

For information about membership or upcoming programs, contact:
Cooperative Extension Office
1675 C St, Suite 100
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ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS

ANCHORAGE

AMGA
NEWSLETTER

August 2014
Volume 16, Issue 8

Message From Lynne Opstad

I recently had the good fortune to spend time in McCarthy and Kennicott in the Wrangell-St Elias National Park. The Kennecott Mine was the largest copper mine in the world, producing over \$100 Million in profits between the years 1911-1938. It was a monumental engineering feat to move the copper by railroad from Kennicott to Cordova, over 190 miles of rugged territory. McCarthy was the "civilian" town that developed to support to the 500 people that worked and lived in company housing at Kennicott.

The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve is the largest park in the United States. Together with several adjoining parks in Canada, they form the largest protected land mass on the planet and have been designated a World Heritage site. What the facts don't tell you is that this is one of the most stunningly beautiful places on the planet. The Kennicott valley is ringed by some of the tallest mountains in the United States. Tall, jagged peaks rise up all around the valley, including Mount Blackburn shooting up to 16,390 feet. Seven glaciers, over 25 miles long, with massive icefalls, flow between the peaks and converge in the valley.

We each bring our own "eyes" to a location and I view scenery from a naturalist perspective. The first day we strapped on crampons and did a glacier hike on the Root Glacier. We hiked over the hills and valleys of ice, where even on the ice life exists in the form of algae growing on the surface. The algae produces a red pigmentation that serves as a natural sunscreen and makes the ice pinkish red. The rounded surfaces of the glacier trick you into believing it's a fairly smooth surface until you come to the top of a hill and look down into a valley with a stream of crystal clear water flowing on top of blue ice or face a canyon 200 feet deep.

Day two was a five mile trek to Jumbo Mine at 5,669 feet. The wildflowers along the way were beautiful; we saw a profusion of flowers at their peak. Columbine, Yellow Paintbrush, Narcissus Flowered Anemone, Larkspur, Monks Hood, and Moss Champion were all in bloom, giving us a colorful show below and above tree line.

In town almost every home has a vegetable garden. The gardens of year round residents were obviously meant to provide their part of a subsistence diet. On our last day I visited with Jenny at the Wrangell Mountains Center. The center is a non-profit developed to foster understanding and stewardship of wild lands and mountain culture in Alaska. The staff lives partially off food from the gardens and greenhouse that Jenny maintains.



Wrangell Mountains Center garden -
Photo by Lynne Opstad

Their growing season is almost the same as Anchorage, being frost free around June 1st.

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REMINDER:

Sept 1st is deadline for Advanced Master Gardeners to turn in their additional required Vol/CEU hours.

July Tours
July 14th - Harry Deuber's garden

Tranquil fountains



Garden rooms with inviting gates and interesting plantings
 Photos by Gina Docherty

Pioneer Home Gardens



"Bouquets on Parade"
 Attractive plantings and colorful combinations
 Photo by Gina Docherty

Message from the President....cont. from page 1

It can get up into the 90s but they get enough rain to keep the gardens growing. Green leafy vegetables grow nicely as well as zucchini, broccoli, basil, rhubarb, potatoes and carrots. Since the winters are harsh there are not many pests- and NO SLUGS- but the birds



Beans grown in old ore buckets from the copper mine from the Wrangell Mountains Center...
 Photo by Lynne Opstad



A garden using artifacts from the mine as garden art
 Photo by Lynne Opstad

love to pull out the tiny carrot shoots to eat.

I encourage anyone that hasn't visited this area to plan a visit- it's well worth the drive time. See it for yourself with your own eyes.

First Annual AMGA Plant & Garden Art Sale!
Saturday, August 16th, 10am-3pm,
UAF/CES Parking lot, 1675 C Street

For current AMGA members interested in selling plants or garden-related arts and crafts, see the "**AMGA Plant Sale Guidelines**" for sellers on the website under "AMGA": http://www.alaskamastergardeners.org/AMGA_PlantSale_Guidelines_7_23.pdf
 The guidelines are modeled after successful plant sales hosted by other local garden groups.

