



June 2015



## President's Patch

By Rhonda Bowman, President

What a great start to summer! Everyone has been busy getting their gardens and beds ready putting transplants from their greenhouses and even from sunny corners of their homes. The commercial greenhouses are full of plants but probably not for long. I have also seen ads for all types of plants on Craig's list.

The Grow Palmer volunteers are getting into full swing but their strawberries did not survive so they could use some replacements. Seems like they have lots of volunteers to supply the rhubarb. Check out their Facebook page for dates if you are interested in helping out. They could use assistance in weeding the beds behind the Salvation Army in Palmer this summer so if you've extra time or need hours to complete your Master Gardener community services hours just head over and pull a few weeds.

Our June meeting will be held on June 1 at the Palmer Library to plant vegetables and edible flowers so we could use your help if you are free. Don't forget your plants for this annual event.

We welcome anyone who would like to share their knowledge on any garden-related topic to write an article for the newsletter on gardening or plants but they must be submitted to Deb Blaylock by the 20th of each month at [kdblalock@ak.net](mailto:kdblalock@ak.net). If you just graduated from the Master Gardener class it could be used as part of your community hours.

Keep in mind during the summer that if you have an over-abundance of extra produce you could take it by the Palmer Food Bank or the Senior Center to help out folks in our community.

Hope everyone has a great summer and takes advantage of the great weather.

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### CHAPTER MEETINGS

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 1ST, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: PALMER PUBLIC LIBRARY,  
PALMER, AK

DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER TO ATTEND

### MEETING AGENDA

- TREASURER REPORT
- MINUTES
- OLD BUSINESS
- NEW BUSINESS

### TOPIC/SPEAKER:

Annual Planting on the Palmer Public Library Bed. Please bring edible flowers and plants only. The library garden/flower bed will available for harvesting through the Grow Palmer initiative.

## PEASANTS PERSPECTIVE, BY CURT MUELLER, MASTER GARDENER

The peasant really doesn't have time to do any writing for June's newsletter. It's time to get the fieldwork done. Of course this includes transplanting the cabbage, or the peasant won't have any sauer kraut to go with his bratwurst. First things first, you know.

Thanks folks.

### JULY 6<sup>th</sup> MEETING

The Mat-Su Master Gardeners are having a tomato tasting at the Mid-Valley Greenhouses on Hyer Rd. near the Parks Hwy. on July 6 at 10 am. Bloomers had a tasting there last year and it was such fun. We tasted a lot of tomatoes and cucumbers. Mark said he has crossed some of the best tasting tomatoes and he should have them ready for tasting. I will send out an email reminder in July. We can view his greenhouses and see how he grows the huge tomato plants. He also sells tomatoes during the summer.  
Pat



Would you please hurry with the photo, Marge. It's time to get these planted.

## Master Gardener meeting minutes 5-4-15

(Let me know if there's additional information I forgot to include and feel free to add or amend it.) Submitted by Rhonda Bowman

Read over the checking and savings account balances as provided by the Treasurer.

One member had a question on what we had spent our money on and I went over the line items that included our costs.

Reminded members that we did not give a scholarship last year since no one wanted to volunteer.

We will set up a calendar for sign-ups at the Annual Plant Sale. Deb Blaylock offered to do the calendar and have Eva put it on the webpage.

Reminded everyone that the plant sale was from 9 to 3 pm on May 23 at the Palmer Downtown Pavilion. We need to check soon to see if our usual day (June 4) is open for next year. I brought plant tags and will be picking up the banners, table & chairs and pamphlet holders to be ready for the sale.

It was suggested that since we have so much money in our accounts that we reduce the amount the club keeps from 25% to 20%. This was brought to the floor, seconded and voted to lower this amount at the sale.

Let everyone know we needed suggestions for field trips for July, August and September outings. Pat Tremaine suggested that we do a tomato tasting at Mid Valley Greenhouse. She would call and arrange for our July meeting.

August was suggested to call Gray Owl farms and speak to Kathy Baker about Peony Growing. I volunteered to do this.

We passed around the sponsor packet for the AK FFA Association and a recommendation was made to let them use our monies marked for scholarship and have their club recommend these funds for scholarship or travel for FFA members. It was recommended and seconded. We voted to send the AK FFA Association \$1000 for this year's scholarship.

There was an inquiry about the Arboretum and funds that were ear-marked for that project but we have not had anyone follow-up and Mr Kircher offered to check on that project. There was some extensive discussion on the location in Palmer.

Mike Williams from Eagleson Lodge is currently growing Peonies and charging folks to have the farmer experience to come out to learn to grow and harvest them.

Meeting ended at approximately 8pm.

## Garden Links

### Alaska Botanical Garden

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

### Alaska Community Agriculture

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

### Arbor Day Foundation

[www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)

### Alaska Natural Heritage Program – Botany

<http://aknhp.uaa.alaska.edu/botany/>

### Alaska Garden Clubs

<http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org>

### Alaska Grown Source Book (online)

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/sourcebook/index.htm>

### Alaska Master Gardeners Association, Anchorage Chapter

<http://alaskamastergardeners.org/>

### Alaska Master Gardener Blog

<http://alaskamastergardener.blogspot.com/>

### Alaska Native Plant Society

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

### Alaska Orchid Society

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

### Alaska Peony Growers Association

<http://alaskapeonies.org>

### Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Assoc..

