

ALASKA MASTER GARDENERS ANCHORAGE

AMGA NEWSLETTER

March 2020
Volume 22, Issue 3

President's Message by Susan Negus

March Madness is upon us. Of course, I don't mean basketball. The daylight hours are coming back quickly. We need to decide what to start and when. Then there is always the question of when spring will actually come to Alaska. Seems like the last few years have been early. When I look outside, there is more snow than the last time I wrote this. If I only had a crystal ball. I am certainly enjoying more daylight, as are my houseplants. The calendar first day of spring is March 19, 2020.

At the March 16th monthly meeting we will have a Seed Exchange at the Munch and Mingle. Some people will have seeds they harvested themselves and others will have extra and older seeds, hopefully not too old. Other garden groups have seed exchanges, but I don't think we have had a seed exchange for a few years. We can see how it goes and maybe make it an annual event.

Directories have been mailed out and you should have them in your hands. Janice Berry put it all together with the assistance of membership coordinator Alexis St. Juliana. Cheryl Chapman did the heavy proof reading. I am grateful for all the work they did on the directory. Don't forget all the monthly meetings are listed in there for the whole year and also whoever signed up for refreshments and greeters. The cover was a photo from Marya Morrow's first award for Creative Crops entry at the State Fair last year.

Gina Dionne will have First Friday Topics from 12p-1p at CES. I have given her a list of the topics that the members have requested from their membership forms and hopefully she can address some of those topics. Gina has written about First Friday in this Newsletter and you can see what the first topic will be. She always has interesting titles.

Southeast Alaska will have a garden Conference in Juneau March 20-22, "The Art and Science of Gardening." They have many good speakers lined up. It would be great to get some Anchorage Master Gardeners down there to support the Southeast Alaska Garden Conference, see how it is run, and bring back some tips. Check it out at seak-mastergardeners.com. We could be talked into sponsoring someone's registration if they would be willing to apply their knowledge to the next Anchorage Statewide conference.

Looks like there will be an Advanced Master Gardener Class this spring, April/May. When details are firmed up they will become available to members. The subject is Permaculture.

AMGA will have a table at the Midtown Mall Saturday Feb. 29 and Saturday March 7, from 9:30a to 5p. for Fur Rondy. This is a volunteer opportunity and the Sign-up Genius was sent out with the announcement for the monthly meeting with Kathy Liska, Our Fair Lady. I mention that because it is sometimes hard to find.

April 11 we will have a table at the Garden show at Midtown Mall. Members can bring in plants/starts to sell. There will be yellow tags at the next monthly meeting, or you can contact me to get some. This is another volunteer opportunity and Sign-Up Genius will be sent out after Fur Rondy.

Big Thank You to all that volunteer.

Top: Fresh starts at Anchorage Greens the February pop-up grower tour. Above: Co-owner Trevor Kirchhoff talks to FX Nolan in front of seed tray racks. Photos by Emily Becker.



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AMGA February Presentation Summary: “A Fair Lady” by Kathy Liska

Susan Negus, AMGA President, provided a few updates before the presentation:

As a segue to this evening’s presentation, Master Gardener Marya Morrow’s 2019 State Fair entry was a basket of 21 varieties and is shown on the front page of AMGA’s 2020 Directory.

“My Fair Lady” is Kathy Liska, Palmer’s Alaska State Fair Horticulture Manager and Crop Superintendent. After 25 years with the fair, Kathy is still loving it and shared how others can join in the fun. She summarized the history of the fair that began as the Matanuska Valley Fair in 1936 and provided some of the more interesting and entertaining tidbits about the more recent fairs.

The first fair planning coincided with the establishment of the Matanuska Colony of over 200 out-of-work families who moved from Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan in 1935. Part of the government’s intent was to decrease imported food. The first year fair had a Fair Queen, a Baby Show, and many other events, including agriculture. At that time, crops displayed were mostly limited to those in the Kohl family. Although there were no fairs from 1942 - 1946 during WW II, they resumed in 1947 and have continued uninterrupted since. There are approximately 300,000 fair-goers annually.

