



## A Note from The President

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The sun is shining, the snow is shining, and 2014 will be another year for Columbia Garden Club to shine. Club programs and projects will help us meet the state garden club requirements for a purple ribbon club, and as members we can meet our personal goals for education and service. Roll up your sleeves, grab your gloves, and let's get started!

Our officers for 2012-2013, led by Carolyn and Karen as Co-Presidents, Barb and Connie as Vice Presidents, Marie as Secretary and Evette as Treasurer, were always on duty - well done, ladies, and thank you.

Our January 13 meeting will start at 1 pm, and will feature a program on water gardens. This is a new topic for us, and a little research beforehand might lead to thoughts about gardening in a small garden pool or a container on the deck. Also on the agenda are the 2014 yearbooks - thanks, Karen. Everyone, be sure to take yours home. And if it snows, remember that when the Columbia schools are closed, we will not meet. See you soon!

Alice



## January Meeting Program

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The next CGC meeting will be January 13th at 1:00. The program topic will be Water Gardens and Water Features presented by Larry Arrowood.

Larry Arrowood was founder and president of the Saline County Water Garden Club during the 12 years that they met. He is now president of Friends of Jim (the wonder dog).

He has a video and will talk about why water gardening is different from regular flower gardening, different types of water features, how to get started with water gardening, what you need to build your own water garden how to add fish and plants to the water garden, and care of the water garden in all seasons.

## December Minutes

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### **Columbia Garden Club 12-9-2013 Meeting Minutes**

28 Members, 4 guests Jean Roselle (new member), Margaret Aimone, Katie and Sylvia Graznak enjoyed a delicious carry-in luncheon. Members also brought canned food for the Central Food Pantry.

**Called to order-** Carolyn Doyle, co-president called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

**Meeting minutes** from November were approved with the correction of Sylvia Graznak's name from Sophia.

**Treasurer's report** was approved and filed for audit with no corrections or questions.

### **Old Business**

**Flower Show** photos were displayed and offered to anyone wanting to take them.

**Scholarship-**Sayde Heckman won the CGC Scholarship for 2013. She is a student with UMC.

### **New Business**

**Award-** Karen Blackmore, co-president announced that the Children's Garden at the hospital had won 1<sup>st</sup> place in Central Region with a certificate and \$25. It was also submitted to FGCM for an award, which will be awarded in the spring of 2014.

Karen recognized all CGC members of 20 or more year standing with a corsage. Liz Kucera has been a member since 1955, along with Kathie Shreves. Barb Schuette moved to add all of the 20 year or more members to the FGCM Honor Book at \$10 each. Gayle Fry second, the motion carried unanimously. Seven members will be added to the honor book. Jane Sadler, Liz Kucera, Lynn Birkby, Carolyn Doyle, Marty Buell, Betty Gladney, and Kathie Shreves.

Karen also recognized and thanked the 2013 committee chairs with an ornament.

Karen Blackmore and Carolyn Doyle, were honored with thank you gifts, as well as having their names added to the FGCM Honor Book for their work as CGC co-presidents these past two years. The Honor Book money goes toward the FGCM scholarship fund.

Karen Blackmore, FGCM Second VP installed the 2014-2015 officers of CGC. They are: Alice Havard, President 2014; Marie Pasley, President 2015; Marsha Taylor, 1<sup>st</sup> VP; Rita Gerke, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP; Connie Blackmore, Secretary; Leigh Speichinger, Treasurer.

Members ended the meeting by exchanging gifts for the Christmas exchange.

### **Announcements**

**The Blooming Bus Tour** to Michigan still has openings, contact Karen Blackmore

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm

Submitted by secretary, Marie Pasley

# December Treasurer's Report

## Columbia Garden Club Treasurer's Report December 31, 2013

Beginning Balance Checking		\$4,411.95
Deposits		
Membership	\$60.00	
Children's Garden Award	\$25.00	
Vintage Hill-Advertising	\$75.00	
Alice Havard-Tree Group&Calendars	\$72.00	
Total Deposits		\$232.00
Expenses		
Ck#1902 – Alice Havard-Flower Show and Honor Book for Karen and Carolyn	\$119.72	
Ck#1903 – Trinity Pres. Church-Dec. Rent	\$25.00	
Ck#1904 – Columbia Public Library-Garden Book	\$40.00	
Ck#1905 – FGCM-Honor Book for 20+ year members 7 members @10.00	\$70.00	
Total Expenses		(-\$254.72)
Ending Balance Checking		\$4,389.23
Certificate of Deposit Balance-9-4-2013		\$3,206.99
Total Assets		\$7,596.22

### Recipes for Preservative Solutions for Forcing Branches (see page 5)

#### Recipe 1

2 cups lemon-lime carbonated beverage  
2 cups water  
1/2 teaspoon household chlorine bleach

#### Recipe 2

2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice  
1 tablespoon sugar  
1/2 teaspoon household chlorine bleach  
Mix with 1 quart water

#### Recipe 3

2 tablespoons white vinegar  
2 tablespoons sugar  
1/2 teaspoon household chlorine bleach  
Mix with 1 quart water

## *New Year Greetings*

As the New Year opens before us, I wish a fulfilling and blessed  
2014 for each of you.

