

ALASKA ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER

Volume 5, Issue 3

May 2001

Calendar

Mark Your Calendars Now! The next issue comes in September. Also check for late breaking current events at the Alaska Rock Garden Website at:

<http://www.args.org/>

Sat. – Mon. May 26-28, 2001. ARGS Plant Sale. Recluse Gardens, McAllister and the Parks Highway just past Church Road, Wasilla. Rhonda Williams, 373-0925.

Tour Guide Training—Verna Pratt 333-8282 (verna@alaskakrafts.com)

Sun., May 27, 2001. Bird Ridge. Moderate to Difficult. All Day. Meet at 8:30 AM at UAA, Science/Library Parking Lot (west end). 9:00-9:15 at the trailhead. Verna Pratt 333-8282 (verna@alaskakrafts.com)

Thurs. May 31, 2001. Glen Alps. Easy. 7—10 PM. State Park Fee Area. Meet at Boniface Center (near the bus stop) for carpooling and we'll leave promptly at 6:20 PM.

Sun. June 3, Bird Ridge. Moderate to difficult. All Day. Meet at Bird Ridge at 9:00—9:15 AM. Carpooling at Sears Mall (the southeast corner near Benson and

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From Our
President,
Florene
Carney

It seems that spring has been having a hard time finding its way to our door. We can only hope that this time next year the weather will be perfect! The 2002 Committee is meeting monthly and each Chairperson is doing their job faithfully. Overall Chairman, Jaime Rodriguez, has a checklist for timelines and we are all keeping an anxious eye on it. Frank and Verna Pratt attended the Annual General Meeting of the North American Rock Garden Society this month and I'm looking forward to hearing their observations. People are excited about coming to Alaska and we do have a lot to share with visitors. If you haven't already done so, please be sure to let us know which area you'd like to participate in to make the 2002 Annual General meeting the best ever held. Every member will be important

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in making it a success. As the time draws near it will be a case of "if you don't call us – we'll call you!"

We have been putting together a slide program on "Building An Alaskan Rock Garden" that will be available to any ARGS Member who wishes to check it out. It will include slides; a detailed slide list that can be copied and handed out; commentary, for those who wish to use it; and a list of Easy Rock Garden Plants for Alaska. The slides have come from several members of the ARGS Membership and are great. I did the program for the Homer Garden Club earlier this month and it got rave reviews. The plant list has been reviewed by Verna Pratt, Rhonda Williams, Jaime Rodriguez, Teena Garay, and myself and is still a work in progress. As people look at it they say, "I have had wonderful success with such and such a plant," which of course isn't on the list. Or they will say, "Boy, that plant was a complete failure for me." I am including the list in this Newsletter and would like to ask that you give me feedback on your successes or failures with the plants that are listed. If you have a plant that you feel has been left off the list and should be added, let me know that too. We would like to have this list be as comprehensive as possible while keeping in mind the title, "Easy Rock Garden Plants for Alaska." Maybe we should qualify the list for South Central Alaska and ask people in Juneau, Fairbanks, and the Kenai Peninsula to add a notation to fit their areas. Any comments you have will be appreciated. My e-mail address is: snowfire@ak.net, or if you prefer snail mail, my mailing address is: HC 31 Box 5212, Wasilla, AK 99654. It would also be helpful if you could tell me a little bit about growing conditions for any plants that you have had great success with. Include amount of sun, soil conditions, drainage, etc. I really do want to hear from you!

Plant sales are coming up. Be sure to participate by either adding to your collection or selling plants (maybe both!) You will find dates listed in the calendar of events at the beginning of this newsletter. If you have a plant that is special and doing very well, save one for the rock garden at the Alaska Botanical Garden and bring it to the next meeting. This is an exciting time of year. I look forward to seeing all of you at the summer sales and meetings.

Happy gardening!

A REQUEST FOR OPEN GARDEN TOURS

Do you have, or know others who have, a special garden or one with some special interest in mid-June? Are you willing to open your gardens to Outside visitors? The annual general meeting of the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS) will be held in Anchorage in June of 2002. Up to 400 folks from Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. are expected to attend. ARGS is working to secure several private gardens which conference participants would be able to tour while they are here. We are currently soliciting potential sites for this event. If you have, or know of someone who has, a garden with some interesting and/or unique features that would be of interest to these visitors, please let us know. Although the participants would be especially interested in rock gardens, we will consider sites without rock gardens where there are other elements of interest. ARGS representatives will visit sites this summer and will make a selection of gardens after all have been viewed. Gardens do not have to belong to ARGS members, so please nominate gardens you know of that do not belong to ARGS members. To have your garden, or that of someone you know, considered for inclusion in the NARGS 2002 tour, please contact Annie Nevaldine at 333-2100 or anevaldine@corecom.net.

