

Co-President's Message by Elaine Hammes

The gardening season is in full swing if you hadn't already noticed.

Our plants are responding to the recent long and hot summer days by developing, expanding and blooming at ever more frenetic speeds. Lady's Mantle (*Alchemilla mollis*) flower sprays and Sweet Cicely (*Myrrhis odorata*) lacy leaves now spill over everything they are near.

The Hyssop (*Hyssopus officinalis*) loves the warm weather and has grown taller than ever, not a sedate low edging this year. Borage (*Borago officinalis*) is beginning to flower and kiwi fruits are ripening quickly. Tiger lily (*Lilium lancifolium*) bulbils are almost ready to drop off and the buds should bloom before autumn frost.

Garden tours continue to be spectacular! Martagon lilies (*Lilium martagon*), clematis, hand-made stepping stones, beds in front, back and side yards; a field of Sweet William (*Dianthus barbatus*) from the darkest reds to pinks to white. Then there were red and orange poppies, the tallest delphiniums, lobelia ground cover, a delicate wormwood and so much more. This month is eye candy overload. Our thanks go to Donna Dooley, Sue Looney, Bonnie Tisler for sharing your gardens in early July. Working compost bins at 150 degrees F and netting over roses and berries rounded out the Anchorage Senior Center tour.

Thanks also to Master Gardeners Lynne Opstad, Julie Ginder and Ruthe Rasmussen for informally showing the fabulous work of many volunteers at the Pioneer Home gardens. There are still more tours coming up to complete July with five tours and August with three or more. As of this writing, we have already had two Pop-Up tours in addition to those that were scheduled earlier. So stay tuned to your emails for more tours.

Also by email comes the Sign Up Genius for the "Ask A Master Gardener" table at Alaska Botanical Garden (ABG). Do you have to be able to answer every question? Of course!

And one of the more common and appropriate answers is, "I don't know, but let's see what we can find out!" ABC staff members are great resources, as are many of the visitors.

Certainly not the least of summer activities is the Late Season Plant Sale August 10 from 10am to 3pm. By now you have probably divided and potted up your extra plants to sell. If you have a canopy tent, tables, chairs, do sign up on the Sign-Up Genius for the plant sale or call Elaine or Susan. If you need yellow tags for price and seller's initials (refer to the Plant Sale Guidelines) or if you have any questions, call or email Elaine or Susan.

It's time to get back to the double "Ws," watering and weeds.



Above: sprays of dianthus at MG Sue Looney's pop-up garden tour in July, photo by Ginger Hudson. Left: The core team keeping the Pioneer Home gardens healthy; Julie Ginder volunteer coordinator; Ruthe Rasmussen, one of many extraordinary

volunteers; and master strategist, Lynne Opstead. Bottom: AMGA Co-President Susan Negus on a tour of the Pioneer Home gardens.

Photos courtesy of Susan Negus.



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Sunburn and Other Heat Afflictions by Ginger Hudson

The atmosphere sure delivered some free heat to everyone recently, but we forgot to request it during a cold spell, and not when there already were forest fires blazing.

None of this enhanced our gardening season, except for the surprising early arrival of berries. Gardeners surely are weary from

dragging around water hoses, filling water cans, and chasing off thirsty moose. For the moment it seems we have a respite, but in case the high-pressure returns, here are some indicators of heat stress and tips to help your plants survive.

Plants show their disdain for heat and dyhydration in several ways: wilting, foliage may turn pale even brown, it starts to jet-tison extremities: leaves, buds, flowers; and may fail to set fruit. When the humidity is low, plants transpire quiker than they can take in moisture. Additionally, the heat invigorates plants to do thier job fast: many leafy greens bolted earlier that anticipated. This June and July our plants suffered not only from record high air temperatures, but dry ground left few resources.

Gardeners can help plants make it through stressful times in a few ways. The most complicated could be installing shade cloth. It's easily done over rows of planting, not so easy on organically shaped beds. If you have tender babies just planted this spring, you might consider crafting a temporary shade.

An easier way to cool our plants is to shower them in the morning—the whole plant. This technique must be done early in the day before the heat sets in. There are two reasons: first, the plant needs to dry off before the air cools again so mildew doesn't set in; second, if plants are watered during the heat of the day most of the water evaporates before reaching the plant, or the water acts as a magnifier causing the sun to burn leaves.



