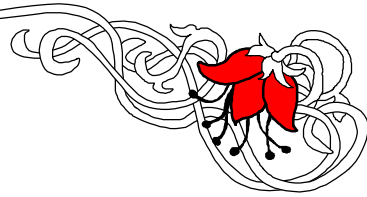


Anchorage Chapter



Volume 8, Issue 12

ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER December 2006

From the President's Corner Dana Klinkhart



The sign on our front porch says, "Garden Closed for Season. Reason? Freezin!" Good grief! Isn't that an under stated truth? I'm hoping that you are all "Dreaming of a White Christmas". We could sure use a generous blanket of snow. The bags of leaves that were placed on the beds in October are going to be the sole insulation if we do not have more snow. I wonder how much protection the perennials need. Time will tell, I guess.

The spirit of the holidays surrounds us. Our calendar reminds us of the limited time we have to select a gift for the gardener in our lives. How about a gift of membership to AMGA for your gardening friends? Twenty dollars will place them on the mailing list for our monthly newsletter, the email message board and the annual directory. Your present will also provide an opportunity to attend the activities including programs and tours sponsored by

Master Gardeners. Learning new skills and sharing ideas with folks in the gardening community and the Cooperative Extension Service is an additional benefit of your gift. The recipient does not need to have taken the Master Gardener class to join. If you contact me, a notice of your gift would be mailed to the recipient.

Your computer generated renewal form was mailed to you in October. If you did not receive the lavender printout with your personal contact information on it, email me. I will generate another one and email a duplicate. If you do not have access to email, forms are available at the Cooperative Extension Office. The Master Gardeners web site has the generic form available to download at www.alaskamastergardeners.org

Even though we are all as busy as the elves this December, please mail your renewal form and payment in now so that it arrives in the hands of our treasurer and membership chairman in plenty of time to be included in the directory. Your renewal will assure that you will continue to receive the monthly newsletter and email messages.

Happy holidays to each of you and I'll look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on Monday, January 15, 2007.





Character in the Garden

Is that character? Or characters? Whatever the choice, November's meeting resembled a high-end craft fair as AMGA members brought examples of their favorite garden art – and we all came away with good ideas for adding to our “blossom buddies” next year.

There were Dana Klinkhart's handmade scarecrows, Raggedy Ann and Andy, that greet you at her front door, especially great for this time of year. There were Carol Ross' antique relics, among them glass fishing floats and a lovely old lantern. There was Mary Shier's “Kilroy” (She calls him Mr. Wilson), who shows only his hands and head as he grasps her fence and peeks over, his long nose dominating the scene. Along with the “Kilroy” idea were black and white wooden cats that fit on a 2x4 fence rail and peer over at the garden. And Mary Jo Burns had us all green with envy over her sand-cast birdbaths and accompanying pieces. She brought wonderful smaller sand-cast leaves for hanging, all with such delicately painted veins that they seem almost alive.



There were insects, large and small: life-like handmade dragonflies and mosquitoes (1:25 scale) with styrene wings; and a huge metal mosquito with foot-long legs that sits atop a garden shed. Other metal work included an eye-catching moose and a garden goddess made of copper tubing.



There was Star, the garden dog, made from found things: a rough wooden front view with a jello-mold nose and star-shaped cookie cutter buttons. There were willow twig items, a chair and a trellis – and there was a lovely mossy bird house, created by Barbara Miller to resemble a Thai spirit house.

The hit novelty of the evening, however, were the “tin-men,” a pair of Oz-like figures made from recycled cans. With upside-down funnels atop large can heads featuring bottle cap eyes and jutting can-lid ears, they were ready for the garden or the Yellow Brick Road. Large tin bodies and dangling arms and legs of Campbell-soup-size cans completed the figures – and we can't forget the sardine-can feet.



