

For information about membership or upcoming programs, contact:
Cooperative Extension Office
1675 C St, Suite 100
Anchorage, AK 99501
Phone: 786-6300
Fax: 786-6312



ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ANCHORAGE

AMGA
NEWSLETTER

October 2014
Volume 16, Issue 10

Message from Barbara Baker, Co-President



Photo by Barbara Baker

Autumn's color palette is visible throughout South Central. A recent trip I took to the Kenai Peninsula may rival

the east coast's striking landscapes and color. The golden mountain scapes with their streaks of red and orange are breathtaking. Nature's art work is vast, colorful and extraordinary here in Alaska.

Reflecting on September's program, it's clear our choice of deciduous trees and shrubs is much greater than we may have realized. Varieties of maple, elm, oak and ash are successfully growing here and can bring added color, leaf shapes and tree scaffolding to our landscapes. Now is the perfect time to add one of these to your yard for year-round enjoyment.

Autumn is also harvest time. Our October meeting will feature Cooperative Extension's Leslie Shallcross who will talk about "Preserving Our Harvest". She will discuss the many ways to extend the use of your foods through canning, dehydrating and freezing, for example. We've always come away with interesting tips and great recipes, when Leslie speaks.

If you find that your harvest of potatoes, beans or other yummy produce exceeds your needs, consider a donation to one of the many food pantries throughout South Central. Food banks are having a difficult time keeping pace with the increased needs in our communities. We will have a barrel at the October meeting to collect food donations for the Food Bank of Alaska to Share the Harvest.

We are bringing back our Membership Drive Drawing! Prizes, including gift certificates to Alaska Mill and Feed, Starbucks and other fabulous gifts will be revealed at the October meeting. All you need to do to be eligible is renew your membership by October 31, in person or in a postmarked envelope. The drawing will be held at the November meeting.

Autumn is also the time to think about becoming a board member for AMGA. Each year one-half of the board is up for election and this year several of our wonderful board members will not be returning, since their terms are up or they have other commitments. Our board helps determine the monthly programs and summer garden tours. Some members have used their administrative talents to strengthen the organization. Others have used their marketing and communications skills to help get the word out about our organization. Board members are also involved in developing fundraising ideas. There is a place for your talents on our board. Contact me or any of the board members if you would like more information about serving on the board. I can be reached at bbaker@alaska.net.

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Noteworthy Trees By Pat Anderson



Jill Shepherd - Photo by Nickel LaFleur

Jill Shepherd, one of Anchorage's first Master Gardeners, is the compiler of the original "Noteworthy Trees of Anchorage" in 1998. She began her tree report

with the tree history of The Anchorage Memorial Park Cemetery, 22 acres of land in downtown Anchorage between 6th and 9th Avenue. The Cemetery was created in 1915 by Woodrow Wilson's Executive Order No. 2242. Three years later he ordered that one half of the land be sold to religious and fraternal organizations. Today 50 percent of the free burial land is for the public, and 50% is for private burials. Our city cemetery is one of the most unusual in the nation. The Bagoy family planted a small chokecherry tree there in 1940; in 1961 the Anchorage Garden Club planted two European Bird Cherry trees at city hall which was noted in the Anchorage Times. Anchorage Garden Club members planted the hedge around the perimeter, and donated shrubs and trees which included caragena, honeysuckle, rugosa rose, lilac plus Mountain Ash, May Day and flowering crabapple.

The garden club envisioned the cemetery as a public arboretum, where native and non-native trees would be tagged with permanent markers. In 1974, a weeping birch tree was planted. The Times paper covered all the events and supported the effort with editorials, photos and 'how-to' articles about trees. The Soroptomists Club partnered with the Garden Club, and the City of Anchorage thanked the clubs for the donation of 94 trees, including one Lodge Pole Pine, "the largest in Anchorage". George Sullivan was mayor that time. In 1976 McDonald's restaurants donated 1776 trees to the School District. The MOA with help from Atlantic Richfield started the AnchorTree project in 1978. ARCO provided 1,300 free trees to residents. This giveaway continued for a number of years, with the number growing to 3,000 in 1981. In that year Town Square Plaza, with all its trees, was created as well as the Performing Arts Center, Sullivan Arena and the CJ Loussac Library. All research materials for Jill's article were available because of the tireless efforts and vision of Nickel LaFleur who researched the history of the Anchorage Garden Club, of which she is a member. The Garden Club has a copy of the history, as well as Nickel.