Tables will be provided, and sellers' plants will be consolidated into 'like' groups such as rock garden plants, primroses, iris, shade plants, etc. Tables are "en plein air" (i.e., no canopy tents, open to the weather).

No pre-registration or booth reservation required, although notification of intent to participate would be appreciated in order to provide sufficient tables. It is recommended that AMGA members planning to sell garden related arts and crafts contact Jane (jbalwin@alaska.net or Sheila.stoomey@ymail.com to ensure table/space accommodation.

Volunteer Plant Sale Shifts: Contact Jane, Sheila, or Volunteer Coordinator Sharon Schlicht schlicht@chugach.net to volunteer.

To join/renew AMGA membership online, go to www.alaskamastergardeners.org and click on AMGA on the top menu or mail your dues to:

AMGA
 PO Box 221403
 Anchorage 99522

The Perennial Robin

American Robin - *Turdus migratorius*

Source: Gardens West, Prairie Edition - May 2014; Wikipedia;
Bird calls: http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/american_robin/sounds



Photo from Wikipedia

Here are a few facts about our robins:

- Named after the smaller & unrelated English robin.
- Most populous bird in America
- Most migrate to the southern US & Central America
- Males arrive first in spring, followed a few days later by females
- Often the first bird to lay eggs; normally have 2-3 broods, building a new nest for each one. Only about 25% of robins survive their first year; the rest succumb to exposure, disease, window strikes & predation.
- Robins seem to survive infections of West Nile virus longer than most birds, so they are an efficient host in infecting other birds & eventually humans.
- Diet: worms & other invertebrates & fruit, with the occasional shrew, small snake or mollusk. After eating sufficient quantities of certain fermented fruits, they will exhibit intoxicated behavior such as falling over while walking.
- Robins have monocular vision, meaning that each eye is used separately from the other; tilting of the head to the side allows them to better focus on an area of grass to spot an emerging worm.
- Robins have an extendible esophagus to be used as a storage chamber for food, allowing them to gather more food than usual. Having food available during the night allows them to aid survival during the depths of winter.
- It is among the first birds to sing at dawn. The male American robin, as with many thrushes, has a complex and almost continuous song, commonly described as a cheerily carol, made up of discrete units, often repeated, and spliced together into a string with brief pauses in between. The robin also sings when storms approach and again when storms have passed. In addition to its song, the American robin has a number of calls used for communicating specific information such as when a ground predator approaches, and when a nest or robin is being directly threatened.



Photo from Wikipedia

- The nest is most commonly located 1.5-4.5 m (4.9-14.8 ft) above the ground in a dense bush or in a fork between two tree branches, and is built by the female alone, consisting of long coarse grass, twigs, paper, and feathers, and is smeared with mud and often cushioned with grass or other soft materials.

- A clutch consists of three to five light blue eggs, and is incubated by the female alone. The eggs hatch after 14 days, and the chicks leave the nest a further two weeks later. While the chicks are still young, the mother broods them continuously. When they are older, the mother will brood them only at night or during bad weather.



Photo from Wikipedia

- The longest known lifespan in the wild of an American robin is 14 years; the average lifespan is about 2 years.
- The chicks are fed worms, insects, and berries. Waste accumulation does not occur in the nest because adults collect and take it away. Chicks are fed, and then raise tails for elimination of waste, a solid white clump that is collected by a parent prior to flying off. All chicks in the brood leave the nest within two days of each other. Even after leaving the nest, the juveniles will follow their parents around and beg food from them. Juveniles become capable of sustained flight two weeks after fledging.
- The Tlingit people of Northwestern North America held it to be a culture-hero created by Raven to please the people with its song. One of the Houses of the Raven Tribe from the Nisga'a Nation holds the robin as a House Crest.
- American popular songs featuring this bird include "When the Red, Red Robin (Comes Bob, Bob, Bobbin' Along)", and "Rockin' Robin".
- Although the comic-book superhero Robin was inspired by an N. C. Wyeth illustration of Robin Hood, a later version had his mother nicknaming him Robin because he was born on the first day of spring. His red shirt suggests the bird's red breast.

