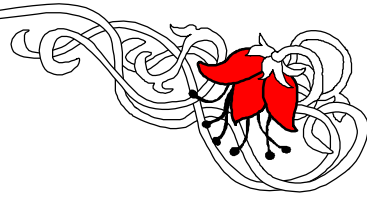


Anchorage Chapter



Volume 10, Issue 1

ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER January 2008

From the President's Corner

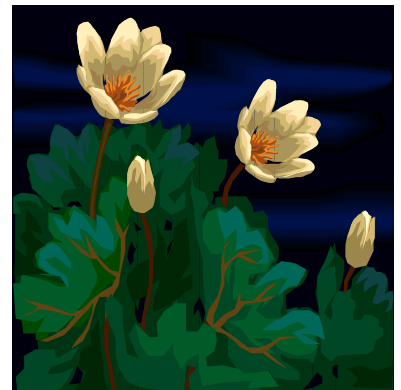
Since all the cookies have been eaten and the lights have been carefully tucked away until next season, I'll take this moment to reflect just a bit. Eight years have passed quickly since I enrolled in the master gardener's class at Cooperative Extension Service. At my very first meeting as a master gardener in January 2000, I was nominated to run for the board of directors. I was assured by members that, if I was elected, they would teach me all there was to know about being on the board. And you know the rest. After being elected that evening, I became the secretary of our association. From that moment, I enrolled in a whirlwind study of what the Alaska Master Gardeners Association was all about. It's been eight years of learning and I've loved it! Serving as president for the past four years strengthened my resolve to continue as an active member of our gardening association. It is time for me to switch hats, however. This year I'll be sitting in the audience enjoying all that is presented from a different perspective. This year I will be the one who volunteers, not the one asking for volunteers. So with all of that being said, I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for the special talent you have shared with me and your association. There are so many that have helped me grow as a gardener and as a member. I wished I could acknowledge all 219 members but in this limited space, I would like to highlight just sample of your talents.

I am grateful to have:

- Learned about water gardening from Sally Karabelnikof
- Been inspired about flower photography with Annie Nevaldine
- Become impassioned for peonies through Judy Wilmarth
- Discovered the beauty of our native moss because of Fran Flint
- Hiked in search of our native plants because of Verna Pratt
- Found the courage to write articles for our newsletter because of our editor Gina Docherty
- Taken the risk in serving as president because of Mary Shier
- Learned new technology for our association because of Julie Riley's never ending support
- Been in the same company with Rosemary Kimball's humor
- Cultivated primroses because of Mary Jo Burns
- Experimented with new plants because of Rita Jo Schultz
- Found great ways to grow warm weather vegetables because of Mel Monson
- Successfully established a shade garden because of Sally Arant
- Grown those delightful delphiniums under the guidance of Catherine Renfro
- Learned how to start seeds as demonstrated by Ellen Schwenne
- The list and tips to grow hardy roses from Debbie Hinchey
- To have Cathy Feathergill Calvin's guidance in growing spring bulbs

And to every gardener that shared their stories of garden, science and life, I'm forever in your debt.

Dana
346-1631
klinkhart@gci.net





**TOP SELLING 2007 PLANTS
at Fritz Nursery
(from ALASKAHARDY.COM)
submitted by Linda McCarthy**

- No. 1 – Primula (Primrose)
- No. 2 – Iris (Flags)
- No. 3 – Hosta
- No. 4 – Sedums (Stonecrop)
- No. 5 – Liliun (Lily)
- No. 6 – Clematis
- No. 7 – Meconopsis (Blue Poppy)
- No. 8 – Ligularia
- No. 9 – Delphinium
- No. 10 – Veronica (Speedwell)
- No. 11 – Ornamental Grasses
- No. 12 – Polemonium (Jacobs Ladder)
- No. 13 – Campanula (Bell Flower)
- No. 14 – Aquilegia (Columbine)
- No. 15 – Papaver (Poppy)
- No. 16 – Phlox
- No. 17 – Paeonia (Peony)
- No. 18 – Hardy Geranium
- No. 19 – Dicentra (Bleeding Heart)
- No. 20 – Pulmonaria (Lungwort)