Patricia Joyner, Certified Arborist, with the Community Forestry Program, the AK Division of Forestry, showed

wonderful pictures with the names of tree species that are under-utilized, but viable tree options for our area. She had 22 pictures and names of fabulous trees that we can and should be growing in our yards! Patricia suggested that we go to UAA and see the trees and the color.



Patricia Joyner - Photo by Nickel LaFleur

There are elms, ash, oaks, limber pines, pears, Malus and Prunus, lilacs, hawthorns shrubs, currants, black chokeberry to name a few. Go online for the UAA tree tour, and check out the tour; there is a map given to follow. Patricia is always aware of exceptional trees and takes an interest in them, which means taking pictures to show what grows in Anchorage. We have a wealth of incredible trees that grow right here in our city!



Nickel LaFleur - Photo from Nickel LaFleur

Nickel LaFleur, Certified Arborist and Advanced Master Gardener, told us how to buy and plant trees.

BUYING - get the right tree for the right place, remembering that they will get bigger. She said (and used props) to visualize trees and its roots as a wine glass on a turkey platter. Roots are located in the top 12" to 16" of soil.

Continued on page 6

Treasurer's Report

Balances 7/31/14	
Checking account	4035.63
Savings account	11678.63
	<hr/>
	\$17321.56
Dedicated Funds	\$6453.86
Revenue:	
Plant Sale	1290.37
Interest	1.49
Membership	100.27
	<hr/>
	\$1392.13
Expense:	
Operations	49.99
Website	45.00
	<hr/>
	\$94.99
Balances 8/31/14	
Checking account	6938.58
Savings account	11680.12
	<hr/>
	\$18618.70
Dedicated Funds	\$6453.86



Peony Viewed As "New Crop" By USDA

By Jill Shepherd

Last spring Alaska peony grower Rita Jo Shoultz sat down to talk with Sen. Lisa Murkowski in the senator's Washington, D.C., office about Alaska's burgeoning cut-flower industry. Shoultz was in the nation's capitol at the invitation of the White House.



"I was nominated as a "Champion of Change for the New Generation of American Agriculture," said Shoultz. The April 18 event was hosted by the White

House to, in the words of an official press release, "celebrate the innovative accomplishments of local agriculture leaders in farming and ranching, both now and in the future."

"I was the only person ever recognized for cut flowers," said Shoultz. "Usually the nominees are farmers and ranchers who produce food crops, cattlemen, fiber growers, that type of thing."

Neither President Obama nor the First Lady were at the White House ceremony, but Shoultz did meet with Krysta Harden, deputy secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"Peonies are a "new" crop in the eyes of the Department of Agriculture," Shoultz reported.

Shoultz's 25-minute interview by Senator Murkowski covered two topics: the Alaska peony industry, which Shoultz estimates currently stands at about 35 farms, and the "American Grown" movement.

"I met with a lot of California delegates (of American Grown). They are leading the movement." One aim of this organization is to place only American-grown cut flowers in the White House. Related to that is getting laws changed to mandate that bouquets sold in the United States be labeled with place of origin. A past achievement of the organization has been to place only American wines in the White House, Shoultz said.

Shoultz's business, Alaska Perfect Peony, was begun in 2006, when she planted 3,500 peonies. On August 21, the day she was interviewed for this article, she said the 2014 harvest was completed six weeks early because of the warm weather. "Normally, we harvest until

September 15," she said, "but that's okay -- we sold all the buds."

Alaska harvests its peonies from July to September, when there are no peonies blooming in the rest of the world. Peonies are one of the most popular cut flowers for weddings, so the Alaska market fills the summer and fall weddings' niche.



Shoultz, who is a former member of the Alaska Master Gardeners Association, started and operated Fritz Creek Gardens with her husband Leroy for 16 years before concentrating on peonies.

Thank you Summer Garden Hosts!

