

"Columbia Underground"

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

Upcoming Events

December 9 - CGC Monthly meeting, at Noon
at Trinity Presbyterian Church- Christmas
Tea, info below

December 6,7,8- Symphony Society Christmas
Tour

January 1, 2020 Happy New Year!!

January 13, 2020 Columbia Garden Club
meeting

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Columbia Garden Club December 9th Meeting

We will meet at noon at Trinity Presbyterian Church for a "Christmas Tea". Each person was to have signed up for items to bring. Betty will send a note to everyone reminding you of your commitment sometime this week. Betty has a **request** for electric tea kettles for the tea, we had a couple last year, and they are so much faster and easier. **Remember** to bring money for the Food Pantry here in Columbia. Also, bring a \$5 gift for exchange for a member drawing, if you wish to participate.



"Star of Bethlehem"

Ornithogolum umbellatum

Star of Bethlehem is a bulb, best planted in the fall. Flowers emerge in early spring and bloom for weeks. Foliage disappears in the summer. Sometimes these can become invasive if not divided often.

Russell Boulevard School Garden Project

CGC Members are still needed to join the Russell Blvd. School Garden committee. The committee is working with a group at the school on the revamping of the school garden area at Russell. The school garden was established many years ago with native plants. Over time it has become overgrown and is in need of redoing. The committee is working to establish updated gardens to the area. Contact Elaine Keely if interested in joining the group.

December Gardening Calendar

Outdoor Flowering Plants and Ornamentals

- Finish planting spring flowering bulbs that did not get planted last month!
- Be sure the root zones of azaleas and rhododendrons are thoroughly mulched. Any organic material will do but mulches made from oak leaves, shredded oak bark, or pine needles are preferred.
- Hollies may be trimmed now and the pruning used in holiday decorations.
- If stored summer bulbs start to shrivel, they are too dry. Place them in a container with potting soil, peat moss, or sawdust to stop the loss of water.
- Mulch perennial borders after ground freezes to a depth of 2 to 3 inches.
- Check dahlia tubers and gladiolus corms in storage. If they are sprouting, place them in a cooler spot. Moldy or damaged roots must be removed and discarded. Molding indicates over-moist conditions.
- Keep an eye out for vole and mole damage in flower beds.

Indoor Plants

- Lining shelves or window sills with aluminum foil reflects light and provides extra light for house plants.
- On cold nights, move houseplants back from windows to prevent cold injury.
- Overwintering geraniums like bright light and cool temperatures. Keep soils on the dry side.
- Water houseplants with tepid water. Cold tap water may shock plants.

Vegetable Gardening

- Save cylinders from holiday wrapping paper for making biodegradable cutworm collars. Cut cylinders into 3-inch tubes to fit over transplants.
- Reflect on last season's vegetable garden and start thinking about what you would like to change for next year. Make sure to write it down.
- Consider constructing a low tunnel, cold frame or hot bed to grow salad greens during the cold months.

Fruits and Nuts

- Leave a bare circle, one foot wide, around fruit

tree trunks when spreading mulch so the mice won't nest there.

- Wrap the trunks of fruit trees to prevent rabbit damage.
- Do not forget to mulch the strawberries with a layer of straw to prevent winter damage to the crowns and prevent soil heaving. Straw should be sifted loosely over the plants, just enough to cover them from view.

Miscellaneous

- Do filling and grading around the yard. The loose soil will settle during the cold months

COLUMBIA GARDEN CLUB November 18, 2019 Minutes

The Columbia Garden Club convened on November 18th at McAdams' LTD for the dedication of the Betty Gladney Memorial Bench. Twenty five club members were joined by fifteen family members, friends and neighbors of Betty. Refreshments were available provided by Connie Blackmore, Leigh Speichinger, Kay Kerns, and McAdams' LTD.

Club members then went to Trinity Church where President Carolyn Oates called the meeting to order. President Oates extended a welcome to guests and new member Anna Odell.

The inspiration message was given by Diane Cooksey.

Horticultural tip: spray decorative greens with Wilt Proof[®] to keep them fresh during the holiday season.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's report showed a bank balance of \$9,331.46. Copies of the 2020 proposed budget were distributed. After members had time to read the budget and ask questions the budget was approved on a motion by Marie Pasley with a second by Alice Havard. Unanimously approved.

Betty Connelly introduced Melissa Kouba who presented an overview of a new club project that

they are developing with Russell School. This project involves working with the students and teachers in their outdoor classroom (gardens). Requirements are that we work within the approved school curriculum. An Award for money (up to \$300.00) to help fund this project is available from the Missouri State Garden Club if we apply for it.

A Chair for the Garden Tour is needed. Donna Russell has agreed to do the maps and booklet.

The December meeting will be a tea, note the new time: 12:00 noon. New officers will also be installed at this meeting.

There being no other business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted; Secretary Lynda Blades

