



# NEWSLETTER

Volume 6, Issue 2  
April 2002

## Calendar

**From Our President,  
Florene Carney**

Mark Your Calendars Now! The next issue comes in June. Also check for late breaking current events at the Alaska Rock Garden Society Website at:  
<http://www.args.org/>

**April 2, 2002, Tuesday, 7 PM Tour Guide Training for Bird Ridge. Cooperative Extension Service, Room 130, Carlton Trust Building at 2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd. (Contact Verna Pratt 333-8212) (See article on page )**

**April 3, 2002, Tuesday, 7 PM Tour Guide Training for Alpine Areas (Arctic Valley, Glen Alps, and Wallace Mountain. Cooperative Extension Service, Room 130, Carlton Trust Building at 2221 E. Northern Lights Blvd. (Contact Verna Pratt 333-8212) (See article on page )**

**April 20, 2002, Saturday, 2 PM Regular Meeting. Seedling Exchange at Mat-Su College. Look for room assignment at Machetanz Building. Bring any extra seedlings you might have to share and exchange. (Contact Annie Nevaldine 333-2100)**

**May 18, 2002, Saturday, 2 PM Regular Meeting. Work Session at the Alaska Botanical Garden in Anchorage to clean up and prepare the rock gardens for the NARGS Annual General Meeting. (Contact Annie Nevaldine 333-2100)**

**June 2, 2002. Sunday, 9:15 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Bird Ridge.**

*(Calendar continued on page 2)*

I started this article the first time thinking I would thank all the people who have worked so hard to make this club a success. Alas, the list soon became overwhelming and in fear of leaving someone out who is deserving I abandoned the project – temporarily. As I began to look at the numbers and kind of people it takes to make an organization such as this a success, I was very humbled. We came together because we have a common passion: Rock Gardening and Alpine Plants. For most of us - it's plants of any kind, but Alpines in particular. With further analysis it came to me that we also continue to participate in this group because of the people who are members. Many have an abundant knowledge of the plants and design- needs of rock gardening and share unselfishly in both areas. Others may not even really garden, but love plants and share just as unselfishly of their time and energy in putting together newsletters, plant sales, and seed hunting

*(Carney Continued on page 2)*

Inside This Issue	
Tundra Magic: NARGS Annual General Meeting	3
Tour Guide Opportunities	5
Meeting Registration and Vendor Application	6
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*(Carney Continued from page 1)*

expeditions. There are also the “cheerleaders”, who keep our spirits up and push us to ever-greater endeavors. Don’t forget those brave souls who take notes at meetings, keep track of money, and membership lists and get reports out for all to review. Some are the people who show up to buy plants at the sales and are just getting a tentative start, they are nonetheless important to the overall success of the group. A few are hanging back waiting to see what we’re all about and will get their feet wet only when they are sure we know what we are doing. They, too, are important because they keep us focused, on task and hold us to a higher ideal. We do not have a member in this group who isn’t important and I would like to thank all of you for participating and being a part of something bigger than we can each be alone.

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**Calendar Items of General Interest to the ARGS Membership should be sent to the Newsletter Editor at [thule@alaska.net](mailto:thule@alaska.net).**

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## Join NARGS

The North American Rock Garden Society. Benefits include a subscription to the *Rock Garden Quarterly*, seed exchange, garden book purchases at a discount, study weekends, and annual meetings, as well as other benefits. Membership in the Alaska Rock Garden Society is separate from NARGS, the national organization. Membership is \$25/year.

Send payment to Jacques Mommens, Exec. Secretary of NARGS, PO Box 67, Millwood, NY 10546.