Courtney Thompson - Forget Me Not Nursery
Robbie Frankevich - Glacier City Gardener
Franny and Dave Junge
Luann and Steve Hennig
Gina Docherty
Mary Shier
Doug Tryck - Tryck Nursery
Kate Wilber - The Natural Health Center
Harry Deuber
Camille Williams - Pioneer Home
Sandy Skaggs
Sherri Spengler
Bonnie Tisler - Anchorage Senior Center
Annie and Dennis Ronsee
Rosa Meehan - Mardane's Garden
Sharon Davies
Susan Brueshaber

Autumn Quotes

" Bittersweet October. The mellow, messy, leaf-kicking, perfect pause between the opposing miseries of summer and winter. "

Carol Bishop Hipps

" For man, autumn is a time of harvest, of gathering together. For nature, it is a time of sowing, of scattering abroad. "

Thomas Hood

" Youth is like spring, an over praised season more remarkable for biting winds than genial breezes. Autumn is the mellower season, and what we lose in flowers we more than gain in fruits. "

Samuel Butler

" I love the fall. I love it because of the smells that you speak of; and also because things are dying, things that you don't have to take care of anymore, and the grass stops growing. "

Mark Van Doren

Growing Young Gardeners: Sunday morning pancakes by Amy Reed, MG

I grew up in Northwestern Pennsylvania near the New York state line. My grandfather owned a tree farm and spent countless hours tapping maple trees and boiling sap down in his sugar shack to make syrup. I grew up knowing the different tastes and grades of maple syrup. Imagine my horror when posed the question, "where does maple syrup come from?", my four year old daughter answered, "Fred Meyer!". Granted, we do buy the sugar free store brand, which is basically water, sorbitol, and carmel color. It pales in comparison to the sweetness of real maple syrup, but you are asking for trouble putting liquid sugar on a child's pancakes before Sunday School!

Alaska grows two types of maple trees, the Amur Maple and the Douglas Maple. The Amur Maple, which is technically a shrub and can be grown into a small tree, turns a gorgeous red shade in the fall. It is primarily used for ornamental purposes and wildlife shelter. Amur Maples are not native to Alaska, but introduced to the United States from China and Japan in the 1860s. It is also considered an invasive species in many states. The Douglas Maple, common along the coast of southeast Alaska, is mainly used for ornamental purposes and produces a sap that has been used medicinally to treat diarrhea and nausea. The sap does not rival the sweetness of sugar maples. The shoots and seedlings can be collected and boiled like asparagus.

Paper Birch trees, which are plentiful in Southcentral Alaska, do produce sap that can be boiled into syrup. Interestingly, it takes an average of 100 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup. This compares to maple syrup which only takes around 40 gallons to make one gallon of syrup. Birch syrup has a distinctive flavor that I personally feel is acquired. Some say it is spicy-sweet, and others feel it has a very bold, rich taste (source: <http://alaskabirchsyrup.com>)

I read my daughter the book, *Curious George Makes Maple Syrup*, (Krones, C, 2013). This is a terrific book with illustrations that describe the process of maple syrup production, from collection of sap, boiling in the sugar shack, to syrup ready for pancakes. Next time we are in Talkeetna, Kahiltna Birchworks (mile 1.1 on Talk-eetna Spur Rd) will be on our stop for a tour to see how birch syrup is made. (Information is on their website: www.alaskabirchsyrup.com under the Contact/Visit Us! tab)

Learning about the hard work that goes into making syrup makes Sunday morning pancakes a little sweeter!

Teas from the Forest and Garden By Janice Berry

In late August, the Eagle River Nature Center offered a program called "Wild Teas." Since I love tea, I decided to check it out. Naturalist Ute Olsson had prepared several herbal teas for us to try before an outing to look at various plants. We sampled rosehip tea, stinging nettle, pineapple tea (i.e., wild chamomile), and yarrow. While I thought the rosehip would be my favorite of the teas, I ended up liking the yarrow tea the best. This yarrow was prepared from the leaves only, although flowers can also be used.

We were given a list of wild plants that can be used for teas, most of which have medicinal properties. A wide range of leaves, fruits, twigs, and even roots can be brewed into teas. These materials can be used both fresh and dried, but use caution when drying (slow and low heat) so as not to dry out the oils. Also, make sure they do not develop mold or mildew. The general recipe is 1 teaspoon of dried or 2 tsp. of fresh material. Steep in a covered container, but do not boil, for up to five minutes or longer. And don't be afraid to try different blends.

