

July 2024

Columbia Underground



COLUMBIA GARDEN CLUB

Columbia Underground

President's Message

June 20th marked the official start of summer which brings longer days and the warmth of the sun. I get outside early in the morning and/or early evening to do my gardening chores like weeding, watering, and mowing. As we enjoy this season, it is the perfect time to think about garden maintenance and preparation for our next season. Late summer is a great time to separate and transplant clumps of daylilies for example. Our own Alice Havard is the one to talk to about all things relating to daylilies.

But as the temperatures heat up during the day, it is the perfect time to stay indoors to get prepared for our flower show on July 13th which is right around the corner. For those of you who signed up for design classes, better get your game on! I am still wrangling with mine, but have my fingers crossed I will have something to submit. Not certain I will receive the first-place ribbon, but it is a fun challenge for me. Please remember to bring horticulture samples to the July 8th club meeting. More details are included in the newsletter.

At the June meeting, it was suggested that some of our checking funds be moved into a CD to gain interest. Our treasurer Mary Nesladek investigated interest rates on a 9-month or 6-month CD and will present that at our July meeting. There will also be discussion about options to be more philanthropic with our money. Just giving club members, a heads up so you can be thinking about ways CGC can give back to the community.

May you all have a safe and happy 4th of July!

Donna



June Meeting Minutes

The Columbia Garden Club met on June 10, 2024, at Diana Cooksey's house, which was the last house on our 2024 Annual Garden Tour. There were 27 members, and 4 guests present. Donna Puleo called the meeting to order and welcomed our guests (Darlene Rasberry, Ed Simms, Debbie Schultz, and Elizabeth Schultz). Donna thanked all the members who so graciously shared their gardens. Members who shared their gardens were Lana Baker, Vanita Johnson, Jane Jacobs, Carolyn Doyle, and Diana Cooksey. Inspiration was given by Diana Cooksey. Members with June birthdays are Elaine Keely and Gayle Fry.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and accepted. The treasurer's report was given by Mary Nesladek with a balance of \$13,850.54 as of 5-31-24. There was a discussion concerning putting part of the balance of the account in a CD. No motion was made at this time.

Committee Reports:

*Karen Blackmore and Betty Connelly reported on the upcoming **Flower Show** scheduled on July 13, 2024, and members signed up to participate.

Everyone is to bring a container and a horticulture piece to the meeting on July 10, 2024.

*Rita Gerke reported Katelyn Hyatt was selected as our **scholarship** recipient and read a thank you note she had received from Katelyn.

*Marie Pasley reminded everyone about volunteering at the **Food Bank** on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 11-1pm.

*Marie Pasley reported on **tiny bouquets** for **Meals on Wheels**. We will put these together at our September meeting.

*Donna Puleo reminded members to email her if they have planted a tree. Donna will send this information to our Central Region Director, Lynne Ehnert.

Donna Puleo asked for volunteers to be on a committee for the Spring Central District Meeting 2025. Committee members are: Linda Antal, Melissa Kouba, Elaine Keely, Marie Pasley and Kathy Ellsworth.

Donna Puleo introduced the idea of CGC doing a "Blue Bird Trail." This was discussed and she will continue researching this as a future project.

Upcoming Events

CGC Flower Show – Saturday, July 13, 2024 -1:00PM to 4:00 PM

Fall Central District Meeting - Thursday, September 5, 2024.

Bloomin Bus Tour – March 4-8, 2025

FGCM State Convention - April 21-24, 2025, in Springfield, MO.

Flower Show

“Celebrations”



An NGC Standard Flower Show
Presented by

Columbia Garden Club

Saturday, July 13, 2024 - 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Daniel Boone Regional Library
100 West Broadway
Columbia, MO 65203
Free and Open to the Public

Members of
National Garden Clubs, Inc.
Central Region
Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc.
Central District



All members are encouraged to bring horticulture to the flower show. Entries can be brought to the library between 8:00 and 9:30 on the day of the show.

At our meeting on July 8th we will be practicing grooming and staging horticulture specimens. Please bring horticulture pieces and a container to put them in (bottle, bud vases, etc.) We will also go over how to fill out an entry card and entry cards for the show will be available. If you can, bring more than one specimen to practice with. We can have a mini show if we have enough horticulture!

Betty Connelly

Members Garden Tour 2024

Lana Baker



Vanita Johnson



Jane Jacobs



Members Garden Tour 2024

Carolyn Doyle



Diana Cooksey



Flower Show—July 13th-1:00-4:00 Daniel Boone Regional Library

If you can't bring horticulture or a design to the flower show, please consider visiting the show and signing the guest book. That will count as member participation in the show. It would be nice if we could get 100% participation.

