



# MAT-SU MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER

Mar 2018



## President's Patch

By President Michael Kircher, photo by the author

Things have warmed up a tad, but the weather is still squirrely out there. Speaking of squirrels, last week was the first time this year that I spotted one who lives in the woods behind our house. He, or she, was jumping with vigor between trees during a warm, sunny day. Soon we gardeners will be doing the same thing.

The big wind we had recently blew most of the shingles off the back of my shed roof. One of my neighbors lost most of his on his carport. The shingles I collected from my yard I will repurpose by placing them under my fence-line and other places to keep the weeds down. Considering my insurance deductible, I'm glad I can get some use out of the situation. And people ask what we do with our permanent fund. It ain't so permanent.

Anyway, I hope all you bee-heads have ordered your critters. My bees are scheduled to arrive on April 21, or maybe April 14, depending on conditions with the suppliers. Let's all hope the weather is a little drier this summer.

We all need to pay special attention to the copy of the "Bylaws" and "Standing Rules" reprinted in this month's newsletter. We will call for final approval during the next meeting. Stay warm everybody.



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Patch	1
Next Meeting	1
Peasant's Perspective	2
Growing Strawberries in Containers	3/7
Proposed Bylaws	4/5
Proposed Standing Rules	6/7
2/5/2018 Meeting Minutes	8
2018 State Master Gardener Conference	9
Garden Links	10
Announcements/Volunteer Opportunities	10
Contacts	11
Calendar of Events	11

### GENERAL MEETINGS

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

#### NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 5TH AT 7:00 P.M.

LOCATION: MATANUSKA TELEPHONE COMPANY (MTA) BUILDING, LARGE MEETING ROOM (IN THE BASEMENT), 480 COMMERCIAL DR., PALMER, AK

DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER TO ATTEND

#### SPEAKER/TOPIC

VOTING ON PROPOSED BY-LAWS AND STANDING RULES

IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS OR CORRECTIONS ON EITHER OF THESE, PLEASE PRINT OUT PAGES 4-7 OF THE NEWSLETTER AND ANNOTATE ANY CHANGES. BRING THESE TO THE MARCH MEETING FOR DISCUSSION.

MICHAEL KIRCHER

Presentation of Israeli flowers and structures by Michael Kircher.

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

Photos by the author

Growing from seed is a skill that Master Gardeners aspire to. Flower and vegetable seeds that we grow for later transplanting or direct seeding in beds and gardens are largely produced by seed companies to be reasonably reliable to germinate. Rightly so. We expect our efforts to be successful the first time, for sometimes we get one shot at the most opportune time to get germination and growth. Short summers don't always allow for a second chance.

Those plants commonly grown will have certain temperature and light requirements for germination, but almost all will do well without stratification or scarification to enhance their development. When we wish to grow wildflowers from seed or to acquire some new cultivars that have desirable attributes, it often becomes necessary make use of these techniques.

Stratification is a way to simulate the effect of temperature experienced by a seed in its natural situation. Usually it requires a cool period of varying length and sometimes of temperature fluctuation. We often need to mimic temperature effects of winter, especially in germinating perennials and wildflowers. Some seeds germinate after experiencing heat from a fire.

Scarification is a method used on seeds with a hard, impregnable coat. There needs to be a way for moisture to find its way to the seed itself. The outside coat needs to be abraded in some way to make this possible. In nature this can happen if the seed is ingested by an animal and makes its way through the animal's digestive tract, whereby the seed coat is softened or thinned but the seed itself is left viable. Freezing and thawing can also work to open the seed coat. Methods we can use to scarify seed are tumbling with abrasives, nicking the seed coat with a file or knife, using an acid to soften the seed coat, or lightly sanding until the seed begins to show through the coating.

The peasant has had fair success growing plants using scarification and stratification. Wild lupine seed germinates well with just a slight nick in the seed coat but stay away from the area where the radicle emerges.

Stratification has worked very well in germinating pasque flower seed. Website onrockgarden.com has this to say about germinating *Pulsatilla vulgaris*, pasque flower. Germination Tips: (a) Sow immediately. The viability of these seeds is short, or the species propagates best with fresh seed. Stored seed might be coaxed into germination with temperature cycling and patience. (b) Sow @ 20

degrees C. Seed germinates within 3 months. (c) Special Care: It has been proven that removing tails is not necessary.