Attract robins to your yard with water features & perhaps a bowl of meal worms. They do not sit on perches much due to their size, so food offerings are better situated on a large tray feeder or fly through feeder. Or if you are in bear area, let them find their own food!

My Surprise Guests

by Nickel LaFleur

For as long as I have been gardening, I don't recall 'birds' having such a huge impact as they have this year. Started out on May 1st in Town Square when they had to leave 2 of the 11 trees they were going to cut down, when birds were found to be nesting in them. On June 5th when the tree crew was coming back into Town Square to limb up 5 spruce trees, their work was stopped again because a nest had fallen out of the tree and the baby birds were on the ground, too young to fledge. Then, at my house in a flat of Malva, a bird built a nest in the corner of it and laid two eggs. I didn't notice the nest when I picked up the flat and moved it (sorry birds).

Finally, on June 11th, I was watering the row of begonia baskets on the front of my house when I noticed a nest with two eggs in the middle of the yellow begonia basket. What a silly place to make a nest! When I asked MG Cheryl Shroyer (member of Anchor-age Audubon Soci-



ety) what to do about the nest location, she suggested slowly moving the basket down to the end of the row of baskets so not to disturb the nesting bird. I did not touch the basket when the bird was nesting in it, so I had little time to make the basket-move. In fact, when



I did get to see into the nest, it now had 5 eggs in it!

I was never able to move the begonia basket down to the end of the row before they were hatched sometime after June 19th and before June 29th

when I was able to get a photo or two. I sent pictures of the nest and eggs



Photos by Nickel LaFleur

to MG Jane Baldwin who identified my bird (I love having a huge resource of knowledgeable Master Gardeners to assist me!) as a Dark Eyed Junco. I am thrilled to have the family move in with me and the begonia baskets.

On July 8th I tried to take more pictures of the nest but they came out blurry and on July 11th, MG Cheryl Chapman come over to see 'the family,' we found the

nest empty. All had fledged. (I had talked to bird expert MG Annie Ronse and she told me that they are in the nest for only a couple weeks.) And now they're gone and I can water the begonia basket (lobelia still hanging in there but the begonias are drooping) and weed in front of the house. I will miss my surprise guests but am pleased to report a 100% survival rate as far as I can tell. I'm so proud!

Why Gardeners are Healthier

By Janice Berry

Of the trillions of bacteria that live in our gut, a bacterium in soil called *Mycobacterium vaccae* may enhance our brain function, according to a study published in *Behavioural Processes*. After mice ate a peanut-butter-flavored dose of the bug, they navigated mazes twice as fast as those not treated. Turns out, *Mycobacterium vaccae* are among the gut bacteria that trigger a rise in serotonin—which not only calms us but also boosts memory and concentration. (For mice, the "superbrain" effect lasted for at least a week after the last exposure.) We inhale and ingest this microbe when we're around dirt and plants. [Note to self - does that mean if I only wear gloves sometimes, that I'm healthier?]



Mycobacterium vaccae
Photo from Wikipedia

From www.Oprah.com "Women's Health" newsletter The famous actress Katherine Hepburn gardened as a live-long hobby and lived to the age of 96 years old.

