

Happy Anniversary!

This year marks the 40th anniversary
of the first Master Gardener course
taught in Alaska! (see page 4)

President's Message

Now that February has arrived it is almost time for us hibernating gardener bears to start waking up for another season. For sure the days are still short and the nights are still long but the first racks of seeds and the first pots of spring bulbs are showing up in local stores and nurseries. I passed up the opportunity this week to purchase a few pots of primulas and daffodils but that won't be the case next time I chance upon them.

Our AMGA board, committee members and volunteers from our membership are in the beginning stage of planning for the upcoming year and beyond. A group of us met at the Bells Nursery coffee shop recently for a first meeting to discuss the 2019 Statewide MG Conference to be held in Anchorage. Decisions such as the location, a date, themes and speakers need to be discussed early on. Hosting a successful conference involves a commitment by many and we welcome others to join us in our planning by leading or joining one of the several committees tasked with specific duties.

A volunteer committee has been formed to help better organize and streamline our volunteer process. Hopefully this will enable us to make the best use of our volunteers' time and interests. Our goal is to keep our existing line up of annual events successful as well as expand our educational outreach to the community.

The Pioneer Home gang has already been designing, ordering plants and planning for another year of beautiful display beds. AMGA will be partnering with C.E.S. during Fur Rondy again this year with a table at Sears Mall staffed by Master Gardener volunteers. This is the first of a number of outreach opportunities at various public events in the coming year.

Winter greens. Photo by Ginger Hudson



AMGA will be offering educational and project grants this year. Rules and applications can be found on our website and Facebook page.

Did you know that this year marks the 40th anniversary of the first Master Gardener course taught in Alaska? It was held in Anchorage and we are looking for ideas to help celebrate the occasion. In case you haven't heard yet, there will be a MG course in Anchorage this year in the fall. Now THAT calls for a celebration!

The February membership meeting returns to the C.E.S. Outreach Center this month with our traditional potluck and seed exchange. We usually have no problem with the potluck part but please take an extra look to see if you have seeds to share so that we have a nice selection. It's also a good chance to recycle some of your old gardening magazines for others to enjoy. No photo sharing this year, instead we will have a program by our Hort. Agent Dr. Stephen Brown. This is a great opportunity for some to meet Steve for the first time. Hope to see many of you at an upcoming meeting—it is time to come out of our winter hibernation!

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2017 Annual Report Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage (AMGA)

2017 has been yet another transitional year for AMGA as we have adjusted to our first full year without a local Horticulture Agent. A downsized staff and reduced office hours at the local C.E.S. Outreach Center contributed to a sense of disconnect in the AMGA/CES relationship. The unexpected cancellation of yet another MG course was a major disappointment for AMGA and the loss of a new group of Master Gardeners resulted in a decline in overall membership levels for the year.

In 2017 we held 8 membership meetings with a variety of topics of interest. In June, July and August we returned to having our popular weekly garden tours. Many thanks to our speakers for sharing their knowledge and to our hosts for sharing their gardens.

Twelve newsletters were published in 2017. Gina Docherty retired from the position of editor after 20 years. Her dedication and commitment will always be appreciated. Our new editor Ginger Hudson, will bring many skills and much enthusiasm to the position in 2018. Thank you so much Gina, and a warm welcome to Ginger.

The 2017 AMGA membership directory was published and distributed in late January.

In February AMGA joined with C.E.S. for Fur Rondy by staffing an Info/Ask-a-Master Gardener booth over two weekends at Sears Mall. This was followed up again in April at the Sears Mall Spring Garden Show. AMGA also held a successful plant sale at the event.

In addition to the many individual Master Gardener volunteers working throughout the community, the AMGA provided a number of classes and workshops in seed starting, container gardening and food production. New this year was volunteering to adopt the Heritage Garden at ABG, which included helping with planting, maintaining, interacting with visitors and participating in Harvest Day.

The Anchorage Pioneer Home had yet another year of outstanding display garden beds designed, planted and maintained by AMGA volunteers. The addition of more perennial plantings along with the usual annuals were quite beautiful and continue to be enjoyed and appreciated by residents and visitors alike. Thank you Erma MacMillan for the wonderful re-design and coordination of these gardens over the past three years.