The peasant sowed the *Pulsatilla* seeds on January first, 2018. The seed tails were used to place the seed into the starting mix with the top of the seed at mix level. The container was then covered with food wrap and placed in the potato bin at a temperature of about 40 degrees F. The container was removed from the bin on February second and given light in a 68°F environment. A slight amount of bottom heat was provided. The photo shows germination as of February 19. Some seeds are still germinating but are not visible in the photo. Estimated percentage of germination is 75%. Seeds had been placed about 1/2 inch apart to facilitate separating plants for transplanting.



This shows *Pulsatilla vulgaris* alba. The alba indicates a white flower. *Vulgaris* indicates common, as this species is found in many parts of the world. It is very hardy. It's very early beautiful while flowers look fragile, but really are not. They will become a striking fluffy seed head which remains on the stems until fall. It will take until the second year from seed for the plant to flower, sometimes longer.

To start the *Pulsatilla* seed immediately after it matures would entail some difficulty in our area, as the seed isn't ready to harvest until September, just before it drops off the stem. This is not an opportune time to sow. Sometime during the winter, the new plants would need to become dormant and later reawakened. It works better to store the seed for a few months, but not to allow too long a storage time as the viability will decrease.

The internet can give you methods for germinating almost any seed. The methods do not always agree, but usually there are several that do, and one can weed out the outliers. I hope this has been of some help and interest. Thanks, folks.

## GROWING STRAWBERRIES IN CONTAINERS

BY DEB BLAYLOCK, MASTER GARDENER, PHOTOS BY THE AUTHOR

Three years ago, I made the decision to pull up all my strawberry plants. Frustrated with small yields due to bugs, birds, and other issues, I found beds were too darned low to the ground and difficult to maintain. I'm not getting any younger and found weeding, thinning, and harvesting a perennial patch of berries getting more difficult every year. Looking to the future, I ripped out all the various patches and honestly some of them were quite invasive. I researched a bit, took a berry class or two and decided to try a day-neutral variety rated for zone 4 and grow them in pots as an annual.

A little back ground on strawberries, I took a berry class from UAF's Dr. Patricia Holloway a few years ago. Dr. Holloway taught us there are three types of strawberries – June-bearing, ever-bearing, and day-neutral types. Each type produces flowers based on the day length. June bearing types flower during short days – generally May to June and again when day length shortens in the fall. Honeoye is an example of a common June-bearing strawberry sold locally. The typical ever-bearing types will generally produce two berry crops a year possibly three but later in the year when day length is longer. Fort Laramie and Quinault are two ever-bearing varieties popular in our area. The third type, day-neutrals, were developed from ever-bearing varieties and bred to bloom continuously through the summer until late fall. Their blooming pattern is not affected by day length. Examples of day-neutral varieties are Seascape and Albion.



Seascape and Albion Strawberries

The first year of my annual strawberry experiment, I ordered bundles of the Seascape variety from a reputable grower in the L48. I grew these in hanging baskets inside of my greenhouse. They grew nicely in the hanging baskets and I was happy with production and the berries. They were safe from slugs and other insects as well as out of reach of the pesky robins. I dug up all my other strawberries and donated them to Grow Palmer and a plant drive for the Willow fire victims. As a side note – June-bearing types are notorious for their sucker production and there were a lot of plants to dig up!

The next year, I ordered quite a few day-neutral strawberry plants, hoping to sell a few to recoup expenses. I ordered two day-neutral varieties: Albion and Seascape. Within a few days of arrival, each plant was potted into a 3x3 pot with a quality seedling growing medium. They are ready to plant into their final home about 4 weeks later. I did not sell as many of these as I hoped and ended up planting the excess in large 25-gallon tubs which were already filled with potting soil and compost from the season before.



My strawberry patch using 25-gallon tubs and various other containers on elevated shelves made with sawhorses. Note - the tubs had drainage holes drilled into the bottoms.

Continued on page 7



Proposed changes submitted at the MSMG regular meeting 2/5/2018 by Dorte Mobley and Kristina Tornqvist

### **BYLAWS OF THE MAT-SU MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION**

The name of this organization will be the Mat-Su Master Gardener Association, a non-profit organization.