In 1956, the name was changed to the Alaska State Fair, and has become world-renown for the giant vegetables, particularly cabbages and pumpkins. There is currently an Alaska State Fair cabbage in the Guinness World Records along with a number of past records. There are now 23 crops departments with 1,200 - 1,600 entries per year and 15 flower departments with 1,600 - 2,000 entries per year. There are two entry periods for each fair. Exhibitors can enter for one or the other or both periods. There are some sub-categories, mostly for junior growers (ages 6-17) and some for commercial growers. There is also a “Potato Parade” for ages 5 and under who get special ribbons!

Entry forms must be completely filled out, and personal information is folded up to keep it private from the viewing public. Judges look for uniformity of shapes and sizes, proper trimming, identification, and more. Judges have catalogs to look at to compare with exhibits. The more information included on the entry label, such as Latin plant name, the more points an entry receives. Labels on exhibits are for everyone’s information and to educate the public. If starts are used from a greenhouse, the name of the greenhouse or supplier is required. It is recommended that exhibitors bring a few extras in case of damage.

Division 6, Mushrooms had only three entries last year (there weren’t many wild mushrooms during that part of the season) so cultivated mushrooms will be new this year. Divisions 7 and 8 include outdoor, greenhouse and winter-sheltered tree fruits such as peaches, plums, quince, apricots (Manchurian) and cherries. In addition to labeling berries, foliage must be included. Another tip: no grocery store stuff!

Flower judging includes details such as how far into bloom an optimum entry should be. There are suggestions on how an

exhibitor can remove pollen and other tips. Kathy provided a number of recommendations for cutting and preserving flowers.

Some favorite displays are Honey & Bees, the Bonsai displays and Division 13 for Artistic Design. “Veg Heads” encourages creativity and are another favorite category, open to age groups 6-12, 13-17 and Open. A new category will be for classrooms of first to sixth grades.

The Pumpkin Weigh Off is a main event with the current record set in 2019 of 2,051 pounds. The State of Alaska Weights & Measures representative signs off on all weights. 2019 was the 25th Annual Weigh off for cabbages with Palmer Boy Scouts, the Green Mountain Boys, wrangling cabbages that came to the fair. Cabbages have been known to blow up or crack open in hot weather. The current fair and world record is over 138 pounds. There are the Cabbage Fairies with their calendar as well as a cabbage-themed limerick contest.

The Main Plaza topiary displays are crowd favorites. There are 10 helpers who have planted over 40,000 seeds, prepared 150 hanging baskets, 200 whiskey barrels and numerous spotlight garden beds throughout the fair grounds.

There is something for everyone, especially for every gardener, both exhibitor and visitor. Gardeners who exhibit at the fair often become addicted to it!

Look for more detailed tips from Kathy in a future newsletter before the height of summer. She has lots of insider tips on following guidelines that earn entrants extra points. Instructions are in the Exhibitor Guide that is now on-line at <https://www.alaskastatefair.org> Check it out and get ready for the 2020 fair!



Sumptuous greens, in winter! Growing at Anchorage Greens, seen at the February pop-up tour. Photo by Emily Becker. To learn more about their business and how to purchase fresh greens, visit: <https://www.anchoragegreens.com/>

AMGA Treasurer's Report, January 2019

By Nancy Grant

Balances 01/01/2020

Checking S-88	\$16,406.45
Savings S-1	\$5.25
Savings S-19	\$16,866.11
CD-Education 5yr 1.650% (12/20)	\$5,348.13
CD- General 2yr 1.95% (1/21)	\$10,452.48
	\$49,078.42

Revenue:

Interest/Dividends	\$2.86
Membership	\$779.50
Donations	\$45.00
	\$827.36

Expense:

Operations	\$146.99
	\$146.99

Balances 02/01/2020

Checking S-88	\$17,083.96
Savings S-1	\$5.25
Savings S-19	\$16,868.97
CD-Education 5yr 1.650% (12/20)	\$5,348.13
CD- General 2yr 1.95% (1/21)	\$10,452.48
	\$49,758.79

New Year, New Seeds by Elizabeth Bluemink

I have a confession to make—I've mostly kicked the seed catalog addiction. I still enjoy thumbing or clicking through a few favorite catalogs, but mostly, I'm scanning for a favorite variety to stock up on or investigating anything marked "NEW." That said, I still rely on catalogs for new and unusual varieties to try out in Anchorage. Some of the seeds I picked for 2020 are pushing the envelope for our latitude/day length and climate. Last year, I went a little overboard with "new" seeds.

