

The Columbia Underground

Newsletter from the Columbia Garden Club
A century club, established in 1919
Member of National Garden Club
Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri
Central District

July, 2022

Editor: Melissa Kouba



Calendar

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Year-long native garden calendar:

<https://grownative.org/learn/native-landscape-care-calendar/>

July:

2- Night Sky Stories: 8:30-10:30 at Thousand Hills State Park

11 - CGC monthly meeting at 1:00pm 1600 Rollins Road

14 - Civilian Conservation Corps walking tour at Bennett Spring State Park

August:

9-14 - Boone County Fair

11-21 - Missouri State Fair

September

23-25 : Old Time Harvest Days, Chillicothe, MO

24: Prairie Jubilee at Prairie State Park

October

1 - Flower show at DBRL theme of "Nature's Splendor"

Membership form

If you are interested in joining Columbia Garden Club, complete the information below and mail it to:

Carolyn Oates, 6302 S. Old Village Road, Columbia, MO, 65203. Include a \$25 check payable to "Columbia Garden Club."

Name: _____

Preferred phone: (circle) cell or home _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

___I approve of the above information being printed in the annual club yearbook.

For questions about membership, feel free to contact Linda Antal at 573-819-4502 or lga4588@yahoo.com

Notes from President Betty:



Hello everyone,

I hope you are having a nice summer. I complain about the hot, hot, hot days, but they are almost worth it to get to days like Tuesday (6/28) morning. It was such a cool morning, I almost changed out of my shorts to work in the yard.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Garden Tour. I heard it was a hot day, but a little rain helped a bit. I got to see some of the gardens when I delivered signs on Friday morning, and everyone had put a lot of effort into their yards so I hope you enjoyed seeing how diverse gardens can be, yet all are wonderful in some way.

Thank you to Kay, Amanda, Karen, Rebecca and Cory for opening your gardens to us.

July 11 is the next meeting which will be a design workshop. We'll have a business meeting first, then we have lots of time for the workshop. It will be lots of fun. Even if you don't think you are a "designer," it's fun to mess around with foliage and flowers. If you have a container you would like to try to use, bring it, but if you don't have one don't worry, we have some florist containers that you can use. We'll be showing some of the designs that are in our Flower Show in Oct. We'll have show schedules for everyone.

If you have any flowers or foliage that could be used, please bring them in water to share.

I hope to see all of you there!

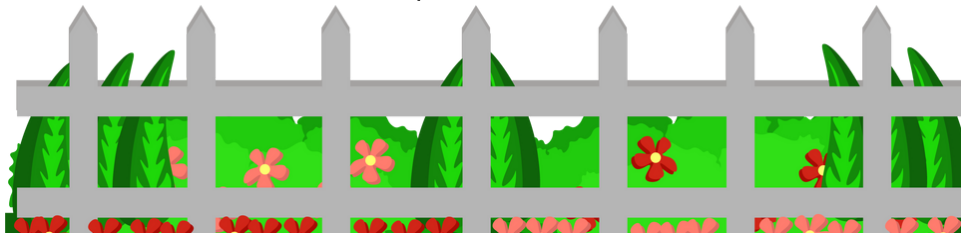
Betty



June Member garden tour:



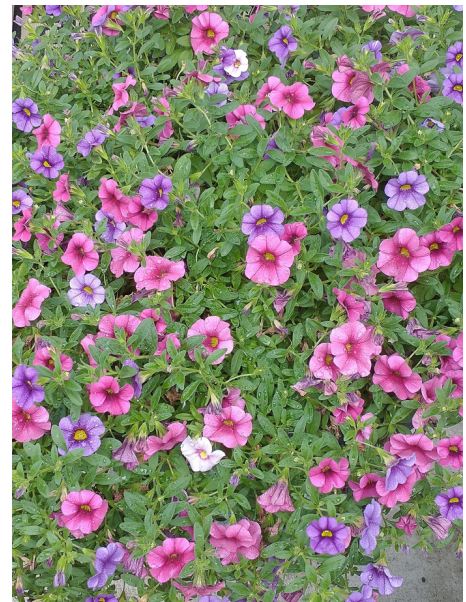
Over 30 members and several guests were able to attend the Yard Tours this year. Even though the weather was predicted to be extremely hot, Mother Nature cooperated for most of the morning. It was overcast with a light breeze at times and a few sprinkles served to cool the morning off a bit too!



