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Homer Garden Club



Newsletter

October 2021

The October 17 HGC meeting will be a Zoom meeting. at 2:00.

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October 17 Meeting will be Zoom at 2:00 With Angela Smith on her Japanese Garden

Angela Pullen Smith will be our October 17 speaker and submitted this information about her garden.



ing things, and adding new features such as stone work and a pond. I liked the feeling of enclosing my home in a little forest, a sanctuary in the suburbs. I've always been inspired by the beautiful old gardens in Kyoto, as well as the mossy Alaskan forests- places with a feeling of mystery and calmness. When planting new areas of the garden, I tried to keep in mind the entire ecosystem- what will be shaded, what will live under, where the little patches of sun will peek through, so that it will work together as a whole.

When my husband and I bought our house in 2013, it was an ordinary city



plot, surrounded only by lawn and a couple of overgrown trees. However, the blank canvas was very motivating. I've spent the last 8 years removing sod, planting more interest-

Sure, I was born and raised here- grew

up on 40 acres of forest, but went to college in Washington. Though I haven't been to Japan yet, I love visiting Japanese gardens in cities I travel to.



SEE PAGE 2 FOR ACCESS TO ZOOM MEETING



Treasurer Report

by Louise Ashmun, Treasurer

September 2021

Income

Membership	\$80.00		
Book Sales	\$21.94		
Total Income			<u>\$101.94</u>

Expenses

Newsletter Printing	\$24.12		
Total Expenses			<u>\$24.12</u>

Checking Beginning Balance 09/01/2021	\$	6,666.80
Income	\$	101.94
Expenses	\$	24.12
Interest	\$	<u>0.28</u>
Ending Balance 09/30/2021	\$	6,744.90
Money Market Beginning Balance 09/01/2021	\$	15,066.77
Interest	\$	<u>1.24</u>
Money Market Ending Balance 09/30/2021	\$	15,068.01
Total Ending Balance 08/31/2021	\$	<u>21,812.91</u>

October Zoom Meeting

Again, the COVID thing has reared its ugly head and we are holding our October membership meeting via Zoom. In addition to our wonderful presenter, we will be having our usual short business meeting at the beginning of the session and we will be voting on the proposed amendment to the Garden Club Constitution to keep our business practices in line with the current electronic age. Here's the link to join the meeting:

Topic: Garden Club October Member Meeting

Time: Oct 17, 2021 02:00 PM Alaska

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83657874623?pwd=RENoMTRNUHZUSkxhSXJwWURpdIJtZz09>

Meeting ID: 836 5787 4623

Passcode: 903016



Homer Garden Club Approved Budget FY 21-22

by Louise Ashmun, Treasurer

Income	FY 21-22 Approved Budget
Memberships	\$ 750.00
Aprons	\$ 100.00
Books	\$ 800.00
Plant Sale plants	\$ 1,000.00
Gardeners' Weekend	\$ 750.00
Newsletter Ads	\$ 480.00
Donations to HGC	\$ 500.00
Checking Interest	\$ 3.00
MM Interest	\$ 17.00
TOTAL	\$4,400.00

Expenses	FY 21-22 Approved Budget
Monthly Meetings	
Venue	\$ 875.00
Program	\$ 600.00
Refreshments	\$ -
Special Events/Projects	
Harvest Dinner	\$ 700.00
Gardeners' Weekend Committee	\$ 1,000.00
Baycrest Garden	\$ 300.00
Plant Sale	\$ 200.00
Book Printing	\$ 200.00
Web/Computer	
MS Office License Fee	\$ 75.00
Website Hosting	\$ 168.00
Website Domain Registration	\$ 25.00
Computer Security	\$ 40.00
File Storage (recorded meetings)	\$ 250.00
Administration	
Newsletter	\$ 120.00
Post Box	\$ 170.00
Banking costs	\$ 40.00
Copying/Postage	\$ 30.00
Chamber of Com. Dues	\$ 37.00
Biennial State Fee	\$ 25.00
Event Insurance	\$ 425.00
Historian	\$ 30.00
Storage unit	\$ 395.00
Support of Community Projects	\$ 2,500.00
Scholarship	\$
TOTAL Budget	\$ 9,205.00



Happy Halloween!





