



**ALASKA MASTER
GARDENERS**
ANCHORAGE

**AMGA
NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 2016
Volume 18, Issue 4**

Message from Harry

I am visiting the in-laws in Walla Walla, Washington as I write this month's article for our newsletter. Spring is well under way here in eastern Washington and everything is a fresh green and many gardens are bursting with color. The spring bulbs and early perennials are putting on their show and everywhere there are trees and shrubs in full bloom. After spending most of my life in Alaska, I honestly don't know exactly what many of them are but they are quite stunning to see. I'm a bit envious of the long growing season they enjoy here and the variety of plants that we can't grow in Alaska.

As pleasant as it is here though I'll be happy to return home and to know that soon I'll be working in my own garden among the plants that I know and hanging out with my fellow gardening buds.

From what I hear, it has continued to be unseasonably warm in Anchorage and it looks like we are going to be out in our gardens early this year. It will be interesting for us to compare notes about how our plants came through our mild and practically snowless winter. Most of us are members of our Master Gardener Google Group and I hope more of us will utilize this resource. It is a great place to share what's happening in our gardens, to ask questions from our expert gardeners, and to find out about upcoming garden related events.

Speaking of upcoming events, I hope that many of you have already purchased your registration to attend the statewide Master Gardener Conference that is being held in Anchorage this year because we are **SOLD OUT!** The Early Bird definitely got the worm on this.

I know you will enjoy our great lineup of both local and statewide guest speakers who will present us with a wide ranging choice of interesting topics. Our headline speaker is Marianne Binetti, a very highly regarded and popular speaker from the Seattle area.



**Grow Your Own
from the soil up**

ALASKA MASTER
GARDENERS
ANCHORAGE
CONFERENCE

April 16, 2016
University of Alaska Anchorage
Lucy Cuddy Hall

SOLD OUT

Featuring **Marianne Binetti**
Pacific Northwest Gardening Expert

Early registration: \$75 by March 28 • Registration: \$85 by April 12
www.alaskamastergardeners.org • Lunch included

Vendors contact **Gina 345-4099**
Silent Auction Donations contact **Lynne 529-1039**

COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION
ALASKA

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THIS & THAT
by Sheila Toomey

The night was all about creepy crawlies for the 58 people who showed up at our monthly members' meeting on March 21st -- yard and garden insects, to be precise. Jessie Moan, the CES bug lady, did a quick and useful review of the good, the bad and the scary ugly critters we might find in our yards.

Perhaps the most helpful part of the lesson was how to examine and evaluate plant problems before attempting repair. Jessie emphasized that examination of the affected plant, its leaves, its roots and the general site area makes all the difference when we're trying to figure out what to do.

The first question: Is the cause of the problem really an insect? It's just as likely to be bacteria, fungus, virus, wind, drought, or non-insect animals.

Is the damage uniform? Did it appear suddenly? Has it spread to nearby plants? Most disease-type problems appear slowly. Most harmful insects destroy a plant quickly once they get started.

The goal is to examine thoroughly, catalog all the symptoms, then check a book or talk to someone who knows what they're doing; someone at CES is probably best.

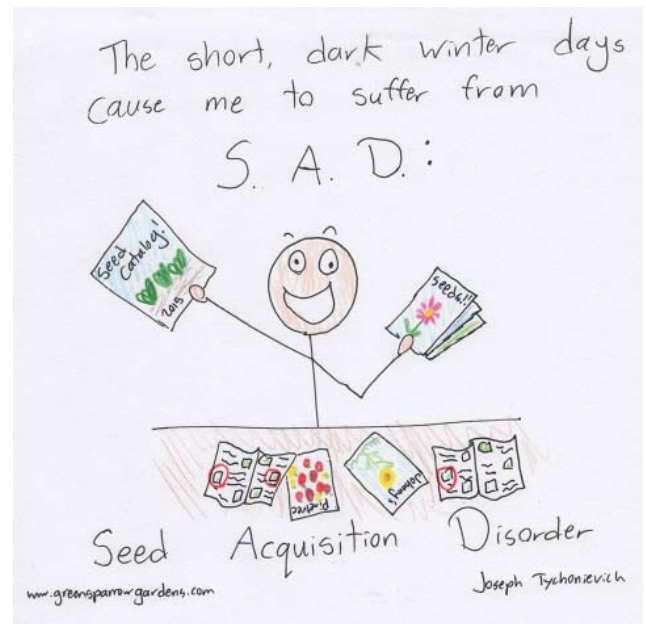
Of course, if you find an insect cheerfully chomping away, take that as a hint about cause. If you don't recognize the bug, or don't know if it's a good guy or a bad guy, take a specimen down to CES and let Jessie see it. She loves examining bug bodies. An emailed photo can also work but Ms. Moan prefers the real thing. Her email address is mjmoan@alaska.edu.

