## @Palmer Historical Society



July 2014 Newsletter Volume XXX No.6

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#### Summer is here!

May temps were record breaking beautiful and gave a giant leapfrog jump into our summer season. Hands will remain dirt stained for months as gardens need constant tending. Planting, transplanting, weeding, all therapeutic- not considered a chore, but a privilege waited all winter for. Always amazing, fast and furious growth of rhubarb, already sending seed stalks to the skies. Days tick by, recorded first by the spicy scented blooms of wild roses and then blossom of the fireweed.

Brilliant purples, pinks, oranges, yellows and blues of lupine, lilacs, roses. columbine, and delphinium show off their beauty in quick appearance captured in memory or by photo, to be remembered during long monochromatic winter days.

Farmers watch the weather as we watch their fields. Anticipation is high, waiting for the sweet bounty harvest will bring. Nothing compares to locally grown! We are spoiled!

Stories are unearthed each time I work our Campbell House ground. A shovel full of overturned soil exposes decades of life on a Colony farm. The colorful broken glass pieces go into a bird bath in the garden. Rusty hay mower teeth and barn nails take on another life, revered, imagined and contemplated over; they too will now live in the gardens, retired from a hard life of farming. Confirmation of a former butcher - a simple cow molar and piece of animal bone is now treasured as part of the story.

George and Onabel's descendants stayed at the Campbell House last week. Quite by coincidence a Campbell son visiting from out of state happened to stop by to take photos....a surprising and spontaneous Campbell family reunion at the Campbell House!!!...... it did my heart and soul good.

We are honored when Campbell 'kids' and other 'Colony Kids' stop by, to see, and take pictures of 'the old homestead they grew up on'. We are grateful and privileged to care take America's history, our colony home, the Campbell House. Coal clinkers, broken glass, bones, barbed wire and rusty barn nails.....each a part of the Colony story that we get to unearth. I anxiously await the next discovery! Sheri Hammina

Our beloved Colony House Museum - beautiful inside and out! Have you stopped by this summer to visit? Out of town guests will love learning the history of Palmer first hand! Pick up a souvenir book or DVD while you are there!

>The museum lawns are beautifully maintained by Jean and Terry Bradley again this year. >The museum garden and flower boxes have been lovingly installed by pro gardeners June and Clyde Oberg.



Palmer Historical Society PO Box 1935 Palmer, AK 99645 907-745-1935

Beginning in May with the school tours, we have thoroughly enjoyed being docents again this year. The Colony House Museum tours seem to be most beneficial to the students that have studied the colony project before they do the tour. These students have the best questions, and act most interested. For all students it is hard for them to imagine a time without the technology they take for granted today. Since Bud is the son of colonists, and his size two suit hanging in the children's room, he gets the most attention, and enjoys sharing his experiences with them. We really appreciate the local people that bring their visiting friends and relatives to our museum to learn a little about the colony project.

Joan and Harry "Bud" Campbell

There are two additions to the Colony House Museum that don't quite fit our 1935-1945 standard, but very necessary for our museum!

You might find them if you look very carefully next time you visit-smoke and carbon monoxide detectors!







### Palmer Historical Society Picnic!

Mark your calendars!

~ July 27, 12:00-4:00pm @ Matanuska River Park pavilion.
Last year was a beautifully record setting sunny day - we have put in our order for the same weather for this year's picnic!
\*WE
will fire up the grills and provide beverages, hot dogs, hamburgers and the fixin's.

\*YOU bring yourself and a dish to pass.

Remember the deliciousness of last year's buffet?

A fantastic variety of sweet treats, yummy salads and garden offerings!

Come Hungry!

### Good Ol' Fashioned Recipe Swap!! Mark your calendar for July 12, 12:00-4:00pm!

In honor of the noteworthy women that have left a legacy of homemaking skills ~A *good ol'* fashioned Palmer Recipe Swap will be hosted at the **Colony Inn.** The Recipe Swap is sure to be a memory making time of swapping 'tastes' of recipes, memories and *good ol'* times!

