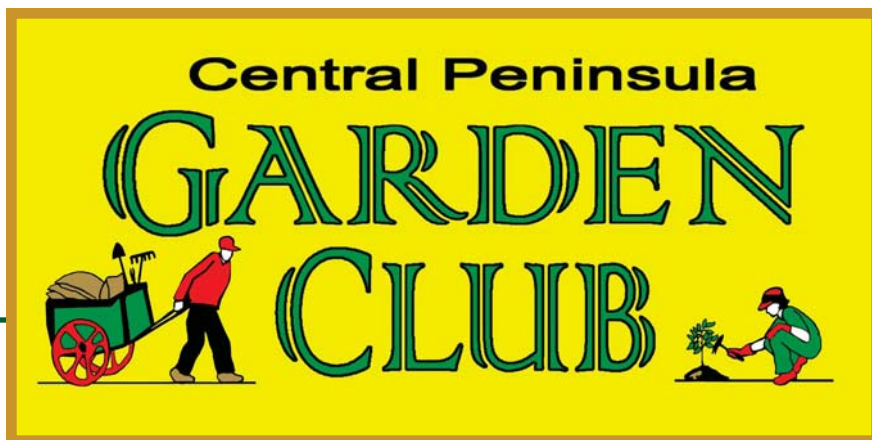


March 2012

Central Peninsula Garden Club



PO Box 767 · Kenai, Alaska 99611 · www.cenpengardenclub.org

Special points of interest:

- It's time to renew your membership! \$20 for Individual, \$30 for Family.
- Membership forms are always available at www.cenpengardenclub.org/membership2011.pdf

Board Members

- Marion Nelson - *President, program chair—(907) 283-4632, (907) 398-8669 (cell)*
- Liz LeDuc - *Vice president, web site coordinator, hospitality*
- Kay Gardner - *Secretary, special events*
- Peggy Morris - *Treasurer, plant sale*
- Chris Cook - *Hospitality chair*
- Cathy Haas - *Plant sale chair, historian chair*
- Don St. John - *Tech chair, Sea Ag sales chair, special events*
- Renae Wall - *Publicity chair, nominating committee*
- Don Thompson - *Special events, plant sale*
- Amy Williams - *Tech committee, hospitality*
- Lee Bowman - *Sea Ag committee, special events*

March Bonus Program Interplanting Ornamentals with Edibles

Presented by Annie Nevelndine, Master Gardener, Anchorage horticulturist & plant photographer.

In what rule book is it published that flowers and vegetables need to be planted in separate garden beds? Annie will entice and encourage you to mix it all up: herbs with annuals, vegetables in the perennial bed—in other words, inter-planting edibles and ornamentals. Many pho-

tos will be provided to inspire you to design your gardens to nourish and satisfy both your aesthetic spirit and your body.

This will be a great program with the green and color we're craving right now as we head toward spring with snow shovels in hand. As a master gardener, Annie has enjoyed incorporating vegetables and herbs into her perennial gardens. She is particularly interested in photographing all

subjects botanical which we'll see in her presentation. Lucky us!

When: March 23, 7pm.
Please car pool if possible.

Where: Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association building on K-Beach between KSRM and the Bridge Access Road intersection.

Program is open to the public. Visitors are welcome.

April Program Personal Scale Urban Farming

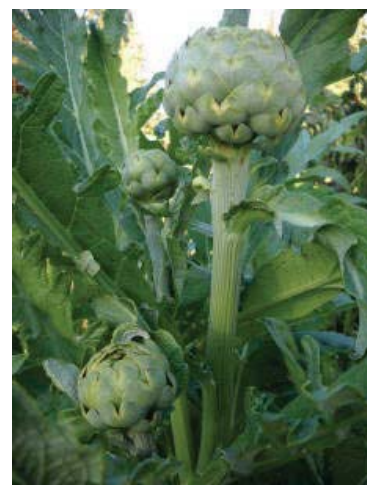
Dohnn Wood, from Anchorage, presented one of the best attended presentations at the AK Botanical Garden Conference this month and the topic then, and for April's program, is Personal Scale Urban Farming.

Dohnn is a biking enthusiast, stay at home dad, and in 2011, harvested 1500 lbs from his 5000 sq ft city home lot. He has a solar greenhouse,

plants in containers, has raised beds, uses row cover and row hoops over the raised beds. And he makes pesto from broccoli leaves!

When: April 10, 7pm. Please car pool if possible.

Where: Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association building on K-Beach between KSRM and the Bridge Access Road intersection.



March 13 Program— Tim Meyers

THANK YOU, Tim Meyers. There were over 100 people in attendance at Tim’s program on the 13th, plus another 45 the next day for the grower Q & A, proving once again that he is indeed the poster guy for Alaska Agriculture, food storage methods

and regional food sustainability.

