



Anchorage Chapter



Volume 10, Issue 7

ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER July 2008



June Garden Field Trips By Jane Baldwin

Folks asked for more gardens - and we managed to fit in three in the month of June. Given our unusually cool and late spring, all gardens were amazingly ready for viewing. AMGA extends a most appreciative thank-you to our garden hosts who graciously shared their yards and plants with eager and interested MGs.

June 9th

MGs had a special treat with private tour of Doug Tryck's featuring rhododendrons. Amazing things were growing off meandering game-trail-like paths up his hillside. "Exotics" were seen growing in between, under and around a typical Anchorage virgin forest, south facing with a big ridge behind him to the north which blocks north winds and has marine circulation from the inlet. Doug said even Rabbit Creek Road contributed to his micro-climate by helping to keep the air circulating. He's gardened on the property for 30+ years and incredibly the very coldest temperature experienced in all that time was 5 below zero. He had an amazing collection of different rhododendrons (and azaleas) from 8" high to 5+ feet. There were Rhodies from all over the world: China, Finland, etc. Doug starts some from seed, taking years to get to blooming size. Some potted big rhododendrons on a nursery bench he started from seed 8 years ago were about 10" high -- and hadn't yet bloomed. Besides his rhodies, he had some neat espaliered apple trees in bloom and some good sized apricot trees in pots in his nursery area. There were so many different conifers I lost track: at least 4 different kinds of cedar alone. If you haven't checked out the unusual plants at Tryck Nursery, you definitely should.

Bottom right: Demonstration Lasagna Bed
in Amy Olmstead's Garden -

Bottom left: MG's chatting - photos by Gina Docherty

On June 16th, MGs visited two gardens, each with distinct areas of interest.

Lasagna Garden, Amy Olmstead

Amy Olmstead has built her garden beds using the lasagna-way. MGs had a special treat this trip: a complete example from start to finish of the many layers that comprise a good lasagna bed (delphiniums were actually planted the same day directly into the new lasagna bed). She started with layers of newspapers laid directly on the sod, followed by various numbers of layers of brown leaves, grass clippings, shredded paper, kitchen compost material, and partially composted stuff. Amy is re-making her back yard by giving up about 25% of her growing space to create a fenced yard area for the family's dogs -- complete with their own swimming pool, lawn and shrubs. She is creating space for a number of established perennials salvaged to make room for the dog yard. Folks went home with detailed hand-outs on gardening using the lasagna method originally developed by Patricia Lanza. (See her books "Lasagna Gardening" and "Lasagna Gardening for Small Spaces".)



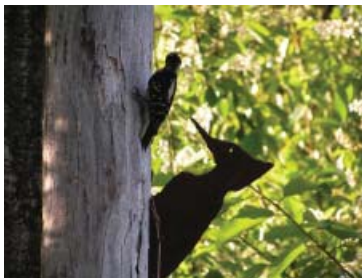
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June Garden Tours continued from page 1



Above: Mary Nan Cunningham talks with MG's -
 Below top: Shell planters - Photos by Fran Durner
 Below middle: "live" woodpecker on pole with metal woodpecker -
 Below bottom: Dog Topiary - photos by Gina Docherty

Mary Nan Cunningham's unusual garden is filled with visual vignettes at every twist and turn. An incredible number of succulents and perennials are used to showcase some rather unusual garden art. A metal cat perched on an overhead tree limb next to the bird suet feeder... two ducks circling around a HUGE stone egg in a nest... a large Easter Island-style stone head with dried grass and flowering kale growing out the top of his head... a wonderful metal raven among the branches of a trellised rose... a metal woodpecker near a tree of nesting woodpeckers complete with baby bird... a topiary cat planted with succulents... a dog topiary with long plant "hair" ... a couple of sculptured heads with intriguing plants growing out the top like bizarre hair... a living succulent wreath hanging on the wall... hanging fish filled with succulents, and many interesting perennials and wonderful plant combinations. I did not know lithodora wintered here since the tag on the one I just bought says zone 6, but Mary Nan's lithodora has survived several winters.



