

JOURNAL OF THE KOASEK GARDEN 2016

5/17/2016 -WEST BRAINTREE, VERMONT

A BEAUTIFUL DAY TO TILL THE NEW GROUND FOR OUR GARDEN. DOUG BORROWED THE TILLER, FROM HIS NEPHEW, TODD. THE TILLING WAS DONE IN THE AFTERNOON, UNDER THE WARM SUN. IT WAS NEW GROUND THAT WE WERE TILLING, SO WE NEEDED TO GO OVER IT A NUMBER OF TIMES.

THE FULL MOON WILL BE ON THE 21ST, SOME CALL IT, "THE FLOWER MOON." WE USUALLY PLANT, BY THE MOON.

SEEDLINGS WERE STARTED THRU THE EARLY SPRING. NOT ALL OF THEM ARE ABENAKI.

WE WILL GROW, THE NATIVE BEANS, SQUASH, PUMPKINS, AND CORN.

UNTIL NEXT TIME, WILL SIGN OFF.

5/29/2016

IT HAS BEEN A HAZEY DAY. BUT, PERFECT FOR GARDENING. WE PUT DOWN THE GARDEN MATS, EARLY THIS MORNING. WE HAD TO PICK UP A TON OF ROCKS, AND THEN RAKE.

THE TOBACCO GARDEN WAS TILLED AGAIN, SINCE IT WAS ON NEW GROUND. A LOT OF ROOTS WERE PICKED UP BY THE BUCKET, ON THE TRACTOR. I PUT DOWN WEED BARRIER, AND THEN PUT SLITS FOR TWO ROWS. DOUG HELPED

ME PLANT THE SEEDS, AND WITH A LITTLE RAIN,
THEY WILL BE COMING UP SOON.
WE HOPE TO DO MORE, TOMORROW.
FRED SAID HE WOULD MAIL ME, THE SEEDS, I
DIDN'T HAVE.
WILL SIGN OFF, UNTIL NEXT TIME.

6/7/2016

LAST WEEK, WAS THE SIX GRADE CHALLENGE.
THIS IS WHERE THREE AREA SCHOOLS, WITH
ABOUT 70 TO 80 SIX GRADERS, ATTEND A
CHALLENGE DAY, AT ROLLING ROCK, IN
BRAINTREE. THERE ARE ABOUT A DOZEN
DIFFERENT STATIONS, THAT EACH TEAM GO TO,
AND RECEIVE POINTS. AT THE END OF THE DAY,
WHO EVER HAS THE MOST POINTS, WINS. THE
STATIONS, INCLUDE SCIENCE, MATH, NATURE,
AND A LOT MORE.

WE HAVE BEEN DOING, IDENTIFYING ANIMAL
TRACKS AND HOW TO START A FIRE WITH FLINT
AND STEEL, FOR 13 YEARS. THE STUDENTS
REALLY ENJOY THE DAY. IT'S AN EXCELLENT
PROGRAM.

SO, LAST WEEK, WE DID WORK ON THE TRIBAL
GARDEN BUT I DIDN'T WRITE IN THE JOURNAL.
I GREW SOME SAGE, FROM SEEDS. I PLANTED A
HALF A DOZEN PLANTS. IT HELPS WITH SOME OF
THE GARDEN PESTS.

CHEROKEE TOMATOES, WERE GIFTED TO THE
GARDEN, BY PATTY SILLOWAY. THESE ARE

HEIRLOOM, THAT ARE BELIEVED TO TRACE BACK OVER 100 YEARS TO THE CHEROKEE TRIBE.

THE CORN IS STARTING TO COME UP. THE BEANS, SKUNK, CRANBERRY, CATTLE, SPRUNG UP OVER NIGHT. TODAY, THE EAST MONTPELIER SQUASH, YELLOWEYE, DOLLOFF, NORRIDGEWOCK, AND MARFAX BEANS, WERE PLANTED.

THE MORRISVILLE SUNFLOWER WAS ALSO PLANTED. TOMORROW, I WILL GET THE PENOBSCOT PUMPKINS IN.

THE TOBACCO GARDEN, IS UP AND GROWING. WE RECEIVED 2 ½ INCHES OF RAIN, ON SUNDAY. NOW, IF WE CAN GET SOME SUNSINE.

I ALSO, TOOK DOWN A LARGE TUB, TO PUT WATER IN. I PUT A SMALL AMOUNT OF DAWN DETERGENT, IN THE TUB OF WATER, SO THE MOSQUITO WON'T BREED.