Here's a recap:

- Guinea Bean/Snake Gourd – The seeds did not germinate. Next time I will gently crack the tough seed coat and try to be patient. They can take a month to germinate!
- Bitter Melon – The flowers of this plant perfumed my greenhouse and produced a few melons, which I did not eat but enjoyed anyway. Many people were surprised I could grow this tropical plant in an unheated greenhouse in Alaska.
- Eastern Rise Winter Squash – Healthy vines produced few female flowers and thus not many squash (not the variety's fault) in my low tunnel.
- Pan di Zuccherio Chicory – This is a succulent bitter green that tended to bolt. Only one plant grew completely into an attractive pillar, and I churned the rest into pesto.
- Fiero Radicchio – This is another delicious bitter green bred to grow tall. Most of the plants bolted but the leaves were good to eat.
- Baltisk Rod Purpurkal Kale – These deep-purple kale giants kept feeding us, almost until Christmas.

- Root Grex Beet – Grown in pure compost, this variety produced the largest, most colorful beets of any I've grown. The leaves were also enormous and succulent.



- Valley Girl Tomato – This is a good variety that will join the regular rotation. It doesn't seem to be as stressed by the variable conditions of my greenhouse as some other northern favorites.
- Adam Gherkin Cucumber – I prefer pickling varieties without bumpy, thick skin, so this is a new favorite. It grew very fast and uniformly in my low tunnel.
- White Half-Runner Beans – I don't recommend eating the pods—too tough—but if you wait to pick them until right before frost hits, they make excellent shelling beans. The vines are a little more manageable than traditional runner beans.
- Ascent Peppers – These Thai hot peppers nearly took over the greenhouse and I was still picking them after the first frost.

This winter, I visited the Baker Creek heirloom seed store in Missouri, so many of my new seeds for 2020 were purchased in person rather than from a catalog. In continuation of my experiments with varieties that aren't well adapted for Alaska, I purchased seed for a couple exotic radishes – Japanese Wasabi and Sichuan Red Beauty. I also purchased Chinese Pink Celery and Queen of Malinalco Tomatillo.

On the herb front, I purchased wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*) and the Kapoor/Rama variety of holy basil (*Ocimum tenuiflorum*), also known as tulsi basil. I did some research before my herb purchases. On one hand, I was interested in growing a plot of different types of wormwood, but I found out these species are likely to hybridize – something I don't want. Also, at least four species of tulsi basil are available from online sellers, so I had to think about the characteristics I wanted. I opted for Kapoor/Rama, the main type grown in India, though now I'm sorting of wishing I had picked the Shyama/Krishna variety.

Do you have advice on any of these varieties? Want to dish on your own new seed selections for this year? Join the conversation at <https://transcendentalgardening.com/>

Elizabeth's grown in Alaska experiments.

Above: Jade Dragon bitter melon.

Left: Ascent Thai chilis. Photos by Elizabeth Bluemink.



Northwest Flower and Garden Festival 2020

by Ginger Hudson

Did you see the headline in *The Guardian*: “Spring arrives earlier than ever recorded in southern US – adding to climate trend”? It isn’t just the south, as I touched down at SeaTac airport on February 20, cherry trees were already beginning to bloom. This year’s Northwest Flower and Garden Festival (NWFGF) title was “Spring Fever,” but the theme among presenters was “Adapt your garden to the changing climate” –no matter where you live. The subtitle could have been “Native plants are best adapted and that helps to garden for wildlife.”