Sharon Davis' garden photos:
 Garden Sculpture, Honeysuckle blossoms, Canada canadensis, MG's Mary Shier and Jane Baldwin admiring the Honeysuckle Tree
 - photos by Gina Docherty

June 23rd

Sharon Davis' gardens were alive with flowering lilacs. What a stunning lilac was the big President Lincoln with its very blue-toned flowers and wonderful fragrance. I could be very happy for a long time just sitting on Sharon's well-tended lawn very near this very fragrant lilac.

Another lilac bush was actually two different colored lilacs combined as one bush - a creamy white and a purple. Many striking garden sculptures, espaliered apple tree, and a very old huge honeysuckle TREE (not a bush!) were just some of the features noted in Sharon's large garden areas.

The peony bushes near the house front windows were huge and full of buds, just waiting for a bit of sunshine to pop. Sharon's use of our native dogwood (Canada canadensis) as a very full ground cover was especially intriguing and attractive. This primula addict also noted several robust gorgeous wine-red veris plants (I want one!) in full bloom. Sharon's gardens are very visible and not hidden behind privacy-fences. What a gift for us all. As Verna Pratt said, "Look what she does for her neighbors!"



Tips for Growing Rhododendrons

Excerpts from the American Rhododendron Society web pages:

<http://www.rhododendron.org/articles.htm> and <http://www.rhododendron.org/fertilizing.htm>

Hardy Rhododendron *Mikkeli*
Photo by Gina Docherty

Three Basic Tips on Growing Rhododendrons:

Rhodies must:

- have a constant supply of moisture
- never sit in stagnant water;
- be grown in a coarse, acid medium.

Soil Medium

Avoid growing Rhodies over "hardpan" (hard clay with poor drainage). If the drainage is poor you will need to plant nearly on top of the native soil. Provide a growing medium that creates air spaces in the soil, something that takes a long time to decompose, and holds water so your plant doesn't dry out. Bark can be used, but avoid heavy, coarse bark. Also, avoid substances that are toxic or too alkaline.

The old formula of "one-third sawdust or bark, one-third peat moss, and one-third garden loam" is all right, providing the humus material (sawdust, etc.) is coarse enough to supply the necessary amount of air in the soil.

Up to one-third of the soil volume should be air space, so use common sense to provide a mix that will give you this result. Almost any combination will work as long as it provides the necessary air. ("Loam" is a term applied to soil which has a mixture of large (sand), medium (silt) and small (clay) particles. It refers to the texture of the soil, not its fertility or amount of organic matter in it.)

"Remember: The slower the humus breaks down the better because the longer those particles of humus are there, the longer the soil is going to contain a lot of needed oxygen (in the air spaces). And, remember that organic material which breaks down too rapidly consumes lots of nitrogen, which is going to have to be replaced."

[From *Tips for Beginners: Good Soil Promises Rhodie Success*: The article was compiled from *Greer's Guidebook to Available Rhododendrons* by Harold Greer, a past president of the ARS and owner of Greer Gardens in Eugene, Oregon.]

Acidity

The soil for rhododendrons and azaleas should be acid, somewhere between very strong and medium, that is, a pH of 4.5 to 5.5 or 6.0. Soils of the forest or originally forested areas are usually suitable for rhododendrons and azaleas. Soils originating from limestone are alkaline or close to it. Alkaline soils are usually found in up thrust sedimentary rock formed in ancient oceans. To grow rhododendrons and azaleas in such alkaline or neutral soils, it is best to improve the soil by adding large quantities of organic matter. If the soil pH is above 6.0, add ground sulfur (flowers of sulfur) or ferrous sulfate, not aluminum sulfate, to increase the acidity.

[From "Tips for Beginners: How To Adjust Acidity Levels in Your Soil"; Source: *JARS* V46:No.2:p77:y1992]

Fertilizing

In fertile soils rhododendrons and azaleas can be grown well without receiving further fertilization. However, if plants are mulched with something like fresh sawdust or wood chips, there will be a nitrogen demand caused by the decomposition of these materials, and unless nitrogen is added, the plants are likely to show yellowish foliage and poor growth. In this case a fertilizer such as ammonium sulfate should be added. It is safer to use mulches other than those containing fresh sawdust or wood chips, then you don't have to be concerned with exactly how much extra fertilizer to add, as excess fertilizer can harm your plants by "burning" the roots.

