

THE COLORADO GARDEN CONNECTION



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

President's Message Fall 2014



By Trudie Layton, President, CFGC

Dear Garden Friends,

There is definitely a feeling of fall as I write this, a noticeable crispness to the air and a change in the foliage ranging from golden aspen to a subtle lightening of the creek side willows. The mums have arrived at the nurseries and there is pumpkin flavored everything available.

We are excited and happy to welcome The Black Forest Gardeners Garden Club to CFGC. Their members primarily live in the Pinery development north of Black Forest, south of Parker. The club is open to members in the surrounding area. Check them out on the web www.pinerygardenclub.weebly.com or on Facebook as Black Forest Gardeners.

You will be receiving a promotional video/CD about our garden club to share with club members, friends and family. Help us get the word out about YOU and what garden club is in time for Colorado Gives Day.

Colorado's largest one-day online giving event, presented by Community First Foundation and FirstBank, is coming up and we need your support for our only fundraiser. On Tuesday, December 9, 2014, thousands of donors will come together to support Colorado nonprofits like ours. Last year, a record-

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breaking \$20.9 million was distributed to Colorado nonprofits. Our portion was less than \$100 and we raised about \$1900. This year, our goal is to raise \$4000. Let's make our portion received larger and meet our goal!

Colorado Gives Day is powered by ColoradoGives.org, a year-round website featuring nearly 1,500 nonprofits. ColoradoGives.org encourages charitable giving by providing comprehensive, objective and up-to-date information about Colorado nonprofits and an easy way to support them online. It is entirely free and open Thanks to Community First Foundation and First Bank, Colorado Gives Day

Continue on page 2

BeeGap

BeeGap stands for “Bee Gardener Adding Pollinators” and is a NGC project in partnership with Crown Bees. Based in Woodinville, WA, Crown Bees is a supplier and educator of gentle-natured bees and nest-building products. BeeGap supports NCG President Linda Nelson themes of “Make a World of Difference” and “Choices Matter” by helping to educate and raise public awareness around alternate, easy to raise pollinators. The purpose is to get gardeners interested in raising and harvesting pollinators like the spring mason bees and summer leafcutter bees. These gentle bees are solitary, mellow, only sting when threatened, and are excellent pollinators. Currently, one-third of the U.S. food supply is dependent on bees to pollinate crops. Commercial farmers rely heavily on honeybees causing stress and loss of the honeybee hive. Enter the mason bee, due to its hairy body, one mason bee can pollinate the same amount that it takes 60 honeybees to pollinate.

Make your yard into a bee haven.

Members receive a 5% discount when ordering

bees and products using the code “NGCnat” at Crown Bees.

How can your club make a difference?

- Appoint a BeeGAP representative for your club
- Encourage garden bee habitats and edible landscapes
- Add bee products to your fund raising events
- Promote gentle-natured bees in your communities
- Enlist members for the NGC BeeGAP Speakers Bureau
- Send excess bees to commercial food growers

Learn more at:

www.crownbees.com/category/ngc



President’s Message Fall 2014 (continued)

features a \$1 Million Incentive Fund, one of the largest gives-day incentive funds in the country. Every nonprofit receiving a donation on Colorado Gives Day receives a portion of the Incentive Fund, which increases the value of every dollar donated. That is why we are asking you to donate on this particular day.

Check out our donation page on www.ColoradoGives.org. Give where you live on Colorado Gives Day. Your support helps us continue to fund our

projects and programs such as the Columbine Scholarship, the Tree Fund, Penny Pines, Fort Logan and grants to clubs. Beginning November 1, 2014, donations can be scheduled ahead of time. Continue to make a difference in Colorado.

