**Columbia Underground** 

# Columbia Underground

# President's Message

They say April showers bring May flowers and we have been blessed with both! My iris seemed to bud and bloom overnight along with the peonies. May is a terribly busy planting month but a good busy. After the successful plant sale, I have half of what I purchased in the ground. I still need to get digging!

Next week is the FGCM State Convention and many club members have been working their petunias off. This will be my first time attending a FGCM state convention, so I am looking forward to the event itself, the gift of learning and meeting new FGCM members from across the state. At our May club meeting, hopefully we will have a recap of the convention as well as a report of our April plant sales.

Speaking of our May 13<sup>th</sup> club meeting, please remember it starts at noon rather than 1 pm and is a post-convention celebration and potluck at Trinity Presbyterian church. It will be a time to relax, eat some delicious food and enjoy each other's company. So, break out those good, reliable recipes or experiment with a new one!

June is the club members' garden tours, and we will have an update with more information available at the May club meeting. And hopefully a report on our participation in the Museum of Art & Archaeology's Art In Bloom. I hope many of you had the chance to view the exhibit.

I wish all of you a Happy Mother's Day be it celebrating with your children, grandchildren, or your four-legged furry children. They are all loved and kept close at heart the same way. And dust off the grill, make potato salad, and get out your white shoes for Memorial Day weekend!

Donna



# **April Meeting Minutes**

The Columbia Garden Club met on April 8, 2024 at Stephens Park. Prior to the business meeting, we toured Stephens Park with Matt Pierce and Ryan Russell (Columbia Parks & Rec) as our guides. We started in the portion of the park dedicated to Darwin Hindman which contains a lot of unusual trees. Matt propagates and grafts many of the trees himself. Some of the trees seen include: Japanese Emperor Oak, Chinese Maple, Japanese Maple (which grows upright), Yellowwood and Korean Hornbeam. The next garden was entitled, "Grow to Know Your World." The thought for the garden was to grow plants from different continents (Europe; Asia; North, Central and South America; & Africa), but they have found it very difficult to keep plants alive when they grow in such a different climate. They will be repurposing this garden. We did see some interesting plants there: Japanese Zelcova, Hardy citrus which has thorns and grows tiny oranges, Jet Eye Viburnum with very fragrant flowers. We visited a native garden with Paw-Paw, Redbuds, Buckeyes, Chinkapin, Magnolia and Crabapple. We ended the tour at a spot where we could all view the eclipse.

Diana Cooksey called the meeting to order at 2:10 pm. Fifteen members were present and two guests: Wendy Seaberg and Denise Collins. Inspiration was given by Diana Cooksey. Members having birthdays in April were recognized: Carol Tummons, Nancy Rold, Carolyn Oates and Linda Antal. Minutes from the March meeting were approved after one change: The Spring District meeting is being held at McClung Park, not McClure. The Treasurer's report will be given next month. We discussed the Flower Show (May 13) and members were encouraged to participate. The "90 day rule" which applies to some of the classes is not a hard rule – the expectation is that you've had the plant in your possession for numerous weeks. The 2024 State Convention will be held May 6-9 at Stoney Creek Inn in Columbia. Linda Antal reported there are 149 registrants and registrations were still being accepted. Our Plant Sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 27. Set-up will be on Friday, April 26, but we cannot start setting up until 3:30 because of a funeral. All members were asked to bring their plants by 4:30 on Friday. Baked goods can be delivered Friday or Saturday morning. Marie Pasley has several flats from the Food Bank, but members will check at local merchants for more. Rebecca Smith volunteered to coordinate the sign placements in the area. The art piece has been selected for Art in Bloom (April 27/28 at the MU Campus Museum of Art and Archeology). The arrangement needs to be delivered on Thursday and the show is open to the public on Saturday and Sunday. Betty Connelly gave a report from the Central District meeting: Our club had 16 members there and Carolyn Oates did a great job running her first meeting. A couple decisions were made – a motion was made to hold one instead of two district meetings/year because they can be very difficult to coordinate for small clubs. The decision was made to continue to have 2/year, but no longer provide breakfast and table decorations and gifts do not need to be provided. The decision was also made to change the bylaws and increase registration from \$15 to \$20 for the district meeting. Presentations on invasives and peonies were provided. Diana could use a few more items for the gift baskets being donated to the state convention. Any garden-related items, wine, etc. would be appreciated and must be received by 4/19. Our next meeting is May 13 - a potluck to celebrate the state convention. Barb Schuette motioned that the meeting start at noon instead of 1:00 and Donna Russell seconded it. The motion passed. Evette will get an email out soon to announce the new time. Donna Russell will provide a couple plants as an 'apology' if any members are late because they did not receive the notice. Bring a dish to the potluck and we'll enjoy a design workshop to help prepare ourselves for the Flower Show. The meeting was adjourned at 2:38.