For rhododendrons planted in less fertile soils, a complete fertilizer designed for acid-loving plants may be applied in late winter or early spring. Be careful to use only the amounts recommended for rhododendrons and azaleas, which normally require less fertilizer than plants such as grasses and vigorous shrubs. In cold climates, nitrogen fertilizer should not be applied after late June as it may promote new lush growth susceptible to winter damage. Recent research indicates that plants reasonably well supplied with nutrients, including nitrogen, are more resistant to low temperatures than those that are starved.

Phosphorus in fertilizer tends to favor early production of flower buds. If your soil is deficient in phosphorus and since phosphorus does not readily move through the soil, phosphorus should be incorporated into the soil at planting time if needed. Magnesium in the form of Epsom salts is sometimes recommended for rhododendrons. Magnesium is an essential element and lack of it will cause yellowish areas between the leaf veins on older leaves. If the leaves are a solid green the addition of Epsom salts would not be useful.

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Lack of iron causes much the same symptoms as lack of magnesium, but with the younger leaves showing yellowing between the veins. Iron deficiency is frequently caused by too high a soil pH, often the result of mortar or mortar building debris in the soil near the roots. A soil test should be performed to see whether high pH is a problem and if it is the soil should be acidified. For a quick but temporary solution, ferrous sulfate can be added to the soil or chelated iron can be sprayed on the foliage, but the pH should be corrected for long term good growth.

Calcium is also essential to good rhododendron growth. Calcium can be obtained either from gypsum or from agricultural lime. Gypsum will not raise soil pH, while lime will, therefore, lime is not generally recommended in areas with naturally alkaline soil or water.

[From: Fundamentals of Rhododendron & Azalea Culture, Revised 1995 by Sandra McDonald, Ph.D. <http://www.rhododendron.org/plantcare.htm>]



What Kills Rhodies:

1. Excessive water (especially poor drainage): Rhodies need a shallow bed of highly organic matter
2. Lack of water; roots are near the surface & need frequent watering, especially when newly planted.
3. Excessive application of fertilizer: fertilize more frequently with small amounts of fertilizer
4. Planting too deep: too much soil over the roots will smother them
5. Cold winter temperatures: In general, the lowest temperature during the past five years is a good guide for making selections based on hardiness; over 100 varieties will survive -25°F temperatures
6. Hot summer sun: Rhodies will tolerate filtered sun and partial shade.
7. Fungus diseases or die back: avoid planting too deeply or watering in the late afternoon; use a fungicide during late spring and summer.

[From "Top Causes of Death in Rhododendrons" by Jan D. Kelley, Drain, Oregon]

Selecting the "Right" Rhododendron

Consider the following:

HARDINESS:

Most all rhododendrons sold are rated for hardiness. The hardiness rating is a generally accepted temperature that the plant will endure and survive (the plant and not the flower buds.) The rationale behind plant hardiness is that you can afford to lose the buds on a given year, but not the plant. Rhododendrons are generally rated from H-1 (will survive to minus 25 degrees F) through H-6 (will survive at plus 30 degrees F).

ULTIMATE SIZE:

How large will the plant be at 10 years of age. Standard varieties are about 6 feet at 10 years. Semi-dwarfs are about 2 to 4 feet at 10 years of age and dwarfs are about 1 1/2 feet at 10 years of age.

PLANT AGE:

Know the plant size that you want to purchase: are you after instant landscape or are you willing to grow with the plant.

LOCATION:

Know that the variety you want meets the conditions of your location, i.e., full sun, semi-shade, etc.

PLANT HEALTH:

When you make the final choice the foliage of the plant you select should be dark green and vigorous looking. It should not have burned or spotted leaves. Burned leaves generally result from inadequate water in the summer or excessive cold in the winter. Leaf spotting typically results from some disease condition in the plant. The plant should be uniform and well branched. Stay away from lopsided or crooked plants. The leaves should be free of insect damage. Uniform notching around the border of the leaves generally indicates weevil activity. Other insect damage is evidenced by irregular holes in the leaves. If you want the plant to bloom in the coming season, look for large flower buds on some of the branch ends.

