



THE ALABAMA
SUSTAINABLE
AGRICULTURE
NETWORK

ASAN UPDATE

Fall 2017

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'TIS THE OFF-SEASON: MARKETING THROUGH THE WINTER

By Karen Wynne

The winter is a great time to get in the habit of communicating with your customers. In this brave new world of branding, a bit of authentic relationship building can go a long way. Your customers may know something about you from your interactions at market, but probably not that much. This is a good time to let them know why you are farming,

what you love about it, what's tough about it, and how you pull it off. A routine day on the farm can be intriguing to someone that sees most of her scenic views on a computer screensaver.

In addition, now is the time to review your strategy for generating income over the winter. Maintaining that connection with your customers and finding alternative markets for the



winter can make bill paying less stressful in the lean months.

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DON'T MISS THE 25TH BLOUNT COUNTY SOLAR HOMES TOUR

By Daryl Bergquist

As we pass the Fall Equinox in late September and move toward the first full weekend in October, the temperature begins to cool and the sun's path through the southern sky is quickly falling lower every day. Rays of sunlight are beginning to enter the south facing windows and warming the passive solar houses. It is time for the annual Blount County Solar Homes Tour! Come join us on Saturday 10/7 or Sunday

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Author Daryl Bergquist leads a tour of his solar home. Photos credit: Kyle Crider.

DATES TO REMEMBER!

- **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17:** Join us for *Graze: Birmingham!* Tickets available at <http://asanonline.org/graze>. See page 3.
- **FRI AND SAT, DECEMBER 8-9:** Be part of the statewide Food & Farm Forum Dec 8-9, in Nauvoo! See page 4.

WELCOME TO SEED SAVING 101

By the Sand Mountain Seed Bank

This is the first in a series of articles on how to save good garden seeds. We will begin with some basic considerations to get you started, then introduce the process and address a few technical issues in future installments.

Saving seeds is rewarding, necessary, challenging, and sometimes frustrating. Never forget that seeds are alive, whether they're asleep in your refrigerator or waking up and ready to go when you plant them. Your journey with the plants in your life is a dynamic one.

It will spark your childlike imagination, test your adult problem-solving abilities, and develop your observational skills.

Knowledge will accumulate as you work with plant after plant, year after year. Along the way you will experience the interconnectedness of not just the plants but the wholeness of their/our environment. Only through hands-on partici-

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Intrepid bean-counters doing inventory of saved seeds at the Sand Mountain Seed Bank

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LETTER FROM THE ASAN BOARD PRESIDENT



The Fall/Winter is the time when Alabama's vegetable gardens really shine. There is less weed pressure, fewer insects and the weather is more pleasant.

Maintaining a fall and winter garden is a sure way to keep your family in good food for the winter months and boost your immune system through good nutrition.

But, did you know that having a garden can also be a locus for positive social change? The ancient Hebrew prophet, Jeremiah is said to have had a divine vision during a time of war and in that vision was told to "plant gardens and eat what they produce... seek the peace and prosperity of the city in which you live."

A small community in Cedar Grove, NC did just that in 2005 after a man by the name of Bill King was murdered. After the murder, Scenobia Taylor, an African-

American woman, had a vision to donate some of her land to a local church for the healing of the community. Scenobia and the Rev. Grace Hackney, the pastor of the predominately white church, began a community garden on that five acres that thrives there to this day.

The garden is named Anathoth after the city in which the prophet Jeremiah is said to have planted his garden for peace. I have been and worked at Anathoth multiple times and it lives into its mission of cultivating peace and reconciliation through its weekly potlucks, events and everyday work.

Why are gardens places that can cultivate peace? Gardens are places where our work and play can come together, they are places of toil but also of beauty. They can be spaces for solitude and also spaces for gathering. Gardens can be places of positive social change is because those who garden learn how to care for the specific place in which they live.

In a garden, you combine thought and action through *care*. The more you care

for a specific place, the more you learn about it. You come to respect plants that you once thought were weeds. Dead, rotting plants and bacteria you once called refuse becomes beloved compost.

Care opens us up to seeing things in new ways. Through labor and patience, care can change a barren field into a productive garden. Gardening then, is a school of perfection, one that teaches us how to see other aspects of our life. One that can teach us that a healthy garden and a healthy community can only come through the hard and patient work of care. So, what are you waiting for? Plant that garden!