Tim visited several local high tunnel growers, and others. CPGC will try to bring him back again next year for an update on his many successes, improvements, and expansion.

He continues to add more chapters to his amazing story. Check out the Meyers Farm web site.:

www.meyersfarm.net

Thanks again to Don & Eve Thompson for hosting Tim.

Have you ordered a DVD of a past program?

Please pick up and pay for your disc (\$3) at meetings or call Linda Dunn ~ 262-4465

Linda videos programs as a courtesy to the club. Thank you Linda .

February 14 Program— Tomato Infatuation + Herbs

THANK YOU to our wonderful guest chefs, Susan Bradley, owner of Gourmet Garden located next to River City Books, Kim Foley, retired KCHS Home Ec teacher and currently cooking up a storm at Veronica’s Coffee House in

Old Town Kenai, and Award Winning BBQ Competition chef, Warren Finley of Soldotna.

All the food samples they brought featured tomatoes and/herbs, giving us some

new ideas for this summer’s abundance.

Thanks to all three chefs for their generous donation of time and talents. If you want a \$3 DVD of the program, contact Linda Dunn, 262-4465.

New Fertilizer Product from Local Gardener, Fritz Miller

Local gardener and innovator, Fritz Miller, provided this information about his new locally produced fertilizers which will be available this May.



I started my composting business 1 1/2 years ago, which includes a horse manure pick up service; I also pick up coffee grounds every day as an amendment to the compost. With time and much care my compost tests at a C/N ratio of 11 which will make a very rich compost tea.



My fish waste system started last year with storing fish this past winter under ground to keep it from freezing and therefore being able to keep compressed air running

through it as Tim Meyers does in Bethel.

I have truly followed Tim Meyer's lead on fish waste. I hope to have two new products ready by mid-May, one being Tustumena Natural Thunder (T-N-Tea) which will be a very rich compost tea and the other being (T-N-Till) which is a strong fish hydrolysate. Both these products are 100% organic and 100% recycled materials.

We are still working out details and pricing, however we will have both available in one-gallon recycled jugs or 100 gallon stationary tanks with pumps for high tunnels or green houses. Growers will see us at the Soldotna

Farmer’s market. We will take orders for delivered tanks

For more information: 262-9695 or email fritzmillier@alaska.com.

Fritz Miller



Annual RC&D Agricultural Forum, April 21

April 21 is the annual Kenai Peninsula Resource Conservation and Development District's Ag Forum.

Location: Niniilchik Fairgrounds.

Tickets are available at Garden Club meetings: \$25 advance, \$35 at the door – includes lunch.

Presenters include:
Jason Floyd – 4-H
Rita Jo Shoultz – Peonies

Petra Illig – *Rhodiola rosea*
Lee Luden – Fiber animals
Kyra Wagoner – High tunnels
Rob Carter – Plant Materials Center
Andrew Crow – Forming Co-ops

Breakout sessions:
Marketing
Farm to School
Cold storage
Mobile slaughter unit
Borough ag policy
Veggie processing facility

Veggies at Work, from Nancy Schrag

People Promoting Wellness (PPW) group project: Food in relation to health keeps coming up, over and over, at our discussions and this program came to our attention. It is a wonderful opportunity to encourage the consumption of whole, local food as well as the benefits that come with "digging in the dirt"!

The project is called "Veggies at Work" after another such project in Kodiak. The website for that is

www.veggiesatwork.org.

"I am seeking businesses/agencies to be participants, as well as folks to be mentors to the gardeners, donate seeds or seedlings and helpers to build the garden boxes. Our plan is to donate part of the harvest to a local charity as well as feed the gardeners themselves."

Volunteers can contact Nancy Schrag at 335-3422 or 283-9382.



Advertising opportunity!
Interested in placing an ad in the Garden Club
newsletter?
Contact Marion Nelson, 283 4632.

Alaska Master Gardener Conference, April 13 & 14

Friday April 13 - Evening Meet & Greet at the Green Connection
Saturday April 14, 8:15 am - 4:30 pm, Anchorage Senior Center, 1300 E. 19th Avenue

The Anchorage Master Gardeners are proud to host this year's statewide conference: "Gardening Realities: A Knowledge Based Approach to Gardening in Alaska" (open to everyone).