Shower plants with a hose end sprayer. Spray the plants both from above and under the leaves, they can take in water through their leaves. If you don't have time to do it by hand, set your sprinkler out and move it around every 5 - 10 minutes.

When you do water plants, make sure to water the soil deeply. Water needs to get to the entire root zone not just the surface. In these long dry-spells, the soil develops a hard dry surface and water runs off like concrete. A good technique is to water each zones for about five-minutes, then go back and water each zone longer. By performing a short initial watering, the soil is dampened to accept the water.

Plants weakened by lack of water and nutrients become victims to predators: thrips, caterpillars, and a myriad of leaf eaters. There is a good article by Jeff Lowenfels in the ADN about the outbreak of caterpillars on lilac trees. Though it is not a direct summer cause, the spruce bark beetles expanded their range this year since the past winter was not cold enough to kill larvae.

A sad by-product of plants dying is plant theft. Yes, gardeners, sad to say, there have been thefts reported, caught on camera, and witnessed—even at the Pioneer Home. Allowing compassion for those that not able to afford plants is one realization. Yet theft right out in the open is puzzling.

The heat and the fires are stressful on everyone and everything, and we mourn for the wildlife that have been lost or lost their homes. However, next spring and summer we will rejoice at the forests' regeneration, fresh new growth, abundant morels, and wildflowers blanketing the boreal.

Sources:

<https://www.adn.com/alaska-life/gardeneing/2019/7/11/heres-what-going-on-with-all-those-blotchy-brown-spots-on-your-lilac-bush/>
<https://www.ktuu.com/content/news/Local-business-surveillance-tapes-captures-person-digging-up-taking-flowers-512413431.html>

Top: Sunburned hosta, note pale color and brown on raised surfaces, a miniscule distance, but more exposed to sun. Left: burned edges of strawberry leaves, note the pattern of pale and brown also on elevated surfaces. Left: Sunburned Norway maple



leaves. On trees like this it is obvious that the leaves most exposed to sun, especially late after noon sun, are burned yet leaves on the shady side, or protected by surrounding trees, remain deep green.

July AMGA Board Meeting

AMGA Board of Directors met July 8, 2019 at the BP Energy Center. After enjoying shared snacks, the limited summer agenda focused on upcoming events and requests from the public. Don Bladow updated the Board on the winter schedule of meeting programs and remaining summer garden tours. Master Gardeners will again provide a partial scholarship to a limited number of applicants for the Master Gardener Course Gina Dionne is teaching starting August 26, 2019. Applications will be distributed at the first meeting.

The organization of the late season plant sale is going well under the leadership of Co-chairs Susan Negus and Elaine Hammes.

A number of requests to AMGA reflect the impression that Master Gardeners assist with garden chores. We need to affirm that we are an educational group.

With FERPA rules preventing CES from verifying the completion of the Master Gardener class and volunteer hours, AMGA will need to have proof of certificate for voting memberships for first time members.

Herb Study in the Garden: An Overview of Sorrel by Elaine Hammes

Sorrel, Dock, Sheep Sorrel, Garden Sorrel, French Sorrel are a few of many common names for plants in the genus *Rumex*. Eric Hultén shows at least sixteen species in various parts of Alaska, including many described as “introduced weeds.” Janice Schofield and Priscilla Russell Kari also include several edible varieties as Arctic Dock, Sour Dock and Wild Rhubarb. Many publications refer to Garden Sorrel (*Rumex acetosa*) or French Sorrel (*R. scutatus*) for culinary uses.

The type of sorrel popular for medicinal use is *Rumex acetosella*, commonly called sheep sorrel. Red-veined Sorrel (*Rumex sanguineus*) is striking for its decorative purposes in the garden or as garnish. Sorrels belong to the Polygonaceae family, many of which are native to Europe and northern Asia and have been naturalized in North America.

Sorrels have similar flavors of sour lemon to bitter tang tastes due mainly to oxalic acid. The culinary sorrels lend themselves to using the leaves sparingly to spice up salads, soups and sauces. They have also been characterized as sour-leaved versions of spinach. Recipes using sorrel include dressings for fish and other seafood. The leaves are high in vitamin C. When cooking sorrel leaves, be sure to change the cooking water at least once to decrease the herb’s potency.

