

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

(Continued on page 4)

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

(Carney Continued on page 2)

Inside This Issue

A Request for Garden Tours	2
Yard and Garden Decorations	2
Anchorage Horticultural Coalition	3
ARGS Plant Sale at Alaska Botanical Garden Fair	3
50 + Easy Plants for the Alaskan Rock Garden	5
2001 Membership Directory	INSERT

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(Carney Continued from page 1)

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



2001 Membership Directory

The Alaska Rock Garden Society issues this directory for the sole use and private information of its members. ARGs does not authorize or condone the use of this list or any part thereof, for commercial use or other public exploitation.

This directory contains the list of all the members in good standing as of May 22, 2001.

We have tried to be as accurate as possible. However, changes are being made constantly, so it is likely that there will be a few errors. For these we apologize and invite your corrections. If you find an entry that is incorrect, please let us know and send the proper information to the ARGs Membership Coordinator:

Thais Thomas
PO Box 244136
Anchorage, AK 99524-4136

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Alaska Botanical Garden, Inc.	PO Box 202202, Anchorage, AK 99520-2202		
Abel , Lorri	6030 West Tree DR, Anchorage, AK 99516-6709	346-4246	abel@alaska.net
Alaska Native Plants Society	PO Box 141613, Anchorage, AK 99514-1613		
Amberg , Beth	3801 Dumbarton CT, Wasilla, AK 99654-1631	373-1332	amberg@matnet.com
Antonson , Jo	1026 Barrow ST, Anchorage, AK 99501-3647	276-1948	joa@alaska.com
Arant , Sally	3021 DeArmon RD, Anchorage, AK 99516-3536	345-9168	akarant@worldnet.att.net
Ashmore , Stan	HC 4 Box 9248 D, Palmer, AK 99645-9503	745-8102	
Beck , Nancy	PO Box 92116, Anchorage, AK 99509-2116	344-9897	ndbeck@alaska.net

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Bender , Pat/John	4123 N 186th ST, Lake Forest Park, WA 98155-2851		pbender@premier.net
Brake , Les	PO Box 221, Willow, AK 99688-0221	495-6525	lbgrake@pobox.mtaonline.net
Buell , Duane	PO Box 32319, Juneau, AK 99803-2319	780-4489	dbuell@iname.com
Buyarski , Ed	PO Box 33077, Juneau, AK 99803-3077		
Cacy , Marylou	3246 Wiley Post LP, Anchorage, AK 99517-2321	243-5197	cacytwo@gci.net
Cadden , Barbara	PO Box 99, Palmer, AK 99645-0099	745-2891	
Campbell , Marjorie	4365 Wickersham WAY, Wasilla, AK 99654-7641	376-5437	marji@matnet.com
Carney , Florene & Doug	HC 31 Box 5212, Wasilla, AK 99654-9704	376-5390	snowfire@ak.net
Christopherson , Sandra	2400 Ingra ST, Anchorage, AK 99508-3946	277-0256	
Clyne , Denice	59855 Sanford DR, Homer, AK 99603-9431	235-6264	rdclyne@xyz.net
Collins , Donna	19612 Highland Ridge DR, Eagle River, AK 99577-8822	694-3809	
Condon , Susan	1121 Hillcrest DR, Anchorage, AK 99503-1742	277-6137	su7as@alaska.net
Dagon , Jo	13041 Norak PL, Anchorage, AK 99516-2848	348 0811	dagon@alaska.net
Daniels , Robert L.	PO BOX 20511, Juneau, AK 99802-0511	463-3225	bobbylee@gci.net
Davis , Lucille	2801 Merganser AVE, Anchorage, AK 99516-2704	345-6642	
Deitz , Allen	PO Box 190586, Boise, ID 83719-0586		allen_deitz@hotmail.com
Dinkel , Don	HC 31 Box 5193, Wasilla, AK 99654-9703	376-2321	
DiPietro , Susanne	309 E Manor AVE, Anchorage, AK 99501-1151	277-4351	
Doebler , Tim	601 E 74th AVE #A, Anchorage, AK 99518-2826	344-0990	
Eberhart , Katie	PO Box 1006, Palmer, AK 99645-1006	745 2327	katie@granitepeaksystems.com
Elliot , Dan	HC 31 Box 5196, Wasilla, AK 99654-9703	376-5196	
Eng , C. John/Lynn	3121 Marathon CIR, Anchorage, AK 99515-2421	349-6907	laeng@gci.net
Fahl , Ruth	6841 E 10th AVE, Anchorage, AK 99504-1815	333-1779	
Filo , Janet	2137 Fairbanks ST, Anchorage, AK 99503-2212	272-0495	
Finley , Carolyn	711 N ST, Anchorage, AK 99501-3226	279-8017	
Fowler , Jamie	HC 34 Box 2131M, Wasilla, AK 99654-9604	376-7863	moosenugget@mooseworld.net
Garay , Teena	PO Box 2653, Homer, AK 99603-2653	235-2150	
Garner , Barbara	2814 E 42nd AVE, Anchorage, AK 99508-5313	563-6328	bgarner@alaska.net
Geiselman , Joy	2400 Chinook AVE, Anchorage, AK 99516-1923	345-7035	
Gilbert , Ayse	11200 Jerome ST, Anchorage, AK 99516-1478	349-1318	
Glaze , Joyce	12680 Schooner DR, Anchorage, AK 99515-3634	345-0146	
Goldsmith, Yvonne	5331 Sillary CIR, Anchorage, AK 99508-4946	337-2285	gldsmith@alaska.net
Gordon , Kate	7500 Beacon Hill DR, Anchorage, AK 99516-1072	346-1603	tgordon@coecom.net
Gravenhorst , Ron	PO Box 785, Cooper Landing, AK 99572-0785	595-1710	
Haber , Kathryn	PO Box 2429, Homer, AK 99603-2429		
Hackenberger , Donna	2120 Paxson DR #1, Anchorage, AK 99504-3410	337-7216	donnacharlie@juno.com
Hanies , Susan	2039 Brandilyn ST, Anchorage, AK 99516-1961	324-1008	
Harrington , Cece	PO Box 871968, Wasilla, AK 99687-1968	357-2597	harrc@alaska.net
Hinchey , Deb	1474 Virginia CT, Anchorage, AK 99501-4928	278-2814	kd_hinchey@alaskalife.net
Hinkley , Dan	7530 NE 288 ST, Kingston, WA 98346-9521		
Holladay , David	PO Box 1814, Palmer, AK 99645-1814	745-8278	

