

July 2026

Columbia Underground



COLUMBIA GARDEN CLUB

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President's Message

I hope everyone had a safe and spectacular holiday! We had a small group show up for the July 1st Blue Star Memorial wreath hanging ceremony at Stephens Lake Park. Hopefully, the wreath was viewed by visitors at Columbia's 74th Annual Fourth of July Celebration, Fire in the Sky, and made them pause to read the inscription on the memorial. I appreciate the members that did attend that morning.

On the morning of July 4th, I visited Nancy Rold's Glory Be! Gardens and enjoyed a vibrant display of numerous daylilies in bloom. They were in all their glory from short plants with petite blooms to larger plants with tall, large blooms in every color one could imagine. It was interesting to hear Nancy explain how she hybridizes the daylilies to create a new variety. Nancy offered to be our program speaker this month so everyone will hear about "Breeding the Modern Daylily." She will introduce gardeners to the diversity of forms, colors, and patterns in the modern daylily.

At our July meeting, we will have one last chance to ask questions about designs and horticulture for the upcoming flower show on Saturday, July 18th. Those that have signed up for the design section and education and botanical arts sections please note there will be four days to get prepared after our July 13th meeting. Eek!!

As a friendly reminder, July 28th is our monthly volunteer opportunity at the Food Bank from 12:30 to 2:30 pm. Additional volunteers are needed for this civic project. If you have not participated, please consider trying it. It is a wonderful way to help community members as well as get to know your fellow club members.

With the recent heat wave, I hope you have caught a cool breeze before a thunderstorm. Nothing better than sitting on the back porch during a summer thunderstorm.

Donna

June Minutes

The Columbia Garden Club met on June 8, 2026 with 28 members and 7 guests present. Our guests were Carol Gasperson (guest of Nancy Rold), and our guest speaker, Nora Kilgore's Fan Club, which included Carolyn Garay, Tyler Kilgore, Ruth Kilgore, Kathy Kilgore, Trevor Kilgore and Bob Kilgore. New member Marie Heuer was introduced. June birthdays included Gayle Fry, Elaine Keely and Melissa Menard. Darlene Rasberry announced CGC member Nancy Rold will present our program in July "Breeding The Modern Daylily". Darlene also introduced our guest speaker Nora Kilgore, daughter of our member Nicole Kilgore. Nora is a 4th grader at Russell Blvd Elementary and presented a wonderful program "Designing Your Own Fairy Garden". Refreshments were enjoyed following the program.

Donna Puleo called the meeting to order. Leigh Speichinger gave the inspiration. The May minutes were approved as distributed and Mary Nesladek gave the treasurer's report with a balance of \$12,333.24 as of May 31, 2026. Profits from the plant sale were \$3266.79.

Committee Reports:

*Rita Gerke - reported the CGC scholarship has been given to Elizabeth Corrie a sophomore at UMC. Elizabeth is studying Plant Science, has a 3.94 GPA and a background in gardening since her family owns a garden center. Rita announced this will be her last time to chair the Scholarship committee.

*Karen Blackmore - Went over openings in the flower show categories. Please consider doing a design.

*Marie Pasley - Reviewed descriptions and guidelines of designs in different categories of the flower show.

*Carolyn Doyle - Showed an underwater design and gave hints and ideas on how to create this type of arrangement.

New Business/Up coming events

*Betty Connelly announced the Fall District Meeting is in Ashland on September 3, 2026. Registration fees will be collected at the July and August CGC meetings.

*Darlene Rasberry asked that everyone be thinking about programs they would be interested in having next year. Program meetings will be coming up soon.

*Donna Puleo shared information about Bird Sanctuary Applications. These can be found on the FGCM website.

*At 9 a.m. on July 1, 2026 CGC will be placing a wreath on the Blue Star Memorial at Stephens Park.

*Nancy Rold will be hosting a "Daylily Open House" on the 4th of July.

*August 19, 2026 is the Missouri State Fair Flower Show; the schedule is on the FGCM website.

*November 8-9 FGCM Fall Board Meeting, Springfield, MO

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Linneman

New Members

Aileen Boyd; 8295 W. Hwy UU; Columbia, MO 65203
aileenboyd63@gmail.com; 661-496-3948

Marie Heuer; 4100 E. Mt. Zion Church Rd.; Hallsville, MO 65255
mnheuer1@yahoo.com; 573-823-3525



June Program

Nora Kilgore did a wonderful job of presenting our program “Designing Your Own Fairy Garden.”