In Eastern Europe, wild or garden sorrel is used to make sour soups, stewed with vegetables or herbs, meats or eggs. In rural Greece, it is used with spinach, leeks, and chard in spanakopita. In northern Nigeria, sorrel is used in stews usually with spinach. In some Hausa communities, it is steamed and made into salad using traditional roasted peanut cakes, salt, pepper, onion and tomatoes. In India, the leaves are used in soups or curries made with yellow lentils and peanuts. In Afghanistan, the leaves are coated in a wet batter and deep fried, then served as an appetizer or if in season during Ramadan, for breaking the fast.

In small quantities sorrel may be harmless; in large quantities it can be fatal. Additional caveats are plentiful for side effects and interactions, including kidney damage in particular, but also possible brain, heart and liver damage. People are cautioned not to use sorrel for children, pregnant or breastfeeding women,

people with kidney stones, or while taking a diuretic. Generally, one should discuss with your health care professional prior to using sorrel.

Sorrel is often one of the first species to take hold in disturbed areas, such as abandoned mining sites, especially if the soil is acidic. Livestock will graze on the plant, but it is not very nutritious and is toxic in large amounts because of oxalates. The American copper or small copper butterfly depends on it for food, although its larvae can consume some related plants. *Rumex acetosella* is widely considered to be a hard-to-control noxious weed due to its spreading rhizome. Blueberry farmers are familiar with the weed because it thrives in the same conditions under which blueberries are cultivated.

Common sorrel is dioecious (with male and female flowers on separate plants) and wind-pollinated. It is a polymorphous species with several recognized variations and subspecies. Sorrel grows from seed planted in early spring. Plant 1/4 inch deep, cover with light soil or sand and keep moist until it germinates, which will be about a week or so. Thin when the seedlings are 2 inches high, spacing the remaining plants about 4 inches apart. You can begin harvesting the leaves when they are 4-6 inches high. Alaska Botanical Garden’s Herb Garden has had Garden Sorrel and French Sorrel growing perennially for a number of years while the Red-veined Sorrel has not been quite so hardy and has been replanted.



Red-veined sorrel *Rumex sanguineus* at the Alaska Botanical Garden. Photo by Mary Contrary.

AMGA Treasurer’s Report, June 2019 By Nancy Grant 06/30/2019

Balances 05/31/2019

Checking S-88	\$15,035.17
Savings S-1	5.25
Savings S-19	\$10,810.25
CD-Education 5yr 1.650% (12/20)	\$5,282.19
CD- General 2yr 1.25% (1/19)	\$10,300.41
CD-General 1yr 1.450% (9/19)	<u>\$6,000.00</u>
	\$47,433.27

Revenue:

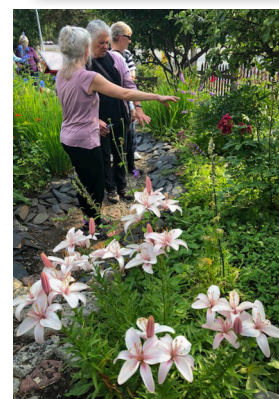
Interest/Dividends	95.53
Membership	20.00
Fund Raising	<u>50.00</u>
	\$165.53

Expense:

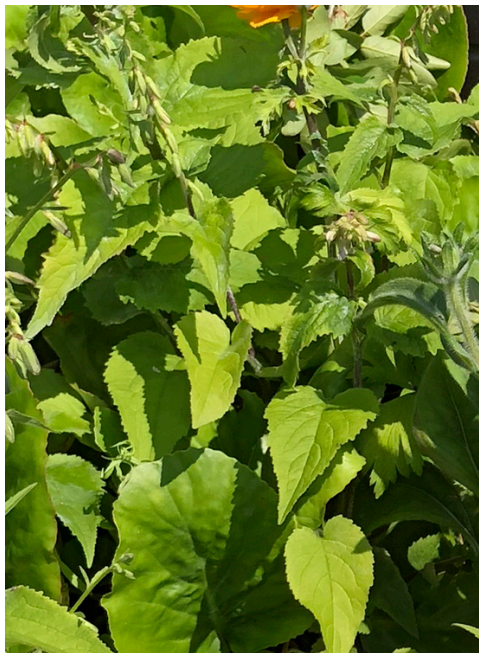
Operations –adobe/storage/Web page	<u>\$352.99</u>
	\$352.99

