



AMGA NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2017
Volume 19, Issue 1

Message from Harry

I would like to start off by thanking the membership for reelecting me to the AMGA board as well as thanking my fellow board members for choosing me to serve another year as your President. I appreciate the confidence and support from you all. I look forward to working with both our newest board and committee chairs as well as with our returning members who continue to work, mostly quietly in the background, on the everyday matters of importance that a large organization such as ours requires.

This past year was a tough one for the AMGA and the coming year will have its own set of challenges. There are any number of unresolved issues with the Cooperative Extension Service that are still pending due to continued budgetary limitations facing the University system. The AMGA will continue to try to stay informed as much as possible as decisions are made by UAF/CES. We will continue to be advocates for maintaining staff and programs at C.E.S. and find ways to respond to the changing circumstances we face. We will need to be as proactive as possible to minimize any further negative impacts to the AMGA and to the Anchorage community.

Regardless of how events unfold at C.E.S., in the coming year I see the AMGA expanding our role in the community. There are a multitude of opportunities to reach out to the public to educate and help teach good gardening practices. We may also find ourselves partnering and coordinating with other civic and gardening organizations to effectively deliver needed services.

I ask you all to consider the various ideas you may have for AMGA in the coming year. In addition to our traditional activities such as the Pioneer Home plantings, our plant sale and summer garden tours, it will be important to know what you would like to see us accomplish in 2017. As we identify opportunities and areas of need, we will be counting on our membership to step up and continue with our long tradition of volunteerism. Please feel free to contact me or other board members if you

have question or suggestions. You can also send any comments to our email address at amga@alaska.net.

A big thank you to all of who have renewed your membership for 2017. I encourage those who haven't yet renewed, to take a few moments to do so. Your support is needed more than ever. We can look forward to a great set of programs and a return to more garden tours this coming summer as well as new opportunities to stay engaged and relevant as an organization.

Best wishes to all in the New Year 2017.
Harry



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Perennial Seed Stratification



It's just a matter of "chilling" seed to break dormancy. In nature, it's done naturally (duh!) with seed dropping and dispersing and going through a winter's cooler season and warming spring temperatures before germinating come spring. With a bit of specific species seed research (read that Googling), you can eventually find the optimum length of chilling and warmth needed for individual species. Of course, with periods like 8 to 12 weeks required for some seeds, with foresight one should already be in the middle of some of these induced periods.



For those like myself with no foresight, there are some 'chilling' tips to mimic the natural stratification cycle in the February 2017 issue of Garden Gate magazine article by Jennifer Howell. (IMO if you don't subscribe, this issue is worth a visit to the magazine racks at your grocery store).

My favorite tip for speeding up the stratification? Ice cubes: Freeze seeds in an ice cube for fast stratification! It's all about the moisture and the cold. Fill ice cube tray half-way full of water and freeze it. Then set it out on the counter for a few minutes just to get a film of water on top of the frozen ice cube. Place 2-4 seeds on each half-cube and carefully add more water to the top of the cube. Refreeze in freezer for two or three days and pop the iced seed cubes out the tray. Push the cubes into potting medium and cover/dust with a bit of potting mix on top if the seed needs to be covered. As the ice melts, the seed will settle in.

Using the ice cube speed-it-up method, the author was able to plant delphinium and columbine seeds in three days instead of after the recommended cold stratification of 2 to 4 weeks! Reportedly both seeds sprouted better than non-chilled seeds and the stratification time was significantly reduced.

**Facing Forward:
Gardening 2017**

Yep, we've bottomed out with the slide into winter darkness and now nowhere to go but up into the light. No more peering out the window at your yard and seeing all those shoulda-woulda-coulda's from last year; it is what it is. Not the time for stalling & procrastination: It's time to move along and face forward into the 2017 growing season.

Continued on page 4

You elected Board members in November; at its December meeting, the Board elected officers and decided on some committee assignments:

President: Harry Deuber got re-elected.
Vice President: Marilyn Barker, newly elected Board member, will be in charge of programs and the grants committee.
Secretary: Sheila Toomey got re-elected, will handle summer garden tour scheduling with help from newly elected Board member Cheryl Chapman.
Treasurer: Cindy Walker. Of course.
At Large Member: Kathy Liska.
Board member Fran Pekar will handle Constant Contact.
Board member Marjorie Williams will head the Hospital-ity Committee.

This should be considered a "skeleton crew," just the beginning of our organization and plans for the near future. We need a Volunteer Coordinator - an important and fun job. And each of the tasks needs volunteers to get things done the way we all want them done.