Tips On Planting Bulbs In Cold Climates

Preparation is the key to seasonal bulb color. Spring bulbs need to go into the ground in fall while summer bloomers should be installed by spring. Zone 4 flowering bulbs follow these same rules but must also be hardy enough to withstand winter temperatures of -30 to -20 degrees Fahrenheit (-34 to -28 C.). These chilly temperatures can injure bulbs that are not tolerant of freezing. It is incumbent on the gardener to verify temperature requirements when planting bulbs in cold climates. Failure to check hardiness may result in fewer flowers and in some cases, completely wasted bulbs.

Fall Planted Flower Bulbs for Zone 4

There are a host of cold hardy bulbs. Many spring blooming varieties actually require a chilling period to break the dormancy of the embryonic plant inside the bulb. But a word of caution...many of the fall planted bulbs are not hardy when confronted with extremely deep freezes. Culture is also a factor when planting bulbs in cold climates. Preparing the soil and enhancing drainage and fertility can



help ensure color displays from bulbs.

Spring planted bulbs are a zone 4 gardener's best friend because they are planted after danger of frost or planted in containers in a warm area for a jump start on growth. It is the fall planted, summer bloomers that are of concern in cold climates. These are going to experience some extreme temperatures, rainfall and ice. Proper depth and soil preparation can help keep these viable as can thick layers of organic mulch. Some of the most cold hardy bulbs are:

- Allium
- Tulips
- Crocus
- Glory of the snow
- Daffodils
- Daylilies
- Fritillaria
- Hyacinth
- Siberian iris
- Bearded iris
- Snowdrops
- Siberian squill

Any of these flowering plants should withstand zone 4 winters with a little care.

Spring Planted Zone 4 Flowering Bulbs

Bulbs, corms, and tubers planted in spring will produce blooms in summer. This can be a challenge in regions with short growing seasons. In United States Department of Agriculture zone 4, the best time to plant summer blooming plants is after the date of the last frost or, in general, April to June.

This doesn't give some of the bigger producers much time to flower,

so some species such as dahlias, Asiatic lilies and gladiolus should be started indoors 6 weeks before planting outside. Even in cold zones, you can plant some of the glorious warm season bloomers with a little preplanning. Some bulbs to try might be:

- Star Gazer lily
- Summer hyacinth
- Saffron crocus
- Crococsmia
- Ranunculus
- Freesia
- Pineapple lily
- Hardy cyclamen
- Summer Cheer daffodil
- Amaryllis



A note about hardy bulbs that bloom in summer. Many of these should still be lifted and stored over winter, as they may be affected by boggy, frozen soil and extended freezes. Simply store them in a

(Continued on page 5)

*(Tips on Planting Bulbs in Cold Climates
Continued from page 4)*

cool, dry location and replant when soil is workable in early spring.

Cold Season Bulb Tips

Planting depth and soil preparation are some of the important steps to take to ensure blooming of bulbs in cold regions. Zone 4 experiences a wide variety of winter weather and summers may be hot and short.

Good soil condition can help prevent rot and freeze damage while

allowing good root formation and nutrient delivery. Always till your garden bed to a depth of at least 12 inches and incorporate compost or gritty material to increase porosity and reduce soggy soil areas.

Bulb depths differ by plant types. The rule of thumb is to plant at least 2 to 3 times as deep as the bulb is tall. Deeper planting gives plants a blanket of soil to help prevent freeze damage but they can't be so deep that the young sprouts can't break through to the surface

of the ground. Many garden centers and online catalogues list exact planting depth and the packaging should also indicate how many inches deep the bulb should be installed.

Cover fall planted bulbs with mulch and pull it away in early spring. Summer blooming bulbs will also benefit from mulch but if you have a doubt on the plant's hardiness, it is easy enough to lift and store them for the next spring's planting.

Election Results

Thank you everyone for voting for our slate of Garden Club officers. And a big thanks to all our officers and volunteers for both last year and the coming year. We have a new recording secretary – Connie Cavasos. Please e-mail or call any of the officers if you have questions, suggestions, or would like to volunteer to help with any of our committees or activities.

All the board members, their e-mail addresses and phone numbers are listed on page one of every newsletter.



REMEMBER: Dues are now due October 1st.

THE HOMER GARDEN CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Are you interested in vegetable gardening _____ ? flower gardening _____ ?

How would you like to participate in the Garden Club?

(please check any activities you may be interested in)

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

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

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