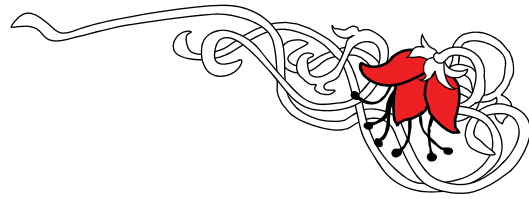


Anchorage Chapter



Volume 14, Issue 5

ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

May 2012



A Nickel's Worth from Madam President LaFleur-meister

We did it!!! Our 2012 Conference and Meet & Greet party came and went and was a success! Thanks to all the volunteers who donated to the efforts - give yourselves a big hand!! <applause here> I'm proud to be associated with this group and look forward to this summer and all the gardens to tour.



Other than the sun blinding our two key-note speakers at the Meet & Greet, I was pleased with it all. A HUGE thanks to Green Connection and Gretchen Fowler for providing the party

atmosphere... all done at NO CHARGE - it was their gift to us. I hope you were able to get in on some plant purchases or, like Mary Jo Burns, a great deal on some planting pots. Kudos and appreciation goes to Janice Chumley, Kathy Wartinbee & Rosemary Kimball - the wonderful group of Master Gardeners from the Kenai who, along with Anchorage MGs Mary Rydesky and Cheryl Shroyer, moved around plant shelves and set-up chairs and tables for the greenhouse party. I couldn't have done it without you - really!!

Thanks to Marion Owen & Linda Chalker-Scott who answered the audience questions and brought some books & notecards to sell. In listening to the response to questions, I know I learned a few more things and left to ponder even more. Thanks to Fran Durner for supplying some wonderful notecards with original photos to a lucky door prize winner at the Meet & Greet.

Everyone was really generous in providing donations at our Conference. I heard Gina exclaim a couple of times at how fabulous and forth-coming people in the community were in their donating of door prizes. To you all, I say THANKS!

It was an honor and pleasure to be able to recognize three of our long-time Master Gardener volunteers at the Conference. Mary Shier, Judy Christiansen and Sandy Harrington were given life-time membership and achievement awards from the Association as a small token of thanks for their years and years of volunteering efforts to our organization. They will continue to be around to mentor others - but - next time you see any of them, let them know how much their volunteerism is

appreciated by us AND our community.

Marge Olson and Camille Williams are spearheading the efforts at the Anchorage Pioneer Home this year and they have their hands full. Along with planting and watering the seedlings and plugs, they are working with the staff at the Pioneer Home on the plans involving re-vamping of the landscape. This is a huge job - to oversee the plants and try figure out the 'who, what, where & when' of the landscape changes but they are staying on top of it and we all thank you for that, Cam & Marge.

More good news on the horizon is our partner-shiping with the horticultural department at the University of Alaska-Anchorage. The wonderful gardeners at the University are sharing their extra seedlings with the members of the Pioneer Home. Catherine, Carmen & Eric from UAA notify us when they have extra plants and Cam & Marge go pick them up and transfer them to the Pioneer Home to be transplanted and shared with residents and in the landscape. We are pleased to have this partnership with UAA and hope it continues for years on end.

Continued on page 2

Treasurer's Report

Balances 2/29/12:	
Checking acct	2221.32
Savings acct	9357.95
CD's	10455.78
Total	<u>\$22035.05</u>

Expenses:	
Newsletter	896.44
Pioneer Home	250.00
Hospitality	12.70

Revenue:	
Membership dues	260.00
Donation	5.00
Interest	5.95
Balances 3/31/12:	
Checking acct	1327.18
Saving acct	9360.33
CD's	10459.35
TOTAL	<u>\$21146.86</u>

Create Award Winning Baskets with Camille Williams

By Pat Anderson

Camille Williams, winner of many blue ribbons and Best of Show for her flower arrangements, Master Gardener, and hands-in-dirt-and-loving-it-gardener presented ways to achieve award winning container-baskets at the last MG meeting.

After adjustments in the presentation with her flash-drive being lost, and Mary Jo Burns sitting in as slide-advancer, Cam showed some wonderful eye-grabbing baskets, courtesy of the Special Container Edition from the publisher of Gardens West Magazine.