Sincerely,

Charles Walters
ASAN Board President

CONTRIBUTORS: FALL 2017

Karen Wynne runs Crotoquina, an ag consulting firm that helps small farmers find their niches and build successful businesses. She lives in Huntsville, and also farms at Rosita's Farm in Hartselle.

Daryl Bergquist has been working on solar home systems for 33 years and is the owner of Earth Steward Solar Consulting. He and his partner Sara Rose live in a solar powered home they call the Dragonfly and are part of Common Ground Community in Blount County, near Blountsville.

The Sand Mountain Seed Bank is a collection of open-pollinated, locally and regionally adapted seed varieties collected and lovingly maintained by Dove Stackhouse, Charlotte Hagood, and others. Learn more at https://savetheseed.net/wiki/Category:Sand_Mountain_Seed_Bank.

Charles Walters is ASAN's Board President and a farmer at River Oaks Farm in Millbrook. A native of Linden, he currently lives in Montgomery with his wife and daughter.

Alice Evans is the Executive Director of ASAN. She is a native of Huntsville, and now lives in Birmingham.

Note: so that our small staff and devoted all-volunteer board can fully commit to our strategic planning work this year, the next several issues of the ASAN newsletter will be shorter — 12 pages instead of 16. The newsletter will continue to feature news, resources, and perspectives FOR and FROM the full breadth of our wide, diverse network, and we will continue to distribute it in paper and electronically. We still — of course — gladly welcome your feedback, suggestions, story pitches, and other contributions!

ABOUT ASAN:

The mission of the Alabama Sustainable Agriculture Network is to support conservation practices, families who grow and consume natural food and fiber, and the communities where they live. ASAN provides peer-to-peer education, training, and networking opportunities to our broad network of farmers, gardeners, food-based businesses, agricultural resource organizations, and community leaders. We are a membership-based organization that seeks to improve the lives of small farmers and rural and urban communities and make a positive impact on the state's environment and health.

We define sustainable agriculture as farming that supports families and communities while conserving natural resources. We embrace the breadth of overlapping ways — ecological, economic, social, historical, etc. — that together, we can build a more sustainable food system. Find out more at <http://asanonline.org>.

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JOIN US SEPTEMBER 17 FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL GRAZE: BIRMINGHAM!



It's that time... we will once again be taking over the backyard at Avondale Brewery this year with Graze: Birmingham, our farm-to-fork picnic fundraiser, held this year on Sunday, September 17 from 5-8pm!

We have even more farms and restaurants participating this year, meaning even more mouthwatering, innovative dishes for you to Graze on. Many of your old favorites will be returning, plus several new farms and restaurants for you to come to love!

Participating farms include: Belle Meadow Farms, DSR Farms, Grandview Farm, Hepzibah Farms, Heron Hollow Farms, Marble Creek Farmstead, Mt. Laurel Farm, Petals from the Past, River Oaks Farm, Snow's Bend Farm, Southern Foothills Farm, Southwest Birmingham Community Farm, Stillwater Farm, and Walden Farms.

Participating restaurants/chefs include: Avondale Common House & Distillery, Chef Julia May's Homestyle Kitchen, Chez Lulu/Continental Bakery, Downstairs Diner at East Lake UMC, El Barrio, Golden Temple, Highlands Bar & Grill, Little Savannah, Pelham Culinary Arts, Revolve Kitchen & Brew, Sprout & Pour, Thyme Randle / the Underground Cooking Academy, and Tropicaleo.

Plus we'll have special beverages courtesy our friends at The Atomic Lounge, Herb Inc., and Harvest Roots Ferments, and flowers provided by Jones Valley Teaching Farm!

We anticipate adding a few more farms and restaurants before the big day, so keep an eye on the Facebook event page and on <http://asanonline.org/graze> for the latest information!

Thanks to our sponsors: We are so grateful for the generous support of Piggly Wiggly Birmingham, for helping make this year's event possible! Thanks also to Oak Street Garden Shop, Highlands Bar & Grill, Avondale Brewery, Pepper Place Market, and the Cahaba Group of the Sierra Club for their continued support!