Presentations helped attendees cope with the rising temperature faced by Northwestern gardeners: “Combating climate change in your garden”, “Changing times, changing gardens”, and “Fascinating connections between plants, people, and the environment”. Other presenters talked about diversifying gardens to attract wildlife, most with native plants: “Attracting birds, butterflies, and other backyard wildlife”, “Selecting native plants: a curated approach”, “Making meadows: biodiverse habitats to support pollinators and wildlife”, and more.

All the speakers were professional, easy to understand, and illustrated their talks with amazing photos, videos, and sounds. David Culp’s “Making Meadows” stood out because of his dedication to the art and science. It takes years to see a meadow mature and he has created some soft, serene spaces that now harbor multitudes of pollinators. Culp educated the audience on the varieties of meadows—from wide ranging horizons, to small forest glades.

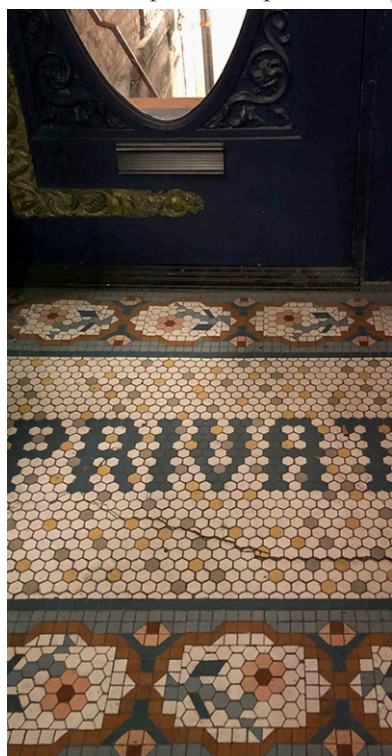
And yes, there are even meadows in Alaska. A lovely reclaimed example can be seen at the Alaska Botanical Garden (ABG). When the new accessible trail was constructed, a portion of the old path can now be seen glistening gold in the fall. It is best viewed from the back part of the paved trail approximately where the painted bear lives. Look west with the sun shining through.

I didn’t go with the fantasy of bringing plants back. No, I wasn’t tempted by the hellebores and rhodies, although Gina Docherty could prove us wrong on the latter—not that the display and competition gardens weren’t drool-worthy. I went to hear Jennifer Jewell lift up the incredible work done by women in the horticulture profession. From writers, to researchers, to rangers, her new book *The Earth in Her Hands* profiles seventy-five living plantswomen. Of course I went to see Dan Hinkley bursting with enthusiasm about plants that are adapting to the Northwestern

climate which he has accidentally rescued from the wild. I use the term accidental because he couldn’t have known when he collected a wild hydrangea in Vietnam that it would later lose habitat to advancing horticulture fields, including the beloved spice cardamom.

And of course, yours truly went to learn how to become a presenter herself. I met Janet Endsley, Seminar and Judging Coordinator for MarketPlace Events. She provided NWFGF tickets for last year’s AMGA annual conference. Endsley is a bundle of energy and enjoys finding great presenters. She is endeared to Brenda Adams and was delighted to have Pat Ryan of ABC back for a second year teaching how to make tufa troughs. (More on that in a future newsletter)

Once upon a time, I lived in Southern California for nearly ten years. It may be a travesty that as a gardener I never attended the Rose Parade. I was redeemed this spring at the Flower Festival. I learned from festival Operations Manager Courtney Goetz that she and Janet Endsley have been with the Festival for years. She also told a meeting of Garden Communicators that in 2018 Marketplace Events (ME) purchased the Festival and it is through ME that the connection was made to bring in the exciting Fleurs de Ville collaborators. The model displays were like Rose Parade floats for haute couture. Fleurs de Ville teams up with local florists and designers to create these ephemeral masterpieces, all made of plant or natural materials. You’ll be seeing more of these in newsletters to come, along with some container ideas and more in-depth commentary on recognizing the way plants are adapting, or not, to earlier springs.



Top and above: Two of several designs co-created by local Seattle florists and the international design team of Fleurs de Ville. Left: flowers were everywhere from early blooming cherry trees, to antique doorways, and utility service hole covers. Photos by Ginger Hudson.

Liar, liar, pants on fire!