She did a 'hands on' arrangement of plants in a wheelbarrow, knee-high boots, and a pot. "Anything that holds soil can become a planter", she explained, "with the proper drainage taken into consideration, including hole-drilling and gravel."

Soil and moisture: Use fresh weed-free soil, some that contains micro and macro nutrients; or for previous year filled pots, take away half the old soil, break it up, and add reasonably fluffy soil with neutral ph. Removing this top portion of soil also eliminates any molds, aphids, slug eggs or other undesirables that might remain hidden in the top layer. Styrofoam popcorn, or overturned 4" pots the plants came in can be used as fillers in the bottom, if the container is large. Organic soil has more to offer plants. Water holding granules can be used if desired.

Light Exposure - Match plants with available light - read the plant label and place container where conditions match.

Nutrition: Organic soil good, peat based soil needs fertilizer right away; fertilize once a week with 15-30-15, half-strength every time you water. Use Osmocote slow releasing fertilizer according to directions.

Plant Selections: Use good combos including annuals for color that you can mix with vegetables, tropical plants are high performers in both vigor and color. Cam stressed the Thriller, Filler and Spiller rule: Tall spectacular plants, even trees or tall Pampas Grass, white or pink, etc., placed in the center are the thrillers. Fillers are colorful annuals, grasses, herbs, up-right Fushias, etc., while spillers can be Bacopa, hanging Lobelia, Calibrochoa or any plant that spills over the edge of the container and gives eye-appeal and balance.



Cam urged MGs to find out what works in Alaska, and also to give new plants a try. After her talk, she had gardeners flocking around her to ask questions, all eager to Spring into action and plant some show-stopping containers this year!

Camille's completed wheelbarrow arrangement, along with her filled 'boots'.

Photo by Pat Anderson

A Nickels's Worth...cont. from page 1

My favorite holiday is this month, ARBOR DAY held on the 3rd Monday of May - this year on the 21st. Martie Black - MG and President of Anchorage Garden Club (AGC) has planned a short celebration at noon on May 21st at Cuddy Park. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please remember to bring along a chair and whatever else the weather may indicate you need to attend this ceremony. A couple trees (donated by Conoco-Phillips & AGC) will be planted at the event. I hope you join me in celebrating Arbor Day as well as attending our last indoor meeting before we enjoy garden tours this summer.



Marion Owen and Linda Chalker-Scott answer questions at the Meet and Greet, Friday night before the conference.



MG vendors at the conference with Jane Baldwin: Janie Taylor, Lynn Opstad, Gina Docherty, Fran Durner. (Not shown were Verna Pratt and Camille Williams.)

Photo by Dana Klinkhart

Master Gardener Focus: Marilyn Barker By Cheryl Chapman

Some Ph.D candidate should formally investigate how happenstance shapes the way lives turn out, and botanist and Master Gardener Marilyn Barker could be the first case study.



Her long-held college goal of teaching high school English literature founded on the rocky reality that she couldn't write - "I kept getting C's," she says - so she bulked up on science, easy A's for her, until finally her adviser at Ohio's Miami University pointed out that for an English major, she was looking mighty like an accidental botanist.

She zipped through the compressed doctoral program in botany at Washington State University with original research on a feather moss that has jumped three classifications since they met. *Tomenthypnum megaptilum* is a dainty green understory moss like a 4-inch ostrich plume that grows in the deep forests of Idaho, the Cascades and on Mount Rainier beneath Grand fir (*Abies grandis*) and Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*). It has a surprisingly inventive sex life: normal-size male and female plants, plus dwarf males that develop from spores that land on the leaves of the females to make more little mosses.

Mosses and their varied ways continue to fascinate - Marilyn talked about them at April's Master Gardener meeting - not least because most of them are persnickety. "Where a moss is, where it grows, is so sensitive to pH," she says. "One, for instance, grows on copper, the so-called 'Copper Moss,' and has been used as an indicator to find copper deposits. Most mosses are growing exactly where they want to be (even on bear scat), and it's very difficult to move them successfully."

Marilyn grew up in a vegetable-and-flower-gardening family in Mount Healthy, Ohio, 15 miles north of Cincinnati and founded as Mount Pleasant in 1817. Residents changed the name to Mount Healthy after they all survived the cholera epidemic of 1850 and their neighbors didn't. They credited a spring of pure water that supplied the town for their good health, and, Marilyn says, "That spring's still there."