GARDEN AND YARD DECORATIONS

Annie Nevaldine is planning to make a slide presentation to the NARGS annual meeting in 2002 here in Anchorage on Alaskan garden and yard art and whimsy. Since the conference is in June, all the photography for this talk needs to be done this summer. She is currently seeking sites to photograph. Any and all decorative elements, no matter how small or large, garish or beautiful, artistic or funky, tasteful or gaudy will be appropriate for this show. No judgments will be made, and all opportunities will be photographed. The purpose of this project is to give the visitors an angle of Alaskan gardening that they perhaps don't see in their locales. She would like to obtain permission to photograph all manner of features to show the Mexican, Canadian, and American participants of the annual meeting what Alaskans do to decorate their homes, yards, and gardens. Help her accumulate a comprehensive show. Please contact Annie (333-2100; anevaldine@corecom.net) if you have any art and whimsy and/or if you know of anyone who does.



ANCHORAGE HORTICULTURE COALITION

When Mayor Wuerch last fall announced a 25% cut to the horticulture budget for 2001, a group of dedicated and passionate gardeners pulled together to form a grass-roots advocacy organization, The Anchorage Horticulture Coalition. We have a single mission: to promote municipal support of horticulture by increasing awareness of its contributions to our quality of life. We are pleased to report some significant progress and success.

With the objective of restoring this funding, the Coalition set, and has met, several short-term goals. First, we mobilized citizens to voice their objections to the cut. The vociferous public outcry was heard clearly by the assembly.

Second, we aimed to influence the assembly election this spring. The Coalition was instrumental in securing Janice Shamborg to run for the South Anchorage seat, which she won in a run-off on May 1. We polled all 16 candidates running for the six assembly seats regarding their positions on public funding of horticulture. The results were compiled as a voter guide and mailed to thousands of residents.

Third, the culmination of these efforts resulted on April 24 in the unanimous vote by the assembly to approve a budget amendment sponsored by Assemblywoman Pat Abney and so-sponsored by six other members to restore \$370,000 of the \$400,000 cut. This represents a HUGE victory for the entire community. We are proud of our effectiveness and our success so far.

Thank you for the support you have already given toward the efforts of the Coalition. As a grass-roots endeavor, the Coalition would not be successful without community support. Your input has been invaluable. The Coalition plans to extend its efforts into the future, continuing to promote horticulture.

Although the time and labor of the Coalition's members have been volunteer, there are expensive operating costs incurred in funding our projects. The Coalition continues fund-raising to pay not only for expenses already incurred but also for expenses we will incur in the future. We will gratefully accept a donation in any amount to be used solely toward the promotion of municipal support of horticulture. We thank you in advance for your contribution. Donations can be mailed to AHC,

PO Box 202476, Anchorage 99520. Questions can be directed to AHC's voice mail at 644-HORT or to its email (anchoragehorticulture@gci.net) or to me at 333-2100.

Annie Nevaldine, Chair
Anchorage Horticulture Coalition

ARGS Plant Sale at Alaska Botanical Garden Fair June 30th

While you are working in your garden during the next few weeks, be thinking of potting up a few extras for the ARGS plant sale at the Alaska Botanical Gardens Fair. This is another great opportunity to make some money for yourself and help the club.

When: Saturday June 30th

Time: 10 – 6 We asked for a set up time on Saturday morning from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. but this has not been confirmed by ABG. Please contact Nancy Beck (344-9897, e-mail ndbeck@alaska.net) or Debbie Hinchey (278-2814, e-mail kd_hinchey@alaskalife.net) for further information and set up times. Traffic into the near parking area is very limited, so we will have to bring in our plants on our assigned set-up schedule.

Plants: Rock garden type plants are encouraged, but anything is accepted.

Labeling: Each plant pot needs two (2) tags. A white tag with the plant name and a colored tag with the price and the seller's initials (or name). If you need tags give Verna a call. She has white and yellow for sale at \$2/100. If there is no colored tag, the club will assume it is a donation.