SOME PLANTS TO TRY IN 2008

Agastache 'Blue Fortune'

A hybrid of *A. rugosa* and *A. foeniculum*. It should survive minus 20 F without snow. It's a long bloomer, starting midsummer. Zone: 4 Location: Sun Height: 24-36 inches

Ajuga 'Golden Glow'

This is a new variety has gold- and cream-variegated foliage. Zone: 3 Location: Sun or Shade Height: 6-8 inches

Aquilegia 'Lime Sorbet' (Columbine)

'Nora Barlow' type with no spurs. Unusual double lime green tinted white flowers. Size and color offers a spot in most gardens. Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 12-18 inches

Arabis 'Little Treasure'

Has uniform blooms of vibrant rose pink brightening any perennial border. Excellent ground cover for dry areas, slopes or sunny areas. Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 4-6 inches

Cornus canadensis (Dwarf Dogwood, Bunchberry)

Although technically a shrub, they are only about four inches tall. The reddish or orange berries appear late August or September, thus the common name "bunchberry," probably not the best to eat. The white bracts are often mistaken for the flower, however the flower is really the small clusters on top of the bracts. Zone: 3 Location: Sun to edge of Woodland Height: 4-8 inches

Delphinium elatum 'Blue Lace'

From the New Millennium Hybrids, sturdy stems (probably no staking required), gorgeous leaves that are deeply divided show off the true sky blue flowers with just a touch of lavender pink. Good choice for bouquets. Zone: 3 Location: Sun, Partial Sun/Shade Height: 5-6 feet

Dicentra 'King of Hearts' (Bleeding Heart)

The flowers extend beyond the foliage and bloom all season right into the fall. This very vigorous cultivar has unstoppable blooms first appearing bright red, then becoming paler as they mature.

Zone: 3 Location: Sun, Partial Sun/Shade Height: 8-10 inches

Eryngium planum 'Blue Glitter' (Sea Holly)

It looks like it would be difficult to grow but it definitely is not. It's terrific for drying, too. 'Blue Glitter' has a shorter crop time than others, a much higher yield of smaller flowers and brighter, shimmering blue color in an unusual height. Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 6-8 inches

Filipendula 'Kahome'

'Kahome' is the shorter and a bit later variety. Its display is magnificent and blooms forever. Leave a bit of room for this one as after a few years one plant will be about 15 inches tall and 30 inches across. Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 12-15 inches

Helenium 'Sahin's Early Flowerer' (Sneezeweed)

It really doesn't make you sneeze. It is very hardy, sometimes it forgets to get ready for winter. Cut it down to the ground around the middle of September. Deep red flowers are streaked with orange and yellow with the brown cone the finishing touch. Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 3 feet

Hemerocallis 'Siloam Double Classic' (Day Lily)

Sweet scented, soft, peachy pink tepals with yellow halo and green throat, this beauty has won many awards. The edges frame the diamond dusted double blossoms. Early bloomer exhibits prolific and extended blooms (16 hours). Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 26 inches

Hosta

Zone: 3 Location: Full sun to part Shade Height: 8 inches to 24 inches

Iris (Flags)

Sibirica iris grows up to four feet tall with 50-plus blooms at maturity. If that's too tall, consider the little pumilus varieties. Zone: 3 Location: Sun, Partial Sun/Shade Height: 8 inches

Ligularia 'Osiris Fantasie'

Thick, deep green leaves grow on purple petioles. Undulating leaf margins reveal the glossy, burgundy undersides. The blooms are similar to other yellow daisy-like Ligularias but the foliage is awesome. Zone: 3 Location: Sun or Shade Height: 2 feet

Monarda 'Beauty of Cobham'

Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 24 inches

Paeonia 'Nippon Beauty'

This is an old-fashioned, romantic, easy-to-grow and extremely hardy beauty. Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 30-40 inches

Penstemon barbatus 'Pinacolada' (Beardtongue)

This new series has the key advantages of earlier bloom times, more blooms and a compact uniform habit. Outstanding dark violet-purple flowers. Or try 'Dark Towers.' Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 8-12"

Primula (Primrose)

The Wanda cultivars is a winner for Alaskans. Super easy to grow and spreads quite respectfully.