Florence Nightingale was avid about opening windows in hospital wards to improve the recovery of patients. And it worked. In this day and age, there have been experiments in places where windows open and where they don't. The results show less human-associated bacteria (germs) appear where windows CAN open. Depending on the size of the building, where we can spend 92% of our days, air doesn't recirculate very often (once per hour on average). One way to significantly improve the diversity of the microflora in hospitals when windows don't open, is through bringing in therapy dogs. The dogs can have a significant influence upon the microbiome. Dogs are conduits to the outdoors bringing in a mix of bacteria of both human and wild. The mix is very important to our health. Go outside more to increase your body's microflora. "If you have a healthy microflora, it will protect you from the bad pathogens," according to Jack Gilbert, microbiologist at Argonne National Laboratory, and associate professor of ecology and evolution at the University of Chicago, recently interviewed on "Here and Now" WBUR-FM Boston.

Photos from around Alaska
by Janice Berry



"A new meaning for a bed of flowers" [Skagway, AK]
Photo by Janice Berry

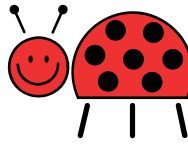


"Repurposing a bucket with petunias" [Haines, AK]
Photo by Janice Berry



"Sweet peas brighten an old cast iron/porcelain sink" [Skagway, AK]
Photo by Janice Berry

Growing Young Gardeners: Ladybugs
by Amy Reed, MG



"Guess what, Mommy?! We let a bunch of ladybugs go in the garden at school today.", my daughter exclaimed. "Did they stay in the garden?", I asked. Her face fell as she said, "No." This lesson, along with our curiosity,

prompted us to research further about ladybugs.

The appearance of ladybugs always makes me smile with their adorable little red, yellow, or orange bodies with small black spots. Over the years I have collected ladybug earrings, bracelets, and even a ladybug scrub top for work. It wasn't until our apartment in St. Louis was infested with hundreds of them crawling on the windows did I decide that ladybugs weren't always cute. They do serve a purpose, however.

Ladybugs, or ladybirds (as they call them in Great Britain, Ireland, and Southern United States) are a family of beetles with over 5,000 identified species. Farmers and gardeners adore ladybugs, not for their appearance, but for their innate love of eating plant eating insects, such as aphids, mealybugs, whiteflies, and scales. The ladybug will lay hundreds of eggs within an aphid colony or other insects, and when the larvae hatch, they begin to feed, sometimes up to 50 aphids a day! Their defense mechanism is emitting a foul smelling liquid from the joints of their legs that makes the ladybug unappealing to predators. My daughter was told by another classmate that touching the ladybugs will make them "die." In reality, they can play dead in order to detract other insects or in this case, preschoolers! One surprising fact we learned is that these cute little critters can actually bite humans. They do not have any venom or irritating saliva, however, they can cause skin irritation. The reason our apartment was so appealing to the ladybugs was they were finding a warm place to hibernate in the winter.

This brings me full circle to my daughter's class releasing the ladybugs in the school garden. There are a few reasons the ladybugs did not stay in the garden after release. First, they might not have found an adequate food source (i.e. pests), in which the school can pat themselves on their back for keeping such a well balanced and pest-free garden! Second, it might have been too warm outside or they might have been thirsty and went looking for water. One tip I found for keeping ladybugs in your garden after release is to refrigerate them (35-45 degrees F) to slow their metabolism. Release them in the early evening when they are ready to settle down and nest. Sprinkling water on the plants can also help draw the ladybugs in for a drink. (Source: <http://www.naturescontrol.com/ladybugs.html>). It is also recommended to release small quantities of ladybugs at a time as opposed to one large amount. They do want to find a good home in your garden and get to work!



Bird Chatter

Jane's Birds

Chukar Partridge (*Alectoris chukar*) - Non-native; probably a caged bird escapee. Often raised for game bird hunting. Spent about four hours in my yard, roosting 'neath my big willow tree and later eating seeds beneath a bird feeder. They fly, but as a grassland bird they prefer running. Skittish at noise and people, he could run pretty fast.