“Make a Difference”

*Trudie Layton, CFGC State President
Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs
and BeeGAP Speaker*

Smokey Bear & Woodys Owl Poster Contest



National Garden Clubs, Inc., the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Forest Service are once again providing

students from first through fifth grade the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of wildlife prevention and environmental conservation by through a poster contest. The National Grand Prize Winner will win a free round-trip airfare and accommodations for four to Washington, DC. NGC will award \$50 to each of the First Place national winners in all five grades. The local winning poster must be

received by the Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl State Chairmen by 01/23/15. To learn more about the poster rules and timeline go to: <http://www.gardenclub.org/youth/youth-contests.aspx>



2014
Grand
Winner :
5th Grade
Joyce Qin

New CFGC Garden Club

The Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs would like to welcome the newest members of our organization. Black Forest Gardeners, formerly known as The Pinery Garden Club has twenty-two members lead by club president Joann Farrend. The club was started in 2013 with the goals: 1) to share knowledge and neighborhood-specific expertise to create beautiful landscape in their unique part of

Colorado; 2) provide access to local resources and information that helps them become better gardeners; 3) meet their neighbors and make new friends; and 4) help to beautify their area. You can find out more about this club by going to their website <http://pinerygardenclub.weebly.com> or visit their Facebook page Black Forest Gardeners.

Garden Club News Wanted

CFGC Website, Facebook, and The Colorado Garden Connection newsletter, what do these have in common? All this media provides members and the public with information about how exciting it is to be a part of the CFGC community. But to make it exciting to read, your club information is needed! Help make the new CFGC website that is being developed great. Please send your club information and photos to: Lorayne@LMGmg.com. *It is very important*

that the subject line of your email state the name of your club. If sending multiple photos, please limit the amount to two photos per email. Post a comment and picture on the CFGC Facebook page. Each quarter with a Board of Directors meeting deadline, send your interesting club stories, like Dig and Dream did this month (see page 7), with pictures to – The Colorado Garden Connection editor, Joyce Cassidy at: joyce.cassidy@cassidygm.com.

2014 Calendar of Events

September 23 – 27, 2014

NGC Fall Board Meeting
Des Moines, IA

October 4, 2014

Northern District Meeting
Hampton Inn and Suites
North Boulder, CO

November 10, 2014

CFGC Judges Council Meeting
Emerson House, Denver, CO

November 14 – 17, 2014

“High Forest Holidays” Standard Flower
Show
Colorado Springs, CO

November 17, 2014

Article Deadline for The Colorado Garden
Connection – send to Editor
Joyce.cassidy@cassidycm.com

November 17, 2014

CFGC Board of Directors Meeting
Emerson House, Denver, CO

December 9, 2014

Colorado Gives Day!

January 12, 2015

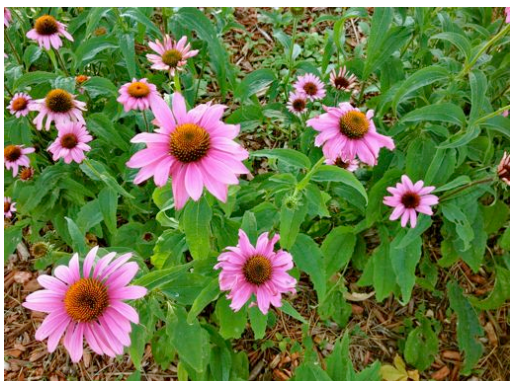
CFGC Judges Council Meeting
Emerson House, Denver, CO

February 6 – 15, 2015

CFGC Flower Show at the Colorado Garden &
Home Show
Colorado Convention Center, Denver, CO

March 14, 2015

CFGC Board of Directors Meeting



Castle Rock, CO

April 13, 2015

CFGC Judges Council Meeting
Emerson House, Denver, CO

May 15 – 17, 2015

National Garden Clubs Annual
Convention
Louisville, KY

May 29 – 30, 2015

CFGC Annual Meeting Hosted by NCD
Location TBD

May 29 – 30, 2015

CFGC Judges Council Meeting
Location TBD

a happy song

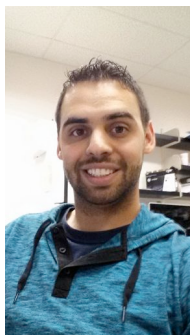
*she works in her garden
in the early morning light
sometimes till the sun goes down
tending the flowers
listening to the birds
hearing the sounds
of heaven above
she gives her thanks
to all that are good
she takes care
to do no harm
she hums to her self
a happy song
knowing all too well
her work is never done
how nice it is
that she loves
what she does*