Some items were too large to bring: a huge, heavy wooden hippo, and Marge Olson's full length mirror which reflects her garden scene up to her porch. This brought about others' problems of birds falling in love with their reflections when gardeners tried mirrors among the flowers. I loved one gardener's remedy to the dogs versus garden problem. Together with her husband, she created a 10 x 10 dog-friendly fenced area, complete with fire hydrant and crushed rock. We were told that the dogs use it and love it. And there was the gardener who built her own super-attractive fence of 8-inch boards with a 4-inch gap, to save money after having contractors put in the posts only. (Like to see it? It's on a corner lot on Ocean View Drive.)

Photos by Mary Shier

All in all, it was a great exchange of ideas, including the early discussion of happy and unhappy plants. Autumn Joy sedum is great for bringing inside in the fall. Moose eat some sedum to the ground and it doesn't come back. Feed banana peels to roses in the fall – one gardener got 1800 blossoms on his Polestar the following spring (whip peels up in your blender). Cheers for the “lasagna garden” of layered compost. Tears for the strawberry snout weevil which turns the berry center to mush – if you have any information on this critter, bring it to a future meeting. Lamb's quarter is great for compost. Endless Summer hydrangea is worth a try, as is an Annabelle-type Diamond Heights or Pink Diamond (Maybe the gardener can clarify this.) which blooms white, turns to cream, then pink. Its leaves become rust in the fall.

Remember, November's meeting was the last of 2006. 'Hope you'll all be back in January. I'm off to sunny Hawaii, but I'll keeping touch. Aloha.



Christmas Gift Ideas from Master Gardeners Compiled by Julie Riley

*Thanks for your responses to my e-mail. It was phenomenal. It took me three hours to compile your suggestions. My initial plans were to create a bulleted list but once I saw your wonderful explanations, I decided to include most of what you wrote. I've taken the liberty to do a little editing and put words in brackets [] to help clarify things. Happy Holidays. May your wishes come true. This will be continued next month with a list of MG's "Favorite Tools".
Julie Riley, Extension Horticulture Agent*

Jane Baldwin

"Creative Concrete Ornaments for the Garden"; Cheri Warner Hunter; Lark Books; ISBN 1-57990-585-4, hard-cover, \$24.95. A great book with good information on concrete basics – mixing, working stages, forming & construction techniques, curing, surface treatments, finishes, tools, materials, etc. 20+ different concrete/tufa mixes/recipes for different uses – with explanations. Good sampling of projects for the beginner, intermediate and advanced. Excellent pictures.

Joyce Palmer

A friend & I are putting together a coupon (in a hand-made trough) for a gardening friend who has no time due to a traveling job. The coupon's for a low maintenance mini-garden next summer by her front walk & porch which we'll put in & tend.

June Juelson

1. Large container for planting
2. Bird Feeder (rustic cabin type)
3. Gift Card to be used in the Spring
4. Sturdy end of row reusable markers
5. "Welcome to my Garden" sign
6. Plant markers that are permanent for Roses, etc.

Kathy Tarr

Buy your favorite gardener a membership to the Eagle River Nature Center (www.ernc.org <<http://www.ernc.org>>). The Eagle River Nature Center offers a variety of summer programs on native plants, nature walks, Alaska's berries, etc. Their trails are wonderful and so is the staff at ERNC. Plus, with membership, comes the newsletter and a parking pass good all year. And until summer comes again, your favorite gardener might enjoy heading to the ERNC for an astronomy program or a winter hike, anything to help them forget that May is really far away. A basic, individual membership is \$35/year, and a family membership to ERNC is \$65/year. Also, how about a gift certificate to one of those U-Pick It Farms? What gardener wouldn't enjoy going out there in late summer 2007 to help harvest their

own vegetables and fruits? Or a gift certificate to the former Recluse Nursery (don't know it's new name...) for those who want to learn more about rock garden plants.

Kathy Wartinbee, Soldotna

I received some Felco pruners one Christmas. They are terrific ... expensive but terrific. The web site (<http://www.felcostore.com/>) says they have free shipping on orders over \$10.00. I didn't read how long the offer was good for. Another gift idea that's not terribly expensive ... a bag of compost. [Gardeners] can always use some. Or a donation in someone's name to the botanical garden. Let the plants live in the eye for everyone.