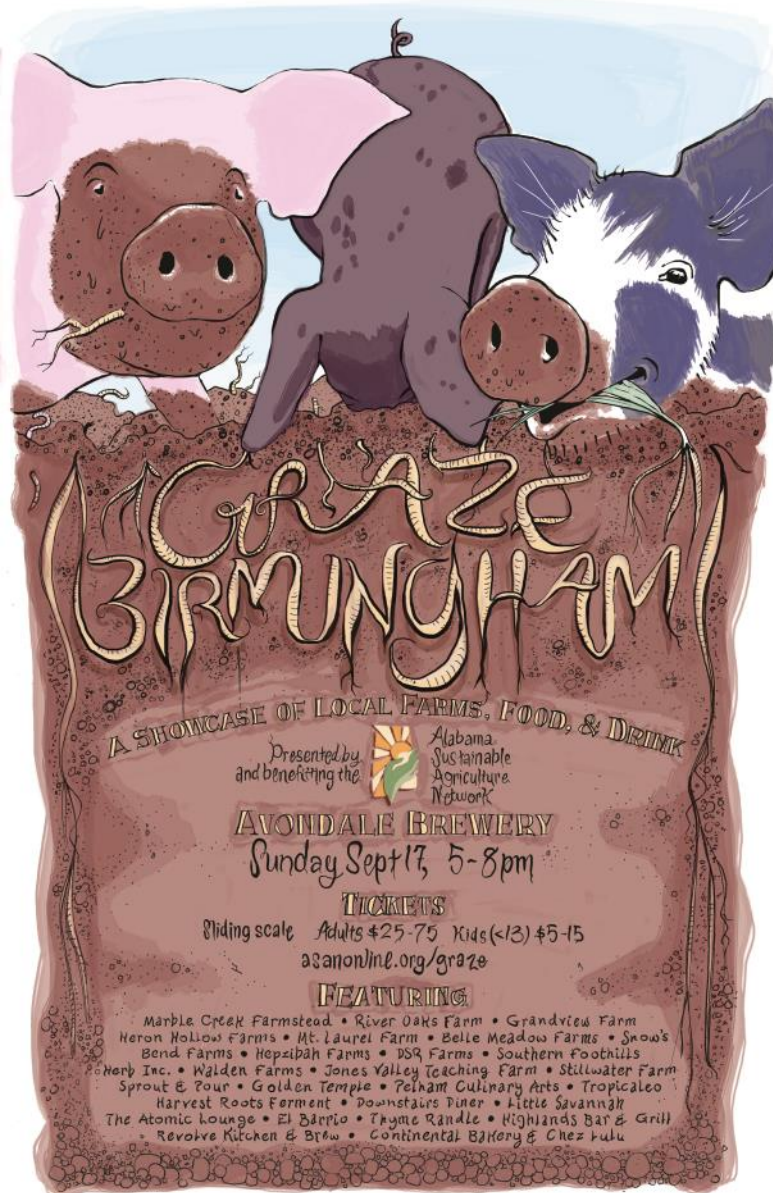
TICKETS

Tickets will again be priced on a sliding scale, meaning you name your own price within the ranges provided: between \$25-75 for adult tickets and between \$5-15 for children.

Please consider your resources and give generously when you're buying your tickets — and remember that all proceeds go directly toward supporting all the work that ASAN sustains throughout the state and throughout the year!

All adult tickets come with one drink ticket (alcoholic and nonalcoholic options); buy your ticket by September 7, and get an ADDITIONAL drink ticket free!

Buy your tickets today at <http://asanonline.org/graze>!



Left: save-the-date with lots of fresh grass, and Right: the three pigs have arrived! Big thanks to Trae Watson for creating our promotional graphics!

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Contact alice@asanonline.org for details

THANK YOU FOR HELPING “CULTIVATE ASAN”!

Big thanks to everyone who came out to share your ideas, experiences, and perspectives at our “Cultivate ASAN” Assemblies this summer! Thanks as well as to all those who shared by filling out our survey!

This process is about us making space to listen to one another and, together, shaping a collective path forward. We couldn't do it without y'all, and indeed we couldn't exist without y'all — y'all ARE ASAN.

We hope you'll join us for the next step in the process, at the Food & Farm Forum (see right)!