Pricing: Sellers determine the price of their plants. Set the price in round numbers to make it easier on the cashiers. The club gets 25% and the seller gets 75%.

Volunteers: We will need people to help set up and help in the booth during the day.

Please pick up any of your unsold plants right at 6 P.M.



Calendar

(Continued from page 1)

Seward Hwy) at 8:30 AM.

Mon. June 4, 2001. Potter Creek Trailhead. Moderate. 7 PM. 2-3 hours. Meet at trailhead, east side of Seward Hwy, just south of Potter Section House.

Tues. June 5, Glen Alps. Moderate. 6 PM 3-4 hours. State Park Fee Area. Meet at 5:20 at Boniface Center for carpooling.

Fri. June 8, Glen Alps. Moderate. 9 AM All Day. State Park Fee Area. Meet at 8:30 AM at Boniface Center for carpooling.

Mon. June 11, Glen Alps. Moderate to Difficult. 9 AM All Day. State Park Fee Area. Meet at 8:30 AM at Boniface Center for carpooling.

Tues. June 12, 2001. Potter Creek Trailhead. Moderate. 9 AM. 2-4 hours. Meet at trailhead, east side of Seward Hwy, just south of Potter Section House.

Wed. June 13, 2001. Arctic Valley. Moderate. 9 PM - 3 PM. Fee area. Carpooling 8:20 Fred Meyer east.

Thurs. June 14, 2001. Anderson Ridge (Eagle River). Moderate. Carpooling necessary, meet at 8:50 AM Fred Meyer (east) or at 9:10 AM at Walmart in Eagle River (SE corner near Eagle River Rd). (New area, call to verify after June 11th.

Fri. June 15, 2001. Wallace Mt. (Eagle River). Moderate to Difficult. Allow all day (6-8 hours). Carpooling necessary, meet at 8:30 AM at Fred Meyer (east) or at 8:50 AM at Walmart (SE corner near Eagle River Rd).

Sat. June 16, 2001. Arctic Valley/South Fork Eagle River Traverse. Difficult (long, steep uphill and very steep downhill). Allow all day. Fee area. Must call Verna Pratt to participate and arrange for pickup in South Fork of Eagle River.

June 6 - June 13, 2001. "Discovering Wild Plants". UAA, 1 credit, Alaska Outdoor Experiential Education. Wed. eves.: 6-9:30 PM and Sat. and Sun., June 9 & 10: 9 AM—6 PM, Verna Pratt

Sat. June 9, 2001. Second Saturday at the Alaska Botanical Garden. *Native Plants in Your Garden* presented by Alaska Rock Garden Society, the Wildflower Garden Club and the Alaska Native Plant Society with walks and demonstrations from 10 AM to 4 PM.

Sun. June 16, 2001. 2 PM Field trip and photo shoot, location TBA (see www.args.org)

Sun. June 30, 2001. 10 AM—6 PM. 4th Annual Garden Fair. Alaska Botanical Garden. Information: 770-3692. ARGS Plant Sale (see article on page 3). Rick Lupp, owner of Mt. Tahoma Nursery in Graham, Washington will speak on rock gardens. Mt. Tahoma is a specialty nursery that propagates and sells rock garden, alpine house and woodland plants. His talk will be followed by a tour of the Rock Garden led by members of the Alaska Rock Garden Society.

June 28 - July 2, 2001. Alpines - 2001. International Alpine Garden Conference, Edinburgh, Scotland.

August 2001. ARGS Seed Collection Trip. Work is also underway for a trip up the Dalton Highway to Prudhoe Bay. Check on final location and schedule at www.args.org.

June 11-14, 2002, NARGS Annual General Meeting, Sheraton Anchorage, Anchorage, Alaska.