We took a walk on the Albert Loop Trail and explored the plants along the way. The rose bushes were loaded with rosehips (which contain vitamin C). The important thing to remember when using rosehips is to filter for seed hairs. The rose petals from flowers can also be used as well as the leaves. Clover blossoms, chickweed, dandelion, plantain, Jacobs ladder, violets (flowers and leaves), and wild geranium leaves can also be made into tea. The Labrador tea (*Ledum* sp.) plant, a relative of rhododendron, has a great flavor, but should be used in moderation. Both the leaves and fruits from the blueberry, currant, and highbush and lowbush cranberry plants all make delicious and nutritious teas.

As we finished our tour, our guide pointed to a birch tree with a big indentation. Someone had removed a large black mushroom, called chaga (*Inonotus obliquus*) that had grown there. Chaga can be made into a tea also! Well, that was a new one for me - making tea out of mushrooms? Coincidentally, the next week I was at the Palmer State Fair, and there was a vendor selling baggies of chaga, so I bought one just to try it out. This chaga, has many purported health benefits and is sold on the Internet on many sites. It's a common folk remedy in many countries of northern climates. The brew that I made at home from my newly discovered tea tasted pleasant enough, with a very earthy, musk-like flavor as you would expect from a mushroom.

We all must try brewing more "wild" teas! Just make sure and do a little research on your chosen plant to make sure there are no adverse reactions or interactions with any other supplement or medication you may be taking, or condition you may have.

Paris quadrifolia (herb paris)

By Gina Docherty

Sources: Wikipedia; Alpine Garden Society (<http://www.alpine-gardensociety.net/plants/plant-portraits/Paris/69/Paris>)

Several years ago Sally Arant did a class on Woodland plants. One of the plants she talked about was "Paris quadrifolia". She described it as a native woodland plant - native to the Eastern U.S. Always intrigued with the photo, this summer I managed to find one. I did some research to find out how to keep it alive & thriving:

Paris quadrifolia (Herb paris, True Lover's Knot) is a species of the genus Paris in the family Melanthiaceae, although authorities formerly placed it in the Liliaceae family. It is related to Trillium, with which it can be confused. Trillium, however, has 3 leaves or petals per whorl, and Paris has 4. The genus consists of around 24 species of flowering herbaceous plants found in temperate mixed forests. It has a wide distribution, from Iceland to Japan, with the greatest concentration being found in China. All have simple, erect stems with leaves arranged in a terminal whorl above which sits a solitary flower. The scientific and common names for herb paris are derived from the Latin par, meaning pair, referring to the symmetry of the pairs of leaves and floral parts, and quadrifolia meaning four leaves. (Nothing to do with Paris France!)

It is a perennial growing to 1 foot tall. Listed as zone 5-9 by the USDA, it is also hardy in Anchorage. Flowering from May to August, the flowers are hermaphrodite (have both male and female organs) and are pollinated by flies, midges, and self. The plant is self-fertile. The berries are considered poisonous, although there are some medicinal properties listed but not recommended.

Growing conditions: Prefers moist soil, and is suitable for light (sandy) and medium (loamy) soils. Apparently not fussy about the pH, as it can grow in 'acid, neutral and basic soils'. It can grow in full shade (deep woodland) or semi-shade (light woodland). Here in Alaska it can probably take more sun.



Photo from Wikipedia

Characteristics: Paris quadrifolia has solitary flowers with four or more very narrow greenish filiform (threadlike) petals and green petaloid sepals. The unusual 'wispy' flower is borne above a single whorl of four or more stem leaves. The seed pod has at least 4 chambers, with seeds attached only at the center.

Propagation

From seed: Best sown as soon as it is harvested, but it can be stored and sown in late winter or early spring, in a shaded cold frame. Seed can germinate relatively quickly, within 1 to 3 months with shoots being produced in the second year. Good air circulation is essential to prevent damping off. It is best to keep the young seedlings over-wintered in the cold frame, planting out, if desired, the spring following emergence. Some seed can remain ungerminated for a number of years. It has been reported that plants can flower in two years from seed but expect a 4 or 5 year wait.