Photos by Allison Kendrick and Alice Evans

DETAILS COMING SOON!



ASAN Food & Farm Forum
December 8-9, 2017
Camp McDowell, Nauvoo, AL

The Forum will be packed with peer-to-peer “beehive” sessions, hands-on intensive workshops, panel discussions, bonfires, storysharing, awesome food, exhibits, a craft market/fair, and so much more! It's part educational conference, part reunion, part county fair... We want you to learn a lot, have fun, eat well, and meet like minds (and different ones as well!) from down the road and across the state.

Keep an eye on <http://asanonline.org/forum17> for information as it's released!



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SOLAR HOMES (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

10/8, and learn how the path of the sun changes throughout the year and see how our homes take advantage of those changes to stay cool in the summer and bright and warm in the winter.

This is the 25th year we have offered these tours. A lot has changed in that time! Three homes featured in the original tour -- the ridge-top underground house, the yurt, and the clerestory house -- have expanded and have added technologies as they have developed. A beautiful and very functional straw-bale house has been built, and a ranch house has been retrofitted for efficiency and solar.

The current 5-home tour involves short drives between some sites and about a mile total of walking, between others. Four homes are wheelchair accessible and all can be accessed by vehicle for those requiring special assistance.

The tour is an all-day event, running 9am-4pm. The same tour is repeated Saturday (10/7) and Sunday (10/8), to accom-



modate a greater number of participants. There is a brown bag lunch period at noon both days. Bring your favorite picnic lunch and mix, mingle, and share ideas with a variety of interested and interesting folks in attendance.

The Blount County Solar Home Tour is part of the National Solar Tour led by ASES, the American Solar Energy Society. It is presented at no charge and is open to the public, but

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Clockwise from top left: the "dodeca-yurt," the straw-bale house, and the ridge-top underground house. Photos credit: Kyle Crider.

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SOLAR (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 6)

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! If you would like to attend, please register at this link: goo.gl/ukhBSD.

Some guiding concepts you will see in practice on the tour:

Build resilient community. Work with your neighbors and the natural world so needs are met by renewable resources and sustainable practices.

Grow food. It feeds you in many ways.

Collect and conserve water. The source of life and closely tied to energy.

Efficiency is primary. It is better to save than to generate energy. This includes: air sealing and insulating both ductwork and buildings; using LED lighting; using appliances with brushless DC and variable frequency drive motors; using the most efficient Energy Star appliances; using mini-split or ground source heat pumps.

Design buildings around the seasonal path of the sun. Increase occupant comfort and save 50% on heating and cooling costs. This includes: south-facing windows, summer shading, thermal mass, and proper ventilation.

Employ active solar technologies to meet your energy needs, including: solar ovens, solar water heating, solar PV (photovoltaic) for electricity generation, off-grid houses, grid-interactive and grid-backup systems, and electric transportation.

Don't know these terms, or don't know how to implement these strategies? Join us in October to learn! For more information visit

www.facebook.com/Solar-Tour-Alabama-2033704333525552 or contact Daryl Bergquist (EarthStewardSolar@icloud.com, 205-429-3088). We look forward to seeing you in October!

Solar Tour Registration:
<http://goo.gl/ukhBSD>.

SEED SAVING (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

pation can we develop the values and wisdom to guide the next generation. And hopefully, they will build upon and pass along the preservation of our wondrous food and human heritage.

By accepting the baton of stewardship passed to you from countless and nameless ancestors you will take on a sacred duty that has preserved and developed the food we eat today. We will strive to help you succeed by sharing our own successes and failures.

Cultivate good habits

Start your seed saving journey by cultivating the habits you will need to save viable seed. Begin today by observing what is going on in your own garden. Study each plant carefully to learn its growth habits from planting to harvest. Record vital information such as planting dates, bloom times, fruit set, plant vigor, seed formation, harvesting dates, and weather conditions. This will help you do a better job in years to come.

Don't waste time saving seeds from hybrids. Many of the offspring will not resemble their parents. Work with good open-pollinated varieties. You may want to preserve a family heirloom, work with a plant you love, or preserve the varieties you like for your own food or medicine., Always plant a few extra to share with others.