July Yard of the Month

George Cook designs the yard at 513 Maplewood Ave and emphasizes fragrance and color in his choice of plants. Although he says that he has a lot to learn and makes mistakes, he follows his passion for fragrant roses and his favorite color—red. He says that a gardener has to “feel the colors”.

George was born and raised in San Francisco where there wasn't much space for plants. He loves the space in his yard in Columbia and takes advantage of it to experiment with color and fragrance to his heart's content. He started gardening because of Valentine's Day. Instead of giving roses once a year to his wife, he now surrounds her with roses all summer. He spent time in Bavaria and liked the geraniums in window boxes in the chalets so he also uses a lot of geraniums in his designs.

The reason he keeps potted plants is to place them by his front window to see the bees and butterflies. Later in the summer, George puts the potted plants in the ground. He is working on putting perennials on the sides of the house. He spends an hour watering every day, so perennials will hopefully not add too many more hours of watering.

Come by and admire George Cook's yard which he has designed, with his passion for roses and red colors influencing the flow of color. His garden decorations reflect his appreciation of the English cottage and the old world garden looks. George likes that gardening is the gardener's artwork and own peaceful mental creation.



July Yard of the Month (continued)



Wreath Hanging at Blue Star Memorial



Flower Show-Saturday, July 18 Division 1-Horticulture

Section A. 'Bright Stars'-Annuals/Biennials-Grown for Flowering-Cut Specimen, one stem.

- Class 1. Begonia
- Class 2. Impatiens
- Class 3. Pelargonium Geranium
- Class 4. Tagetes Marigold
- Class 5. Zinnia
- Class 6. Any other worthy specimen

Section B. 'Of Thee I Sing'-Annuals/Biennials Grown for Foliage-Cut Specimen, one stem.

- Class 7. Begonia
- Class 8. Coleus
- Class 9. Tradescantia
- Class 10. Any other worthy annual grown for foliage

Section C. 'The Pilgrims Pride'-Perennials Grown for Flowering-Cut specimen, one stem. Division 1—Horticulture:
"America The Beautiful"

- Class 11. Asclepias
- Class 12. Coreopsis
- Class 13. Hemerocallis
- Class 14. Salvia
- Class 15. Any other worthy flowering perennial

Section D. 'Gleam of the Morning's First Beam'-Perennials Grown for Foliage-Cut specimen, one stem.

- Class 16. Ferns
- Class 17. Hosta
- Class 18. Polemonium (Solomon Seal)
- Class 19. Any other worthy perennial grown for foliage

Section E. 'This Land if My Land'-Bulbs, Corms, and Rhizomes-Cut Specimen, one stem.

- Class 20. Canna
- Class 21. Colocasia
- Class 22. Dahlia
- Class 23. Any other bulb, corm, rhizome, tuber

Section F. 'Sweet Land of Liberty'-Herbs, Cut specimen, one stem

- Class 24. Lavendula
- Class 25. Mentha
- Class 26. Ocimum/Basil
- Class 27. Origanus
- Class 28. Thymus
- Class 29. Any other herb.

Section G. 'Crown They Good With Brotherhood'-Combination Containers-grouping of three or more botanically different plants in container not exceeding 14' in diameter.

- Class 30. Combination planting grown primarily for its flowers
- Class 31. Combination planting grown primarily for its foliage
- Class 32. Combination planting of primarily red, white and blue blooms
- Class 33. Terrarium-combination of plants in transparent container, open or closed

Flower Show (continued)

Section H. 'The Fruited Plain'-Fruit or Vegetables-Each entry to be displayed on 9" white paper plate provided by the committee. One of each specimen, two or more inches in size required. If smaller than two inches, three are required.

Class 34. *Capsicum annuum* (peppers)

Class 35. *Cucurbita* (cucumbers, squash)

Class 36. *Solanum Lycopersicon* (tomatoes)

Class 37. Any other fruit or vegetable

EVERY member of Columbia Garden Club should be able to bring a horticulture entry to the flower show. Walk around your yard or look out on your patio and see if there isn't something that you could bring that works for one of the classes listed above.

