



# President's Patch

By Rhonda Bowman, President

Summer is now underway and we have been living more in our outdoor spaces while the weather has been nice. After a long winter it is such a nice refuge to sit out on the deck or patio to prepare meals for friends and family.

The public and storefront flower beds in the Valley are looking great. I love seeing the flowers and vegetables growing lush with the increased daylight we have now. I also love to check out the flowers in our neighborhood to see how our neighbors display their favorites. Alaskans really gear up for the summer with their lush lawns, hanging baskets and colorful flower beds.

Our Annual Plant Sale was a great success thanks to the many people that visited us on that cool day to take home their treasures. It was so very nice to hear that people wait for our sale to make their summer purchases for their yards. I appreciate everyone that participated with their knowledge, plants and time to make this venture a success.

Our July meeting on the 7th will feature using plants as dyes. It sounds like an interesting topic. We also have the Mid-Summer Garden and Art Faire in Palmer on July 12.

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

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### CHAPTER MEETINGS

#### FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

#### NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 7, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: MTA BUILDING, LOWER CONFERENCE ROOMS, PALMER

DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER TO ATTEND

#### MEETING AGENDA

- TREASURER REPORT
- MINUTES
- OLD BUSINESS
- NEW BUSINESS
- PLANT LIBRARY PLANTER

#### TOPIC/SPEAKER:

Mat-Su Master Gardener Carol Johnson speaking on the topic of using plants as dyes. She will share tips for cotton, wool and silk.

## PEASANTS PERSPECTIVE

By Curt Mueller, Master Gardener

June is the month for our native roses, fragrant and beautiful, especially when matched with bluebells; to the peasant's eye a perfect color combination. How fortunate we are that they bloom simultaneously and in the same habitat along with the lovely fronds of our woodland ferns.

There are some varieties of shrub roses that rival the native plants in hardiness and reliability in producing an abundance of flowers each year. Two of the peasant's favorites are the Scotch Rose and Harrison's Yellow Rose. The Harrison's Yellow has the Scotch Rose in its lineage. The Scotch is exceptionally hardy and lends this hardiness to Harrison's Yellow, if only to a slightly lesser degree.

Both these roses bloom only once during the season, but what a display they make during that time! They become covered with blossoms that are sweetly fragrant and a delight just to walk near them.

The Scotch has a single white blossom and Harrison's a double yellow. The period of flowering lasts about two weeks; the Harrison's lasting a bit longer. Both are attractive shrubs that require little maintenance, an endearing quality to those who like carefree perennials. They will eventually reach a height of six feet or more and spread a bit less.

Both these roses will try to extend their territory by sending out new shoots from the roots. These may be discouraged by mowing, but are welcome as a method of propagation. The peasant has made a hedge of the Scotch Rose. The hedge makes an effective impenetrable separation from the woodland that is a part of the property and the domesticated lawn and garden area. It does not allow encroachment from the woodland plants.

The photos show the roses in the beginning stages of bloom; the many buds give promise of

their full glory soon to come. Each year the peasant looks forward with anticipation to this time. This fleeting time perhaps enhances their exuberance, but there is a note of sadness like the passing of summer.

Thanks, folks.



Scotch Rose beginning to bloom. It is another favorite of honeybees.



First flowers on Harrison's Yellow Rose

Photos provided by Curt

**Minutes of Mat-Su Master Gardeners  
Meeting 6-2-14**

**No Minutes available to publish.**

## Be a Part of the Largest Garden Exhibit in Alaska!

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Entry & Judging days in the Alaska State Fair's Crops Department is a fun environment to meet new people, catch up with old friends, and a great opportunity to learn something new and/or share your own gardening experiences. You can also get credit for those required Master Gardener volunteer hours!

I am currently looking for Entry/Intake Clerks on Wednesdays, August 20 and August 27 from 12 Noon-5 PM and 5-9 PM, and Judges Clerks on Thursdays, August 21 and August 28 from 8 AM - 12 Noon.

Volunteers are particularly needed on Wednesday evenings 5-9 and/or Thursday mornings, 8-noon - both weeks.

