

# ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ANCHORAGE

## AMGA NEWSLETTER

May 2019

Volume 21, Issue 5



Above: Brenda Adams wows the crowd with beautiful plant combinations; top center: an amazing spread of silent auction choices; below center: Julie Riley accepts an award for her lifetime dedication to the Master Gardener Association; right: Nickel LaFleur welcomes guests to the Garden Market. Photos courtesy Mike Baldwin, Harry Deuber, and (who took the Brenda photo?)

## Co-President's Message by Susan Negus

May, longer days and brilliantly green trees. I am always amazed how quickly things change in May. In April it seemed like spring was going to be early and I was running behind, but then it snowed, a lot. Mother nature will do what she wants to do. I guess we just have to go with it and the green will come.

Looking back, April was a busy month. The AMGA State-wide Conference was an event well done. There is plenty to talk about and many thanks to be handed out. Julie Riley was the Mistress of Ceremonies and kept everything running on time. Thankfully, Julie really stepped up when we had a speaker cancel at the last minute and gave a similar talk. Our Mayor Ethan Berkowitz spoke and let us know the Municipality Compost program has been a great success. He answered many questions from the audience and was into using gardening clichés. I just think he really “digs” the Master Gardeners. Robert Kourik’s interesting key note presentation gave us a better “Understanding [of] Roots”, also the name of his book. We need to thank all the Speakers for their great presentations. The Lifetime achievement award was given to Julie Riley. Julie has worked tirelessly for the AMGA community and really deserved this honor. I just hope she was surprised.

There are many others to thank that made this conference work; the volunteers that helped with the set up and take down of the event, the registration table, silent auction helpers, holding area volunteers, the Vendors, lunch and room monitors, AV monitors and all the individuals and businesses that contributed to the silent auction and the door prizes.

The biggest thanks for a job well done should go to the organizing committee who have been working on this conference for over 1 ½ years. Thank You: Harry Deuber,

Gina Docherty, Sue Looney, Lynne Opstad, Paul Mamora, Jane Baldwin, Martha Jokela, Dana Klinkhart, Faye Stiehm, Lois Rockcastle, and Don Bladow. Also thanks to Ginger Hudson for the flower slide show and Susan Bybee for the graphic designs.

The April Spring Garden and Flower show was April 20th and was a great time to meet other gardeners from all the different clubs and pick up some plants for your summer garden. Thank you to all the volunteers that manned the booth and brought plants to be sold. Also, thanks to Harry Deuber and Jane Baldwin for organizing it.

There are many plant sales coming up in May heading into June and of course the AMGA plant sale will be in August. I talked to the Senior Center and they will have special white irises, so you better get there early if you are interested in white Irises. Check the calendar to see when the plant sales are scheduled. In May, there also seems to be more plant sales, classes, workshops, and of course more gardening and less meetings.

Are you proud of your gardening achievement? We need volunteers for the garden tours. This is a chance to show-off and share. Contact Marilyn Barker or any of the board members for suggestions.

I think I have run out of Thyme.  
Happy Gardening!

### Inside This Issue...

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Only one more meeting in our Spring Schedule!

## AMGA Board Meeting: April

Co-President Susan Negas confirmed presentation speaker Rick Sinnot with “Butterflies, Birds, and Spring” as the April membership meeting program. In response to a tight deadline to clear the room at the BP Energy Center, an earlier start with opportunities to socialize will begin at 6:30p with a half hour “Munch and Mingle” added to the membership meetings.

With the Statewide Alaska Master Gardeners Conference in the books, a discussion of the success as well as lessons learned for the next conference has begun. Conference Chair Harry Deuber said with bills still to be paid the overall conference is in the black. Treasurer Nancy Grant reported Conference revenue of \$11,859.01. Expenses totaling \$5238.28 have been paid so far with additional expenses to pay. A balance of \$50,678.70 was on hand on March 31, 2019. Co-President Elaine Hammes thanked Lynn Opstad for her efforts as chair of the Life Time Service Award presented to Julie Riley. We think she was surprised! Harry is accepting comments for the full committee debrief on the Conference. Jane Baldwin reported that half of the Conference attendees had completed evaluations. Brief overviews of those evaluations show a successful conference with issues in quality of the box lunches and audiovisual equipment. We look forward to a full committee report.