Zone: 3 Location: Sun, Partial Sun/Shade Height: 3 inches

Salvia 'Rhapsody in Blue'

Superior flowers and upright, bushy habit. The tall spikes of intense blue violet flowers are complimented by the low clumping, grey-green foliage. Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: 25 inches

Sempervivum (Hens and Chicks)

These look great the first day you plant them! Zone: 3 Location: Sun Height: Mere inches



**PERENNIALS FOR EVERY PURPOSE,
a good reference by upcoming
conference speaker
Larry Hodgson
by Julie Riley, Extension Horticulture Agent**



Larry Hodgson admits to being a plantaholic. He's grown over 3,000 species and cultivars of perennials and will be sharing information on the hardest of these at the 2008 Alaska Master Gardener Conference— In the Zone.

Over the next few months, I'll be reviewing three of Larry's books. *Perennials for Every Purpose* is one of my favorite references even though I don't agree that delphinium is a prima donnas. The book is divided into two parts, the first on basic flower gardening titled "*Perennial Gardening Made Easy*". In this section Larry lists 10 traits to look for in a perennial and cautions gardeners to know what they're looking for when planning a garden.

The main section of the book covers 400 pages on "*Choosing the Best Perennials*". Each plant gets two pages of attention including a picture, plant profile highlights and a phonetic spelling of the genus. With the side bars, charts and lists, *Perennials for Every Purpose* covers 700 perennials. Not every species is hardy in Southcentral Alaska, but most will perform quite well here. Included among the flowers is rhubarb because it makes a nice "focal point in the garden". The chapters group species together such as 'Low-Care Perennials', 'No-Care Perennials' and 'Perennials for Cool Summer Climates'. A section of the appendix is titled 'The Secret Meaning of Botanical Names', a topic also scheduled to be on the agenda at the conference.

Larry gardens in Quebec City where the Canadian winters are long, cold and snowy. He was not in the least bit hesitant to visit Anchorage in May, even when I told him many perennials would just be poking out of the ground.



"No mockery in the world ever sounded to me as hollow as that of being told to cultivate happiness. Happiness is not a potato, to be planted in mould, and tilled with manure".

Charlotte Bronte, gothic novelist

**"Green" Gardening Tips
By Linda McCarthy**

If you're interested in "green", here are a few tips I've been reading about:

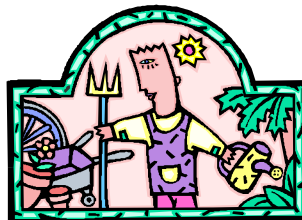
Save plastic grocery bags and use them to slip over your dirty garden shoes when you have to go in the house for a cold drink or to answer the phone - saves time in removing the shoes and then replacing them. Store the plastic grocery bags in an old coffee can, the kind with the plastic top, with an "X" cut in the top of the plastic OR in an empty tissue box, either the rectangle or square kind. I also use the plastic bags to load with "over flow" veggies to take them to neighbors.

Some other suggestions from "*Backyard Living*": Use an old table fork to transplant small seedlings or to dig out tiny weeds (especially in a grassy area) before they spread.

Use hair clips to hold trailing or vining plants to their support until they "hold" on their own.

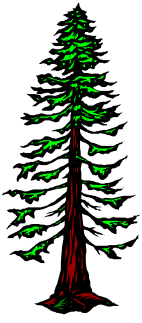
A rolling cooler is an instant movable gardener's shed. You can fill it with tools, seeds, gloves. It even provides a comfortable place to sit on if you make a cushion and Velcro it to the top of the cooler.

Anybody else have any "Green" suggestions? Send your tips to amqa@gci.net for the newsletter.



