

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



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Calendar

Year-long native garden calendar:

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

January 9: 1 p.m. **CGC meeting** will be held at Songbird Station

January 11 and 28: 6-8 p.m. "Community Thread" Embroidery Workshop Columbia Public Library - Friends Room

January 16: 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Columbia Public Library (Friends room) Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Volunteer Fair, Find Your Perfect Volunteer Experience!

January 18: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Join us online for a presentation from conservation biologist Katie Lamke to learn about the Missouri Bumble Bee Atlas, register at: https://dbrl-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Lzmog6EZQnqznJikTB2VGw

February 5: Discovery Garden Club's Winter Garden Forum at Daniel Boone Regional Library.. With John Graham, Callaway Fields, "Shrubs for All Seasons" and "Saxton Brown, Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture, "Small-space gardens"

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: _____

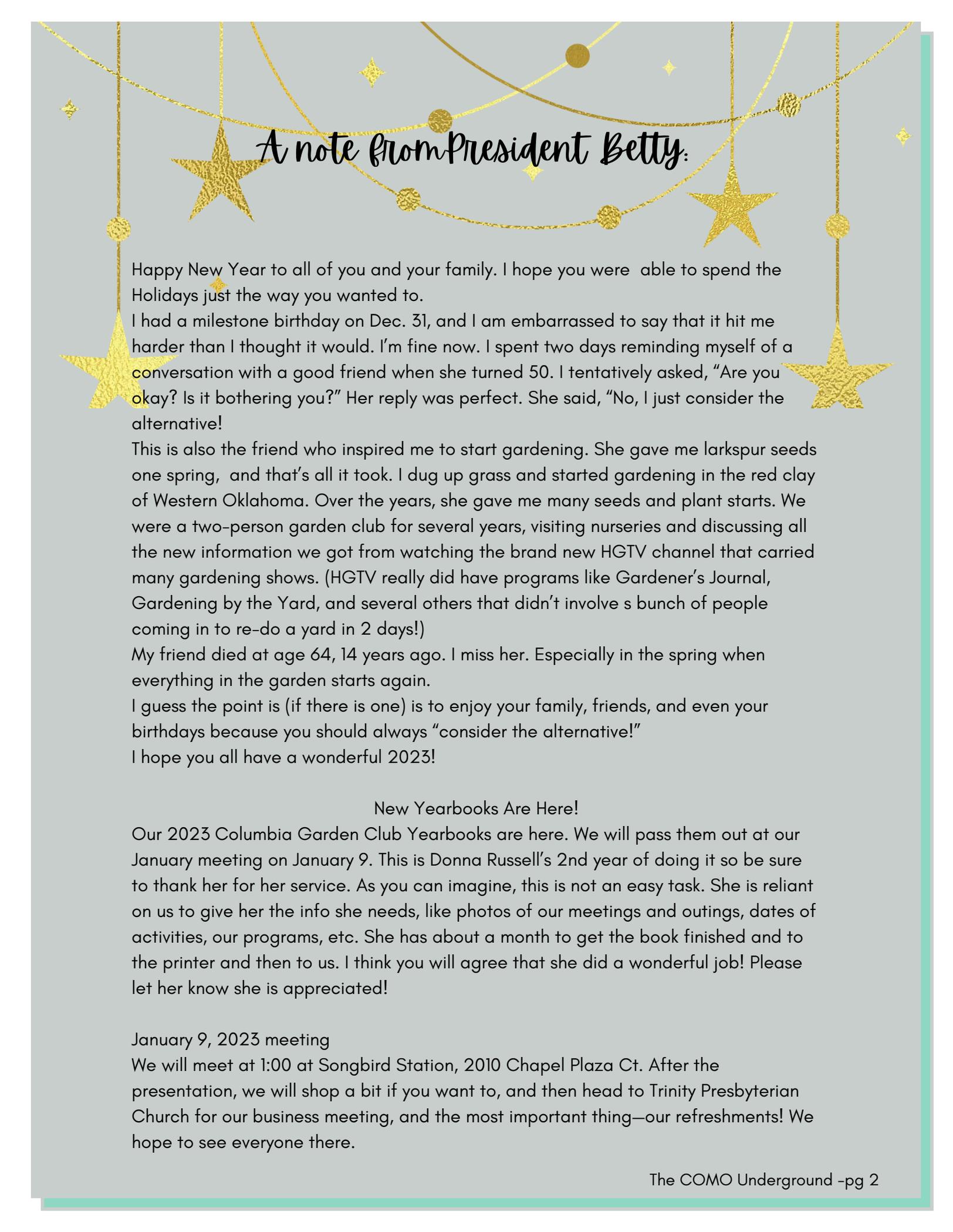
Preferred phone: (circle) cell or home _____