Thanks to UAF's dismantling of CES in Anchorage, it's going to be a tough year full of battles. We don't want to just survive. Everyone's talent will be needed.

Treasurer's Report January 2017

Balances 10/31/16	
Checking account	14465.12
Savings account	11718.16
	<hr/>
	\$26183.28
Dedicated Funds	\$8503.90

Revenue:	
Education/Fundraising	8.00
Education/ADV MG	315.00
Interest	1.44
Membership	1022.20
	<hr/>
	\$1346.64

Expense:	
Awards/recognition	67.00
Education/Fundraising	184.98
Hospitality	58.07
Operations	49.99
	<hr/>
	\$360.04



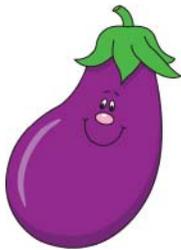
Balances 11/30/16	
Checking account	15450.28
Savings account	11719.60
	<hr/>
	\$27169.88
Dedicated Funds	\$8503.90

Meet the Nightshade (Solanaceae) Family

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Originally published at www.diagnosisdiet.com.

Tomatoes
Tomatillos
Eggplant
Potatoes
Goji Berries
Tobacco
Peppers (bell peppers, chili peppers, paprika, tamales, tomatillos, pimientos, cayenne, etc)



At first glance, the nightshades may look like a random collection of foods that couldn't possibly be related. However, every nightshade plant produces fruits that all sport that same adorable little green elfish hat. Of the foods above, only tomatoes, eggplants, goji berries and peppers are "fruits" (the potato is a tuber and tobacco is a leaf). The fruits of potato

and tobacco plants wear the same telltale hat, but we don't eat the fruits of those plants.

What are glycoalkaloids?

Glycoalkaloids are natural pesticides produced by nightshade plants. Glycoalkaloids are bitter compounds which are found throughout the plant, but their concentrations are especially high in leaves, flowers, and unripe fruits. They are there to defend plants against bacteria, fungi, viruses, and insects.

Cherries, apples, and sugar beets also contain small amounts of glycoalkaloid even though they are not nightshades.

How do glycoalkaloids kill pests?

* Glycoalkaloids act as invisible hand grenades. They bind strongly to the cholesterol in the cell membranes of predators, and in so doing, they disrupt the structure of those membranes, causing cells to leak or burst open upon contact.

* Glycoalkaloids are neurotoxins. They block the enzyme cholinesterase. This enzyme is responsible for breaking down acetylcholine, a vital neurotransmitter that carries signals between nerve cells and muscle cells. When this important enzyme is blocked, acetylcholine can accumulate and electrically overstimulate the predator's muscle cells. This can lead to paralysis, convulsions, respiratory arrest, and death. Military "nerve gases" work exactly the same way.

Ok, so glycoalkaloids are clearly nightmarish compounds for the cells of tiny creatures daring to munch upon nightshade plants, but what do we know about their effects on human health?

Nightshade glycoalkaloid health "benefits"

Health benefits? From a pesticide? Hmm...

Since most people believe plant compounds are good for humans, when scientists conduct experiments with plant extracts, they are more likely to look for health benefits than health risks.

* Glycoalkaloids are anti-inflammatory. Glycoalkaloids have been shown to reduce inflammation in laboratory animals. This is likely due to the fact that glycoalkaloids are structurally similar to compounds called glucocorticoids, which have well-known anti-inflammatory properties. Familiar examples of glucocorticoids include cortisol (our body's natural stress hormone), and Prednisone, a commonly-prescribed anti-inflammatory medicine. It should be noted, however, that just because glycoalkaloids or glucocorticoids can reduce inflammation doesn't mean they are always good for you. Prednisone is not something most of us should be taking every day, because it has numerous damaging side effects, and elevated levels of natural cortisol in our bodies weaken our immune system and slow our metabolism.

* Glycoalkaloids kill bacteria and viruses. It should also not be surprising that glycoalkaloids have been shown in laboratory studies to possess antibiotic and antiviral properties, since this is what nature designed them for.