Jessie recommends "Garden Insects of North America," by Whitney Cranshaw as a good basic reference. It's available from Amazon for \$17.96.

In other news: The ABG has a full spread of Asiatic and Oriental lilies for sale plus all their garden seeds are now in stock. They are also running a garden photo contest open to everyone. Check the ABG website for details.

Elise Huggins of Earthscape (landscaping) and the Alaska Reflexology Association are contemplating creation of a reflexology path in the Centennial Rose Garden on Delaney Park Strip. The plan is to add pavers, decorative surface, and interpretive signage "to attract more people to the Rose Garden and to help people understand the art of reflexology," according to a pamphlet on the project. They need our approval so let a board member know if you have thoughts about the proposal.

The next member's meeting is set for April 18th.



[Reprinted with permission from the artist]

Treasurer's Report

Balances 1/31/16

Checking account	11434.74
<u>Savings account</u>	<u>11705.00</u>
	\$23139.74

Dedicated Funds \$8426.20

Revenue:

Donations	25.00
April Conference	2617.78
Education- AMG	420.00
ED/Programs	405.00
Interest	1.39
<u>Membership</u>	<u>100.09</u>
	\$3569.26

Expense:

Conference	3517.46
<u>Operations</u>	<u>54.99</u>
	\$3572.45

Balances 2/29/16

Checking account	11430.16
<u>Savings account</u>	<u>11706.39</u>
	\$23136.55

Dedicated Funds \$8426.20

Mosses in Lawns and Gardens

By Richard Jauron, Department of Horticulture,
Iowa State University, Extension and Outreach

This article was published originally on 3/25/2016
[reprinted with the author's permission]



2016 ONLINE UAF/CES Alaska Master Gardener Course

The next online UAF/CES Alaska Master Gardener course is now open for registration. Course dates: May 23, 2016 to August 12, 2016. For more information and to register online, go to <http://www.uaf.edu/ces/gardening/mastergardeners/online/>

The online Master Gardener course is an option to consider for those who have not been able to work the UAF/CES Anchorage annual Master Gardener course into busy schedules.

From the UAF/CES website: The Alaska Master Gardener Online Course will give you the tools to not only create a sustainable landscape wherever you live in Alaska—but also help others to do the same. Coursework consists of presentations, reading, quizzes, a final exam and several assignments including writing for the Alaska Master Gardener Blog. The course fee is \$375.

The curriculum includes lessons on botany, starting plants, composting, season extension, greenhouses, landscaping, house plants, entomology, pest management, plant disease diagnostics and sustainable gardening. The course also covers growing vegetables, fruits, berries and flowers.

Predominantly self-paced, on average the course takes students 3 hours each week to complete. The course is pass/fail.

Online Master Gardeners and others interested in becoming Master Gardeners residing in the Anchorage area are invited for membership in AMGA to establish and/or continue their involvement in our local gardening network. Membership information can be found on AMGA's website www.alaskamastergardeners.org

Note: Students must complete 40 hours of volunteer service to become a Certified Alaska Master Gardener.