Environment and Conservation Column

The Least Eco-Friendly Fabrics

These least sustainable fabrics, will not degrade, but last forever in the landfill

- Polyester, a type of plastic.
- Nylon , silky thermo.plastic from fossil fuels
- Acrylic, also Plastic threads
- Rayon, from natural wood pulp but requires harmful chemicals to convert it to cellulose
- Bamboo, most fabrics require many chemicals

More Friendly: organic hemp, linen, supima cotton (less water consumption), Lyocell (lightweight fabric made from wood pulp) ,and wool or other animal fibers.

Bamboo Fabric

While bamboo itself is a highly sustainable resource, bamboo garments may not be manufactured through sustainable methods. The process of making bamboo fabric usually requires using harmful chemicals that have a detrimental impact on the planet and its water sources.

Water Filters

There are now laundry machine filters designed to trap microplastics that shed from synthetic fabrics when they are being washed, keeping them out of water treatment systems. Unless your wardrobe and bedding are plastic-free and made completely from natural fibers, unfortunately, your washing machine is still creating microplastics with every wash. With each wash, a single fleece jacket is estimated to shed at least 250,000 individual synthetic plastic fibers into wash water, which is either discharged directly into your home septic system or into a sewer. Choosing clothing made of natural fibers like bamboo, hemp, organic cotton, or linen will best prevent the release of microplastics when washing laundry.

Fashion

Fashion wasn't always as destructive of an industry. Clothes shopping used to be an occasional event—something that happened a few times a year when the seasons changed or when we outgrew what we had. But about 30 years ago, something changed. Clothes became cheaper, trend cycles sped up, and shopping became a weekly hobby for many. Enter fast fashion and the global chains that now dominate our high streets and online shopping. But what is fast fashion? Why is fast fashion so bad? And how exactly does it impact people, the planet, and animals? Since 2000, many stores have sold cool, trendy clothing in our part of the world where people can buy without a second's thought, wear a handful of times, and then throw away... But, of course, someone was paying the price. Then in 2013, much of the world had a reality check when the Rana Plaza clothing manufacturing complex in Bangladesh collapsed, killing over 1,000 workers. That's when many consumers really started questioning fast fashion and wondering at the true cost of those \$5 t-shirts... It forms a key part of the toxic system of overproduction and consumption that has made fashion one of the world's largest polluters. Fast fashion's impact on the planet is immense. The pressure to reduce costs and speed up production time means environmental corners are more likely to be cut. Fast fashion's negative impact includes its use of cheap, toxic textile dyes—making the fashion industry one of the largest polluters of clean water globally, right up there with agriculture. Cheap textiles also increase fast fashion's impact. Polyester is one of the most popular fabrics. It is derived from fossil fuels, contributes to global warming, and can shed microfibers that add to the increasing levels of plastic in our oceans when washed or even worn. But even “natural” fabrics can be a problem at the scale fast fashion demands. Conventional cotton requires enormous quantities of water and pesticides in countries like India and China. This results in drought risks and creates extreme stress on water basins and competition for resources between companies and local communities. The speed at which garments are produced also means that more and more clothes are disposed of by consumers, creating massive textile waste. According to some statistics, in Australia alone, more than 500m kilos of unwanted clothing ends up in landfill every year. What can we do? Shift our consumption habits. This quote by British designer Vivienne Westwood says it best: “buy less, choose well, make it last.”

Contributed by Melissa Kouba

(A comment by the editor; donate your unwanted clothing items to a local thrift store. Someone else will get some use out of them. Even unusable garments can be sent to a recycler and not end up in the landfill.)