By division: The rhizome of Paris is slender and branching. Propagation is fairly straight forward, the clump can be lifted, broken apart and replanted and as long as one is not too greedy, one should expect a 100% success rate. Observation of the related genus Trillium has shown that rhizomes that are mechanically damaged, by gnawing pests for example, have the capability to produce lateral growth buds around the site of the wound. This can be recreated in cultivation by deliberate means. By simply cutting a healthy rhizome in half and replanting both bits, the dormant 'eyes' on the back section are sometimes induced into growing.

Having grown trillium for a number of years, I've found the best growing tip is to add compost or leaf mold to the soil. Hopefully this will work as well for herb Paris!



Illustration from Wikipedia



Bird Chatter

- Correction: At the AMGA plant and garden art sale on August 16, Annie Nevaldine made a presentation entitled, "Perennials for the Fall Garden." She misspoke and stated that *Angelica gigas* is the same species as our native cow parsnip (*Heracleum lanatum*). It is in fact unrelated to cow parsnip, but is indeed related to our native *Angelica lucida*, aka wild celery. She apologizes for the error.

- Camille Williams will be so missed by her neighbors on Apollo Drive and Saturn Circle, "The Gardeners in the Hood". They took her to lunch at the Rustic Goat on her recent birthday, and one "hoodie", Nona Renn, made each attendee a sparkley scarf in Camille's honor!

In Memory...



Dora Wainwright, retired CES Administrative Assistant, passed away August 29th in Seattle, Washington. Dora was a beloved fixture for many years at the Anchorage CES before moving to Juneau. She is survived by her husband, Charles Wainwright, of Juneau and other siblings.

From a colleague in Juneau: "For the too few years I knew and worked with Dora Wainwright, her spunky spirit, dry humor and "tell it like it is" personality will always be fondly remembered. RIP Dora - you are already missed."

Noteworthy Trees...cont. from page 2

Avoid suckers because tree has been planted too deep past the trunk flare. Also avoid water sprouts that are located on the trunk or branches from bad pruning cuts, damage, stress, or topping. Buy a tree with a single straight sturdy trunk, well balanced branches, evenly distributed leaf/needle growth, and a root ball proportionate to its trunk caliper size.

PLANTING TIPS: Site must have good drainage - dig a good sized hole and fill it with water. It should drain within an hour, if not - find another site. When planting, plant the roots, not the tree. Find the trunk flare, also referred as the root flare, and plant just below it. Remove all wire, burlap, twine, anything that isn't the tree. Roots - are there enough of them? 2" caliper = 2' root ball - they should not encircle or have "J" hooks. If it is in a container, take out and soak overnight (keep trunk flare above water line) prune broken parts now. Dig a wide and shallow hole - measure and err on the side of digging it 'too shallow' rather than too deep. Keep it well watered for 3 years. Refill the planting hole with native soil and not enriched soil. Water, water, water - this encourages tree to live where it is planted.

IPM: Try to diagnose conditions or problems, CES can help identify virus or insects. Be certain tree is getting plenty of water-use pesticides as a last resort. Check the International Society of Arboriculture website for a professional in your area, type in your zip code and the list will come up. Website is: www.isa-arbor.org.

PRUNING TIPS: Pruning is an art, the timing is crucial as to when. Check on **GOOGLE**, remembering that we are in Alaska. Double check so you do not prune off flowers or fruit for the coming year. Never use pruning paints, **PLEASE!** Trees don't want it or need it. If you are not certain about the pruning, hire someone who does. A tree's worst enemy is people! Patricia Joyner has brochures on pruning. Trees have alternate or opposite branch structure. Opposite is **MADHORSE** - M-maple, A-ash, D-dogwood, H-Horse Chestnut. All the rest are alternate.

MULCH: Never use landscape cloth around trees or in your garden. Use grass clippings, or lawn litter (leaves) around trees. A tree myth is that the leaks in the water pipes are caused by trees. Not so: the hole in the water pipe leaks water, which is why the tree roots go to it. Tree roots do not make the leak. Older sewer-pipes were sometimes made out of clay, and developed leaks. Don't blame trees for the breaks in the lines! It's not their fault.

