



# MAT-SU MASTER GARDENER'S NEWSLETTER

Jun 2017



## President's Patch

By Rhonda Bowman, President

Isn't it exciting that summer is now here? The patio furniture is out and the grass is turning green. It is a busy time of the year because there are always flowers beds to water, weeds to pull and the different varieties of flowers and veggies to try out.

Our neighbors have beautiful red and yellow tulips blooming in their yards and it is just the perfect splash of color for early summer. I have been at the greenhouses checking out the great colors of different flowers. It helps to make notes so I don't forget what my new favorite might be or to rediscover an old favorite I had forgotten.

Be sure to attend our up-coming plant sale on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, which will provide you with an outstanding variety of herbs, vegetables and flowers at reasonable prices. It will be held at the Palmer Pavilion in beautiful, downtown Palmer.

Those folks who need hours to complete their Master Gardener certification can assist with numerous planting and weeding projects at the Palmer Library, the Experiment Farm and the Palmer Pioneer and Veterans Home. Be sure to look at our calendar on our website or if you are in the area stop to pull some weeds so they remain well tended.

Make sure that you attend the Willow Garden Tour this summer because there are some beautiful flowers on this tour. I thoroughly enjoyed it. It is usually posted on the community events sections on social media or in the Frontiersman or Alaska Dispatch News. Right here in Palmer, the Palmer Visitor Center has a garden on display and of course the Alaska State Fair has gardens and flowers to check out.

Be sure to get out this summer and check out some amazing gardens that are so close and accessible. Hope to see you there!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Patch	1
Next Chapter Meeting	1
Peasant's Perspective	2
Meeting Minutes	3
Volunteer Opportunity	3
Garden Links	4
Announcements/Volunteer Opportunities	4
Contacts	5
Calendar of Events	5

### GENERAL MEETINGS

#### FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

#### NEXT MEETING

**MONDAY, JUNE 5TH, 6:00 P.M.**

**LOCATION: PALMER LIBRARY, 655 S Valley Way, PALMER, AK**

**DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER TO ATTEND**

#### MEETING AGENDA

**A BRIEF MEETING WILL POSSIBLY BE HELD AFTER PLANTING THE FLOWER BEDS AT THE LIBRARY.**

#### TOPIC/SPEAKER:

**THE JUNE MEETING IS CLEAN-UP AND PLANTING OF THE PALMER PUBLIC LIBRARY BED DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE LIBRARY. BRING SOME GARDENING TOOLS, WORK GLOVES AND DRESS FOR WEATHER. PLEASE BRING ANY PLANTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THE PLANTING PROJECT.**

## PEASANT'S PERSPECTIVE: BY CURT MUELLER, MASTER GARDENER

Photos by the author

The peasant has decided that this ain't the time just to talk about gardening. It's time to get out and do it!

### A Few Words on Raised Beds

Transplants do like a gentle rain. The four large cabbage plants in the lower center are not candidates for growing large cabbage. They are a very early variety that were started in late March and will be ready for harvest by mid-June; the variety is Parel. Next to the Parel in the center row are cauliflower plants which will be harvested mid-season. This will allow the outside rows which are planted with full-

season cabbage, Brussels sprouts, and broccoli to spread out over the bed when the earlier plants in the center row are removed. The bed on the right has been seeded to beets and carrots.

The sod area between the raised beds is kept mowed and provides a walkway. The raised beds are not walked on, to prevent soil compaction, nor are they tilled. the beds are raked just enough to provide a seedbed or a place for transplants.

Thanks folks. Have a good gardening season.



## Mat-Su Master Gardeners Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Joan Redlin, Secretary  
MAY 1, 2017

Rhonda called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 19 members present. There were sign-up sheets for the plant sale, weeding and watering at the Pioneer Home, weeding the library planter, and weeding at the Experiment farm. Wayne announced that he will fix the library planter, which was damaged this winter.

The Treasurer's report and the Secretary's report were approved.

### Old Business:

It was discussed, proposed, and voted regarding the plant sale:

You must be a paid member and sign up by the May meeting to participate in the plant sale.

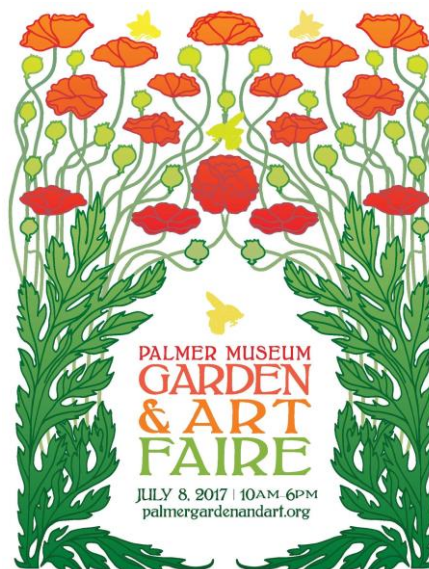
The election of officers discussion was tabled. The Nominating Committee is Wayne Bowman, Arlene Bowman, Joan Redlin, and Dorte Mobley. The vote will be held in December with new officers installed in January.

