

# Homer Garden Club



June 2020

# Newsletter

## Board of Directors

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janpeyton73@gmail.com

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Paula Riley — 435-7055  
pauril@yahoo.com

Francie Roberts —235-1068,  
francie.roberts@gmail.com

## Garden Club Harvest Dinner

We have reserved the Fellowship Hall at the Methodist Church for our annual Harvest Dinner. We are hopeful that the threat of the virus will have diminished enough to get back to our normal activities. This may be "wishful thinking" but we are all gardeners after all...a hearty bunch! As soon as a final decision is made on this, we will post it on the HGC website ([homergardenclub.org](http://homergardenclub.org)), send out an email update and print it in the September newsletter.



# Treasurer Report

by Louise Ashmun, Treasurer

## Homer Garden Club Monthly Treasurer Report for May, 2020

### Income

Book Sales	\$254.85
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>\$254.85</u></b>

### Expenses

Speakers honorariums	\$150.00
Meeting Venue Rental	\$150.00
Newsletter	\$6.79
Farmer's Market Donation	\$1,200.00
Storage Unit Annual Rent	\$395.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>\$1,901.79</u></b>

Checking Beginning Balance 03/01/2020	\$ 5,647.66
Income	254.85
Expenses	1,901.79
Interest	<u>0.24</u>
Ending Balance 03/31/2020	\$ 4,000.96

Money Market Beginning Balance 03/01/2020	\$ 15,037.16
Interest	<u>1.92</u>
Money Market Ending Balance 03/31/2020	\$ 15,039.08

Total Ending Balance 03/31/2020	\$ 19,040.04
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**NEW HOMER LOCATION!**  
**Next to Homer Animal Friends**  
**In the Kachemak Center**  
**Off Heath St.**



**Everything you need to grow great things!**

Dripworks Irrigation

Propagation & Cloning

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# Meditation While Weeding

by Jessica Shepard, MFA

Meditation, as I understand it, is an attempt to quiet the incessant narration of our nervous minds. Until recently, I've never given meditation more than a passing nod, but the domino effect of world events leaves me struggling to catch my breath. I figured my poor head could use a daily interlude of quiet.

As it turns out, weeding is the perfect backdrop for one's meditative practice. Rooting out chickweed and dandelions requires little mental input, leaving me free to mute the internal volume of my thoughts.

Breathing in, I focus down and enter a moment of stillness. I am here. Just here. Bird songs pour in. The fluted notes of a robin. The descending spiral of a hermit thrush. A playful breeze brushes my neck and I draw in the smells of warm earth and bruised thyme.

Then, as always, the spell is broken. Words and images flood in. A replay of the day's pandemic statistics. Lists of things I should do. Dialog from a recent phone call with my son. I am no good at this meditation thing, yet these flirtations with silence run a soothing hand over my frayed nerves.

Fortunately, I am better at weeding. In the garden, straw hat on my head, I pull grass starts from among tiny carrot seedlings. The rounded leaves of emergent hemp nettle don't stand a chance. I tug up feathery horsetail, knowing that they, like the whiskers I tweeze from my chin, will always grow back.

I imagine generations of monks tending walled gardens while struggling to tame the weeds sprouting in their minds. How satisfying it must be to work over a garden bed leaving only the nourishing plants while, at the same time, clearing the mind in preparation for higher, more wholesome concepts to take root.

While I've thus far failed to hold onto that fleeting stillness for more than a few seconds, I have become acutely aware of the endless yattering in my head. It's not lost on me that I'm creating theatre for an audience of one. Me. I suspect I will never contain the

flow of words, but what if I stop listening? Let them arise and dissipate, like clouds?

So that's where I'm at, striving not to engage. Moreover, I'm intrigued by the notion that there is something within that sweet silence. It might be as small and pleasurable as discovering where our busy Townsends warblers hide their nest. Or as formative as shedding outdated emotional constraints and biases.

Again, I breathe in and let stillness overcome me. Sun on my skin. A bee landing on my wrist and walking the length of my forearm before taking flight. The gurgle of our small creek as it flows through the woodlands. I struggle mightily to maintain this moment of acute awareness, only to find that words, insidious as any weed, find their way back in.



Luckily, a large garden affords me daily opportunities to uproot thought seedlings and nurture the fertile soil of my untamed mind. Tomorrow I will try again.



# WAGON WHEEL GARDEN & PET

A HOMER ICON

1506 Ocean Drive, Homer, AK 99603

907-235-8777 -Open all year- [akwagonwheel.com](http://akwagonwheel.com)

Seeds and Starting Supplies

Tomato Starts

Vegetable Bedding Plants

Perennials

Annual Bedding Plants

Trees and Shrubs

Houseplants

Hanging Baskets

Soils and Sod

Organic Soil Amendments

Landscape Supplies

Garden Décor

## HGC GARDENERS' WEEKEND CANCELLED

by Francie Roberts

The Homer Garden Club Gardener's Weekend originally scheduled for July 19th has been cancelled. The Gardener's Weekend committee was concerned about the number of people in the hostesses' yards. The committee looks forward to the 2021 Gardeners' Weekend. There are some great gardens to be seen in the future!

### Cookie's Country Greenhouse

2340 East End Road, Homer, AK 99603 — 235-8915 or 399-8915

We carry vegetable starts, organic seed tapes and seed potatoes. We have lots of beautiful new flowers, including good old reliable pansies, lobelia and marigolds, as well as ProMix, lime, Fishy Peat compost, landscape bark, etc., and red wiggler worms.



Because of COVID-19 we will be doing phone orders by credit card, so you can pick up your orders outside. If you want to come in and browse, that will be great too! Just maintain your 6-ft. distance—please.

Monday through Saturday,  
from 9:00 to 6:00

### Ulmer's

### Drug & Hardware

Everything you need for your garden indeed!



- Seeds
- Plants
- Soils
- Mulch
- Tools
- Gloves/Clothes



3858 Lake Street, Homer

Open 7 days a week!

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## GARDENERS NEEDED



Above is a picture of the small bays available for planting at the south side of South Peninsula Hospital. They are looking for a member or group of members to plant and maintain these little areas. Most of them are already spoken for but there are 3 still available.

Anyone interested? Contact Barbara at 235-4347 or Derotha at South Peninsula Hospital for any questions.



### Alaskan Landscape Services

- ◆ Landscape enhancement
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- ◆ Vegetable gardens
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#### Contact Us

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[www.inletacreslandscaping.com](http://www.inletacreslandscaping.com)

Check our work on Facebook!

9 years creating gardens  
in Homer

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\*\*\*\*\*Our Membership Year is October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>\*\*\*\*\*

## THE HOMER GARDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Type: Basic(\$10)  Supporting (\$15)  Business (\$25)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

You will receive the newsletter by E-Mail. This saves us printing and postage costs.  
Plus, the E-mailed version is in fabulous color!

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

### How would you like to participate in the Garden Club *this Membership Year*? (please check any activities in which you would like to help)

Meeting Refreshments  Board of Directors  Nominating Committee  Newsletter  
 Spring Plant Sale  Harvest Dinner  Baycrest Garden  Gardeners' Weekend

Suggestions for future Topics or Speakers \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to "Homer Garden Club" and mail along with this form to:  
Homer Garden Club, P.O. Box 2833, Homer AK 99603

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Homer, Alaska 99603

