

Jul 2022



President's Patch

By President Dorte Mobley

Whoa, what an early summer we are having. Several of my peonies have already bloomed and lots of other stuff – like delphiniums - that normally come on later are in full bloom now. The sunny and hot days sure are working. And the watering! Seems like as soon as you get done watering baskets and pots, you can start over.

The greenhouse has been producing cucumbers since middle of May and the tomatoes are already getting red. Makes me wonder if I need to start some new plants if these get done too early. I am so thankful for the self-watering system that my husband learned about from members of this club. Keeping up with those big plants would be pretty hard.

We have a couple of garden visits lined up for you:

Monday, July 11 at 2 p.m., we will meet at the corner of the Glenn Highway and Jonesville Road in Sutton and go up to Laurel's house together - one mile on the right, follow road to the top - veer left at the "Y," 21419 N. Jonesville Rd.

We will go to the Sutton library/museum gardens afterwards for a tour. If you feel like it, you can bring weeding tools and help a little with garden clean-up.

Tuesday July 12, Becky Myrvold, head gardener at the State Fair, has said we can come down and get a tour of the Alaska State Fair Gardens at 1pm. Go through the red gate and hang a right to go down to the greenhouses.



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GENERAL MEETINGS

FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY, SEP 12TH, 6:00 P.M.

TO BE DETERMINED

OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS NOT UNTIL
SEPTEMBER. LOCATION AND MEETING DETAILS WILL BE
PUBLISHED AT A LATER DATE.

SEE THE PRESIDENT'S PATCH FOR INFORMATION ON
TWO UPCOMING GARDEN TOURS FOR JULY.

PEASANT'S PERSPECTIVE: BY CURT MUELLER, MASTER GARDENER

PHOTOS BY THE AUTHOR

It's that time of year when we've reached our maximum day length and we can watch it lessen for the next six months. It's always a little sad that this must happen, but we have lots of growing season coming.

The peasant wrote about his bur oak last year and has a couple of new photos to show its progress. It did suffer some dieback on most branches during a fairly tough winter, but it's coming back strong and looks great. It takes some time for it to adjust itself to our climate and its location, but it appears to be doing that. It has been in its permanent location for two winters.



Bur oak as of 2021 autumn. Leaves were just changing color. There were an estimated sixty leaves as opposed to estimated 150 at present. Leader shows small leaves which may be a factor in winter dieback. All leaves dropped in autumn, which indicates they had time to mature. Birches were already dropping leaves when photo was taken.

The bur oak was bare root when first acquired and was grown in a five-gallon bucket for two years to allow a good root system to develop. It was laid on its side during winter and mulched over with leaves and snow. This method is used on bare root stock and seems to work well. The pot is set in a sunny place where the soil in the pot can warm, promoting good root growth. Usually, a plant can be set out the following spring if it has made sufficient growth. Fall is a good time to transplant as the soil has warmed and if done early enough the tree or shrub has time for the roots to make some growth.



June 20, 2022, photo of peasant's bur oak. It is thriving and has an estimated 150 leaves, most not full-sized yet. Background plumes are on goat's beard hedge.

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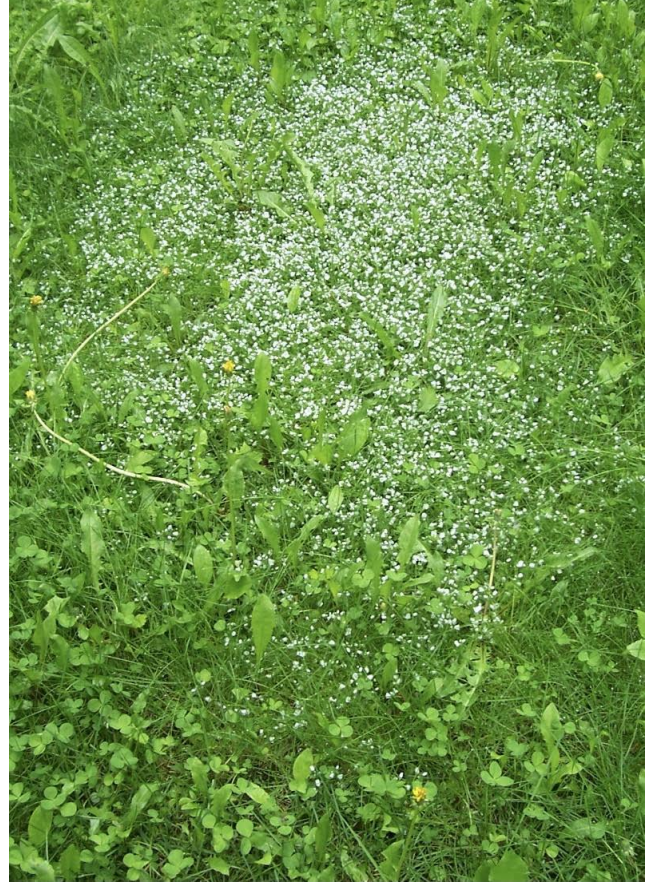
The peasant's bur oak was about ten days slower in leafing out when compared to the bur oak at the MEA arboretum. That one has a trunk size of six inches or more and is well established. The peasant's tree is not fully established yet and needs some maturity, but time will do this. Another factor is a few hundred feet of elevation over the valley floor which makes leafing and flowering a couple of days later for some plants, especially wild roses and chokecherries.