Mosses are adaptable, opportunistic plants. They thrive in a wide variety of locations, but are most often found in moist, shady sites. Mosses are common in many lawns and gardens this year. The abundant rainfall last year provided favorable growing conditions for mosses.

Control of Mosses in Lawns

Mosses don't harm or kill turfgrass plants. However, mosses grow in thin, weak lawns. Poor turfgrass vigor is often due to excessive shade, low fertility, poor drainage, compacted soil, or any combination of the above.

Mosses can be temporarily removed by hand raking. (Mosses don't have true roots and rake up easily.) However, the underlying conditions responsible for the poor stand of grass must be corrected to achieve a permanent solution.

If shade is a factor, prune low-hanging branches of trees and shrubs to allow more light into the area. Plant shade tolerant grasses in shady areas. The fine-leaf fescues (creeping red fescue, hard fescue, and chewing fescue) tolerate considerable shade.

Conduct a soil test to determine the soil pH and nutrient levels. If the soil is deficient in phosphorus or potassium or needs liming, the soil test report will indicate which materials to apply and the proper amounts. If adequate levels of phosphorus are present, choose a lawn fertilizer containing no additional phosphorus when fertilizing the lawn. The best times to fertilize lawns in Iowa are spring, September, and late October/early November.

Compacted soils can be improved by aerating the lawn with a core aerator in spring or fall. Core aeration should improve water infiltration and promote drying of moist soils.

Control of Mosses in Gardens

Mosses in perennial beds and other landscape areas are typically found in damp, shady locations. As in lawns, mosses don't harm perennials, shrubs, trees, or other ornamentals. If you find their presence objectionable, remove mosses with a rake or other garden tool. To discourage mosses from coming back, periodically loosen the upper one to two inches of soil with a hoe or hand cultivator. This will promote drying of the soil surface.

[Editor's note: Although this was written for Iowan gardeners, the same principles apply for Alaska.]

Growing Young Gardeners: Eat Your Greens!

By Amy Reed, MG

I recently read an article in *Country Gardens Magazine*, Early Spring, 2016 entitled "Start Sproutin'" by Marty Ross that caught my eye. It depicted a gardener in Maine who grew her own microgreens in her kitchen during the winter using old dinner plates as planting containers. What a great project for up-cycling old dinnerware while involving my child in growing vegetables (and maybe even eating them too).

When I first looked into microgreens, I thought they were sprouts, like the bean sprouts we eat on sandwiches. There is a distinct difference in how they are grown. Sprouts can be grown in a jar of water without soil, and when they are harvested, you eat the entire plant, roots and shoots. Microgreens, on the other hand, are grown in a medium, such as vermiculite, compost, soil, or even hydroponically. They are harvested when the plant is 2-2.5 inches high before the second set of leaves grows, and the tops of the plant are snipped off with scissors. Microgreens can be anything that is grown in a regular vegetable garden, such as arugula, Swiss chard, and mustard.

Using the article as an instruction guide, my daughter and I went to the seed rack at Fred Meyer, and she chose chives to plant. I then found a shallow glass Christmas platter I haven't used in years. (My daughter even commented, "I've never seen this plate!") We then soaked the seeds in water for ten hours to assist with germination. After patting dry, we spread the seeds evenly over the platter and covered with a thin layer of nutrient-rich soil. The soil was then moistened with water and covered loosely with another old plate before being placed in a sunny windowsill.

I'd like to say that tiny sprouts burst forth the soil at 3 days like the article eluded. Alas, the chives tested my daughter's attention span and patience. After a week she was no longer checking the plate. I had to drum up enthusiasm when small shoots were pushing their way out of the soil on day 17. "Finally!" was her exasperated response. Maybe this wasn't the best microgreen to try.

As I write this before we head to sunnier destinations for Spring Break, our chives microgreen garden isn't at the two-inch mark to harvest. In fact, after some investigation, chives really shouldn't be harvested (or transplanted if wanting to replant them outdoors) until six inches. Even then, most people like to eat the flowers, not the stems. So again, chives are not the best microgreen to attempt to lure your children to grow and eat their veggies. It was a learning process for sure. I think after we return from Spring Break, we are going to try spinach or mustard seed instead.