Balances 06/30/2019

Checking S-88	\$14,752.18
Savings S-1	5.25
Savings S-19	\$10,833.97
CD-Education 5yr 1.650% (12/20)	\$5,303.92
CD- General 2yr 1.25% (1/19)	\$10,350.49
CD-General 1yr 1.450% (9/19)	<u>\$6,000.00</u>
	\$47,245.81



Jane McClure’s pop-up garden tour, oh the lilies! Photo by Mike Baldwin.



Invasive Campanula, *Campanula rapunculoides*

In its native European range creeping bellflower, *Campanula rapunculoides*, is found mainly in open woodlands, forest edges, and meadows. It was brought to North America as an ornamental. Hardy in zone 3-9, creeping bellflower is naturalized in many parts of North America, and is

In rich soil it can take over beds and move into lawns.

Creeping bellflower produces erect, unbranched green to purple stems 1-3 feet tall. The basal leaves are wider and heart-shaped while the leaves on the stems gradually become shorter and more narrow with shorter (or no) petioles toward the top. The largest leaves are up to 5" long and 2" wide. The opposite foliage is coarse and irregularly toothed, with small blunt teeth. The leaves are dark green on the upper surface and light green below, with short hairs along the underside of the leaf veins.



classified as a noxious weed in some states or provinces.

It cannot be recommended as a useful ornamental plant; avoid introducing it in your garden! It is often found in disturbed areas, along roadsides, in fields, and as a lawn weed. This plant is often inadvertently spread in contaminated commercial seed and nursery stock.

It grows in almost any soil in wet or dry conditions, reseeds readily and spreads by rhizomes and root fragments. Even the smallest root piece is capable of regenerating, so it is exceptionally difficult to eliminate by cultivation or digging out plants.

Top: Invasive campanula leaves, stalk, seed pods. Above right: Campanula invading an ornamental garden. Photos by Ginger Hudson.

The flowers occur in a terminal raceme (unbranched cluster) with a number of slightly nodding or drooping flowers on short pedicels along one side of the stem. There is a small leafy bract at the base of each pedicel. They open from the bottom up the slender flower stems. The flowers are followed by spherical seed capsules that each contain several small, shiny, tan to light brown seeds that ripen in late summer and fall. The light-weight, elliptical seeds have small wings or ridges for wind dispersal. Vigorous plants can produce up to 15,000 seeds annually and self-sow readily.

Alaska does have a few native campanula and they are fairly easy to distinguish. The variety seen most often on hillsides and at the edges of shrub or woodlands is common harebells, *Campanula rotundifolia*. The leaves of this variety are generally thinner and grey-green and the stalk is not red. Common harebells produce a similar tall raceme with nodding violet flowers. Another variety hikers are familiar with is *Campanula lasiocarpa*, mountain harebell. It is a low-grower, rarely taller than 4" with one or two deeper purple flowers per plant. Mountain harebell is an excellent rock garden specimen.

Adapted from
Mahr, Susan. "Creeping Bellflower, *Campanula rapunculoides*". Master Gardener Program, University of Wisconsin Madison. 6 July 2009. wimastergardener.org/article/creeping-bellflower-campanula-rapunculoides/
With additions by Ginger Hudson.

Anchorage Master Gardener Classes Starting August 26

Mark your calendar for the 2019 Anchorage Master Gardener Class. Classes will begin August 26 and meet Mondays through December 9 at the Loussac Library Learning Commons.

This 40-hour class provides a broad horticultural background and includes the topics of botany, soils, vegetable production, using organic and conventional techniques, integrated pest management, greenhouses, lawns, houseplants, trees/shrubs, flowers and invasive plants. The Alaska Sustainable Gardening/Master Gardener textbook is included in the class fee.

To earn the title "Alaska Master Gardener," participants must complete 40 hours of community service involving horticulture. Those who complete their 40 hours of community service within 1 year of class start will get a \$100 rebate. Those who just want the information are welcome to enroll, but will not receive the title or the rebate.