Rita Jo Shultz, Fritz Creek Gardens, Homer

We sell a lot of Gift Certificates over the holidays. Never had anyone unhappy with a Gift Certificate. In the 10 years Fritz Creek Gardens has offered them, we've only had 2 [recipients] that haven't used their certificate. They are good for as long as we are in business (hopefully a long time) and we start them at \$20.00. Our biggest gift certificate so far was for \$1,000 but have sold many at \$300 and \$400. Of course we value the \$20 purchase also. Fritz Creek Gardens takes credit cards and can mail the certificates directly [to the recipient] or to the purchaser. With the daily bus service to Anchorage, Kenai, and Seward, plus postal service over the rest of the state, it is practical for everyone. E-mail, ritajo@alaskahardy.com website: www.alaskahardy.com; phone, 907-235-4969

Susan Miller, The Garden Gate

Atlas Nitrile Gloves (sm/med/lg/extra large), Foxglove Gardening Gloves (small/medium/large, SPF 50); Gardening work aprons; Gardening theme clothing; Souvenirs from Renown Garden spots; Gardening/sun hats; Leaf Leather purses and accessories; Fun Baskets for gardening and harvesting; Pruning shears; Pruning saws; Mini pruning shears; (delicate work); Specialty pots: unique clay, sub-irrigation, decorative cache pots; Orchids, Amaryllis, Cyclamen, African Violets, Streptocarpus, and other unique plants; Seedling heat mat; Garden soaps/hand-lotions/natural or handmade body products; Garden theme pins, earrings etc.; Garden art for indoor & out (metal, twig, bird houses, trellis, fountains, stepping stones, etc.); Bird houses, feeders, suet, seed; Coldframe &/or greenhouse; Outdoor garden lighting; Patio furniture; Indoor art/furniture/lamps/rugs/accessories with animal, bird, flower themes; Cards/calendars with garden/plant theme; Donation to Alaska Botanical Garden; Subscription to gardening magazine; Membership in national plant clubs Seattle Garden Show tickets/trip; Ditto on Chelsea Garden Show, Holland Bulb Festival, Lavender Festival in Washington etc.

[E-mail #2:] How could I forget BOOKS – I remembered them about 3 am. Reference of course and pleasure – The Botany of Desire, Requiem for Peaches, then the Beverly Nicols books come to mind. [Susan Miller susanmiller@alaska.com]



Christmas Gift Ideas from MG's CONT FROM PAGE 3

Sue Bailey

Gardening gloves from Susan Miller. They are light yet durable and they keep your hands clean. Hand spades from Pine Tree. They are made in the USA and are made of stainless steel. They come in 2 different sizes and will last a lifetime. These were in this past season catalog.

Blythe Campbell

Foxgloves are always welcome. As expensive as they are, they do eventually get holes in the fingers [so everyone can use a second pair]. Gift certificate to a nursery in anticipation of spring. Gift certificate for an hour of weeding!

Gina Docherty

I bought my grandkids gardening tools: "Barbie Gardening Tools" for my granddaughter, which have pink hand tools, gloves, & kneeling pad from www.wackyworldsof.com, and for the grandson, a set of tools & kids' gloves from the National Gardening Association's web site, nationalgardening.stores.yahoo.net.

Nickel LaFleur

I think the gift of "time" is a good gift for gardeners; either time in your garden or time in some one else's garden. A set of sharp steak knives are ideal to have to lift the sod away from trees & shrubs; pair of Felco snips and a sharpening stone.

Annie Nevaldine

Orange jack-o'-lantern plastic leaf bags [so your bags of leaves aren't considered garbage by the Municipality.]

