



## AMGA NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2017  
Volume 19, Issue 4

### Message From Harry

According to the calendar, Spring has officially arrived. Taking a look around: it sure doesn't seem like it with our continuing cold temperatures and piles of lingering snow. But in so many ways it really is springtime in Alaska. Our days are getting longer and there is new found energy in ourselves as we anticipate the new season. Gardeners are making plans and dreaming about our perfect gardens to be. Our local nurseries are gearing up with multitudes of plants to tempt us. For those who start their own plants by seed indoors or in greenhouses, this is truly a rewarding time as we get an early start working the soil and nurturing our seedlings long before we can actually be out in the garden.

Speaking of local nurseries, one personal goal of mine, especially in our troubled economic times, is to remember to buy locally whenever possible. It's important that we continue to support our "Home Grown" local businesses. We are blessed with many excellent nurseries and growers in Anchorage, Girdwood, Indian, Eagle River and to the north in the Mat/Su Valley. In addition, we have organizations such as Alaska Botanical Gardens and local garden clubs who hold plant sales each Spring. We also have a growing number of local farmers' markets who deserve our patronage if we are to encourage a sustainable food network that offers fresh, organically grown product that supports local employment and small business development.

One of everyone's favorite springtime rituals, the Annual Spring Garden Show will once again be hosted by the Sears Mall on Saturday, April 15. AMGA will be partnering with the C.E.S. Outreach Center to provide an opportunity for the public to meet our knowledgeable and friendly Master Gardeners who are always willing to share their enthusiasm and answer questions. The show also presents a great opportunity to learn about and perhaps consider joining one of our many gardening clubs and organizations and to see what they have planned for the coming season.

Many of the clubs will be selling plants and this year AMGA will be doing the same. Although space will be somewhat limited, our members are encouraged to participate by bringing plant starts or houseplants to sell. Please refer to the plant sale guidelines found on our website. There will be the usual 75% / 25% split between the seller and AMGA. Please ensure that all plants are well grown and presented and be prepared to participate for at least a part of the day. Set up is prior to 10AM.

Hopefully we can all find the time to enjoy some of the many upcoming events planned for April including the Statewide Master Gardeners Conference in Palmer, the Sears Mall Spring Garden Show, various club workshops and our own April membership meeting on April 17th.

Happy Spring and Happy Breakup to all!



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## Special Volunteer Needed

Looking for a way to express your creativity and give back to your community? The AMGA is looking for a garden designer and planner for the Pioneer Home service project for the 2018 season.

The Alaska Master Gardeners have been designing, planting and maintaining the Pioneer Home gardens for over 30 years. Master Gardener Erma MacMillan has been designing the gardens for the last three years. These have been transitional years for the garden, moving from primarily annual plants to more perennials and shrubs to minimize the amount of time required for maintenance.

Erma has done a fantastic job but it's time for her to focus on her home garden renovation and other projects. She is very willing to help during the transition. Erma has detailed notes and scaled plans for each bed design as well as sources for plants to pass on to her successor. Ideally, the new designer will work with Erma during 2017 to make the transition a smooth one.

The Pioneer Home gardens mean so much to the residents and their families. They regularly express their appreciation for our efforts, helping to make this volunteer project especially rewarding. For many residents the gardens are one of the only bright spots in their day. The AMGA wants to continue to provide gardens for the home as one of our primary service projects for the community but we need a designer to continue on.

If you are interested in taking on the design for the gardens please contact Erma MacMillan, Harry Deuber, or Lynne Opstad for more information.

We also need volunteers for planting and maintaining the gardens during the summer. This is a great way to learn more about flower gardening, get your Advanced Master Gardener volunteer hours in, meet other Master Gardeners, and support your community. To volunteer, please contact Julie Ginder. All contact information can be found in the 2017 Directory.



Pioneer Home plantings - photos by Lynne Opstad.

