

“Columbia Underground”

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

Upcoming Events

March 12 - 1pm. CGC monthly meeting
Program: Carolyn Oates & Rebecca Smith will demonstrate how to make a Kokedama & a terrarium

March 10 Workshop on Growing Butterflies Presented at the Boone County Extension Center starting at 9 am

March 16 & 17 HBA Home Show at Parkade Plaza- Friday 4 to 8 pm, Saturday 10 to 6 pm

May 7- 10- FGCM 85th State Convention- Adams Point Conference Center, Blue Springs

June 4-8 FGCM “Bloomin Bus Tour” to Cincinnati- Always Fun- contact Carolyn Oates for further info

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Columbia Garden Club January 8 Meeting

The March 12 CGC meeting starts at 1 pm. The program will be presented by Carolyn Oates & Rebecca Smith on making Kokedama (moss ball) & terrariums.

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Remember to invite your friends, neighbors, and relatives to join CGC. We want to raise our membership by 10% in 2018.



Blue Birds Start Nesting in March

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Growing Butterflies

The Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners would like to invite CGC to attend a training class on Saturday, March 10th. The class will be presented by Dr. Chris Barnhart, Distinguished Professor of Biology, Missouri State University. Dr. Barnhart has worked with the Springfield Natural Butterfly House for the past nine years, he is very knowledgeable about butterflies. Dr. Barnhart will talk about raising butterflies which would include overwintering among other topics. The class is from 9-11 am at the Boone County Extension Center followed by a tour of the

Butterfly House at Jefferson Farm and Garden. The entire class should conclude by noon. Each person is responsible for their own travel to the Butterfly House.

The cost of the class is \$10 payable to Heart of Missouri Master Gardeners and the deadline to register is Wednesday, March 7th as space is limited. If you are interested in attending, please contact Donna Puleo via email at puleod@missouri.edu or call 573-446-1077.

Thank you! Donna Puleo, President of HMMG

FGCM State Convention

It's time to register for the FGCM State Convention being held May 7 thru 10th at the Adam's Point Conference Center in Blue Springs. All information and a registration form are in your winter *Garden Forum*. Several CGC members will be attending so carpooling is a possibility. This is always a great time to network with other garden club members throughout the state and to learn interesting things about the Blue Springs area.

March Gardening Calendar

Ornamentals

- **Weeks 1-4:** Trees, shrubs and perennials may be planted as soon as they become available at local nurseries.
- **Weeks 1-4:** To control iris borer, clean up and destroy the old foliage before new growth begins.
- **Weeks 1-4:** Fertilize bulbs with a "bulb booster" formulation broadcast over the planting beds. Hose off any granules that stick to the foliage.
- **Weeks 1-4:** Dormant mail order plants should be unwrapped immediately. Keep the roots from drying out, store in a cool protected spot, and plant as soon as conditions allow.

- **Weeks 1-4:** Loosen winter mulches from perennials cautiously. Re-cover plants at night if frost returns. Clean up beds by removing all weeds and dead foliage at this time.
- **Weeks 1-2:** Heavy pruning of trees should be complete before growth occurs. Trees should not be pruned while the new leaves are growing.
- **Weeks 1-2:** Seeds of hardy annuals such as larkspur, bachelor's buttons, Shirley and California poppies should be direct sown in the garden now.
- **Weeks 2-4:** Summer and fall blooming perennials should be divided in spring.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Ornamental grasses should be cut to the ground just as the new growth begins.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Spring bedding plants, such as pansies and toadflax (*Linaria* sp.), may be planted outdoors now.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Apply a balanced fertilizer such as 6-12-12 to perennial beds when new growth appears.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Apply sulfur to the soils around acid-loving plants such as azaleas, rhododendrons, hollies and dogwoods. Use a granular formulation at the rate of 1/2 pound per 100 square feet.
- **Week 4:** Gradually start to pull back mulch from rose bushes.

Lawns

- **Weeks 1-4:** Mow lawns low to remove old growth before new growth begins.
- **Weeks 2-4:** Apply broadleaf herbicides now for control of cool-season perennial and annual weeds. These must not be applied to areas that will be seeded soon.
- **Week 2:** Apply controls for wild garlic. It will take several years of annual applications for complete control.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Thin spots and bare patches in the lawn can be overseeded now.

Vegetables

- **Weeks 1-4:** Any root crops such as horseradish, parsnips, Jerusalem artichokes, or carrots still in the ground from last year should be harvested before new green top growth appears.