Perennials to deadhead to improve appearance

COMMON NAME	(BOTANICAL NAME)
Baskets of gold	(<i>Aurinia saxatilis</i> and cvs.)
Bearded irises	(<i>Iris</i> spp. and cvs.)
Bergenias	(<i>Bergenia cordifolia</i> and cvs.)
Catmints	(<i>Nepeta X faassenii</i> and cvs.)
Clustered bellflowers	(<i>Campanula glomerata</i> and cvs.)
Common rue	(<i>Ruta graveolens</i>)
Coral bells	(<i>Heuchera</i> spp. and cvs.)
Daylilies	(<i>Heemerocallis</i> spp. and cvs.)
Goatsbeards	(<i>Aranus dioicus</i> and cvs.)
Golden stars	(<i>Chrysogonum virginianum</i> and cvs.)
Hellebores	(<i>Helleborus orientalis</i> and cvs.)
Hostas	(<i>Hosta</i> spp. and cvs.)
Jacob's ladders	(<i>Polemonium caeruleum</i> and cvs.)
Japanese anemones	(<i>Anemone X hybrida</i> cvs.)
Lady's mantles	(<i>Alchemilla mollis</i> and cvs.)
Lambs' ears	(<i>Stachys byzantina</i> and cvs.)
Lavender cottons	(<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i> and cvs.)
Lungworts	(<i>Pulmonaria</i> spp. and cvs.)
Mulleins	(<i>Verbascum</i> spp. and cvs.)
Obedient plants	(<i>Physostegia virginiana</i> and cvs.)
Pearly everlastings	(<i>Anaphalis triplinervis</i> and cvs.)
Peonies	(<i>Paeonia</i> spp. and cvs.)
Red hot pokers	(<i>Kniphofia</i> spp. and cvs.)
Rodgersias	(<i>Rodgersia aesculifolia</i> and cvs.)
Rose mallows	(<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i> and cvs.)
Scotch thistles	(<i>Onopordum nervosum</i> and cvs.)
Sea thrifts	(<i>Armeria maritima</i> and cvs.)
Wall germanders	(<i>Teucrium chamaedrys</i> and cvs.)
Wall rock cresses	(<i>Arabis caucasica</i> and cvs.)
Western bleeding hearts	(<i>Dicentra formosa</i> and cvs.)
Western mugworts	(<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i> and cvs.)

Not all perennials will continue to bloom after deadheading, but many look better as a result. The one-time or single-flowering daylily (*Heemerocallis* cv.) shown below is just one example.



CUT

The spent daylily flowers should be removed individually to give developing buds a chance to bloom.

July Yard of the Month

No matter how busy Verna Laboy is with working as a Program Manager for Boone County Community Services, establishing programs such as the Worley Street Round Table or Live Well by Faith, plus reenacting biscuit queen Annie Fisher, she has always spent quality time in her yard at the corner of Worley and Ridgeway.

Verna and her husband have lived in the historic house since 1994. By 1995, they began landscaping and gardening in earnest with some design assistance from friend and neighbor Phyllis Hardesty who just recently passed away. Verna has continued experimenting with a variety of grasses, flowers, a pollinator garden and an assortment of vegetable plants to flush out the lush flower beds.

Verna says that she gardens by trial and error and with help from her husband Gil. She was raised in the city of Peoria, but spent summers with her grandparents in Northeast Missouri. After the Laboys purchased their Victorian Home on Worley St., Verna liked looking at beautiful yards and choosing favorite plants to try, and she models parts of her yard after vegetables and grasses she remembers from her summers with her grandparents.

Verna says that she finds weeding a big challenge and her lirioppe border keeps her busy pulling up all the plants that have escaped the border.

When you drive west on Worley, you can't miss this beautiful yard that has been lovingly gardened for almost 30 years. It has changed over the years but still causes drivers to slow down and enjoy.



July Yard of the Month, cont.



A July Afternoon by the Pond Walt Whitman

The fervent heat, but so much more endurable in this pure air—the white and pink pond-blossoms, with great heart-shaped leaves; the glassy waters of the creek, the banks, with dense bushery, and the picturesque beeches and shade and turf; the tremulous, reedy call of some bird from recesses, breaking the warm, indolent, half-voluptuous silence; an occasional wasp, hornet, honey-bee or bumble (they hover near my hands or face, yet annoy me not, nor I them, as they appear to examine, find nothing, and away they go)—the vast space of the sky overhead so clear, and the buzzard up there sailing his slow whirl in majestic spirals and discs; just over the surface of the pond, two large slate-color'd dragon-flies, with wings of lace, circling and darting and occasionally balancing themselves quite still, their wings quivering all time, (are they not showing off for my amusement?)—the pond itself, with the sword-shaped calamus; the water snakes—occasionally a flitting blackbird, with red dabs on his shoulders, as he darts slantingly by—the sounds that bring out the solitude, warmth, light and shade—the quawk of some pond duck—(the crickets and grasshoppers are mute in the noon heat, but I hear the song of the first cicades;)—then at some distance the rattle and whirr of a reaping machine as the horses draw it on a rapid walk through a rye field on the opposite side of the creek—(what was the yellow or light brown bird, large as a young hen, with short neck and long-stretch'd legs I just saw, in flapping and awkward flight over there through the trees?)—the prevailing delicate, yet palpable, spicy, grassy, clovery perfume to my nostrils; and over all, encircling all, to my sight and soul, and free space of the sky, transparent and blue—and hovering there in the west, a mass of white-gray fleecy clouds the sailors call “shoals of mackerel”—the sky, with silver swirls like locks of toss'd hair, spreading, expanding—a vast voiceless, formless simulacrum—yet may-be the most real reality and formulator of everything—who knows?

