



Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., 1556 Emerson Street, Denver, CO 80218-1450
www.coloradogardenclubs.org (303) 832-6390

President's Message Spring 2014

By Trudie Layton, President, CFGC



Dear Garden Friends,

Are you looking for a program or project that will "make a difference"? I know our club is always on the hunt for new programs and it's not often one falls into your lap. I believe this fits perfectly for Colorado gardeners.

Our parent organization, National Garden Clubs, is dedicated to protect, conserve and educate about our natural resources. NGC has partnered with Crown Bees to create THE MASON BEE PROJECT. Mason bees are solitary native bees that are excellent pollinators. Learn what is so important about the role of these pollinators and what you can do as "the Power of One for Your Garden". This BeeGAP (Bee Gardeners Adding Pollinators) Partnership offers many opportunities for us including fundraising, education and more.

Joan Franson is our State BeeGAP Chairman and has already signed up as a speaker as I have. So easy, they provide the material! Contact Joan for more information or visit www.crownbees.com and look for NGC on the upper right.

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Take advantage of the Environmental Studies School to be held on April 10 & 11 in Colorado Springs. Chairman Gary Belew has planned two full days of speakers and field trips all for a low \$30 registration fee. Space is limited!

Join hosting Southern District for "Planting Seeds of Change", the CFGC Annual Meeting May 31st at Colorado Springs Utilities Conservation & Environmental Center. This one-day meeting includes speakers, gardens, food, and friends. What more could gardeners ask for? Registration forms for both events can be found on our website www.coloradogardenclubs.org.

*"Make a Difference"
Trudie Layton, CFGC State President
Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs
and BeeGAP Speaker*

Plant Seeds of Change

By Audrey Coyle



2014 Annual Meeting and Convention will be held in Colorado Springs on May 31st at the Mesa Conservation and Environmental Center on 2855 Mesa Road, Colorado

Springs, CO. We will be celebrating with our friends and members from around the state. Speakers, exhibits and entertainment will encourage, inform and excite us about “Planting Seeds of Change”. “Penny Pines” program will be honored. Considering our State’s history of Fires, that program is very near and dear to our heart. We will start our registration with a continental Breakfast at 8:00am and Business Meeting, with Opening Ceremonies, starting at 9:00am. Garden of the Gods Catering and our Southern District will cater the Luncheon. Entertainment will be provided at lunch, by the Lovely, young 14-year old violinist, Devin Rose. Many wonderful “Door Prizes” will be given and time to explore the Mesa Xeriscape Gardens is a must. If you have not seen “Garden of the Gods”, take a 20-minute drive thru before you leave the area, it is right there and fortunately untouched by the Waldo Canyon Fire. We have listed more about our programs and a few overnight places to stay if needed. **See page 7 in this issue of the CFGC Gardener for the registration form.** We are

eagerly looking forward to receiving your registration early.

2014 Annual Meeting Speakers

“**Trough Gardening 101**” with Andrew Cronk of Phelan Gardens in Colorado Springs, will talk about small space gardening in troughs using annual and perennial plants as well as edible plants. He will touch on color choice, texture, lighting requirements and design. Andrew is a local artist who has been working at Phelan Gardens for four years, although his love of plants spans back to when he was five years old. He is one of the lead designers for container plantings at Phelan Gardens. He also works with vegetable garden designs, water gardens, and fairy gardens.

“**Restoring the Forest**” speaker Paige Fulghum, a Natural Resource Technician with the Coalition for the Upper South Platte (CUSP), will be talking about replanting and reseeding forest burn areas. She is a graduate of UCCS with a degree in Geography and Environmental Studies and a minor in Sustainable Development. She believes that members of the community learning about their own watershed and promoting stewardship is the only way to instill a sense of responsibility for our public and private lands.