She left Ohio and Washington behind to move to Alaska with her husband, a geologist, and was hired as one of two biology teachers at Anchorage Community College. "Janis Nichols and I were the biology department," she says. "We taught a spectrum of biology classes, and I daily lament the loss of the community college because it prepared students for university success in ways we don't have here anymore."

After the University of Alaska Anchorage absorbed Anchorage Community College, Marilyn continued to teach biology and botany there, with forays into botanical adventures. No, it's not all diploids and haploids,

sporophytes, sporocytes and meristems. Sometimes its paleobotany, chipping out prehistoric plants contemporaneous with dinosaurs, or being shoved face-first into an icy swimming pool to practice getting out of a five-point aircraft harness.

In 1999, she made her first field trip to international science camp to check out a puzzling ancient forest uncovered as the Bering Glacier on Alaska's southeast coast pulled back. The glacier, largest and longest in North America, is the biggest temperate surging glacier in the world, with its terminus in Vitus Lake, its south end hemmed by the Gulf of Alaska and its north by the St. Elias Mountains.

What perplexed the federal Bureau of Land Management was that trees in this mostly spruce forest had been sheared off about 6 feet above the ground but the roots were undisturbed; glaciers normally grind down all before them. The BLM wanted Marilyn's ideas on how that happened, and a plant inventory, but before the agency would let her go in, she had to complete wilderness medicine, air safety and flight training, including the dumps into the swimming pool.

"I learned that what kills many people in light aircraft crashes into water is that they can't get out," she says. "You'll have at least a minute to react as the aircraft's going down, and you should use that to unlock the door and keep it closed with your hand. When the plane or helicopter hits, its body will twist and if you haven't opened the door, the lock will jam and you'll be trapped."

Nine years of August field trips to the glacier have yielded a broad plant inventory (466 species, 324 of them within their known expected range, 93 of them range extensions, and 19 rarities on the Alaska Natural Heritage Program Vascular Plant Tracking List). Carbon dating puts shells from the site between 6,000-8,000 B.C., indicating that 10,000 years ago it probably was a fjord, but still, nobody knows why it wasn't flattened.

"There's speculation that the glacier picked up the whole thing like a floating plate and moved it in situ, but no one knows how," Marilyn says. "It's still a mystery."

And then there were the bears, and the state's fretting over their increasing brushes with kayakers and campers along the Katmai coast and Glacier Bay. "No real surprises," says Marilyn, who prepared a vegetation map of the area for Fish & Game. "There were wild strawberries growing along the coast, and bears like strawberries too. Also, bears and humans both prefer to stroll along flat beaches."

At Kachemak Bay, the problem was a dust-up between cattle ranchers and duck hunters. Where there were cattle, ducks disappeared, and Marilyn was again handed her sleuth hat. "It turns out that cattle walk in single file through marshy areas," she says. "This makes channels and ridges, the water starts draining differently, this changes the mix of marsh plants that ducks like and the ducks leave."

Continued on page 4

Thank You to Alaska's Generous Conference Door Prize Donors!

On behalf of the Master Gardener Association Anchorage, I would like to thank all the generous door prize donors for helping make our conference a great success. There was over \$1200 worth of door prizes donated! It was unbelievable.

Donor	Gift Received
Dimond Greenhouse -	Gift certificate for basket
Colony Greenhouse -	2 hanging baskets
Mile 5.2 Greenhouse -	\$50 Gift card
Debbie Jesky -	1996 City of Fl. Poster
P&M Gardens -	\$50 Gift card
AK Mill & Feed -	10 lb Peony Fertilizer, & \$50 gift card
Forget Me Not Nursery -	\$50 Gift Card
Anna Sutton -	2 \$25 Gift cards
Troy & Lori Zamseul -	12 rolls Landscape Fabric,
Anonymous -	5 year Journal
Angelus Memorial Park, Inc. (Carmel Tysver) -	6" Rulers
Margaret Love (Curves cards) -	5 Curves promotions
Jo Anne Banta -	3 Hawaiian flower arrangements
Verna Pratt -	Framed pressed flowers
Janie Taylor -	Gift basket
Gina Docherty -	iPad cover
Fran Durner -	Note cards
Sharon Stewart -	Wooden vase
Rosella Young -	Quilted pot holder
Mark Fisher -	1 bag Compost
Brook Heppinstall -	3 brown "Garden Muscle" t-shirts
Lorri Abel -	\$50 gift card
Greg Kalal -	4 bags of seed potatoes
Far North Gardens -	Gift basket (fertilizer, tags, bags, etc.)
Jana Hayenga -	Pink Jacket, Metal Garden Art, Butterflies, Denali poster, magnets, photo book, note cards
Marion Owen -	Book for Meet & Greet, Silent Auction donation \$75