#### **Article I. Objectives**

This Association is organized exclusively for charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and includes, but is not limited to:

- a) enhancing and supplementing the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service Master Gardener Program;
- b) assuming responsibility of performing special tasks and engaging in continuous activities related to the Program;
- c) promoting a wide dissemination to Alaska residents of gardening information available resulting from University study and experimentation; and
- d) fostering, promoting and disseminating gardening information in and outside Alaska.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these articles, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried out by an organization exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### **Article II. Membership**

Membership shall be open to any person or organization interested in the objectives of the Association. Membership shall not be transferable.

*Section 1. Regular Members:* Regular members shall consist of those members who have paid their annual dues. All regular members may vote and hold office. Each regular member shall be entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members.

*Section 2. Honorary Members:* Honorary members shall be those members who are given honorary membership by the Board and shall have no obligation to pay membership dues.

*Section 3. Dues:* Membership dues may be reviewed and approved at the Annual meeting. All memberships shall be effective for a period of one year.

*Section 4. Membership Year:* The membership year shall be the calendar year.

#### **Article III. Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors shall consist of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary plus one Member-at-Large. All Board members shall be elected by the membership. The Board shall provide full direction to all business between general membership meetings, outline yearly goals and programs, and take action to assure that the records of the Treasurer are audited annually. The Board may further establish standing rules and revise as needed.

#### **Article IV. Officers**

*Section 1. Officers:* The officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The **President** shall preside at regular and Board meetings, call Board meetings when necessary, appoint chairs to standing committees and make other appointments as needed.

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

The **Vice-President** shall conduct the business of the Association in the absence of the President.

The **Secretary** shall record the minutes of the Board meetings and regular meetings, initiate and respond to correspondence and assure that the general membership is informed of chapter activities.

The **Treasurer** shall collect all monies and dues, pay all bills and retain records of receipts and expenditures and present a financial report to the Board. The Treasurer shall present the monthly bank statement to the Board for monthly audit.

**Section 2. Election, Terms of Office:** If more than one person is nominated for an office, the Officer shall be elected by ballot. If there is only one nominee for an office, a vote on that nominee may be taken by show of hands. If there is only one nominee for each of the offices, the President may ask for unanimous consent by show of hands. The Officers as well as the Member-at-Large shall serve a one-year term. The term of office shall begin the following January.

#### **ARTICLE V. Meetings**

**Section 1. Regular Meetings:** The regular meetings of the Association shall be held on the first Monday of each month, September through May with the exception of December (holiday party), unless otherwise set by the Board. Whenever the first Monday is a holiday, the meeting shall be held the following Monday of the month.

**Section 2. Annual Meetings:** The regular meeting on the first Monday of November shall be known as the Annual meeting and shall be for the purpose of election of Officers and Member-at-Large, approval of the annual budget, and for any other business that may arise.

**Section 3. Quorum:** Ten regular members present shall constitute a quorum for the Annual meeting or regular meetings.

**Section 4. Voting:** Approval of an action or choice requires a majority vote of those present. Voice vote or show of hands is the normal voting method on a motion. Voting by mail or email is reserved for important issues on which a vote of the full membership is desirable and will be determined by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

#### **ARTICLE VI. Bylaw Amendments**

These Bylaws may be amended at any regularly scheduled meeting of this organization by two-thirds vote of those members present, provided the proposed amendment has been introduced in writing at a previous regular meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VII. Distribution of Excess Funds, Dissolution of the Association**

**Section 1. Excess Funds:** Money not needed to meet normal operating expenses of the Association may be used for any of the following purposes: (1) to fund scholarships for qualified groups to study horticulture; (2) to be donated to non-profit organizations for the purpose of furthering horticulture; and (3) to help fund projects that contribute to the beautification of our communities.

**Section 2. Dissolution:** Money remaining in the treasury upon dissolution of the Association shall be donated to non-profit organizations operating under 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code with the purpose of furthering horticulture.

## Proposed Mat Su Master Gardener Association Standing Rules

### Annual review:

The board shall review these standing rules annually in October for presentation to the membership at the November meeting

### Amendments:

These Standing Rules may be amended by a majority of members present at a regular meeting after having been presented by the board.