For more information, contact Gina Dionne at gddionne@alaska.edu or 907-786-6313

Find out more about the Master Gardener Program at www.uaf.edu/ces/garden/mastergardeners/

All classes will be held from **5-8 p.m.** in the Loussac Library Learning Commons.

Registration Required. Cost is \$300 for the class. Register at http://bit.ly/AK_MG19 and select the Anchorage Master Gardener Class



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Bird Chatter

A QUESTION... How can an alleged Master Gardener screw up growing lettuce? Seriously, is there anything easier to grow than leaf lettuce? Maybe chickweed, but that's about it. Yet most of BC's 2019 deck lettuce languished and finally burned up. Or, it shot up and bolted without bothering to produce enough leaves for a salad.

Too late BC realized that normal placement of the raised bed so it got maximum light during the past three or four cloudy, dank summers was a big mistake this year. Watering twice a day didn't help much. The shallow roots dried out immediately and the record-breaking sun rays burned the leaves. Result: lettucide. BC pleads guilty.

The good news is there's plenty of time for another crop — planted with respect for the lowly leaf's physical needs. Garden books that advise full sun are written for cool climates, which usually works for us, but not this year.

TURNING A NEW LEAF... It's almost time for the annual Greek Festival, held on the land around Transfiguration Church at 2800 O'Malley Road: Friday-Sunday, August 17, 18 and 19. For BC, this is an excuse to carb out on an overload of fabulous Greek pastries. OMG! They're so good.

Sorry. Back on topic: MG Laurie Constantino — also a cookbook author — is teaching two cooking classes a day. One features filo pastries with greens, including some of those leaves we grow and throw, i.e. broccoli leaves and radish leaves.

The other is "Vegetable Cousins: Potatoes, Tomatoes, Peppers, and Eggplant." "Cousins" because they're all nightshades.

The classes are at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., admission and parking are free. Just show up.

July 1 garden tour.
Photo by Mike Baldwin

IF A TREE GROWS IN THE CITY... Did you catch those stories that claim we can stall climate change indefinitely if we just fill all the empty space on earth with trees? Sounds like a plan. BC is going to start slow by replacing the evil — and finally eliminated — Mayday in our Airport Heights yard with something positive, and hopefully beautiful.

MG/arborist Nickel LaFleur says it's not too late to plant this year. If nurseries still have bare-root available, buy it, says Nickel. When planting, err on the side of planting too shallow rather than too deep. Keep it watered. It helps trees fight bad bugs. Using soaker hoses around the drip line is good.

THE GREEN AND THE RED... MG Rosemary Shinohara reports her broccoli really hated the heat. She switched from mainly potatoes to mainly broccoli this year just for a change. Bad timing.

On the other hand, said Rose, maybe her giant strawberries beds will produce two crops this season.

BUNNY BUGS... MG and garden goddess Gina Docherty wishes to announce she regrets feeling sorry for a cold feral rabbit last winter. She fed it. The grateful bunny showed up this spring with her three new babies. Chomp chomp.

Said Gina: "My sister reminded me that they can get pregnant every 30 days...eck!"

Have your bunny ears heard something you need to propagate? Let BC know: stoomey@ymail.com

Have You Heard?



QUESTIONS THAT MUST BE ASKED... Maybe it was the impending budget cuts or maybe just spring fever, but what in the world was the University of Alaska Anchorage thinking to grant a journalist an honorary doctorate? What are they teaching over there or maybe what are they drinking? Wait, what! Who got the degree? *Our own MG Sheila Toomey.*

Yes, d'Ears. Most of us knew her as the Divine Appendage when she was chortling over political and personal misdeeds of the characters that run our state. Some of us knew her as Justice Toomey when she covered the courts for Anchorage Daily News and issued rulings from the bench — her desk — on the intricacies of Alaska criminal law. MG's know her as the compiler of Bird Chatter, and now she's Dr. Toomey, holder of a Doctorate in Humane Letters. She was sure they had made a mistake but we know the truth. She's a remarkable writer whose stories helped shape how the world sees Alaska. We know she spices up the world of Master Gardeners. Congrats in a big way, *Sheila Toomey! Let's plaster the town with peonies in her honor!*



Congratulations to Ginger Hudson! Our AMGA Newsletter Editor, Ginger Hudson has been burning the candle at both ends. This is probably not a new thing for her. We would like to recognize the great work she has been doing with this newsletter, all the while working on and completing her MFA at UAA in Creative Writing and Literary Arts.