## Treasurer's Report

Balances 1/31/17	
Checking account	7696.85
Savings account	<u>11722.71</u>
	\$19419.56
Dedicated Funds	8530.28
Interest Bearing CD	<u>10000.00</u>
	\$18530.28
Revenue:	
Interest	1.35
Membership	<u>80.00</u>
	\$81.35
Expense:	
Operations	<u>49.99</u>
	\$49.99
Balances 2/28/17	
Checking account	7726.86
Savings account	<u>11724.06</u>
	\$19450.92
Dedicated Funds	8530.28
Interest Bearing CD	<u>10000.00</u>
	\$18530.28

## Local Nurseries - Just How Do They Work?

By Lynne Opstad  
Photos by Lynne Opstad

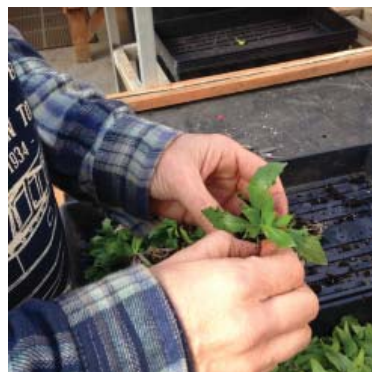
Last summer I had the opportunity to work at a retail nursery. It was hard work but a lot of fun talking to people about gardening all day. The cross section of people that garden is amazing, young couples building their first garden beds, little kids helping their parents pick out vegetables, flower gardeners, vegetable gardeners, and people that grow herbs for medicinal purposes. Young, old, every race and creed comes together in a garden.

It occurred to me that many gardeners don't know how a retail nursery works. What goes into making all those beautiful plants available to us, particularly here in Alaska? I set out to find the answers to these questions by talking to several of our local nurseries.

The season starts in September when orders are placed with plant brokers. A broker may represent up to 50 different growers, which makes the process simpler from beginning to end. Plant selection is a bit of magic based on what sold in previous years, feedback from customers and what's on offer by growers. Annuals are trendier than perennials and therefore harder to predict what might sell. Zone hardiness, light and temperature requirements are considered. And last but not least, something new and unique might just catch the eye.



Plants start arriving at indoor nurseries the middle of February, coming mainly from the western part of the U.S. They are trucked or flown up depending on the size of order. When plants arrive they are checked for pests, disease or damage. If the plants arrive damaged there is little recourse for the nursery; it's usually not possible to get replacement plants or credits. Once inspected, the plants might be trimmed to improve airflow and density.



Plants are sold as plugs, in the pots they arrive in, or replanted into larger pots or baskets. Some growers specify that their plants be sold in specific pot sizes and that their branded plant label and

pot must be used by the nursery.



Native plants and others easily grown here, like rhubarb, are sourced locally. Most of the smaller nurseries over-winter their perennials and use cuttings. Bulbs and tubers such as begonias, gladiolas and dahlias arrive in early March. Some annuals such as marigolds, tomatoes, peppers and other vegetables may be started from seed. Seeds are not available for plants still under patent, which can last up to 10 years after a plant is devel-

oped. Each nursery has their own recipe for soil, using different meals and other organics added to the soil. Ordering continues until late February. Plants arrive weekly, sometimes daily, during spring and early summer.



Keeping the plants healthy is the biggest operational challenges for nurseries. Watering is done every day, sometimes twice a day depending on the weather. Pest control is essential; inside operations might release lady bugs, praying mantis or aphidoletes. Diseased plants may be

segregated or, depending on the operation, treated with natural products. Additional challenges are anticipating what customers want, staying organized during the hectic season and managing cash flow.

When our springs come early, gardeners shop sooner. Mother's Day is a big sale day. Memorial Day is the biggest weekend for garden sales in Anchorage; 60-75% of all sales are done by the first of June. A staggering amount of plants are sold but profit margins are slim. Annuals are the most profitable, perennials and shrubs the least. Perennials sales take over in mid-June and things slow down considerably. Left over plants may be donated to non-profits, saved for the next season or sold wholesale to businesses that stay open all winter.

Continued on page 5

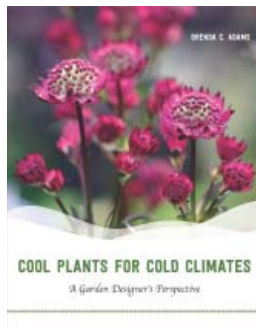
## Growing Young Gardeners: Surviving the Winter

By Amy Reed

Cabin fever, pacing the living room, thumbing through magazines for the third time.... sometimes winter can be very, very long here in Alaska. Especially for us gardeners who are waiting impatiently for seed starting and planting season!