* Glycoalkaloids have anti-cancer properties. In laboratory (in vitro) studies, glycoalkaloids can trigger cancer cells to self-destruct. This process is called "apoptosis." Unfortunately, they can also cause healthy non-cancerous cells to do the same thing. Cancer studies in live animals and humans (in vivo) have not yet been conducted. The problem with so many anti-cancer plant compounds is that they are double-edged swords, killing both cancer cells and healthy cells alike:

"...the undifferentiating destruction of both cancer and noncancerous cell lines...leads to questions of therapeutic uses of glycoalkaloids due to safety considerations. However, it is difficult to translate the results of an in vivo trial in vitro. Therefore, both animal and human experiments are essential to confirm or disprove the in vivo data observed in these studies." [Milner 2011].

To read the rest of the article, please visit:

<http://www.diagnosisdiet.com/nightshades/>

Growing Young Gardeners: Lessons We've Learned By Amy Reed

It is so hard to believe that 2016 is already coming to a close! It is amazing to look at my yard and think that a year ago, the greenhouse was a gravel pad and the root garden was a frozen patch of lawn. So much has gone into this past year's gardening efforts, and many lessons have been learned.

The first lesson we learned was to actually read the directions on the back of the seed packet. They aren't merely suggestions of the seed sown depth and spacing. I have a tendency to sow seeds like I cook; a pinch here and a dash there. You wonder why my garden rows were very crooked and beets were sown in with the potatoes. It also helps to actually supervise children when they are "helping" with the seed sowing. Row markers came in very handy to remind us what we were actually growing!

Secondly, it is very important to actually thin the carrots. Do not think of it as killing the puny ones, but merely giving room for others to flourish. My child and I didn't have the heart to thin them, as we weren't exactly sure which ones would be the best choice to pull. The carrots all looked like they had a fighting chance. However, when it came time to harvest, we realized our mistake in not thinning. My daughter had a blast pulling out the four and five legged mutant carrots!

The third lesson learned this year was to make canning a social activity. There is nothing more disheartening than battling steaming canning jars over a hot stove with beet-stained hands on a 70 degree summer day while everyone else is playing in the sunshine. It can make a person turn "beet red" (no pun intended). Put one friend to work dicing and slicing, another manning the sterilization station, while another friend watches over the canning process. Provide lots of wine and take-home gifts of said canned product, and it is a win-win situation!

Finally, the "November 1st" bird feeder filling date IS a suggestion, not a fast and hard rule. Where I live, I am about two weeks ahead in winter, so I thought it was safe to put out some seed and suet. The bears had to be asleep, right? November 1st, I dutifully filled my new feeder and suet holder in a tree near the driveway. November 2nd at 1:00 a.m. our security cameras captured a BIG black bear mosey past the back of the house and stop at our front door. At daylight, I inspected our birdfeeder, which was as licked completely clean and the suet holder was on the ground empty. The bear had decided to leave a big plop of thanks on the path next to the driveway. So, lesson learned that bears don't watch the calendar for hibernation. The birds were very angry I had teased them with food the previous day as well!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all fellow Master Gardeners and your families! Let's resolve to continue to sow, nourish, and reap the many lessons we can learn in our gardens this next coming year!

Winter Musings...cont. from page 2

2017 seed catalogs are arriving, websites have online catalogs posted just waiting for your garden googling. Seed racks will shortly be visible everywhere. There are some great local gardeners who will be starting seeds for tomatoes and artichokes in about 3 weeks. Get ready, get set, GO!

Gardening magazines for spring 2017

Anyone have recommendations for interesting articles? How about sharing with a Google Group post? Now is the time many magazines will introduce their recommends for the coming season, new plants for 2017, etc.

Noted this past week: Garden Gate February 2017 issue. Great 6 page spread with pictures on hardy hibiscus, zones 4-9. Hmmm, intriguing thought. Maybe we'll see them in the local nurseries this year.

Hardy Hibiscus

They are part of a confusing group of plants called Hibiscus, rose mallow, althea, rose of sharon, giant mallow, swamp mallow and other names. The confusion? The genus Hibiscus has both tropical and non-tropical species.



'Sunshine Hardy Hibiscus'
Photo from Amazon.com

The "hardy hibiscus" are the non-tropicals. Hybridized from wildflowers and native plants, these are yard subshrubs; although woody in summer, they are herbaceous perennials that die back to the ground each year. Some cultivars are winter-hardy northern USDA zone 4 locations.



Luna Red cold hardy hibiscus
[internet photo]

Taxonomically the most hardy are generally Hibiscus moscheutos hybrids. Do a bit of Googling to learn more - and treat yourself to Googling images to see some spectacular pictures of some of these hybrid cultivars' huge-sized flowers!