RATS . . . Missed it again – the storied Northwest Flower and Garden Festival in Seattle that ended March 1st. With 350 exhibits, they reported 80,000 attendees this year, including some of our own – Ginger Hudson, Fran Durner and Cindy Walker among them. Fran reported attending six seminars in one day.

Next year! Definitely!

OK, maybe that's not exactly how our mission statement reads but close enough.

Check out the Alaska School Garden Network on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/386873218496413/>
 or contact Emily for more info. emilvandzeke@yahoo.com

Airport Heights Elementary
Anchorage Waldorf School
Aquarian Charter School
Bayshore Elementary
Benny Benson Elementary
Campbell Elementary
Chester Valley Elementary
Chinook Elementary
College Gate Elementary
Dimond High School
East High School
Girdwood K-8
Government Hill Elementary
Huffman Elementary
Inlet View Elementary
Kasun Elementary
Kincaid Elementary
Lake Hood Elementary
Lake Otis Elementary
McLaughlin Youth Center
North Star Elementary
Polaris K-12
Rabbit Creek Elementary
South High School
Steller Secondary
Student Nutrition
Susitna Elementary
Trailside Elementary
Tyson Elementary
Wendler Middle School
West High School
Williwaw Elementary
Willow Crest Elementary
Winterberry Charter School
Wonderpark Elementary



Top 10 School Garden Barriers Ranked

1. Time constraints
2. Insufficient funding
3. No garden curriculum
4. Lack of parent/community involvement
5. Gardening knowledge/resources
6. Staff/Faculty Interest
7. Leadership
8. Land Constraints
9. Vandalism concerns
10. Watering system

Schools with:

Garden Beds: 27
Indoor Grow Lights: 10
Greenhouse: 10

Used in class activities: 17
Used in afterschool activities: 4
Used in extra curriculars: 14
Reported as inactive: 6



March 2020 Garden Event Calendar

Meetings and Events

March 2, Monday

Alaska Native Plant Society, 7p-9p. Beth Baker presents "The botanical John Muir." Rosaceae: Joan Tovsen presents Chamaerhodos (little rose). Alpine Beringian Endemics: Aaron Wells presents *Ranunculus turneri* ssp. *turneri*. Campbell Creek Science Center, 5600 Science Center Drive. aknps.org

March 2, Monday

Mat-Su Master Gardeners Association, 7p. Dr. Patricia Hollo-way "Seed Saving." Meeting at the Matanuska Experiment Farm and Extension Center, 1509 S. Georgeson Drive, Palmer. In the Kerttula Hall in the "Blue Room." matsumastergardeners.com

March 3, Tuesday

Eagle River Garden Club, 7p-8p, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 18444 Old Glenn Hwy, Chugiak. alaskagardenclubs.org

March 3, Tuesday

Valley Garden Club, 10:30a. Includes a potluck lunch. First Baptist Church of Wasilla on the corner of Leatherleaf Loop and Bogard Rd. valleygardenclub.com

March 5, Thursday

Anchorage Garden Club, 7p-9p. "Alaska Birch Syrup." Pioneer School House, 437 E. 3rd Av, Anchorage. alaskagardenclubs.org

March 7, Saturday

Fur Rondy at the Midtown Mall There will be volunteer opportunities to help at the table. Look for the Sign up Genius.

March 8, Sunday

Cook Inlet Bonsai Study Group, 1p. "Building Wooden Pots for Root over Rock and Exposed Root Bonsai." Dimond Green Houses, 1050 W Dimond Bl, Anchorage. pmarmora@aol.com; Put "Bonsai" in subject line. alaskabonsaiclubs.org

March 12, Thursday

Wildflower Garden Club, 10a-12p. "Why you should be Thankful for Insects," by Jessie Moan from CES. Become a member to attend. Central Lutheran Church, 1420 Cordova St, Anchorage. wildflowergardenclub.org

March 12, Thursday

Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association. 7p- 9p. TBA. BP Energy Center, 1014 Energy Court, Anchorage. www.apfga.org