Harry Deuber and Jane Baldwin will be overseeing the Spring Garden Show at the Midtown Mall April 20. This will include the popular plant sale as well as educational outreach with Cooperative Extension Service. Jane encouraged membership drives at all our outreach events. Currently 237 memberships have been paid. Advantages for members are the monthly programs and participation in plant sales. Jane emphasized the importance of maintaining the Master Gardener title while accepting all interested community members.

Volunteers are needed for future events. The annual summer Garden Tours is in need of gardens to tour each 1st and 3rd Monday of the months of June, July, and August. Marilyn Barker is working on a schedule of the Summer Garden Tours.

The August Plant Sale is in need of a chairman.

Ongoing business items include the annual audit report, Alaska Master Gardeners Anchorage Standing Rules updates, and insurance estimates for Board of Directors.

### Soil Analysis Calculator

Mentioned in Stephen Brown’s presentation on composting at the Annual Conference, this is a link to an interactive web site for soil analysis:

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/districts/kenai/soilcalculator/>

### Treasurer’s Report

Balances 02/28/2019

Checking account	\$11,812.98
Savings account	<u>\$10,788.60</u>
	\$22,601.58

Dedicated Funds	\$5,260.79
Interest Bearing CD	<u>\$16,252.76</u>
	\$22,513.55

Revenue:	
2019 Conference	\$11,416.68
Interest	\$92.33
Membership	<u>\$350.00</u>
	\$11,859.01

Expense:	
Operations	\$686.00
Directory	\$653.29
Outreach	\$78.00
2019 Conference	<u>\$3,820.00</u>
	\$5,238.28

Balances 03/31/2019

Checking account	\$18,284.22
Savings account	<u>\$10,806.63</u>
	\$29,090.85

Dedicated Funds	\$5260.79
Interest Bearing CD	<u>\$16,252.76</u>
	\$21,513.55

### *In Memoriam*

“Thomas I. Throop passed away March 19, 2019 in Anchorage, Alaska. He will be buried in Ninilchik, Alaska.” No obituary, only this notice from ADN March 27, 2019. Tom (MG Class 91/92) was listed in MG Directories from the first one in 1994 through 2015.

Jill Shepherd, MG 84/85, AMGA Charter Member with first official Bylaws in December 1987, passed away March 4, 2019. ADN Obituary, April 14, 2019.



## Herb Study Group: Angelica by Elizabeth Bluemink

In April the Herb Study Group met to discuss some of the curious aspects of angelica, a short-lived herbaceous perennial in the Parsley (Apiaceae) family that provides food, medicine and flair in gardens around the world.

Angelica attracts bees and flourishes in cool, wet places. Towering, flowering (and then tumbling) umbels of garden angelica (*Angelica archangelica*) are one of the most striking features of the Alaska Botanical Garden's Herb Garden in the summertime.

Non-ornamental uses of garden angelica have evolved dramatically over thousands of years—from spring vegetable to candy, from medieval plague fighter to liquor flavoring. Depending on the preparation, angelica's flavor can resemble celery, mild licorice or juniper berries.

Stories abound regarding the naming of angelica in Europe. It blooms on the feast day of St. Michael the Archangel and the plague-fighting abilities of angelica were allegedly revealed by an angel, or St. Michael himself, in the dreams of a medieval monk or herbalist.

Native to mountainous areas of Scandinavia and other parts of Eurasia, garden angelica is the most commonly cultivated species in Europe and North America. It was a favorite vegetable for early Scandinavians and a variety of culinary uses continue in the Faroe Islands, Iceland, and Greenland. Medieval Europeans valued its medicinal qualities, using it to fight the plague and other infectious diseases.