Keynote speakers include:
Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, Extension Urban Horticulturist at Washington State University, and
Marion Owen, photographer, garden writer, entrepreneur, chief cook and bottle washer

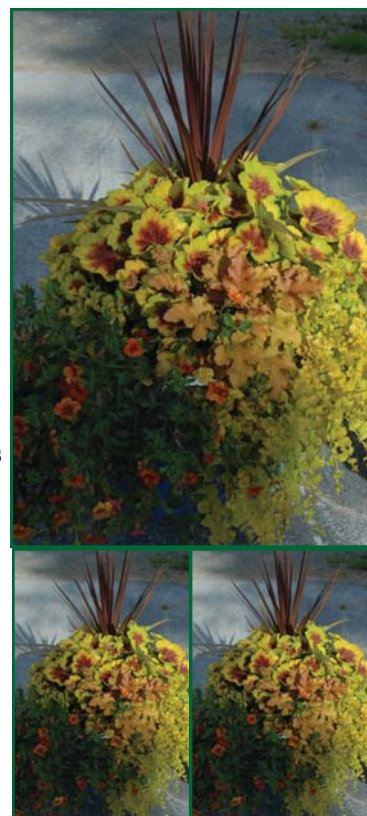
aboard the Sea Breeze, and Kodiak Master Gardener.

Additional experts from around the state:
Dr. Pat Holloway, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Rita Jo Shoultz, Fritz Creek Gardens, Alaska Hardy® Peony
Patricia Joyner, Alaska Community Forestry, Anchorage
Steve Brown, UAF Cooperative Extension Service, Palmer
Lorri Abel, In the Garden Nursery, Anchorage
Pat Ryan, Alaska Botanical Garden, Anchorage
Michael Rasy, UAF Cooperative Extension Service, An-

chorage

Friday night Meet & Greet - Garden vendors, fabulous door prizes and a party to "Meet & Greet" the speakers at Green Connection. Tickets (\$5) for sale at the Anchorage CES office.

Full conference information is available at:
www.alaskamastergardeners.org or from Julie Riley, Extension Horticulture Agent, UAF Cooperative Extension Service, 1675 C Street, #100 Anchorage, AK 99501, jariley@alaska.edu 907-786-6300 phone 907-786-6312 fax



AMG Conference Registration form

PLEASE NOTE: Full payment must accompany registration. **Register one person per form.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Early Registration: \$ 60.00 (Includes Salad/Sandwich Buffet)

Standard Registration: \$ 75.00 - **Early Registration ends March 31, 2012**

Method of payment: Cash or Check only; checks payable to AMGAA.

Mail registration form with payment to: AMGAA c/o Mary Shier, POB 110788, Anchorage, AK 99511

For registration information: Jane Baldwin - For general information - 786-6300

Notes

Start thinking about how much SeaAg fertilizer you'll need this spring. Sea Ag is crushed fish bone meal that comes in 50 lb bags, 10 lb plastic jugs and, for extra large tonnage orders, in super bags. Additional soil and plant nutritional items will also be offered.



Place an ad in the newsletter! Reach a targeted audience at very reasonable rates. If you are interested in placing an ad, contact Marion Nelson, 283 4632.

How to measure your garden area

gardening.wsu.edu/column/09-15-02.htm

Seattle's Free to Forage Urban Forest -

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/the-salt/2012/02/29/147668557/seattles-first-urban-food-forest-will-be-free-to-forage>

Reminder as you start seeds, the CPGC Plant Sale is Saturday, June 9th.

June 21st – Solstice Music & Arts Festival

at the Diamond M Ranch, one more time.... The last SM&A Festival can happen if enough volunteers will help out for a few hours or a couple days before, during or after June 21st. Call JoAnne Martin, 283-9330.

From the Fine Gardening email newsletter

- How to Jump Start Your Seeds. Learn from their tricks to speed germination, then plant up some pots. Additionally, there are short videos and reading references for more info. www.finegardening.com/how-to/articles/jump-start-your-seeds.aspx

Garden Club Dates to Note

April 3, 17, 21—Landscape Architect Planning Workshop: April 3 & 17, lectures and April 21st, making the plan.

April 21 - KPC Earth Day Celebration

April 21—Peninsula RC&D Ag Forum

April 28-29 - Home Show Booth

May 5, 12, 19, 26 - Workshop Weekends, 2-5 workshops every Saturday.

May 8 - Monthly program. TBA

June 9—CPGC Plant Sale - How many plants/baskets can you donate this year?

July-August – Summer Garden Tours –Members Only.

August 11—Garden Tour – Fundraiser, co-sponsored by Soldotna Chamber.

Treasurer's Report

February 2012—Peggy Morris, Treasurer

Beginning balance \$12,275.85

Income:

None \$0 \$12,275.85

Expenses:

Gift cards \$122.50

Printing \$131.66

Total \$254.16

Ending Balance \$12,021.69

Board Meeting High Points

March 20 Board Meeting:

- Reviewed Tim Meyers visit and a return visit in 2013.
- Discussed the bonus program this Friday and the April 10th program.
- Voted to help sponsor upcoming Ag Forum and volunteer.
- Voted to make ad space available at reasonable rates in the newsletter.
- Discussed the club's equipment and booth set up issues.
- Discussed the Seed Survey and improved layout.
- Discussed Landscape Architect workshop, head count and dates.
- Discussed May Workshop Weekend topics and Summer Garden Tours.
- Discussed June 9 Plant Sale and special plants this year.