Colorado Springs Hotels in Area of 2014 CFGC Annual Meeting

Colorado Springs Marriott
5580 Tech Center Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80919
1-800-932-2151ph

Garden of the Gods Club
3320 Mesa Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80904
719-632-5541ph

Hampton Inn and Suites
1307 Republic Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO
719-598-6911ph

Avenue Hotel B&B
711 Manitou Ave.
Manitou Springs, CO 80829
719-685-1277ph

Upcoming Calendar of Events

March 28, 2014

Garden clean up and mulching
Emerson House

April 5, 2014

North Central District Annual Meeting
The Vistas at Applewood Golf Course
Golden, CO

April 10 – 11, 2014

Environmental Studies School
Course III, Series III
Penrose House
Colorado Springs, CO

April 14, 2014

CFGC Judges Council Meeting
Emerson House

May 1 – May 3, 2014

NGC Convention
Oklahoma City, OK

May 31, 2014

CFGC Gardener article deadline
Send to Joyce.cassidy@cassidycm.com

May 31, 2014

CFGC Annual Meeting
CFGC Judges Council Meeting
Mesa Utilities Building
Colorado Springs, CO

July 14, 2014

CFGC Judges Council Meeting
Emerson House

July 31, 2014

Adams County Flower Show Judging
(open to public viewing 8/1/2014)
Adams County Fairground

September 11 – 12, 2014

CFGC Flower Show School I
Colorado Springs, CO

September 12 – 13, 2014

RMR Annual Meeting
Colorado Springs, CO

November 3, 2014

CFGC Judges Council Meeting
Emerson House

National Garden Club Annual Convention Information

Dates and Location

NGC 85th Annual Convention: May 1 – May 3, 2014
Embassy Suites Norman Hotel & Conference Center
2501 Conference Dr.
Norman, OK 73069

Hotel

You must contact the hotel directly to make your room reservation:
Web site: Embassy Suites Norman Hotel & Conference Center
Phone: 405-364-8040 or 800-Embassy
Use group code "NGC" for special room rate of \$135 per night.

Transportation

Airport: Will Rodgers Airport in Oklahoma City
There is no shuttle between hotel and airport
You must make your own transportation arrangements
Airport Express – phone 405-681-3311
Rates: 1 person \$38 / 2 persons \$40 / 3+ people \$14 each
Independent Cab – phone 405-603-4222
A1 Taxi – phone 405-321-3111
Yellow Cab – phone 405-232-6161
Castle Cab – phone 405-595-5999
1 person \$40 / 2 persons \$45 / 3+ people \$50

Insects – Beneficial in the Garden

By Becky Elder, PCD, EC, Horticulture Chair

Insects, for many gardeners, don't bring forth warm and fuzzy feelings. Insects chew holes in leaves; suck juices (and blood,) spoil blooms and ruin fruit.

Lots of gardeners jump back when surprised by an insect, dodge to the side to avoid a noisy buzzer, run from



perceived hornets, and holler out if surprised by a jumping spider. These littler creatures often take us by surprise, when we least expect it. But most insects deserve our appreciation, even if only from afar. Beneficial insects are a most important group of garden visitors. We want to welcome them with open arms... or blooms.

The life that surrounds gardeners in any given moment: hell-bent ants, gentle worms, curious beetles, determined spiders, startling millipedes, liltling butterflies, and super strong grasshoppers, offers unlimited interest and science. The littler lives of insects can bring damage to plants, no doubt about it, yet I have come to enjoy them. Insects are the jointed-foot denizens of the planet and without them we people would pass away.

Aphids, for instance, are of value because they feed many creatures. Ladybugs, for instance, thrive on the sustenance of aphids. Parasitic wasps, hover flies and praying mantis eat aphids. Small birds will eat aphids too. Caterpillars, other

so-called pests, are a major source of food for birds, snakes and other garden predators, including predatory insects, within a whole system garden. We need the whole spectrum of insects for a healthy, living system garden. Nature was designed to function with all components and to attain a balance. A real garden should reflect the whole of nature.