Play to your strengths

Each garden and gardener will possess assets and liabilities for good seed saving. Answering some questions will help you to decide what you can reasonably do. For instance, how much room do you have? How much time can you spend? How experienced a gardener are you? Do you have a place to properly dry and store your seeds? Narrowing your choices in this way and starting small, with a couple of plants, will help you not to be overwhelmed and ensure you will have a good seed-saving experience.

Other considerations

Each species has its own requirements for a minimum population size so it has the genetic diversity it needs. Most re-



Top: Ernest Clarke's Black-seeded Pole Beans, a northeast Alabama favorite, shown in various stages from snap to "shelly" to dry. Photo courtesy the Sand Mountain Seed Bank. Above: Dove Stackhouse (L) and Charlotte Hagood (R) in front of one of the Sand Mountain Seed Bank's refrigerators of stored seeds, photo courtesy <http://savetheseed.net>.

quire 20-30 healthy, surviving plants but it's always good to plant a little more.

The danger of cross-pollination also varies, based on how the species is pollinated (insect, wind or self-fertile). This determines how much distance you must keep between varieties so they remain true. Wind-pollinated varieties (e.g. corn, okra) require miles of separation, while self-fertile (peas & beans) require only a few feet. When determining isolation distances be aware of what your neighbors are growing and take this into account.

Saving seeds is a labor of love and one we want to pass on to you. In future articles we will address topics such as: plant selection; population sizes; cross pollination and isolation distances; harvesting and processing; and drying and storage. We will also include resources to help in your own research.

In the meantime, there are some good books out there that you can be reading; *Seed to Seed* by Suzanne Ashworth gives details about each crop. Virginia-based Southern Exposure Seed Exchange (www.southernexposure.com) has some great downloadable information as well.

Learn more about the Sand Mountain Seed Bank at [https://savetheseed.net/wiki/Category:Sand Mountain Seed Bank](https://savetheseed.net/wiki/Category:Sand_Mountain_Seed_Bank).

WINTER (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 1)

STAYING IN TOUCH

Your customers will keep eating this winter, with or without you. At a minimum, staying on their radar will help you retain their loyalty. Once you get a communication system set up, you can reach out to them all year.

If you haven't already, start gathering names and email addresses. A clipboard with a sheet of paper is all you'll need. Set it up at your farm stand or farmers market, and actively invite your customers to sign up. It's a great way to finally learn the names of the people that you may recognized for years. And having those email addresses is the first step to maintaining communication.

Starting emailing your customers regularly. The easiest way to do that, of course, is to send a mass email. Type in addresses and compose away! Some hosting services limit the number of emails you can send at once, so as your list gets bigger this method can get complicated, but it's a great place to start.

Use an email service. Constant Contact and MailChimp are two of the biggest email services and allow you to use that email list to do some more sophisticated marketing. Both are free to get started; MailChimp starts charging after 2000 email addresses, and Constant Contact is free for the first two months. Both offer professional templates, tracking and reports to let you know who is reading your emails, and customized mailing lists. You can set your emails up to notify a specific set of customers (like those that attend a certain farmers market), to greet them by name, and include pictures of your farm and products.

Other social media. Email is only one of many ways to communicate with your customer online, and a smartphone helps but is not required. While there are plenty of apps to choose from, Facebook and Instagram are probably the two most often used by farmers to communicate with their customers. Facebook can be used as an alternative to a website, and it is an easy way to post pictures, let people know what's in season, and keep customers up to date on farm activities. Instagram is primarily used

Spotlight: The Market at Dothan

The Market at Dothan and its sister market, Slow Food Elba, use an online marketing system to provide customers in southern Alabama with a wide variety of fresh sustainably grown foods year round.

Working with about 20 producers, all located in the Wiregrass area and held to specific growing standards, they offer fruits, vegetables, herbs, eggs, beef, pork, chicken, lamb, honey, baked goods, mixes, nuts and more. Individual farmers post product availability late every week and from Saturday to Tuesday customers order what is available that week. Product pickings vary year round. The website tracks inventory for each item until it is sold out.

The locallygrown.net program generates email notifications to both vendors and customers, sales reports, invoices, and packing lists to keep track of who gets what and from whom.