Microgreen gardens can be a fun and educational project for families during not only the doldrums of winter

but year round to add a variety of vegetables to sandwiches, salads, smoothies, and salsa. Some seeds, such as peas, can even be grown twice before needing reseeded. Studies have even shown that microgreens pack up to six times as many nutrients as their full grown plants in their stems and shoots. While buying microgreens in the grocery store can be an expensive venture, growing your own can be a cost-effective, rewarding, nutritious experience for the entire family.



ARS scientists analyzed key nutrients in 25 different varieties of microgreens and found that red cabbage microgreens (shown here) had the highest concentrations of vitamin C. These nutritious microgreens are ready to harvest just 10 days after planting.

By Peggy Greb - <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/graphics/photos/jan14/d3089-2.htm>, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=30766875>



Not a microgreen, but these potatoes growing in Madge Oswald's garage this spring will hopefully yield very early potatoes.

Photo from Madge Oswald.

**ASD's King Career Center
Horticulture & Landscape Design Course
By Jane Baldwin**

The Anchorage School District's King Career Center (KCC) Tech Prep class in Horticulture & Landscape Design provides training in the fields of landscaping, floriculture, turf, garden center, nursery and greenhouse operations, tree service work, and athletic field maintenance. Also included are plant identification, physiology, propagation and landscape design. Students will also be responsible for operating and maintaining a commercial greenhouse located on school grounds.

Fall semester students will explore various fields within horticulture, study and explore plant physiology, landscape design principles, landscape tools and equipment and floral design.

Spring semester students will study plant physiology and reactions to greenhouse environments in-depth, horticulture fields of personal interest, complete independent projects and experiments as well as research cultural requirements of crops grown in the school greenhouse.

Students also visit local sites to gain knowledge in area educational and employment opportunities.

Reference: <https://www.asdk12.org/schools/kcc/pages/Courses/HLD.html>

These are the students who grow the annuals sold in KCC's plant sale each year. May 4th, 2016 is on KCC's website calendar for this year's plant sale

Students can earn ASD academic credit in life science. Tech Prep classes are part of an agreement between the Anchorage School District and post-secondary education institutions such as UAA, UAF, Kenai Peninsula College or various Apprenticeship Programs. For more information on KCC's Tech Prep classes see KCC's website <https://www.asdk12.org/schools/kcc/pages/TechPrep.html>

This is a local school district program focused on Horticulture and landscaping -- for students in the 11/12 grade range (I think) -- whose availability might be of interest to MGs and parents in general. Gardeners who know their yearly annual plant sales might be glancingly familiar with KCC's greenhouse operations, but wager not many others are aware of the breadth of the actual program.

There are a number of opportunities for exposing the elementary child to the world of hort and gardening: ABG's Pat Ryan Jr. MGs program, ABG's Garden in the Schools, ASD has 21st Century Community Learning

**Master Gardener Conference
Garden Market**

Along with the fantastic line up of speakers for this year's conference, there will be a great collection of vendors for the Garden Market:

AlaskaKrafts (Verna Pratt) - wildflower items: cards, books, pictures and seeds
Forget Me Not Nursery (Courtney Ruckel) - gift certificates, organic veggie starts, plants
Southside Garden Supply (Julie Martin) - growing supplies
Airport Heights Elementary Garden Club (Emily Becker) - plant starts: artichoke, cathedral bells, hollyhocks, herbs
Orchid Society (Wayne Toups) - orchids, memberships, fertilizer, pots
Gina's Stuff (Gina Docherty) - handmade bags
Killer Designs Studio LLC (Tamara Johannes) - hand-crafted glass garden art, glass & beaded jewelry, bird feeders, ceramic tiles with garden//bee theme
3 Branches (Hazel Koppenberg) - natural garden salves, balms, teas, garden art, aprons
Flat Top Farm (Rob Brown) - heirloom chiles, onion starts, dwarf tomatoes, grafted heirloom tomatoes
Fran Durner - Cards, concrete leaves, garden ornaments
Whispering Bird Studio (Laura Walter) - fused glass stakes, metal garden art
AK Sea Ag. LLC (Mark & Robert Greig) - fish compost
Susitna Organics (Mark Fisher) - compost
Bob Cress - Biochar products
AMGA - Logo items: hats, aprons, thumb drives; hand collected seeds by master gardeners
Ed's Edible Landscapes (Ed Buyarski, Juneau) - primulas!
UAA Continuing Education - cont. ed course schedules and materials for spring & summer browsing
Gardens by Design (Brenda Adams) - "There's a Moose in my Garden" book
Alaska Berries (Brian Olson) - Examples of his berry products
Pat Holloway - *Alaska's Agricultural Soils, Sampling and Interpretation of Test Results* book