Kay Kern's Yard:



Kay and her husband have been in their current home since 2008. She is in the process of introducing as many natives as possible and growing a lot of milkweed to support Monarch butterflies.



June Member garden tour, cont.:

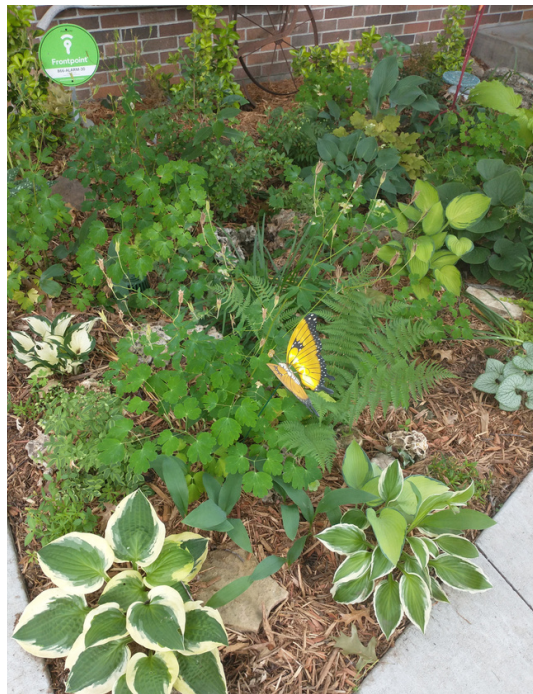
Karen Blackmore's Yard:

Karen moved into her virtually treeless lot 25 years ago. She has added every plant and tree (with the exception of 5) to her beautiful, continually evolving yard. Her current approach of putting plants hodge-podge throughout the yard results in something always being in bloom



Amanda Schoenfeld's yard:

Amanda's yard contained very few flowers when she moved there in 1993. Two great pin oaks shade most of the front yard, providing an ideal location for her beautiful shade-loving plants. Amanda even provided photos throughout the garden to demonstrate how each bed appears when in full bloom!



June Member garden tour, cont.:



Rebecca Smith's yard:

Rebecca transformed piles of dirt from foundation work into her first beautiful garden. Now there are gardens throughout her yard with several spherical sculptures and yard art features. She collected many large rocks from her travels and placed them throughout her yard. A Little Free Library also adorns the front yard.



Cory Gillispie's Yard:

Cory is Rebecca Smith's neighbor and the newest member of our club. Several years ago Cory and Rebecca began "sharing the gardens in their front yards. Cory's yard contains all natives and is a Certified CoMo Wild Yards participant.





June business meeting:

The Columbia Garden Club met for the Annual Garden Tours on June 13, 2022 with 23 members attending along with five guests. The five club members hosting gardens were: Kay Kern, Karen Blackmore, Amanda Schoenfeld, Rebecca Smith, and Cory Gillispie. CGC members were divided into groups and started the tours at 8:30 a.m. visiting each garden of beautiful flowers, decorations, foliage, and landscaping. Afterwards members met at the garden of Karen Blackmore bringing their own picnic lunch for our business meeting.

Business Meeting: At 12:15 p.m. Linda Antal called the meeting to order and welcomed guests. June birthdays were recognized—Elaine Keely and Gayle Fry.

New member Cory Gillispie was announced (not in attendance).

New business:

- Karen Blackmore shared three children's gardening books that will be donated to the Daniel Boone Regional Library.
- Karen also discussed the national contest for Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl; a variety of information is available.
- Karen is also on the Board of Directors for the Mizzou Botanic Gardens. She indicated a need for new members. Members can serve as tour guides, helping with projects, fundraising, communications, and diversity. The Summer 2022 issue of THE garden forum page 15 has an article on the Mizzou Botanic Garden and how to become a Friend with a donation of \$25.
- The club discussed taking a look at worthwhile projects to spend some of our club's funds. Some ideas were: The Nature School, establishing a garden at the current Ronald McDonald house which would then belong to St. Raymonds Society in January 2023, Marie discovered a fundraising account set up for low income seniors to purchase produce at the Farmer's Market. This option requires further investigation.
- Rita Gerke announced the winner of the CGC \$500 scholarship. Abigail Robinson, a junior at MU in the Plant Science Division.

