

# “Columbia Underground”

Member: National Garden Club, Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, and Central District

Editor; Marie Pasley

## Up Coming Events

March 8 - CGC Zoom mtg. at 11:30 am NOTE TIME CHANGE- Program: “New & Easy Proven Winner Container Plants” presented by Jesse Keith, Horticulture & Communication Specialist with Proven Winners.

April 12 CGC Zoom mtg. at 1 pm Program “Preserving our Plants” with Barb Rothenberger, PhD in horticulture.

April 17 Clean Up McKee Park @ 1900 McKee Street. Contact Janet Lasley for more info.

April 24 Annual Plant Sale- 8 to 1 at Trinity Presbyterian Church- all Covid protocol observed

May 12- Central District Spring Zoom Meeting. All members invited. More info below. Invite later.



## CGC March 8<sup>th</sup> Zoom Meeting at 11:30 am

### NOTE Time change for meeting

Meeting will be at 11:30 am due to a schedule conflict with a State board meeting. Jesse Keith with Proven Winners will present a program on “New Proven Winner” Container Plants. It will be great to see some blooms for the upcoming year. See everyone on Zoom.



“Spice Bush”  
**Lindera benzoin**

Color- yellow green bloom

Light Preference: Full sun/shade

Height/Spread: 9'to15' tall 6'to10' spread

Bloom Period: late March to April, red berries in fall. Host plant of the *Spice Bush Swallowtail*.

\* This area info for 2021 is taken from “*Tried and True Missouri Native Plants for Your Yard*”



## CGC 2021 Plant Sale

We have gotten approval from the church to hold our annual plant sale inside the church on April 24. We will set up the afternoon of April 23. Not all plans have been finalized but will be soon. We are very excited about being able to hold our annual sale. Gather your plants and white elephant garden items.

## Central District Spring Meeting

We will have a district-wide Zoom meeting on May 12. For some, this will be good news; for others, it will be disappointing I know. Virtual meetings aren't quite the same as the real thing, but they do offer a reasonably close alternative.

Maureen Green, Arrowhead Garden Club President, and I will do our best to plan a meeting that mirrors an in-person district meeting to the extent possible. We'll just be minus a few of the usual things: food and beverages, Ways and Means, decorations, and favors! Nonetheless, we'll still be able to see one another and exchange a few pleasantries. Maybe even a few laughs!

**The official meeting invitation to share with your club members will be coming to you before the end of March, so be on the lookout.**

My sincere thanks for your input. Take care and watch for spring. It's right around the corner!

-Barb Harrison, CD Director

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## Creating Mini Arrangements for Meals on Wheels

CGC selected a floral civic project for 2021. The plan is to create tray-size mini floral arrangements to accompany meals for *Meals on Wheels* patrons. The date and time have not been fully planned out for creating these mini-arrangements yet. I am planting seed for a cutting garden at Jefferson Farm and Gardens to use for this project. I think we will be able to go to the farm, cut the plants and make the arrangements there but that has not been fully flushed out. The mini arrangements include a plastic detergent bottle-top to use as a container, floral foam, and the flowers. We will place each design in a plastic bag for *Meals on Wheels* staff to

deliver. Especially during the pandemic, this is a wonderful way of bringing the outside world to those who are isolated. PLEASE save those liquid detergent lids. Marie

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## March Garden Tips

- Clean up flower beds by removing all weeds and dead foliage.
- Tree, shrubs and perennials may be planted as soon as they become available at local nurseries, garden centers and retail stores.
- Fertilize woody plants with a well-balanced fertilizer (12-12-12) before new growth begins, but wait until soil temperatures have warmed. For more information, see MU Guide g6865 Fertilizing Shade Trees <https://extension.missouri.edu/media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/Pub/pdf/agguides/hort/g06865.pdf>.
- Apply dormant oil spray to control scale insects & mites on landscape plants. For more information, see MU Guide g7274 Aphids, Scales and Mites on Home Garden and Landscape Plants <https://extension.missouri.edu/media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/Pub/pdf/agguides/pests/g07274.pdf>.
- Divide and transplant perennials, such as hosta, asters, shasta daisy and daylily. Rework beds before replanting, adding organic matter and fertilizer.
- Loosen winter mulch from roses after the danger of frost has passed.
- To help control iris borer and foliage diseases, clean up and destroy the old foliage before new growth begins.
- Prune spring flowering shrubs after bloom. For more information, see MU Guide g6870 <https://extension.missouri.edu/g6870>.
- Cut back ornamental grasses. For more information, see MU Extension Guide

**g6661 Ornamental Grasses**

<https://extension.missouri.edu/g6661>.