Join the Fun ... Participate in one of the biggest growers get-together ... Volunteers make it happen!

### **CROPS** Department A

Superintendent: **Kathy Liska**  
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## Garden Links

**Alaska Botanical Garden**

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

**Alaska Community Agriculture**

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

**Arbor Day Foundation**

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

**Alaska Natural Heritage Program – Botany \*NEW\***

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

**Alaska Garden Clubs**

<http://www.alaskagardenclubs.org>

**Alaska Grown Source Book (online)**

<http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/sourcebook/index.htm>

**Alaska Master Gardeners Association, Anchorage Chapter**

<http://alaskamastergardeners.org/>

**Alaska Master Gardener Blog**

<http://alaskamastergardener.blogspot.com/>

**Alaska Native Plant Society**

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

**Alaska Orchid Society \* NEW**

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

**Alaska Peony Growers Association**

<http://alaskapeonies.org>

**Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Assoc..**

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

**Alaska Plant Materials Center**

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

**Alaska Rock Garden Society**

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

**Cooperative Extension Service, Palmer**

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



**Eat Local Alaska**

<http://akfood.weebly.com/index.html>

**Integrated Pest Management Program**

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

**Junior Master Gardeners**

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

**Landscape Plants for Alaska**

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

**Local Alaskan Plants Clearinghouse**

<http://www.localplants.org/Home>

**Mat-Su Borough Rain Garden Program \*Updated\***

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

**Mat-Su Master Gardener Website**

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

**Master Gardener Research Link**

<http://search.extension.org>

**Master Gardeners of the Tanana Valley**

<http://interiormastergardeners.org/>

**Palmer Soil & Water Conservation**

<http://palmersoilandwater.org/>

**South-Central Alaska Beekeepers Assoc.**

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

**Southeast Alaska Master Gardeners**

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

**UAF Cooperative Extension Service Publications**

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

**UAF Georgeson Botanical Garden**

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

**UAF CES Citizen Pest Monitoring Portal**

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

**University of Saskatchewan Fruit Program**

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

**USDA/NRCS Plant Data Base**

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/>

**Wasilla Soil & Water Conservation**

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

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## Announcements

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Know of an upcoming event or organization which needs our help? Let a board member know!

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### *Club Membership*

The membership year runs from January to December each year. Annual individual memberships are \$10 and family memberships are \$12.

Membership forms are available to download and/or print on the club's website,

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

*thank you*



## CLUB CONTACT INFO

<b>President:</b>	<b>Rhonda Bowman</b>	<b>746-2948</b>
<b>Co-VP</b>	<b>Curt Mueller</b>	<b>745-6144</b>
<b>Co-VP</b>	<b>Hally Truelove</b>	<b>376-0909</b>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Jan Bass</b>	<b>373-6208</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Cathy Crew</b>	<b>632-4401</b>
<b>Member at Large:</b>	<b>Marge Mueller</b>	<b>745-6144</b>

If you have gardening news, photos or information you'd like to share in the newsletter, please contact: Deb Blaylock @Email: [kdblalock@ak.net](mailto:kdblalock@ak.net)

Website: [www.matsumastergardeners.com/](http://www.matsumastergardeners.com/)  
Email: [matsumastergardeners@gmail.com](mailto:matsumastergardeners@gmail.com)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014

#### JULY

**July 7**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Using plants as Dyes.  
**July 12**, Palmer, Mid-Summer Garden & Art Faire

#### AUGUST AND BEYOND

**Aug 4**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD  
**Aug 21 - Sep 1**, Palmer, Alaska State Fair  
**Sep 8**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD  
**Oct 6**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD  
**Nov 3**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD  
**Dec 1**, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD  
**Dec 12-14**, Palmer, Colony Christmas  
**Dec 13**, Palmer, Colony Christmas Parade

## How and what to Submit for the Monthly Newsletter

Your submissions are greatly 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. I do not have a scanner to copy pictures so I cannot accept hard copies.

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 editor 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~~



July 2014



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**Facebook**

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