AMGA held our 4th late summer plant sale in August at a new location: the ABC/Benny Benson parking lot. The support of helpful staff from ABG and their facilities, along with our many volunteers, overflowing tables of plants, workshops and demos contributed to an overall successful sale. A committee met afterwards to discuss lessons learned this year and ideas for improvements for our 2018 sale.

Board elections were held by voice vote at the November membership meeting. New member Don Bladow was elected. Kathy Liska, Fran Pekar and Marjorie Williams were re-elected to the board.

The lack of space at the C.E.S. Outreach Center and the desire to consolidate AMGA belongings led to a decision to rent a heated secured storage unit at Publix Self Storage on DeBarr Road.

The annual financial audit for 2017 was completed and a new operating budget for 2018 was approved by the board.

A "Rah-Rah-Reaching Out" committee was established to brainstorm ideas to increase membership, reconnect with and engage current members, and increase our visibility in the community. A membership survey is being prepared for early 2018, a Facebook page has been created by the committee, and a newly expanded committee is working to better organize AMGA volunteer efforts.

AMGA ended the year with a record of accomplishments and in sound financial condition. Our membership continues to share our time and expertise throughout the community. A number of organizational issues that are in need of improvement have been identified and will be addressed in the new year.

Submitted by Harry Deuber-AMGA President

Treasurer's Report

Balances 11/30/2017

Checking account	7115.35
Savings account	<u>11737.30</u>
	\$18852.65
Dedicated Funds	8608.71
Interest Bearing CD	<u>10092.75</u>
	\$18701.46
Revenue:	
Donation	118.25
Interest	59.95
Membership	<u>2068.74</u>
	\$2246.94
Expense:	
Newsletter	18.24
Operations	139.99
Website	<u>300.00</u>
	\$458.23

Balances 12/31/2017

Checking account	8844.11
Savings account	<u>11738.79</u>
	\$20582.90
Dedicated Funds	8635.37
Interest Bearing CD	<u>10124.55</u>
	\$18759.92

Herb Study Group: *Tagetes* (Marigolds)

By Elaine Hammes

The Herb Study Group enjoyed a special off-site meeting at the Alaska Botanical Garden (ABG) greenhouse in January. Robin Dublin, outgoing Executive Director, and Mike Monterusso, new Executive Director of ABG, both welcomed the group. The greenhouse was filled with wonderful natural light and views of the winter garden.

Discussion of four (of more than fifty accepted) species of the genus *Tagetes* (Marigolds) was lead by Susan Miller and Elaine Hammes. *Tagetes* originated mainly in Mexico, Central and South America, and have been naturalized worldwide. Their petals make yellow dye, secretions from their roots are effective against nematodes and essential oils are used in making perfume.

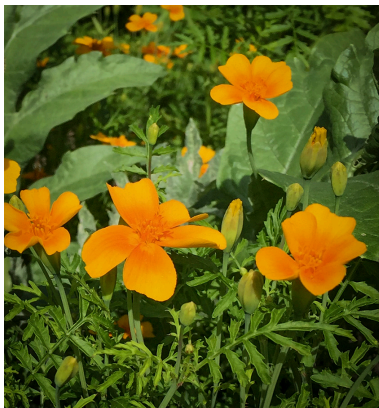
Tagetes erecta is often called African or Mexican Marigold. Its uses, mainly in the Americas, Nepal, and India have been for medicinal, ceremonial, and decorative purposes. Lutein and zeaxanthin from petals are used in medicinal supplements. Lutein is also used as a coloring agent and nutrient supplement in a wide variety of food products.

Tagetes tenuifolia is also called the Signet Marigold. Its petals (minus white part near stem) taste like spicy tarragon and are dried for tea. *Tagetes patula* is also known as the French marigold and includes a large variety of cultivars, many of which were developed in France. The fresh or dried leaves of *Tagetes lucida* or Mexican Tarragon are used as a tarragon substitute for flavoring soups and sauces. Its dried leaves and flower heads are used to brew a pleasant anise-flavored tea. The dried plant is burnt as incense and to repel insects.