Minutes taken by Linda Antal, submitted by Diane Linneman

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# Clean Up Columbia





Photos by Connie Blackmore

# Plant Sale



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# May Yard of the Month Rune Mussett-Sharp and Paul Sharp 1814 Cliff Drive

Rune and her husband Paul moved into 1814 Cliff Drive thirty-two years ago when the yard consisted of lawn in the front and back with a few bushes and trees. Now Rune has landscaped with stone walls, fences, two rain gardens, a miniature water fall and flowers in the front yard. Paul has turned the back yard into a vegetable and herb garden decorated by Rune's poppies and other beautiful flowers.

Rune claims that Paul is the real gardener who is knowledgeable about plants, best plant locations, diseases and other plant problems, and she says that he can make anything grow. Rune says that she is the landscaper and Paul is the gardener. She remembers that in the past when they shared garden space, the only serious disagreements they had were about the garden. Now that they have divided the space between them, all is peaceful. And beautiful.

Rune says that one of her favorite birthday presents, and the one that really got her interested in gardening at this house, was the six dump trucks of mulch. Her first garden was a Celtic Knot garden. But this is a yard with an evolving garden, and every year it looks different.

The garden is plagued by a herd of about twelve deer who regularly chomp their way through her favorite flowers. The deer and the weeds are the greatest challenges that they face. Nevertheless, this is a garden worth viewing throughout the summer. The creative landscaping and the variety of flowers, herbs and vegetables make it a practical as well as a beautiful garden to enjoy as gardeners and as passers by.

Article and Photos by Ann O'Dell

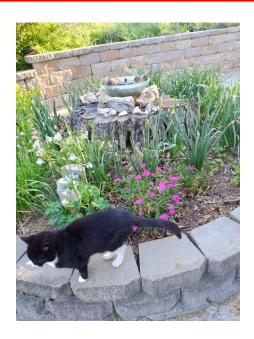




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# May Yard of the Month-cont.





# Flower Show—July 13

# Design Schedule

# **Festivals**

Mardi Gras-A Reflective Design Chinese New Year-Illuminary Design St. Patrick's Day—Designer's Choice

# **Memories-Petite Section**

8" May Day 8" Blooms and Booms 12" County Fair-Still Life



# **Botanical Arts**

Easter Bonnets
Mother's Day-Corsage-6" Wide
Holiday-Hanging Door Decoration





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## **New Member Information**

Lynda Blades 18193 Monroe Road 124 Holliday, MO 65258-2134 lblades40@outlook.com 660-266-3373 Wendy Seaberg 1900 Katy Lane Columbia, MO 65203 leatrenton@yahoo.com 573-808-5069

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# **Songbirds Need Native Plants**

Did you know that choosing native plants for your yard or land will help songbirds thrive?





orioles, bluebirds and so many more—must feed their babies insects and other invertebrates. For example, to raise one nest of chickadee babies, parents must forage up to 9,000 caterpillars to feed them (Brewer 1961).





What nourishes caterpillars? Native plants! Beneficial insects (and their caterpillar larvae) are dependent on native plants as their food sources—for example, more than 500 different kinds of caterpillars feed on oak trees—and these plants flourish despite the munching.

And remember: pesticides including those sprayed on plants—are harmful to insects and the baby birds that eat insects.

# BUTTERFLY AND MOTH SPECIES CATERPILLARS SUPPORTED BY NATIVE AND NON-NATIVE PLANTS

**Native** 0aks 500<sup>+</sup>

**Native** Cherries & Plums 429

Non-native Boxwood. Forsythia, & Butterfly Bush

Davlilies. Hostas, & Lilyturf

In addition to needing native host plants for insect food for their babies, adult songbirds also need protein-rich and fat-rich fruits and seeds. Shrubs like native viburnums and deciduous holly provide fruits that songbirds relish. Prairie plants like native coreopsis and native grasses provide seeds to sustain goldfinches and sparrows.

Planting a variety of native grasses, wildflowers, shrubs, and trees provides songbirds diverse habitat structure they need to nest and to escape predators and severe weather.



with native plants, shrubs, and trees to help songbirds thrive—and beautify your landscape!

Choose native plants. Find them from Grow Native! professional members. See www.grownative.org for resources.

Contributed by Linda Antal

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# **Environment and Conservation Column**

# How much recycling do we do in the US?

The EPA (environmental protection agency of the United states) defines containers and packaging as products that are assumed to be discarded the same year the products they contain are purchased. Containers and packaging make up a major portion of municipal solid waste (MSW), amounting to 82.2 million tons of generation in 2018 (28.1% of total generation). Packaging is the product used to wrap or protect goods, including food, beverages, medications and cosmetic products. Containers and packaging are used in the shipping, storage and protection of products. Containers and packaging products in this waste are made of several materials: paper and paperboard, glass, steel, aluminum, plastics, wood, and small amounts of other materials.

### **Glass:**

Glass containers include beer and soft drink bottles, wine and liquor bottles, as well as bottles and jars for food and juices, cosmetics, and other products. EPA estimated that the generation of these glass containers was 9.8 million tons in 2018, or 3.3 percent of waste generation. The estimated amount of glass containers recycled= 31.3%. Additionally, about 13.4 percent of the glass containers and packaging waste generated was combusted with energy recovery, while the remainder (55.4 %) went to landfill.