Each one of these gifts made someone very happy! Some people, however, failed to check their ticket numbers, and several gifts were 'left over'. But not to worry, these gifts will find their way home with someone who comes to the AMGAA meetings and wins a door prize!



Lovely, whimsical garden scene at the AMGAA 2012 conference, created by MG Camille Williams and her MG crew: Pat Anderson, Marge Olson, and Kathy Tiede.
Photo by Dana Klinkhart

Master Gardener Focus: Marilyn Barker... cont. from page 3

It was in one of her taxonomy classes on naming plants that she met wildflower and gardening legend Verna Pratt. "Verna gave me plants, and I killed about half of them," says Marilyn. "She's the one who got me into Master Gardeners."

Marilyn and Verna team in May to teach a month-long field botany class through the Alaska Botanical Garden and the Cooperative Extension Service on identifying local plants and their uses. Last May, for instance, 15 people squelched behind their two mentors through Baxter Bog in East Anchorage, alert for native fauna (bears, moose, mosquitoes) and native flora like Labrador tea (*Ledum palustre*). The evergreen Labrador tea grows low in peaty soils with smooth, narrow leaves with rust-colored fuzz on their undersides. The white flowers are small and easy to miss, a pity because they smell like heaven. Native Alaskans brew a traditional tea from the leaves to treat ailments from colds to heartburn.

"I love the native plants," says Marilyn, a founding member of the Alaska Native Plant Society. "They're tricky, though. *Pyrola* (*Pyrola minor*, a wintergreen), for example. It's hard to get it going, but I've finally had success. I keep trying."



Volunteer Awards

Some people are fortunate enough to earn their livelihoods in jobs that directly help to create a more peaceful, just and sustainable world. But much of the efforts to make life better for our communities and our world are done by volunteers -- people who work for a better world without pay. Volunteers ARE creating a better world, one person and one act of kindness at a time.
-- Robert Alan Silverstein



Mary Shier, Sandy Harrington, and Judy Christianson receiving their Lifetime Achievement Awards at the 2012 conference.

Photos by Dana Klinkhart



Central Peninsula Master Gardener News By Rosemary Kimball



You guys done good! That was a wonderfully interesting conference. My Master Gardener bag has become my go-to-the-library bag. I'm a Master Gardener and proud of it! I liked the one-day format. I came home with my brain comfortably stuffed.

Things are beginning to appear out of the snow as it melts...even stuff that you really didn't want to see again. The amount of snow left at peoples' houses varies from location to location. Mostly the water is going straight into the ground and breakup has been pretty benign. Plants emerging from the snow seem to have a real good survival rate thanks to that cover. That means fewer plants to replace in the rock and perennial gardens. How boring is that!

Barb Jewell was back in Washington again and working on the weeds in her daughter's yard with the comment that she needs a break. It's too early for weeds here so she has that break...but not for long. She did get seeds started here before she left. She waded in the snow out to her back shed for the grow lights and skidded them back across the snow to the back porch.

Like Anchorage, I'm sure, the plants down here have suffered mightily from the moose. My 25-year-old mock orange is calf high and it never has been bothered before. The moose are moving very slowly and those of us in the boonies hope they don't die in our back yards. NIMBY in spades.

Don St. John is working on his 40 hours and taught a tomato-growing class for the CES Neighbor-to-Neighbor program. The class filled to the max and there was a wait list of 30 more names. He's going to do it again soon.