All of the above takes a great deal of time, but your labors dramatically increase the chance of purchasing an excellent rhododendron. All too often we buy the plant with the big open flowers only to later realize that it was a mistake. Good Hunting!

[From: "How To Select a Rhodie at Your Local Nursery" by Jan D. Kelley, Drain, Oregon]



South Central Peninsula Master Gardener News

By Rosemary Kimball

The tombstone tags are gathered up and the lost plants mourned. My beautiful stocky, soft rose-colored delphinium is not with me anymore. What makes it worse is that I hadn't shared it. Also lost were two of my 20-year-old rhubarbs! Just died. Didn't even try to sprout this spring! Rhubarb doesn't die but these did, accompanied by a red one. Of course with the 20 below without a snow cover in November we had to replace the strawberries again. This was only the third time in 30 years here but it was the second year in a row! I did make bad magic last summer, looking at the replanted rows and thinking "I should have done it in a different configuration so it would be easier to rototill". I need to be more careful what I wish for this year!

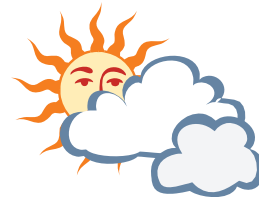
I thought my original sea buckthorn stud muffin was in sync with his girls this year but that doesn't seem to be the case as I can't find any berries. The flowers are miniscule and next year I will take out a magnifying glass to see when the girls are in heat. I really really liked the juice we had from them last year and I want MORE.

The end of May/beginning of June gave us three 27-degree mornings in Sterling. Of course, the first one was the morning after I'd planted out the zucchini and decided I didn't need to cover them because it wouldn't frost. Dead zucchini wrong. Started that little project all over again. And the cold will give the cauliflower button heads again. Ditto the broccoli but the side shoots, which I prefer, will be OK... I hope. Along with that cold weather was very soggy soil and I couldn't rototill the bottom of the garden until the first week in June. The garden has never been that wet that late before. Compounding it all was our trip to see my brother-in-law for two weeks mid month. A very wonderful friend, Carol, came over and we planted for four hours straight one day and that made a major dent in the work.

The trip my husband, Phil, and I made was to Carson City, Nevada, at the foot of the Sierras. The soil is alkaline, sandy and looks like it would fry anything planted therein. Another Rosey wrong. The roses there were just plain stupendous and they were all over. I'd never been to the state during the summer before. I knew day lilies, bearded iris and lilacs grew well but I was unprepared for low hedges of lavender (Costco had 3 gallon pots of lavender for \$10 so I got six and no, I don't know why) and the roses. I also saw a plant whose leaves looked like our garden-cultivar elderberry but were dark red. I took lots of pictures peeking into people's yards. I don't know why for that either except that the flowers were pretty. Russian olive, cousin to my sea buckthorn, is on the noxious weed list in Nevada, but it was in bloom when we arrived and the fragrance was intoxicating. I also cleaned my b-in-l's double mock orange which was in full bloom. I could learn to like that state just through my nose.

The only things that did well while we were gone were the weeds, greenhouse tomatoes and the 11 ducks. The ducks are past any sort of cute and are just slobbs but I like them anyway. That entertainment is not cheap, with the price of food. The ducks, in turn, like weeds and I'm searching for slugs, a prime delicacy. There were bear paw prints in our neighbor's driveway while we were gone. We both have fowl (foul?) flocks and are sweating the summer's wild residents. We have radios on in our pens tuned to different rock and rant stations. So far, knock on wood, the birds have been safe(r) from bears so I don't mind the loss of our summer's aural tranquility. Every single hen between the two coops is setting. The coming population explosion scares me when I think of all the feathers that will need to be plucked.

Since I firmly believe in never having a pet you can't eat, I'm searching for recipes for duck, but I do want to add that our cat died of old age.