Don't forget your check book - if you don't use checks anymore, there is an ATM machine in the entry way of the Cuddy Center. Support our local vendors who are supporting us by being there!

AMGA will have a very few more logo jackets (all black) available at the conference. Due to a large demand, a signup sheet for a second order of jackets has begun & will be available at the conference. If you are interested in receiving a "Grow Your Own" logo jacket, please contact Gina Docherty - amga@alaska.net - to have your name added to the list. If there is enough interest, we can place another order after the conference & they should be here within 2 weeks. They are nice jackets for a nice price. If you ordered one already, they will be available at the conference.



Bird Chatter

HIGH PLACES. . . Did you catch the Google Group discussion about that fab tree behind Prez Obama during a speech outside the White House? Exactly what kind of magnolia was it? Cheryl Shroyer settled it by calling a friend in the White House and asking. Yes, she has a friend in the WH.

Cheryl explained that her Philadelphia garden club worked with the White House on projects. "I have had occasions to call the White House and kept the phone number," she said. "The rest is secret." :)

The tree is a Saucer Magnolia, aka a tulip tree.

MEET & GREET. . . The ABG's spring conference teamed with one of the bigger snow storms of the winter last Saturday for a classic Alaskan "Hello" to the gardening season. It's a sign of how twisted we all are that so many of us slogged through calf-high powder to take part in a collective hallucination -- fields of color and beds of green. In keeping with the current sustainability movement, the focus was on herbs, from practical kitchen gardens to Cathy Sage's views of manicured and paved herb gardens that dreams are made of.

Among others, the "Thyme for Gathering" program included our own Debbie Hinchey, Julie Riley and Cheryl Shroyer. And it was nice to see the steady stream of people stopping to chat with President Harry and member Robin Harter at the AMG info table.

BC doesn't cook but couldn't resist a bowl of loose lovage seeds offered for the taking. Jane Baldwin says they're hardy in Alaska. Plus, they "taste like celery -- it's also been described as tasting like a combination of celery & parsley with a hint of anise and curry," says Jane. "You can use the young leaves, steam the stems and braise the roots. Plants will reseed in your garden, but you can also use the seed from your garden in biscuits and bread -- or just eat one or two for a burst of celery flavor!"

Or, like BC, you can just enjoy a pretty plant.

ABG Executive Director Robin Dublin is interested in feedback from those who attended. You can email her at ABG.

BE FRUITFUL & MULTIPLY. . . The new Muldoon Town Square Park will have an orchard, thanks in part to a \$300 grant from the Alaska Community Forest Council and donation of four fruit trees from the Boyer Orchard.

High Flyers report Marilyn Boyer is giving the park two apple and two cherry trees from the orchard at Diamond and Old Seward in honor of the 50th anniversary of Arbor Day in Alaska -- it's May 16th this year. The new orchard is being designed in the core section of the park-to-be. The \$300 will pay to move the donated trees to their new home. Need BC say our tree-hugger-in-chief Nickel La Fleur is in the middle of all this?

BC is beginning to believe the Muldoon Town Square Park might actually happen.

HELP WANTED . . . Do you like our parks? BC will be voting "Yes" on Prop 4. This is our issue guys. We are stewards of nature in the city.