Seeds to start in January

By Gina Docherty

Wait a minute! Starting seeds in January? That means that you will have to tend and care for plants for at least 4 months indoors! That's a lot of watering, transplanting & space issues inside your house to deal with. Not to mention that it's probably not healthy for an outdoor plant to try surviving inside your low light, little temperature variation, low air flow home for 4 long months.

Many commercial greenhouses start plants in January to be sold or planted in their gardens in late spring or early summer. That's great, since they have all the necessary requirements, like a heated greenhouse, fans, grow lights and paid staff to do all the work. Most of us don't have this luxury.

The best thing to do in January is to plan your garden. What vegetables are you going to plant and where will they go? What flowers do you want to start from seed? Now is the time to look through garden catalogs and pick out the vegetable and flower varieties you want.

Remember that local green houses and plant stores cater to the larger public besides master gardeners in the know! Not all veggie or flower varieties will be found locally, and those that are may not be the type of vegetable you want. Consider how many of each you will plant. Perhaps one or two market packs ready to put in the ground might be more practical than four months of your time and effort tending seeds for only a few plants. January is a good time for ordering seeds.

Most seed packages tell you to 'start your seeds indoors [X] weeks before the last frost in your area'. In Anchorage, the last frost date has traditionally been Memorial Day, May 30th. However, with global warming, this could just be a general term, as one could presumably plant outdoors much earlier. So pick a date in May that you think you will be transplanting into your garden, or hardening off, and count back the weeks from that date.

Some seeds can be started in January; for example, herbs and onion seeds. Many herbs are perennials, so they will require a longer time to germinate and grow than annuals. Late January through mid-February is a great time to start your onion seeds indoors, unless you're ordering onion sets by mail. Let the onions grow to 5-6 inches tall and cut tops off so they will be only 3 inches. Repeating this until they are transplanted helps strengthen the roots and health of the onions.

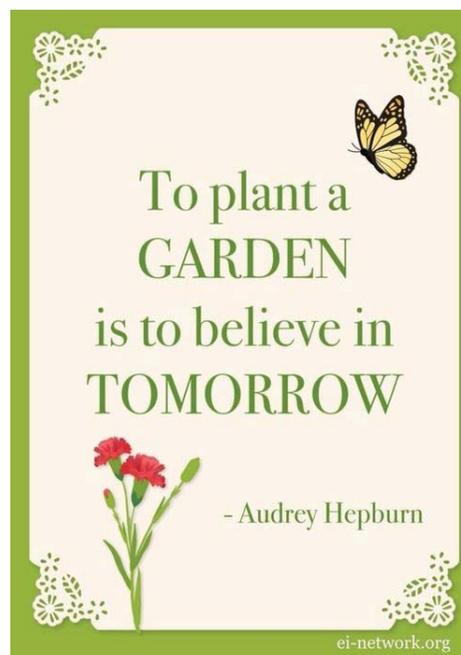
Many perennials can be started now, as well as a few annuals. I know of one gardener who started tomatoes in January - she had ripe tomatoes (in her greenhouse) in June!

A word of advice: don't grow things you don't want to eat, or don't like. There is no point in this - it won't give you any satisfaction or make you happy. But do plant a row for the hungry if you can. There are numerous places you can take your extra produce & share with the not so fortunate.

A few other seeds to consider starting this month:

- Antirrhinum (snap dragon) needs a long growth period before flowering, so sow in a propagator now for good results.
- Sow Begonia, Geranium (Pelargonium) and Dianthus (Carnations/Pinks) indoors now as they are slow to flower from seed.
- Laurentia (Isotoma) make fantastic container plants for the summer.
- Try growing your own Lobelia for bedding, containers and hanging baskets.
- Pansies can be started off indoors now, for a colorful summer display.
- Sweet Peas can be started in gentle heat now. [remember: they like to climb, but can be pinched to encourage branching!]
- Try growing something exotic from seed to lift winter blues!
- Salad leaves and spinach can be grown on a bright windowsill indoors for tasty early greens.
- Not a seed, but if you didn't get any garlic started, you can always start some now in 4 inch pots. Water them in well, put them out in the garden and cover them with snow. Plant them in your beds next spring after they sprout.

You can do the same thing with Asiatic lily bulbs when they appear in the big box stores three months before you can plant them outdoors.





Bird Chatter

IN CASE . . . you were wondering: A guy named Steve Brown is the new Julie Riley.

Hey, just kidding. As expected, Julie is not being replaced. As feared, the new, not-bad CES offices on Bragaw Street are mostly empty and mostly closed. Horticultural expertise is no longer available to half the population of Alaska.