Rosemary Kimball, Sterling

A subscription to "Avant Gardener", a unique horticultural news service. Published monthly/ \$24/year. (Horticultural Data Processors, Box 489, New York, NY 10028). *This is what I'm giving [my husband] Phil this Christmas.... A gift in his honor to Heifer International. A gift to Heifer International helps alleviate poverty for a whole community! Sounds too lofty? Not so. By donating the cost of a pair of cows, sheep, or chickens, Heifer International sets up an impoverished family with a source of milk, wool, or eggs. Then the organization provides on-going technical help to feed, care for, and raise the gift animals. Soon the livestock multiplies, and the original family passes on the gift to others in the village. The ripples of self-sufficiency spread. Families gain a continual food and income foundation. In 60 years, Heifer International has assisted 7 million families with programs that transform the hopelessness of hunger and poverty. Gift packages range from \$10 to \$500. More info in catalog at 1-800-422-0755, or see www.catalog.heifer.org.*

Bonnie Lembo

1) With digital photographs of your own or others' gardens or your photos of Alaska wild flowers, use your computer to generate bookmarks, post cards, personalized book plates on sheets of self stick labels, and "business cards" (a picture on one side and on the other, the recipient's name, address, phone and e-mail address). Put them in a small, decorative box with a garden motif.

2) If you collected seeds from your perennials, put them in small manila envelopes. On one side side put labels with typed names, botanical and common; germination and planting instructions; size at maturity; and, growth needs (water, sun, soil, etc). Then, on the other side, put a label with a picture of the plant (generated from a digital photo) as it looks in your garden. Put them in a nice, ornamental or terra cotta flower pot, tied up with a bow. You can also include a gift certificate to a local greenhouse, so the recipient can get seed start mix and seed start trays in the spring.

Dana Klinkhart: [In case you didn't read Dana's AMGA newsletter column,] a Master Gardeners membership as a gift for a gardener friend.

Cooperative Extension Service Compact Plan

UAF Chancellor Steve Jones has charged each unit at the university to develop a compact plan, an agreement contract between the unit and the university. A draft of Cooperative Extension Service's compact plan is posted on the Extension web site (<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/renewal.html>) under the heading of Extension Renewal. It includes some major changes. Until December 11, the draft is open for public comment.

There are three sections to the 19-page plan. The first part covers the 4-H & Youth Development program, the second, organizational restructuring and the third, budget and funding. A few of the items you may be interested in noting: revenue generation through workshop fees, publications, and consultations; setting standardized fees for programs like the Master Gardener course; and only hiring new faculty with Ph.D.s.

A couple of changes presented in the plan have already occurred. Master Gardener is no longer part of the Land Resources program, but rather the new program title Agriculture & Horticulture. Home Economics has been renamed Health, Home & Family Development.

Extension's Statewide Advisory Council has been actively involved in reviewing the plan. Master Gardeners on the Advisory Council include Martha Galbreath (Anchorage), Rita Jo Shoutlz (Fritz Creek) and Rosie Burgess (Homer). Comments on the plan can be directed to Extension Director Dr. Tony Nakazawa at extension@uaf.edu.



Central Peninsula Master Gardener News

By Rosemary Kimball

Not much is happening on the gardening front down here. Barb Jewell just got back from the Seattle area and

said that the gardening wonder store, Molbaks, is celebrating their 50th anniversary and had 50 different varieties of poinsettias for sale with a display of all of them in one area. She said there was even a poinsettia that looked like a rose.

It's not good to pick up the Peninsula Clarion and read a front page article on the cold-weather-without-good-snow-cover that we had during November. Undeniably it has been gorgeous, but here in beautiful suburban Sterling, the refrigerator of the central peninsula, the morning temperatures have run between 10 below and 25 below! I keep checking the soil temperature thermometer in the lower garden and it keeps sliding slowly to the point where there is damage to the perennials' roots— and that includes our 350 feet of strawberries— if it goes too much lower and longer. Fortunately, in Soldotna, it seldom dips below 0° F. The city engineer did tell Barb that the frost was down 4 feet already and that they had had a couple freeze ups. Not a real good end of fall— remember, winter doesn't come until December 22! The cold is a grand rejuvenator for strawberry beds up here. The plant's new summer roots are grown above last year's roots and eventually the plants will root themselves up high enough and the winter will come along and take care of them permanently, leaving space for new runners. I try to get some of the runners back into the center of the patch for about a month in July and then any that go out into the row get given away or rototilled into green manure. The only reason we ever have to move a patch is for weed control.