Dozens of other angelica species are endemic to cool climates around the world, including seacoast angelica (*A. lucida*) and bent-leaf angelica (*A. genuflexa*) in Alaska. Indigenous uses in Alaska vary by region and have included eating peeled stems, applying a poultice of cooked, mashed root to wounds, or using the fresh leaves and stems in a steam bath. In Asia, angelica is marketed as “female ginseng” and the dried root is widely used to regulate menstruation and treat a wide variety of ailments.

Modern Europeans take a more toothsome approach to garden angelica – boiling the stems to make candy and using essential oils from the root and seed to flavor various liquors, such as Chartreuse and Galliano, and other sweet treats. Some Master Gardeners in Anchorage have tried candying the stems, adding the leaves to flavor jams and rhubarb desserts, or making an herbal tincture. This spring, I purchased dried roots online to make a delicious “do-it-yourself” version of Chartreuse and a pungent, chamomile-angelica infused gin.

Unfortunately, the most prevalent species of angelica in Alaska, seacoast angelica, looks a lot like poisonous northern water hemlock (*Cicuta virosa*) or western water hemlock (*C. douglasii*), the deadliest plant in North America. Angelica and water hemlock both grow in wet areas and have been found next to each other in Alaska.

Even plant experts struggle to distinguish between wild angelica and water hemlock, and thus, plant guide and other publications for our region typically include strong cautions about



Above: Angelica, *Angelica archangelica*, grows as a perennial at the Herb Garden in the Alaska Botanical Garden. Photo by Mary Contrary.



Right: Angelica, *Angelica archangelica*, Kat from St Albans, United Kingdom, Wikipedia.

harvesting it. The warnings are understandable. Many people have died shortly after eating hemlock root and its stems are also poisonous.

Several plant guidebooks suggest angelica and water hemlock can be told apart by inspecting the inside of their roots or their leaf vein pattern. However, a few herbalists I spoke to in the Lower 48 strongly discouraged relying on either method when harvesting the plant. Angelica has been found growing in the wild with the same root and leaf veining characteristics of water hemlock, they said.

Another way used to tell look-alike plants apart is to look at their seeds, but this is an impossible task if you are trying to harvest a plant before it goes to seed. Also, unlike some other prevalent angelica species, *A. lucida* seeds do not have “wings” that would differentiate them from water hemlock seeds. I suspect a variety of traditional techniques have been used in Alaska to differentiate between *A. lucida* and water hemlock. However, these techniques have not been widely reported and may not be appropriate to include in a plant guide intended for the general public.

If you are interested in joining a discussion of *A. lucida* and traditional uses of angelica in Alaska, you are welcome to visit my garden website, <https://transcendentalgardening.com>, where I'm continuing to explore the topic. Look for the blog post called “Angelica – Don't Wing it!”



## Plant Profile: Shy Maiden, *Moneses uniflora*, by Gina Docherty

A few years ago I discovered these tiny little wildflowers out in my garden growing under some birch trees in dry shade, growing alongside some relocated Lily of the Valley [Hillside in Anchorage]. Verna Pratt's book describe

it as "A small plant with a rosette of small, light green, roundish leaves (about 2") with shallow teeth... flower on a leafless stem 2 ½ -4" high & has 5 pointed, waxy petals."

*Moneses uniflora* has many names: the One-Flowered Wintergreen (British Isles), Single Delight, Wood Nymph, St. Olaf's candlestick (Norway), Shy Maiden or Star of Bethlehem. It is a plant in the family of Pyrolaceae or 'Wintergreens', which is a subfamily of plants in the Ericaceae family. Pyrolaceae was formerly treated as a separate family. It is the sole member of genus *Moneses*. It is the only species in the family with just one flower. Verna Pratt's book, *A Field Guide to Alaskan Wildflowers*, called this plant "*Monesis Uniflora*" with 2 varieties in Alaska: *M. uniflora* and *M. reticulata*. After researching this, the taxonomy and nomenclature states that 'reticulata' is a synonym of *uniflora*, and not a separate subspecies. I suspect this has to do with dna testing.