The subject of Ginger's non-fiction thesis was Verna Pratt, Alaskan Wild Flower Wizard. After hearing the wonderful short reading Ginger presented at the recent graduate students' readings, I'm looking forward to reading the book. Ginger plans to complete the book in about a year. Many thanks for all your work and please do keep us posted, Ginger! [Ed. note: big thanks to the gardening community for their help. There will be a huge celebration upon completion!]

Do you know a Master Gardener who has been noticed with awards or accolades? Please share the love: newsletteramga@gmail.com

August 2019 Garden Event Calendar

PLANT SALES

All Summer, on-going plant Sale at the Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd., Anchorage.

Saturday, August 10

Anchorage Master Gardeners Plant Sale, 10 a - 3 p see more info under "MEETINGS AND EVENTS" alaskamastergardeners.org

WEEKLY GARDENING OPPORTUNITIES

Herb Study Group—Work on the Herb Garden continues all summer at ABG, Tuesdays and/or Fridays 1 - 3p. All volunteers must first check in at the ABG office and take a radio with them. Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd., Anchorage. Contact: anchorageherbstudygroup@gmail.com

Alaska Rock Garden Society—Maintenance at the ABC Rock Garden, every other Tuesday starting at 10 a. 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd, Anchorage. Contact Madge Oswald: johnmadge@chugach.net

Maintenance at the Palmer Visitor Center every Thursday, 9 a. Contact Florene Carney: snowfire@mtaonline.net

CLASSES /WORKSHOPS

Thursday, August 1

Anchorage Garden Club, "Soils", 7 - 9 p at the Pioneer School House, 437 E. 3rd Ave., Anchorage. alaskagardenclubs.org

Friday, August 2

Matanuska Experiment Farm and Extension Center, 6 - 9 p, "Mushrooms in the Mat-Su area," mycologist Dr. Gary Laursen will share his wealth of information on wild and/or edible mushrooms in Southcentral Alaska. Cost is \$20 for Friday evening only. 1506 S. Geogeson Rd., Palmer. www.uaf.edu/ces

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, August 2, 3, and 4

9 a - 5 p, Dr. Gary Laursen, mycologist, leads participants on collecting and identifying wild mushrooms. Meeting at the Matanuska Glacier. Cost is \$100 for all three days. www.uaf.edu/ces

Thursday, August 22

Handling the Harvest Class: Tea and Treats, learn about dehydrating fruits, vegetables, herbs and meat. 6p - 7:30p, \$25/class. Cooperative Extension Service, CES office at the Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St. Anchorage. www.uaf.edu/ces

Thursday, September 12

Handling the Harvest Class: The Big Freeze. Properly packaging food to be frozen. 6p - 7:30p, \$25/class. Cooperative Extension Service, CES office at the Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St. Anchorage. www.uaf.edu/ces

August 26 - December 9

Anchorage Master Gardener class, 5 - 9 p, CES office, Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St., 4th floor. Registration required, \$300. http://bit.ly/AK_MG19 select the Anchorage class

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

August 1, Thursday

Anchorage Garden Club; "Soils" 7-9 p at the Pioneer School House, 437 E. 3rd Ave. www.alaskagardenclubs.org

August 3-4, Saturday and Sunday

Garden Club Annual Flower Show, 12p - 5p each day. Check web site for the location. alaskagardenclubs.org

Monday, August 5

AMGA night Garden Tour. Watch your e-mail for locations.

