

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



September,
2023

Editor: Melissa Kouba

In this issue:

Notes from
President Betty
page 2

August CGC Meeting
Minutes
page 3-4

NGA President's Initiatives
page 5-6

Environmental Concerns
and Conservation
page 7-8

September Yard of the
Month
page 9-10

September meeting preview
And Announcements
page 11

Calendar

Year-long native garden calendar:

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

May 2- Oct 15: Chihuly in the Garden (Missouri Botanical Garden)

September 2-4: Japanese Festival at Mo Botanical Gardens

September 11: Starts at NOON! CGC meeting with pot-luck at Rollins, speaker possibly Mike Szydowski

September 13 and 14: Mizzou Botanic Garden hosts Joe Lamp'l (see more info in August newsletter and again in this newsletter)

September 15-30: "Terra Luna" at Overland Park Arboretum

September 28: all day District Garden Club meeting in Fulton Southside Baptist Church 395 Country Meadows Lake, "Living on a Tree farm"

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:

September, 2023

Hello fellow members,

I hope your flowers and lawns have made it through this horrible heat "bubble." My beds are looking better than I could have hoped for, and it's supposed to be over in 2 days. Fingers crossed.

I want to welcome Donna Puleo as our President-elect and Dianne Linneman as our Secretary-elect. And a big thank you to Mary Nesladek who agreed to accept the Treasurer position and Dianna Cooksey and Linda Antal for staying on as Vice Presidents. They will be a strong group of leaders! They will be installed at the December meeting and take over at the January meeting.

- September is our annual membership luncheon and will start at 12:00. It is potluck so bring something to share. Ann has invited all of the "yard of the month" winners to attend. This is a great meeting to invite someone to visit. We hope that Mike Szydowski is going to speak. (He was scheduled to speak in July, but there was a last-minute conflict.)

He is a very dynamic and entertaining speaker.

Reminders:

September is when we pay our dues (\$25) for 2024. Check made out to Columbia Garden Club.

This is the last chance you have to pay/register to go to the Fall District meeting in Fulton. \$15 check made out to Columbia Garden Club.

I hope to see you on September 11 at **12:00pm.**

Betty

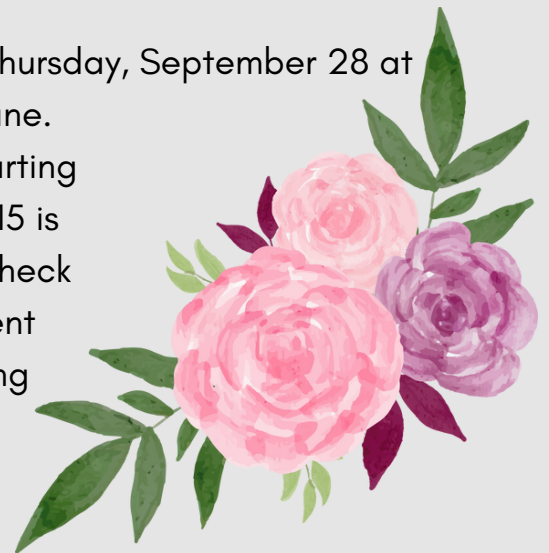


August CGC meeting

The **Columbia Garden Club** met at 1 p.m. on August 14, 2023 with Betty Connelly calling the meeting to order with 26 members present. The inspiration was given by Mary Nesladek: "A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness; it teaches industry and thrift; above all, it teaches entire trust" by Gertrude Jekyll. Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as distributed. Carolyn Oates, treasurer, reported the balance of \$13,696.26.

Committee Reports: Ann O'Dell reported that the September *yard of the month* is on Ash Court; this is just east of the intersection of West Boulevard and Ash St. This is actually two yards that are side-by-side. Marie Pasley reported that our group will volunteer at the *Food Bank* on Vandiver Drive on the fourth Thursday of every month from 11 to 1. This will now be a permanent project and Marie will coordinate this. Marie reminded us about the *State Convention* May 7-9, 2024 in Columbia. The speaker for Tuesday night will be from the Tiger Gardens and will demonstrate design programs. *Teaching CoMo Children Plant America* at Russell Boulevard School will be canceled due to lack of school participation. We could consider a garden at the MU nursery school. A reminder that the *Flower Show* at the MO State Fair is Wednesday, August 16. Anyone can exhibit horticulture, but design categories are completed. There are sign-up sheets to work on *CGC committees* for next year; these will also be available at the September meeting. We need a committee chair for the Garden Tour, and Garden Therapy at The Bluffs. Barbara Rothenberger has been in charge of this committee for a long time, and she has items to give the new chairperson.