*Moneses*, from the Greek words monos (single) and hesis (delight), refers to the single 'delightful' flower. They are fragrant, and irresistible to bees, yet produce no nectar. One must be on their hands & knees with their nose to the ground to appreciate its fragrance.

From specimens collected in Europe, Linnaeus named this species *Pyrola uniflora* in 1753; Richard Salisbury created the *Moneses* genus, probably in the late 1700s; Thomas Nuttall renamed *Pyrola*

*uniflora* to *Moneses reticulata* in 1843; and Asa Gray gave the present name in 1848.

Native American tribes used Wood nymph as a cold remedy and for skin problems. More recently, scientists have discovered that stem and leaf extracts from the plant appear to be useful antibiotics against several mycobacteria, including the organism that causes tuberculosis.

Native Distribution: Circumboreal; in North America, it is found in southern Alaska and east to eastern Canada, and south throughout western mountains to northern California, Arizona, and New Mexico; also in north-eastern United States. Native Habitat: Coniferous forests.

*Moneses uniflora* flowers almost always face the ground, but when the petals have fallen, the stem holding the ripened seed head straightens out, so the seed head is horizontal or vertical. Germination: very difficult to grow from seeds, just like *Pyrola* and *Chimaphila*. But if someone wants to try it, the very fine seeds should be sown directly in the garden in a similar location with their wild habitat.



Photo credits: ©Al Schneider, [www.swcoloradowildflowers.com](http://www.swcoloradowildflowers.com)  
Sources:  
[www.AlutiiqMuseum.org](http://www.AlutiiqMuseum.org)  
Wikipedia  
[www.Wildflower.org](http://www.Wildflower.org)  
[www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers](http://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers)  
(USDA Forest Service)  
[www.swcoloradowildflowers.com](http://www.swcoloradowildflowers.com)

## Arbor Day, May 20, by Susan Negus

Many countries observe this holiday that is celebrated at different times in the spring, depending on climate and a suitable time to plant trees. In Alaska it will be the third Monday in May, which will be May 20, 2019. The times vary because of the best time to plant a tree.

This is a holiday which individuals and groups are encouraged to plant trees. The Spanish village of Mondonedo held the first documented Arbor plantation festival organized by the mayor in 1594. Later, after Napoleon had ravaged Europe, another Spanish town of Villanueva de la Sierra drafted a manifesto in 1805 that exalted the joys of trees and nature, recommending that towns and villages dedicate a day to the planting of tree orchards.

In the United States, settlers moving into Nebraska Territory missed having trees. In 1872, J. Sterling Morton decided

they needed trees as wind breaks to keep soil in place, for fuel, for building, and for shade from the hot sun. He proposed a tree-planting holiday at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture. Prizes were offered to the counties and individuals planting the largest number of trees. On April 10, 1872 it was estimated that more than one million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day. In 1885 it was officially proclaimed a legal State Holiday. Other States have since proclaimed it a holiday as well as different countries around the world

Trees not only bring an aesthetic beauty to our world but are important to our very survival. They not only provide shelter for many species of birds, animals and insects but they are also the lungs of our planet.

Have a Happy Arbor Day by planting a tree.



# Bird Chatter

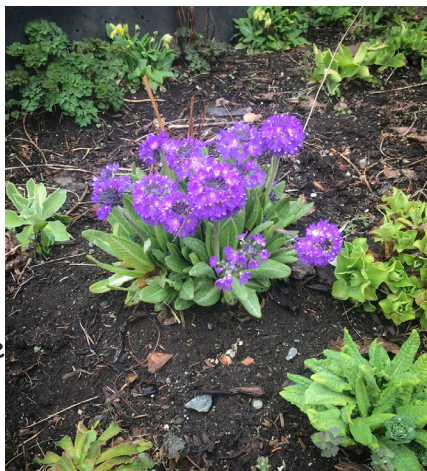
**WE'RE READY ALREADY . . .** Is this town hungry for gardening season or what? The AMGA Annual Conference broke all records-people and money (or so BC is told. No final figures yet). And individual members who set up booths found loads of customers looking to buy-former president Nickel LaFleur raked in more than \$1,000 for her beautiful glass bling. And Lynne Opstad's silent auction was a super success.