HELP NEEDED. . . Bonnie Tisler is always looking for help planting and maintaining the grounds of the Senior Center. Don't let Bonnie and Shirley Mathews get lonesome. And don't forget to sign up for a couple of hours at the Pioneer Home.

Learning Opportunities for School Aged Children...cont. from page 5

Centers (CCLC) at ASD schools that have after-school programs aimed primarily at working parents. Hope Cottages, Pathways and some of types of group homes have veggie growing efforts to involve and engage their clients.

We have our own Amy Reed may steadily contributing to the newsletter for basically home schooling type projects (again for the younger student). All focused on the very young (ABGs story time in the garden) and elementary aged children.

But very little hort/garden related is available to kids once they pass 6th grade -- that age 13 - 17 window - Hope Cottages, Pathways and other types of group homes have veggie growing efforts to involve and engage their clients.

KCC is more than trade oriented -- I think (but not certain) enrollment may be open to other than 'trade' students as well if they have covered their basic ASD core and elective options. I know years ago, my daughter who had exhausted electives was able to take the KCC Photography course and learned much about photography and cameras that still serves her well.

Garden Event Calendar

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Monday, April 4

**Alaska Native Plant Society Monthly Meeting: "Saxifraga and Micranthes" by Forrest Baldwin; Mini Botany: Cicuta bulbifera by Marilyn Barker; Plant Family: Heuchera and Tellima by Annie Ronsee. 7:00 pm at Campbell Science Center, Anchorage. Details at: <http://aknps.org/Pages/Meetings.php>.

**Mat-Su Master Gardener's Monthly Meeting: "Helping the Palmer Pioneer Home with Raised Beds". 6:30 pm at MTA building, Palmer. Details at: <http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/calendar-of-events.html>.

**Meadow Lake Bloomers Garden Club Monthly Meeting. 10:30 am at Meadow Lakes Senior Center, 1210 N Kim Drive, Wasilla.

Tuesday, April 5

Valley Garden Club: "Container Gardening, Use and Care of Plants in Containers" by Matt Franke from Jack's Garden Supply. 10:30 am at First Baptist Church, 900 Leatherleaf Loop, Wasilla.

Thursday, April 7

Anchorage Garden Club Monthly Meeting: "Our Love/Hate Relationship with Alaskan Lawns" by Julie Riley, CES Horticulturist. 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at Pioneer Schoolhouse, 437 E 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. Details at: <http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org/anchorageclub.htm>.

Friday, April 8

Herb Study Group Topic: "Dill and Fennel". 12:00pm - 1:30 pm at CES - 1675 C Street, Suite 100, Anchorage.

Saturday, April 9

The Mall at Sears Spring Garden Show: Visit Master Gardeners, Alaska Botanical Garden Staff and Local Garden Club Members with Your Garden Questions. 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at The Mall at Sears, 600 E. Northern Lights Blvd.

Thursday, April 14

Wildflower Garden Club Monthly Meeting: "Making and Amending Soil for Vegetable Gardens" by Dennis and Annie Ronsee. 10:00 am - 11:30 am at Central Lutheran Church, 1420 Cordova, Anchorage. Details at: <http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org/apps/calendar/>.

Monday, April 18

Anchorage AMGA Meeting: "Far North Seeds n' Sowing" by Reg Yapple, Owner of Denali Seeds. 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at CES - 1675 C Street, Anchorage. Details at: http://www.alaskamastergardeners.org/2015_2016_AMGA_Programs_2.pdf.

Friday April 22

Willow Garden Club Monthly Meeting: "Starting Seeds

for Pots and Perennial Gardens" by Kathy Mailer and Cindy Forsyth. 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm at the First Baptist Church on Leatherleaf and Bogard Road. Details at: <http://willowgardenclub.blogspot.com/>.

Tuesday, April 26

Alaska Orchid Society Monthly Meeting. 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm at BP Energy Center, Seward Hy and Benson Blvd. Details at: <http://www.wayne-toups.squarespace.com/events/>.