Nickel is so enthusiastic about trees - one can't help but become excited with her! Chinese Proverb: The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is **NOW!**

Herb Study Group Update From Sharon Schlicht

Volunteers from the Herb Study Group (HSG) continue working at the Alaska Botanical Garden (ABG) Herb Garden Tuesday and Friday afternoons to maintain the beds and answer questions posed by visitors to the garden. Work at the garden will continue as long as weather permits. In addition, HSG volunteers were available in the herb garden during the ABG Boreal Garden and Arts Fest in June and ABG Harvest Day in September to answer questions and offer samples of herbs for tasting. They were also present in the herb garden to answer questions during a special event in August for members of *Visit Anchorage* (formerly *Anchorage Visitors and Convention Bureau*).

The first indoor monthly meeting of HSG this fall will be Friday, October 3, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. at Cooperative Extension Service, 1675 C Street, Suite 100. This month's topic is cilantro. The results of the ABG cilantro bolting trial will be presented along with highlights of Dr. Pat Holloway's study on coriander seed production at Georgeson Botanical Garden. Bring ideas for topics for meetings in November 2014 through May 2015 and the preferred format—members' study vs. guest speakers. Date, time and place for future meetings will be discussed. If you would like to be included in emails about the HSG, please contact Julie Riley at jariley@alaska.edu.

2014-2015 Master Gardener Class Information and Links

Course cost is \$300 plus 40 hours of volunteer time. The registration fee covers all materials including the text, "Sustainable Gardening: The Alaska Master Gardener Manual". A limited number of tuition waivers are available for those unable to pay full registration due to financial hardship. If you would like a waiver form, please contact the office at 786-6300. Previous Alaskan gardening experience is a course prerequisite. Try not to miss more than four classes. If you are unable to participate in the Anchorage Master Gardener course because it meets during the day, please note that next fall's course will be taught during the evening. Click here to see the agenda:

http://www.uaf.edu/files/ces/districts/anchorage/Anchorage-MG-course-agenda,-2014.pdf?utm_source=2014+MG+registration&utm_campaign=MG+application%2C+2014&utm_medium=email

To register, go the Anchorage Master Gardener course registration link here:

http://www.uaf.edu/ces/districts/anchorage/horticulture/2014-master-gardener-registrat/?utm_source=2014+MG+registration&utm_campaign=MG+application%2C+2014&utm_medium=email

Please complete all three parts of the form. Applicants are admitted to the course on a first-come basis. If your application is not approved, you will be contacted by October 3. Payment by cash or check will be taken on the first day of class. Credit card payment will be available on-line after Oct 6.

If you are interested in learning more about gardening but do not have the time to volunteer, there are many Anchorage area gardening clubs. These groups offer excellent monthly educational programs and a chance to meet other gardeners. If you register for the course, you will automatically become a member of Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage (AMGA) in 2015. If you are not able to take the course, you may still join the association. More information about AMGA and a list of gardening clubs is available on the Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage website.

The Anchorage Cooperative Extension Service office is located at 1675 C Street. The entrance is off 16th Street, between A and C Streets. We are open weekdays from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Plan to come a little early the first day of class if we need to collect your registration fee. Checks should be made out to UAF CES.

If you have any questions call 786-6300.

Garden Event Calendar

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Thursday, October 2

"The Good, The Bad and The Ugly- Spiders": Anchorage Garden Club monthly public meeting, 7:00 pm, Pioneer Schoolhouse 437 E 3rd Avenue, Anchorage.

Friday, October 3

Herb Study Group, The topic is Cilantro, with results from the ABG bolting trial and highlights of the coriander seed production trials by Dr. Pat Holloway at the Georgeson Botanical Garden. This will also be a planning meeting for the schedule of monthly topics and a discussion of the best meeting times, 12:00 - 1:30, CES, 165 C Street, Anchorage.

Monday, October 6

**Mat-Su Master Gardener's Monthly Meeting: 7:00 pm, MTA building, Palmer.

**Alaska Native Plant Society Monthly Meeting: Potluck and Group Slideshow, Members will share up to 10 photos of summer activities, 6:00 pm. Campbell Creek Science Center, Anchorage.

Thursday, October 9

Wildflower Garden Club Monthly Meeting: Cards and Bookmarks Workshop, Led by Verna Pratt, 10:00am - 11:30 am, Central Lutheran Church, 15th and Cordova, Anchorage. Members only.