Here are some gardening activities to keep our winter blahs at bay:

1. Plan and design the garden space. Thumb through seed catalogs, peruse seed racks at the local greenhouse, and choose one or two new vegetables or flowers to experiment this season.
2. Take a class. UAF Cooperative Extension has a plethora of classes to take from "Preserving the Bounty" to "Greenhouse Heat". It's fun to learn and meet other like-minded gardeners! <http://www.uaf.edu/ces/>
3. Take a walk. The Alaska Botanical Gardens doesn't close in the winter! It's open dawn to dusk all year round. The hoar-frosted trees appear almost magical as they line the paths.
4. Visit local greenhouses. Not only do your local greenhouses provide a bit of warmth from the nippy air, but the proprietors also have a bounty of plant knowledge to share. You might even find a fun houseplant or two or three to take home with you!
5. Try an herb garden on your countertop. This is a fun project for all ages. Even an empty yogurt cup can become a home for a basil or thyme seedling.
6. Get a hold of your kitchen scraps. Put a pineapple top or an avocado pit in a jar of water and see what happens.
7. Have a plant swap party. Have a gathering and bring cuttings of plants to share and transplant. And good wine! I tried Christmas cactus and jade plant cuttings with marvelous results!
8. Sit back and enjoy the rest of our winter. We have been so blessed this year with snow! My snowshoes and skis rejoiced! Our green thumbs will be out of their winter mittens into gardening gloves before we know it.



**Brenda Adams New Book:  
"Cool Plants for  
Cold Climates:  
A Garden Designer's  
Perspective,"**  
by Brenda C. Adams  
(2017, University of Alaska Press).  
Pub. date: May in Alaska.  
June elsewhere.  
**Reviewed by Sheila Toomey**

This is the book we've been waiting for: An easy-to-use reference to a wide variety of vigorous plants that thrive in our climate-challenged gardens. It's true that Adams' new book is useful to cold climate gardeners everywhere -- across Canada and all those northern fly-over states to New England, Northern Europe and, probably, Outer Mongolia.

But the book is really for us: Alaska gardeners. Adams' goal is simple: to help us transform our gardens "from simply pleasant to absolutely outstanding."

The transformation begins at the nursery/greenhouse. We already ask ourselves certain questions as we stand staring at aisles of potted starts: Is it a tall back-border plant, or a dirt-hugging crawler? Middle of the garden? Early or late blooming? What color are the flowers? Do I have any sunny/shady spots left?

For Adams, these considerations are just the beginning. When choosing plants, think "impact," she says. To size and color, add texture, pattern, shape, utility, dependability and, very importantly, low maintenance.

Is a plant "well-behaved" or will it out-grow its allotted habitat causing you more work than it's worth? Does it have to be deadheaded to thrive?

How will its appearance change over the summer -- stalk color, leaf pattern, seed pods and, along with everything else, how does it work with other plants?

Adams' first book, "There's Moose in my Garden," was a broadly cast discussion of design principles and issues involved in creating a garden next door to wilderness. This book is a more focused reference, particularly useful for people who already have a garden but want to make it better.

"My goal is to provide you and other cold-climate gardeners with enough information about a wide variety of exceptional plants so that you will be able to create a gorgeous, gratifying and dependably hardy garden, a garden filled with selections you adore."

Continued on next page...

## "Cool Plants for Cold Climates: A Garden Designer's Perspective"...cont. from page 4

Sections include advice on how to shop for plants (surprisingly pull suspiciously large "starts" out of the pot to see how root-bound they are), how to put plants in the ground and treat them at the end of the season, how to evaluate them for impact, utility, dependability and whether they will thrive in your space.

This is all good stuff, but what lifts this book above other decent advice books is the hundred or so pages of recommended plants with stunning photographs showing them in a variety of groupings illustrating how individual choices fit together.

Maybe it's the four feet of snow piled in my yard, or the single-digit temperatures every night into late March, but Adams' practical advice about both familiar and unfamiliar plants -- and the photo illustrations -- had me redesigning my garden in my imagination, over and over. I like my garden, but I started it the way most people do, according to Adams: I bought pretty plants and stuck them in a hole and watered them. I didn't get my soil tested. I didn't figure out what micro-zones exist in my yard. I neglected to notice that leafed-out trees were going to block the light. And so on.

That was years ago. These days I'm smarter about planning but my garden still isn't as beautiful as I want it to be.

Adams understands this longing. The purpose of a garden is to bring you pleasure, she writes. At every step, ask yourself, "Do you love it?"

I don't love my garden yet. But I love this book.