Closeup of dieback and new growth. The brown area at bottom of photo shows three dead buds and new growth on the fourth one. There is eight inches of new growth so far to form a new leader. It's interesting that the oak forms a new leader at the first live bud. The next one makes a cluster of new leaves.

The peasant shows photos of an interesting and pretty little plant that grows in moist deep shade in the lawn. It more than competes with the grass, which was there first, and may take over completely in its favored spot. What is it? Maybe some of you will know after viewing the photos. The peasant doesn't know but likes the plant and

hopes it continues to spread. It may be a native plant or more likely an immigrant that came with some soil that was used to level the area.



Mat of tiny plants growing in moist shade in lawn. Can anyone identify?



Closeup of unidentified plant. Tiny leaves shown at center right.

May your summer be pleasant and prosperous. Thanks, folks.



Matanuska Experiment Farm and Extension Center
CLASSES - July Theme is: Enjoy the Outdoor Classroom

**Watch our Facebook and Instagram page
as well as our website for additional info & registration links!**

<https://www.facebook.com/matanuskaexperimentfarm/>

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

- | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| July 12 | A Night in the Life of An Alaskan Bat (In person & Zoom) |
| July 16 | Walk in the Woods with Glen Holt (In person only) |
| July 20 | Chainsaw Safety (In person & Zoom) |
| July 26 | GPS Geocaching Adventure with Steve Brown (In person & Zoom) |

Additional classes in the works for July are:

GIS with Hilary Palmer

Wildlife Physiology with Dr. Kristin Dentryter

4-H "SPARK" Days

**Keep watching our Facebook page for additional information
on all these classes and more!!**

The University of Alaska is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual: www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination

The University of Alaska Fairbanks Matanuska Experiment Farm and Extension Center strives to make our programs accessible for all individuals. If you or a family member who is attending a program needs accommodations to participate, please contact our office 5 days in advance to request services. This will give us the opportunity to provide assistance you require. (907)745-3360 or email Theresa Isaac tisaac@alaska.edu

Sign Up for Weeding Palmer Library & Veterans and Pioneers Home

If you would like to sign up for an unclaimed week or to help someone with their week, email matsumastergardeners@gmail.com with the date and your name.

Week of:	Name
June 20	Eva Cohnen-Brown
June 27	Todd & Jenny Weaver
July 4	Ken & Deb Blaylock
July 11	Isaac Vaughan
July 18	Craig G Lisonbee
July 25	Bonnie Hagar
August 1	Ellie Hurley
August 8	Marge Mueller
August 15	Craig G Lisonbee
August 22	Susie Hayes
August 29	
Sep 5	
Sep 12	

2022 Standing Committee Volunteers

- **Monthly Newsletter** - Deb Blaylock, publisher
- **Website Manager** - Eva Cohnen-Brown
- **Guest speakers & meeting space coordinator for monthly regular meetings:** - Vacant
- **Membership Directory** - Kristina Tornqvist
- **Rebarchek Farm Project** - Michael Kircher
- **Annual Plant Sale** - Isaac Vaughan
- **Palmer Library & Pioneer Home Planting** - Sue Glenn
- **Midsummer Garden & Art Faire** - Craig Lisonbee
- **Summer Garden Tours** - Kristina Tornqvist and Dorte Mobley
- **Alaska State Fair awards** - Deb Blaylock
- **State Fair Parade** - Curt Mueller
- **Nominations Committee** - Vacant
- **2022 Christmas Party** - Vacant

As you can see, some of our 2022 Standing Committees still need volunteers. Please contact one of the board members if you would like to fill one of the vacancies. Thank you!

2022 Alaska State Fair "Experience the Wonder"



Volunteers needed to be part of the largest garden exhibit in Alaska

Entry & Judging days at the Alaska State Fair's Crops & Flowers Departments are a fun atmosphere to meet new people & catch up with old friends.

It is a great opportunity to learn something new and to share your own gardening experiences.

You can even earn some credits for Master Gardener volunteer hours!

~ Entry Clerks ~

Wednesdays, August 24 & August 31

Three shifts available... 12-5 PM, 3-8 PM and 5-9 PM

Help Exhibitors fill out entry forms correctly, explain the use of the Exhibitor Guide, assist with verbal direction on preparation of submissions for judging, and placement of entries in the display area.

~ Judges Clerks ~

Thursdays, August 25 & September 1 from 8 AM-Noon

Record winning results, set up and place ribbons for the final display.