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### 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

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# Calendar

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*(Calendar continued from page 1)*

**June 3, 2002. Monday, 10 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Glen Alps.**

**June 4, 2002. Tuesday, 8:30 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Wallace Mountain. Meet at Fred Meyers, DeBarr and Muldoon at DeBarr Side, about halfway to Muldoon Road.**

**June 5, 2002. Wednesday, 8:30 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Arctic Valley. Meet at Fred Meyers, DeBarr and Muldoon at DeBarr Side, about halfway to Muldoon Road.**

**June 6, 2002. Thursday, 9:15 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Bird Ridge.**

**June 7, 2002. Friday, 6:30 PM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Glen Alps.**

**June 8, 2002. Saturday, 8:30 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Arctic Valley. Meet at Fred Meyers, DeBarr and Muldoon at DeBarr Side, about halfway to Muldoon Road.**

**June 11-14, 2002, NARGS Annual General Meeting, Sheraton Anchorage, Anchorage, Alaska. Our chapter’s number one goal for this year to showcase our plants and expertise. Contact Jaime Rodriguez at (907) 357-2747 or [jaime@matnet.com](mailto:jaime@matnet.com) to offer your assistance in whatever capacity you are able either before or during the meetings. Check the ARGS website for late breaking meeting updates at [www.args.org](http://www.args.org).**



**Tundra Magic**  
**Arctic Alpines of Alaska and Beyond**  
**North American Rock Garden Society Annual General Meeting**  
**June 11, 12, 13, 14, 2002**  
**Sheraton Anchorage Hotel, Anchorage, Alaska**

**Brief Schedule:**

**Tuesday, June 11**

9:00 AM ADCOM Meeting  
 1:00 PM Registration Begins  
 2:00 PM NARGS Board Meeting  
 4:00 PM Sales Rooms Open  
 4:00 -7:00 PM Dinner on your own  
 7:00 PM Opening Meeting and Speakers

**Wednesday, June 12 & Thursday, June 13**

6:00-8:30 AM Continental Breakfast  
 9:00 AM—3:00 PM Field Trips  
 4:00 PM Sales Rooms Open  
 6:00 PM Wednesday Dinner, Thursday Banquet  
 Dinner and Awards  
 7:30-9:30 PM Speakers

**Friday, June 14**

7:00 AM Breakfast & Annual Meeting followed by  
 three speakers, ending by 11 AM

**Speakers:**

**Jim Fox--Master of Ceremonies**

Jim's remarkable knowledge of plants and great sense of humor will make this Annual General Meeting (AGM) highly enjoyable. He was raised in the Matanuska Valley (the homesteading center of Alaska). He is presently a member of the Northwestern Chapter of NARGS.

**Anne Pasch**

**"Rock'n Southcentral Alaska" The Geology of the Chugach Mountains**

Anne is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Alaska, Anchorage (UAA). She has worked on many research projects in Alaska and continues to teach Paleontology at UAA. She is currently associated with a Paleontology project for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at the Bering Glacier.

**Verna E. Pratt**

**"Local Flora" (Plants that you will see on hikes)**

Verna is one of the founders of the Alaska Rock Garden Society. She is the Chairperson for Speakers & Tour Guide Training for this AGM. She is an Adjunct Instructor at UAA. She has written four books on Alaska Flora and is a founding member and Past President of the Alaska Native Plant Society. She is currently assisting with a plant inventory of the Bering Glacier for BLM.

**Dr. David F. Murray**

**"Arctic Alpines of Siberia and Beringia"**

Dave is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks (UAF), and has recently retired as the Curator of the UAF Herbarium. He has done very extensive field work in Alaska, Siberia and the Altai Mountains. He is presently preparing the Sedge Volume of the "Flora of North America".

**Carolyn Parker**

**"Plants of Screes and Rocky Outcrops"**

Carolyn is currently a Research Assistant in the UAF Herbarium. She has worked in the field on many research projects, especially north of the Alaska Range and has traveled to Chukotka on botanical research projects.

**Dr. Marilyn H. Barker**

**"Arctic Tundra Plants"**

Marilyn is a retired Professor of Botany at UAA. She continues to teach Recreational Botany each summer, and is a founding member and Past President of the Alaska Native Plant Society. She has participated in many field projects and is currently preparing a plant inventory of the Bering Glacier for BLM.