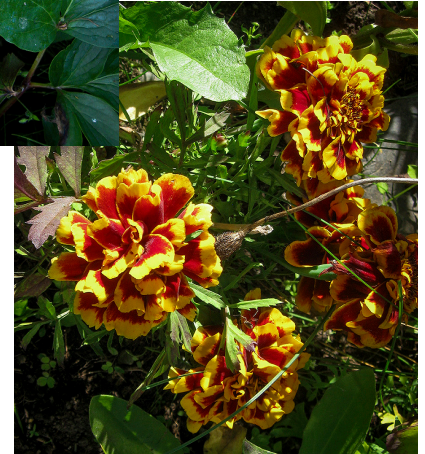
Cultivars of *T. erecta*, *T. tenuifolia* and *T. patula* are widely offered by many seed companies, generally for decorative and landscape uses. Fewer varieties of *T. lucida* are available, more for culinary use. The flowers of *T. erecta* are usually larger doubles of single colors, nearly white to yellow and orange, on plants up to four feet tall. *T. tenuifolia* varieties have small single flowers of colors ranging from yellow to red. *T. patula* cultivars have an extremely broad range of double, semi-double, and crested flowers from yellow to maroon, with many mixed colors. Most *Tagetes* are easy to grow with a long flowering season!

Next meeting: Friday, February 2, the topic is Chervil, lead by Marjorie Williams.
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm at
Anchorage Cooperative
Extension Service,
Chugachmiut Building,
1840 Bragaw Street.
Anyone interested is
welcome to attend.

Tagetes tenuifolia,
Marigold 'Orange Gem'
Photo by Ginger Hudson



Tagetes (Marigolds) provide color in the Herb Garden at Alaska Botanical Garden, summer 2017. Photo by Susan Miller



Abbreviated References for *Tagetes*

Numerous seed company websites: Baker Creek, Botanical Interests, Burpee, Gurney's, Outside Pride, Park, Renee's, Richters, Salt Springs, Seedaholic, Seedman, Seeds of Change, Suttons, Swallowtail, Veseys
UAF Cooperative Extension Pamphlet HGA-00137:
A "Starter Kit" of Edible Flowers for the Garden and Table
Barash, Cathy Wilkinson. *Edible Flowers from Garden to Palate*
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tagetes>
https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Tagetes_lucida
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fasciation_\(for_“crested”_marigolds_\(Encyclopedia_of_Life_map_of_world_locations_of_](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fasciation_(for_"crested"_marigolds_(Encyclopedia_of_Life_map_of_world_locations_of_Tagetes_erecta)))
www.eol.org/pages/503421/maps
<https://www.nybg.org/plant-research-and-conservation/>
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/50130985#page/116/mode/1up>
<http://www.theplantlist.org/1.1/about/#gcc>
<http://www.hortmag.com>
<https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/all/tagetes-patula/>
<http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=277481&isprofile=1&basic=Tagetes%20patula>
http://www.scielo.cl/scielo.php?script=sci_arttext&pid=S0717-66432015000100016
Morphometric characterization of floral structures *Tagetes erecta* L and *Tagetes patula* L. (Asteraceae) using digital image analysis and fractal dimension
<https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/search?searchTerm=Tagetes+patula#/sections>
Biodiversity Library; Scanned 2006, Carl Linnaeus Collection, 1753
<http://www.ipni.org>, International Plant Names Index
<http://www.plantsoftheworldonline.org/?q=Tagetes+patula>
<http://www.herbalpedia.com/index.html>
<http://tropical.theferns.info/viewtropical.php?id=Tagetes+patula>
<http://flora.huh.harvard.edu/fna/>

Celebrate Alaska Master Gardener's 40th!

Call for Submissions of AMGA Memories from the Past 40 Years

The first Alaska Master Gardener training was conducted in 1978 in Anchorage. There were 13 students trained as Master Gardeners that year.

Were you a part of that year's program, or know someone who was? We'd love to hear from you! Whether it's one sentence or one page, whether it's a memory of your first year or tenth, it's time to share with those that have come after. We all appreciate the time and effort each MG has dedicated to this valuable program.

Throughout this year the newsletter will feature stories of the growth of the MG program. If you are reading this, it's because of you that MGs continue to thrive and help Alaskans get the best out of their gardens.

The Alaska Master Gardeners **Anchorage** celebrated 25 years of existence in December, 2012. There are currently over 300 members. send stories to: newsletteramga@gmail.com



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Gardening Services

Attention Produce Growers!