Margaret Simon, our Gold Standard gardener, had a small house fire in her husband's shop which stunk the house up with smoke. It was right below her seed starting area and she said none of her seeds died from smoke inhalation! But! She and her husband, Don, are going to have to move out of their house for a couple months for smoke abatement by a local contractor. And for mental health reasons they're going to stay in their guest cabin sans water and toilet which will give her access to her weeds and flowers. There was a bright spot though, in all that soot, when Allstate said they'd pay for the collapsed greenhouse. It's going to be quite a summer for her.

I know what Mark White's doing because I look at his dozens of geraniums about five inches high. Surely he plans to share some of them for me to kill. He's starting all sorts of stuff and what he isn't, I am. I've got his leeks and onions in my greenhouse.

I did a walkabout at Kathy Wartinbee's and she's got things way more than two inches high all over. Some of her tomatoes are already planted in the heated greenhouse. She's got seed starting down to a science. She has a map of the greenhouse and a map of the garden with things plotted so she knows how much of what to plant and where to plant them. I scored a pot of lettuce seedlings during the walkabout.

The Mayday tree buds are swelling, the woods are noisy with birds, and Kathy Wartinbee got her first mosquito bite. Shovel season is over, Slap season is here

Some Thoughts on Mint

Has that plant got a square stem? Then it's a member of the Lamiaceae or mint family. They are aromatic herbs, as in juleps, toothpaste, mouthwashes and iced tea among other things. The square stem is a given and people will be amazed at your plant knowledge.

Mints spread by underground stolons but are not fussy as to habitat as long as there's sufficient water. Mints will travel overground also! It will root readily in water. I like that especially with my propensity to kill plants. I had an unusually flavored mint as a garnish in a Portland Thai restaurant and confiscated all the unused ends from my dining companions for this summer's pots. They rooted and are doing well.

My neighbor, Mark, one summer, had 7 pots of different heights, each with a different mint, as patio plants. Grouped together it was a real attractive display. That's when I learned about mojitos. You can make a sauce for lamb too.

Pliny wrote about the medicinal properties in the first century A.D. By the time the plant got to Elizabethan times there were 40 uses for it as a remedy. It's known for being a remedy for a regretful tummy after eating (chocolate-covered mint as you leave the restaurant, anyone?) and for flatulence. Menthol is used to clear the sinuses and as a muscle rub. Beware of too much pennyroyal though. Too much taken internally causes convulsions and coma!

If you lived in Oregon mint would be a perennial and invasive. Up here, it may over winter one or two years. My favorite is *Mentha citriodora*, or Orange Mint. It is superb in tea. However, Google a recipe for Juleps or use the following recipe for mojitos that came with a plant I got Outside:

3 cups of fresh mint leaves
9 Tablespoons of sugar
1-1/2 cup of light rum
1/2 cup of lime juice
6 cups of club soda
6 cups of crushed ice
6 lime wedges
and it's party time!

New Zealand Mint Sauce

Contrary to popular belief, mint jelly is not the preferred accompaniment to lamb. Try this on lamb or a nice pork roast.

Ingredients:
1 cup white vinegar
1/4 cup granulated sugar
1 cup finely chopped mint leaves (spearmint works well)

Preparation:
In a small saucepan over medium-high heat, combine vinegar and sugar, stirring until sugar is dissolved. Bring just to a boil and then remove from heat.

Add mint leaves and stir well. Let the mixture sit until the mint leaves have flavored the sauce to your satisfaction. Strain the mint leaves out and discard. [Or better yet, leave the mint leaves in the sauce & serve it, leaves & all.] Pour in a refrigerator container with a lid to store. Makes 1 cup.



Bird Chatter

From Janice Berry: In today's paper (April 3rd, 2012) I was reading an obituary for a man, who passed away at the ripe age of 93. One paragraph reads, "John loved his garden. He didn't like slugs in his garden, he always tried to get rid of them, and he tried all kinds of ways." It's kind of interesting, and humorous that he'd be remembered that way!

Since when do moose eat shore pine trees? Since this week, reports Jill Shepherd, who planted the specimen in her son and daughter-in-law's yard here in Anchorage. The tree was collected from an alpine meadow above Juneau. Most of the 15-year-old tree's branches were chomped off, and its height was munched down from 4 feet to 3 feet.

