



MAT-SU MASTER GARDENER'S NEWSLETTER

July 2016



President's Patch By Rhonda Bowman, President

I can't believe that we are halfway through with summer! Time sure flies when it is filled with all summer activities. It almost seems like we are trying to live too many lives during our summers.

The Friday Fling is in full swing now and I have gone down there to check out the vegetables and plants. There is a lot of variety. I do love a great tasting tomato on a BLT! Some of my radishes are ready and they are so tasty with a good bite to them. Some of my dahlias have finally opened up but still waiting on my peony; I've noticed the others in my neighborhood and on Facebook are blooming.

We have still not made it out to fish but I have great hopes that soon we will go. There is not enough time in the day during the summer. When you do get things completed there is always another list.

It is always a good reminder if you have extra vegetables be sure to take some by the Palmer Food Bank. It is a small place but they provide much-needed help to our community and to folks having a hard time feeding their families. Usually we have a lot of seasonal work during the summer, but there are some folks who have not found work this year who have been busy in previous summers.

Don't forget that we need your help in weeding the beds at the Matanuska Experiment Farm and the Palmer Library. If you are close by just stop and pull a few weeds to help the beds continue to look great.

You continue to have a great summer!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Patch	1
Next Chapter Meeting	1
Peasant's Perspective	2
Willow Garden Club Tour - Save the Date!	3
Alaska State Fair 4-H Building Volunteer Info	3
Garden Links	4
Announcements/Volunteer Opportunities	4
Contacts	5
Calendar of Events	5



CHAPTER MEETINGS FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH

NEXT MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 11TH, 6:00 PM
LOCATION: SPRING CREEK FARM, PALMER, AK

TOPIC/SPEAKER:

SPRING CREEK FARM TOUR

6404 N. LOSSING ROAD

FROM DOWNTOWN PALMER HEAD NORTH ON THE GLENN TO FARM LOOP ROAD.

TURN LEFT ON FARM LOOP ROAD AND TAKE THE FIRST STREET TO THE RIGHT WHICH IS LOSSING.

GO TO THE END OF LOSSING ROAD.

THE PAVEMENT WILL END AND TURN TO GRAVEL. KEEP GOING STRAIGHT AND HEAD UP THE LITTLE HILL. STAY TO THE RIGHT AT THE FORK AND THERE WILL BE A PARKING LOT. THIS IS IN FRONT OF THE KELLOGG HOUSE. WE CAN ALL MEET THERE.

PEASANT'S PERSPECTIVE: BY CURT MUELLER, MASTER GARDENER

Photos by the author

On this day we have reached the summer solstice. When you read this we shall already have begun to lose a few seconds of our precious daylight. The cycle goes on, as does the cycle of our lives and life around us. It is, indeed, a humbling thought and one to give us pause. We are fortunate to be a part of life, the world, the beauty of the ever-changing seasons, even a tiny part of the universe itself.

The peasant, not being too strong on philosophy, enjoys the present and the color and fragrance of summer. He has an appreciation for the roses that are reliable in hardiness and flowering. There are a number of shrub roses that fit the category and bring delight to those who grow and enjoy them. They don't ask for much in care, but are generous in providing joy to us.



Scotch Rose

The peasant provides some photos of his favorites, which are Scotch Roses, Harrison's Yellow, Hansa, and an unnamed double white that many of you will recognize. All bloom profusely. Each has its own distinctive fragrance. The Scotch Rose and Harrison's Yellow bloom for two to three weeks and are then a fine vigorous shrub for the rest of the season. But what a display they put on, being covered with blossoms during that time. The double white blooms for a longer period, and the Hansa for most of the summer season.

Each year the peasant awaits with anticipation the flowering of these roses, and when they've completed their cycle he emits a sigh of sadness. If by good fortune he is given another

year, the delight will once again return. Such is the way of life.



Harrison's Yellow



Hansa



Double White

Enjoy a fruitful summer. Thanks, folks.

Alaska State Fair

Volunteer at the 4-H Building with the Mat-Su Cooperative Extension Service

It's fair time again!

Volunteer sign up for the June Tull 4-H Building is all online this year! Simply type or copy the link below into your browser and select a time slot.

We are looking for two adults (13 and up) per time slot. Per volunteer slot, there will be 1 ticket and 1 parking pass available. Tickets and parking passes can be picked up at the Will Call station at the Green Gate any time after the first day of the fair. Children under 13 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian; however, only one ticket per adult volunteer will be provided.