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



A note from President Betty:

Happy New Year to all of you and your family. I hope you were able to spend the Holidays just the way you wanted to.

I had a milestone birthday on Dec. 31, and I am embarrassed to say that it hit me harder than I thought it would. I'm fine now. I spent two days reminding myself of a conversation with a good friend when she turned 50. I tentatively asked, "Are you okay? Is it bothering you?" Her reply was perfect. She said, "No, I just consider the alternative!"

This is also the friend who inspired me to start gardening. She gave me larkspur seeds one spring, and that's all it took. I dug up grass and started gardening in the red clay of Western Oklahoma. Over the years, she gave me many seeds and plant starts. We were a two-person garden club for several years, visiting nurseries and discussing all the new information we got from watching the brand new HGTV channel that carried many gardening shows. (HGTV really did have programs like Gardener's Journal, Gardening by the Yard, and several others that didn't involve a bunch of people coming in to re-do a yard in 2 days!)

My friend died at age 64, 14 years ago. I miss her. Especially in the spring when everything in the garden starts again.

I guess the point is (if there is one) is to enjoy your family, friends, and even your birthdays because you should always "consider the alternative!"

I hope you all have a wonderful 2023!

New Yearbooks Are Here!

Our 2023 Columbia Garden Club Yearbooks are here. We will pass them out at our January meeting on January 9. This is Donna Russell's 2nd year of doing it so be sure to thank her for her service. As you can imagine, this is not an easy task. She is reliant on us to give her the info she needs, like photos of our meetings and outings, dates of activities, our programs, etc. She has about a month to get the book finished and to the printer and then to us. I think you will agree that she did a wonderful job! Please let her know she is appreciated!

January 9, 2023 meeting

We will meet at 1:00 at Songbird Station, 2010 Chapel Plaza Ct. After the presentation, we will shop a bit if you want to, and then head to Trinity Presbyterian Church for our business meeting, and the most important thing—our refreshments! We hope to see everyone there.

December CGC meeting

The Columbia Garden Club had a Christmas home tour on December 12, 2022 starting at 1 p.m.

Four groups of 27 members and two guests toured the homes of members Karen Blackmore, Carolyn Doyle, Diana Cooksey, Mary Nesladek, and Christopher Nesladek. Homes were beautifully decorated for Christmas.



Members ended the tour by going to Diana Cooksey's home for a short business meeting conducted by Betty Connelly and to enjoy refreshments. Diana was thanked for organizing the home tour and hosting the meeting at her home. Karen Battjes was welcomed as a new member. Mary Nesladek gave the inspiration: "The lesson I have thoroughly learnt, and wish to pass on to others, is to know the enduring happiness that the love of a garden gives" by Gertrude Jekyll. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed. Carolyn Oates gave the treasurer's report stating our balance is \$13,336.57. A collection was taken up for the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri; we collected \$115. Carolyn Oates will get this money to them. Barb Rothenberger is hoping to have an activity with residents of The Bluffs in February. We had to cancel the December 8 activity due to Covid at the facility. Alice Havard reported that poinsettias were placed in one home to decorate for the Symphony League for their December home tour. The yearbook for 2023 is being printed and will be available at the January meeting. The January 9 meeting will be held at Songbird Station at 2010 Chapel Plaza Court at 1 p.m.