Market at Dothan's drop off point and main pickup is at Dothan Nurseries in Dothan and some orders are delivered to the Daleville Chamber of Commerce every Friday. Slow Food Elba operates in a similar manner dropping off at businesses in Elba and Enterprise.

Market at Dothan is the older of the two and has operated out of Dothan Nurseries since its start. This year the Nursery moved the Market from a shade tent to an outdoor building where they relish having power and refrigeration. Two on site refrigerators barely contain products like dairy, eggs and frozen meat that go through it every week. The Market is now expanding to include a bi-weekly tent market and classes at the Nursery.

Check them out at www.marketatdothan.com or <http://slowfoodelba.locallygrown.net>.



to share photos and short videos. If you like to take pictures of your farm, this is a great way to share them and it is easily linked to your Facebook account. It is also a great way to connect with other farmers, see what they are up to, and see how they communicate with their customers.

Internet etiquette. Unless you are comfortable limiting your customer base, you'll probably want to stick with food and farming. Pictures, recipes, and farm stories are good territory. Polarizing comments about politics are probably not.

No computer? No internet? Consider a visit to your public library, even if it's only once a month. They are warm in the winter, cool in the summer, and usually have nice computers and fast internet. You may want to call ahead and reserve a computer, or at least find out what the best time is to grab one. You can bring a jump drive to save anything you write for future use.

No computer skills? Younger family members are a great resource, or maybe you have a customer that would be happy to trade their computer skills for some good food. You don't have to be an ex-

pert in everything.

SELLING THROUGH THE WINTER

Once you have a way to engage your customers, you can reach out to them over the winter when you have product available. Even if it's only once a month, you can generate some income and keep your customers eating well. A number of growers simply arrange a pick up location, maybe in the same farmers market parking lot where they sell during the season or at a supportive local business like a health care provider's office or local natural food store. The farmer sends an email, customers place orders, and they meet within a certain time period. Of course, there are things to work out like no-shows and bad weather, but the basic concept is simple.

Using online marketplaces

There are also a number of online marketplaces that can help you streamline your sales by managing the inventory for one or more farms, generating orders, and collecting and processing payments. The nice thing about this system is that you

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WINTER (CONT'D)

(Continued from page 8)

collect orders, harvest or pack to meet orders, and usually deliver the product to a drop-off location. No wasted time harvesting things you won't sell.

Locally Grown (locallygrown.net) is one of the first online farmers markets. Over the past ten years they have hosted over 300 markets on their website, including the original market in Athens, Georgia. (See opposite page "spotlight" on one of our own locallygrown.net markets!)

Many other online ordering systems have cropped up over the past ten years. Shopify (shopify.com), Local Food Marketplace (localfoodmarketplace.com), Weebly (weebly.com), Farmigo (farmigo.com), and Farmzie (farmzie.com) are all online platforms for sales. Some are specifically created for farmers and others are set up to support any business. You'll want to take some time to look at fee structures, payment systems, and check out what other businesses have done with the marketing templates.



Extend your growing (and selling) seasons with high tunnels (pictured above), crop selection, winter storage, and various strategies for preserving and adding value to crops. Pictured: Southwest Birmingham Community Farm, photo credit: Julie Hunter

Teaming up with other farmers

There are a lot of other farmers in the same situation – some product, fewer winter marketing options, and the need to make some money over the winter. Think about working with farmers in your area, especially ones that you are confident can stay on top of their inventory and harvest. You may also be able to partner with local bakers and chefs to offer a mix of products that will help your customers cover their winter shopping needs.

Food hubs

A number of food hubs are working around the state to help smaller farmers access bigger markets. The Farm Food Collaborative and Plentiful Produce in North Alabama, the Urban Food Project and Heirloom Harvest in Birmingham, the Dallas Selma Farmers Association and Tuskegee University in the Black Belt, and the Alabama Department of Agriculture's Farm to School program are some of the organizations working year-round to get good local food into more Alabama mouths.

Extending the season

As you grow your wintertime marketplace, you'll be able to expand the products you offer throughout the year. Crops like sweet and Irish potatoes, winter squash, and root vegetables can be stored over the winter. Many other crops like greens and peas do well in Alabama's cooler times of year (though winter is far from predictable). You can have a somewhat steady supply of meat and eggs. And if you have the time to can, dry, or freeze your crops in the summer you can sell those products and baked goods all winter. That wintertime income can keep the cash flowing and ease your stress. But it all starts with a good customer list and a plan to stay in touch!