A June without Summer

*'Twas a June without summer and around my abode,
There were pansies and snapdragons shivering with cold.
The begonias were planted in pots with much care,
In the hope that summer soon would be there.*

*The nemesia were shaking from wind in their beds,
Marigolds cowered and quivered with dread.
I in my fleece and long pants went to bed
With worries of frost and dead plants in my head.*

*When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter
I rose from my bed to see what was the matter.
I tore open the door and said, "What the heck!"
A plastic lawn chair had blown clear off my deck.*

*The moon on breast of the dead, dried-up lawn
Gave proof to my fear that large patches were gone.
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a shriveled old crone—Mother Nature, I fear.*

*Her garments were torn, all faded and drear,
"So sorry," she said, "I forgot you this year."
Then in a twinkling I saw her transform
Into youth with such beauty, her smile soft and warm.*

*Then what to my be-fuddled brain did appear,
But a thought—oh, my Lordy—the sky was so clear.
The wind had died down, my flowers were still,
And the air, it was warm, had lost all its chill.*

*As lawn chairs before the wild hurricane fly,
She rose up quite quickly, up into the sky.
Just fore she vanished, I heard a soft murmur,
"I hope you enjoy what is left of your summer."*



Jeanne Waite Follett
Moose Pass, Alaska
June 2008



Bird Chatter

Jo Anne Banta, Gina Docherty, Janice Shamberg, Mary Shier, Amelia Walsh and the Botanical Garden.

-- Take a tip from Suzanne Williams, past co-president of the Juneau MGs. Both the New York Times and the Anchorage Daily News mentioned that she bopped a porcupine with a hammer when it wouldn't leave her garden alone.

-- *Paeonia tenuifolia* was the first peony to bloom in Beth Schlabaugh's garden on May 27. *Paeonia anomala* was first to bloom at the Alaska Botanical Garden, with flowers first starting to open on June 11. ABG's *Paeonia tenuifolia*, did not flower until later in the month.

-- When Sue Lincoln was asked if she felt like a farmer after hauling and spreading a load of horse manure on the refugee's garden this spring, she said, "No, I feel like a homesteader." Thanks to Linda Boggs for donating the manure. Thanks to Marvin Lee of Bailey's Rent-All for tilling it in with his tractor.

-- Was it a cold spring? The water to the herb garden at ABG was still frozen on May 27, the first day the Herb Study Group started to plant.

-- When attacked by insects, *ageratum*, *A. houstonianum*, produces a chemical that mimics an insect developmental hormone that causes premature molting. (from the book *Ecology for Gardeners*, by Steven Carroll & Steven Salt, 2004).

-- MGs Lori & Troy Zaumseil helped orchestrate Governor Palin's presence at the Alaska Invasive Weeds Awareness Kickoff held June 17.

-- To help the Hmong gardeners get their produce to market, Flory Vinson got Garrett's Tesoro to donate the gasoline.

-- Word has it that Fran Durner organized an employee effort to keep the flower beds going at the Anchorage Daily News this summer.

-- J.A. Henckels knives are guaranteed for life so when Beth Schlabaugh broke off her knife's tip dividing dahlias, they replaced it. Maybe more gardeners should use Henckels knives.

-- For anyone who left Doug Tryck's nursery before Frankie came home, be assured that there was no basset hound pancake on Rabbit Creek Road the night of the MG field trip.

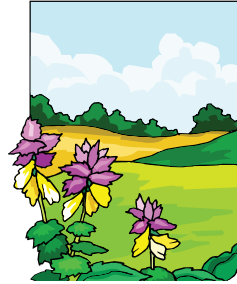
-- In Canada Jack Pine grows almost as far north as the Arctic Circle. Why aren't there more planted in Anchorage?

-- Oops... the photograph of the MG conference in last month's newsletter mistakenly identified William Pride, III sitting with Mel Monsen as Ed Marshall. Both Mel and William are MGs and work for UAA's grounds department. Ed & Collette Marshall enthralled participants at the conference with their presentation on bees.

-- There was quite a stir about hardiness zones this spring and it wasn't all happening at the Alaska Master Gardener Conference. The USDA has recently announced that they will be releasing a new winter hardiness zone map soon.

