



## President's Patch

By President Kevin Johnson

Here we are, fellow gardening enthusiasts, in the months of August and September, when we start the shutting down of our outdoor gardens and flower beds. We think of all the things we did not get done but rejoice in the many bountiful fruits of our labors. MMGA had a busy July with the Veterans and Pioneers Home planting, Rebarchek Farm project and our many volunteer hours. Currently, MMGA sponsors Crops and Flower Department categories at the Alaska State Fair in Palmer. Stop by and see all the exhibits and winners. They are on display at the Craig Taylor Farm Exhibits barn.

The busy summer was never ending. The high winds and rains held off in Palmer and our flowers grew fabulously, and with a minimal amount of them falling.

The annual plant sale in June was well attended by many and was a joy to participate in. The proceeds were not as high, I believe 10% less than last year, but even with the weather, wind, and rain, it was still a great event. We had a line of customers, and many members chipped in to accommodate all.

I hope everyone took pictures of their flowers and vegetables! As a reminder, at a future meeting, we have a slide presentation (showing my age), of your photos. In December we will be having the annual potluck where we ask members to bring a dish that was from your garden. That's not a requirement, but a fun thing. The club buys the meat and there is a White Elephant gift exchange with a \$25 maximum, so keep your eyes open.

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### REGULAR MEETINGS

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

**NEXT MEETING**

SEPT 9TH, 7:00 P.M.

**LOCATION:**

**MATANUSKA EXPERIMENT FARM AND EXTENSION CENTER,**

**KERTTULA HALL, ROOM 208, SECOND FLOOR  
1509 S GEORGESON DR, PALMER**

**AGENDA**

**7:00 TO 7:30 PM BUSINESS MEETING**

**7:30 SPEAKER:**

**JENNY WEAVER WILL POST SPEAKER INFORMATION ON OUR FACEBOOK GROUP WHEN THE SEPTEMBER SPEAKER IS CONFIRMED. AN EMAIL WILL GO OUT TO MEMBERS AS WELL. THANKS FOR YOUR PATIENCE!**

Elections are quickly approaching; if you are interested in a position on the Board of Directors or helping in some other way, please feel free to contact me.

See you at the September 9th meeting!

## PEASANT'S PERSPECTIVE:

BY CURT MUELLER, MASTER GARDENER – PHOTOS BY BECKY RUDD

Well, once again the Master Gardeners have taken first place for an entry in the Alaska State Fair parade. The peasant is pleased to give credit to his family for creating the winning entry. The whole family, including four generations, was involved. The fourth generation at three months had little to say, but she is loved by all and will undoubtedly be spoiled by all. Please be patient if the family patriarch is a wee bit proud, but the float was produced by the family team, with enthusiasm, skill, creativity and generous contribution of time and effort. The peasant had only to kibitz.

The theme for the fair was “Enjoy the Ride!” This was easy to adapt to a float. The family got together to decide whether or not to build an entry, and from there what shape it would take, hence the Ferris wheel as a ride. Grandson Lloyd, who is employed by MTA, suggested modifying a castoff MTA cable reel into a Ferris wheel and it went on from there with everyone contributing and happily cooperating. Indeed, it was fun and a great way for the family to work as a team. The Rudd family as our friends were also a part of the team. Becky Rudd made many photos and graciously shared them. Her photos with the peasant’s captions are included. Thanks, folks.



Motley  
crew after  
float  
assembly.

Float from back  
with mountains  
and Mat-Su  
Master  
Gardeners  
banner.





Float at temporary stop in parade.



Frontal view of float enroute to parade.



Waiting for wheel ride.



Enjoying the ride.



Brinley Rudd entranced by the slug.



Enjoying the ride [and the cabbage].

## Charitable Organizations

It's the time of year when we have extra produce from our gardens and orchards. You might be looking for a good organization to donate to. Here's a list of some local and nearby organizations who accept donations. If you know of others, please feel free to email them to [matsumastergardeners@gmail.com](mailto:matsumastergardeners@gmail.com).

Mat-Su Senior Services, 1132 S. Chugach Street, Palmer, Alaska 99645. Webpage: <http://www.matsuseniors.com/>

Matsu Food Bank, 5099 East Blue Lupine Drive, Wasilla, AK, (907) 357-3769, Website: <https://www.matsufoodbank.org/> (On FB). Hours: Monday - Friday, 10 am - 1 pm.

Kids Kupboard, 4800 N Tanis Dr. Wasilla AK 99654, (907) 357-5439, email: [director@kidskupboard.org](mailto:director@kidskupboard.org) , website: <https://www.kidskupboard.org/>

Lutheran Social Services of Alaska-Direct Services, 1303 W 33rd Ave, Anchorage, AK 99503

Food Bank of Alaska, 2121 Spar Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501, (907) 272-3663.

Catholic Social Services, 3710 E 20th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99508, (907) 222-7300.