Two weeks later, at the Midtown Mall spring garden market, Marya Morrow could barely keep up with people clamoring for her famous dahlia tubers -and information on how best to grow them.

Meanwhile, a couple of tables over at the Rock Garden Society, former AMGA treasurer Cindy Walker sold 170 tomato plants! Yes, she's got a greenhouse. BC is so jealous.

**SAVE THE DATE. . .** The Botanical Garden's big spring plant sale is May 18th. This is a good one to start the season.

**SOUTHERN EXPOSURE. . .** Budding-even blooming-Primula, got snowed on all over town in the late April reminder that we live in Alaska.

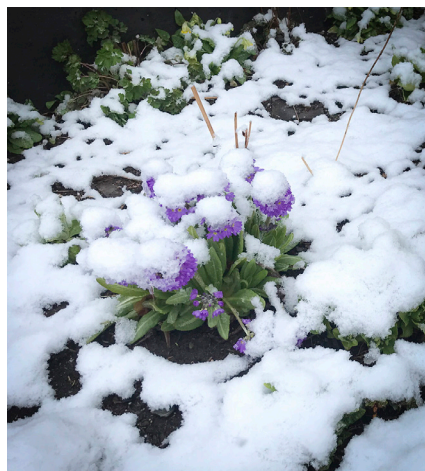


(See photos) But they had it even worse down in the Banana Belt: In Juneau, snow fell on fully bloomed daffodils all over town.

**IF A TREE FALLS IN THE FOREST. . .** Speaking of Nickel, a certified Arborist now living by choice in (yeech) Wasilla, she reminds us that May 20th is Arbor Day.

Says Nickel: It's a perfect day to enhance the landscape "with either a shrub or tree. The Spruce beetle has decimated the MatSu Valley and it is recommended to all in Anchorage/Mat Su that want to save their spruce, to get them sprayed by a certified pesticide applicator business and keep them well watered all summer.

"The ones already infected need to be cut down since they are a fire hazard at best," says Nickel. "It is good to know that the wood chips are NOT a problem to use.. in fact, they are perfect to put around your shrubs and trees."



Remember that time everything bloomed- and THEN it snowed? Primrose before snow 4/17, and after snow 4/18. Photos courtesy Laurie Constantino.



## Thank You Master Gardeners Conference SPONSORS AND DONORS



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### Mountain Buttercup \$100- \$199

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Harry Deuber  
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### Fireweed Up to \$99

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Perennial Gardens  
Northwest Flower and Garden Show  
Alaska Mill and Feed  
Fran Durner  
Gardens by Design  
Greg Kalal  
Lynne Opstad  
Olga Alvord



# May 2019 Garden Event Calendar

## MEETINGS

### Thursday May 2

Anchorage Garden Club; "Growing Food, Supporting Youth" 7-9p at the Pioneer School House, 437 E. 3rd Ave.  
[www.alaskagardenclubs.org](http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org)

### Friday May 3

Herb Study Group: "2019 ABG Herb Garden Plan." Noon-1:30p at CES office, Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St. Anchorage.  
[anchorageherbstudygroup@gmail.com](mailto:anchorageherbstudygroup@gmail.com)

### Monday May 6

Alaska Native Plant Society meeting; Marilyn Barker: Rosaceae genus Comarum," Beth Baker: "What a plant Hears," Anne Pasche presents "Alaska Plant Fossils." 7p, Campbell Creek Science Center, 5600 Science Center. [www.aknps.org](http://www.aknps.org)