JD Pulling the "Plug"
Photo by Rosemary Kimball

The record 1,019 pound pumpkin seed harvest took place on November 4 at Carrs' in Kenai and out of the huge squash, JD harvested twelve (that's 12, folks) seeds that were possibly viable. Once breached, JD passed out chunks of pumpkin to people who wanted some to take home. I had a chunk that was about 9 inches square and that was 6 pounds of pumpkin.

Because of all the water, the flavor was not strong but it made a wonderful pumpkin soup and a good excuse to feed a friend.

The MGs down here had our annual "Pad Thai" (meeting) after the seed harvest and lined up our spring

speakers...now all we need are the yeses from them and Janice says they are coming in. January is Brenda Adams of Homer, a garden designer whose work is worth the drive to Homer to see. February we will have JD and his giant pumpkin techniques, March will be Pam Compton I PM tech for MatSu. May will be Stephen Nickel, arborist and urban forester, who will speak on anything we want to know about trees and their care just in time for the 4-H tree sale down here. And somewhere we hope will be Teena Garay talking about shade gardening.

And, finally, it's happened! T&M 2007 seed catalog has two varieties of parthenocarpic summer squash: Cavili and Parthenon. Who says we need bees?

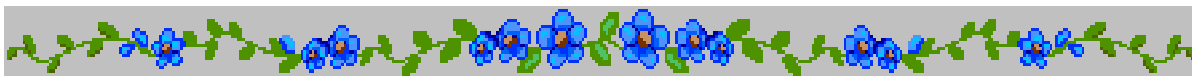
Public Input for Delaney Park Master Plan

When its master plan is completed, Delaney Park will be the second of Anchorage's many parks to have a master plan. Delaney Park is one of Anchorage's oldest and most celebrated parks. It was first established as a fire break in the 1920's and later served as the first airport and golf course for the city.

A Citizen's Advisory Group has been meeting regularly to provide input on the plan. Last spring the MOA Parks and Recreation Department hired Project for Public Spaces, a New York City based non-profit organization, to help facilitate a series of public workshops regarding the future use and vision for Delaney Park. The outcome of this public process and suggestions from the Citizen's Advisory Group have been incorporated into a first draft plan now available on the MOA web site at <http://www.muni.org/parks/DPSDraftMP.cfm>. Written public comments will be accepted until January 5, 2007 and attached to the draft as it moves forward.

In addition to providing written comments, there are two opportunities for public testimony, one before the Parks Commission and the other before the Planning and Zoning Commission. Parks Commission recommendations are advisory. The Parks Commission Preliminary Public Hearing, is scheduled for January 11 with their Final Public Hearing on February 8. The Planning and Zoning Commission is regulatory. They will make the final decision on the Delaney Park Master Plan at a meeting which will accept public testimony sometime in March or April.

At this point there is no funding for changes to the park. Even funding to repair existing facilities was not secured in last year's bond package. The Municipality is submitting a capital budget grant request to the State Legislature in an effort to fund part of the first phase of the project. Whether or not this funding is received, the Municipality hopes to have the Delaney Park Master Plan completed by March/April 2007. [Julie Riley, Extension Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener Cammy Oechsli Taylor are members of the Citizen's Advisory Group.]



Bird Chatter

– Interested in cutting your own Christmas tree? For information on where to cut on state and federal lands, please see the Anchorage District newsletter, *Info & Ideas*, posted on the CES website at <http://www.uaf.edu/coop-ext/publications/index.html>.

– UAF Cooperative Extension Service offices will be closed between Christmas and New Year's Day, opening back up for business on Wednesday, January 3. (The University considers this closure a cost-saving measure.)

– A draft of the Delaney Park Strip Master Plan can be viewed at <http://www.muni.org/parks/DPSDraftMP.cfm>. Deadline for public input is January 7, 2007. (A Community Workshop on the draft will be held Tuesday, December 5th, 2006 in the Denali Elementary School Multipurpose Room, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM.) [See article page 3]

– From survey work conducted by Dr. Jeff Conn, USDA Agricultural Research Service, a truck-load (20 ton) of timothy from Washington has potential to bring in 62,821,800 weed seeds of shepherd's purse, common groundsel, chickweed, flixweed, downy brome, barnyard grass, mouse barley and timothy.