Wasilla Area Seniors, 1301 S. Century Circle, Wasilla 99654, (907) 376-3104, <https://www.facebook.com/WasillaAreaSeniorsInc/>

Palmer Food Bank, 221 South Valley Way, Palmer 99645, (907) 746-3565

Frontline Mission 2001 E Palmer-Wasilla Hwy, Wasilla, AK, (907) 357-8600

St. Francis House Food Pantry, 3710 E 20th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99508, Phone (907) 222-7323 (front desk), Chris Kukay, Program Director, [ckukay@cssalaska.org](mailto:ckukay@cssalaska.org). <https://www.cssalaska.org/our-programs/st-francis-house/>

The Alaska Zoo, 4731 O'Malley Rd, Anchorage, AK, 99507, (907) 346-2133, <https://www.alaskazoo.org/food-donations>

Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center, Mile 79 Seward Highway, Portage, Alaska 99587, phone: (907) 783-0058, email them at: [donations@alaskawildlife.org](mailto:donations@alaskawildlife.org) , website: <https://www.alaskawildlife.org/support/wish-list/>



## Garden Links (updated March 2024)

### Alaska AgrAbility Program **\*\*New Mar 2024\*\***

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/agriculture/agrability/index.php>

### Alaska Botanical Garden

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

### Alaska Center for Conservation Science

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

### Alaska Community Forestry

<https://forestry.alaska.gov/community/index>

### Arbor Day Foundation

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

### Alaska Division of Agriculture

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

### Alaska Garden Clubs

<http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org>

### Alaska Grown

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

### Alaska Master Gardeners Association, Anchorage

<http://alaskamastergardeners.org/>

### Alaska Native Plant Society

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

### Alaska Non-Native Species List

<https://accs.uaa.alaska.edu/invasive-species/non-native-plant-species-list/>

### Alaska Orchid Society

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

### Alaska Peony Society

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

### Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association

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

### Alaska Plant Materials Center

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

### Alaska Rhodiola

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

### Alaska Rock Garden Society

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

### Flora of North America

<http://floranorthamerica.org/>

### Good Earth Garden School

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

### Georgeson Botanical Garden

<https://georgesonbotanicalgarden.org/>

### iNaturalist **\*\*\*New May 2024\*\*\***

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

### Integrated Pest Management Program

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

### IPM Alaska Pest Reporter

<https://plw.man.mybluehost.me/>

### Junior Master Gardener

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

### Landscape Plants for Alaska

<https://visionplusapps.com/alaska-plants/>

### 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 (Extension)

<https://extension.org/search/>

### Master Gardeners of the Tanana Valley

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

### Mat-Su/Copper River Cooperative Extension Service

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

### Matanuska Experiment Farm and Extension Services

<https://www.uaf.edu/afes/places/palmer/>

### National AgrAbility Program **\*\*New Mar 2024\*\***

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

### Palmer Soil & Water Conservation District

<http://palmersoilandwater.org/>

### Society of American Foresters, Cook Inlet Chapter

<https://forestry.org/cook-inlet-seedling-sale/>

### South-Central Alaska Beekeepers Assoc.

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

### Southeast Alaska Master Gardeners Association

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

### Sustainable Agriculture – UAF

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/agriculture/sare/>

### UAF Cooperative Extension Service

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/>

### UAF Cooperative Extension Service Publications

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

### UAF CES Citizen Pest Monitoring Portal

<https://pestreporter.alaska.edu/>

### UAF Herbarium

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

### UAF Alaska Master Gardener Program

<https://www.uaf.edu/ces/garden/mastergardeners/>

### University of Saskatchewan Fruit Program

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

### USDA/NRCS Plant Database

<https://plants.usda.gov/home>

### Wildflower Garden Club of Alaska

<https://wildflowergardenclub.org/>



## BOARD OF DIRECTOR CONTACT INFO

<b>President:</b>	<b>Kevin Johnson</b>	<b>907 775 2808</b>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<b>Jenny Weaver</b>	<b>907-982-5446</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Jana Gooch</b>	<b>907 746-2891</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Cathy Crew</b>	<b>907-632-4401</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Deb Blaylock</b>	<b>907-746-6045</b>

If you have gardening news, photos, or information you would like to share in the newsletter, please send to the MMGA email.

Website: [www.matsumastergardeners.com/](http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/)

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

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER 2024 AND BEYOND

**Sep 9**, Palmer, Regular Meeting, TBD  
**Oct 7**, Palmer, Regular Meeting, TBD  
**Nov 4**, Palmer, Annual Meeting/Elections/TBD  
**Dec TBD**, Palmer, Christmas Party  
**May 16-18, 2025**, Juneau, State Master Gardener Conference

**Don't forget to check out the photos tab on our webpage! Eva updates it periodically from activities our Association participates in.**

<https://www.matsumastergardeners.com/photos.html>

### *Club Membership*

The membership year runs from January to December each year. Annual individual memberships are \$15, and family memberships are \$20. Family memberships are only for family members living in the same household. The deadline to join was **February 5, 2024**, to be listed in the annual membership directory. Join or renew online.

*Thank you!*

## How and What to Submit for the Monthly Newsletter

Your submissions are appreciated and make our newsletter what it is - so do not 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 needed 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.

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--**



September 2024



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**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**