March 13, Friday

Herb Study Group, Noon-1:30p. Perilla and/or Mayapples. CES Learning Commons, 4th floor of Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St., Anchorage. For questions, send e-mail to anchorageherbstudygroup@gmail.com

March 15, Sunday

Homer Garden Club, 2p-4p. Aspen Suites Hotel, Homer. Homergardenclub.org

March 16, Monday

AMGA Monthly Meeting, munch and mingle 6:30-7p with "Seed Exchange". 7p presentation by Nick Riordan from Yarcopia, "Need a Garden Coordinator or does your Garden need a Gardener?" BP Energy Center, 1014 Energy Court, Anchorage. alaskamastergardeners.org

March 21, Saturday

Alaska Rock Garden Society, "Hypertufa Trough Essentials - Building and Planting a Trough" by Jaime Rodriguez of The Alpine Garden Nursery, 2p. NEW LOCATION: Palmer CES at the Matanuska Experiment Farm, 1509 S. Georgeson Dr., Palmer. details <https://www.akrockgardensociety.org/>

March 24, Tuesday

Alaska Orchid Society, 6:30p-9p. BP Energy Center, 1014 Energy Court, Anchorage. akororchid.org

April 2, Thursday

Anchorage Garden Club, 7p-9p. "Basic Soil Care." Pioneer School House, 437 E. 3rd Av, Anchorage. alaskagardenclubs.org

April 11, Saturday

Garden Show at the Midtown Mall. 10a-5p. This is a great event where all the garden clubs have a table and many are selling plants for this spring. Our table will have plants for sale, limit 2-4 flats per member with yellow tags Volunteer Opportunities

Classes /Workshops

March 6, Friday

CES First Friday Series, 12p -12:30 p "Waking Houseplants Up from Winter Dormancy" presented by Gina Dionne. CES Learning Commons, 4th floor of Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St., Anchorage. uaf.edu

March 14, Saturday

Alaska Botanical Garden. 1p - 4p, "Winter Plant ID and Walk" by Dr. Marilyn Barker. 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd, Anchorage. alaskabg.org

March 14, Saturday

Alaska Mill and Feed, 10a - 11:30a "Bee Keeping Class." \$10/ person Alaska Mill and Feed Classroom, 1301 E First Ave, Anchorage. shop.alaskamillandfeed.com

March 18, Wednesday

CES. 6:30p -7:30p, "Get Set Garden" presented by Gina Dionne. \$25 per person. CES Learning Commons, 4th floor of Loussac Library, 3600 Denali St, Anchorage. uaf.edu

March 2020 Garden Event Calendar

March 21, Saturday

Alaska Mill and Feed, 10a - 11:30a
"Seed Potato Class." \$10/person.
Alaska Mill and Feed Classroom,
1301 E First Ave, Anchorage.
shop.alaskamillandfeed.com

March 24, Tuesday

Alaska Botanical Garden, 6:00p-7:30p.
"Succulent Workshop" by Dawn
Groth. 4601 Campbell Airstrip Rd,
Anchorage. alaskabg.org

March 26, Thursday

CES. 6p -7:30p, "Accessible Garden
Design," Presented by Ira Edwards.
\$25 per person. CES Learning Com-
mons, 4th floor of Loussac Library,
3600 Denali St., Anchorage. uaf.edu

March 28, Saturday

Alaska Mill and Feed, 12p -1p "Raspberry and Strawberry
Care." \$10/person. Alaska Mill and Feed Classroom, 1301 E
First Ave, Anchorage. shop.alaskamillandfeed.com

March 29, Sunday

Eagle River Nature Center, 11a. "Succ-ered by Succulents."
\$15/person. Eagle River Nature Center, Main Bldg. 32750
Eagle River Road, Eagle River. ernc.org

April 4, Saturday

Alaska Mill and Feed, "Slugs, Bugs and other Thugs,"
11a-12:30p and a 12:30p -2p, \$10/person.
"Start your Veggies Class," 2p - 3p, \$10/person. Alaska Mill
and Feed Classroom, 1301 E First Ave, Anchorage. shop.
alaskamillandfeed.com

Summer Field Courses in Denali National Park

Alaska Geographic and National Park Service will have invig-
orating field courses this summer. Courses include transpor-
tation, overnight accommodations and hearty meals. For more
information or to register please visit: <https://www.akgeo.org/field-courses/> or phone 907-683-6432

June 8 -10: Birds of Denali

June 23 -25: Wildflowers of Denali.