– Mistletoe berries are considered poisonous. Poinsettias are non-toxic although the milky sap may cause an allergic reaction (as will eating a large quantity of the plant).



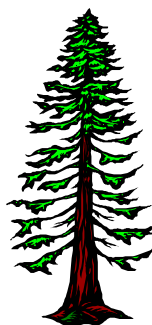
BOOKS ON ALASKA GARDENING

Alaska State Federation of Garden Clubs' president, Debbie Hinchey, still has a few copies of the Homer Garden Club's definitive gardening book, illustrated by Richard Tyler, "Kachemak Cultivating from Seaside to Summit," @ \$30; also the Skagway Gardening Club's smaller historic tale of Skagway gardening, @\$15.

Books can be picked up from MG Della Barry (Alaska State Federation of Garden Club Ways 'n Means chair). Della has also offered to bring books to the Cooperative Extension Service office by December 17. (There is no AMGA meeting that night.)

To place an order, please get in touch with Della, 279-1306 (dellab@alaska.net). If you'd like a "sneak preview" before ordering, both books can be viewed at the Anchorage Extension office.

TREErific Q & A Written by a couple of TREErific members for AMGA



Q: Yesterday a moose ripped off some limbs from a couple fruit trees and the snowplow broke a few low hanging branches on a Canadian Red Cherry in the cul-de-sac. Can I prune the trees even when it is so cold outside or should I wait until next spring to take care of it?

From: Marvel P.

*A: What a great question! First of all, I would like to clarify that the tree you mentioned is a Canada Red Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana* 'Canada Red'). Now, with the clarification out of the way, back to the question. This time of the year, moose look to our urban trees for a tasty meal, and snow plows are hard at work. The best thing that you can do is prevent any "moose pruning" by fencing off your target trees with some sturdy stakes and a strong material such as chicken wire or black plastic fence. Make sure that you construct the barrier strong enough and far enough away from the tree so that any moose looking for a treat can't push the fence in or over. For those trees that have already been victimized by the plow or our large four-legged friends, the best thing to do is remove the broken branch as soon as possible to prevent any further damage to the tree. Be sure to make a proper cut back to the nearest lateral branch or the trunk, using a sharp pruning tool such as a hand snips or pruning saw. A target pruning cut is made just outside the branch bark ridge and leaves the branch collar intact. The branch collar is the swollen region near the base of every branch at its attachment point. This is where the callous tissue will begin growing over the wound. It is important to leave this tissue intact so the tree can properly defend itself from pathogens and other invaders.*

For more information about pruning and pictures to help you identify the branch bark ridge and branch collar, visit <http://www.treesaregood.com/> and look under "pruning young trees."

Anchorage TREErific will not be holding an educational meeting in December (Happy Holidays!) but we do look forward to seeing you at our January 24th meeting at Russian Jack Chalet. **Until then, feel free to contact us at our website: TREErificAnchorage@yahoo.com if we can help.**



Never worry about the size of your Christmas tree. In the eyes of children, they are all 30 feet tall.

~Larry Wilde,
The Merry Book of Christmas



Refugee Garden Project

The Refugee Assistance Program with Catholic Social Services has received a small USDA grant to assist refugees in growing crops to sell at an Anchorage area Farmers' Market this summer. The Anchorage UAF Cooperative Extension Service will also be working with the 10 individuals selected to participate in the project.

If anyone could donate the use of property or a large garden area they would not be using in 2007 for this purpose, it would be greatly appreciated. Many of the Hmong refugees live in Mountain View and the Muldoon area, but garden space in any part of town might be useable. Please contact Julie Riley, Extension Horticulture Agent for details, 786-6300, afjar@uaa.alaska.edu.