**Jaime Rodriguez**

**"China Seed Collecting Trip" (Fall 2000)**

Jaime is a member of the Alaska Rock Garden Society, Chairperson of this AGM, and was one of the participants on the seed expedition. He is an avid plant grower, and seed collector. He maintains the Public Garden at the Palmer Visitor's Center and established the new Rock Garden there.



(Tundra Magic continued from page 3)

### Annie Nevaldine

#### "Garden Art---Alaska Style"

Annie is Program Chair for the Alaska Rock Garden Society. She is locally recognized as "The Lily Lady" as that is her passion and the focus of her gardens. She is an excellent photographer and spent this past year searching for Garden Art to bring this program to you in a unique and entertaining way.

### Ed Buyarski

#### "Primroses for Rock Gardens and Troughs"

Ed is a professional landscaper in Juneau, Alaska, a member of the American Primrose Society and the Alaska Rock Garden Society. He was one of the members that participated in the China Seed Trip. He was intent, of course, in bringing back seeds of *Primula* species.

### Dr. Bartmar Sveinbjornsen

#### "Arctic Plants of Iceland and Northern Norway"

Bart is originally from Iceland, and is a Professor of Plant Physiology at UAA. He has conducted studies of plant growth comparisons in Iceland and Alaska.

#### Field Trips

This meeting was planned for weekdays to avoid very crowded trails on weekends

#### #1 Valley Garden Tour

Photographers/Dawdlers & Easy

Drive to the fertile Matanuska Valley farmlands (45 min to 1 hr) past marshlands, rivers and towering mountains. Visit 2 spacious Rock Gardens in beautiful settings, plus visit Recluse Gardens that specializes in unusual plants and has a very large and remarkable Rock Garden at its entrance.

#### #2 Glen Alps (including gardens)

Photographers/Dawdlers, Easy & Moderate

Travel by vans for 45 minutes to the Chugach State Park where you will see Alpine Tundra at 2500 feet. See plants such as: *Luetkea pectinata*, *Diapensia lapponicum*, *Dryas octopetala*, *Oxytropis negrescens*, *Lloydia serotina*, and *Pedicularis lanata* carpeting the ground in a beautiful alpine setting with wonderful views of Anchorage, Cook Inlet, and the Alaska Range. Some areas may still be wet and we may have to walk through some snow.

#### #3 Arctic Valley

Moderate and Difficult

#### **GOOD HIKING SHOES ARE A MUST!**

We can plan for a chair lift to the ridge and a long walk down, some over rocky terrain. All participants should specify if they wish to ride up the chair lift. You can also hike up the mountain. There are many hike options here, but no real easy ones this early in the season. Only the tundra plants will be in bloom. The trail through the meadow may still be wet. See plants such as: Dwarf *Salix* species, *Arctostaphylos alpina*, *Potentilla uniflora*, *Draba stenopetala*, *Loiseluria procumbens*, and, perhaps, *Primula cuneifolia*, plus many more in beautiful scenery, all above treeline.

#### #4 Wallace Mountain

Moderate to Difficult

#### **GOOD HIKING SHOES ARE A MUST!**

Drive 45 minutes from Anchorage by van to an area very popular with Hang Gliders, overlooking the Village of Eagle River, the Talkeetna Mountains, and the Alaska Range. At first, this is a steep, rocky trail in a more isolated area, to a ridge covered with a carpet of alpine wonders similar to the Glen Alps and Arctic Valley hikes. On the return trip, you will travel through meadows of early spring flowers, such as: *Anemone richardsonii*, *Ranunculus* species, etc.

