Bob Walsh for another big donation of seeds from Spenard Builders Supply
- Julie Riley represented Anchorage at the America in Bloom conference and awards ceremony in Rockford Illinois Sept 27-29.
- Grow 'n Tell: New Gardening Web site -want to post photos of your garden, or ask a gardening question using photos? Scotts has launched a new interactive gardening website called "Grow 'n Tell" - www.Growntell.com - check it out!

More About Perilla Julie Riley

At last month's AMGA meeting Annie Nevaldine showed numerous images of purple Perilla planted among many of Anchorage's flower beds. MG Cathy Sage first introduced me to this herb at the ABG herb garden. I always marveled at how well it grew for a plant that looked like basil. Then I ran into Perilla 'Magilla' in the display gardens at Ball Seed Company outside of Chicago. The plant looked just like a coleus and I questioned whether they had misnamed it.

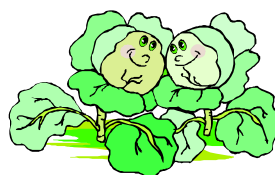
Surprise, surprise– Perilla shows up as a sidebar on the coleus page in Larry Hodgson's book *Annuals for Every Purpose*. Larry is a prolific garden writer from Quebec City who will be speaking at the AMGA conference in Anchorage next spring. The common name Larry lists Perilla under is Beefsteak plant, but he also says it's known as Chinese basil or shiso.

The young Chinese woman I worked with this summer as part of the Fresh International Gardens group was not familiar with the plant, but one of the Hmong interpreters had a jello recipe that called for shiso and a regular farmers' market customer of the group bought it to be used in lettuce salads.

According to Wikipedia, *Perilla frutescens*, is grown in India and East Asia. Wikipedia also states there are green-leaved and purple-leaved varieties which are generally recognized as separate species by botanists. In Nepal and parts of India, shiso is called silam. Its seeds are ground with chili and tomatoes to make a savory dip/side dish. Gardenguides.com suggests trying shiso as a garnish with sushi, and sprinkling it over cucumbers, cabbage and fish. If you search the Internet long enough, you'll find a restaurant in Sonoma, California named Shiso which describes itself as a modern Asian and sushi bar.

Grown in the herb garden or as an ornamental in the flower garden, Perilla shines, at least the frilly, purple variety. Green, non-frilly shiso looks like a nettle.

English Halloween Tradition



An old English Halloween tradition found young, blindfolded women raiding the cabbage patch and picking the first cabbage they came upon. Legend had it that the cabbage's appearance foretold the woman's future husband. If the cabbage

leaves were slightly open, the husband would be sociable. If they were closed tightly, he'd be the quiet type. If lots of soil clung to the root, it was a sign of the husband's future wealth. If the cabbage stalk was smooth, the man would have good character. If it was riddled with pocks and irregularities, the couple would be likely to argue a great deal.



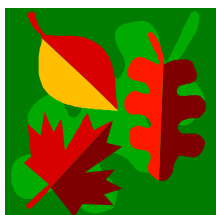
Praline Pumpkin Dessert Recipe [From Pumpkinnook.com/cookbook]

- 1 can pumpkin (not pumpkin pie mix)
- 1-12oz can evaporated milk
- 3 eggs, 1 cup sugar
- 4 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1 package moist white cake mix
- 1 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 3/4 cup butter

Preparation Directions:

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees
2. Grease 13x9x2 pyrex baking dish
3. Mix pumpkin, milk, eggs, sugar, and pumpkin pie spice until smooth
4. Pour into baking dish
5. Sprinkle cake mix (dry) over pumpkin mixture
6. Sprinkle pecans over cake mix
7. Pour melted butter over top
8. Bake uncovered 50 to 60 min. until knife inserted in center comes out clean
9. Serve with a scoop of ice cream or whipped cream

AUTUMN QUOTES



AUTUMN IS THE ETERNAL CORRECTIVE. IT IS RIPENESS AND COLOR AND A TIME OF MATURITY; BUT IT IS ALSO BREADTH, AND DEPTH, AND DISTANCE. WHAT MAN CAN STAND WITH AUTUMN ON A HILLTOP AND FAIL TO SEE THE SPAN OF HIS WORLD AND THE MEANING OF THE ROLLING HILLS THAT REACH TO THE FAR HORIZON?

- HAL BORLAND

AUTUMN BEGINS WITH A SUBTLE CHANGE IN THE LIGHT, WITH SKIES A DEEPER BLUE, AND NIGHTS THAT BECOME SUDDENLY CLEAR AND CHILLED. THE SEASON COMES FULL WITH THE FIRST FROST, THE DISAPPEARANCE OF MIGRANT BIRDS, AND THE HARVESTING OF THE SEASON'S LAST CROPS.



- GLENN WOLFF AND JERRY DENNIS



SUMMER IS ALREADY BETTER, BUT THE BEST IS AUTUMN. IT IS MATURE, REASONABLE AND SERIOUS, IT GLOWS MODERATELY AND NOT FRIVOLOUSLY ... IT COOLS DOWN, CLEARS UP, MAKES YOU REASONABLE ...

- VALENTIN

Gardening Calendar

October 4, Thursday

Anchorage Garden Club Meeting, "Ten Ways to Kill a Lawn" presented by Julie Riley, Extension Horticulture Agent, 7:30 pm. Pioneer School House basement, corner of 3rd and Eagle, 566-0539.

October 11, Thursday

Wildflower Garden Club meeting, "Dry Flower Arranging", presented by Della Barry & Liz Rockwell, 10 am, Central Lutheran Church, 15th & Cordova, 277-7150.

October 19-21, Friday - Sunday

Fourth Annual Bioneers Conference at Alaska Pacific University: A three-day conference focused on solutions for restoring our communities and the ecosystems on which they depend. For more info., visit: <http://www.akmarine.org/get-involved/october-19-21-bioneers-in-alaska-conference/>

October 15, Monday

Anchorage Master Gardener Association meeting, "Genetically Modified Organisms", 7 pm, presented by Dr. Roseann Leiner, Extension Horticulture Specialist, UAF Cooperative Extension Service, 2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd. (behind Medical Park), 786-6300.

November 1, Thursday

Anchorage Garden Club Meeting, "Fall Blooming Perennials" presented by Annie Nevaldine, 7:30 pm. Pioneer School House basement, corner of 3rd and Eagle, 566-0539.

November 8, Thursday

Wildflower Garden Club meeting, "Climate Changes in Anchorage", presented by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 10 am, Central Lutheran Church, 15th & Cordova, 277-7150.

"Ringmaster" onions,
grown by Mel Monson



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

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

For information about membership or upcoming programs, contact:

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Dana's "Scarecrow Teens",
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