New business:

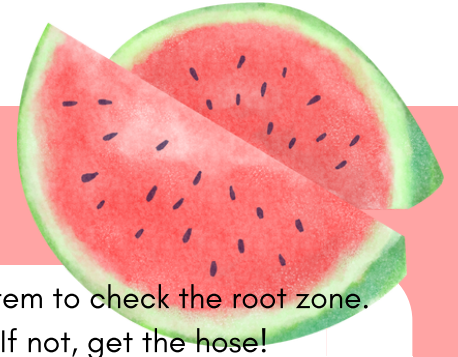
The July 11 meeting will be a design workshop to encourage members to participate in the Fall flower show. Members should bring flowers that are conditioned ahead of time—cut and watered. Foliage items can also be brought—leaves and tree branches. Members also need to bring containers and frog holders (needle holders). A schedule will be ready for the Flower Show so members can be planning for an entry. All entries must be in clear glass bottles in proportion to the size of the plant displayed. Houseplants in any container may also be entered.

Meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nesladek

Summertime watering hints:

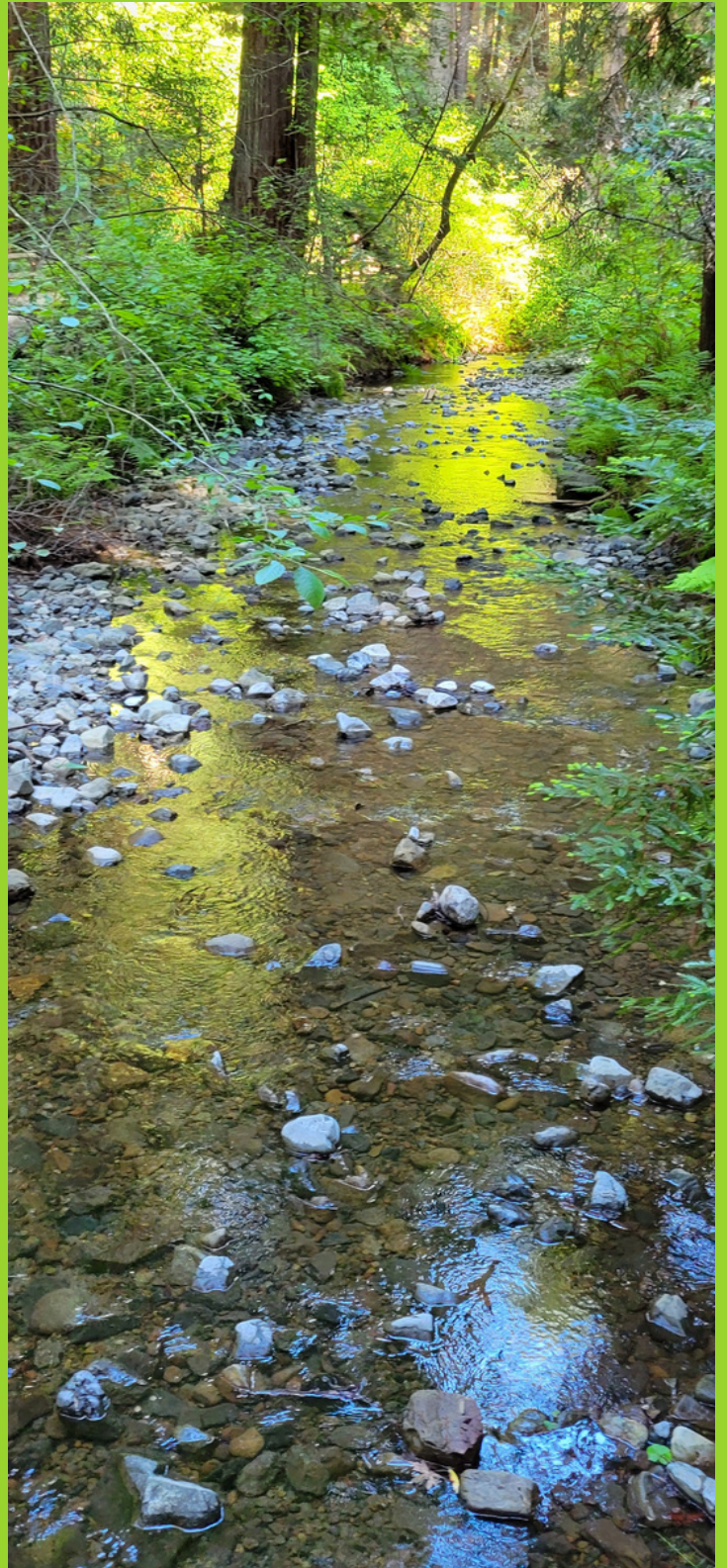


1. Test the soil with your finger. Poke down a few inches near the stem to check the root zone. Even if the surface seems dry, there may still be moisture below. If not, get the hose!
2. Watering in the morning is best. This will allow the water to soak in before it evaporates from heat and dry wind, allows the leaves time to dry out if they get splashed, and plants will have the moisture to draw from during the heat of the day. Late afternoon is second best, just be sure the foliage will dry out before nighttime. Avoid watering in the heat of the day because water will evaporate much faster and any overspray on the leaves can cause them to burn.
3. Water at the base of the plant with a watering wand, long-neck watering can, soaker hose, or drip system. Avoid getting the leaves, fruits, or vegetables wet to help prevent diseases that thrive on moisture, like powdery mildew.
4. Wind dries out plants quickly from moisture lost through the foliage—the larger the leaves, the more moisture lost.
5. Fruits and vegetables need consistent water to produce well. Don't let them go completely dry before watering them again because this can cause problems like blossom end rot or cracked tomatoes.
6. Containers dry out much faster than the ground and will need more frequent watering, especially if they are placed in full sun or exposed to wind.