If you cannot make your time slot for any reason, please notify the Cooperative Extension office at 745-3360 as soon as possible so we can find a replacement.

You will receive an email reminder 2 days before your volunteer time.

Sign up link:

<http://tinyurl.com/zmrod7>



SAVE THE DATE!!!!

Willow Garden Club/ Les Brake's Coyote Garden Tour 2016

Date: Saturday, July 23, 2016

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Meet at Willow Community Center (Mile 69.9 Parks Highway) for map and directions to all the gardens. This tour includes Coyote Garden. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy at George and Mary Howard's garden.

Les Brake's Coyote Garden Tour

Dates and Times:

Saturday, July 23, 2016, 10:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, July 24, 2016, 12:00 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Directions to Coyote Garden: Mile 71 Parks Highway; turn right on Willow-Fishhook Road. Drive 7.5 miles up Willow-Fishhook Road. Signs will be posted. For further information about Coyote Garden Tour call 495-6525.

For more information about garden tour contact Marsha Van Abel: marshavan@hotmail.com



Garden Links

Alaska Botanical Garden

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

Alaska Community Agriculture

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

Arbor Day Foundation

www.arborday.org

Alaska Natural Heritage Program – Botany

<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

<https://alaskamastergardener.community.uaf.edu/>

Alaska Native Plant Society

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

Alaska Orchid Society

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

Alaska Peony Growers Association

<http://alaskapeonies.org>

Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association

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

Alaska Plant Materials Center

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

Alaska Rhodiola Products Cooperative

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

Alaska Rock Garden Society

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

Eat Local Alaska

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

Good Earth Garden School

<http://ellenvandevisse.com/>

Integrated Pest Management Program

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



Junior Master Gardeners

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

Landscape Plants for Alaska

www.alaskaplants.org

Local Alaskan Plants Clearinghouse

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

Mat-Su Borough Rain Garden Program

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

Mat-Su Master Gardener Website

www.matsumastergardeners.org

Master Gardener Research Link

<http://search.extension.org>

Master Gardeners of the Tanana Valley

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

Palmer Soil & Water Conservation

<http://palmersoilandwater.org/>

South-Central Alaska Beekeepers Assoc.

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

Southeast Alaska Master Gardeners Association

<http://seak-mastergardeners.org/index.html>

Sustainable Agriculture – UAF

<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/ah/sare/>

UAF Cooperative Extension Service, Palmer

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

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/>

UAF School of Natural Resources

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

University of Saskatchewan Fruit Program

www.fruit.usask.ca

USDA/NRCS Plant Data Base

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

Wasilla Soil & Water Conservation

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

Announcements

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The club is desperately in need of someone to coordinate speakers for our meetings.

We need a volunteer coordinator to track the many volunteer opportunities we have this summer. Duties would be to coordinate with volunteers and create an Excel spreadsheet to track volunteers. This will be posted on the webpage. Please contact Rhonda if interested.

Summer Weeding Opportunities

UAF Matanuska Experiment Farm Mat-Su
Master Gardener Demonstration Plot

Palmer Public Library

Stop by either of these locations if you have a few minutes and pull any weeds you see.

CLUB CONTACT INFO

President:	Rhonda Bowman	746-2948
Co-VP	Curt Mueller	745-6144
Co-VP	Hally Truelove	376-0909
Secretary:	Joan Redlin	206-604-4676
Treasurer:	Cathy Crew	632-4401
Member at Large:	Marge Mueller	745-6144

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

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 2016

Jul 9, Palmer, Midsummer Garden and Art Faire, <http://palmergardenandart.org/>

Jul 11, Palmer, Spring Creek Farm Tour, 6 p.m.
Note time & date change

Jul 23, Willow, Willow Garden Club Tour

Jul 23/24, Willow, Les Brake Coyote Garden Tour

AUGUST 2016 AND BEYOND

Aug 1, TBD, MMG Mtg, TBD

Aug 25 – Sep 5, Palmer, Alaska State Fair

Sep 12, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD

Oct 3, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD

Nov 7, Palmer, MMG Mtg, TBD

Dec 5, Palmer, MMG Mtg, Christmas Party

Please let Rhonda know if you have any ideas for future meeting topics. Members are welcome to offer to speak or reach out to speakers of interest to the club's membership. The club would welcome a speaker coordinator – if interested contact Rhonda.
Our club is only as good as we the members make it!

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 on the club's website, www.matsumastergardeners.com

Thank you

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 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 2016



Like us on
Facebook

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

**MAT-SU MASTER GARDENERS
ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 585
PALMER, AK 99645**