CONFERENCES

Saturday, April 16

Alaska Master Gardeners Conference 2016: "Grow Your Own, from the Soil Up" - Keynote Speaker: Pacific Northwest Author and Gardener Marianne Binetti. Other Presenters: Homer Garden Designer and Author Brenda Adams, Juneau Primula Expert Ed Burayski, Retired UAF Professor Pat Holloway and Anchorage CES Horticulturist Julie Riley. 8:00 am - 6:30 pm at UAA Lucy Cuddy Center, UAA Campus, 3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage. Early before March 28, \$85 March 29 - April 1. Details at: http://www.alaskamastergardeners.org/AMGA_Conference.html.

SOLD OUT

CLASSES and WORKSHOPS

Saturdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 and Sunday, April 3

Alaska Mill and Feed Spring Classes. 1501 East First Avenue, Anchorage. Reservations are required. Register at: <http://www.alaskamillandfeed.com/#/events/>.

April 2: Raised Bed Gardening by Irene Fitzgerald, Master Gardener. 11:00 am - 12:30 pm. \$5.00

April 3: How to Grow Organic Vegetables by Ellen Vande Visse, Good Earth Garden School. 10:30 am - 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm. Cost: \$5.00.

April 9: Shade Gardening by Caroline Ahrens. 10:00 am - 11:00 am and 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. Cost: \$5.00.

April 16: Grafted Tomatoes by Rob Brown. 10:00 am - 11:00 am. Cost: \$5.00.

April 23: Tomato Basics by Barbara Rowland, Master Gardener. 10:30 am - 11:30 am. Cost: \$5.00

April 23: Container Gardening by Kristina Holdridge at 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm. Cost: \$5.00

April 30: Peonies for Fun and Profit by Julie Riley, CES Horticulturist. 10:00 am - 11:30 am. Cost: \$5.00.

Saturday, April 2

Seed Starting: "Herb Growing Workshop" with Cathy Sage. 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm at Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage. Cost: ABG members \$40, Non-members \$45. Class is limited, pre-registration is required. Details at: www.alaskabg.org/events/.

Continued on next page

Saturday, April 9

Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers: Annual Grafting Workshop. 1:00 pm at Dimond Greenhouses, 1050 W. Dimond Blvd., Anchorage. Open to the Public. Join at: <http://www.apfga.org/membership/>

Saturday April 9 and 23

Master Composter- Certification Course # 1 by Ellen Vande Visse, Good Earth Garden School. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm at Mat Su Borough Central Landfill and Animal Shelter Complex, Between Central Landfill and Valley Community for Recycling Solutions, 9470 E. Chanlyut Circle, Palmer. Costs and Details at: <http://ellenvandevisse.com/classes/?ee=137>

Wednesday, April 13 - April 27

"The Basics of Garden Design" by Ginger Hudson. 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage. Cost: ABG members \$80, Non-members \$90. Class is limited, pre-registration is required. Details at: www.alaskabg.org/events/

Thursday, April 14

Backyard Composter- Certificaton, Course # 1 by Ellen Vande Visse, Good Earth Garden School. 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Mat Su Borough Central Landfill and Animal Shelter Complex, Between Central Landfill and Valley Community for Recycling Solutions, 9470 E. Chanlyut Circle, Palmer. Costs and Details at: <http://ellenvandevisse.com/classes/?ee=137>

Friday, April 22

"The BioChar Revolution in Soil Building Intro Seminar". 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm at Artemisia Acres, Palmer. Cost: \$10. Details at: <http://ellenvandevisse.com/classes/?ee=136>

Sunday, April 24

"Native Plants for Gardening" by Verna Pratt. 2:00 pm at Eagle River Nature Center, 32750 Eagle River Road, Eagle River. Details at: <http://www.ernc.org/calendar/april.html>



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.

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: ak.jbaldwin@gmail.com

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Pioneer Home: Erma MacMillan (design) Lynne Opstad
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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.

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