Bees are the top dogs of beneficial insects. Many people fear bees because they cannot tell the difference from a fuzzy bee and a yellow jacket hornet. Bees are fuzzy and hornets are not. It is just about that simple! Bees are the gardener's friends. The aware gardener knows about the Colony Collapse of honeybee populations and now of the concept of the "Zombes" – just hitting the social media waves. Honeybees need our help to survive. And we need the honeybees. We need bees to pollinate our flowers and our food gardens. Cross-pollination helps at least 30 percent of the world's crops and 90 percent of our wild plants to thrive. Without bees to pollinate, many plants, including fruits, nuts, and vegetable food crops, may disappear. Protect your bees...be organic in the garden for the bees.

Beneficial insects from pirate bugs and lacewings to bumblebees and parasitic wasps, from beetles to centipedes, these little creatures are part of the whole system. Rest assured. If these critters inhabit your garden, you can be thankful! Nature is complete and whole, without our help. Insects play important roles in the creating the whole. Beneficial insects hold the role of keeping the balance. 'Guess I have always liked bugs, insects and crawlies. Understanding and protecting their role in your garden is a gift to the rest of the world.

Dig and Dream Garden Club

By Mary Vickers, Dig and Dream Garden Club



Colorado Garden and Home Show 2014, Swiss's Clerking Angels, Dig and Dream Garden Club - Sue Parker, Jeanette Hunt, Julie Sheehan, and Meg Watkins.

After being indoors these past cold months, Dig and Dream is off to a busy spring. We have so many wonderful gardening projects planned for our community this spring, I don't know where to start.

1) We will return to Excelsior Youth Center in Aurora for our second gardening season. The girls and Dig and Dream will get the soil prepared, and planted for a "pumpkin patch". Our goal is to share the joy of gardening, educational opportunities and show the girls how great gardening can be.

2) Centennial House in Aurora (1890 Victorian home at 1671 Galena St) is on the National Register of Historic places. Our members designed and planted over 100 perennials/shrubs two years ago. We will provide a winter clean up in the front and back gardens to get ready for spring. We want this Victorian garden to be beautiful and colorful. On June 28th the community will be enjoying the Victorian garden enjoying music and ice cream, at the "annual old fashion (Victorian) ice cream social".

3) Pickens Technical College in Aurora is on the clubs' "to do list", over the past years we have weeded and trimmed the roses in the extra large rose garden during the summer months while students are enjoying the summer break. This spring we will purchase and plant five rose bushes to replace dead/diseased rose bushes.

4) We are excited to return to Ronald McDonald House (932 Potomac St., Aurora) to prepare the gardens for spring and summer. Last year we renovated their landscaping by spreading 17 cubic yards of mulch, planted colorful annuals, perennials, and a beautiful Crimpson Maple tree. This spring we will be planting colorful annuals along the front entrance and patio, cleaning the yard and play area, and adding additional perennials. We are creating a beautiful, colorful garden for the children receiving medical care and their families. We are bringing a little joy in their life as they enjoy the colorful surroundings.

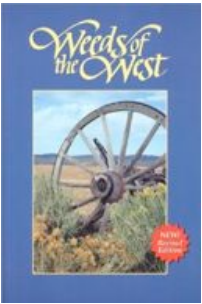
We will be "busy little bees" this spring buzzing into summer with a lot of additional projects to accomplish. We hope all the beautiful gardens we have created and maintained in the Aurora community will bring enjoyment and inspire our Aurora community to plant gardens of their own.

CONTEST – Rename the CFGC Gardener

Get your creative juices running and come up with a new name that better describes the CFGC newsletter. Contest ends, May 20, 2014 and the winning name will be announced at the CFGC Annual Meeting. Send your entries to Joyce Cassidy, editor CFGC Gardener, at joyce.cassidy@cassidycm.com. The club member who provides the winning entry will receive a mini Tillandsias Terrarium Kit. In the case of multiple winners, the first name received with the winning entry will get the terrarium kit.

Book Review – Weeds of the West

By Lynn Cleveland



You can name every flower and vegetable that you've planted in your garden, but what about the other vegetation – the weeds? *Weeds of the West*, published by the Western Society of Weed Science and the University of Wyoming, can help you identify those uninvited guests.

