

# Homer Garden Club

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The next HGC meeting will be January 21 at the Aspen Hotel at 2:00 for both Zoom and in person.

January 2024

Newsletter  
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## At January 21 HGC Meeting Marsha Rougglely Will Be Discussing Preserving Your Produce

Marsha Rougglely was raised in Missouri on a farm growing corn, soybeans and beef. Her family relocated to Kenai, Alaska when she was 14 yrs. old. At 18 yrs. old, Marsha moved to Homer and got into growing her own food. She has been raising vegetables, berries, pigs, chickens, ducks, turkeys and cows for over 40 years.



Canning and putting up food is second nature to Marsha with her 6 freezers, - two for household food and four for berries that she makes into jam to sell. Her objective is to have good nutritious food available for her family year

round. Food security is not an issue in the Rougglely household. A couple of favorites she likes to can are pickled green beans or "Dilly Beans" and chicken broth.



Most likely you have seen and maybe purchased some jam from Marsha, as the last 23 or more years, she has been selling jam and jellies at the Homer Farmer's Market.

Marsha is an expert canner, and she gets lots of questions at the market about how to can foods. She will tell

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Directions for January Zoom meeting are on page 2

# Treasurer's Report

by Kendall Dellaesperanza, Treasurer

## Homer Garden Club Treasurer's Report for November/December 2024

Membership	\$190.00	
Merchandise sales	\$128.50	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b><u>\$318.50</u></b>

### Expenses

Speaker Honorarium	\$200.00	
Aspen Hotel Venue	\$200.00	
Donation to Homer Seed Library	\$1,000.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b><u>\$1,400.00</u></b>

Checking Beginning Balance 11/01/2023	\$	5,682.36
Income	\$	318.50
Expenses	\$	1,400.00
Interest	\$	<u>0.48</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/2023	\$	4,601.34
Money Market Beginning Balance 11/01/2023	\$	6,114.36
Interest	\$	<u>2.05</u>
Money Market Ending Balance 12/31/2023	\$	6,116.41
CD Beginning Balance 11/01/2023	\$	15,000.00
Interest [received at maturity (02/19/2024)]	\$	<u>-</u>
CD Ending Balance 12/31/2023	\$	15,000.00
<b>Total Ending Balance 11/30/2023</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>25,717.75</u></b>

## Zoom Mtg & Notes from the HGC President By Kathy Dube'

### Happy 2024!

Happy New Year everyone. Looks like we have enough snow this year to keep all our landscape plants blanketed and for everyone who enjoys playing in the snow to have fun too. Looking forward to seeing everyone either in person or on Zoom at our January meeting.

### Zoom Meeting

Topic: Homer Garden Club January 2024 Meeting

Time: Jan 21, 2024 02:00 PM Alaska

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88217785509?pwd=9XHnw9eET0bGmFFNSMLZ7YVYj9JCSn.1>

Meeting ID: 882 1778 5509

Passcode: 707197

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us about the two types of canning - water bath and pressure cooking - and which foods require which kind of canning. She will also talk about other types of food preservation so bring your questions to the meeting.



**Due to the resignation of Astrid Friend as our website/publicity chair, we are once again putting out a call for someone to fill this position. Anyone interested, please contact any of the Board members listed on page one.**

**November Meeting Minutes** **by Tina Seaton**

**Homer Garden Club Meeting Minutes**

**Sunday November 19, 2023 2-4 PM Aspen Hotel**

President Kathy Dube brought the meeting to order at 2:06 pm. She reminded people to renew their memberships if they haven't done it yet.

Secretary's Report – Tina reported that Minutes from the October 15 meeting were published in the Garden Club newsletter and could be found on the website – Homergardenclub.org

Treasurer's Report – Kendall reported membership income of \$265., total expenses of \$449.72 leaving a total balance of \$26,796.72.

**Committee Reports**

Speaker's Committee – Jan reported that Marsha Rouggy will be our January speaker. Jan said her term ends after May so we are looking for a new Vice President after that. The Vice President is in charge of recruiting and organizing speakers for Garden Club meetings.

Social Committee – Michael is out of town, no report.

Gardener's Weekend – Annie reported that they have gardens signed up for this year's tour but are always looking for gardens for future tours. Three gardens are signed up for a members-only tour, but no date is set yet. The Garden tour is set for July 21, with an 'After-party' for gardeners on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. In the past the Gardeners Weekend included a speaker but that has not happened for a few years. If anyone wants to organize that please speak to Annie.

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Database/Membership Report – Barb reported that only about half of the membership has renewed.