Steller's jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*) - This jay is a returnee from a family of three that frequented my yard last year. He/she immediately remembered all our peanut routines from last year, including that the can of peanuts is kept in the garage as it perches on the back door window and squawks if



no one is in the yard.



Photos by Jane Baldwin

- MG Cindy Walker is one of the judges in Northrim Bank's Purple Plant Contest to be held August 16th at the South Anchorage Farmers' Market:
<http://www.northrim.com/home/misc/purpleplant>

- MG Verna Pratt received the 2014 BLM Volunteer Lifetime Achievement Award for her work over the last 20 years at Campbell Tract:
<http://www.alaskajournal.com/Alaska-Journal-of-Commerce/June-Issue-3-2014/Movers-Shakers-06-15-14/>

A video of Verna searching for wildflowers was featured on the KTUU's news July 17th:
<http://www.ktuu.com/news/news/finding-alaska-wild-flowers-with-author-verna-pratt/27007304>

Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another. ~Erma Bombeck

Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer. ~Author Unknown

Not receiving Constant Contact E-mail Notices from AMGA?

If you have an "@gci.net" email address (or other e-mail addresses supported by GCI as service provider like @alaska.com), GCI may be blocking delivery of the emails. If you are certain your e-mail address is correct in AMGA's membership database, (you can check this with Jane Baldwin <jbaldwin@alaska.net>) try the following:

1. Go into your gci e-mail account (not through MS Outlook or other e-mail programs such as Eudora, Thunderbird, etc.) -- GO DIRECT THROUGH THE GCI WEB SITE at www.gci.com
2. Open your email account and go into the MAIL GUARD file on the left, find one of the AMGA Constant Contact emails - garden tour reminders are usually sent on Wednesday nights preceding the scheduled tour.
3. Once you find the email, click the box next to it and then click on "Whitelist" at the top of the page. This will tell GCI that it's ok to allow the emails from Constant Contact into your in box.

For some reason unknown to us, you may have to do this again periodically. If you have not gotten an AMGA Constant Contact email for a week or so check your Mailguard file again.

Sorry, but if your GCI e-mail address is correct in the membership database, we can't control this from our end.

Treasurer's Report

Balances 5/31/14

Checking	6216.65
Saving	11675.70
	<u>\$17892.35</u>
Dedicated Funds	\$6439.40
Revenue:	
Interest	15.90
Membership	40.00
	<u>\$55.90</u>
Expense:	
Awards	203.00
Operations	295.73
	<u>\$498.73</u>

Balances 5/31/14

Checking	5757.92
Saving	11677.14
	<u>\$17435.06</u>
Dedicated Funds	\$6453.86

Garden Event Calendar

PLANT SALES

Saturday, August 16

Last Chance Perennial Plant and Garden Art Sale, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, at CES parking lot.

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Saturday, August 2 and Sunday August 3

**Birds of a Feather, 71st Annual Flower Show, Northway Mall, 3101 Penland Parkway, Saturday 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm, Sunday 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm.

**Botanical Garden's Alpine Property. Explore the potential of a large tract of alpine habitat adjacent to Chugach State Park, co-owned by ABG and Mike Monterussa and Julianne McGuinness, trip leaders, Saturday, 9:00 am. Contact Julianne McGuinness, Julianne@alaskaabg.org for more information and details.

Monday, August 4

**AMGA Garden Tour, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, see AMGA emails for details.

**Mat-Su Master Gardener's Monthly Meeting: Garden Tour of the Fairgrounds, 3:00 pm, Eckert Gardens, Alaska State Fairgrounds, Palmer.

Tuesday, August 5

Dandelion removal for the Lowenfels trail, Led by Verna Pratt, 333-3212 or verna@acsalaska.net. Bring garden gloves and dandelion digger, knee pads and a 5 gallon pail. Adults only, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage.

Thursday, August 7

"Native Bees", Anchorage Garden Club monthly public meeting, 7:00 pm, Pioneer Schoolhouse 437 E 3rd Ave.