#### #5 Bird Ridge

Moderate to difficult

#### **GOOD HIKING SHOES ARE A MUST!**

A 45 min. bus ride along scenic Turnagain Arm. This, probably, has the largest selection of flowers of all of our hikes. As you hike from sea level to low alpine. Woodland plants include: *Actaea rubra*, *Aruncus sylvestris*, and *Lupinus nootkatensis*. Outcrops expose: *Cryptogramma crispa*, *Polemonium pulcherimum*, and *Saxifraga tricuspidata*. More protected slopes display: *Botrychium lunaria* and *Viola adunca*. Enjoy lunch in a meadow of *Myosotis alpestris ssp asiatica*.

## GARDEN TOURS

Pre- and Post-Conference self-guided tours to public and private gardens will be offered. These will include the gardens of the Valley Garden Tour and the Alaska Bo-

(Tundra Magic Continued on page 5)



*(Tundra Magic continued from page 4)*

tanical Garden (AGB) as well as gardens in the Anchorage area. Most of these gardens will be open for 2 days prior to, and 2 days after, the Conference. A list (with maps) of these gardens will be sent with registration confirmation packets. Check also the ARGS website at [www.args.org](http://www.args.org) for other tour opportunities.

**PLANT SALES**

Local nurseries and organizations will sell during breaks between Field Trips and evening programs. As an ARGS member you can reserve space to sell plants and/or plant-related art items, see page 6.

**REGISTRATION FEES**

(includes 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners)

Prior to April 25, 2002

NARGS Members US\$300

Non-members US\$325

After April 25, 2002

NARGS Members US\$325

Non-members US\$350

Partial Registration: US \$200

Half-day Tuesday and all-day Wednesday **OR**

All-day Thursday and half-day Friday

All cancellations are subject to a \$50 charge. No refunds after May 15, 2002, unless a replacement is found to assume the obligation.

For volunteer opportunities, contact Jaime Rodriguez at (907) 357-2747 or [jaime@matnet.com](mailto:jaime@matnet.com) or see below for becoming a tour guide.

**Tour Guide Opportunities**

Individuals interesting in contributing as tour guides on Wednesday, June 12th, and Thursday, June 13th, should contact Verna Pratt at 333-8212 and attend the indoor and field training sessions.

Guide benefits are:

- Lunch provided each day
- Special cap that identifies you as a guide
- Access to Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evening and Friday morning lectures
- Access to Plant and Art Sale Rooms and Displays
- Small groups with help of another guide
- Plant lists (participants will also have a list)
- If desired, transportation to the trailhead from the Sheraton.

.Two evening training sessions are scheduled at 7 PM at the Cooperative Extension Service, Room 130. Tuesday, April 2nd will be emphasizing Bird Ridge. Slides will be arranged in the order that the plants will be seen along the trail. Tuesday, April 3rd will be for all the alpine areas (Arctic Valley, Glen Alps, and Wallace Mountain in Eagle River). Glen Alps will be emphasized but there will be explanation on where the same plants occur in the other areas.

Guides will need to attend at least one In-The-Field Training Sessions unless very knowledgeable, or will be visiting the areas on their own just before the conference. The more that you go, the more proficient that you will become!

June 2, 2002. Sunday, 9:15 AM (or meet at Sears Mall, SE corner—Benson and Seward Highway, 8:30 AM) Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Bird Ridge. Allow about 7 hours for the session.

June 3, 2002. Monday, 10 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Glen Alps. Allow 5 to 6 hours.

June 4, 2002. Tuesday, 8:30 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Wallace Mountain. Meet at Fred Meyers, DeBarr and Muldoon at DeBarr Side, about halfway to Muldoon Road. Allow about 8 hours. This is the only chance for this location.

June 5, 2002. Wednesday, 8:30 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Arctic Valley. Meet at Fred Meyers, DeBarr and Muldoon at DeBarr Side, about halfway to Muldoon Road. Allow about 7 hours.

June 6, 2002. Thursday, 9:15 AM (or Sears Mall at 8:30 AM) Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Bird Ridge. Allow about 7 hours.

June 7, 2002. Friday, 6:30 PM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Glen Alps.