**Gardening is Good for You
Exerpt from the chapter entitled "Garden Smarter"
from *Earthly Delights* by Margot Rochester
Submitted by Linda McCarthy**

An hour of swimming, weight training, or walking briskly uses 270 calories. An hour of housework uses a mere 180 calories. An hour of medium aerobics uses 395 calories and running 5 1/2 miles uses 588 calories. However, an hour of gardening uses 340 calories. In terms of calorie usage, gardening may not be the best, but it's a great way to work off that extra caramel and marshmallow chocolate covered Santa. We just have to wait until spring and the ground thaws!



Anchorage TREErific: Deciduous Trees in Alaska

Q: I recently moved to south central Alaska from the upper Midwest and miss the large deciduous trees where I grew up. Are there any tree species that are common there that will survive here? I have a lot of space in my yard and would like to plant a piece of my childhood this spring.

A: Great question! I am glad to hear that you are thinking ahead to the planting season and I have good news for you! Several of the Maple, Oak and Ash trees as well as others common to the upper Midwest can do very well in Alaska and in fact are already growing in some locations around the state.

Depending on where you are located, your planting palate may be different. Those in southeast will have more choices because the climate is more favorable to a wider variety of species, but anyone in the interior will be more limited. The University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service has a publication called "Landscape Plants for Alaska" that can help you pick out the right tree or shrub for your landscape. It contains information about many of the trees and shrubs that are well suited for our state. Each year we are discovering that some unexpected species are surviving in Alaska. If you or someone that you know is experimenting with different species and are having unexpected successes, we would love to hear from you.

To answer your question, two of my favorite trees species from the Midwest are the Bur Oak *Quercus macrocarpa* and the Swamp White Oak *Quercus palustris*. These two impressive trees can get quite large and can attain heights around 50-80 feet and a spread of about 80 feet. The Bur Oak has been planted in several locations in Anchorage including UAA and along the new Elmore road.

You may also want to consider either the Black Ash *Fraxinus nigra* or Green Ash *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*. Both will reach heights of about 50 feet and spread about 30 feet. You can see a couple of nice specimens of Black Ash outside of the Alaska Public Land Information Center in downtown Anchorage, as well as a couple of other locations nearby. I have also witnessed both of these species thriving in yards around town.

There are several species of Maple that will grow well in Alaska, but those that get the largest are the Norway maple *Acer platanoides*, Red Maple *Acer rubrum* and Silver Maple *Acer saccharinum*. Each of these trees can reach heights around 60 feet and spread about 50 feet. A few years ago, I had the pleasure to prune a beautiful, thriving 30 plus year old Silver Maple that grew from a seed brought from Northern Wisconsin. This tree is on private property so I don't want to divulge the location, but there are more Silver Maples around. Additionally, there are several Norway Maples planted at Denali School in downtown Anchorage that turn an amazing orange red in the fall, and there are several Red Maple Northwood cultivars planted at a business on A Street that turn a brilliant red in the fall.

These are some of the more common trees from the Midwest that can survive, and often thrive in south central Alaska, adding a touch of color to our fall landscape. As with many tree species, there are often several cultivars of each having different characteristics. When considering what trees to plant, be sure to ask your arborist or local nursery what characteristics and site requirements each tree has and be sure to plant them correctly.

For more information about trees and how to properly plant and care for them contact your local Cooperative Extension Service and visit www.treesaregood.com.

Anchorage TREErific, a community group that plants, cares for, and promotes trees, would love to have your help. Send questions or sign up for notices of events to TREErificAnchorage@yahoo.com or call Nancy Beardsley at 343-4288.

Written by Stephen Nickel, from the Community Forestry Program, which supports Anchorage TREErific and community forestry groups statewide. For information about the program and on tree planting and care, visit <http://www.forestry.alaska.gov/community/>

Anchorage TREErific wishes everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. We look forward to working with you in 2008.



Central Peninsula Master Gardening News by Rosemary Kimball

My friends in Arizona complained about the rain in early December which to me is the sign that the desert is going to have a spectacular bloom this spring. We were in Arizona several years ago at the time that Phoenix got more winter rain than Seattle and the flowers were absolutely stunning. I have a hundred cacti pictures to prove it.