June 26 -28: Paleontology in Denali"

July 8 -10: Wolves of Denali

July 29 -31: Denali Large Mammals

August 5 -7: Denali's Mosses and Lichens

August 7- 9: Denali's Alpine Wildlife and Climate Change

August 19 -21: Bears of Denali Conferences



Conferences

March 20 - 23

Southeast Alaska Garden Conference. "The Art and Science of
Gardening." Juneau. Tickets Available at seak-mastergardeners.org

July 18 - 22

Botany 2020, Organized by the Botanical Society of America, will
be in Anchorage. In association with the American Fern Society,
Society of Herbarium Curators, International Society for Plant
Taxonomy, and more: cms.botany.org/home.html

Alaska Community Forest Council offers Arbor Day grants

The council is offering grants in the \$200-\$500 range,
which can be used to plant trees or shrubs, or support
other activities that promote Arbor Day in Alaska. The
grants are aimed at local governments, schools, and
nonprofit organizations. **Grant applications must be
submitted by 5 p.m. on March 20.**

The grants are intended to fund projects that:

- Increase public awareness of the benefits of trees and forests; build support for planting and caring for public trees
- Provide a public demonstration of proper tree selection, planting and care
- Use trees to solve community problems: reducing or treating storm water, creating wind breaks or living snow fences, restoring streams and rivers, planting fruit trees to provide healthy food, screening surfaces prone to graffiti, calming traffic, and beautifying school yards.

Forms and guidelines:

<http://forestry.alaska.gov/community/council>



Winter Meetings 2019 - 2020

March 16 Meeting

Nick Riordan from Yardocopia
 "Need a Garden Coordinator or,
 does your Garden need a Gardener"
 Garden sharing for those who are
 unable to tend their gardens,
 or those who live in places that
 do not have gardens.

Refreshments by
 Jan Hart and Shawn Hamilton
 Greeters: Barbara Baker and Marsha Korri

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

Meetings are held at the BP Energy Center, 1014 Energy Court, Anchorage, accessed through the BP tower parking lot, the Energy Center is just south of the main building.

NOTE: meeting location may change

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

Reminder: The Spring Garden Show at MidTown Mall Saturday April 11

Membership Renewal

Memberships are based on calendar year.

If you have not renewed, bring your cash or check to the next meeting. Or, find a membership form in last November's newsletter and mail to the address below.
 Or, contact Alexis St. Juliana: astjuliana@hotmail.com

AMGA Board of Directors

Susan Negus	President
Emily Becker	Vice President
Nancy Grant	Treasurer
Beth Norris	Secretary
Elaine Hammes	At Large
F.X. Nolan	At Large
Faye Stiehm	At Large
Jan Van DenTop	At Large

Committee Chairs, Program Coordinators & Volunteers

CES Liaison:	Elaine Hammes
CES Master Gardener Program Liaison:	Steve Brown or Gina Dionne
Broadcast Email:	Faye Stiehm
Calendar of Events:	Susan Negus
Advanced MG:	Don Bladow, Fran Pekar
Directory Editor:	Janice Berry
Meetings and other educational programs:	Emily Becker
Garden Tours:	Emily Becker
Google Group:	Mary Rydesky
Managers:	Gina Docherty and Jane Baldwin
Grants Program:	Elaine Hammes
Hospitality:	Lynn Hansen, Ruthe Rasmussen, Sharon Schlicht, and Wendy Willie
Membership & Database:	Alexis St. Juliana
Newsletter Editor:	Ginger Hudson
Website:	Gina Docherty
Lifetime Achievement and Grants:	Lynne Opstad
Pioneer Home:	Lynne Opstad, Ginger Hudson
Volunteer Coordinator:	Julie Ginder
Volunteer Coordinator:	Susan Negus

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