June 8, 2002. Saturday, 8:30 AM Tour Guide In-the-Field Training: Arctic Valley. Meet at Fred Meyers, DeBarr and Muldoon at DeBarr Side, about halfway to Muldoon Road. Allow all day.

Be sure to bring a lunch for the all-day excursions. Always come prepared for bad weather, especially at Glen Alps.



### NARGS 2002 Annual General Meeting Registration

Please print names as you wish them to appear on the name badges

Person #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

NARGS Member  Yes  No Vegetarian Meals

Person #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

NARGS Member  Yes  No Vegetarian Meals

### Field Trips

Refer to the field trip descriptions for degree of difficulty. Please check your preference for the hiking terrain that realistically fits your ability, so that we can group you accordingly.

	Person #1	Person #2
Photographers/Dawdlers	[ ]	[ ]
Easy	[ ]	[ ]
Moderate	[ ]	[ ]
Difficult	[ ]	[ ]

Choose two field trips. For moderate or difficult, please number your preferences from 1 to 4.

Valley Garden Tour	[ ]	[ ]
Glen Alps	[ ]	[ ]
Arctic Valley:		
Chairlift up/hike down	[ ]	[ ]
Hike up/hike down	[ ]	[ ]
Bird Ridge	[ ]	[ ]
Wallace Mountain	[ ]	[ ]

Person with whom you wish to travel on the bus (both must sign up for the same level of trip)

Person #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Person #2 \_\_\_\_\_

### ANNUAL MEETING FEES

#### Prior to April 25, 2002

NARGS members US \$300 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-members US \$325 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### After April 25, 2002

NARGS members US \$325 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-members US \$350 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Partial Meeting

Tuesday-Wednesday US \$200 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday-Friday US \$200 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to: ARGS 2002 AGM**

#### Mail to:

**Frank G. Pratt, Registrar**

**Tundra Magic**

**7446 East 20th Avenue**

**Anchorage, Alaska 99504-3429**

**TEL: (907) 333-8212 FAX: (907) 333-4989**

**Email: webmaster@args.org**

### Vendor Application

Located at the Sheraton Hotel in the Kuskokwim Room, on the second floor on June 11<sup>th</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. This opportunity is open to all interested parties to come and sell your plants and plant-related art work to some of the world's most interesting gardeners! Vendor hours will be from 4-6 pm daily. Re-opening from 9-10 PM.

Table and sign will be provided for all of the vendors.

There is no charge for Alaska Rock Garden Society members. Non-members must join ARGS (\$15).

Vendor name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**ARGS Member:  Yes  No (include \$15)**

Please include information that you want for your sign:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

For additional information on plant vendor facilities and responsibilities, contact Rhonda Williams at (907) 373-0925; e-mail: recluse@mtaonline.net. For plant art work, contact Janie Taylor at (907) 248-7881 or janietaylor@gci.net. Send the completed form along with \$15 for non-members of ARGS to: Alaska Rock Garden Society, P.O. Box 244136, Anchorage, Alaska, 99524-4136



## 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 And Returning Members!

**Kathy Brown**  
**Mary Nan Cunningham**  
**June Dilley**  
**Karen Ruby Frasier**  
**Darien Gilbert-Mack**  
**Hilary Hardwick**  
**Barbara Karl**  
**Lynn McNamara**  
**Julie Riley**  
**David & Susanne Taplin**  
**Loretta Wieler**  
**Cindy Williams**  
**Barbara Winkley**

**WWW.ARGS.ORG**

Webmasters: Kate Gordon and Frank Pratt.  
 Contact them at webmaster@args.org

## 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 244136  
Anchorage, AK 99524-4136



8

**ARGS Newsletter**    Volume 6, Issue 2    April 2002

## RENEWAL TIME!

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 244136  
Anchorage, Alaska 99524-4136

Membership is for the calendar year. If the year after your address is not 2002 or later, your membership has expired!