~ Extra Hands Needed ~

Tuesdays, August 30 from 10AM-2PM & September 6 from 9 AM-1PM

Looking for a handful or two of volunteers to help with 1st Entry take down, 2nd Entry set up, ribbon sorting, and final shut down of department for the season.

For more information contact Kathy Liska – Horticulture Supervisor
(907) 301-0317 cell or akliska@aol.com

Volunteers make it happen!

Minutes of the June 13, 2022 Mat-Su Master Gardener Meeting

Submitted by President Dorte Mobley

Meeting was called to order by Dorte Mobley, President, at 7:40 after the planting of the library flower beds. Present were Deb & Ken Blaylock, Kristina Tornqvist, Sue Glenn, Dorte Mobley, Eva Cohnen-Brown, Arlene & Wayne Bowman, Cathy Crew, Ginger Sweeney, Ellie Hurley

Minutes were in the newsletter. A motion to approve them by Ken was seconded by Sue and the motion passed.

Cathy presented the Treasurer report. We have \$ 8,281.19 on the checking account and \$7,757.28 in savings. Cathy answered questions and also talked about the plant sale, in addition to handing out checks and labels from the plant sale to members. We will look into auditing the treasury on a regular basis with members from the club.

We will try to find some gardens in the Sutton area to visit this year on the tour. We will start at Laurel Flynn's on Monday July 11 at 2pm. We will also try to get to go to the fairgrounds if possible.

The plantings in Palmer went well - we bought flowers (just under \$400) for the Pioneer Home and members brought flowers for the library beds. Watering and weeding schedule will be put in newsletter for people to sign up. We still have a few open slots.

The plant sale was a success. We sold a lot of plants, and the weather was nice. We did have a problem before the sale - the borough and cities are cracking down on signs in the area. We couldn't have the banner up on the fence like we always have had. We will try to figure out a different way to advertise next year.

We need to turn in an application for the State Fair for a float. The Muellers will do that.

It was decided to buy liability insurance from State Farm for \$425. Sue Glenn will get it for us.

We have not heard back from the Palmer Chamber about the letter we sent them.

Pots can be recycled at the recycling center by the landfill. We also can grab pots out from there if we need some. Please don't make a mess and clean up the area if you drop off pots.

This summer we will do tours and our first meeting again will be September 12. We will start the meeting at 6pm and do a potluck with products from the gardens. Please bring (and send to the club) recipes for the newsletter.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

Garden Links (updated Apr 2022)

Alaska Botanical Garden

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

Alaska Center for Conservation Science

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

Arbor Day Foundation

www.arboday.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 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 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/>

Good Earth Garden School

<http://ellenvandevisse.com/>

Grow Palmer

<http://growpalmer.org/>

Georgeson Botanical Garden *New*

<https://georgesonbotanicalgarden.org/>

Integrated Pest Management Program

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

Junior Master Gardener

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

Landscape Plants for Alaska

www.alaskaplants.org

Mat-Su Borough Rain Garden Program

<http://www.matsugov.us/environment/raingardens>

Mat-Su Master Gardener Website

www.matsumastergardeners.com

Master Gardener Research Link (Extension)

<http://search.extension.org>

Master Gardeners of the Tanana Valley

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

Matanuska Experiment Farm and Extension Services

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

Palmer Soil & Water Conservation

<http://palmersoilandwater.org/>

Society of American Foresters, Cook Inlet Chapter

<https://forestry.org/alaska/>

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 Georgeson Botanical Garden

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

UAF Herbarium

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

UAF Alaska Master Gardener Program

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

UAF School of Natural Resources & Extension

<http://www.uaf.edu/snre/>

University of Saskatchewan Fruit Program

www.fruit.usask.ca

USDA/NRCS Plant Database

<https://plants.sc.egov.usda.gov/>



CLUB CONTACT INFO

President:	Dorte Mobley	907-232-5422
Vice President:	Kristina Tornqvist	907-795-6393
Secretary:	Isaac Vaughan	dnavon@msn.com
Treasurer:	Cathy Crew	907-632-4401
Member at Large:	Sue Glenn	907-671-0252

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

Website: www.matsumastergardeners.com/

Email: matsumastergardeners@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2022 AND BEYOND

Jul 9, Palmer - Midsummer Garden & Art Faire

Jul 11, Sutton, Garden Tour

Jul 12, Palmer, Alaska State Fair Greenhouse Tour

Aug, TBD, Summer Garden Tour(s)

Aug 19 – Sep 5, Palmer, Alaska State Fair, "Experience the Wonder"

Sep 12, Palmer, Regular Meeting, Potluck

Oct 3, Palmer, Regular Meeting, TBD

Nov 7, Palmer, Regular Meeting, TBD

Dec 5, Palmer, Christmas Party

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 is January 15, 2022, 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 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.

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: 20th day of each month -- Thank you--



July 2022



Like us on
Facebook

Website: www.matsumastergardeners.com/
Email: matsumastergardeners@gmail.com

**MAT-SU MASTER GARDENERS
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