-- Mary Shier spent a day entertaining Master Gardeners from Duluth. She took them to "some of the best" June gardens we have including those of Mel Monsen, Dana Klinkhart,

Out of Town Visitors By Mary Shier



If you ever have the opportunity to escort visitors around our colorful city, take it. I did that very thing recently and what a wonderful day it was. Even the weather cooperated.

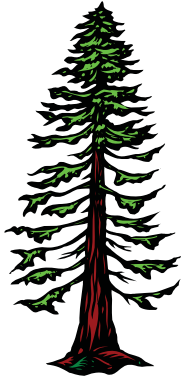
A Master Gardener couple from Duluth, Minnesota, contacted the MG website several months ago and said they would be coming to Anchorage in June. They wanted to know if there were any gardens

to see near the Captain Cook Hotel. I happened to be one of the 'forwarded' recipients of the letter and wrote back to them about what they could see within walking distance. Since there isn't a great deal around there, I offered to drive them around to see a variety of gardens in our area. Well, like you'd expect from any gardeners, they accepted the offer. It was several months before they arrived, so I concentrated on other things and kind of put it out of my mind, although thankfully, I did make note of it on my calendar! When the time got near, I made a list of gardens to see and had that ready to call folks after hearing from them about their arrival time. Fortunately all the gardeners (in my area of course) were agreeable.

I picked up Bruce & Mary Berg at the hotel at 10AM. What a lovely couple. Their trip was a celebration of her 50th birthday and their 30th wedding anniversary. We chatted away as I headed to South Anchorage. They live in her Grandfather's house on Lake Superior on about 2 acres of land. They are in zone 3 & 4. A lot of the plants they saw were familiar to them but there were a few that were unfamiliar, *Lewisia* for one. They loved the garden art and the varied garden designs. Both are avid photographers of plants and flowers and they kept their cameras clicking. Bruce also maintains the Duluth Flower Garden website: (WWW.DGFS.US). Both commented on being impressed with our MG website and enjoyed the newsletters.

We visited the gardens of Mel Monsen, Jo Anne Banta, Dana Klinkhart, Gina Docherty, Janice Shamberg and mine prior to a late lunch at the Tap Root Café. During lunch I found out that she and I are both recipe junkies. Then it was off to Amelia Walsh's garden and ending up at the Anchorage Botanical Garden. Only a couple of folks were not present during our stops but lots of conversations took place at all the others.

By the time I dropped them back at the Captain Cook at 6:15 p.m., they were feeling the effects of a full day of garden tours. As for me, after supper I fell asleep on the sofa.




All I Really Need to Know, I Learned from Trees.

(submitted by Nickel LaFleur)

- *It's important to have roots
- *In today's complex world, it pays to branch out.
- *Don't pine away over old flames
- *If you really believe in something, don't be afraid to go out on a limb.
- *Be flexible so that you don't break when a harsh wind blows
- *Sometimes you have to shed your old bark to grow
- *If you want to maintain accurate records, keep a log.


- *Grow where you are planted.
- *It's perfectly okay to be a late bloomer.
- *Avoid people who would like to cut you down.
- *Get all spruced up when you have a hot date.
- *If the party gets boring, just leaf
- *You can't hide your true colors as you approach the autumn of your life.
- *It's more important to be honest than poplar



Ikenobo Ikebana Society
Anchorage Alaska Chapter

Ikenobo Ikebana Demonstration

by
45th Headmaster Sen'ei Ikenobo



5th Anniversary Symposium

Ikenobo Ikebana Society
Anchorage Alaska Chapter

Saturday, July 12, 2008
Anchorage Hilton Hotel

1:00-2:30 PM Headmaster's Demonstration—\$25 per person
12:00 noon - 4:00 PM Exhibition—open to the public

Tickets available at the door or in advance by contacting:
Kay Gatlin (907) 333-6701

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

To have an article or photo placed in the AMGA Newsletter please send it by the last weekend of the month to have it published in the following month's edition. The earlier the better. Email is the preferred mode of transmission.