I gave myself a Christmas gift. Reading in the back of the "Avant Gardener", I found a web link to an English garden tool site— www.unionjackstable.com— that had a compost fork. I ordered one— in hot pink no less— though it was available in less flamboyant colors. Now I'm waiting for the compost piles to thaw out to go to turn them in style. I sent off a compost sample to Brookside Laboratory for analysis and was very pleased with the numbers that came back: humus, 45%; and satisfactorily high in calcium, phosphorus, potassium and boron which is deficient in our soil.

I top dressed my yellow clivia with some of my new compost and eventually a seed sprouted and struggled up four inches before the seed leaves stopped. It sort of looked like canteloupe seed leaves so I waited with bated breath for the first true leaves. Unfortunately at seven inches it drooped and died. Isn't it remarkable what is done in the name of entertainment in the winter?

A catalog that came to me like manna is the Baker Creek Heirloom Seed catalog (www.rareseeds.com). It is very interestingly written and illustrated. It deals in open-pollinated non-GMO seeds. The company was started 10 years ago by Jere Gettle when he was only 17 and he has done good and done well. I usually prefer hybrid seed because it has cold tolerance or short season bred into it but this catalog has the Calabrese Green Sprouting broccoli that I want. The variety has lots of side shoots that I prefer for freezing since they take minimal preparation and are uniform in appearance.

The Totally Tomatoes catalog came and I couldn't find Northern Exposure seed in it. Unbelievable! I Googled the name and that took care of the problem; Burpee is the answer and I just hope I'm still on their catalog mailing list.

Not too much is really happening on the Peninsula. Santa brought Margaret Simon an Aerogarden (Google that— it's neat) and she's getting ready to start harvesting greens. She

said there was a hidden cost as she had to buy water as well water or softened water can't be used by the system. Barb Jewell made a pilgrimage to Molback's in the Seattle area and if you haven't ever been to one of their garden centers you've missed a Trip! You'll hear about Kathy Wartinbee's correspondence with an apricot developer who used to live in Fairbanks next month. And I'm still leafing through the Baker Creek Seed Catalog and dreaming.

Mochi? Black-eyed peas? Happy New Year and may your garden be fruitful, your moose uninterested in it and ditto the root maggots.



Rhubarb Crumble From "King Arthur Flour 200th Anniversary Cookbook" p.512 Submitted by Kathy Wartinbee (Kathy's adaptations in italics)

Whole wheat flavor, with its nutty flavor and hearty texture, is a natural for fruit crumbles and crisps.

Preheat oven to 350° F.

Filling

- 2 eggs
- 1 ½ to 2 cups sugar (try 1/2 brown & 1/2 white sugar)
- ¼ cup King Arthur Stone Ground Whole Wheat flour
- 1 tablespoon butter (or margarine)
- 1 teaspoon grated orange rind
- 1 teaspoon orange juice (or slightly more if desired)
- 4 cups rhubarb, cut into ½ inch pieces
- 1 ½ to 2 cups of raspberries (can use frozen)
- ¼ teaspoon nutmeg

Making the Filling:

Beat eggs slightly and add sugar and flour. Melt butter and stir in orange rind and juice. Add this to egg mixture. Stir in rhubarb (and raspberries) and place filling in greased, 9-inch square cake pan.

Topping

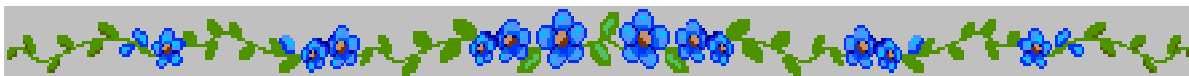
- ½ cup (1 stick) butter
- 2 cups King Arthur Stone Ground Whole Wheat Flour (I used 1 cup flour, 1 cup oatmeal)
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Optional: ½ cup chopped nuts (I used pecans)

Making the Topping:

Cut butter into flour using a pastry cutter, two knives or finger tips. Add brown sugar and salt, mixing until topping looks like bread crumbs.