### **Aluminum:**

Aluminum containers and packaging include beer and soft drink cans (including all carbonated and non-carbonated soft drinks, tea, tonic, waters and juice beverages), other cans, and foil and closures (including semi-rigid foil containers, caps, closures and flexible packaging). EPA estimated the generation of aluminum packaging at 1.9 million tons in 2018, or 0.7 percent of waste generation. Recycling of aluminum beverage cans = 50.4 %. Additionally, about 13 percent of the aluminum containers and packaging waste generated was combusted with energy recovery, while the remainder (52.1%) was sent to landfill.

# Paper and Cardboard:

Corrugated boxes were the largest single product category of waste in 2018 at 33.3 million tons generated, or 11.4 percent of total generation. Corrugated boxes also represent the largest single product of recycled paper and paperboard containers and packaging. In 2018, approximately 32.1 million tons of corrugated boxes were recycled out of 33.9 million tons of total paper and paperboard recycling. The recycling rate for corrugated boxes was 96.5%. Other paper and paperboard packaging in waste includes milk and juice cartons and other products packaged in gable top cartons and liquid food aseptic cartons, folding cartons (e.g., cereal boxes, frozen food boxes, some department store boxes), bags and sacks, wrapping papers, and other paper and paperboard packaging (primarily set-up boxes such as shoe, cosmetic and candy boxes). Overall, paper and paperboard containers and packaging totaled 41.9 million tons of MSW generation in 2018, or 14.3% of total generation. While the recycling of corrugated boxes is by far the largest component of paper packaging recycling, smaller amounts of other paper packaging products also enter the recycling stream (estimated at about 1.8 million tons in 2018). The overall recycling rate= 80.9% in 2018. Smaller proportions were combusted for energy recovery (3.7%) and 15.4% went to landfill. Other paper packaging, such as cartons and sacks, is mostly recycled as mixed papers

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# **Environment and Conservation Column-cont.**

### **Plastic:**

Packaging products are comprised of different plastic resins. Some of these include polyethylene (terephthalate (PET) soft drink and water bottles, high-density polyethylene (HDPE) milk and water jugs, film products (including bags and sacks) made of low-density polyethylene (LDPE) and other containers and packaging (including clamshells, trays, caps, lids, egg cartons, loose fill, produce baskets, coatings and closures) made up of polyvinyl chloride (PVC), polystyrene (PS), polypropylene (PP) and other resins. EPA estimated 14.5 million tons of plastic containers and packaging were generated in 2018, approximately 5.0 percent of waste generation. (Plastic packaging as a category in this analysis does not include single-service plates and cups, and trash bags, both of which are classified as nondurable goods). Overall, the amount of recycled plastic containers and packaging in 2018= 13.6% of plastic containers and packaging generated. Additionally, 16.9 percent of the plastic containers and packaging waste generated was combusted with energy recovery, while the remainder (over 69%) was placed in landfill.

# Single use Plastics:

Today, according to the UN Environment Programme, humans produce about 400 million tons of plastic waste every year. Half of that is single-use plastic, like potato chip bags, that ends up in landfills or in waterways, where it breaks down into microplastics that are consumed by aquatic life, and eventually by people. At the behest of consumers and under the shadow of potential regulation, snack companies big and small are now looking for a way to break that cycle with alternative packaging mate ..

In the world of US potato chips, for example, Frito-Lay, a division of PepsiCo Inc., has a whopping 60% of the market share, according to data analytics firm IRI Worldwide. Frito-Lay North America tried alternative packaging over a decade ago, a 2009 bag for SunChips was 100% compostable. Made from 90% polylactic acid, the bag was notoriously noisy when opened or handled — and Frito-Lay discontinued it in 2010. (My sister put a package in her home compost and it never disappeared. Apparently it required an industrial composter).

### Food:

The LARGEST category of waste in American landfills. Each year in the United States, 73 to 152 million metric tons of food is lost or wasted during all stages of the food supply chain (from primary production to consumption), according to the EPA's November 2021 report, From Farm to Kitchen: The Environmental Impacts of U.S. Food Waste. Food waste adversely impacts the economy, communities, and the environment by wasting the resources used to grow and transport it. Preventing food waste and keeping food and other organics out of landfills mitigates climate change, as an estimated 8% of global greenhouse gas emissions come from wasted food. At the same time, uneaten food contains enough calories to feed more than 150 million people each year, far more than the 35 million estimated food insecure Americans. (https://www.usda.gov/foodlossandwaste/farmers for more information)

Contributed by Melissa Kouba

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# **May Meeting**

Columbia Garden Club will meet at **12:00** on Monday, May 13th at Trinity Presbyterian Church. We will be having a potluck luncheon, so please bring a dish to share. Members of the Central Missouri Judge's Council will present a demonstration-"Designing for a Flower Show".

# **Upcoming Events**

May 6-9—FGCM State Convention

May 11-Discovery Garden Club Plant Sale

May 18-Native Plant Sale Bass Pro Shops

May 18-19-Unity of Columbia Plant and Gardening Sale



Columbia Garden Club's entry in Art in Bloom won the Truman's Choice award. Congratulations and thank you to the members that contributed to this design.

Photo by Charley Blackmore.



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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