### New Business:

On June 1 or 2 Curt and Marge will pick up the 13 flats of flowers for the Pioneer Home and begin hardening them off. We will meet at Pioneer Home at 12:30 PM on June 9. Deb has some weed barrier material that can be laid before the soil is added. Watering is critical, especially for the flagpole flowers, so whoever is signed up to weed that week will also water. There is a sign-up sheet to participate.

On June 5 at 6:00 PM we will plant the Library planter and park beds. Deb and Ken volunteered to pick up seven bales of Pro-Mix for the Library and Pioneer Home to amend the soil. Participants should bring plants (could be from the plant sale) and tools. There is a sign-up sheet to participate in the summer weeding of this bed.

Rhonda has planned a tour at the Plant Material Center, 5310 South Bodenbug Spur, at 1:00 PM on June 21.



**Looking for Volunteers ...** Be a part of the largest garden exhibit in Alaska!

Entry & Judging days in the Alaska State Fair's Crops Department is a fun environment to meet new people, catch up with old friends, and a great opportunity to learn something new and/or share your own gardening experiences. You may also earn credits for those required Master Gardener volunteer hours!

**Entry Clerks** - help Exhibitors fill out entry forms correctly, help the entrant in the preparation of their entries for judging by showing how to follow the guidelines of the Exhibitor Guide, and placement in display area.

**Wednesdays, August 23 & August 30. Three shifts available - 12-5 PM, 3-8 PM and 5-9 PM**

**Judges Clerks** - record winning results, set up and place ribbons for the final display.

**Thursdays, August 24 & August 31- 8 AM - Noon**

I'm also looking for a few people to help with take down and ribbon sorting on **Tuesdays, August 22 from 4-7 PM & September 5, from 9 AM - Noon.**

Join the Fun ... "Better Together" ... Volunteers make it happen!

For more information contact Kathy Liska at (907) 337-2196 or [akliska@aol.com](mailto:akliska@aol.com)



## 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/sourcebookindex2016.html>

### Alaska Master Gardeners Association, Anchorage Chapter

<http://alaskamastergardeners.org/>

### Alaska Master Gardener Blog

<https://alaskamastergardener.community.uaf.edu/>

### 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 Association

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

### Alaska Plant Materials Center

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

### Alaska Rhodiola Products Cooperative

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

### Alaska Rock Garden Society

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

### Eat Local Alaska

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

### Good Earth Garden School

<http://ellenvandevisse.com/>

### Grow Palmer

<http://growpalmer.org/>



### 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)

### Mat-Su Borough Rain Garden Program

<http://www.matsugov.us/environment/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

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

### Palmer Soil & Water Conservation

<http://palmersoilandwater.org/>

### South-Central Alaska Beekeepers Assoc.

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

### Southeast Alaska Master Gardeners Association

<http://seak-mastergardeners.org/index.html>

### Sustainable Agriculture – UAF

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

### UAF Cooperative Extension Service, Palmer

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

### 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/>

### UAF School of Natural Resources

<http://www.uaf.edu/snre/>

### 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/>

## Announcements

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Need volunteer hours? There are vacant dates and times on the summer project weeding schedules.

To view the schedules, go to

<http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/weeding-schedules.html> . To sign up for a vacancy, send an email to

[matsumastergardeners@gmail.com](mailto:matsumastergardeners@gmail.com)

Thank you!!

### Volunteer at the June Tull 4-H Building, Alaska State Fair

Here is the link to for volunteers to sign up to help at the June Tull 4-H building during the fair.

Thanks!!

<https://tinyurl.com/junetullbuilding>

## 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>Joan Redlin</b>	<b>206-604-4676</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 at her 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 2017

**Jun 3**, Palmer, Annual Plant Sale  
**Jun 5**, Palmer, Palmer Library Planter Planting  
**Jun 21**, Palmer, Alaska Plant Material Center Tour, 5310 S. Bodenburg Spur, Palmer (\*\*Note- this replaces the July Meeting\*\*)

### JULY 2017 AND BEYOND

**Jul 8**, Palmer, Palmer Museum Garden and Art Faire, <http://palmergardenandart.org/>  
**Aug 7**, Palmer, MMG Mtg TBD  
**Aug 24 – Sep 4**, Palmer, Alaska State Fair, <http://www.alaskastatefair.org/site/>  
**Sep 11**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD  
**Oct 2**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD  
**Nov 6**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD  
**Dec 4**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Annual Christmas Party

We would like to do a garden tour of member's gardens for our August meeting. If you would like to volunteer to have your yard or garden on the tour please email:  
[matsumastergardeners@gmail.com](mailto:matsumastergardeners@gmail.com).

Please let Rhonda know if you have any ideas for future meeting topics. Members are welcome to offer to speak or reach out to speakers of interest to the club's membership. The club would welcome a speaker coordinator – if interested contact Rhonda.

Our club is only as good as we the members make it!

## Club Membership

The membership year runs from January to December each year. Annual individual memberships are \$10 and family memberships are \$12. Family memberships are only for family members living in the same household.  
Join or renew online

*Thank you*

## 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 publisher 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--**



June 2017



Like us on  
**Facebook**

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

**MAT-SU MASTER GARDENERS  
ASSOCIATION  
PO BOX 585  
PALMER, AK 99645**