ARGS Newsletter Dates

	<u>Submission date</u>	<u>Mailing Date</u>
Feb/Mar issue	January 15	February 1
Apr/May issue	March 15	April 1
Summer issue	May 15	June 1
Sept/Oct issue	August 15	September 1
Nov/Jan issue	October 15	November 1



50 + Easy Plants for the Alaskan Rock Garden

Alaska Rock Garden Society

Recommendations

Name	Height	Bloomtime	Color	Sun Needs
<i>Achillea argentea</i>	6"	June	White	Sun
<i>Achillea tomentosa aurea nana</i>	4"	June	Yellow	Sun
<i>Alchemilla alpina</i>	3"	June	Chartreuse	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Allium christophii</i>	24"	June	Violet	Sun
<i>Allium oreophilum</i>	10"	July	Pink	Sun
<i>Allium przewalskianum</i>	10"	July	Violet	Sun
<i>Androsace sempervivoides</i>	5"	July	Pink	Sun
<i>Aquilegia bertolonii</i>	4"-6"	June	Blue	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Aquilegia flabellata</i>	8"	June – Aug.	Blue/white	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Aquilegia laricifolia</i>	4"	June	White	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Aquilegia saximontana</i>	6" – 8"	June	Blue-White	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Arabis alpina</i>	3"	May	White	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Arabis alpina</i> 'rosea'	3"	May	Pink	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Arenaria montana</i>	2-3"	June	White	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Armeria juniperifolia</i>	8"	June	Rose pinks	Sun
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	12"	June	Pinks	Sun
<i>Artemisia schmidtiana</i>	8"	Foliage	Silver	Sun
<i>Aruncus aethusifolius</i>	12"	June-July	White	Part Shade/Shade
<i>Aster alpinus</i>	10"	May	Violet-Blue	Sun
<i>Astilbe simplicifolia</i> 'sprite'	12"	June-July	Bright Pink	Shade
<i>Aubretia deltoidea</i>	3"	May	Rose-purple	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Campanula carpatica</i>	12"	July-Aug.	Violet blue	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Campanula sp.</i>	2-12"	June-Aug.	Violet, blue, white	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	12"	July	Blue	Sun
<i>Dianthus alpinus</i>	2"	June	Pink	Sun
<i>Dianthus gratianopolitanus</i>	2-4"	May	Pink	Sun

**50 + Easy Plants for the Alaskan Rock Garden (continued)**

Name	Height	Bloomtime	Color	Sun Needs
<i>Dianthus</i> var. but stay away from tender Carnations	12"	June-July	Pink Shades	Sun
<i>Douglasii montana</i>	2"	May-June	Pink	Sun
<i>Draba</i> sp.	4"	May	Yellows, White	Sun
<i>Gentiana septemfida</i>	6"	July	Blue	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Gentiana sino-ornata</i>	4"	Aug-Sept	Blue	Sun
<i>Gentiana verna</i>	6"	July	Blue/White	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Helianthemum nummularia</i>	8"	May-June	Red/Orange	Sun
<i>Hypericum yakusimense</i>	2"	July-Aug	Yellow	Sun
<i>Iberis saxitilis</i>	10-12"	June	White	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Iberis sempervivens</i>	8-12"	May	White	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Myosotis alpestris asiatica</i>	3-8"	June	Blue	Sun/Part Shade
<i>Papaver</i> (Alaska Native)	4"	July-Sept	Peach	Sun
<i>Penstemon davidsonii</i>	8-24"	June-July	Pinkish	Sun
<i>Petrorhagia saxifraga</i>	18"	June-July	Pink	Sun
<i>Phlox subulata</i> *	4"	May-June	Pinks, Reds, Blue, White	Sun
<i>Primula auricula</i>	12-18"	May	Reds, Yellows, Pinks	Part Shade
<i>Pulsatilla vulgaris</i>	18"	May	Mauve	Sun
<i>Saxifraga bronchialis</i>	2-4"	June-July	Yellow	Sun
<i>Saxifraga x fernandii cobergii</i>	2-4"	June	Yellow	Sun
<i>Saxifraga x ubium nanum</i>	2-4"	June	White	Sun
<i>Sedum</i> sp.	3-4"	May-June	White-Pink-Reds	Sun
<i>Sempervivum</i> sp.	3-4"	May-June	Pinks	Sun
<i>Silene acaulis</i>	2"	July	White	Sun
<i>Thlaspi rotundifolia</i> , <i>T. stylosum</i> , <i>T. alpinum</i>	4-10"	May-June	Pinks, white, lavender	Sun
<i>Tiarella</i> sp.	12-18"	May-June	White-Pinks	Partial Shade
<i>Trillium</i> sp.	6-18"	May	White, red, yellow	Shade
<i>Veronica grandiflora</i>	4"	June-July	Purple	Sun
<i>Veronica schmidtiana nana</i>	8"	June	Purple	Sun
<i>Veronica spicata nana</i>	4-6"	June	Purple	Sun

* May not be hardy in all areas.