### Dues:

Yearly dues are \$10 for each member or \$12 for a household (more than one member in same household) membership and are payable December 1 for the following calendar year. If dues are paid before January 15, the member will be listed in the yearbook.

### Expenditures:

The board, at its discretion, can spend up to \$100 per event/activity without vote of the membership for non-budgeted expenses for workshops, projects and supplies. There shall be maintained in the checking/savings accounts enough monies to fund the yearly budget. Reimbursed expenses are only paid from receipts submitted to the treasurer within 45 days of expense. Any purchases must be in the approved budget or pre-approved by the board for up to \$100.

### Plant sale:

All Mat-Su Master Gardener Association members who have joined or renewed their membership AND signed up to participate in the plant sale by the May meeting can participate in the plant sale. The association will provide the members with yellow labels for prices and white labels for plant names at the April and May meetings.

### Standing Committees:

**Newsletter** - The newsletter committee shall prepare the monthly newsletter and send it to the web master to post it online and send an email with a link to the web page. This committee will also send out emails and other notices to association members and interested parties on various club activities and as requested by the association. Members without email will get a newsletter mailed to them after they provide the board with mailing address.

**Experiment Farm Planting** - The committee shall buy plants in accordance with the association's budget and arrange for a planting date to be announced to the members.

**Palmer Library Planting** - The committee shall arrange for members to donate plants or, if needed, buy plants in accordance with the association's budget and arrange for a planting date to be announced to the members.

**Parade participation** - The committee shall arrange to sign the association up for parades if so requested by the membership, and for a float to be made if so desired. The committee will coordinate work days and a location to build the float if needed.

**Palmer Veterans and Pioneer Home Planting** - The committee shall buy plants in accordance with the association's budget and arrange for a planting date to be announced to the members. If soil in beds needs amending the committee will arrange for amendments to be donated or purchased

**Plant Sale** - The committee shall:

1. Arrange for location (see below\*),
2. Arrange for supplies and advertising
3. Provide sign-up sheet for sellers at April and May meetings
4. Send reminders members to save boxes for the plant sale.

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

5. Get table, chairs, and plant sale signs from the CES office
6. Oversee operation of the day of sale
7. Tally yellow plant price labels
8. Take money to the bank
9. Arrange with Treasurer for checks to be written to selling members
10. Give yellow plant labels back to selling members

\*Request the Palmer Downtown Pavilion a year in advance. Here's the link to the website:

[http://www.cityofpalmer.org/index.asp?Type=B\\_BASIC&SEC=%7B33AA5BDC-87DF-4232-9E01-028A3196D555%7D](http://www.cityofpalmer.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7B33AA5BDC-87DF-4232-9E01-028A3196D555%7D)

Usually, the president fills out the request right after the plant sale, so we get it reserved for the following year.

\*\* We have signs to hang on fences to advertise (this is usually done a few weeks ahead of time). There is also a sign to hang up on the shelter at the Pavilion.

**State Fair** - The committee shall coordinate with the State Fair Flower and Crops Department Superintendents on which Division and Class the Association will sponsor for each year's Alaska State Fair. The committee will purchase gift cards and take them to the main office at the fair with labels indicating which winners the prizes are for. The State Fair representative will mail the cards to each winner. The Board decides how much to give for each prize.

There are ten prizes: five first entry winners and five second entry winners in the following divisions/classes:

#### Crops Department

- Veg Heads                      Division 16, Class 01, Junior (ages 6-12), first place winner
- Veg Heads                      Division 16, Class 02, Junior (ages 13-17), first place winner
- Veg Heads                      Division 16, Class 03, Open, first place winner

#### Flowers Department

- Trees & Shrubs                Division 5 Champion
- Artistic Design                Division 13, Class 4, Fair theme design, first place winner

**Garden Tour** - The committee shall arrange for garden tour/events that may occur on dates other than monthly meeting dates, announce the dates at the meeting and submit the information for inclusion in the newsletter the month before the event.

**Web Master** - The Web Master shall keep the Mat Su Master Gardener web site up to date with association activities and information. Each Planting Committee Chair will provide a summer weeding and watering schedule to the webmaster to post on the website for members to sign up

**Yearbook** - The yearbook committee shall compile, format, submit for printing and distribute the annual yearbook for the members.