Assembling the Crumble:

Sprinkle topping on the fruit filling. Bake for 35 to 45 minutes. This tastes good hot from the oven with whipped cream, ice cream or all on its own. Although this recipe is for rhubarb, you can make many variations of this crumble by adjusting the sugar for the sweetness of the fruits in season.



Bird Chatter

- The first seed catalog of 2008 to arrive was Johnny's Selected Seeds (Nov 17, 2007).
- Last season Fran Durner planted the Perennial Plant of the Year for 2008. Geranium 'Rosanne' is listed as a Zone 5 perennial. We'll have a chance to see if it overwinters in her Inlet View area garden.
- Seward MG Bonnie Perata and her husband Bacci are now farming in Hawaii (and fishing in Alaska July & August). Contact them at Kona's Earthly Delights Farm, earthlydelightsfamr@gmail.com if you'd like to be on their Weird Fruit Club list and see the gift baskets and other items they are selling.
- Marge Olson relayed that MG Betty Palacek passed away the end of October.
- Three participants in the last Master Gardener class said they ENJOYED taking the final exam.
- Two sets of (beautifully colored) dry-erase markers showed up anonymously on the day of the MG exam. Jelly, jam and a Christmas ornament were also given to instructor Julie Riley.
- Don't just read the Anchorage Daily News gardening blog. Make comments and send photos or the blog will cease to exist, www.adn.com/talkdirt!
- According to researchers at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, by eating 4 or more servings of green salad a week and working in the garden once or twice a week, smokers and nonsmokers may be able to substantially reduce the risk of developing lung cancer. (www.newswise.com/p/articles/view/536043/).
- Oopsy-daisy...Nickel LaFleur's name was misspelled in the Dec AMGA newsletter and Flory Vinson's husband was given credit by mistake for her list of recommended horticultural reading.
- A group of Master Gardeners from Missouri is hoping to come to the Alaska Master Gardener Conference in May. They are also interested in bird watching. Can anyone take the group on a birding jaunt?
- Listed among the YMCA/BP "Women of Achievement" for 2007 were MG Janelle Pfleiger and 4-H volunteer Annie Mabry. A total of 10 women were recognized for their professional accomplishments and community service.
- MG Jeanne Lyerly says the video 'Bloom Town' which is about the wonderful flowers the Municipality of Anchorage grows, is available for sale at the Anchorage Museum at Rasmusen Center for about \$15.
- MG Mike Peters is vacationing in Iran. He has it on authority that Iran's basil is the best in the world. (From Madelene Hill, a Texas herb grower, restaurateur, author and former president of the National Herb Society.)
- UAA has announced a bequest of \$1 million from the estate of gardening author Lenore Hedla to the College of Business and Public Policy. The gift to the university is in honor of Lenore's husband George who was a Certified Public Accountant and Master Gardener famed for growing warm season vegetables on the bluff at their Sand Lake home overlooking Cook Inlet.
- Wastewater greenhouse!! A patented ecological technology using greenhouses to purifying wastewater is being used in Ashfield, Massachusetts. Called the Solar Aquatics System, it was invented by Dr. John Todd at the University of Vermont. (Small Flows magazine, Fall/Winter 2007 issue.)
- According to 2007 Alaska Agricultural Statistics, the cash receipts from greenhouse & nursery crops in 2006 show a slight increase from previous years with a total of \$14,730,000, (23% of total farm marketing receipts). Aquaculture made up 50% of total cash receipts, crops 19% and livestock 8%.
- Remember to recycle your Christmas tree. It can be taken to Carrs/Safeway any time between Dec 28 – Jan 15. Brought to you by ALPAR (Alaskans for Litter Prevention and Recycling), with sponsorship by Carrs/Safeway and the Municipality of Anchorage.



Recycled Christmas Tree Wood Chips Available

Anyone interested in taking a FULL truck load of wood chips can contact ALPAR (Alaskan's for Litter Prevention & Recycling) at 644-7968. You can't get a partial load of only a few yards. The chips will be delivered (and dumped) in January.