### Tuesday May 7

Willow Garden Club: "Pruning and Pinching," #4 in a series with Dan Elliot. 6:45 meet and greet, 7p meeting. Willow Community Center, Willow. [willowgardenclub@hotmail.com](mailto:willowgardenclub@hotmail.com)

### Friday May 10

Wildflower Club Meeting: Meeting at 10a-11:30 ABC  
Wildflower Trail Maintenance. [www.alaska.gardenclubs.org](http://www.alaska.gardenclubs.org)

Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association Meeting: 7p, BP Energy Center, 1014 Energy Court, Anchorage. [www.apfga.org](http://www.apfga.org)

### Saturday May 11

Alaska Rock Garden Clean-up at Alaska Botanical Garden, 10a, bring tools and lunch, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd, Anchorage

### Sunday May 19

Homer Garden Club Meeting, 2-4p, Best Western Bidarka Inn, 575 Sterling HWY, Homer. [www.homergardenclub.org](http://www.homergardenclub.org)

### Monday May 20

AMGA Meeting: "Strange Things Done Under the Midnight Sun: Gardening oddities, eccentricities and bizarre facts of nature", presented by Julie Riley. 7p, BP Energy Center, 1014 energy Court, Anchorage. [alaskamastergardeners.org](http://alaskamastergardeners.org)

## CLASSES /WORKSHOPS

Alaska Botanical Garden Classes: 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road. Registration required. [www.alaskaabg.org](http://www.alaskaabg.org)

- "Guided Gardening with ABC". A unique and comprehensive guided program for the 2019 growing season. Start your garden off right by growing your own at ABC. Garden staff will mentor and guide participants throughout an entire growing season.
- "Summer Camps for Children"; Full day and Half day options.
- Bear Aware at the Zoo Booth by ABC. 12-4p, Sunday May 12
- Hypertufa and container Gardening Workshop. Tue. May 21
- Bed Prep and Planting Workshop, Thursday May 23, 6-7:30p
- Volunteer Training Days 12-6p on May 28 and May 30.

Cooperative Extension Service-Anchorage CES office, Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St. Anchorage. [www.uaf.edu/ces](http://www.uaf.edu/ces)

- Thursday May 8, "Feeding your Urban Farm, Healthy soil for Healthy Gardens". 6-7:30p, \$25. Registration Fee.

Alaska Mill and Feed, 1501 E. 1st Ave, Anchorage, Sign up online, [alaskamillandfeed.com](http://alaskamillandfeed.com) or call 907-276-6016, 30 spots/class.

- Saturday May 4, "Planting a New Lawn," 2-3p, \$5.
- "Shades of Green and a Pop of Yellow" 10- 11a, \$5.
- Saturday May 11, "Raised Bed Gardening" 10-11a, \$5.
- "Raised Bed Gardening Class 2" 11:30a-12:30p, \$5.
- "Raised Bed Gardening Class 3" 1-2p, \$5.
- Saturday May 18th, "Deck Gardening" 10-11a, \$5.
- "Deck Gardening-Class 2" at 12- 1p, \$5.
- Saturday May 25, "Composting with Worms" 10-11a, \$5.
- Saturday June 1, "Garden with Kids" 10- 11:30a, \$15.

Matanuska-Susitna Borough Solid Waste Division, 1201 N. 49th State Street, Palmer. Free of Charge. Registration required send e-mail to [matsugov.us](mailto:matsugov.us) or call 907-745-0758. [matsugov.us](http://matsugov.us)  
Backyard Composting Classes: how to compost manures, yard waste, and food wastes.

- Saturday 5/11/19 from 1 to 3p
- Friday 5/17/19 from 11a to 1p
- Tuesday 5/28/19 from 11a to 1p
- Saturday 6/8/19 from 10a to 12p

Vermi-Composting(worms) Classes: how to start and manage a worm bin, avoid flies and stench and use finished vermi-compost.