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NEWS FROM YOUR NEIGHBORS

Congratulations to **Cameron Strouss** (of **Deep Roots Apotheke & Clinic**) and **Scott Hooper** on the August 2nd birth of their new baby girl, **Wren Mallette Hooper**!

We mourn the passing of **Robert Thrower**, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the **Poarch Band of Creek Indians**, who died on July 4th in a car accident. Anyone who knew Robert knew immediately that he had a deep and abiding love for his Tribe. He also had unparalleled knowledge of Poarch Creek history, culture, and ethnobotany, and a lifelong commitment to preserving that knowledge. His passing is a tremendous loss that has been felt by many throughout the Tribe, state, and beyond.

After 26 years of service, **Mark Johnston** retired from his position as Director of **Camp McDowell**, an Episcopal summer camp in Nauvoo, AL, which is also home to the McDowell Environmental Center, McDowell Farm School, Alabama Folk School, and many other programs. **Whitney Moore** (formerly Assistant Director) will serve as the Interim Director as a national search is conducted for a permanent replacement for Mark, who is pursuing a run for Governor in 2018.

Also, former **McDowell Farm School** Director **Ali Papp** moved back to her home state of Chicago in late July. **Kelsey Evans**, the new Farm School Director, comes to us from central Pennsylvania (and originally, New Jersey) and started in mid-August.

Tuscaloosa-based garden education nonprofit **Druid City Garden Project** has changed its name to **Schoolyard Roots**, in an effort to better reflect their goal of bringing a garden to every school in Alabama. Check out their curriculum as well as their recently released 12-part video tutorial series for teachers (available free on YouTube)! The organization's Executive Director, **Lindsay Turner Trammell**, her husband **Brad**, and their dog Wallace, are moving to Cambridge, England, in September. Lindsay will be pursuing an MPhil in Public Policy at the University of

These sections appear in every newsletter and feature updates both personal and professional, on ASAN members and friends: anything from a new farm, to a new baby.

They make existing resources known to others, and help spread the word for those looking to connect. Connecting people in this, the barest-bones of ways, we hope to provide a jumping-off point for folks to connect on their own in deeper ways.

Have something you want us to publish? Send it to alice@asanonline.org or (256) 743-0742.

Cambridge, while Brad will be pursuing an MSc in Environmental Policy and Regulation at the London School of Economics. Schoolyard Roots will be led on an interim basis by former Development Director **Eric Courchesne**, who will help the Board select a permanent replacement.

CLASSIFIEDS AND RESOURCES

Farm seeks buyer/ partner/ successor, Seasons in the Sun Farm in Spanish Fort, AL, is seeking someone who will partner on the operation with an **intent to take it over** in part or in full, **in the next 1-3 years**. The farm has 4ac with approximately 1ac under 19 greenhouses, 15 of which have hydroponic systems. Property has a wide variety of established fruit trees are established on the property. Farm currently boasts an established CSA, hydroponic and u-pick operations, aviary, commercial "cottage kitchen," a roadside market, and full schedule of workshops, farm-to-table dinners, and other events. Owner is open to a variety of possible collaborative arrangements. Please see more details at www.facebook.com/Seasonsinthesunfarms/posts/1802794856412314. If interested contact D'Lee Reeves at seasonsinthesunfarms@gmail.com.

Farm for sale, Jones Chapel (11 miles west of **Cullman**). 28-acre farm and 2360-square-foot farmhouse for sale! Property includes 3 ponds, milking parlor, egg house, fenced and cross fencing for cattle or horses, hay barn, tractor shed, detached garage, potato house and much more! Existing owners have established customer base for small-scale milk and butter production. Asking

just under \$300K. For photos, more details, and to schedule a showing, go to <https://www.cullmanmls.com>, click the button to redirect to Public Site, and enter Listing # 99501.

Feeding the Gulf Coast, formerly Bay Area Food Bank, needs help from **farmers and gardeners**, to provide more **fresh produce** to those struggling with hunger. They accept any produce you would feed your family, even if it cannot be sold in the retail market.