Baycrest Garden Committee – No report

Newsletter – Paula asked that members send her articles to add to the newsletter.

Plant Sale – Will be in May.

Scholarship Committee – The Scholarship Committee has not been formed but since the HS invited us to offer a Garden Club scholarship Francie will attend the HS scholarship meeting to inform students and faculty about the requirements (which will also be advertised to college students and the community)

Giving Committee – Two proposals have been submitted and 2 volunteers were asked to stay after a few minutes at the end of the meeting to review proposals and give recommendations to the Board.

Bylaws/Constitution updates – Updates have been made to treasurer/audit procedures.

Look for a redlined version in the next newsletter and a vote will be taken at the January membership meeting to adopt the updated bylaws and constitution.

#### Speaker

Jan introduced Don Bladow, tech coordinator at an Anchorage high school. When he retired, he took a Master Gardening class and then started a food pantry garden at a church in Anchorage. His 10,000 square foot garden now produces about 4,000 lb. of vegetables for the food pantry. Don gave instructions to build 9'X3'X8" tabletop garden boxes for seniors and showed how they could be turned into low tunnels using PVC arches with a remay or plastic cover. You can find this information at the UofA Master gardener blog: <https://alaskamastergardener.community.uaf.edu/> Don talked about his favorite tools for successfully working such a large garden. First is a 'Jung' seeder, which can space seeds from ½ to 24 inches apart. He said he never has to thin carrots again! He uses a small rototiller to keep weeds down between the rows and a weed burner before he plants seeds and transplants.

Don said an irrigation system is a very important timesaver in the garden. He set up a permanent PVC system with 6 sprinkler heads that can be drained in the fall and left in place.

He said it is important to find out what the food pantry wants and when, and then plant and harvest accordingly. Vegetables should be harvested and taken to the food pantry when fresh. Louise remarked that the message she had from the food pantry was: "more carrots, less kale"

Don noted if you are providing advice to groups, it is nice to have the credentials of a Master Gardener and said he always learns something new from their meetings. A Master Gardener class can be taken online from UAF. Kathy noted that the club has provisions to scholarship anyone interested in taking the master gardening class.

Compost is another important part of a successful garden. Don has six compost bins and uses grass clippings from the church lawn and collects leaves from friends and neighbors. He composts cabbage leaves and Brussel sprouts in place. To prevent root maggots, he plants root crops as far away as possible from where they were planted the summer before. He starts his own lobelia, peppers, leeks and onions, Brussel sprouts and brassicas in the spring to save quite a bit of money. He invited anyone to come see the garden and volunteer!

Kathy reminded people to renew their membership

Next meeting January 21, 2 PM

Two volunteers reviewed the applications submitted to Giving Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 with 20 members attending.

## Homer Seed Library Donation

by Kathy Dube'

We received a request for funds through our Charitable Giving Guidelines to help the Homer Seed Library. The Board and members of the Charitable Giving Committee both voted that the request met with the Guidelines and approved a donation of \$1,000. Check out their website here: <https://www.teachgardening.com/homer-seed-library>

The text of the request:

*The mission of the Homer Seed Library is to foster a community of gardeners and seed savers that exchange information and seeds, bringing more abundance and resiliency to the community. The library "lends" seeds to gardeners, who grow the plants and save some of the seeds to return to the seed library. Over time, the idea is that people will return more than they borrowed and the seed library will grow.*

*Unlike seed banks, which store seeds over long periods of time, a seed library's inventory is constantly renewing. With each successive season, the seeds become more adapted to our climate. By selecting to save*

*seeds from the plants that do best in our gardens, we are creating unique varieties which will thrive in this area.*

*It would be difficult for one gardener to provide all of their own seeds, but most plants produce seeds generously, so there is enough to share. This means that if everyone saves seeds from just a few things, there are plenty of seeds to go around for the whole community.*

*The seed library offers an easy way to share seeds across the community. It is a gathering point of information about what varieties grow best up here, and seed saving practices for our area. It also promotes and educates people about gardening and saving seeds.*

*The Homer Seed Library in its 3rd year of operation. Last year, we gave away over 6000 packets of seeds, and the demand is growing each year. This volunteer-run project promotes and enables people of all economic situations to participate in something we love so much... gardening, and to provide their own healthy food.*

*So far the seed library has been funded by grants and private donations. We are seeking a sponsor that can provide one-time or ongoing funding. I believe the Homer Garden Club is the perfect organization to sponsor this amazing community project.*