The State of Alaska is hosting a *Produce Safety Alliance* Grower Training. This FDA-approved course satisfies the Grower Training curriculum requirements under the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule.

When: Wednesday February 21st, 2018; 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Where: Palmer Library, 655 S. Valley Way, Palmer AK

Cost: There is **NO-CHARGE** for class participants. Funding is provided by an FDA-State of Alaska Cooperative Agreement. Growers will receive a FREE certificate of attendance for completing the course.

Who: Commercial fruit & vegetable growers, farmers' market vendors, and all others interested in learning about produce safety, the FDA Produce Safety Rule, and good agricultural practices should attend.

Participants will gain a basic understanding of:

- Microorganisms relevant to produce safety and where they may be found on the farm;
- How to identify microbial risks, practices that reduce risks, and how to begin implementing food safety practices on your farm; and
- Requirements of the FDA Produce Safety Rule and how to meet them

This class covers these seven modules:

- Introduction to Produce Safety
- Worker Health, Hygiene, and Training
- Soil Amendments
- Wildlife, Domesticated Animals, and Land Use
- Agricultural Water (Part I: Production Water; Part II: Postharvest Water)
- Postharvest Handling and Sanitation
- How to Develop a Farm Food Safety Plan

To register or for more information, please contact:

Barbara Hanson, DEC Office of the State Veterinarian
(907) 375-8278 or barbara.hanson@alaska.gov



Stay Connected

AMGA Facebook Page - Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage - Cindy Walker and Kathy Liska created this page to promote our group activities and broadcast gardening information to more people. www.facebook.com/Alaska-Master-Gardeners-Anchorage

A '**Suggestion Box**' has appeared at the monthly meetings. If you have a suggestion, good or bad, please fill out the form & put in the box. A response is guaranteed.

An "**AMGA Gift Membership**" form is available online and at the meetings. Consider 'gifting' a membership to someone who would enjoy the benefits of belonging to our group.

AMGA now has a 'donation' form on the website. If you want to donate to our organization, it's easy and secure.

Sign up for next year's Master Gardener class on the CES Anchorage website:
<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/districts/anchorage/MG/>

AMGA and ABG educational and signage partnership on the horizon. Stay tuned!



In Memoriam

Annie Nevaldine, MG 94/95, November 12, 1948 - January 8, 2018

Anne Nevaldine, Ph.D., known to us as Annie, passed away at her home on January 8. She will be remembered as a fabulous gardener, an accomplished macro-photographer, an engaging speaker, an educator, and a friend.

Her beautiful flower beds were packed full of perennials and unusual annuals. Always generous, Annie would open her garden for others to enjoy. These could be elaborate 'tea party' affairs with invitations sent as though from the flowers, or simple come-by-and-see-the-garden events.

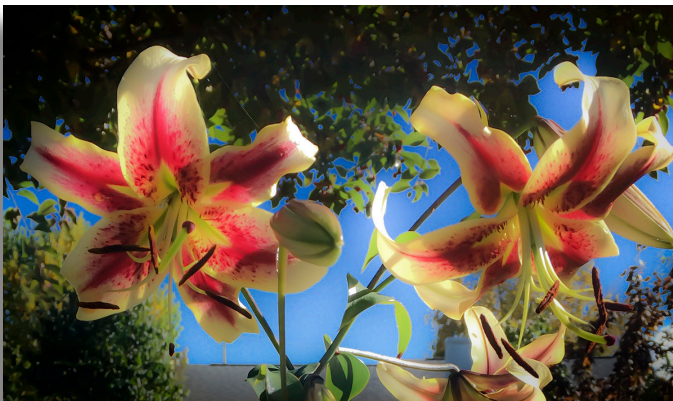
Master Gardeners will remember her as one of the most engaging Mistress of Ceremonies for her service during the 2016 Annual Conference in Anchorage. Her astute skill for understand her community was displayed by her touching ability to connect lives as the Mistress of Ceremonies last year at Verna Pratt's memorial.

Her contributions to the Master Gardeners included many presentations and participation in field trips. She will most fondly be thought of as "The Lily Lady." Annie introduced us to species that thrive best in our climate including Asiatics and Martagons.