Colony Greenhouse is selling raffle tickets for a planted urn &/or basket to benefit Linda Lockhart, a well known & respected gardener from Palmer, to help with her medical expenses. Please consider purchasing a ticket to help out. Raffle ticket sales end May 27th.

Seattle's "Food Forest"

Seattle is building a new city park, billed as the nation's "First Food Forest". The seven acres of land will be situated in the Beacon Hill neighborhood, and the plan is to fill it with hundreds of different kinds of edibles: walnut and chestnut trees; blueberry and raspberry bushes; fruit trees, including apples and pears; exotics like pineapple, yuzu citrus, guava, persimmons, honeyberries and lingonberries; herbs and more. It will all be available for anyone to partake in, free.

Did you miss Earth Day?

Celebrate "Fascination of Plants Day" May 18th, 2012

The first international "Fascination of Plants Day" will be launched under the umbrella of the European Plant Science Organisation (EPSO). The goal of this activity is to get as many people as possible around the world fascinated by plants and enthused about the importance of plant science for agriculture, in sustainably producing food, as well as for horticulture, forestry, and all of the non-food products such as paper, timber, chemicals, energy, and pharmaceuticals. The role of plants in environmental conservation will also be a key message.

EPSO is an independent academic organisation that represents more than 226 research institutes, departments and universities from 30 countries in Europe and beyond. EPSO's mission is to improve the impact and visibility of plant science in Europe.

Anchorage Festival of Flowers

Anchorage Festival of Flowers will be held in Town Square on FRIDAY, June 1st from 10 - 5 p.m. Master Gardeners will be needed to help lead visitors around Town Square to identify flowers. Don't worry; there will be a map for volunteers! For more information on this, contact Nicole LaFleur - Tagalak@alaska.net

Singing Mushrooms?

An orchestral composer out of the Czech Republic has claimed that he steals most of his music from singing mushrooms in the forest near his home. Composer Vaclav Halek, who has written 2,000 songs, numerous film and theatre scores, and one symphony, says the secret to his prolific musical output lies in the frequent walks he takes in the woods, where he carries a pencil and paper and lies down near a pile of fungi and listens intently. "I simply record music that a mushroom sings to me," says Halek, who claims that music also comes from rocks and trees, but that mushrooms sing the best melodies.

- From this month's Borealis: Newsletter of the Alaska Native Plant Society

Slugs and Coffee Cups...

What do slugs and a Master Gardener Coffee Cup have in common? They both work in the garden. :-). Cost for the MG Coffee Cup? \$8.00. Cost for a slug? Free for the taking. Since inventory is diminishing, contact Jane to reserve your coffee cup now. 562-5451 or jbalwin@alaska.net



Slug Alert: With snow now gone from many garden beds, winter mulches removed and clean up in progress, folks are finding more adult mature slugs survived the winter than normal. And they appear to be active already as there are reports of what appear to be 'fresh' eggs along the edges of raised beds, under pots and at the base of some perennials.

Slug eggs will be hatching in a matter of weeks. Now is the time to finish garden debris clean up and take the offensive to reduce your summer garden slug population. Be pro-active even if you haven't yet spotted slugs because they are there lurking out of sight. Slug patrols, slug traps, and slug bait (non-toxic variety) are in order now.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.

Advanced Master Gardeners Complete Requirements

Seven master gardeners have completed all of the requirements. Congratulations to Jane Baldwin, Michael Baldwin, Marge Olson, Cynthia Walker, Amelia Walsh, Camille Williams, and Dana Klinkhart. They have submitted their Continuing Education Units (CEU's) and Volunteer requirements. Nametags will be mailed to them and a certification of completion will be issued at the September 17, 2012 AMGAA program meeting.

Master Gardeners who attended the eighteen hours of the core course in plant physiology in November 2011 have until September 1, 2012 to complete and submit their CEU's and volunteer hours to meet the deadline to receive their certification. It is a good time to get those recorded now. Another course is scheduled and summer labs are planned. Advanced Master Gardeners that don't intend to take the fall 2012 course can maintain their certification by completing ten (10) hours of either volunteer hours or CEU's or, a combined total of ten hours. If you have questions contact the Education Committee at: mgadvanced@gmail.com.