- Friday 5/17/19 from 3 to 5p
- Saturday 6/1/19 from 11a to 1p

Certified Master Composting Classes are 2-day courses: how to blend and compost a wider variety of feedstocks for proper C:N ratios, trouble-shoot piles for moisture, temperature, and more. Attendance for both days is required. Master Composters are expected to pledge service hours to train others and/or start a neighborhood composting program. PREREQUISITE: Backyard Composter Cert. required. Vermi-composter Cert. recommended.

- Saturday 5/18/19 from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM
- Saturday 5/25/19 from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM

**Saturday May 18th** Central Peninsula Garden Club, open to club members first, then the public. [www.cenpengardenclub.org](http://www.cenpengardenclub.org)

- Hanging Baskets with Connie from Connie's Flowers
- Wood Plant boxes and trellises with Will Hightower
- Tomato Buckets with Don St John

## CONFERENCES

**June 13-17**, Flower Judges School and Symposium, 8a-4p, Central Lutheran Church, Anchorage. Sponsored by the Anchorage Garden Club. Open to anyone interested in learning more advanced horticulture and or for those seeking to become certified Judges. The subjects: Pelargoniums, Lilacs and Iris. For more information contact Carol Norquest 907-248-9563 or [norquist@alaska.net](mailto:norquist@alaska.net)

# May 2019 Garden Event Calendar

## EVENTS

**May 18,** Reading Rendezvous from 10a-5p CES-Anchorage, Loussac Library Lawn, 3600 Denali St. Anchorage. Includes Gardening Activities. Volunteers needed. Contact Gina Dionne at CES or use the Sign-up Genius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050f4caba729a7f49-cesbooth>

**July 27th-28,** 13th Annual Homer weekend Gardeners Event. Fergus Garrett will be speaking on Saturday evening at 7p at Islands and Ocean Visitor Center in Homer, his Presentation is "Succession Planting in the Mixed Border". Fergus Garrett was the head gardener of the Great Dixter, a Gardening destination in Sussex England. Open Garden Tours will be Sunday from 10a until 5p. [www.homergardenclub.org](http://www.homergardenclub.org)

## PLANT SALES

**Wednesday May 8** King Tech Career Center Annual Plant Sale, 9a-2p, 2650 E. Northern Lights Blvd, Anchorage

**Friday May 10th,** 12-6p, **Sat May 11th,** 9a-6p; Palmer High School FFA Plant Sale and Open House, 1170 W. Arctic Ave, Palmer.

**Saturday May 18** ABG & Alaska Rock Garden Society Plant Sale at ABC, early admission for Garden members at 9a, 10a- 5p, 4601 Campbell Airstrip Road, Anchorage. [www.alaskaabg.org](http://www.alaskaabg.org)

**Tuesday May 21** Highland Corrections Plant Sale, 9a-6p, at Parking lot, 9101 Hesterberg, Eagle River

## Saturday May 25

Homer Garden Club, 11a-1p Homer Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center, 201 Sterling HWY, Homer. [www.homergardenclub.org](http://www.homergardenclub.org)

Alaska Rock Garden Society; 9a- 4p, Snowfire Gardens, 3379 Inlet Vista Circle, Wasilla.

Valley Garden Club, 9a-3p, Boys and Girls Club, 3700 Bogart Road, Wasilla

## Saturday June 1

Anchorage Garden Club Plant Sale, 9a-5p, Check web site 1-2 days ahead to find location. [www.alaskagardenclubs.org](http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org)

Anchorage Senior Center Plant Sale, 10a-2p, Main Entrance, 1300 E. 19th Ave, Anchorage. Perennials and "White Irises".