7. Apply a 2- to 3-inch layer of organic mulch, such as bark, pine needles, or shredded leaves. This will help hold moisture in the soil.
8. If water puddles on top of the soil, apply a small amount to soften the surface. Come back a few minutes later and add more to make sure it soaks in thoroughly.
9. Brown leaf edges and/or yellow leaves can signal over-watering. Make sure you're checking before adding more.
10. Plants benefit much more from a slow and deep watering than a quick splash. Make sure you're watering deep enough to reach the root ball.
11. If summer vacation is going to keep you away for more than a day or two, setting up an automatic timer will be well worth the effort. Also consider using self-watering pots for your container plants to cut down on daily watering chores.
12. Recycle plastic bottles as a deep watering system. Poke holes in the bottle and bury next to plants with the top opening exposed. Add water to the bottle through the top and the water will leach out deeper into the soil.

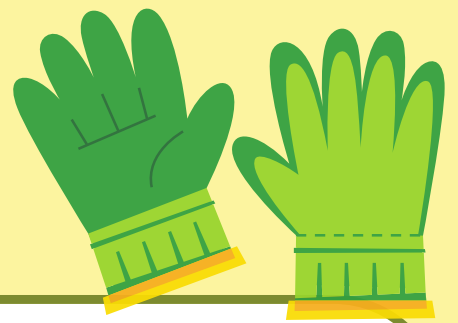


A Park vacation:

Muir Woods



Member spotlight:



New Member:

Cory Gillispie
1017 Crestland Ave., Columbia, MO 65203
573-529-1406
gillispiec123@gmail.com

Editor Note:

Your editor was in San Francisco last month for a family funeral, but cousins took me to Muir Woods and to an olive grove for an olive oil tasting session. We had quite a trip. We came through a snow storm on the train in Colorado. It was like going through a fairy land. This picture was taken May 20!

My California cousin lost her beautiful lavender fields in the fires last season. Lavendar is full of essential oils and therefore is very flammable. A very sad event. She did however have grapes to harvest last fall.

Unfortunately, her vintner is so expert at blending grapes, that she cannot afford to share the wine they make! \$185 per bottle! wow!

It is vacation season.....Please consider sharing your photos from summer trips. Or photos from gardens around the country/world? Or photos from National and state parks?

Please send them to me for inclusion in a newsletter!