Annie's energy was distributed among many hobbies and groups. She was a master swimmer, an avid kayaker and hiker, had many walking buddies, and belonged to a knitting circle. She was known as "Auntie Annie" to several generations of her friend's children. She had a special bond with cats—her own and those she pet-sat. As a professional psychologist, and dedicated friend, her loss is mourned by clients and loved ones throughout the world.

Annie visited Alaska nearly fifty years ago and fell in love. She left to fetch her belongings and returned to stay. Her first degree was in Home Economics and she worked for Cooperative Extension before moving on to study psychology. Her love of plants, gardening, and conservation led Annie to the Master Gardeners, the Wildflower Garden Club, the Orchid Society and the Native Plant Society. She was a supporter of the Anchorage Library Foundation, The Greatland Trust, and the Anchorage Symphony Orchestra.

Includes contributions from Borealis, the newsletter of the Alaska Native Plant Society. Apologies from the editor for omissions or errors.



Lilium spp., 'Scheherazade'
Photo by Ginger Hudson

Volunteer Opportunities

AMGA Calendar Events

Coordinator: Do you have a couple of hours to research and jot down all the local gardening events for the AMGA Newsletter? Your fellow garden friends who have children or work full time will love you for it! Contact Harry Deuber denali542@yahoo.com or Ginger Hudson, newsletteramga@gmail.com

AMGA summer 2018 Garden Tours Coordinator

Do you like finding special gardens and helping to showcase them? Do you have friends whose gardens you want to bring some attention to? It's fun to meet new gardeners and get the first look at their creations! Interested? Contact amga@alaska.net

Alaska Botanical Garden: Help organize or volunteer at the Spring Garden Conference. Contact Stacey Shriner at ABG, 770-3692

Fur Rondy Ask a Master Gardener at the Sears Mall, February 24-25, and March 3-4. Answer gardening questions at the CES/AMGA booth. Sign up through the new SignUp Genius or 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, Joyce haljoy@gci.net, or Lynne Opstad: lopstad@gci.net

Instructors needed on topics such as Seed Starting, Organic Soil Amendments, Vegetable Gardening, etc. Contact Harry Deuber: 440-6372 denali542@yahoo.com

There are many benefits of being an AMGA volunteer! It is an opportunity to make new gardening friends, have fun, and be involved. Your efforts are appreciated!

A volunteer interest form has been created on line. When you fill this Google Form out, it will automatically be sent to the Volunteer Committee and you will be contacted when needed.

Here is the link:

<https://goo.gl/forms/FutOWGNye9KPWKd63>

Bird Chatter

REALITY. . . . In a word, it kind of sucks at the moment. As filtered by BC's bird brain, it's really cold, dark most of the day, usually dreary the rest, and the notable social event of January was a memorial service for one of our nicest, most talented, most generous members, who decided she had to leave us early.

So how come my damn Kaffir lily just keeps growing until it now threatens to break its pot? (That's *Clivia miniola* to you purists). Why do the pelargonium I decided to bring indoors last fall—and then neglected until they're tall and skinny—keep popping out new (small) leaves? Why have nursery catalogs starting piling up in the mailbox—Territorial is especially seductive. And, is that really sun shining through the (dirty) plant window?

Can it be true we're already gaining five minutes of light per day—it'll be six by the end of the month? Yes, life goes on in all its frustrating, fascinating complexity. So, time to start getting ready for whatever is coming:

TAKING STOCK. . . . Member (and new Board member) Don Bladow has weighed up the results of last year's "farm" on West Northern Lights Blvd. and is looking toward to next year's planting.

"The harvest for the summer of 2017 was about 2,750 pounds," Don tells BC. "Biggest harvest was cabbage at 763.5 pounds; next was potatoes at 510; then turnips at 416. The peppers weren't as successful as 2016 but the ones that I got were quite tasty."

A lot of us visited Don's garden last year and checked out his raised-bed (hip-high covered boxes) experiment to lengthen the season so he could grow things like peppers outside. "Only had a harvest of 5 pounds on the peppers. . . got 15 pounds last year from only one box. But the experiment goes on. Already planning the garden for 2018."



It does.