Thursday, August 8

"Wine in the Woods" 6p -9p At the Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd., Anchorage. For tickets, contact 907-770-3692. garden@alaskabg.org

Saturday, August 10

Master Gardeners Late Season Plant Sale, 10a -3p. At the Benny Benson School parking lot across from the Alaska Botanical Garden, 4515 Campbell Airstrip Rd. alaskamastergardeners.org
Find plants you won't be able to buy in local stores! This was a great season for gardens, but maybe you need to fill in a spot or be more adventuresome and try something new and interesting. We have put out a Sign-up Genius for vendors and volunteers. This may seem annoying to some people but it helps us know what we need: volunteers, tables, and chairs, etc. The other great thing is that it will remind people by e-mail. We welcome arts and crafts vendors. Please use the Sign-Up Genius and include in comments that you will be selling Arts and crafts. Sign-up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e4caaad-2ba6fd0-amga>

We are offering three FREE classes:

10:30- Paul Marmora, "Beautiful Bouquets and the Secrets of arranging Flowers Naturally." Learn design principles—color, shape, positive and negative space—space—in both vase and container arrangements. Plus, how to make blooms long lasting.

11:30p- "The Secret Life of Houseplants" by Gina Dionne, Cooperative Extension Project Assistant, she is teaching the Master Gardener class this fall.

12:30p- "How to make Elevated Raised Beds" by Don Bladow. Don grows many pounds of Vegetables at the Lutheran Church on Northern Lights. He also has a gardening blog.

Saturday, August 10

"9th Annual Anchorage Invasive Weed Smackdown" 10a -12:30 p, pull invasives. 12:30p, -1:30p Lunch and prizes. At Valley of the Moon Park, Anchorage. akinvasiveplants.org

Monday, August 12

AMGA night Garden Tour. Watch your e-mail for locations

August 2019 Garden Event Calendar

Thursday, August 15

Storytime in the Garden, 11a -12:30 p. Reading *One Leaf, Two Leaves, Count with Me!* Nature stories and activities for children ages 3-5. Must be accompanied by adult. Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd., Anchorage.

Saturday, August 17

Plastic Pot Recycling, 10a -5p, One day only drop-off. Plastic gardening container only, trays and cell packs. Please remove dirt, rinse and remove any metal hangers. No wooden or fiber planters. At the parking lot across from Alaska Botanical Garden, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd., Anchorage

Saturday, August 17

Alaska Rock Garden Society, Field Trip: A Day at Hatcher Pass. Check website for more details. akrockgardensociety.org

Monday, August 19

AMGA night Garden Tour. Watch your e-mail for locations.

August 22, Thursday - September 2, Monday

Alaska State Fair "Crazy Good". Looks like the best time to see the Flower awards will be August 22 and August 29th, while they are fresh. At the Alaska State Fair Grounds, Palmer.

www.alaskastatefair.org

Tuesday, August 27

Alaska Orchid Society Regular Meeting, will probably be touring the Alaska Botanical Garden. Meeting will start at 6 p. Check website for more details. www.akorchid.org

Ongoing

U-Pick at Alaska Berries Farm: haskaps. Call for time reservation and rules: 907-252-8511, Soldotna. Location and haskap info: alaskaberries.com

Ongoing

U-Pick at Northern Fruits Nursery, M-Sat, 10 a - 6 p. 16042 Ptarmigan Rd., Palmer, 907- 745-1070.

ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ANCHORAGE LATE SEASON PLANT SALE



SATURDAY AUGUST 10, 10 AM – 3 PM

- ✓ Perennials that are not available anywhere else
- ✓ Unique House Plants
- ✓ "Ask a Master Gardener" Table
- ✓ Classes

It's a great time to renew your indoor houseplants for the winter and outdoor garden plantings for next year!

Make Your Garden Great again!

Classes:

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 10:30 am | Beautiful Bouquets, Secrets of Arranging Flowers Naturally |
| 11:30 am | The Secret Life of House Plants |
| 12:30 pm | How to Make Elevated Raised Beds |

Meet us In the parking lot between Benny Benson School
and the Alaska Botanical Garden

4515 Campbell Airstrip Rd

www.alaskamastergardeners.org

**Be part of the largest
garden exhibit in Alaska!**

Volunteer at the State Fair

Earn credit for volunteer hours!

Entry & Judging days provide great opportunities to learn something new and to share your own gardening experiences.

~ Entry Clerks ~

Wednesdays, August 21 & August 28

Three shifts available ... 12-5 PM, 3-8 PM and 5-9 PM
Help exhibitors fill out entry forms and assist the entrant in preparing their entries for judging by showing/teaching how to follow the guidelines of the Exhibitor Guide.
Assist in placement of entry in the display area.