However, if you go to the UAF CES Website and click your way down the rabbit hole through Gardening to Alaska Master Gardener, to Programs, to the third paragraph, "Course Contacts," to another page, you'll find out Steve Brown is now the "contact" for Anchorage, Eagle River and Girdwood. What does "contact" mean in the revisionist CES dictionary? Who knows. Here's what else Steve is, according to the website: "Steve Brown is the District Agriculture and Natural Resources Cooperative Extension Service Agent for the Mat-Su/Copper River District of Alaska. His subject matter specialties are the twin geospatial technologies of the Global Positioning System (GPS) and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as they relate to agriculture and the environment."

Rumor is Dr. Brown was surprised to find out 300,000 people had been added to his work load.

UNDER THE TREE . . . On a happier note, BC got a cool chrome counter compost container for Christmas -- small, filter sealed top, kind of pretty -- a solution to the last "problem" with becoming a new composter: having to carry scraps down to the back of the garden after every meal. (It was never going to happen). This prompted BC to ask who else got garden-related gifts: Janice Berry got a pair of nice gardening gloves from a co-worker. "Us gardeners can NEVER have too many gardening gloves, right? They're like socks -- always getting lost!" Diane Kaplan got garden art -- a 5-foot birdhouse -- and a cookbook with new ideas for fresh vegetables. That counts, right? Dana Klinkhart received gardener's hand soap. "I'm hoping it makes my hands turn young again," she joked. Jane Baldwin's pals figured Jane knew best what she needed so they gave her a bunch of gift cards -- to Mill & Feed, Bells, Home Depot and Lowes. Lucky Jane! And no doubt lots of other good stuff got gotten. So, is it too early to be thinking about gardens? Check it out -- the days are getting longer.

Happy New Year from Bird Chatter!

Herb Study Group

By Elaine Hammes



Photo by Elaine Hammes as people stepped on them. In 17th Century France, potpourri came about as fresh flowers and herbs were gathered during summer, layered and stirred with salt into a fermented, often moldy mixture. In autumn, spices and fixatives were added to make aromatic mixtures for decorated pots to perfume rooms. Modern potpourri concoctions may also include natural or synthetic materials, perfumes and dyes.

Debbie Hinchey provided fascinating facts, hints, recipes and samples in her presentation on potpourri, also known as "sweet jar." Both dry and moist potpourris and other variations may be prepared for refreshing, sensual, seasonal, holiday or other benefits. Fragrances and colors may be obtained from leaves, resins, flowers, and other plant materials such as rosemary, thyme, frankincense, myrrh, citrus peels, forget-me-nots, geraniums, marigolds, baby's breath, nasturtium and poppies. Essential oils can add scent and numerous non-plant materials can be used for textures, scents and colors.

Salt and sugar are used as preservatives for moist types of potpourri. Fixatives reduce the evaporation rate and increase the shelf life of volatile scents. Examples of effective fixatives (which may also provide scent) include orris root, oak moss, cellulose fiber, dry lavender, nutmeg. Vodka, brandy or rubbing alcohol may recharge scents. Desiccants are often used to preserve color. Potpourri may be saved in closed glass or enamel containers (not metal or plastic) to preserve or open to the air to deliver scent. Sachets in mesh materials and pomanders (example provided by Gina Docherty) are other ways to provide fragrance. Our thanks to Debbie, Gina and all who provided a wide variety of samples for enjoyment and collection so we can make our own potpourri concoctions.

Remember the next Herb Study Group (HSG) meeting is on Friday, Jan. 13, 2017. Julie Riley will be here in Anchorage, in person, to report on Cilantro after her extended research and analyses through several growing seasons.

Guest Authors Wanted!

Some people fear writing articles as much as public speaking.

This fear is often accompanied by a variety of physical and emotional reactions that can significantly interfere with a person's ability to successfully give a speech or presentation, including intense feelings of anxiety, worry, nervousness, trembling or shaking, sweating, and/or dizziness. Public Speaking Anxiety - University of Wisconsin-Stout www.uwstout.edu/counsel/speechanxiety.cfm

It's not that bad, really. If there is a topic that interests you, do the research and share your findings! If you find an interesting article on line, please share. There are several of us who will gladly help out with proper editing.

It has been a real challenge finding something interesting to present to our readers. But there are so many interesting topics out there to choose from!