**Tragopogon pull, Led by Verna Pratt, 333-3212 or verna@acsalaska.net, Bring garden gloves and dandelion digger, Adults only, 6:30 pm, Potter Marsh Section House Parking Area.

Saturday, August 9

Wolverine Peak. Explore a trail with awesome views and incredible plants. Plan for a slow trip led by botanist Dr. Marilyn Barker, 10:00 am - 6:00 pm, Contact Mhbarker@uaa.alaska.edu.

Monday, August 11

**AMGA Garden Tour, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, see AMGA emails for details. Tuesdays, August 12 and 26

** Alaska Rock Garden Society: Weeding the Rock Garden, 10:00 - 12:00. Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage.

Wednesday, August 13

Campbell Creek Science Center Work Party: Help weed the wildflower beds, led by Verna Pratt, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Meet at the East entrance of the Science Center.

Thursday, August 21 - Monday, September 1

Alaska State Fair, Palmer Alaska

** Flowers 1st Entry: Wednesday, August 20, 12:00 pm - 9:00 pm

** Flowers 2nd Entry: Wednesday, August 27, 12:00 pm - 9:00pm

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 15 - 17

Mushrooms of Denali: Learn various techniques for identifying native wild mushrooms. Taught by Dr. Gary Laursen in Denali Park, based out of the Murie Science and Learning Center Field Camp, 29 miles inside the park along the Teklanika River. Please visit www.alaskageographic.org or call 907-683-6432 for more information, including cost and registration.

Monday, August 18

AMGA Garden Tour, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, see AMGA emails for details.

Thursday, August 21

Tragopogon pull, Led by Verna Pratt, 333-3212 or verna@acsalaska.net, Bring garden gloves and dandelion digger, Adults only, 6:30 pm, Potter Marsh Section House Parking Area.

Saturday, August 23

Plastic Pot Recycling Day. Recycle pot types 2, 5 & 7 plastic pots. This is a one day only event! 11:00 am - 5:00 pm. Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage.

Monday, August 25

AMGA Garden Tour, 7:00 - 9:00 pm, see AMGA emails for details.

Tuesday, August 26

Alaska Orchid Monthly Meeting, A Visit to Doug Tryck's Nursery, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Members Only, Details at: www.akorchid.org.

Wednesday, August 27

Campbell Creek Science Center Work Party. Help weed the wildflower beds, led by Verna Pratt, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Meet at the East entrance of the Science Center.

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Tuesday August 5

Summer Shorts: Late Season Lawn Care, Led by Julie Riley and Master Garden volunteers, 5:30 - 6:30 pm. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

Wednesday, August 6

ABG Workshop: Building a Wattle Fence. Learn how to build your own wattle fence, a popular, easy-to-construct, low-cost alternative to stone or timber, Mike Monterusso, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage. Cost \$20.00 ABG members.

Thursday, August 7, 14, 21, 28

Yard and Garden Clinic, Bring in your pest problems, plant identification, specimens and questions, 5:30 - 6:30 pm. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

Monday, August 11

Cooperative Extension Service Centennial Week Celebration Workshop: Alaska's Wildberries: Identification and Use. Led by Leslie Shallcross and Julie Riley, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

Tuesday August 12

Summer Shorts: Peonies for Fun and Profit. Led by Julie Riley, 5:30 - 6:30. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

Wednesday, August 13

Cooperative Extension Service Centennial Week Celebration Workshops:

**Fall Weed Control: Do's and Don'ts, Gino Graziano, 11:30 am - 12:15. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

**Powerhouse Veggies, Julie Riley and Leslie Shallcross, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

Thursday, August 14

**Cooperative Extension Service Centennial Week Celebration Workshops: Fall Tree Care, Patricia Joyner, Division of Forestry, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

**Workshop: Rhubarb Leaf Birdbath, Bring several rhubarb leaves, a board to place the birdbath on and plastic to cover the finished work. Led by Camille Williams, 10:00 am - 11:30 am. Ak Wildflower Garden Club members only. Central Lutheran Church, 15th and Cordova.