Native Plant Corner

Watching ash trees die all around me while beech leaves wither away and buckthorn chokes out the woods that I grew up playing in, I became obsessed with saving my local ecosystem. After college, I pursued the green industry because of this and have worked in many sectors throughout my budding career. From running landscaping crews, managing a garden center, publishing insect research, and running invasive species eradication projects, I have seen the good and the bad. “Big Horticulture” in America often contradicts environmental conservation and ecological preservation goals. Walk into most garden centers nowadays. There is a wonderful display of annuals, perennials, trees, and shrubs, but most of what is on the sales floor is nonnative or invasive! Drive by a housing development and try to count the number of native species; you will likely count zero if you do not count the name of the development memorializing the nature it replaced. The horticulture industry has grown with the false notion that humans are separate from nature. Since the dawn of commercial agriculture, humans have been conditioned to think that unless a plant is a cash crop or offers visual appeal, it is a weed or nuisance plant. Historic shopping habits have reflected this. Consumers buy “pretty, pest-free, and easy” plants instead of ecologically important ones. A great example of a low ecological value plant that most home gardeners adore is the Butterfly Bush - *Buddleja davidii*. This perennial is native to central China, only offering a food source from nectar to a few species of adult butterflies and moths. The plant leaves support zero larval species because they do not provide the nutrients our local populations feed on. “Why feed the adults but not the kids?” There is a major nutrition gap for insects in our landscapes; therefore, native species are so critical to the future of gardening. Most native species support tens of larval species, if not hundreds. The goldenrod genus *Solidago* supports over 100 native insect species! Most native plants that are for sale at garden centers are cultivars. Cultivars of native species Rocky Mountain Columbine• AmberMae have altered flower colors and shapes that may be more attractive to you but are far less attractive to pollinators. Pollinators desire wild-type native species because they are most familiar with the flower. Not only do we lack a supply of wild-type native species, but vendors have been all-in on cultivars and invasive species that have been marketed for decades as go-to landscaping plants. Today, most invasive plant species we fight to control were introduced by exotic plant sales and the shipping of exotic woody plant material from overseas. It is a pattern that has occurred repeatedly in America, but little has been done to stop it. Vendors and global trade policymakers have not been held accountable. In many cases, landowners must deal with issues caused by invasive plants. The Callery Pear, *Pyrus calleryana*, is the most recent invasive plant to gain national headlines for being outlawed for sale in most states. The irreparable damage is already here. The species quickly outcompeted native species along wood lines across America. It is time to revolutionize our relationship with horticulture and understand that humans are a part of nature, not separate from it. Humans’ substantial negative impact on the environment proves we are a part of nature. It can sometimes be frustrating, but the native plant revolution has germinated and is rapidly growing. Many small businesses are popping up across the nation to fill this void! From the sale of native seeds and plants to emerging educators preaching the importance of locally sourced native plants, the future is bright. As younger generations continue seeing the suffering cast on our ecosystems by these issues, they are more inspired to be a part of the change to save our natural heritage! There are many resources for finding native plants that continue to accelerate our revolution to a happier, healthier plant community.

Edward Lagucki is the director of grounds at a historical English garden estate in Ohio, Lantern Court. He is an ISA-certified arborist. This article reflects on his roles in horticulture and industry trends.

Taken from The National Gardener-Spring 2024 Issue

July Meeting

Our next meeting will be July 8th at 1:00 at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Our program will be Displaying Horticulture in a Flower Show. Bring a piece of horticulture and a container to display it. Members from the Judge's council will help show how we can prepare the piece for a flower show. Hospitality will be provided by Diane Linneman and Marie Pasley.

Upcoming Events

July 3rd-MPF Webinar: Native Bees of Missouri's Ozark Woodlands and Glades - Zoom 4-5—Visit Grow Native webpage to register.

July 4th-Tour Nancy Rold's Garden-Open 9-12

July 13th-CGC Flower Show-Columbia Public Library



Columbia Garden Club
President: Donna Puleo
1st VP: Diana Cooksey
2nd VP: Linda Antal
Secretary: Diane Linneman
Treasurer: Mary Nesladek
Parliamentarian: Carolyn Doyle

Columbia Garden Club meets the second Monday of each month at 1:00 at Trinity Presbyterian Church

Website:
<https://www.kewpie.net/colgrdnclub/cgc.html>

Facebook: Columbia Garden Club

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