*It takes around \$1000 each year for seeds and envelopes. Seeds (that are not yet provided by gardeners) are bought in bulk and repackaged into garden-sized quantities by volunteers. I also do all of the seed ordering and organizing as a volunteer. Workshops for 2023 and 2024 are being funded by a grant through Homer Soil and Water.*

*I am happy to talk to the garden club about the program and seed saving. Please let me know as soon as possible, so I can order seeds or pursue other funding. Thank you for your consideration!*

Saskia Esslinger

## Proposed Revisions to HGC Constitution & Bylaws

by Kathy Dube'

The Board has reviewed the Homer Garden Club Constitution and Bylaws and has discussed and approved some revisions for clarity and to follow current accounting procedures. As per Article VII of the Constitution, "The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Members present and voting at any regular Membership meeting, provided that the proposed amendment has been approved by the Board and either (1) read at the previous regular meeting, or (2) distributed to each Club Member prior to the meeting at which the action is to be taken." The proposed revisions (redlined version) are provided to all members below, and will be read, discussed, and voted on by the membership at the January 21, 2024 Homer Garden Club Meeting at the Aspen Hotel (and Zoom). Proposed changes include:

### Constitution

- Revising officer names to more accurately reflect their function (Secretary, Hospitality Chair)
- Providing for sharing of officer positions
- Clarifying Treasurer duties
- Revising check signing duties and enabling using the club debit card for transactions; requiring two signatures/witnesses for purchases
- Clarifying Database Manager duties
- Providing for an annual Financial Records Review rather than a formal Audit. Note that a formal Audit is not required for organizations the size of the Homer Garden Club, a formal Audit costs several

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hundred dollars/year. We propose a Financial Records Review instead to ensure the Treasurer(s) are keeping complete and accurate financial records. This is the procedure the club has been following for many years and we wanted to provide clarity in the Constitution.

## Bylaws

- Revised names of Standing Committees to better clarify responsibilities  
Removed the Harvest Dinner standing committee/ chairperson since these responsibilities are now included in the Hospitality Chair duties.

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## HOMER GARDEN CLUB CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Homer Garden Club.

### ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

This organization shall be conducted on a non-profit basis. Its purpose shall be to educate and exchange reliable information about gardening and related activities.

### ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Any person interested in the purpose of this Club and willing to pay the annual dues may be a member.

### ARTICLE IV - GOVERNMENT

#### Section 1

The Officers of the Club shall consist of President, Vice-president, **Recording** Secretary, Treasurer, ~~Social Secretary~~ **Hospitality Chair**, Newsletter Editor, Historian, Publicity Chair, and Database Manager. No salary or compensation shall be paid to any of these Officers. Officer duties may be shared by more than one person, and they will be considered Officers during their tenure.

#### Section 2

The Board shall consist of: the officers of this Club and the immediate past President. No salary or compensation shall be paid to any of these Officers.

#### Section 3

The Officers shall be elected at the September meeting by a majority of the Members present and voting and shall assume office immediately and shall serve for a period of one year or until their successors have taken office.

#### Section 4

In case of a vacancy in the presidency, the Vice-president shall become President and a new Vice-president shall be elected by the membership.

#### Section 5

All decisions of the Board shall be by majority vote of a quorum of the Members of the Board.

### ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARD

#### Section 1

The President shall preside at the meetings of the Club and the Board, and shall perform such duties as regularly pertain to the office. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees of the Club with the exception of the Nominating Committee. ~~The President shall co-sign all checks with the Treasurer and shall select one additional co-signer from among the Board members.~~

#### Section 2

The Vice-president shall perform all the duties of the President in the absence of the latter or whenever the President is unable to perform the duties of his/her office, and shall also be in charge of the Program Committee.

#### Section 3

The Recording Secretary shall be responsible for properly recording and reading the minutes of Board and Membership meetings. The Recording Secretary shall also be responsible for timely distribution of these minutes to all board members.

#### Section 4

~~The Treasurer shall collect and distribute all Club funds and keep accurate financial records. The Treasurer shall also co-sign all checks and disburse such funds as needed, with approval of the board. The Treasurer shall make a financial report at each Membership and Board meeting, and have the books closed and ready for annual audit by October 31st. The Treasurer shall be responsible for accepting, depositing, and accounting for all funds that come into the Club.~~

The Treasurer will be the main contact for the financial institution that holds the Club funds and will ensure that three to five Board members (always to include the President and the Treasurer) are current signatories on the account. The Treasurer will ensure that

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the Board approves an annual budget prior to the start of each fiscal year. Expenditures not included in the budget or in excess of the budgeted amount must be approved by the Board prior to disbursement. The Treasurer shall disburse funds for approved expenditures as needed by issuing written checks or using the Club's debit card. Expenditures greater than \$500 must be signed by two signatories or, in the case of online purchases using the debit card, witnessed by at least two account signatories at time of purchase. The Treasurer shall make a financial report at each Membership and Board meeting, prepare monthly Treasurer's Reports and send them to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion in the club newsletter. The Treasurer will have the books closed and a written annual treasury report shall be submitted to the Board by November 30th.

