

# COLUMBIA UNDERGROUND



## NEWS OF THE COLUMBIA GARDEN CLUB

February 1, 2008

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Central District President Marie Pasley installs 2008 Officers: Treasurer Karen Blackmore, Secretary Virginia Itschner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Art Schneider, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Emily Bonwich and President Linda Lowenberg, at the Jan. meeting

Calendar of Events: (regular meetings in bold & underlined)

**Feb. 11, 1 pm: "Wow! I touched the Earth Too Much"**

**March 10, 1 pm: "Beyond the Ordinary Plant"**

March 7-9: *Art in Bloom*

**April 14, 1 pm: "Mini Gardens Near and Beyond"**

April 11-13: Flower Show School I-Kirkwood, Mo

April 12: Clean Up Columbia Day

April 16: Central District Spring Mtg.-Laurie, Mo

April 26: CGC Plant and Bake Sale and Garden Bazaar

April 24-28: NGC Convention-Memphis Tenn.

May 6-8: FGCM 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention, JC, Mo

May 10: Mother's day Blooming Basket Sale farmer's market

**May 12, 1 pm: "A Touch of the Earth's Beauty"**

June 1-7: National Garden Week

June 7: CGC Flower Show-Columbia Public Library

**June 9, 8:30 a.m.: Garden Tour: "Beyond Our Garden Gates"**

August 7-17: Missouri State Fair (August 13<sup>th</sup> –Federation Day)

August 22=24: Flower Show School II

**Sept. 15, noon: Annual Covered Dish Luncheon**

**"Natural Wonder beyond the Gate"**

Oct. 9: Central District Fall Meeting, Booneville



Jan Weaver, PhD., Director of Environmental Studies program at MU presented a program, "Pollinators in Our Gardens" at the January meeting. We learned a lot about the effects of pesticides on our pollinators as well as what is happening to the honey bee and colony collapse.

Dr. Weaver needs natural items to use for the children's crafts on Earth Day. If you have seed pods, acorns, anything ornamental that a child would be able to make something out of, please call her at 573 874 0171 and she will pick them up or make arrangements to get them from you.

TBA: Central District Bus Tour

**Oct.13, 1 pm: "Tread Lightly on the Earth"**

Oct. 14-16: Landscape Design School IV, St Louis

**Nov. 10, 1 pm: "Beyond the Bird Feeder" N**

Nov. 13, 14: FGCM Fall Board Meeting-TBA

**Dec. 8, noon: Holiday Tea**



### Jr. Garden Club

Columbia Garden Club is sponsoring a Jr. Garden Club at Russell Blvd. Elementary School. It will be the same day as our garden club meeting, starting at 4 p.m. lasting until 5 p.m. Linda Lowenberg and Marie Pasley are chairing this but would appreciate having assistance from other club members. Marie will be out of town for the March meeting, so Linda will need help. Please contact her regarding this new, fun project.

### 75th FGCM Anniversary Celebration

Register to attend the FGCM State Convention May 6 to 8. The event will start with a tour of the Governor's Mansion and Tea (bring your hat), continues with great programs and memory exhibits. Central District is being asked to hostess on "as needed basis" during the convention. So sign up to hostess and meet other state garden clubbers!

**Food Bank---It was decided at the January meeting that we would bring food for the food bank to the February meeting since the December meeting had to be canceled. So, bring food!**



Meet new member Kay Egbert. She and her husband Chris have 4 kids, 3 grandkids and Shotzy. Before retiring last year, Kay was a medical transcriptionist for Missouri Heart Center. She and Chris enjoy traveling and expect to do more of that once Chris retires. Meanwhile, I will see more of Kay in the yard this summer as she and I work in our flowers! She has a new iris bed that we are anxious to see in bloom and it is on the side of her house next to mine! Oh yeah! Welcome Kay! We are so glad to have you join us! Hook Chris up with us when he retires!

Barbara May, NGC President, is calling for a concerted effort this year for all garden clubs, schools, community organizations, individuals to raise funds for the **Penny Pines program**. Due to mega forest fires on both coasts this past year additional funds are sorely needed to reforest these areas. The NGC requests that donations be made in multiples of \$68.00. This was the initial costs of planting one acre when the program was first started in 1941. Complete information and donation forms are available on the NGC web site at [www.gardenclub.org](http://www.gardenclub.org). or mail to me. Betty Lillard, Penny Pines State Chairman, 29555 Hwy Z, La Grange, Mo.