READY, SET. . . . Board member Kathy Liska lists her February gardening tasks as follows: Finish repotting houseplants. And, "I've started weekly treks out to the greenhouse to bring in cell packs, small pots & flats to wash and sterilize for the upcoming season. Also brought in a bale of Pro Mix to thaw for seed starting which I will start in just a few short weeks!"

So, is the message clear? Time to check the garage, greenhouse or shed and get started planning for seed-starting, which begins for most of us in a few weeks.

A NEW WRINKLE. . . . or wrinkle eraser: ABC is holding a "Spa night" on February 28th. Sounds kind of off-message for them, but not really. You'll drink herbal tea and make a face mask, skin toner and moisturizer out of natural (plant) ingredients—presumably ones you can grow. It costs \$40 and you have to register ahead of time, but BC loves the instruction in the ad: "Please come with a clean face."

FINALLY. . . . A word about the Annie Nevaldine remembrance on Jan. 20th: The fact that Annie committed suicide, and no one knows why, gave it an angst beyond our usual good-bye to colleagues and friends. The fact that she did it on the one-year anniversary of Vernas Pratt's natural death just added to the mystery. In spite of all that—or perhaps because of it—those who attended agreed it was as comforting as possible. Speakers ranged from intense to funny. The food was good. It was nice to see Julie Riley, a close friend of Annie's, who came down from Fairbanks to help deal with things. And mourners got to take home an orchid.

"I brought it in to work," one MG told BC, "and am looking at it now. It's a reminder—not of Annie—but of a life worth living, if that makes sense."

AMGA Board Meeting Summary: January 8

At January's regular monthly AMGA Board meeting, Treasurer Cindy Walker reported that the organization stayed well within its projected 2017 budget, and that funds from a \$3,455.26 CD maturing in July 2018 will be placed in the general fund.

This fall will mark the first Master Gardener class in Anchorage in two years, to be conducted by Steve Brown, CES Agriculture/Horticulture agent. The 2018 MG Membership Directory is making good progress, with a push for publication around the end of January.

MG Board members Fran Pekar and Don Bladow are working with a program called Sign-Up Genius to help better organize our volunteer efforts. A letter from the Board to new

members is in preparation as the outreach committee (the Rah-Rah Committee) works to increase MG visibility in the community. The letter will include a MG brochure and interest form, and a fresh membership survey with space for volunteers' interests and skills

The Statewide Master Gardener Conference will be held in Anchorage in 2019, and planning committee volunteers are needed. In addition, unfilled positions include a newsletter calendar of events person, and summer garden tour organizers. Don Bladow volunteered to lead the Advanced Master Gardener committee to develop the next course.

—Cheryl Chapman, MG Board secretary

Garden Event Calendar

MEETINGS and EVENTS

Thursday, February 1

Anchorage Garden Club monthly meeting: Public Gardens. 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Pioneer Schoolhouse at 437 E 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. Details at: <http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org/anchorageclub.htm>.

Friday, February 2

Herb Study Group, Topic: Chervil, Discussion lead by Marjorie Williams. 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm at Anchorage Cooperative Extension Service, Chugachmiut Building, Room 116, 1840 Bragaw Street, Anchorage.

Monday, February 5

Alaska Native Plant Society monthly meeting: The Mountains Are Where It's At: Patterns in Peak Plant Diversity the Ecological History of AK by Carl Roland, Plant Ecologist, Denali National Park. 7:00 pm at Campbell Science Center, Anchorage. Details at: <http://aknps.org/Pages/Meetings.php>.

Mat-Su Master Gardeners Monthly Meeting. 6:30 pm at MTA building, Palmer. Details at: <http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/calendar-of-events.html>.

Tuesday, February 6

Valley Garden Club monthly meeting: Composting by Jodie Anderson of Division of Agriculture. 10:30 am at First Baptist Church, 900 Leatherleaf Loop, Wasilla.

Eagle River Garden Club monthly meeting: Growing Peonies by Denise Bowlan, Master Gardener and Pioneer Peonies Owner. 7:00 pm at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 18444 Old Glenn Hwy, Chugiak.

Thursday, February 8

Wildflower Garden Club meeting. 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at Central Lutheran Church, 1420 Cordova Street. Details at: <http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org/apps/calendar/>.