Betty suggested that we have an "ask the experts" question at future meetings. Members can ask questions about plants, pests, soil problems, tools etc. Write down your questions and bring them to a meeting. We have many "experts" in our club that could probably help with the problems. The meeting ended with those members wishing to participate in a cookie exchange

Respectfully submitted

Mary Nesladek



From XPlor Magazine, Missouri Department of Conservation: January 2023

Fun things to do and great places to discover nature.

Trumpeter swan numbers peak in Missouri in mid-January. Head to a wetland for a chance to get a glimpse of these elegant and enormous waterfowl.

Cedar waxwings are named for the waxy red tips of their wing feathers. In winter, they gather to feed on the berries of cedars, dogwoods, and hawthorns. Find a flock by listening for their high, thin whistles. To learn their calls, visit allaboutbirds.org/guide/cedar_waxwing.

In winter, **finches** flock to feeders to feast on seeds. Grab a bird guide and a pair of binoculars and see if you can spot these feathered friends from the finch family.

In February, **skunks** leave their dens to search for food and mates. But when they waddle across roadways, they're no match for cars. You can save hungry, lovesick skunks by helping grown-ups watch out for them while driving.

A walk in the winter woods is a great time to find some far-out **funguses**. Look for turkey tail, artist conk, and oyster mushrooms growing on trees and dead logs.

Best places for winter eagle viewing (mid December through early February)

- Lake of the Ozarks at Bagnell Dam Access, east of Bagnell
- Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area on Route K, southwest of Columbia
- Lock & Dam 24 at Clarksville
- Lock & Dam 25 east of Winfield
- Mingo National Wildlife Refuge northwest of Puxico
- Old Chain of Rocks Bridge south of I-270, off of Riverview Drive, St. Louis
- Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary east of West Alton
- Schell-Osage Conservation Area north of El Dorado Springs
- Smithville Lake north of Kansas City
- Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge south of Mound City
- Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge south of Sumner
- Table Rock Lake and Shepherd of the Hills Fish Hatchery southwest of Branson
- Truman Reservoir west of Warsaw

for scheduled events: <https://mdc.mo.gov/events/eagle-days>



Missouri Conservationist: January 2023 issue



Tap into Winter Fun

Tap into a sugar maple tree and make your own maple syrup! The best time to tap for most of Missouri is usually middle to late January or early February. Young sugar maples often retain their dead, dried leaves throughout the winter instead of shedding them in the fall, so it's easy to spot them as you look through the winter woods. For more information on maple sugaring, visit short.mdc.mo.gov/4N4.

Hike and Hunt

From the last of December to mid-February, after the rut, white-tailed deer bucks shed their antlers. After the antlers fall to the ground, they are gnawed and consumed by rodents and rabbits for their minerals and protein. Get your family and friends together and head out for a hike and hunt for these discarded treasures.

Take Cover

Build an out-of-the-way brush pile. Not only is it a tidy way to clean up your brush, but wildlife will appreciate the cover during the cold winter weather.

Bark at the Moon

Red fox mating season peaks in January and February, as does their nocturnal barking. If you are near a forested area or open area at night, you are sure to hear them.

Birds: Owl Prowl

Friday, Jan. 13, 6:30-8 p.m. St. Louis Regional Office/Busch Memorial Conservation Area
2360 Highway D, St. Charles, MO 63304

Registration required by Jan. 12 at short.mdc.mo.gov/4No or by calling 888-283-0364. All ages.

Who's that hooting it up each January evening? Owls, that's who. You will learn what makes them such effective nighttime hunters and why they hoot so much this time of year. We will then take a walk on the Short Loop of the Fallen Oak Trail and see if we can entice any owls to fly in and talk to us. Dress appropriately in warm clothing (including gloves) since we will be outside part of the time. Please bring flashlights. Participants will meet in the classroom at the Busch Visitor Center.

Find more events in your area at mdc.mo.gov/events

Natural Events to See This Month

Here's what's going on in the natural world.

- Ozark witch-hazel blooms.
- Horned larks flock in open fields.
- Comma butterflies appear on warm days.





Photos from
Missouri Botanical
Garden's Garden
glow