Friday, August 15

Cooperative Extension Service Centennial Week Celebration Workshops:

**Invasive Species Impacts to Resources and How You Can Help, Gino Graziano, 11:30 am - 12:15. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

**Invasive Garden Flowers, Julie Riley, 12:30 pm - 1:45 pm. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

Saturday, August 16

Cooperative Extension Service Centennial Week Celebration Workshops:

**Perennials for Color in the Fall Garden, Annie Nevaldine (MG), 10:00 am - 12:00pm. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

**Primulas for Early Season Bloom, Jane Baldwin (MG), 12:15 pm - 12:45, Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

**Dividing Perennials: Demonstration Outside, Debbie Hinchey (AMGA member and Horticulturist), 1:00 pm - 1:30 pm, Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

**Late Summer Planting for Spring, Julie Riley, 1:45 pm - 2:45 pm, Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

Tuesday, August 19

Summer Shorts: Organic Fertilizers and Soil Amendments. Led by Julie Riley, 5:30 - 6:30. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

Wednesday, August 20

ABG Workshop: Composting 101, Will Criner, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm. Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage. Contact ABG for costs.

Tuesday, August 26

Summer Shorts: Garden Design by Carol Samuelson, 5:30 - 6:30. Cooperative Extension Office, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. 786-6300 for additional details.

Wednesday, August 27

ABG Workshop: Native Plant Walk with Tikaan Galbreath of the Anchorage Food Mosaic, 5:30 pm. Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage. Contact ABG for costs.

Thursday, July 31, August 7 and Saturday, August 9

Pruning for the Homeowner, Learn how to properly prune trees and shrubs. Meets in class two sessions and once on Saturday morning for hands on experience. Greg Terry, Adjunct Horticulture Instructor at UAA, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm Thursday and 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Saturday, 707 A Street, Rm 210, Register at www.uaa.alaska.edu/continuinged - cost \$109.



Newsletter Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting an item for publication in the following month's edition of the AMGA newsletter is the 20th of every month. Items arriving after this date may or may not be included.

Educational or garden related articles, Bird Chatter, calendar items and announcements are always welcome.

The Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage 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

AMGA Google Group:
<https://groups.google.com/forum/?fromgroups#!forum/AkMGA>

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

If you have questions or want to make address or email corrections, please contact Jane Baldwin at:
jbaldwin@alaska.net

AMGA Board of Directors

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Lynne Opstad	Co-President
Greg Kalal	Co-Vice President
Nickel LaFleur	Co-Vice President
Cindy Walker	Treasurer
Cheryl Shroyer	Secretary
Amy Olmstead	At large (Hospitality Chair)
Sheila Toomey	At large (Parliamentarian)

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- Directory - Sandy Harrington
- Education/Advanced MG - Julie Riley, Ginny Moore
- Events Calendar - Martha Farris
- Google Group - Mary Rydesky - Administrator; Jane Baldwin, Gina Docherty, Nickel LaFleur - Managers
- Hospitality - Amy Olmstead
- Lifetime Achievement - Sandy Harrington
- Membership/Database - Jane Baldwin
- Newsletter - Gina Docherty
- Pioneer Home Gardens Coordinators - Camille Williams, Lynne Opstad
- Programs & Field Trips - Nickel LaFleur, Greg Kalal, Sheila Toomey
- Volunteer Coordinator - Sharon Schlicht
- Website - Gina Docherty

AMGA regularly meets at 7:00pm every third Monday of the month, September through May (except for December).

Meetings are held at the
Anchorage Cooperative Extension Center
1675 C Street, Suite 100
(access off of 16th Avenue)

Monthly educational programs are free and open to the public. Visitors and guests are welcomed and encouraged.