You'll find every prickly, ugly, pesky (or sometimes pretty or useful) local weed in this thick volume,

with excellent color photos and descriptions. The book's contents are arranged alphabetically by plant families, from Amaranthaceae (Pigweed family) to Zygophyllaceae (Caltrop family.) Within families, the plants are identified by common names (Dyer's woad, Spiny sowthistle, etc.) and scientific names. CFGC owns a copy of *Weeds of the West*. Take a look at it the next time you're in the Emerson House library.

Smokey Bear Contest Winner

2013 Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest winner, Domanic Muniz receiving his award from Audrey Coyle and Doris Duckworth.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You:

- 1) **Colorado Gives Day** donation this year was \$2,288.00.
- 2) A \$2000 anonymous donation was given to the Columbine Scholarship.

Fort Logan Volunteers Still Needed:

- 1) August is still open for summer care of the Ft. Logan National Cemetery Visitor's Garden
- 2) Asst. Chairmanship of the Ft Logan garden. Call Mary Fagerberg 970-353-1743 to sign up.

Reminders:

- 1) Plan Ahead for the **RMR 2014 Annual Conference**, September 12 & 13, at the Marriott Colorado Springs. The theme is RMR Roundup and will include a Bar-B-Que.
- 3) **NCD Annual Meeting** at The Vistas at Applewood Golf Course, April 5th 9:30am – 2:00pm.
- 4) Register for **Environmental Studies School Course III, Series II**, scheduled for April 10 & 11 at the Penrose House, Colorado Springs, CO. Deadline to register is March 30, registration form or info can be found on the CFGC Website or contact Gary Belew, at 719-299-1049 or gbelew7@gmail.com.
- 5) If you have a "**Bylaws and Manual of Procedure**" book, remember that it is not completely up-to-date. Many of our governing rules have been revised. You can always see the fully updated Bylaws in the Members section of CFGC's website. Also, two revised copies of the Manual (clearly labeled) are kept in the office and the Archives cupboard at Emerson House. All other copies have not been updated.
- 5) **Emerson House Garden Cleanup** and mulching Friday, March 28, 2014, from 9:00am to noon. All members are welcome to help!

Needed:

Do you know a good roofing company? It's time to inspect the roof at Emerson House. It was replaced eleven years ago, and we need to make sure it is still in good condition. Tell Lynn Cleveland (johnandlynn@lycos.com or 303-347-1765) if you have a roofer you can recommend.

2014 CFGC Annual Convention Meeting Registration Form

“PLANT SEEDS OF CHANGE”

When: May 31, 2014, 8:00am to 4:00pm

Where: The Mesa Conservation & Environmental Center
2855 Mesa Road, Colorado Springs, CO

Directions:

From Denver: I 25 South to Colorado Springs exit #145, Fillmore and turn right, go 1.5 miles and turn right on Mesa Rd.

Destination .1 mile on Right.

From the South: I 25 North to Colorado Springs exit #145, Fillmore and turn left

Includes: Continental breakfast and registration (8:00-9:00am), Buffet lunch, two Speakers, Silent Auction and Entertainment by Devin Rose (Youth Violinist)

Fees: Members: \$30.00, Non-members and late registration: \$35.00

“GREEN IS THE COLOR OF HOPE”

Please print, fill in and mail with your check by May 17th, payable to:

“2014 CFGC Convention”

Margie Soileau, Registrar

8555 Freemantle Drive

Colorado Springs, CO 80920-4912



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Name of member _____

Name of non-member/s _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ e-mail _____

Member Club name _____

Members Credentials: (check all that apply)

- State President, Club President, National Life Member, State Officer, Club Delegate, Flower Show Judge, Club Officer, Club Member, Headquarters Trustee, District President, State Life Member, Environmental Consultant, District Officer, Gardening Consultant, Past State President, Regional Life Member, First Time Attendee, Landscape Design Consultant

**Colorado Federation of
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CFGC is on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Colorado-Federation-of-Garden-Clubs/177497272343002>

Check it out!



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.coloradogardenclubs.org

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Member Name
Street Address
City, ST Postal Code