Central District Fall Meeting will be in Fulton on Thursday, September 28 at Southside Baptist Church, 395 Country Meadows Lane. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. with the meeting starting at 9:30 and lunch at noon. The registration fee of \$15 is due to Carolyn Oates by the September meeting; check made out to CGC. The afternoon speaker will present "Living on a Tree Farm." We will figure out carpooling at the September meeting.



August CGC meeting. continued



Nominating Committee: The committee consisting of Mary Nesladek, Marie Pasley, and Patty O’Neal presented the slate of officers for 2024-2025. President, Donna Puleo, 1st V-P Diana Cooksey, 2nd V-P Linda Antal, Secretary Diane Linneman, and Treasurer Mary Nesladek. There were no nominations from the floor. Carolyn Doyle moved the slate be accepted as presented; Rita Gerke seconded. Motion passed. Both previous and new officers will work on ideas for meetings and projects. Give suggestions to any officer.

The business meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m. for refreshments and for members to make 55 mini flower bouquets to be delivered with the Meals-on-Wheels lunches on August 15. Bouquets were put in brown paper handled bags with pink tissue paper and packed in styrofoam coolers. We discussed making bouquets for other places in the future; let Marie know of any suggestions.

September meeting: September 11 at noon will be the membership meeting and potluck. We are hoping Mike Szydowski will be able to come and speak (he was unable to present at the July meeting). Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Nesladek



"Go Green - PLANT AMERICA."



From President Brenda at NGC

*Go Green" promotes environmental responsibility... Kermit the Frog sings, "It's not easy being Green." It is not always easy being a good steward of our planet - it often times means making hard choices. We need to ask ourselves: Do we always have to have the biggest, newest and best while disposing old, yet still usable items?

Thomas S. Monson states, "May we ever choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong."

Sometimes that harder choice is purchasing more costly native plants compared to the plants found in box stores. It could mean not having the latest electronics. It might mean using a pitcher of water instead of using plastic water bottles at our meetings. It can mean not having America's idea of perfect lawns and instead choosing to protect pollinators and animal habitats. Sometimes it means doing away with unnecessary paperwork at our garden club meetings. Environmental Stewardship is part of who I am and thus will be a major emphasis of this administration. A green light means GO. So, we will have Go Green - Plant America initiatives. I will continue to support and encourage applications to PLANT AMERICA Community Grants. A new initiative will be PLANT AMERICA - Feed America, encouraging planting gardens and sharing the bounty to feed those with food insecurities. Others are PLANT AMERICA - Landscape for Wildlife, and PLANT AMERICA - Plant for Pollinators. These will involve National Garden Clubs' promotion, certification and tracking members' pollinator and wildlife habitats. Once certified, members will have the option of purchasing a sign for their yard. I encourage members to GO for it!....

.From NGC President Brenda Moore's Inauguration speech, May 4, 2023 -

President Brenda's Plan

from summer issue of NGC publication

gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2023-07/tng-summer-2023.pdf

Gone are unnecessary papers and plastics.

Outreach to diversify our membership.

Growth in our membership.

Recycling and upcycling will be emphasized.

Environmental concerns will be expressed.

Encouraging more participation in our schools,
conventions, meetings, and programs.

Networking with our members and nature.





Environmental Concerns and Conservation

What is this?

- A committee of National Garden Club that is based on the mission statements of NGC;

"National Garden Clubs, Inc. provides education, resources, and national networking opportunities for its members to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility. The environmental mission of National Garden Clubs, Inc. is to review the environmental problems and their possible solutions, to promote environmental literacy and to advocate sound environmental stewardship."

- A Program we will start at our club
- A new monthly column, beginning today!

FACTS:

- A typical American meal travels **1,500 miles** to get to you.
- Greenhouse gas emissions from **beef** in your diet is **10 times** more than **chicken**, and **50 times** more than **beans**.
- Eating one less burger a week is **the same as** taking your car off the road for 320 miles.
- Food packaging accounts for about **5 percent** of food's carbon footprint.
- Transporting food by air emits **50 times** more carbon than transporting it by sea

Environmental Concerns and Conservation

Shopping suggestions

Possible Food choices

Things you can do at home:

1. Eat locally and seasonally. Shop at farmers' markets. Join a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). Short trips = less pollution.
2. Grow some of your own food. Even with a small outdoor space, you can grow a container tomato or add kale, chard or lettuce to flower pots.
3. Shift to a more plant-based diet. Small steps like meatless Mondays or more vegetarian main dishes.
4. Eat one less burger a week.
5. Avoid "flying food" - food air freighted to get from producer to market quickly before it perishes.
6. If you eat meat, choose chicken.
7. Buy your food naked (unpackaged). Get vegetables and fruits and put them in your own mesh bags and have butcher counter wrap meat in paper.