## Local Nurseries: Just How do They Work? ...cont. from page 3

I was curious, why do this type of work? It's hard work with long hours. Courtney from Forget Me Not Nursery said it's the cycle of life that attracts her. She is constantly learning and sees what joy gardening and just being in the nursery brings to people. Patty and Anna at Sutton's Greenhouse said everything about it is fun for them. They started in the business when they were young; their mother loved to garden. They had large greenhouses at their home and took orders from the neighborhood. Patty and Anna would deliver the plants in little red wagons. Kelly at Alaska Mill, Feed & Garden Center says she loves the Alaskan summers and just being outside. Their staff loves assisting customers that have the same gardening passion as themselves.

Whatever the reason, we are so happy these dedicated people are here to supply our gardening needs. Together we make Anchorage a colorful and healthy place to live.

## Volunteer Opportunities



- \* **Spring Garden Show** at the Sears Mall, April 15th: Answer MG questions at the CES/AMGA booth; Contact Harry: denali542@yahoo.com
- \* **Pioneer Home:** Help plant and maintain front gardens of the Pioneer Home during the summer; Contact: Julie Ginder jkginder@gci.net or Lynne Opstad: lopstad@gci.net
- \* **Muldoon Town Square Park:** Help plan, build, maintain, and enjoy the Community Orchard and Community Garden. Contact Kristi Wood at 278-2453 or bikemoredriveless@hotmail.com for details.
- \* **Anchorage Senior Center:** Help plant and maintain gardens at the Anchorage Senior Center; Contact: Bonnie Tisler: bonniewevrpt@gci.net
- \* **Anchorage Rose Garden:** Help maintain the Alaska Rose Garden on the Park Strip; Contact Debbie Hinchey: dhinchey@alaskan.com
- \* **Alaska Botanical Garden:** Help maintain garden at the ABG; contact ABG @ 770-3692
- \* **Instructors needed** on topics such as Seed Starting, Organic Soil Amendments, Vegetable Gardening, etc. Contact: Harry Deuber: 440-6372 denali542@yahoo.com
- \* **Lutheran Church of Hope Garden:** Help plant and maintain gardens to donate fresh produce to local food pantries. Contact Don Bladow: dfbladow@gmail.com

## AMGA Volunteer Vests

If you volunteer for AMGA, please consider purchasing a volunteer vest to showcase being a Master Gardener while you're out volunteering. AMGA is offsetting the cost to make them more affordable to our members; the cost is only \$10. They will be available at the Sears Mall Garden Show.



Note: the vests run about 1 size too small, so order 1 size larger.

FRONT



BACK





## Bird Chatter

### March Herb Study Group Meeting:

### Starting Seeds for 2017

By Elaine Hammes

**SURVIVORS...** Member Cheryl Chapman reports the redpolls that flock to her yard went through 40 pounds of cracked sunflower seeds last week. "I may have to get a second job to support them."

If you're not familiar with redpolls, they're tiny critters with a red splotch on their head. Unlike wimpier birds who flee south, redpolls hunker down for the Arctic winter, feeding largely on birch and alder seeds, apparently using their energy to search out suckers like Cheryl. (BC thinks the rest of us should consider also helping them out.)

**T.G.I.O. . . .** Thank God It's Open. Sutton's, that is. It's no secret Anna and Patty are looking to sell the funky nursery in midtown off Tudor. The "For Sale" sign posted for the last two years was a hint. But they haven't found a buyer and word spread that, given Patty's illness and the insane volume of work needed to run the place, they weren't going to re-open this year.

Not true. Ignore the 28-foot boat in the parking space, and the Dumpster where perennials normally sit. Open the front door and discover spring: Breathe in the smell of soil and the moist green fragrance of thousands of baby plants being born.

Notable: *Digiplexis* in "flame." They only had yellow last year, said Anna.

*Alstroemeria Inca Bandit* --- a deep red variety of the cut flower so popular with florists because it lasts for two weeks in a vase.

Praying mantis egg cases (hatches 100 hunters). On order, 13 varieties of seed potatoes from four different suppliers.

And, you know -- a thousand other things.

About that boat, the "Reel Fun." It's Anna's retirement dream -- to live in Seward, create hanging baskets for people (part time, low stress) and fish, fish, fish. In the ocean. "Reel Fun" used to be a Coast Guard boat, she said. Then it hauled guys off oil rigs, and worked for a while as a halibut charter out of Homer.

"Fishing. . . That's been my dream forever," she said. Meanwhile, Patty's chemo seems to have worked and the hunt for new owners continues. Until Anna's dreams come true, we can all enjoy the Sutton's we've loved for years.

