

June 2015

Central Peninsula Garden Club



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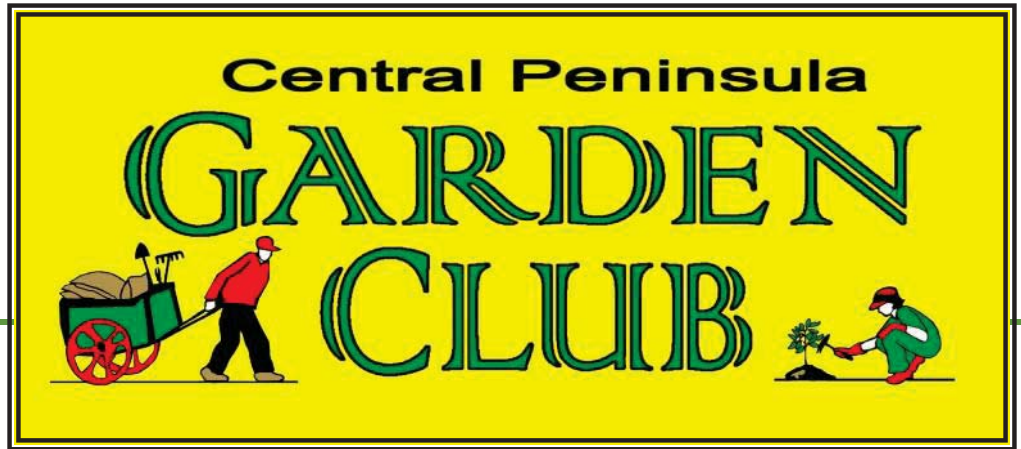
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Director, Special Events—Lee Bowman



PO Box 767 · Kenai, Alaska 99611 · www.cenpengardenclub.org

6th Annual

**PLANT
SALE!**

Variety of Plants! • Great Prices!

June 6, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Location: Corner of Kenai Spur & Princess (Church Parking Lot)

Look for the Signs!

Contact, Cathy Haas, 262-7248

CPGC PLANT SALE—JUNE 6TH

The 6th Annual Plant Sale is Saturday, June 6th, at 10am. This is one of the Garden Club's biggest fund raisers, with proceeds going to support youth gardening projects, Ninilchik Fair AG awards, and other club projects.

We can use as many plants as you can donate, there's never enough. Our best sellers are perennials, flower and vegetable starts, herbs, berries, and hanging baskets.

- Plants need to be potted up in good quality soil and clean pots.
- All plants need to be identified with the plant name plus "A" for annual and "P" for perennial along with height and color if known. Plant markers are available –call plant sale chair, Cathy Haas 262-7248.

Plant donation drop off times are:

- Friday evening, June 5th, 6-7pm, and
- Saturday morning pre-sale, June 6th, 8:00-9:15am.

Sale opens to the public at 10am.

Location: Parking lot of Kenai New Life Assembly of God Church, corner of Kenai Spur Hwy and Princess across from the Challenger Center or hockey rink. Look for the signs!

Thanks to the church for letting the club use their parking lot for this event.



Local Food Week 2015

Focus on Fermentation

If you'd like to learn more about preserving your harvest through fermentation, mark your calendars for Harvest Moon Local Food Week, August 8 – 16, 2015.

The week begins with a presentation by Sandor Katz, renowned author of *Wild Fermentation* and *The Art of Fermentation*. The schedule of events includes a series of evening fermentation workshops (including sauerkraut, kimchi and pickles; fermented berries and fish; yogurt; sourdough; tempeh; and barley miso), kid-friendly farm tours, Chef at the Market demos, a screening of the seed-saving documentary, *Seeds of Time*, restaurant specials and more.

Organizations and individuals are invited to add their local-food-themed events and activities to this week-long celebration. Contact Heidi at kenaiswcd@gmail.com to share what you'll be doing. The full schedule will be in the August newsletter and on-line at www.KenaiLocalFood.org. Central Peninsula Garden Club is a co-sponsor of Local Food Week, organized by Kenai Local Food Connection.

~ Submitted by Heidi Chay, Kenai Soil & Water Conservation District

 <p>KENAI FEED & SUPPLY www.kenaifeed.com MILE 14.5 K-Beach Rd. 907-283-1929</p>	<p>HIGH TUNNELS ORGANIC FERTILIZER PEAT • SEEDS FENCING LIVESTOCK & PET FEED/SUPPLIES PRODUCE</p>	
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What Got You Started in Gardening?

I remember always having flower and vegetable gardens around since I grew up on a farm on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Both of my parents were descendants of generations of farmers. Nearby grandparents and my parents all had huge vegetable gardens, orchards, vineyards, and lots of flowers. Looking back I didn't realize how unusual it was to have both grandmothers walk around the gardens telling me botanical names of all the flowers.