Continued from page 3

Each tub was freshened with some new potting soil and perlite. I also dug in several handfuls of fish bone meal (produced by a local company). In early June, each tub received between 7 – 9 plants. By early July, I was harvesting almost a gallon of large juicy berries every few days. We continued to harvest berries until early October. Production did slow in September, but the plants were still flowering and producing berries. The only difference I noticed in the two varieties is Albion suckered a bit earlier and more prolifically than the Seascape plant.

Harvesting from the tubs and elevated containers was a breeze. There was very little bending or crawling around on hands and knees. Because the plants were in pots and tubs, there was no need to weed and only required occasional pruning of runners later in the summer. I learned if you let a just a few runners grow, they will also produce berries. Because the tubs were on a gravel pad, the slugs didn't attempt to invade until very late during the extreme rainy season. Robins occasionally ate a few but production was so high, I didn't mind sharing. Overall, it was a very successful experiment and our freezer is (was) full of strawberries.

2-5-2018 Meeting Minutes  
 Mat Su Master Gardener Association  
 Submitted by Secretary Dorte Mobley

Present were Michael & Phyllis Kircher Ken & Deb Blaylock, Dorte Mobley, Curt and Marge Mueller, Wayne & Arlene Bowman, Anita Chase, Eva Cohnen-Brown, Kathryn O'Neal, Rena McAllister, Jeanette Willis, Billie Willis, Kale Mitchell, Marcia Clemons, Christine Ashurst, Greg Kalal.

Meeting called to order by President, Michael Kircher

Treasurer, Cathy Crew, not present. Michael presented the budget that had been approved by the board. Motion by Kristina to accept budget, seconded and passed unanimously

Four new members came - a Master Gardener class has just finished.

Minutes were sent out in newsletter. Motion to approve them by Ken, motion seconded and approved.

Kristina presented the membership directory that she has made. It was handed out to all present and she would like to send it to all members not there. Motion by Dorte to spend up to \$20 on stamps, seconded and passed. She informed us that the board had approved the date of January 15 for a deadline every year to get your name in the directory. An addition can be printed and taped into the directory.

A few members have sent in dues since January meeting.

We have 1400 white and 2500 yellow plant labels. Deb will buy 5000 white and 2000 yellow labels.

Kristina presented proposed bylaw changes. She and Dorte have looked at the old ones, added some verbiage and cleaned up some conflicting information. A

correction will be made about meetings being moved to second Monday if first Monday is a holiday. The proposal was handed out, will be sent to all members in the newsletter and we will vote on them at the March meeting.

Dorte presented a proposal for standing rules for the organization. The rules will also go in the newsletter. Deb motioned to approve the rules, it was seconded and approved unanimously.

Dorte will contact the experimental farm to find out what the scoop is on the flower beds at the farm.

Brooke from the Midsummer art and Garden Faire has asked if we are interested in a booth at the 14 July fair. It was decided that we get a booth, Deb and Ken will set it up and members will man it. It was motioned by Dorte that we will spend the \$42.50, it was seconded and approved unanimously.

Ken presented "Beekeeping 101" with inputs from other bee keepers in the group.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45



## Alaska Peony Society

APS members – don't miss this event!

Seating is limited, and current **APS members** can attend **free**.

Fee for non-members is \$20 – pay at the door cash or check

Please RSVP to [AlaskaPeonySociety@hotmail.com](mailto:AlaskaPeonySociety@hotmail.com) no later than January 25, 2018. Seats will then be offered to non-members.

### Alaska Peony Society Presents

Harvey Buchite

Hidden Springs Flower Farm

<https://hiddenspringsflowerfarm.com/>

Saturday March 10, 2018

Evangelio's Restaurant Conference Room, Wasilla, Alaska

Program begins at 11:00 am (Lunch 12:30- 1:30) resume presentation 1:30 to 5:00 pm

Mr. Buchite has been growing peonies for over 40 years and his first hand knowledge of the botanical species and breeding new peony hybrids allows him to speak from experience. As a published author of many articles on peonies, his research helps to bring a wealth of new peony information in a practical, easy to understand, and colorful format. As past President of the American Peony Society he is an advocate for growing these wonderful perennials. He and his wife Brigitte grow over 20,000 peony plants representing 800 varieties at their farm and nursery in Spring Grove, Minnesota.