**SAVE THE DATE. . .** BC hears Les Brake will be talking about the flora and fauna of South Africa, encountered on his trips there. April 8th at the MTA Building in Palmer. Check the Rock Garden Society web site for details. [akrockgardensociety.org](http://akrockgardensociety.org)

**FROM THE AMGA MEETING:** "I know it's spring because the snow berms are rotting..."

Cathy Sage began discussion on starting seeds with the first rule: read the directions on the package! Each type of seed has its own requirements—and there are so many variables. Many seeds may be started indoors around April 15. However, some seeds such as cilantro are best seeded directly outside when their growing conditions are suitable. Some seeds such as parsley that are slow to germinate are often soaked overnight to accelerate the process.

Some seeds need one or more specific cold period(s) to germinate. Temperatures for germination vary greatly from around 40° F to 70° F. There are seeds that need the dark, others that need light, to germinate. Once germinated, seedlings generally need to be in a sunlit greenhouse or require supplemental indoor lighting to persist. When the growing season is ready for planting outside, seedlings must be gradually hardened off to the outdoor conditions prior to final outdoor planting.

The germination rate of different kinds of seeds varies widely with the age of the seeds and conditions under which they are stored. Keeping records (such as on a spreadsheet) of the specific situations for different seeds can provide data to determine the best conditions for successful seed starting in the future.

The Herb Study Group (HSG) will soon transition from winter meetings to working in the Alaska Botanical Garden's (ABG) Herb Garden. Friday, May 12 (the 2nd Friday) is scheduled for the HSG's first 2017 meeting at ABG. At that time, the herb garden may be ready to be worked or the situation can be assessed for scheduling future garden work. Planting is estimated to begin June 1. In the past, the HSG members have met on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1-3pm to work in the Herb Garden.

Thanks to Cathy, Michelle, Sharon, Shirley, Mike and Will for working behind the scenes for the upcoming garden season. Some changes in the Herb Garden planting scheme are underway. More plants for ABG Herb Garden are being started from seed this year. Obelisks have been ordered to replace pots at the east and west herb garden beds. The Herb Study Group (HSG) will be helping with educational tags as well as tags for plants, especially those started from seed.

*Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush.*

Doug Larson

# Garden Event Calendar

## MEETINGS and EVENTS

### Monday, April 3

\*\*Alaska Native Plant Society Monthly Meeting: Speakers Choice by Tom Choate. Plant Family: Cladothamnus and Gaultheria by Glenn Brown. Mini Botany: Rumex krausei by Ginger Hudson. 7:00 pm at Campbell Science Center, Anchorage. Details at: <http://aknps.org/Pages/Meetings.php>.

\*\*Mat-Su Master Gardener's Monthly Meeting: 2017 Master Gardener Conference Preparation. 7:00 pm at MTA building, 480 Commercial Street, Palmer. Details at: <http://www.mat-sumastergardeners.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 4

Valley Garden Club Monthly Meeting: Balancing Soil Fertility to Manage Weeds by Mark Fisher of Susitna Organics. 10:30 am at First Baptist Church, 900 Leatherleaf Loop, Wasilla.

### Thursday, April 6

Anchorage Garden Club Monthly Meeting: Not Your Mama's Pesto by Michelle Semerad, Master Gardener. 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at Pioneer Schoolhouse at 437 E 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. Details at: <http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org/anchorageclub.htm>.

### Friday, April 7

Herb Study Group Monthly Meeting: Yarrow Presentation by Barbara Baker and Elaine Hammes; Anise Hyssop Presentation by Sue Looney. 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm at Anchorage Cooperative Extension Service, Chugachmiut Building, Room 119, 1840 Bragaw Street.

### Saturday, April 8

Alaska Rock Garden Society Monthly Meeting: Botanical Gardens of South Africa, Slide Show by Les Brake. 2:00 pm at MTA building, 480 Commercial Street, Palmer

### Thursday, April 13

Wildflower Garden Club Monthly Meeting: Organic Management Strategies by Ellen Vande Visse. 10:00 am - 11:30 am at Central Lutheran Church, 1420 Cordova Street. Details at: <http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org/apps/calendar/>.

### Saturday, April 15

The Mall at Sears Spring Garden Show: Visit Master Gardeners, Alaska Botanical Garden Staff and Local Garden Club Members with Your Garden Questions; There will be plants for sale as well. 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at The Mall at Sears, 600 E. Northern Lights Blvd.