Collect your specimens either soon after sunrise or in the evening as the sun is setting. Never cut in the middle of the day, when the flowers are not fully hydrated and may not have time to recover. When you get ready to cut your specimens, bring a container of lukewarm water with you to place them in after you cut them. Be sure to use a clean and sharp cutting tool such as a pruner. Do not use scissors as they will crush the vessels for water uptake. Try to cut a long stem and cut at a 45 degree angle

Conditioning is a very important step in preparing your entries. Once you bring your collected specimens inside, run the tap water to get it warm and fill up a container with warm water. Remove any leaves on the lower part of the stem. Cut your specimen again, using a clean and sharp cutting tool and cut again at a 45 degree angle. You can cut it under running water or underneath the water in the container to help prevent air bubbles from entering into the stem. Once all of your specimens are in conditioning containers, move them to a cool, dark and still location to rest for the night.

When preparing your specimens for the flower show, use a clear, glass container that is in proportion to the size and shape of your specimen. Wipe dust off of the leaves of the specimen, check the undersides of leaves for cobwebs or insects, remove any dead, damaged, diseased or undesirable growth. If there is an overabundance of leaves that are obscuring the flowers, you may want to carefully remove some. There should not be any foliage below the water line. You can use wedging to make sure your specimen stands up straight and points toward the judges. The wedging should be clean and subtle, so it does not distract from your specimen. Examples would be plastic wrap, bubble wrap, pieces of oasis, small pieces of boxwood or small pieces of cork.

Try to fill out your entry card the night before the show and bring it with your entries. To receive a Top Exhibitor Award, you must have the binomial name of the specimen or its currently acceptable scientific designation. You can get entry cards at our July 13th meeting.

Entries should be brought to the SW entrance of the Daniel Boone Regional Library between 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 18.

July Meeting

We will meet on Monday, July 13th at 1:00 at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Nancy Rold will give a presentation entitled "Breeding the Modern Daylily". Hospitality will be provided by Donna Puleo and Evette Nissen.

Upcoming Events

July 9– 6:00 Things That Bug You—Daniel Boone Regional Library

July 18—Flower Show

July 28—Food Bank Volunteer Opportunity-12:30-2:30

A July Afternoon By The Pond

By Walt Whitman

The fervent heat, but so much more endurable in this pure air—the white and pink pond-blossoms, with great heart-shaped leaves; the glassy waters of the creek, the banks, with dense bushery, and the picturesque beeches and shade and turf; the tremulous, reedy call of some bird from recesses, breaking the warm, indolent, half-voluptuous silence; an occasional wasp, hornet, honey-bee or bumble (they hover near my hands or face, yet annoy me not, nor I them, as they appear to examine, find nothing, and away they go)—the vast space of the sky overhead so clear, and the buzzard up there sailing his slow whirl in majestic spirals and discs; just over the surface of the pond, two large slate-color'd dragon-flies, with wings of lace, circling and darting and occasionally balancing themselves quite still, their wings quivering all time, (are they not showing off for my amusement?)—the pond itself, with the sword-shaped calamus; the water snakes—occasionally a flitting black-bird, with red dabs on his shoulders, as he darts slantingly by—the sounds that bring out the solitude, warmth, light and shade—the quawk of some pond duck—(the crickets and grasshoppers are mute in the noon heat, but I hear the song of the first cicades;)—then at some distance the rattle and whirr of a reaping machine as the horses draw it on a rapid walk through a rye field on the opposite side of the creek—(what was the yellow or light brown bird, large as a young hen, with short neck and long-stretch'd legs I just saw, in flapping and awkward flight over there through the trees?)—the prevailing delicate, yet palpable, spicy, grassy, clovery perfume to my nostrils; and over all, encircling all, to my sight and soul, and free space of the sky, transparent and blue—and hovering there in the west, a mass of white-gray fleecy clouds the sailors call "shoals of mackerel"—the sky, with silver swirls like locks of toss'd hair, spreading, expanding—a vast voiceless, formless simulacrum—yet may-be the most real reality and formulator of everything—who knows?



Columbia Garden Club

President: Donna Puleo

1st VP: Darlene Raspberry

2nd VP: Linda Antal

Secretary: Diane Linneman

Treasurer: Mary Nesladek

Parliamentarian: Alice Havard

Columbia Garden Club meets the second Monday of each month at 1:00 at Trinity Presbyterian Church

Website:

<https://www.kewpie.net/colgrdnclub/cgc.html>

Facebook: Columbia Garden Club

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