They can even pick it up from your farm or market if you have a large enough donation. Field gleaning opportunities, volunteers, and monetary donations are also accepted. Contact **Cindy Cook Bloom** for more information - 251-653-1617 x124 or cbloom@feedingthegulfcoast.org. **See ad on page 9.**

Ivannoel Gonzalez is a third-year law student, working to pitch a fellowship project to DC-based nonprofit Equal Justice Works, to aid local farmers and agriculture in Alabama. He is inviting farmers (including market gardeners and hobby farmers) to send him their **legal questions and legal issues**, relating to a broad array of challenges including: debt, loan payments, and financing; passing of land title to the next generation; compliance with local, state, and/or federal regulations; social security; and any other problems or issues that might broadly be considered legal in nature. He welcomes questions/issues also from the larger agricultural community including processors and vendors of small-scale sustainable agriculture products. Please direct any questions or comments to ivannoelgonzalez@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DETAILS FOR THESE EVENTS AND MORE, AT

WWW.ASANONLINE.ORG/EVENTS

Sept 6-7 – New Brockton
Enterprise Budgets, Alternative Marketing, and Organic Production Workshop

Sept 9 – Montgomery
Volunteer Lobbyist Training

(Continued on page 11)

Help us build a better Alabama.

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PO Box 2533, Birmingham, AL 35202.

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 10)

Sept 10 – Jemison
Kiwi Walking Tour

Sept 12-13 – Hartselle
Enterprise Budgets, Alternative Marketing, and Organic Production Workshop

Sept 15 – Troy
Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama Pow Wow

Sept 17 – Birmingham
3rd Annual Graze: Birmingham (see page 3)

Sept 17-19 – Gainesville, FL
Florida Organic Food & Farming Summit

Sept 19-20 – Robertsdale
Enterprise Budgets, Alternative Marketing, and Organic Production Workshop

Sept 22 – Tuskegee
Training on Sustainable Agroforestry Practices

Sept 23 – Marion Junction
Farm to Feast (see page 9)

September 24 – Jemison
Native Plants Workshop

Sept 24 – Tuscaloosa
The Garden Party

Sept 25-26 – Winston-Salem, NC
2017 Carolina Meat Conference

Sept 28 – Clanton
Produce Safety Alliance Training

Sept 30 – Mobile
Herb Day with Felder Rushing

Oct 1 – Jemison
Fall Gardening Workshop

Oct 4-7 – Moundville
Native American Festival

Oct 5 – Augusta, GA
Georgia Farm to School Summit

Oct 7-8 – Blount County
Solar Homes Tour

Oct 13-15 – Montevallo
Sierra Club Annual Retreat – Amazing Alabama, Protecting What We Have

Oct 15 – Jemison
Oriental Persimmons Walking Tour

Oct 21 – Birmingham
9th Annual Collard Green Cookoff and Wellness Expo

Oct 26-29 – Birmingham
Native Plant Conference

(Continued on page 12)

Submit your event to our events calendar!

Email alice@asanonline.org, and be sure to include:

- Name of event
- Host group and contact info
- Location (including full address)
- Date/time
- Price
- Link to event website, Facebook event page, and/or flyer, if there is one.
- Short (3-4 sentences) description of the event written in "third person" (i.e. "XYZ Club invites you to join them for their annual meeting" vs "join us for our annual meeting")
- Please send information in the body of the email, not simply a flyer or attachment. We can link to something already online but can't upload a PDF flyer.

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read about? Send us
your ideas or suggestions
for future features!

*healthy farms,
healthy foods,
healthy communities.*

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 11)

Oct 29 – Jemison
Permaculture Workshop

Nov 10-12 – Atlanta
Black Farmers & Urban
Gardeners (BUGS) National
Conference

November 16-17 – Clanton
Alabama Fruit and Vegetable Grow-
ers Association (AFVGA) Conference

Nov 30-Dec 1 – Lawrenceville, GA
Georgia Farmers Market Association
“Food for Thought” Conference

Dec 3-5 – Tuskegee
Professional Agriculture Workers
Conference (PAWC)

Dec 8-9 – Nauvoo
ASAN Food & Farm Forum

January 17-20 – Chattanooga, TN
Southern SAWG Conference



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