#### Section 5

The ~~Social Secretary~~ Hospitality Chair shall be responsible for having coordinating refreshments at Membership meetings and for the Harvest Celebration in September.

#### Section 6

The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for producing and distributing a newsletter to current members and other interested parties.

#### Section 7

The Historian shall keep a record of Club activities, using photographs, newsletters and other written material.

#### Section 8

The Publicity Secretary shall be responsible for publicizing activities and events as appropriate.

#### Section 9

The Database Manager shall be responsible for maintaining a club membership database in coordination with the club Treasurer and sending the newsletter and all general Club email messages to the members.

#### Section 10

The Board shall be the governing body of the Club and have general control of the affairs of the Club; shall approve the plans submitted by Committees and shall approve expenditures of Club funds.

### ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint all Committee chairpersons. These Committees shall be appointed as needed to conduct Club activities.

### ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Members present and voting at any regular Membership meeting, provided that the proposed amendment has been approved by the Board and either ~~(+1)~~ read at the previous regular meeting, or (2) distributed to each Club Member prior to the meeting at which the action is to be taken.

### ARTICLE VIII - RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order (revised) shall govern the Club in all cases in which they are applicable.

### ARTICLE IX -- AUDIT FINANCIAL RECORDS REVIEW

An annual audit review shall be made of the financial records of the Club. The fiscal year for the club shall be October 1st through September 30th. A written report shall be submitted to the Board by January 31st by an auditor reviewer to be appointed by the President.

### ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION

Upon dissolution of the Club, the Board shall, after paying or making provision for payment of all the liabilities of the Club, dispose of all assets of the Club by donating them to appropriate organizations for educational purposes.

## **HOMER GARDEN CLUB BY – LAWS**

### ARTICLE I - DUES

#### Section 1

The Board, with approval of the Membership, shall determine dues.

#### Section 2

Dues shall be due and payable by the October meeting each year.

### ARTICLE II - MEETINGS

#### Section 1

Meetings of the Board shall be called by the President or at the request of a majority of the Board members as may be required but there shall be a minimum of four meetings a year.

#### Section 2

Regular meetings of the Membership shall be held monthly unless otherwise determined by the Board.

### ARTICLE III - QUORUMS

#### Section 1

A quorum for a meeting of the Board shall be five members.

#### Section 2

A quorum for a general membership meeting shall be the paid membership of the Club in attendance.

### ARTICLE IV - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

#### Section 1

The Nominating Committee shall consist of a Chairperson appointed by the President. The President shall select any three other members in good standing and not of the Board, to serve on the Nominating Committee. The slate chosen by this committee shall be presented to the Club through the September newsletter. Write-in nominations shall be accepted by the Nominating Committee Chairperson up to ten days before the September membership meeting. The slate shall consist of candidates to fill the offices in Article IV of the Constitution. Nominations offered from the floor during elections will also be accepted. All nominations shall have the approval of the person nominated.

#### Section 2

Election of the Officers of this Club as defined in Article IV of the Constitution shall take place at the September General membership meeting, by a majority of the (paid) membership present and voting. The newly elected officers shall take office immediately.

### ARTICLE V - STANDING COMMITTEES

#### Section 1

The Plant Sale Chairperson(s) recruits and organizes members to help in the organization and execution of an annual plant sale.

#### Section 2

The Garden Maintenance Chairperson(s) recruits and organizes members to help with the execution of planning, purchase of plants, planting, maintenance, and clean-up of the Club garden(s).

#### ~~Section 3~~

~~The Harvest Dinner Chairperson(s) recruits and organizes members to help in the planning and execution of this annual meeting event.~~

#### ~~Section 4~~

~~The Program Committee shall assist the Vice President in programming educational presentations for the general membership meetings. The committee shall consist of member volunteers.~~

#### ~~Section 5~~

~~The Gardeners' Weekend Tour Committee Chairperson(s) recruits and organizes members to help with the planning and execution of the annual Gardeners' Weekend Tour.~~

Amendments accepted by ~~unanimous vote at the meeting on January 23, 2011~~ (insert date when approved by membership.)

\*\*\*\*\*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    \_\_\_\_ Gardener Tour

**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