- **Weeks 1-4:** Cultivate weeds and remove the old, dead stalks of last year's growth from the asparagus bed before the new spears emerge.
- **Weeks 1-4:** Fertilize the garden as the soil is being prepared for planting. Unless directed otherwise by a soil test, 1 to 2 pounds of 12-12-12 or an equivalent fertilizer per 100 square feet is usually sufficient.
- **Weeks 1-2:** Delay planting if the garden soil is too wet. When a ball of soil crumbles easily after being squeezed together in your hand, it is dry enough to be safely worked.
- **Weeks 1-2:** Asparagus and rhubarb roots should be planted as soon as the ground can be worked.
- **Weeks 2-4:** Plant peas, lettuce, radishes, kohlrabi, mustard greens, collards, turnips, Irish potatoes, spinach and onions (seeds and sets) outdoors.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Plant beets, carrots, parsley and parsnip seeds outdoors.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Set out broccoli, cabbage, Brussels sprouts, Chinese cabbage and cauliflower transplants into the garden.
- **Week 4:** Start seeds of tomatoes, peppers and eggplants indoors.

**Gardening Calendar supplied by the staff of the William T. Kemper Center for Home Gardening located at the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, Missouri. (www.GardeningHelp.org)*



Fruits

- **Weeks 1-4:** Gradually remove mulch from strawberries as the weather begins to warm.
- **Weeks 1-3:** Continue pruning apple trees. Burn or destroy all prunings to minimize insect or disease occurrence.
- **Weeks 1-2:** Continue pruning grapes. Bleeding causes no injury to the vines. Tie vines to the trellis before the buds swell to prevent bud injury and crop loss.
- **Week 2:** Cleft and splice grafting can be done now. This must be completed before rootstocks break dormancy.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Aphids begin to hatch on fruit trees as the buds begin to open.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Apply dormant oil sprays now. Choose a dry day when freezing temperatures are not expected.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Spray peach trees with a fungicide for the control of peach leaf curl disease.
- **Week 4:** Mulch all bramble fruits for weed G
- **Week 4:** Peaches and nectarines should be

COLUMBIA GARDEN CLUB February 12, 2018 Minutes

The Columbia Garden Club met February 12, 2018 at the Trinity Church with 19 members and 2 guests: Becky Stanley, who joined the club, and Sue Jesse.

Jeff Oberhaus, manager Vintage Hill Farms gave a program on annuals and tropical perennials.

Following the program, refreshments were provided by Carolyn Adams, Janet Lasley and Carol Notbohm, President Carolyn Oates called the business meeting to order.

Minutes of the January meeting were read and approved. There were questions concerning the storage of the official minutes book and past Treasurer's books and other documents. Carolyn Doyle said that there was room in our file cabinet at the Boone County Historical Society, and she would help get these documents put in storage. She also

commented that the club had a silver tea service stored there.

The Treasurer's report shows a balance of \$6548.16 in the account and disbursements of \$25.00 for a speaker; and \$25.00 for church rent.

The horticulture tip for this month: start thinking about Japanese beetle control; traps work but picking the beetles off by hand and disposing of them is still very effective.

Marie Pasley noted that the club needs to begin updating their history book since 2019 will mark our 100th anniversary.

Committee Reports

Plant Sale: Betty Connelly asked for someone to chair the bake sale. Rebecca Smith and Carolyn Doyle volunteered to handle the bake sale. Donors should be careful to mark any items containing nuts.

Art in Bloom: March 16-17-18 at the University's Art and Archeology building.

Clean Up Columbia: April 14. Meet at McKee Park at 9 a.m.

Marie Pasley asked that members vote on one of 3 designs she brought for a lettuce bed to be planted at Jefferson Farms and Gardens. She also requested volunteers to help plant.

Yearbooks: the yearbooks are here and members are reminded to pick up their copy before leaving.

Other dates to note:

March 19-20: Environmental Studies Course III at the Botanic Garden in St Louis. The text book is available on Amazon for \$75.00

March 20: design class for flower show in St Louis

Feb 27 thru March 8: Master Gardeners classes at the Boone Electric Co-op building.

April 15: deadline for registration for the State Convention deadline. Hotel room reservations need to be in as soon as possible as there are a limited number reserved for the Convention attendees. Information forms, etc. in the latest issue of the Garden Forum.

The State needs candidates for the offices of 1st, 2nd and 3rd vice presidents, recording secretary and treasurer. To be eligible you must have served at least 2 years on the District Board.

Blooming Bus Tour: June 4 – 8 to Cincinnati.

Under new business: the gardens at the Veterans' House. Marie Pasley and Connie Blackmore volunteered to go and look at the situation and find out if our help would be needed with any of the bed preparation or planting.

There being no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned.

Hostesses for the March meeting are: Kay Kern, Rebecca Smith and Leigh Speichinger.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary

Lynda Blades