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

Mail: 14051 Fejes Road [new mailing address]
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

July 10, Thursday

Wildflower Garden Club Field trip: Tour of Independence Mine and Surrounding Area with Verna Pratt. Meet at 9:00am at the Fred Meyer South side parking lot on Muldoon Road and carpool from there. Dress for the weather and be sure to bring a camera, notebook, and a sack lunch. Be prepared to do some hiking! Contact 277-7150.

July 11, Friday

Lighthouse Garden Tea, Theme: Dragons Fly, 3:00 pm-7:00 pm. Beautiful gardens, a pond, views of Eagle River, food, wine, music. A benefit for Alaska Botanical Gardens. Cost: \$30, reservations required, 770-3692.

July 19, Saturday

Alaska Garden and Art Festival at the Alaska State Fairgrounds, 11:00 am-5:00 pm. Keynote speaker Ciscoe Morris, Seattle based gardening guru, radio and television personality. Cost: \$5, children under 12 free. For information contact Sarah Cimino, 745-4827, gardenfestival@alaskastatefair.org.

July 19-20, Saturday and Sunday

Coyote Gardens Tour, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm on Saturday and from 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm on Sunday. Mile 7 of Willow Fishhook Road. Cost: \$5 to benefit the Willow Garden Club and the Alaska Botanical Gardens, 770-3692.

July 21, Monday

Anchorage Master Gardener Association, 7:00 pm, field trips to 1) Jane Baldwin's "Happenstance Garden" at 4907 Roger Drive, 2) Frank and Grace Marquiss's "Vegetable Garden and Greenhouse" at 4909 Roger Drive and 3) Julie Braund-Allen and Bob Allen's "Clematis, Dahlias, Perennials, Composting" at 2390 Campbell Place. Contact 786-6300.

July 24, Thursday

Wildflower Garden Club Members' Garden Tour. Enjoy the fruits of our members' labors by touring their gardens. Be motivated, inspired, and awed at the beauty of these gardens. The list of gardens and direction will be mailed to members, contact Liz Rockwell, 277-7150.

July 27, Sunday

Anchorage Garden Club Annual Tour of Gardens will be held from 12:00 pm-5:00pm. For more information watch the Anchorage Daily News, call the AGC hotline, 566-0539 or check <http://communitynews.adn.com/agclub>.

July 28, Monday

Dr. Allan Armitage to give special presentation/garden walks. Highly acclaimed, international recognized author and educator, Dr. Allan Armitage from the University of Georgia will be visiting Southcentral Alaska. Details will be available through the Alaska Botanical Garden, 770-3692.

July 31, Thursday

Garden Party Fundraiser for STAR, 3:00 pm-6:00 pm, at the home of Catherine Renfro, 1233 Bannister Dr, food, wine and beautiful gardens. Call Catherine at 276-3650 for details.

August 2-3, Saturday and Sunday

Anchorage Garden Club 63rd Annual Flower Show, 1:00 pm-9:00 pm on Saturday, 10:00 am-6:00pm on Sunday, theme "The Circus is in Town", at the Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road. Contact the Anchorage Garden Club hotline, 566-0539 or <http://communitynews.adn.com/agclub>.

August 4, Monday

Anchorage Master Gardeners Association, 7:00 pm, field trip to Carol Ross's "Perennials and Vegetables" at 3401 Richmond Avenue. Contact 786-6300.

August 7, Thursday

Anchorage Garden Club meeting, 7:00 pm, "Heirlooms & Other Plants: How to Save Seeds", Pioneer Schoolhouse, 437 E 3rd Avenue (3rd & Eagle). Contact AGC hotline, 566-0539 or check <http://communitynews.adn.com/agclub>.

August 13, Wednesday

Mushroom Walk with local expert Diane Pleninger, 6:30 pm, meet in the Alaska Botanical Garden nursery.

For information about membership or upcoming programs, contact:
Cooperative Extension Office
2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99508
Phone: 786-6300
Fax: 786-6312



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Master Gardeners Susan Lang and Mari Wood
at the UAF Cooperative Extension booth at the
ABG Garden and Art Fair on Saturday, June 21, 2008.
Great hat Mari!
Photo by Fran Durner

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