Mat-Su Master Gardeners Plant Sale, 9a-3p at the Palmer Pavilion (Across from the Visitors Center)

Wildflower Garden Club Plant Sale, 9a-2p, 7435 Old Harbor Road, Anchorage. [www.alaskagardenclubs.org](http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org)

## Saturday June 8

Central Peninsula Garden Club Plant Sale Starting at 10a, Peninsula Grace Church on K-Beach Road in Soldotna. [www.cenpengardenclub.org](http://www.cenpengardenclub.org)

## Saturday August 10

Anchorage Master Gardeners Plant Sale, 9a-4p, Parking lot across from the Alaska Botanical Gardens. [www.alaska mastergardeners.org](http://www.alaska mastergardeners.org)

## Thank you local businesses for helping make the AMGA annual conference a success!

Tamara Johannes, Killer Designs Studio LLC

✿  
Susan Hviid, Simply Susan

✿  
Nickel LaFleur, Garden Bling

✿  
Laura Walter, Whispering Bird Glass

✿  
Allison Lee Hedberg, Lotus Artistries

✿  
Shirley Ryan, Frontier Landscaping

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Mindy Tomazevic, Designer Hot Pads by Mindy

✿  
Petra Illig, Alaska Rhodiola Enterprises, Ilc

✿  
Brenda Adams, Gardens by Design,  
Cool Plants for Cold Climates

✿  
Jaime Rodriguez, Alpine Garden Nursery

Rob Wells, Hatcher Pass Dahlias

✿  
Marcia Clemons, MC's Garden World

✿  
Randy Souhrada, Susitna Organics

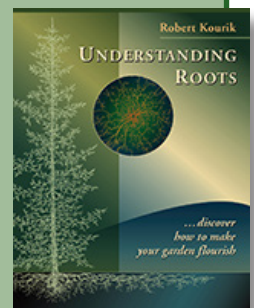
✿  
Wayne Toups, Orchid Society

✿  
Pamela Allen, Pamela's Cottage and  
the Alaska Botanical Garden

Nonprofit groups: AARP;  
Cooperative Extension Service

Special thanks to anchorage Mayor  
Ethan Berkowitz and his office for open-  
ing the conference with wisdom and wit.

And thanks to our keynote speaker,  
Robert Kourik, popular garden writer,  
presenter, and the author of  
*Understanding Roots*, among others.





## The Last AMGA 2019 Spring Meeting

**May 20:** Strange Things Done Under the Midnight Sun: Gardening oddities, eccentricities, and bizarre facts of nature, with Julie Riley.

Conference moose logo T-shirts, hoodies, packable wind breaker, and other AMGA items will be available at the May meeting.

## Tree Trivia

A recent study, published in the journal *Nature*, calculated that there are three trillion trees on planet Earth . . . most of those trees aren't ours. The lion's share of the world's trees live in tropical or subtropical forests. The United States is home to just 228 billion trees, a piddling 8% of the planetary total, which as of 2015 averaged out to 716 trees per person. This isn't much compared to Brazil: 1,494 trees per person; Russia: 4,461; or Canada: 8,954; but it's still a whole lot better than China: 102 trees per person; or India, a mere 28. Excerpt from "Dear Tree" by Becky Rupp in *GreenPrints*, Spring 2019 edition. Edited for brevity.

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

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:	Don Bladow
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

## SAVE THE DATE!

**AMGA LATE SEASON PLANT SALE:**  
AMGA members mark your calendars for August 10, 2019!

As we move outside into our gardens and begin to think about moving, eliminating, dividing, downsizing some of those over-grown perennial plants and/or you started too many perennials this year—consider potting some of them up and growing them on in a back corner of your garden for AMGA's late season plant sale. You can do this with your spring garden efforts—as well as throughout the summer. Plant sale guidelines are available on AMGA's website.

More information to come as details are firmed up for the second Saturday in August!

## Membership Renewal

If you have not renewed your membership, do it now to stay on our mailing list.  
Contact Don Bladow: [dfbladow@gmail.com](mailto:dfbladow@gmail.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](mailto: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](http://www.alaskamastergardeners.org)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/Alaska-Master-Gardeners-Anchorage](https://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 Don Bladow at: [dfbladow@gmail.com](mailto:dfbladow@gmail.com)