As NGC President, I send to each of you  
appreciation for the many hours you  
so willingly devote to the National Garden Club's  
goals and objectives.

Your choice to share your time, energy and talents  
toward **MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE** will bring a blessing to  
our communities as we demonstrate and teach others our

**Choices Matter.**

*Let us See clearly the path we should take*

*Let us have the Courage to follow that path*

*May we find Joy in all we do*

*Love, Linda J Nelson*

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Here are some of the flowering shrubs you can force. (see page 5).

Forsythia—2 weeks to bloom-Cut after January 1

Flowering Almond-3 weeks to bloom-Best cut in March

Lilac-4 weeks to bloom-Best cut in March

Pussy Willow-2 weeks to force-Cut after January 1

## 2014 Perennial Plant of the Year

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*Panicum virgatum* 'Northwind' has been selected as the 2014 Perennial Plant of the Year. 'Northwind' is a tall ornamental switch grass cultivar. Olive-green to bluish-green foliage forms a compact, narrow, erect, 4-5' tall clump of foliage which is topped in late summer by finely-textured, yellow flower panicles. Panicles turn beige as the seeds mature in fall with the seed plumes persisting well into winter. Foliage turns yellow-beige in fall and provides good winter interest. This grass grows in full sun to part shade. It likes medium to wet soil so it would work well in a rain garden. It is best planted in masses or groups,

Information from Missouri Botanical Garden website.

## Force Branches for Winter Color

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Ready for Spring? We have a few weeks to go, but you can bring a little spring inside by pruning some of your flowering shrubs and bringing the branches indoors to bloom. Choose branches with a lot of flower buds. The flower buds are larger and fatter than leaf buds. Cut the branches 6-18 inches long. When you bring the branches indoors, make a second cut on a slant just above the previous cut. If temperatures are below freezing, you will need to soak the branches full length in cool water for several hours or overnight. This keeps the buds from bursting prematurely.

Next, put the branches in a vase. Add warm water (110 degrees) no higher than 3 inches on the stems. A flower preservative will help prolong the vase life of the branches. Allow to stand for 20-30 minutes, then fill the container with additional preservative solution. Keep the container in a cool partially shaded location. Add water as needed.

When the buds show color, move the branches to a lighted room, but don't put them in direct sunlight.

These branches may root during the forcing period. To start a new plant, remove the branch from the water when the roots are 1/4-3/8 inches long. All branches should be trimmed to a length of approximately 6-8 inches. Then put in a pot and keep moist until permanent roots are formed. The new plant can be planted outdoors when warm weather arrives.

Go to <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/ho-23.pdf> for a complete list of shrubs that work best for forcing and the time to force.



## 'Green Ball' Dianthus—Great flower for arrangements

Scientific Name : *Dianthus barbatus*  
Hardiness Degree : 10°F (-12.2°C)  
Blooming Season : Late Spring, Summer  
Plant Habit : Mounded  
Spacing : 8 - 10" (20 - 25cm)  
Height : 10 - 14" (25 - 36cm)  
Width : 8 - 12" (20 - 30cm)  
Exposure : Sun  
From: Ball Seed



## Penstemon 'Arabesque™ Red'

Another AAS Winner for the pollinator garden that the hummingbirds will love! Plus, the first ever penstemon to become an AAS Winner in more than eighty years of trialing. This beauty is a season-long repeat bloomer with large tubular blooms almost one inch across on strong vigorous stems. 'Arabesque Red' is best started indoors then transplanted for a longer bloom time. Great for combination containers and can be used as an annual or as a perennial for gardens in zones 6-9.

Plant Penstemon 'Arabesque Red' F1 in a full sun location with well drained soil. Water once weekly or as needed. Fertilize with either a controlled timed release or a general purpose liquid fertilizer monthly through the growing season. Remove dead flowers to encourage continuous blooming.

From:ngb.org



## Bean Mascotte 2014 AAS Vegetable Award Winner

The first AAS winning bean since 1991, this compact variety is perfect for today's small-space gardens. Mascotte is a bush type bean that produces long, slender pods that stay above the foliage for easy harvest. This bean also has white showy flowers for ornamental value during bloom time. Judges appreciated the crunchiness and taste of this bean as well as the plentiful harvest all season long. The Mascotte root system is ideal for patio containers and window boxes, and this versatile variety performs well in garden beds too. That means you can raise delicious beans in any outside space.

### How to Grow

Sow 4 x 3-4 seeds per window box, first sowing mid-May when the soil is warm enough, then every 2 weeks until July. In the garden, sow seeds every 2-3" in rows 12" apart.

From: AAS website

## Hospitality January Meeting

Lynn Birkby  
Karen Blackmore  
Marie Pasley



Columbia Garden Club

President: Alice Havard

1st VP: Marsha Taylor

2nd VP: Rita Gerke

Secretary: Connie Blackmore

Treasurer: Leigh Speichinger

Parliamentarian: Carole VanVranken

Newsletter Editor: Evette Nissen  
enissen57@gmail.com

Meetings take place at Trinity Presby-  
terian Church, 1600 West Rollins Road.  
Columbia, MO

## Thanks to our Advertiser

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