- **Clean up the asparagus bed before new spears emerge: remove weeds, the old, dead stalks of last year's growth and remove any mulch that protected crowns over the winter. For more information, see MU Extension Guide g6405 Growing Asparagus in Missouri <https://extension.missouri.edu/g6405>.**
- **Cultivating wet garden soils can destroy soil composition. Delay planting if garden soil is wet. When a ball of soil crumbles easily after being squeezed together in hand, it is dry enough to be safely worked.**
- **Plant cool season crops such as peas, lettuce, spinach, various greens, radishes, carrots, beets, kohlrabi, turnips, Irish potatoes, and onions outdoors. Set out broccoli, cabbage, brussels sprouts and cauliflower transplants into the garden. For specific planting dates, see MU Extension Guide g6201 Vegetable Planting Calendar <https://extension.missouri.edu/media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/Pub/pdf/agguides/hort/g06201.pdf>.**
- **Start tomatoes indoors now for transplanting around May 1st. For more information, see MU Extension Guide g6570 Starting Plants Indoors From Seeds <https://extension.missouri.edu/g6570>.**

native plants include: summer heat tolerance, drought resistance, less watering needed as plants have deep root systems, fertilizers not required, providing shelter and food for wildlife and having a healthy living area.

Betty called the business meeting to order at 2:11 p.m. Mary Nesladek gave the inspiration: "Deciding what to grow is one of the most enjoyable aspects of gardening" by Burpee Complete Gardener. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed. Evette Nissen, treasurer, reported that several bills have been paid and our balance is \$8,627.66. Reminder to save lids from detergent bottles for flower arrangements for Meals on Wheels in June.

Committees: The Plant Sale committee met by Zoom. The plant sale will be on Saturday, April 24 starting at 9 a.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church, with set up on April 23. Weather permitting, the sale will be outdoors; otherwise, the sale will be indoors with limited number of people allowed inside at a time. Let Betty know if you have any tents to use for the outdoor space. We will have plants from the Amish to sell, and native plants. Members are encouraged to bring their plants from their garden as we make more profit from these. We will also sell donated garden items, but no bake sale due to Covid-19 restrictions. We plan to advertise with signs and a newspaper ad. Details about the plant sale will be sent closer to time.

The Member's Garden Tour will be May 10 and we have four people who have volunteered their yard: Carolyn Doyle, Mary Nesladek, Melissa Kouba, and Betty Connelly. One more yard is needed, and Betty will check with a possible volunteer.

There are usually several native plant sales in the area. Keep an eye out for lists of these and pass on this information.

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**CGC February 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

The Columbia Garden Club met by Zoom on February 8, 2021. President Betty Connelly called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. with 20 members attending. The original program that was to be presented by Hank Stelzer with MU Extension on properly caring for trees was canceled due to a conflict. Instead, we watched two videos. The first video was on Growing a Greener World, and the second video was about Midwestern Native Plants presented by Drew Lathin. Advantages of having

Clean-Up Columbia will not be an official event this year. However, our Club is going to do a **clean-up on April 17 at McKee Street Park, 1900 McKee St (this is off Clark Lane). Janet Lasley is chairman.**

### Announcements

May 27 is a Flower Show in Fulton at the Callaway Electric Co-Op building, 1313 Cooperative Dr., Fulton.

Barbara Harrison is deciding about the Spring Central District Meeting which would be at the Lake of the Ozarks. She is debating as to holding the meeting in person, via Zoom, or canceling. Our Club preferred to hold this by Zoom. There may be limited attendance allowed.

April 24 is the Youth Arbor Activity Day sponsored by the Fulton Garden Club. There will be events in Memorial Park for Fulton youth accompanied by a parent. This will include tree planting and other activities for children. (Note this is the same day as our Plant Sale).

Meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Nesladek



Our granddaughter, Lily, and I made this snow garden lady....can't wait for warm weather, sunshine and spring! Please say hi to the CGC ladies for me as I've missed the Zooms.

Hope all is well with you and yours.....  
Rebecca Smith



### "Spice Bush Swallowtail"

Spice bushes host the caterpillar of the spice bush swallowtail. The caterpillar rolls up in the leaves of the spicebush to conceal itself from predators, then comes out to feed at night.