Holiday Greetings



The Anchorage Garden Club would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday season and invite you to join us at the Pioneer School House @ 7:30 pm on the 1st Thursday of every month (except July & December) for an educational gardening topic. Our phone number is 566 - 0539. Nickel LaFleur - member

DNR Public Comment Period for Invasive Plants

Alaska legislation contains a list of prohibited and restricted noxious weeds which has not been updated since at least 1987. The Department of Natural Resources is proposing to expand these lists based on current concerns expressed by land managers and owners at the state and community level. For example, there is no state restriction authority to manage orange hawkweed and purple loosestrife. The proposed regulation change seeks to address this concern.

For a copy of the proposed regulations changes, contact Daniel Proulx, at 451-2780 or Dan_Proulx@dnr.state.ak.us. Written comments on the proposed changes may be submitted to the Division of Agriculture, Attention: Daniel Proulx, DNR, 3700 Airport Way, Fairbanks, 99709 or by e-mail. Comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on December 22, 2006. [Note: If you took the Master Gardener course in Anchorage within the last 10 years you should have a copy of "Noxious Weed Identification and Prevention" which lists the 12 prohibited weeds in the current Alaska Administrative Code.]

Gardening Calendar

December 2006: No master gardener meeting.

2007

January 8

Alaska Native Plant Society meeting: Mini Botany Presentation, speaker TBA; Mystery Plant: Verna Pratt. Plant Family: Mosses (Sphagnidae) Speaker TBA

January 15, 2007

"Seasons in the Nevaldine Garden" - Presentation by Annie Nevaldine. AMGA meeting - 7 p.m., Cooperative Extension Service, 2221 E. Northern Lights, Room 137- Contact: 786-6300

2007 ALASKA STATE MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE

March 16 & 17, 2007
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Fairbanks Princess Riverside Lodge

Conference fee: \$100
Friday Banquet: \$30

Spring Educational Offerings

Herb Conference: "Herb-Land Security"
Meier Lake in Mat-Su, July 27-29.
Presenters: Janice Schofield, Rosemary Gladstart, Deborah McCorkle; Janice will be offering 2.5 day/field trip/lab classes in Palmer from July 10 through conference time.

Gardening Methods: Organic Gardening (Agri 138A)
An intensive course at Mat-Su College, Feb. 2 to Mar 2, evenings. One credit or audit; emphasis on non-toxic pest and weed management, organic fertilizers, compost, and compost tea. Call 745-9746 for info. Registration is open now. Go to www.uaa.alaska.edu, follow: Wolf Link.

For information, contact:
Ellen Vande Visse
Good Earth Garden School
Palmer, AK 907-745-0758
Email: info@goodearthgardenschool.com

2007 Calendar Items

If your group or club has information on gardening events for 2007, please let me know if you want it posted in the AMGA Newsletter.
Send to: amga@gci.net



The Anchorage Chapter of the Alaska Master Gardeners Association welcomes letters, opinions, articles, ideas and inquiries. Contact the editor, Gina Docherty, at:
Mail: 4006 DeArmoun Road
Anchorage, AK 99516
Phone: 345-4099
Email: amga@gci.net
AMGA Web Site: www.alaskamastergardeners.org
(The Newsletter will be on-line in living color!)

For information about membership or upcoming programs, contact:

Cooperative Extension Office
2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, AK 99508

Phone 786-6300
Fax Line 786-6312



I love the Christmas-tide, and yet,
I notice this, each year I live;
I always like the gifts I get,
But how I love the gifts I give!
~Carolyn Wells

Inside this issue....

From the President's Corner
Character in the Garden
Christmas Gift Ideas from Master Gardeners
Cooperative Extension Service Compact Plan
Central Peninsula Master Gardener News
Public Input for Delaney Park Master Plan
Bird Chatter
Books on Alaska Gardening
TREErific Q & A
Refugee Garden Project
Holiday Greetings from AGC
DNR Public Comment Period for Invasive Plants
Gardening Calendar
Spring Educational Offerings

Christmas waves a magic wand
over this world, and behold,
everything is softer and more beautiful.
~Norman Vincent Peale

Christmas is a time when you get homesick -
even when you're home.
~Carol Nelson

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