Advanced Master Gardener Course in Plant Pathology Scheduled for October

Mark your calendars for the 15-hour core course in the study of plant pathology (diseases) for:

October 6, 2012, Saturday, 9-12 pm, 1-4 pm; six hours
October 11, 2012, Thursday, 4-7 pm; three hours
October 18, 2012, Thursday, 4-7 pm; three hours
October 25, 2012, Thursday, 4-7 pm; three hours

Core courses will be held at Cooperative Extension Service.

Summer labs are scheduled for:
June 29, 2012, Friday, 10-11:30 am; 1.5 hours
'Strange and Bizarre Diseases of Plants' lab will be held at Cooperative Extension Service

July 13, 2012, Friday, 10-12 pm, 12:30-1:30 pm; three hours. This lab is tentatively scheduled at:
Plant Material Center (PMC) 5310 South Bodenburg Spurr, Palmer, AK. Complete information will be made available as plans progress.



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
Anchorage, AK 99516

Phone: 345-4099

Email: amga@alaska.net

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

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

Garden Event Calendar

Wednesday, May 2

Gardening the Organic Way Class, 9:30am-11am, Terra Bella Bakery Café, 601 E. Dimond, Anchorage, next to Bed, Bath and Beyond. \$23 Register at www.goodearthgardenschool.com

Wednesday, May 2

Start your own seeds organically-vegetables, herbs, flowers. Take home planted flats 3:30pm-5pm Terra Bella Bakery Café, 601 E. Dimond, \$30 Register at www.goodearthgardenschool.com

Thursday, May 3

Anchorage Garden Club Meeting, Pioneer School House, 7pm. "Dividing Perennials" by Debbie Hinchey.

Wednesday, May 9

King Career Center Annual Plant Sale, 2950 E. Northern Lights Blvd., 9am-5pm or until plants sell out. Contact 742-8900

Saturday, May 12

Anchorage Garden Club Lobelia Workshop 10am-12pm; \$50 Location TBA; preregistration required at www.alaskagardenclubs.org Hotline 566-0539

Thursday, May 17

Willow Garden Club Meeting 7pm, Willow Community Center - Presentation by Dr. Steve Brown of CES: "Gotta Love Great Grass"

Saturday, May 19

ABG plant sale and membership drive, ABG members preview; 9am, public welcome 10am-4pm

Saturday, May 19

Alaska Rock Garden Society Plant sale, 9am-4pm, 7434 Old Harbor Avenue

Saturday, May 19

Society of American Foresters-Cook Inlet Chapter annual Arbor Day tree seedling sale - 9am at REI entrance. Orders must be prepaid and postmarked at 5-14. www.aksaf.org for order form and more details.

Monday, May 21

Alaska Arbor Day noon at Cuddy Park. Come help celebrate our trees

Monday, May 21

AMGA meeting - Naomi Vaughan will speak on "Pilates for the Gardener" 7pm, CES 1675 C Street

Saturday, May 26

Alaska Public Gardens Day- Free admission to Alaska Botanical Gardens

Saturday, May 26

Alaska Rock Garden Society Plant sale - 9am-3pm - Snowfire Gardens - Wasilla

Saturday, May 26

Valley Garden Club annual Plant sale - 9am-3pm; Boys and Girls Club; Bogart Road, Wasilla

Friday, June 1

Festival of Flowers - Town Square-Anchorage; Come celebrate and support our City of Flowers

Saturday, June 2

Wildflower Garden Club annual Plant sale - 9am-4pm, 7435 Old Harbor Avenue

Saturday, June 2

Anchorage Garden Club - annual plant sale - 9am-5pm, 3754 W. 35th Avenue

Thursday, June 7

Anchorage Garden Club meeting - 7pm, Pioneer School House, "Slugs" by Jane Baldwin

If you have questions or want to make address or email corrections, please contact Kathy Munk at: munkster@hotmail.com

Alaska Master Gardeners Association, Anchorage
University of Alaska Cooperative Extension
P.O. Box 221403
Anchorage, Alaska 99522-1403

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For information about membership or
upcoming programs, contact:
Cooperative Extension Office
2675 C St, Suite 100.
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 786-6300
Fax: 786-6312



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October
Garden Event Calendar



Linda Chalker-Scott and Marion Owen relax in their new Alaska MG vests after a full conference day.

Photo by Nickel LaFleur