Reusables and refillables have huge potential to replace single-use plastics, with positive results:

- Using a reusable water bottle saves an average of **156** plastic bottles annually.
- Switching to reusable shopping bags eliminates about **307** bags per person.
- Using one reusable metal straw eliminates **540** plastic straws per year

CGC Yard (s) of the Month -September

---Ash Court

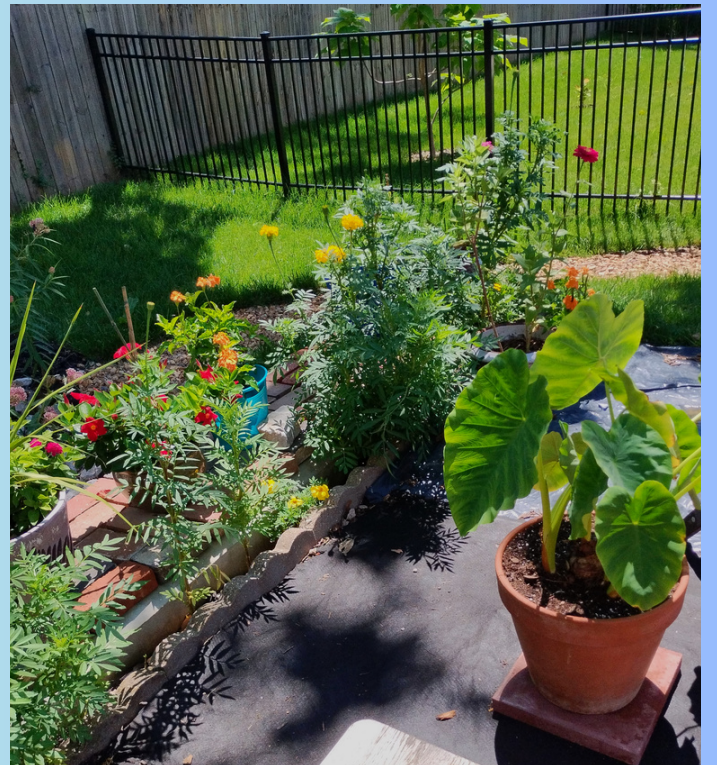
Sandy Matsuda and Maggie Sherburne are neighbors on Ash Ct. which is a pocket neighborhood, a clustered group of houses gathered around a shared space. Maggie lives at 124 Ash Ct. and Sandy lives at 128 Ash Ct. They both bought houses there one and a half years ago, houses with bare yards. Neither woman wanted grass, and so both have fought the clay and spread compost and mulch so that their flowers would thrive.

Maggie grew up in Malaysia and eventually moved to California where she managed the gardens for her children's hotel. Her son is the motivating force behind her gardening efforts. When Maggie followed him to Columbia and was horrified by the clay, her son taught her how to deal with it. Maggie likes a mixture of native plants and her "pretties" which she plants for their beauty.

Sandy and Maggie have cooperated in making a large double garden on Ash Ct. Sandy likes to let inspiration lead her in gardening. She particularly likes wildness and native plants. She has been a gardener since childhood, growing mostly vegetables, but she has learned gardening techniques from experience and from friends. Her husband was from Japan and she admires the Japanese gardens but doesn't attempt to create one in her yard. Sandy's biggest challenge has been living peacefully with the critters, meaning to kindly but firmly discourage them from eating her plants. Sandy's and Maggie's goal is to help their neighbors on Ash Ct. create gardens in their yards and decrease the use of grass as a yard covering.



CGC Yard (s) of the Month - September



September CGC meeting Preview and other announcements:

September 11: at NOON at 1600 West Rollins Road . Potluck lunch

Mizzou Botanic Garden

2023 Jacquelyn Jones Lecture featuring Joe Lamp'l

<https://garden.missouri.edu/plan-your-visit>

Thursday, Sept. 14: at 6:30PM | Monsanto Auditorium
Book signing at 6 PM (copies available at the event and in advance at The Mizzou Store)
topic "Gardening as an Ecological Endeavor"

Public Workshop: Seed Starting Success

Wednesday, September 13: at 2 PM | Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture

Pre-registration is required.



Members:

We are looking for a new
newsletter editor!!
I will continue the column on
Environment,
Conservation and
Sustainability!

I can train or help the next
editor!