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

### Alaska Plant Materials Center

<http://plants.alaska.gov/>

### Alaska Rock Garden Society

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

### Cooperative Extension Service, Palmer

<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/districts/matsu/>

### Eat Local Alaska

<http://akfood.weebly.com/index.html>



### Good Earth Garden School

<http://ellenvandevisse.com/>

### Integrated Pest Management Program

<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/ipm/>

### Junior Master Gardeners

<http://www.jmgkids.us/>

### Landscape Plants for Alaska

[www.alaskaplants.org](http://www.alaskaplants.org)

### Local Alaskan Plants Clearinghouse

<http://www.localplants.org/Home>

### Mat-Su Borough Rain Garden Program

<http://www.matsugov.us/raingardens>

### Mat-Su Master Gardener Website

[www.matsumastergardeners.org](http://www.matsumastergardeners.org)

### Master Gardener Research Link

<http://search.extension.org>

### Master Gardeners of the Tanana Valley \*\*UPDATED\*\*

<https://fairbanksmastergardeners.wordpress.com/>

### Palmer Soil & Water Conservation

<http://palmersoilandwater.org/>

### South-Central Alaska Beekeepers Assoc.

<http://www.sababeekeepers.com/>

### Southeast Alaska Master Gardeners

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

### Sustainable Agriculture – UAF

<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/ah/sare/>

### UAF Cooperative Extension Service Publications

<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/pubs/catalog/>

### UAF Georgeson Botanical Garden

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

### UAF CES Citizen Pest Monitoring Portal

<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/ipm/cmp/>

### University of Saskatchewan Fruit Program

[www.fruit.usask.ca](http://www.fruit.usask.ca)

### USDA/NRCS Plant Data Base

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/>

### Wasilla Soil & Water Conservation

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

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## Announcements

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are needed to weed Grow Palmer boxes behind the Salvation Army. Contact Winona Benson @ 745-3423 if you would like to help.

### BOARD MEMBER OPENING

The position of Club Secretary is still open. The job involves taking minutes at meetings and attending board meetings. If you are interested, please contact Rhonda Bowman for further details and information.

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## Club Membership

The membership year runs from January to December each year. Annual individual memberships are \$10 and family memberships are \$12.

Membership forms are available to download on the club's website, [www.matsumastergardeners.com](http://www.matsumastergardeners.com)

*thank you*

## CLUB CONTACT INFO

<b>President:</b>	<b>Rhonda Bowman</b>	<b>746-2948</b>
<b>Co-VP</b>	<b>Curt Mueller</b>	<b>745-6144</b>
<b>Co-VP</b>	<b>Hally Truelove</b>	<b>376-0909</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Cathy Crew</b>	<b>632-4401</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Marge Mueller</b>	<b>745-6144</b>

If you have gardening news, photos or information you'd like to share in the newsletter, please contact: Deb Blaylock @Email: [kdblalock@ak.net](mailto:kdblalock@ak.net)

Website: [www.matsumastergardeners.com/](http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/)  
Email: [matsumastergardeners@gmail.com](mailto:matsumastergardeners@gmail.com)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### June 2015

**Jun 1**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Palmer Library  
Planting

**June 22-24**, Anchorage, Alaskan Plants as Food  
and Medicine Symposium,  
<http://www.alaskanplants.org/>

**June 27-28**, Anchorage, Alaska Botanical  
Garden, 11 a.m. - 7 p.m., Garden and Art Fest

#### JULY 2015 AND BEYOND

**Jul 6**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Tomato Testing and  
Greenhouse Tour, Mid-Valley Greenhouse

**Jul 11**, Palmer, Midsummer Garden and Art  
Faire, <http://www.palmergardenandart.org/>

**Aug 3**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD

**Aug 27 – Sep 7**, Palmer, Alaska State Fair

**Sep 14**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD

**Oct 5**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD

**Nov 2**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD

**Dec 7**, Palmer, Annual Christmas Dinner

## How and what to Submit for the Monthly Newsletter

Your submissions are greatly appreciated and make our newsletter what it is - so don't be shy about submitting items for publication. However, there are a few rules which we all must pay attention to:

Articles, stories, poetry, upcoming events, and pictures (garden-related) are gladly accepted for inclusion in the newsletter. Please submit pictures in JPEG format and other items in Word format with no special formatting other than paragraphs. When submitting pictures, please provide a brief caption or explanation as to who or what is in the picture. I do not have a scanner to copy pictures so I cannot accept hard copies.

If you are not the author or photographer, please ensure you have permission of the author or photographer to use their material in the newsletter. The newsletter editor is not responsible for obtaining this for you.

Please do not provide magazine articles or pictures from the internet unless they are public domain items.

**Deadline for submission of articles and info:**  
**20<sup>th</sup> day of each month -- Thank you--**



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Like us on  
**Facebook**

Website: [www.matsumastergardeners.com/](http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/)  
Email: [matsumastergardeners@gmail.com](mailto:matsumastergardeners@gmail.com)

**MAT-SU MASTER GARDENER'S CLUB**  
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