UNTIL NEXT TIME....

I NEGLECTED TO SAY, THAT PATTY SILLOWAY DONATED MONEY FOR THE GARDEN MATS AND THE STAPLES TO HOLD THEM DOWN. WE WENT OUTSIDE OF MONTPELIER TO BUY THEM.

WE HAVE USED THE GARDEN MATS FOR YEARS, AND WE LOVE THEM. IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP THE WEEDS DOWN, IF WE DIDN'T USE THEM. THANKS PATTY.....

GOING TO THE GARDEN, EVERY DAY. TAKING PHOTOS. KEEPING AN EYE ON ANIMAL AND INSECTS, THAT MAY DO DAMAGE TO THE GARDEN.

6/14/2016

A BEAUTIFUL DAY. A BIT WINDY, BUT IT KEEPS THE BITTING FLYS, AT BAY.

THE GARDEN IS COMING ALONG. THANK GOODNESS, WE HAVE SUN. THE RAIN TOOK OUT SOME OF THE TOBACCO, BUT WILL REPLANT, A SHORT SECTION.

THE CORN IS UP AND SPARSE, IN SOME AREAS.

WE WILL BE HAPPY, WITH WHAT WE HARVEST.

THE BEANS ARE NEARLY FIVE INCHES TALL.

THE SUN, WILL MAKE THEM HAPPY.

PUT SIDE DRESSINGS ON THE PUMPKINS, SQUASH, GOURDS, CORN, ETC. I DID PLANT SOME WHITE SAGE, THAT I STARTED FROM SEED. THE BAD INSECTS, DON'T LIKE THE SMELL.

WILL PUT THE FENCER UP, PERHAPS TODAY.

WE HAVE A FEW RABBITS, NOT SURE ABOUT

WOODCHUCKS. THE DEER HAVE HAD THEIR

FAWNS, AND THEY ARE IN THE WILLOWS, NEAR

THE GARDEN. I HAVE PUT IRISH SPRING SOAP,

IN THE METAL BIRD FEEDERS, AND THAT HAS

WORKED FOR MANY YEARS.

6/15/2016

SPENT MOST OF THE MORNING, PULLING WEEDS.

WE WON'T HAVE MANY, DUE TO THE GARDEN

MATS. PUT MORE SIDE DRESSING ON.

ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL DAY.

WILL SIGN OFF FOR ANOTHER DAY.

6/23/2016

THE FENCER IS DOING A GREAT JOB. NEVER USED A SOLAR ONE BEFORE. GREAT IDEA, THAT THE WPA HAD.

THE GARDEN IS COMING ALONG FINE. DOUG TILLED UP BETWEEN THE HILLS AND ROWS OF SQUASH, GOURDS, AND PUMPKINS.

THE LAST OF THE BEANS ARE COMING UP, STILL WAITING FOR SOME OF THEM. THE SKUNK BEANS ARE REALLY DOING BETTER THEN ALL OF THE OTHERS.

HAVE TAKEN DOWN TUBS OF WATER, FOR THE GARDEN, WAS GETTING A BIT DRY.

WE HAVE BEEN SEEING A LARGE NUMBER OF ANIMALS, THIS YEAR. DEER, TURKEYS, BEAR, ETC. THE BEAR WILL WALK IN OUR GARDEN, AT THE CABIN, BUT WILL NOT HARM ANYTHING. I REALLY ENJOY WATCHING THEM. SOMETIMES THEY WILL SIT AND WATCH THE DIRT ROAD, OTHER TIMES, THEY WILL LAY DOWN, AND TAKE A NAP.

THE WEATHER HAS BEEN GREAT FOR THE GARDEN. WITH THE HEAT AND THEN THE RAIN, IT SHELL GROW.

THE TOBACCO IS STILL PRETTY SMALL, HOWEVER, IT'S STILL GREEN AND ALIVE. IT GREW BETTER, A FEW YEARS AGO, IT WAS PLANTED, UP AT THE CABIN.

WE ARE GETTING READY FOR THE ABENAKI HERITAGE CELEBRATION, THIS WEEKEND.

IT WILL BE NICE TO SEE EVERY ONE.
WILL WATER AGAIN TO NIGHT AND AGAIN
IN THE MORNING. IT IS GOING TO BE A HOT
ONE.
WILL SIGN OFF.

