

“Columbia Underground”

Member: National Garden Club, Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, and Central District

Editor; Marie Pasley

Up Coming Events

July 12- (our monthly mtg. date) CGC Flower Show

at Boone County History and Culture Center. Show is open 1 to 3 to CGC members only. Entries must be removed by 4pm

August 9- CGC Monthly meeting at 1 pm- Tour of Russell Blvd. School Garden lead by Mellssa Kouba, chair of Teaching Columbia's Children to Plant America project by CGC.

September 13 Monthly meeting at Cosmo Park
11am- Picnic in the park

July 12 CGC Flower Show

The CGC flower show will be on July 12 at Boone County History and Culture Center, Ponderosa St, Columbia. Entries will be taken 8 to 9:30 am, day of show. Judging will start at 10 am. Exhibits will be open to CGC members 1 to 3pm. Exhibits must be removed before 4 pm. This will be a small show and open to members only, so it's a great time to try your hand at design and/or horticulture entry. We need members to participate to make this a success, so come try it out. Contact Show Chair, Carolyn Doyle for a schedule. Below is an example of single place



setting..



“Buttonbush”
Cephalanthus occidentalis

Color- Creamy white blooms.

Light Preference- Full sun/part shade

Height/Spread- 5'to10' tall w/6' spread

Bloom Period- July to August round bloom. September to frost are sometimes blushed red.

* This area info for 2021 is taken from "Tried and True Missouri Native Plants for Your Yard "

Update on our Webmaster Charley

Karen tells me Charley is doing great. He got home on June 21 and is gradually doing more each day. I know he'd love to hear from you, so send him a note.



Maintaining Container Gardens

By National Gardening Association Editors



These simple maintenance tasks keep your patio planters and window boxes looking their best throughout the growing season and help cold-climate gardeners prepare for winter.

Tools and Materials

- Planted containers
- Water source, hose or watering can
- Slow-release and water-soluble fertilizers
- Scissors or hand pruners
- Seasonal flowering and foliage plants
- Chicken wire and loose mulch, optional

Water frequently. Closely spaced plants packed into a small volume of soil need watering as often as once or twice a day, especially in hot, sunny, dry weather. When you water, be sure to saturate all the soil in the pot—not just around the edges. Pots that dry out too quickly may have more plants in them than the soil can support. Remove some plants, prune them back, or move the pot to a less sunny location.

Fertilize regularly. Rapidly growing plants need plenty of nutrients. Frequent watering and the limited amount of soil in container gardens makes the need for fertilizer critical. Mix slow-release fertilizer pellets into the potting soil, according to package instructions. Add additional nutrients throughout the growing season by dissolving a water-soluble fertilizer in the watering can once every week or two. Use a one-half to one-quarter strength dilution, or follow package instructions.

Groom and remove dead flowers. Keep plants looking lush and full by pruning leggy stems back to buds or branches and removing off-colored and damaged foliage. Many plants continue to produce new flowers if you remove the spent blooms before they set seeds. Pinch the flower stems back to just above a leaf or bud.

Change plants seasonally. When the plants begin to look tired and past their prime, pull them out and replace them with fresh plants. You can keep your container

current with seasonal themes by growing a succession of plants, such as bulbs and primroses in the spring, annuals and vegetables in the summer, and colorful kale and pansies in autumn.

Prepare for winter. In cold-winter climates, containers and their contents need protection from freezing temperatures. Even hardy perennials, trees, and shrubs cannot tolerate completely frozen roots. Terra cotta and ceramic pots may crack if left outside to freeze. Empty their contents into the compost pile and store the dry pots in a protected garage or cellar. Wrap chicken wire around the pots of small trees and shrubs and stuff with loose mulch, such as straw. Store in an unheated but not freezing garage or basement for the winter.

Tips--Reduce watering chores by choosing light-colored, non-porous containers such as plastic or glazed pottery. Protect pots from full sun and wind.

Rotate containers to encourage plants on all sides to grow evenly. Plants on the shady side tend to get leggy as they stretch for the sun.

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CGC June 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The Columbia Garden Club met at 4 p.m. at the Battlefield Lavendar farm in Centralia, MO on June 14, 2021 with 17 members attending. We had two guests: Carol Tummons, sister of Linda O'Keefe, and Lily Franks, granddaughter of Rebecca Smith. The lavender farm was established by Katie and Jason Lockwood. Katie gave a wonderful presentation. In 2018 some "test field" plants were planted to see what would survive and thrive in Missouri's soil and climate. They now have 14 varieties of 2,500 plants; some plants are white and most are purple lavender. Some plants are for culinary purposes; some plants bloom more than once a year. Lavendar plants need sun and well-drained soil with a high pH (7.0). Plants are planted with bone meal in raised beds with plastic weed block to keep out weeds and keep out excess rain as root rot can be a problem. They also have drip irrigation to use when needed. Additional fertilizer is not used as that would cause the plants not to bloom. Lavendar does not attract pests like deer, racoons, or Japanese beetles. Members got to walk into the fields and feel and smell the lavender. There is also a gift shop with many beautiful items for sale.

We had a short business meeting under some shade trees nearby the lavender fields. Mary Nesladek gave the inspiration: "As you learn more about gardening, every new experience means more to you and makes a long-lasting impression" by Rosemary Verey.

July 12 meeting will be a NCG Small Standard Flower Show for CGC members only. The location has been changed to the Boone County History & Culture Center. Entries will be received from 8 to 9:30 a.m. and placed by 10 a.m. Judging will follow. Everyone is encouraged to view the show from 1-3 p.m. Entries must be removed by 4 p.m. A schedule was given to everyone to describe the categories for entries. On July 11 there will be a time for setting up tables; an email will be sent to ask for volunteers.

Meals on Wheels: Marie Pasley is growing zinnias, but they are probably going to be too big for our small containers. There will be other flowers available. This event will probably be in late July.

Christmas Decorations: Members need to collect and dry plant materials that can be used for the home that will be decorated in December. Good plants would be: yarrow, Queen Anne's lace, hydrangeas, zinnias, roses, allium heads, sweet gum balls, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Nesladek