My Mom's mother arranged gardens on the east side of her house in formal English style with lots of boxwood and knot gardens. On the west side was an informal English garden and the long expanse of lawn with beautiful groupings of magnolias, rhododendrons, hollies, dogwoods, and spruce. She always brought in new plants to try every year. She and my grandfather experimented in breeding new varieties of bearded iris, daylilies and dahlias.

My Dad's Mom raised roses, peonies, and gorgeous snapdragons. What I later learned was that both of my grandmothers had studied botany in college. One had a degree in business and the other in education: unusual for women of their time.

As children, my parents took us out into the field with them in the spring during planting time. In order to keep us occupied while mom and dad did the planting they gave us an assignment. Woods surrounded the fields, so our job was to collect as many different kinds of tree leaves, plant and weed specimens we could find. We took them home and pressed them between sheets of wax paper. We then checked out books from the "bookmobile" that came out every two weeks to our rural area so we learned to identify the collected specimens. We also caught all kinds of bugs and put them in alcohol in dad's glass cigar tubes for identification. This was as close as we could come to what we had seen when Dad took us on a trip to the Smithsonian and we saw all of the entomology displays.

My Dad took us to Star Rose Gardens, a retail business that sold and developed new breeds of roses. We walked through row after row of all colors and sizes of roses. Dad loved flowers and his favorite flowers were tulips. He tore down an old chicken house leaving just the foundation, filled it with topsoil, and planted it full of hundreds of tulip bulb varieties. It was absolutely stunning in the spring. I learned how to plant, label, dig, divide, and replant tulips!

As a teen I joined the local 4-H club where an outstanding 4-H County Extension Agent inspired and challenged me to expand from gardening into preserving foods and horticultural judging. Participating in county and state fairs by entering the flowers and vegetables that I grew and preserved, winning ribbons and awards, encouraged me to keep learning, experimenting, growing. Eventually I won a trip as the Maryland 4-H State Winner in the Food Preservation Category to compete at the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago, Illinois.

Growing up in Maryland was a wonderful experience because I was in an area with so many beautiful gardens. I was able to go many times to Winterthur and Longwood Gardens during all seasons to see their acres of beautiful gardens. Washington DC and the Cherry blossoms was just an hours drive. Spring in Maryland and Pennsylvania with all of the beautiful dogwoods, rhododendrons, azaleas, forsythia, and spring bulbs blooming is a sight to behold. Autumn with the trees turning such rich colors and the beautiful chrysanthemums blooming everywhere is unbeatable. Williamsburg with their reconstruction of early American village life and kitchen gardens with herb and medicinal gardens was a short drive.

All of these things influenced me and gave me a good foundation and a joy and love for gardening that has never faded. We have such an opportunity to influence other people in starting on that same journey. You never know who is watching you or admiring your garden.

Who or what got you started?

~ Contributed by Phyllis Boskofsky, CPGC member



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for Your Next
Garden Party!**



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Downtown Kenai
283-7651



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MILE 12.5 K-BEACH, ALASKA

**3.5 MILES SOUTH OF
BRIDGE ACCESS INTERSECTION**

**2015
OPENING DAY
MAY 9TH**

283-5686



BRING THE KIDS TO SEE THE PETTING ZOO

Tustumena Elementary School Garden in the Making

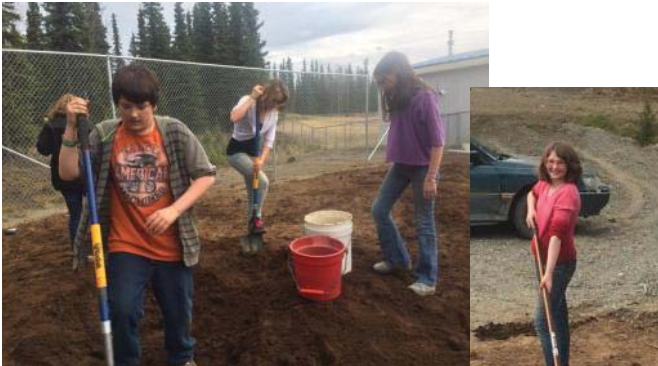
The school garden has been a community effort.

Volunteer Lisa Green ordered the potatoes from Cadre and delivered them to the school. Each class chose a type of potato and planted it. 5th and 6th graders spread 40 cubic yards of soil. Dan Funk and other volunteers from Kenai Soil and Conservation office ordered 180 willow plants from Girdwood and helped the army of students plant them. This consisted of pounding rebar two feet into the ground, pulling it out and sticking in a willow plant.

An automated watering system will be ordered but, for now, it's the water hose.