Thursday, February 15

Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association monthly meeting. 6:30 at BP Energy Center, Seward Hy and Benson Blvd. Details at: <http://www.apfga.org>.

Monday, February 19

Anchorage AMGA meeting: Soil Sample Interpretation by Steve Brown, Ph.D., CES Ag/Hort Specialist. 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Anchorage Cooperative Extension Service, Chugachmiut Building, Room 116, 1840 Bragaw Street. Details at: http://alaskamastergardeners.org/2018_Program_Calendar.pdf

Wednesday, February 21

L.U.V. Garden Club monthly meeting: Seed Starting and Planting. 7:00 pm at 1710 Tammy Avenue, Anchorage.

Tuesday, February 27

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

Fridays, February 9, 16, 23; March 2, 9, 23 and Optional Field Trip. Organic Gardening: 6 Week Class Covers: Organic Fertilizers, Powerhouse Soil, Pest Management, Increase Nutrient Density, Compost Successfully. Afternoon Sessions: 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm. Evening Sessions 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm at Mat-Su College, UAA. Details at: <http://matsu.alaska.edu/wp-content/uploads/SP18-sched-for-web.pdf>.

Thursday, February 15

Alaska Botanical Garden: Hypertufa Trough Making: Create a One of A Kind Planter 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage. Cost \$55 - \$65. Pre-registration is required. Details at: <http://alaskabg.org/event/hypertufa-trough-making/>.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, February 19, 21 and 23 Gardening 101: Seed Starting, Container Gardening, Plant Propagation and Composting by Alaska Botanical Garden Staff. 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm at Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage. Cost: \$85 - \$95. Pre-registration is required. Details at: <http://alaskabg.org/event/gardening-101-3-day-series/>

Friday, February 23

Winter Kids Day Camp: Hands On Activities Around the Garden. 9:00 am – 3:30 pm at Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage. Cost: \$75 - \$85. Registration is required. Details at: <http://alaskabg.org/event/winter-kids-day-camp/>

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, March 3

Alaska Botanical Garden Spring Conference. 8 am – 4 pm at Benny Benson School and Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage.

Saturday, March 24

Alaska Master Gardeners Conference, Fairbanks

Spring 2018 Programs

There are some exciting programs coming to this spring's regular monthly meetings. AMGA owes a big Thank You to Marilyn Barker for her time and expertise in rounding up some amazing presenters.

Feb. 19 - Soil Sample Interpretation.....Steve Brown

Mar. 19 - Cool Plants for Cold Climates...

Brenda Adams

Apr. 16 - The Joys of Being a Beekeeper.....

Beth Baker

May 21 - Rhododendron Growing.....Doug Tryck

Good Luck to Brenda Adams, MG and Author of *Cool Plants for Cold Climates* as she takes on "Container Wars" at this year's NW Flower and Garden Festival in Seattle.

Safe travels to all of our MG friends as they head south for plant overload!



Do you enjoy keeping up with garden related events in Alaska? If so, AMGA would love your help. We are currently seeking a volunteer to coordinate event listings for the newsletter. Contact Harry Deuber, denali542@yahoo.com, or talk to any board member at the next monthly meeting. Thank you!



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, Ginger Hudson, at:

Mail: AMGA, Newsletter
P.O. Box 221403
Anchorage, AK 99522-1403

Email: newsletteramga@gmail.com
AMGA Web Site: www.alaskamastergardeners.org
Facebook: facebook.com/Alaska-Master-Gardeners-Anchorage

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

AMGA Board of Directors

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

Committee Chairs, Program Coordinators & Volunteers

CES Liaison:	Harry Deuber
Broadcast Email:	Fran Pekar
Calendar of Events:	POSITION OPEN
Advanced MG:	Ginny Moore
Directory Editor:	Janice Berry
Programs:	Marilyn Barker
Field Trips:	POSITION OPEN
Google Group:	Mary Rydesky
Hospitality:	Marjorie Williams
Volunteer Coordinator:	Harry Deuber
Membership & Database:	Jane Baldwin
Newsletter	Ginger Hudson
Website	Gina Docherty
Lifetime Achievement:	Lynne Opstad
Grants:	Marilyn Barker
Pioneer Home:	Erma MacMillan (design)
	Lynne Opstad, Ginger Hudson
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
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907-440-6372