Please join us in welcoming Mr. Buchite to Alaska for his presentation.

Dorte Mobley – President – Alaska Peony Society



# 2018 Statewide Master Gardener Conference Inspiration from the Ground Up



Saturday, March 24, 2018

Pike's Waterfront Lodge

8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Lunch Included

Registration: Member-\$25.00: Non-Member-\$35.00 (Until February 28)

Regular Registration: Member-\$35.00: Non-Member -\$50.00 (3/01 to 3/23)

At the Door \$60.00

Friday Dinner & Keynote "Wild Flowers & Wildlife of Africa" by Les Brake - \$20.00

Bring your family & friends

6:30 pm at Pike's Waterfront Lodge

CASH OR CHECK ONLY

Registration form available online at [fairbanksmastergardeners.wordpress.com](http://fairbanksmastergardeners.wordpress.com)

or at Master Gardener meetings on February 6 & March 6, 2018

Guest Speakers

Bob Bors

Les Brake

Katie DiCristina

Gary Laursen

Marsha Munsell

Come out and find your  
inspiration!



INSPIRATION



## Garden Links

### Alaska Botanical Garden

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

### Alaska Center for Conservation Science

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

### Arbor Day Foundation

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

### Alaska Division of Agriculture

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/>

### Alaska Farm to School

<https://www.farmentoschoolalaska.org/>

### 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

<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 Peony Society

<https://alaskapeonysociety.wixsite.com/alaskapeonysociety>

### Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association

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

### Alaska Plant Materials Center

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

### Alaska Rhodiola \*\*New\*\*

<https://www.akroseroot.com/>

### Alaska Rock Garden Society

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

### 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.com](http://www.matsumastergardeners.com)

### 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 CES Citizen Pest Monitoring Portal

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

### UAF Georgeson Botanical Garden

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

### UAF Herbarium \*\*New\*\*

<http://www.uaf.edu/museum/collections/herb/>

### UAF School of Natural Resources & Extension

<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/>

## Announcements

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Submit an article to the newsletter
- Volunteer to chair a committee
  - Colony Days Parade
  - Alaska Veterans & Pioneers Home Planting

- Demonstration Bed at Experiment Farm
- Palmer Library Planting
- Grant/scholarship coordinator
- Help out at the Alaska State Fair
- Teach a class to school children
- Help with the Midsummer Garden and Art

## CLUB CONTACT INFO

<b>President:</b>	<b>Michael Kircher</b>	<b>745-1459</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Curt Mueller</b>	<b>745-6144</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Dorte Mobley</b>	<b>232-5422</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

### MARCH 2018

**Mar 5**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Presentation of Israeli flowers and structures by Michael Kircher

**Mar 10**, Anchorage, ABG Spring Seminar

**Mar 23-24**, Fairbanks, State Alaska Master Gardener Conference, Pike's Waterfront Lodge, <https://fairbanksmastergardeners.wordpress.com/conference/>

### APRIL 2018 AND BEYOND

**Apr 2**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Clematis, Sally Koppenburg

**Apr 7**, Anchorage, Sears Mall Spring Garden Show

**May 7**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Espaliering trees and why, Dan Elliott & Debbie Hinchey, APFGA

**Jun 2**, Palmer, Annual Plant Sale

**Jun 4**, Palmer, Palmer Library Planting

**Jun 9**, Palmer, Colony Days Parade

**Jul 2**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Garden Tours

**Jul 14**, Palmer, Midsummer Garden & Art Faire

**Aug 6**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Hypertufa troughs, Jaime Rodriquez, Alpine Gardens

**Aug 23 - Sep 3**, Palmer, Alaska State Fair

**Sep 10**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD

**Oct 1**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Hydroponics, Southside Garden Supply

**Nov 5**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Annual Meeting/Worm composting, Ellen VandeVisse, Good Earth Garden School

**Nov 5 - 7**, Anchorage, Alaska Sustainable Agriculture Conference

**Dec 3**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Christmas Party

## 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--**



March 2018



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 598  
PALMER, AK 99645**