JULY 2

THE CROPS ARE GROWING. I AM GLAD, THAT WE
ARE USING THE GARDEN MATS. THE WEEDS
WOULD HAVE TAKEN OVER.
NOT MUCH TO REPORT.
WILL SIGN OFF

JULY 15

HAVE BEEN WORKING IN THE GARDEN, THE
USUAL TASKS, FOR THIS TIME OF YEAR. THE
BEANS, THAT ARE CLIMBERS, ARE CLIMBING.
MOST OF THEM ARE STARTING TO FLOWER, SOME
HAVE TINY BEANS APPEARING.
THE PUMPKINS AND SQUASH ARE LOADED WITH
BLOSOMS. THE GOURDS, MOST OF THEM, WERE
STARTED EARLY, IN THE HOUSE. BUT, THE ONES
THAT WERE PLANTED, IN THE GARDEN, ARE
CATCHING UP. NOT TOO MANY GOURDS.
EVERYTHING, NEEDS A LITTLE BIT OF RAIN. WE
HAVE WATERED SOME, BUT NO WATER, AT THE
GARDEN SITE.

JULY 20

WE RECEIVED A BIT OF RAIN, BUT NOT NEARLY

ENOUGH. THE GARDEN IS COMING ALONG.
HAD TO PLANT MORE TOBACCO, THE OTHERS, I
PLANTED, DIDN'T DO THAT GREAT. THE SEEDS
GREW, HOWEVER, THEY DIDN'T SEEM TO WANT
TO GROW ANY MORE THEN A HALF AN INCH.
THE BEANS, ARE GROWING, AND THEY SEEM TO
BE PLENTYFUL.
WILL SIGN OFF

JULY 25

NOT TOO MUCH TO REPORT. THE BEANS ARE
GREAT. THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING ALONG.
THE TOBACCO IS UP AND DOING WELL. WILL
KEEP IN THE WINDOW BOXES, FOR A WHILE.

AUGUST 10

AUGUST IS ALWAYS A BUSY MONTH. THE END OF
SUMMER, THE HARVESTING OF THE GARDENS.
IN THE OTHER GARDENS, STRINGBEANS, CUKES,
AND SOME TOMATOES ARE READY.
THE POTATOES ARE BEING TASTED.
CORN WILL BE READY, BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.
THE NATIVE GARDEN HAS A HEAVY LOAD OF
BEANS. THE CORN, HAS EARS, THAT LOOK LIKE
THEY WILL AMOUNT TO SOMETHING. NOT TO
MANY PLANTS, BUT WE WILL BE FINE, WITH
WHAT WE HARVEST.
WILL CLOSE FOR NOW.

AUGUST 16

WE HAVE BEEN GETTING RAIN, FOR A FEW DAYS,

AN INCH AND A HALF, THIS PAST WEEKEND. SURE HELPED THE GARDENS.

WE HAD TOMATOES, FROM THE GARDEN TODAY. AT THE REGULAR GARDEN, WE CANNED 9 QTS, OF TOMATOES. WE HAVE FROZEN A NUMBER OF OTHER CROPS.

VERY SOON, WE WILL PICK THE BEANS, TO DRY, FOR SEED, NEXT YEAR. THE CORN WILL ALSO BE READY.

THE RAIN IS COMING AGAIN.
UNTIL NEXT TIME.

AUGUST 20TH

CHECKED ON THE GARDEN, A FEW MORE TOMATOES ARE READY.

WILL CAN SOME TOMORROW. WE SHOULD HAVE ENOUGH. WILL USE THEM, WHEN WE HAVE A GATHERING, A STEW OR CHILLI. WE HAVE A COUPLE OF PUMPKINS. THIS YEAR, IT WON'T BE A LARGE CROP OF SQUASH OR PUMPKINS. AS LONG AS WE HAVE ENOUGH FOR SEEDS.

THE SUNFLOWERS ARE LIKE GIANTS, LOOKING DOWN ON US. WE SHOULD HAVE A PRETTY GOOD CROP.

WILL SIGN OFF FOR NOW.

AUGUST 29TH

OUR GRANDSON, GREYSON ARRIVED TO SPEND

THE NIGHT. WE WENT DOWN TO HIS GARDEN, AND PICKED TOMATOES, SQUASH, PARSLEY, AND A FEW SHELL BEANS.