Monday, October 20

Anchorage AMGA Meeting: Preserving Your Harvest: Information and demonstrations of differing methods of preservation including canning techniques, freezing, fermentation and drying, Led by Leslie Shallcross, 7:00 pm, CES - 1675 C Street, Anchorage.

Tuesday, October 28

Alaska Orchid Monthly Meeting, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm, Details at: www.akorchid.org.

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Wednesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22

Food Preservation Series: with Leslie Shallcross Home, Health and Family Development faculty and Registered Dietician. Classes are approximately 4 hours and begin at 5:30 pm. 1675 C Street, Anchorage.

October 1: Jams and Jellies - CES - \$40

October 8: Pickled Vegetables - Viking Hall - \$40

October 15: Sausage and Jerky - Viking Hall - \$50

October 22: Freezing and Drying Fruits and Vegetables - CES - \$40 (5:30-8:30)

Saturday, October 4

ABG Workshop: Worm Bins, Compost Bins and Has-beens, Learn about composting and vermicomposting with Ellen Vande Visse, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage, Cost \$20.00 ABG members.

Reminiscing about Advanced MG Camille Williams By Nickel LaFleur

Our dear friend Camille Williams finished clean-up on the Anchorage Pioneer Home and moved out of state. Yes, she sold her huge garden (& house that went with it) and has since spent a lot of her time sailing with her husband in the waters off Seward, along with tirelessly helping with Pioneer Home landscaping. Her absence will be a huge hole in our Master Gardener World and in our East Anchorage Neighborhood.

I 'met' Camille in 2002 on the drive to my first day of Master Gardener class. She cut me off in traffic! When I saw her head into MG class, I approached her about her driving techniques. She just smiled, laughed, and with a quick apology, offered me an empty chair next to her. I've considered her a respected and admired cohort ever since.

When I think of Camille, I think of 'flashy and fabulous.' She loved everything bright and bold! Be it her flower arrangements or her wardrobe, one could recognize a 'Camille Williams' design upon entering the room. Dahlias are her favorite and I think orange her color. Camille was always generous with her time and talent along with sharing 'extra' clothes she had in her wardrobe. I was one of many who benefited from her sense of style and desire to share. Thank you, Camille Williams - I never knew burnt orange was a color I could wear!



2014 State Fair.. Nickel LaFleur, Camille Williams and Cheryl Shroyer. Photo from Nickel LaFleur

Though Camille has physically left the State, her 'stamp' is noticable in her gardening-work that remains. Camille, along with Advanced MGs Pat Anderson and Marge Olson would find worthy neighborhood projects and everyone would benefit from their work. What a great neighbor!

So, yes, I for one will miss Camille and wish her

gardening success always!

The Gardens of London Tour 8 Days 9 Meals

This tour includes a visit to the Chelsea Garden Show on the opening day in 2015, and is entertained by KFSK's "In The Garden" host, Ed Buyarski. The station will receive a commission for each trip booked.

Join us on a cultural tour of Britain, highlighted by the annual Chelsea Flower Show. Enjoy 'members only' opening day, gather together during a welcome dinner with your hosts, the Royal Horticultural Society. Take a locally-guided panoramic tour of London. Enjoy dinner in a traditional British pub. Stroll the gardens of Hampton Court Palace, favored home of Henry VIII. Visit Kew, home of the Royal Botanic Gardens - truly one of the world's most impressive horticultural collections. Explore Wisley Garden, the Royal Horticultural Society's flagship garden, as well as The Savill Garden, revered as England best ornamental garden. And complete your trip with a private gala dinner hosted at the Royal Horticultural Society at the Royal Horticultural Hall in Central London. For more info contact: Mindy Anderson, Development Director
KFSK Public Radio, Petersburg, Alaska - 907-772-3808
mindy@kfsk.org

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, calender 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/AKMG>

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:
jbalwin@alaska.net

AMGA Board of Directors

Barbara Baker	Co-President
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Greg Kalal	Co-Vice President
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Sheila Toomey	At large (Parliamentarian)

Committee Chairs, Program Coordinators & Volunteers

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- 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
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- 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.