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Ianson , David	AKPMC HC 4 Box 7440, Palmer, AK 99645-9706	746-3156	
Jemison , Irene/Mims	PO Box 244224, Anchorage, AK 99524-4224	346-4492	aki@gci.net
Jensen , Stuart	PO Box 220936, Anchorage, AK 99522-0936	248-6663	
Johnson , Hazel	2060 Campbell Pl., Anchorage, AK 99507-1330	563-7407	
Johnson , Sharon	1800 W Melanie AVE, Wasilla, AK 99654-6124	376-2644	
Jones , Warren/Janet	1601 E 26th AVE, Anchorage, AK 99508-4001	277-3915	
Karabelnikoff , Sally	7435 Old Harbor AVE, Anchorage, AK 99504-1925	333-8237	sallyk@customcpu.com
Kelly , Shirley	2219 Arctic CIR, Anchorage, AK 99517-1234	248-1624	pkelly@alaska.net
Knopf , Mary G.	904 Lancaster DR, Anchorage, AK 99503-7037	562-3391	mknopf@gci.net
Kolash , Karla	3724 Knik AVE, Anchorage, AK 99517-1046	248-0177	kkolash@aol.com
Kuk , Dell	4021 E 65th AVE, Anchorage, AK 99507-2313	344-5489	
Lavrakas , Ruth	2667 Wesleyan DR, Anchorage, AK 99508-3700		jlav@gci.net
Leary , Patricia	PO Box 242574, Anchorage, AK 99524-2574	786-6999	
Lefevre , Jane	PO Box 15402, Fritz Creek, AK 99603-6380		
Leis , W. Kitchens/Karen	1510 M ST, Anchorage, AK 99501-4920	269-6906	karenl@ak.net
Lemagie , Susan	425 E Dahlia AVE STE J, Palmer, AK 99645-6498	745-8379	
Lyle , George	3843 Wesleyan DR, Anchorage, AK 99508-4820	338-1956	
Lynch , Alice J.	PO BOX 113281, Anchorage, AK 99511-3281	348 0567	
Matheke , Grant	2064 Goldstream RD, Fairbanks, AK 99709-6209	455-6470	
Mayr Greenhouse	PO Box 41, Sutton, AK 99674-0041	745-4304	
McArthur , Jeanne	PO Box 764, Homer, AK 99603-0764		
McEwen , Jerry	1408 W 10th AVE, Anchorage, AK 99501-3246	276-2359	
McFarland , Katherine	6646 Foothill DR, Anchorage, AK 99504-2620	337-6346	
McFarlane , Nancy	PO Box 4542, Palmer, AK 99645-4524	745-2589	mncscott@ak.net
Milette , Marcia	PO Box 54, Glennallen, AK 99588-0054		
Miller , Susan	18722 Guillemot CIR, Anchorage, AK 99516-6129	345-4444	
Mobley , Dorte	575 Jerome DR, Wasilla, AK 99654-7741	376-4002	
Moline , Mary	9601 Copper DR, Anchorage, AK 99507-1205	333-4419	moline@alaska.net
Muzatko , John	737 Crestview, Pinole, CA 94564-2646	724-6778	
Nevaldine , Annie	4960 E 5th AVE, Anchorage, AK 99508-2315	333-2100	anevaldine@corecom.net
Newcomb , Pat	PO BOX 873375, Wasilla, AK 99687-3375	376-5572	
Nielson , Robert/Nicki	4938 Mills DR, Anchorage, AK 99508-4737	333-1481	
Ott , Mary	4056 Kitty Lee RD SW, Iowa City, IA 52240-8987	319-351-0521	
Owens , Danese	2700 W 34TH AVE, Anchorage, AK 99517-2139		trumpet@arctic.net
Peters , Darlene	2845 Knik AVE, Anchorage, AK 99517-1203	248-0557	
Pino , Harleen	8411 Foxlair CIR, Anchorage, AK 99507-3668	344-1832	Cynthia@matnet.com
Pittman , Sally M.	1101 H ST, Anchorage, AK 99501-4356		
Pletcher , Peggy	13608 Jarvi DR, Anchorage, AK 99515-3934	345-3981	pletcher@alaska.net
Pratt , Verna & Frank	7446 E 20th AVE, Anchorage, AK 99504-3429	333-8212	akkrafts@alaskakrafts.com
Preston , Bridgette	PO Box 2255, Palmer, AK 99645-2255	745-2846	