Many *good ol'* family recipes will be available to sample! A fun collection of historic cookbooks and aprons will also be on display! Come learn how to set a 'proper' table and take home a *good ol'* recipe or two!

Walk over to the **Colony House Museum** and step back in time as you discover the way our families cooked in the *good ol'* days of 1935!

Do you have a family recipe to share? We are accepting family recipes to include in our Recipe Swap Booklet. To submit your recipe by email; <a href="mailto:ptownhistory@gmail.com">ptownhistory@gmail.com</a>, or drop it off at the Palmer Museum and Visitors Center; 9:00-5:00, 7 days a week.

Would you like to share your family recipe for others to TASTE during the event??? If you would like to Make or Bake for the July 12 Recipe Swap please contact Janet Kincaid at 907-745-3855 for details.

The Recipe Swap compliments the Smithsonian Exhibit 'Key Ingredients- America by Food'; featured at the **Palmer Museum** and **Visitors Center.** 

Check www.museumonmainstreet.org for more info.













Quiz your Food IQ:

- 1. Peanut butter, hamburgers, and this food tempted visitors at the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair.
- a. Animal crackers
- b. Ice cream cones
- c. Ramen noodles

Quiz continued on page 3



### Seed and Nut Brittle Roy Hoskins

In 5 Quart pan or larger add;

3 c. sugar

1 c. corn syrup

½ c. water

Bring to 265 degree boil, stirring slowly.

Stir in ¼ c. butter, and add; The following seeds and nuts which have been lightly toasted in oven;

1/2 lb. sesame seeds

14 lb. sunflower seeds

1/4 lb. pumpkin seeds

1/4 lb. almond slices

1/4 lb. chopped roasted, salted, peanuts

In separate bowl combine;

1 t. vanilla

2 t. soda

1 T. water

Stir above 3 ingredients into seed/nut mixture.

Stir in 1/4 lb. shredded coconut.

Spread mixture onto greased baking sheet or silicone sheet.
Cut with buttered knife while cooling.



- 2. Kisses came later, but this was the year we took our first bite out of a Hershey's milk chocolate bar.
- a. 1875
- b. 1900
- c. 1925
- 3. In which year did the frozen ("frosted") food, created by Clarence Birdseye, arrive in stores?
- a. 1917
- b. 1930
- c. 1942
- 4. Introduced in this year, the TV dinner was cheap, involved no clean up, and easy to eat while tuning into "I Love Lucy."
- a. 1950
- b. 1954
- c. 1958
- 5. Choose the product that was introduced in the 1890's, but didn't become popular until the invention of electric home refrigerators in 1915.
- a. Velveeta
- b. Jell-O gelatin
- c. Kool-Aid

The Recipe Swap is brought to you by; Colony Inn, Palmer Historical Society, Palmer Museum and Visitors Center, and the Lazy River Homemakers Club.

~ all answers to the quiz are 'b' ~

# You are invited! WERNER HOMESTEAD CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION!

July 12, 2014 2:00-5:00
4901 N Werner Rd - off Palmer Fishhook
Join the Werner family in celebration of their 100 year
old homestead!
Light refreshments will be served
Bring your camera too!



### TENT CITY MARKET NEWS



Colony House Museum Lilacs will grace many yards around the Valley!



Your odds and ends will fund PHS Archival projects!



Tent City Market -Fun(d)raiser Success!



Board of Directors
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Barbara Hecker
Jean Krupa
Clyde & June Oberg
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You?



For your generous donations!
Without you we could not preserve
Palmer History for the next
generation.



Have a Happy and Historic July!

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\*\*\* Looking Ahead to August \*\*\*
Palmer Historical Society and Alaska Far Away
will be sharing the Wineck Barn during the Alaska State Fair this
year!

Grab a Friend and Stop by to say 'HI'

Colony House Museum

Open 10:00-4:00pm
Tuesday -Saturday

Palmer Historical Society PO Box 1935 Palmer, AK 99645