~ Judges Clerks ~

Thursdays, August 22 & August 29 from 8 AM-Noon
Record winning results, set up and place ribbons for the final display.

~ 1st & 2nd Entry Take down ~

Tuesdays, August 27 from 4-7 PM &
September 3, 9 AM-Noon
1st and 2nd Entry take down and ribbon sorting.

**To sign up,
or for more information
contact Kathy Liska
(907) 337-2196, (907) 301-0317
or akliska@aol.com**

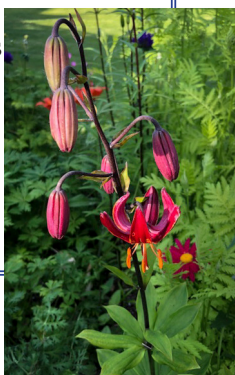
**"Crazy Good" memories & fun times ...
Volunteers make it happen, with a smile!**

No Indoor Meetings in Summer

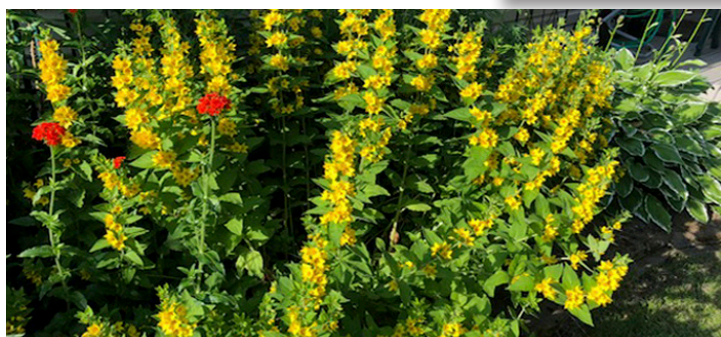
Watch your email for garden tour locations

SUMMER GARDEN TOURS:

Tours are announced to AMGA members by email about a week ahead with dates and locations. We are always looking for more gardens to view, let us know of any that could be added.



Right: Matagon lilies. Below: Radiant arms of yellow looseris at Donna Dooley's July 1 garden tour. Photos 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 B.P. Energy Center, 1041 Energy Court, Anchorage, AK, 99508 *NOTE: meeting location may change*

Monthly educational programs are free and open to the public. Visitors and guests are welcomed and encouraged.

AMGA Board of Directors

Elaine Hammes and Susan Negus	Co-Presidents
Don Bladow	Vice President
Nancy Grant	Treasurer
Fran Pekar	Secretary
F.X. Nolan	At Large
Marjorie Williams	At Large
Marilyn Barker	At Large

Committee Chairs, Program Coordinators & Volunteers

CES Liaison:	Elaine Hammes
Broadcast Email:	Fran Pekar
Calendar of Events:	Susan Negus
Advanced MG:	Don Bladow
Directory Editor:	Janice Berry
Programs:	Marilyn Barker
Field Trips:	Don Bladow
Google Group:	Mary Rydesky
Hospitality:	Marjorie Williams
Membership & Database:	Alexis St. Juliana
Newsletter	Ginger Hudson
Website	Gina Docherty
Lifetime Achievement:	Lynne Opstad
Grants:	Marilyn Barker
Pioneer Home:	Lynne Opstad, Ginger Hudson
Volunteer Coordinators:	Julie Ginder, Joyce Smith, Lynne Opstad

Late Season Plant Sale August 10!

and FREE classes!

Come pick from your neighbors' gardens!
Plants not found in stores only at our sale!

If you plan to bring plants, please read the rules for the plant sale on AMGA's website.

If interested in working with the plant sale, set up, or take down, please contact Susan Negus, senegus@gci.net, and/or Elaine Hammes, marye.hammes@acsalaska.net.

Demonstration classes, garden plants, house plants, and more. In the parking lot at ABG.

Membership Renewal

If you have not renewed your membership, do it now to stay on our mailing list.
Contact Alexis St. Juliana: astjuliana@hotmail.com

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

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.

AMGA Web Site: www.alaskamastergardeners.org
Facebook: [facebook.com/Alaska-Master-Gardeners-Anchorage](https://www.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 Alexis St. Juliana at: astjuliana@hotmail.com