Note: This list compiled by Florene Carney and Verna Pratt of the Alaska Rock Garden Society. These are plants that we have found to be very hardy in our own gardens and at the Alaska Botanical Garden. Additions will be made from time to time as well as deletions where merited. Recommendations are welcome.



Positions of Responsibility

President: Florene Carney, HC 31 Box 5212, Wasilla, AK, 99654. (907) 376-5390; e-mail: snowfire@ak.net

Vice-President: Carmel Tysver, 2030 Patriot Cir., Anchorage, AK, 99515. (907) 522-3490; email: garden@corecom.net

Secretary : Kate Gordon, 7500 Beacon Hill Drive, Anchorage, AK, 99516. (907) 346-1603; email: kgordon@gci.net

Treasurer: Mary Moline, 9601 Copper Dr., Anchorage, AK, 99507 (907) 333-4419; email: moline@alaska.net

Membership: Thais Thomas, P.O. Box 93003, Anchorage, AK 99509. (907) 243-1666; e-mail: Thomas_Thais@msoil.asd.k12.ak.us

Program Chair: Annie Nevaldine, 4960 E. 5th, Anchorage, AK, 99508, (907) 333-2100; e-mail: anealdine@corecom.net

Newsletter Editor: Charles Utermohle, 5021 Southampton Dr., Anchorage, AK, 99503, (907) 561-1662 email: thule@alaska.net

Seed Exchange: Rhonda Williams, PO Box 872592, Wasilla, AK, 99687. (907) 373-0925; e-mail: recluse@mtaonline.net

Archives: Marcia Hamilton, P.O. Box 870344, Wasilla, AK, 99687. (907) 746-3296; e-mail: mlh@matnet.com

2002 Committee: Chair- Jaime Rodriguez (907) 357-2747, Florene Carney (907) 376-5390, Harry Deuber (907) 276-5571, Kate Gordon (907) 346-1603, Debbie Hinchey (907) 278-2814, Sally Karabelnikoff (907) 333-8237, Frank Pratt/Verna Pratt (907) 333-8212, Rhonda Williams (907) 373-0925

Welcome New Members!

Sandra Christopherson
 Donna Collins
 Janet Filo
 Kathryn Haber
 David Ianson
 Stuart Jensen
 Warren/Janet Jones
 Shirley Kelly
 Jane Lefevre
 Jeanne McArthur
 Katherine McFarland
 John Muzatko
 Robert & Nicki Nielson
 Gary Rasmussen
 Kathleen C Salmon
 Roy Smith
 William & Mary Spiers
 Anjanette Steer
 Carol Sturgulewski
 Becky Swanson
 Nancy & Edward Yarmak Jr.

Join Us!

We have about six meetings per year, plus Plant sales, Field Trips and a Seed Exchange. Our meetings are generally on the third Saturday of the month, Fall, Winter, and Spring, and rotate between the Mat-Su Valley and Anchorage. To Join, and receive this newsletter, send your name, address, Phone number, e-mail address and a check payable to ARGs to :

Individual Membership \$15.00 US

Family Membership \$20.00 US

Canada Membership: \$20.00 US

Overseas Membership \$25.00 US

Membership is for the calendar year and includes all issues of the newsletter for that year. Back issues are available at \$1 each. The ARGs Newsletter is published 5 times per year. We invite your contributions. Please contact Charles Utermohle, editor, 5021 Southampton Dr., Anchorage, AK, 99503, (907) 561-1662 email: thule@alaska.net

Alaska Rock Garden Society
P.O. Box 24-4136
Anchorage, AK 99524-4136



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ARGS Membership: - New - Renewal: - W/O Changes or - W/Changes
Dues: \$15 US - Individual, \$20 US - Family/Canada, \$25 US - Foreign

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP+ 4: _____ - _____

Telephone: (____) _____ - _____ E-mail: _____

ARGS may share its membership list with like-minded, non-profit organizations. If you DO NOT want to receive these notifications, please check the box -

Send form and payment to:
Alaska Rock Garden Society
P.O. Box 24-4136
Anchorage, Alaska 99524-4136

Membership is for the calendar year. If the year after your address is not 2001 or later, your membership has expired!