Organic Gardening Course



This is your chance at the once-a-year class through Mat-Su College. If you want comprehensive instruction in organic growing methods, this is the one course to take.

Note: Dates have been changed to March/April instead of February. Registration is open now. This class is only 6 Friday evenings,

March 21, 28 and April 4, 11, 18, and 25. The time is from 6:00 to 8:30 pm. It is time for you to plan this course into your 2008 schedule.

You'll learn how to:

- Refine your composting techniques,
- Fertilize organically,
- Balance soil nutrients, and
- Manage pests and weeds non-violently
- Build nutrient density into your food crops

You go away with

- a garden plan that fits your site
- a prepared strategy for correctly preparing and amending soil,
- a list of varieties (that turns into a seed order) you can grow in this climate,
- a lot less mystery about where to start and what to do

Such fun. Come join us! Register through UAA. Call 745-9746 for information or see www.uaa.alaska.edu and follow Wolf Link for Agri 138, Organic Gardening.

Oh, it would be so thoughtful if you'd register right away. Then the instructor could plan, rather than perspiring right up to the first night of class, wondering if there will be enough enrollment to have the course.

Ellen Vande Visse, Instructor



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

AMGA Web Site: www.alaskamastergardeners.org

(The Newsletter will be on-line in living color!)

Garden Event Calendar

Monday, January 21

AMGA Meeting: "Add Green to Winter Landscape" by Patricia Joyner - 7:00 p.m. @ the CES, Conference room 130. Call 786-6300 for info.

January 30 & 31, 2008

"Alaska Greenhouse & Nursery Conference", Fairbanks Princess Riverside Lodge, \$100. For more information, Fairbanks, 907-474-1530; Anchorage, 786-6300.

February 9, 2008

"Let's Prepare a PowerPoint Presentation with Digital Photos Level 1", by Dana Klinkhart. A class for computer novices. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Pre-registration with the Alaska Botanical Garden required, 770-3692, \$15 ABG & AMGA members, \$25 non-members. Held at UAA/APU Consortium Library, Rm 309 Computer Lab; 3211 Providence Dr., Anchorage. Space is limited.

Wednesday Feb. 13

ABG: "Snowshoe Tour Around Alaska Botanical Garden" - Join Patricia Joyner, Alaska Division of Forestry, for a snowshoe excursion around the perimeter fence to identify trees. 1 pm - 3 pm, Open to the Public, Free. Location: meet in Benny Benson school parking lot near front gate of Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd., Anchorage

Monday, February 18

AMGA Meeting: "Seed Planting 101" by Mary Shier - 7:00 p.m. @ the CES, Conference room 130. Call 786-6300 for info.

Saturday, Feb 29

"Spring Garden Conference: Sustainability" - 9 am - 6 pm; \$60 ABG & Garden Club members. \$70 non-members. A full day of gardening seminars with Lee Reich and local experts. Register by 5 pm March 21 to receive a complimentary lunch. Location: UAA/APU Consortium Library, 3rd floor, 3211 Providence Dr., Anchorage (free parking).

May 9-10

Alaska Master Gardener Conference: "In the Zone", Sheraton Hotel. Details to follow.



AMGA Newsletter Celebrates Ten Year Anniversary

This is the 10th year of your Alaska Master Gardener Newsletter! Thank you to those who have contributed articles & information over the past decade. Please keep up the good work - send your Garden Event items, Bird Chatter, photos and articles, recipes and ideas, to the editor (preferable by email but hand written is acceptable) at: amga@gci.net

Articles are due the last week of every month - sooner is always appreciated.

Happy New Year and Happy Gardening from your Editor:
Gina Docherty



2008

Happy New Year!

Inside this issue....

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AMGA Newsletter Celebrates 10 Year Anniversary



Cheers to a new year and another
chance for us to get it right.

~Oprah Winfrey

**Alaska Master Gardeners Association, Inc.
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University of Alaska Cooperative Extension
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Anchorage, Alaska