**When to Prune:** The dormant season, late fall or winter, is the best time to prune although dead branches can and should be removed at any time. Pruning during the dormant period minimizes sap loss and subsequent stress to the tree. It also minimizes the risk of fungus infection or insect infestation as both fungi and insects are likely to be in dormancy at the same time as the tree. Finally, in the case of deciduous trees, pruning when the leaves are off will give you a better idea of how your pruning will affect the shape of the tree. When deciding how much to prune a tree, as little as possible is often the best rule of thumb. All prunes place stress on a tree and increase its vulnerability to disease and insects. On no account, prune more than 25% of the crown and ensure that living branches compose at least 2/3 of the height of the tree. Pruning more risks fatally damaging your tree. In some cases, storm damage, height reduction to avoid crowding utility lines or even raising the crown to meet municipal bylaws, your pruning choices are made for you. But even in these instances, prune as little as you can get away with.

**A big welcome to Evette Nissen and Barbara Schutte who joined in January!**

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. following a program presented by Jan Weaver on "Pollinator's in Our Gardens". Roll Call was taken with members giving the name of a pollinator or naming something they would do to attract pollinators to their gardens. Thirty-two members and one guest, Evette Nissen, were present.

Installation of Officers for 2008 was conducted by Marie Pasley prior to the business meeting.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer Karen Blackmore reported a balance of \$1,578.39 in the checking account and a C. D. balance of \$2,832.99 for total assets of \$4,411.38.

President Linda Lowenberg read correspondence from the Columbia Public Schools. A Christmas card was received from CPS and the Board of Education and a notice about Partners in Education Week scheduled for May 1-9 from School/Community Programs & Communications.

**Committee Reports were as follows: Wyatt House & Columbia Public Library Floral**

**Arrangements** - Lynn Birkby reported that we will continue to provide 13 arrangements at the library and 13 arrangements at Wyatt House. This is a change from weekly arrangements at Wyatt House. Sign-up sheets were passed for members to choose dates they would take arrangements. **Conservation** - Janet Lasley reminded members that forms are available to complete if they maintain a butterfly garden or a bird sanctuary. The club receives credit for these conservation practices. **Garden Tours** - Betty Gladney announced that she has five gardens to tour in June and that Lucille Wayland has rejoined the club and will have her garden on the tour. **Publicity and Web Site** - Julie Fisher informed members that on the web site each month there is an educational article and a copy of the newsletter. Club minutes and member names and addresses are not provided to protect our privacy. **Junior Garden Club** - Marie Pasley said she and Linda Lowenberg would like to have volunteers to help them with the club. It meets at Russell Blvd. School following our monthly meeting from 4 to 5 p.m. The plan is to have one of the chairmen and a volunteer at each meeting. Today they will talk about seeds. **Hospitality** - Members signed up to bring refreshments one time through the club year.

**New Business:** The Budget for 2008 was presented by Karen Blackmore. Past Treasurer Alice Havard explained how the budget differed from last year's budget. Alice moved that the budget be accepted. Mary Jane Wheeling seconded the motion and it was approved.

Judy Stephens moved that club members bring items for the Food Bank to the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting. Carolyn Doyle seconded the motion and it was approved.

Mary Jane Wheeling gave information about Art in Bloom which will be held at the Art and Archaeology Building on the U. of M. campus, March 7 - 9. Marie Pasley will present a program "Designing a Garden" at 11 a.m. on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mary Jane and Carolyn Doyle will pick a piece of art and interpret it through a flower arrangement they construct.

**Announcements:** Art Schneider celebrated his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday recently. Betty Gladney brought an article about the Wright Brothers business/renovation which will be "green" and will have plants in wooden cartons on the roof. Program chairwoman Emily Bonwich will look into the possibility of touring the building once the renovation is complete. Jane Sadler thanked Karen for bringing zinnias and left-over food from the September meeting to them when she and Ken were not feeling their best. A card for Nola Smith, who broke her hip, was signed by members. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Virginia Itschner, Secretary



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