We are turning the reins of the garden over to PCHS and Colleen Robertia for the summer.

~Contributed by Tustumena 6th grade teacher, Shonia Werner



Above & right: Tustumena Elementary students work to create their school garden plot. 6th graders spread the 40 cubic yards of topsoil.



Right: 6th graders planting willows with Dan Funk.

Farmers Markets

Central Kenai Peninsula Farmers Market

Saturdays, 10am -2pm,
Soldotna, Spur Hwy & E. Corral St.
Parking lot area.
Contact: Clayton Hillhouse, 252-6177

Kenai Saturday Market

Saturdays, 10am – 5pm,
Kenai Visitor Center, 11471 Kenai Spur Hwy
Contact: Louanne, 283 1991
Applications at Kenai Visitor Center

Farmers Fresh Market

Tuesday, 3-6pm, starts June 2
Kenai Peninsula Food Bank
Contact: Dan Funk, 260-5295 – 382 – 0210

Soldotna Wednesday Market

Wednesdays, 11am – 5pm, starts June 3
Soldotna Creek Park
Contact: Annette Villa, 252-7264
Applications at Soldotna Chamber

May 2015 Treasurers Report

Beginning Balance: \$ 23,897.50

Income:

Dues	\$ 160.00
Sea-ag	\$ 1,040.00
Donation	\$ 18.00

Expenses:

Sea-ag	\$ (3,673.38)
Web Hosting	\$ (300.00)
Printing	\$ (16.20)
Sponsorship,	
Bird Festival	\$ (100.00)
Sponsorship Fair Awards	\$ (500.00)
State Non-profit	\$ (25.00)
Misc.	\$ (105.95)
Equipment	\$ (65.34)
Home Show materials	\$ (10.00)
Plant Sale	\$ (18.83)
Hospitality	\$ (420.00)
Speakers Transportation	\$ (225.00)
Storage Unit	\$ (330.00)

Ending Balance: \$ 19,325.80

Submitted by Peggy Morris, Treasurer

Upcoming CPGC Events & Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers Needed & Appreciated!

Help with a committee or event! Most are just once a year events.

-Newsletter: Write about gardening adventures, plants of interest, or construction of garden features. We like to know how the other guy/gal does it. Contact Marion marionknelson090@gmail.com.

-Event booth staffing & decorating: Ninilchik Fair in August, Home Show in spring, HEA Energy Fair in fall. Contact Cindy Barnes, alaskancindylou@yahoo.com or 262-1395.

-Seminars in May. Arranging presenters, and venues. Contact Marion marionknelson090@gmail.com.

-Program Committee: Meets occasionally. Contact Marion, marionknelson090@gmail.com.

-Publicity Volunteer: Email publicity information to the media. Contact Marion marionknelson090@gmail.com.

-Hospitality Committee: Help at the registration desk for programs or other events, greeting, taking memberships. Contact Juanita Owens, 318-557-9876.

-Co-Videographer/photographer for programs and workshops. Contact Linda Dunn, lindadunn78@gmail.com or 283-7857.

-Tech committee: Power Point programs and mike set up for programs, occasional workshops. Contact Don St. John, 398-4474.

-Sea Ag Fertilizer Fundraiser: Prepaid orders March-May. Delivery in May. Contact Della Bridenburg 776-3908.

-Summer Garden Tours. Coordinate local garden tours during June, July, August. Contact Marion marionknelson090@gmail.com.

-June through September: Weekly, or so, summer flower bed maintenance at the Aquaculture Bldg. Light weeding and some planting. The entrance area plantings are a thank you to CIAA for meeting room use. We appreciate their valuable meeting space contribution. Contact Peggy Morris, 262-8374.

-Face book page administrator. Preview requests to join the club's group page. Contact Marion marionknelson090@gmail.com.

-Occasional guest speaker lodging or local transportation. Opportunity for more expert information. Contact Marion, 283-4632.

Programs & Events

-June, July, August, **Summer Garden Tours to local gardens in various areas. Open to dues-current members, a membership benefit.**

-June 6th, 10am: 6th Annual CPGC Plant Sale. Early plant drop off 6-7pm on Friday the 5th and Sat morning 8:30-9:15am. Open to public 10am. Sells out fast. Location: corner of Spur & Princess across from the Challenger Learning Center.

Sept. 8th. Fall and winter monthly programs start again. Program TBA.

Oct. Date TBA –Seed Cleaning and Exchange workshop.

Got a story or photos to share?

Contact Marion Nelson, 283-4632 or mmkn@ptialaska.net

Advertising space available at very reasonable prices!

Check out the club's Face Book page!



Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association
40610 Kalifornsky Beach Road
Kenai, Alaska 99611
283-5761 + www.ciaa.net.org

Healthy habitats for healthy salmon.