For example: Have you read a good book, related to gardening? Did you have a favorite plant that you've grown or researched and found out something that interested you & might interest others? Did you visit a garden that really did something for you? Do you have a funny story to share about gardening? Did you find a great article on line that we can reprint? Oftentimes, websites will let you share articles if it is for a nonprofit group (which we are).

You don't have to be a published author, a newspaper writer, or a scholar to share information with our group. We are all about learning, and everything is relevant. A column in this newsletter will hold about 350 words, less if a photo is shared. We're always interested.

So please, if you feel the desire to share some educational or entertaining information about gardening or growing, or plants or whatever, we'd love to hear from you!



**AMGA Meeting,
Monday, January 16
will be held at the BP
Energy Center, Seward
Highway & Benson Blvd.,
NOT AT THE CES!**

**AMGA's Monthly Meeting:
Annual Meeting with a talk
by Monica Emerton of Green
Connections on
"House Plants".
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at the BP
Energy Center, Seward Hy
and Benson Blvd, Anchorage.**

Garden Event Calendar

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Tuesday, January 3

Valley Garden Club Monthly Meeting: English Gardens: Memories and Photos by Robin Ouellette. 10:30 am at the First Baptist Church on Leatherleaf and Bogard Road. Details at: <http://www.valleygardenclub.com/>.

Monday, January 9

**Ak Native Plant Society Monthly Meeting: Patagonia by Dennis and Annie Ronsse. Mini-Botany: Mertensia drummondii Mike Monterusso; Plant Family: Phyllodoce and Cassiope by Annie Ronsse. 7:00 pm at Campbell Science Center, Anchorage. Details at: <http://aknps.org/Pages/Meetings.php>.

**Mat-Su Master Gardener's Monthly Meeting: How to Apply for NRCS EQIP Program to Install a High Tunnel by Craig Smith, NRCS. 7:00 pm at MTA Building, Palmer. Details at: <http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/calendar-of-events.html>.

Thursday, January 12

Wildflower Garden Club Meeting: Alaska's Butterflies by Rick Sinnott. 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Central Lutheran Church, 1420 Cordova Street. Details at: <http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org/apps/calendar/>.

Friday, January 13

Herb Study Group: Cilantro Presentation by Julie Riley. 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm at Anchorage Cooperative Extension Service, Chugachmiut Building, Room 119, 1840 Bragaw Street, Anchorage.

Monday, January 16

AMGA Monthly Meeting: Annual Meeting and "House Plants" by Monica Emerton of Green Connections. 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm at the BP Energy Center, Seward Hy and Benson Blvd, Anch.

Saturday, January 21

Alaska Rock Garden Society Monthly Meeting: Flora of South Africa by Les Brake. 2:00 pm in the Basement of the MTA Building, 480 Commercial Drive, Palmer.

Tuesday, January 24

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, WORKSHOPS and CONFERENCES

January - May, 2017

Online Permaculture Cold Climate Course. Topics include Permaculture Ethics and Principles, Soil Building, Cold Climate Gardening Strategies and Other Relevant Cold Climate Gardening Topics. Tuition is \$1100 and includes expert instruction, an internationally recognized certificate and an opportunity to meet and learn from Alaskans across the state. Details at: <http://alaskanpermaculture.com/>.

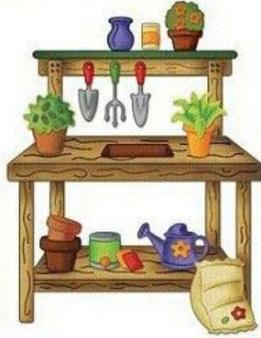
Thursday - Sunday, January 26 - 29

Alaska Peony Growers Annual Peony Conference. Westmark Hotel, Fairbanks. Details at: <http://www.alaskapeonyconference.com/>.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 22

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



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

Meetings are held at the
Anchorage Cooperative Extension Office
Chugachmiut Building
Suite 100
1840 Bragaw St.
Anchorage, AK 99508

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/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:
ak.jbaldwin@gmail.com

AMGA Board of Directors

Harry Deuber	President
Marilyn Barker	Vice President
Cindy Walker	Treasurer
Sheila Toomey	Secretary
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
Broadcast Email:	Fran Pekar
Calendar of Events:	Martha Farris
Advanced MG:	Ginny Moore
Directory Editor:	Janice Berry
Programs:	Marilyn Barker
Field Trips:	Sheila Toomey
Google Group:	Mary Rydesky
Hospitality:	Marjorie Williams
Volunteer Coordinator:	Undetermined
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
907-440-6372