WE THEN WENT TO THE NATIVE GARDEN AND HARVESTED THE DRIED BEAN PLANTS. WE DIDN'T WANT THEM TO GET WET AND MOLD.

WE HAD QUITE A JAG. GREYSON WANTED TO SHUCK THEM. HE THOUGHT IT WAS FUN.

WE WERE STILL SHUCKING THEM WHEN HIS PARENTS ARRIVED, SO WE HAD EVERYONE HELPING. JOSE, OUR SON-IN-LAW, HAD NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE. WE HAVE ABOUT 2 QUARTS OF JACOB CATTLE BEAN. THEY HAVE DONE WELL.

A FEW DAYS BACK, WE CANNED 5 QUARTS OF TOMATOES, FROM THE NATIVE GARDEN.

ALL FOR NOW.

SEPTEMBER 6TH

SOME OF THE SUNFLOWERS WILL BE CUT, TO DRY.

WE DON'T DARE TO LEAVE THEM UP, BECAUSE OF THE BEARS....THEY SURE LOVE THEM.

HARVESTED 4 HEADS, THEY WERE READY.

PICKED SOME DRIED SKUNK BEANS, THEY ARE PLENTIFUL THIS YEAR.

THE CORN, WAS FINALLY READY, WE HAVE 21 SMALL EARS OF CORN, ENOUGH FOR SEEDS.

AUGUST 12TH

PICKED MORE DRIED BEANS. THE CORN WAS TIED ON STRING, AND HUNG TO DRY. MORE SUNFLOWERS WERE READY. WE CUT 6 MORE AND THEY ARE DRYING. THE PUMPKIN WAS READY TO BE PICKED.

THE GARDEN IS WINDING DOWN. WE STILL HAVE SKUNK BEANS TO PICK, WHEN THEY ARE READY. PICKED SOME TOMATOES, FOR OUR ELDER.

WILL SIGN OFF

THE REST OF AUGUST FLEW BY, WITH NO TIME TO SPEAR. HARVESTING NOT ONLY THE TRIBAL GARDEN, BUT DOUG'S AND MINE. WE HAVE A LARGE GARDEN, BY THE CABIN, AND DOWN BY THE NATIVE GARDEN, THERE ARE TWO POTATO PIECES, AND A SQUASH PATCH. THE TOBACCO DID POORLY, DUE TO THE TEMPERTURE. I DID PLANT MORE, IN WINDOW BOXES, THEY ARE COMING ALONG.

SEPT. 24TH 2016

THERE HASN'T BEEN MUCH TO REPORT, BUT THE USUAL CANNING, FREEZING, AND DRYING OF VEGGIES. NO TIME TO SPARE.

CHECKED OUT THE SUNFLOWERS, DUE TO FINDING MANY HEADS ON THE GROUND. AS REPORTED BEFORE, BEARS WERE HANGING OUT THIS SUMMER. SURE ENOUGH, DOUG CHECKED

IT OUT, AND SAID, WHAT EVER IT WAS, ATE THE HEADS OFF OF THE TOP OF THE PLANT. THE PLANTS ARE FROM 6-8/9 FEET TALL. THE PLANT STOCK HAD CLAW MARKS ON IT, BUT NOT BROKEN. THERE WAS A LARGE AMOUNT OF SUNFLOWERS IN ONE SPOT. IT LOOKS LIKE HE/SHE WAS ENJOYING THE MEAL.

I HARVESTED WHAT THE TRIBE AND FRED NEEDED FOR SEEDS, AND LEFT A GOOD AMOUNT TO THE FRIENDLY BEARS.

WE STILL ARE WAITING ON MANY OF THE BEANS. I PICKED A SMALL AMOUNT TODAY, BUT THERE IS MORE TO COME.

I WILL SIGN OFF, FOR NOW

Finally, the gardens are done for another year. The seeds that did the best were: Morrisville Sunflower, Skunk Beans, Jacobs Cattle. We have enough to gift to the ones that want to grow them. The next best in line were: Abenaki corn, Yellow Eye, and the Norridge Wock. We will have enough to plant next season, with the hopes they will do better.

I will see if Fred has some Mar Fax Bush Beans, Dolloff Pole, and the Vermont Cranberry. The East Montpelier Squash and the Abenaki Pumpkins didn't do well either.

But, we were blessed with what we have.

Thanks, go out to Fred, for all his hard work, on "The Seeds of Renewal Project."

I will sign off, until next year.

shirly