### Monday, April 17

Anchorage AMGA Monthly Meeting: Elevated Garden Boxes by Donald Bladow, Master Gardener. 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at Anchorage Cooperative Extension Service, Chugachmiut Building, Room 116, 1840 Bragaw Street. Details at: [http://www.alaskamastergardeners.org/AMGA\\_Programs\\_2017-2018.pdf](http://www.alaskamastergardeners.org/AMGA_Programs_2017-2018.pdf).

### Thursday, April 20

Willow Garden Club Monthly Meeting: Fire Wise by Cathi Kramer and Worm Composting by Jean Selk. 7:00 pm at Willow Community Center, 23625 W. Willow Community Center

Circle, Willow.

### Tuesday, April 25

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/>.

## CLASSES And WORKSHOPS

### Sunday, April 9 - Saturday April 29

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

**April 9:** Organic Secrets to Growing Nutrient Dense Veggies by Ellen Vande Visse, Green Earth Garden School at 11:00 am - 12:30 pm and 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm. Cost: \$5.00.

**April 22:** Tomato Basics by Barbara Rowland at 10:00 am - 11:30 am and 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm. Cost: \$5.00.

**April 22:** Herb Class by Mary Shier, Master Gardener at 2:00 am - 3:00 am. Cost: \$5.00.

**April 29:** Shade and Vertical Gardening by Caroline Aherns at 10:00 am - 11:30 am and 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm. Cost: \$5.00.

### Saturday, April 1 and Sunday, April 8

Master Composter Certification Class by Ellen Vande Visse, Green Earth Garden School at 10:00 am - 4:15 pm, April 1 and 11:00 am - 4:15 pm at Mat-Su Borough Central Landfill Complex, Palmer. Details at [Compost@matsugov.us](mailto:Compost@matsugov.us).

### Tuesday, April 11

Worm Bins and Vermi-Culture by Ellen Vande Visse. 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm. Mat-Su Borough Central Landfill Complex, Palmer. Preregistration required. Details at: [Compost@matsugov.us](mailto:Compost@matsugov.us).

### Saturday, April 15

Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association: Grafting Workshop. 1:00 pm at Dimond Greenhouses, 1050 W Dimond Blvd. Details at: <http://www.apfga.org/news/>.

## CONFERENCES

### Saturday, April 22

Alaska Master Gardeners State Conference: "Every Day is Earth Day When You're a Master Gardener". Palmer Community Center (The Depot), 610 S. Valley Way, Palmer, AK: <http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/calendar-of-events.html>

Keynote Speaker: Marion Owen, Author, Gardener, Photographer, and "Fearless Weeder", Kodiak Island, Alaska

#### Speakers:

Stephen Brown, CES Extension Agent

Craig Smith - USDA-NRCS

Rob Brown - Flattop Farm

Jan Newman - Grow Palmer

Cindee Karns - Alaska Cold Climate Permaculture Institute

Karen E. Ross - The Foundation for Functional Fermented Food

Ellen Vande Visse - Mat-Su Borough Solid Waste Division



Julie Riley's talk on Soil Amendments, March 20th, at the Cooperative Extension, brought a full house. Photo by Mike Baldwin.



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 Office Chugachmiut Building, 1840 Bragaw St. Anchorage

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  
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Phone: 345-4099  
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AMGA Web Site: [www.alaskamastergardeners.org](http://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](mailto:ak.jbaldwin@gmail.com)

#### AMGA Board of Directors

Harry Deuber	President
Marilyn Barker	Vice President
Cindy Walker	Treasurer
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Kathy Liska	At Large
Fran Pekar	At Large
Marjorie Williams	At Large
Cheryl Chapman	At Large

#### Committee Chairs, Program Coordinators & Volunteers

CES Liaison:	Harry Deuber
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Programs:	Marilyn Barker
Field Trips:	Sheila Toomey
Google Group:	Mary Rydesky
Hospitality:	Marjorie Williams
Volunteer Coordinator:	Harry Deuber
Membership & Database:	Jane Baldwin
Newsletter & Website:	Gina Docherty
Lifetime Achievement:	Lynne Opstad
Grants:	Marilyn Barker
Pioneer Home:	Erma MacMillan (design)
	Lynne Opstad
Volunteer Coordinators:	Julie Ginder, Joyce Smith, Lynne Opstad

#### 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:

Harry Deuber, President  
[denali542@yahoo.com](mailto:denali542@yahoo.com)  
907-440-6372