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Rasmussen , Gary	2203 C ST, Anchorage, AK 99503-1917	278-3280	
Reynolds , Peggy	2848 Lore RD, Anchorage, AK 99507-3010	344-0165	
Robertson , Nancy	PO Box 3285, Palmer, AK 99645-3285	746-0352	pfnlr@uaa.alaska.edu
Rodriquez , Jaime	PO Box 871394, Wasilla, AK 99687-1394	357-2747	jaime@matnet.com
Ross , Carol	3401 Richmond AVE, Anchorage, AK 99508-1013	274-5214	bigbear@arctic.net
Salmon , Kathleen C	PO Box 671042, Chugiak, AK 99567-1042	688-9029	rsalmon@alaska.net
Schneider , Gary	5801 Miley DR, Anchorage, AK 99504-2429	333 1751	garynak@iname.com
Schoonmaker , Jay	4341 Seely CIR, Anchorage, AK 99502-1957		
Shaw , Roger	6431 Regent DR, Anchorage, AK 99504-1448	337-3949	
Shoultz , Rita Jo	PO Box 15226, Fritz Creek, AK 99603-6226	235-4969	ritajo@alaskahardy.com
Smith , Roy	5116 W 82ND AVE, Anchorage, AK 99502-4122		
Snider , Kris	3941 Alitak BAY CIR, Anchorage, AK 99515-2367	276-7836	ksnider@ptialaska.net
Spickler , Ruth	2454 Captain Cook DR, Anchorage, AK 99517-1279	248-0624	
Spiers , William/Mary	510 Yak RD, APT 857B, Fairbanks, AK 99709-2495		
Stanek , Judy	3000 Kerry CIR, Anchorage, AK 99504-3728	333-2998	jastanek@customcpu.com
Steer , Anjanette	HC 3 BOX 8490, Palmer, AK 99645-9406	745-5121	
Sturgulewski , Carol	5120 Manytell AVE, Anchorage, AK 99516-4272	336-1604	
Swanson , Becky	PO Box 938, Palmer, AK 99645-0938		
Taylor , Janie	2300 Jefferson AVE, Anchorage, AK 99517-3031	248-7881	janietaylor@gci.net
Thomas , Thais	PO Box 93003, Anchorage, AK 99509-3003	243-1666	Thomas_Thais@msmail.asd.k12.ak.us
Toups , Wayne	6801 Cherokee WAY, Anchorage, AK 99504-2614	277-2157	
Tremaine , Pat	HC 4 Box 9116, Palmer, AK 99645-9503	746-4623	tremaine@denalics.net
Tysver , Carmel	2030 Patriot CIR, Anchorage, AK 99515-2503	522-3490	garden@corecom.net
Utermohle , Charles	5021 Southampton DR, Anchorage, AK 99503-6964	561-1662	thule@alaska.net
Valentine , Craig/Caroline	3838 Westminster WAY, Anchorage, AK 99508-4834	337-3959	camai@alaska.net
Valley Garden Club	575 Jerome DR, Wasilla, AK 99654-7741		
Wardell , Elaine M.	PO Box 100084, Anchorage, AK 99510-0084	277-0073	
Weddle , Carol S.	6711 Roundtree DR, Anchorage, AK 99516-6818	346-2740	csw_alaska@hotmail.com
Wheeler, Toby	PO BOX 2289, Homer, AK 99603-2289	235-1944	tobyw@XYB.net
White , Mark	HC 1 Box 3485, Sterling, AK 99672-0000	262-5436	mewhite@ptialaska.net
Wieler , Loretta	12760 Pintail ST, Anchorage, AK 99516-2803	345-7677	
Williams , Rhonda	PO Box 872592, Wasilla, AK 99687-2592	373 0925	recluse@ntaonline.net
Willow Garden Club	PO Box 486, Willow, AK 99688-0486		
Wilmarth , Judy	PO Box 111037, Anchorage, AK 99511-1037	345-5090	jwilmar@gci.net
Wineck , Carol	1807 McKinley AVE, Anchorage, AK 99517-2687		
Wright , Cathy	PO Box 3996, Palmer, AK 99645-3996	373-5801	cwright@matnet.com
Yarmak Jr. , Nancy/Edward	5241 Taurus CIR, Anchorage, AK 99516-5329	348-7709	
York , Louise	PO Box 220825, Anchorage, AK 99522-0825	248 6650	



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</i> sp.	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

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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 :

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



8

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