*By Jimbo Hensley
July 15, 2014*

Columbine Scholarship Winner

By Jessie Boyer, Scholarships Chairman

Ryan Fuller of Greeley, CO is the 2014 recipient of our \$2000.00 Columbine Scholarship and the winner of a \$4000.00 scholarship announced at the National Garden Clubs' convention in Oklahoma. Ryan is studying at the University of Northern Colorado and will receive a Master's degree in Biological Sciences next year. His interest lies in Plant Population Genetics. He hopes to work toward a PhD to continue in this field as a professor and researcher.



Thank you to our judging committee for your careful consideration of all candidates. Pam Graves, Harveyette Harvesters, Pam Pearson, Boulder Garden Club and Julie Sheehan, Dig and Dream Garden Club were our judges. Thank you to the individuals and clubs who donated this year to the Columbine Scholarship fund: \$100.00 from Happy Transplants, \$200.00 from Floral Art Study Club, \$300.00 from Top o' the World and \$1000.00 from Douglas County Garden Club. Please contact Jessie Boyer, Scholarship Chairman, if you are willing to help judge next year. It is a pleasure to read the applications of such interesting and inspiring young people.

Wild B.I.R.D.

By Louise Niekerk, VP, CFGC



The Wild Bird Information and Rehabilitation of Denver, known as Wild Bird started 14 years ago and is dedicated solely to the rehabilitation of wild birds. Its staff has treated and released more than 32,000 birds. It is the only facility serving Colorado and the entire Front Range. Because of improper zoning, Wild Bird left its current location on Sept. 1. However, a new location on a migratory bird flyway has been located in Wheat Ridge on land already purchased by a donor. This new facility will include a room for educational classes where community members and school children could learn about wild birds. Wild Bird

is currently raising \$492,000 for the estimated building cost. Projected move into the new facility is Nov 1 in order for the center to open in time for next spring's migratory bird season. If Wild Bird doesn't make this deadline, other local wildlife rehabilitators expect to be flooded with requests that will strain systems already burdened, and the loss of wild birds will impact the regional ecosystem.

To learn more about the Wild Bird Information and Rehabilitation of Denver non-profit and how you can help, visit the website at wildbirdrehab.com or call 303-751-5385.

CFGC Members Get AT&T Phone Discount

In September CFGC headquarters, Emerson House, changed the phone provider to AT&T. CFGC members with AT&T or switching to AT&T can benefit from this change with a discount on their phone bill. Go into the AT&T store with proof of CFGC membership and provide the AT&T code 5824608, to receive your discount.

From the Archives

By Jacque Gustafson, Archives Chairman



View of the Club House at Garden Center Park, at West Alameda Ave. and Kalamath St., in the Baker neighborhood of Denver, CO. It shows flagstone planters, a lily pond, and beds of petunias.

The below information was printed in the CFGC yearbooks of 1938-39 and 1940-41.

“Early in its history, the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs became interested in Garden Centers. This interest was created and stimulated by Mrs. Albert G. Fish, one of the organizers and the first president of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs. As a first step, through the interest of the Governor, Ed Johnson, a room in the State Office building was secured and there the first Center appeared before the public. Later government offices encroached upon the space and the Center was moved to the

Argonaut Hotel, where a room was given for this purpose. But once again it was asked to move because the hotel needed the space. This time it moved to the Unitarian Church, at 19th and Broadway. This is when the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs selected the Center as their headquarters. This land was owned by the City of Denver. It is a triangle piece of land along the Platte River. The street to the North is Alameda and to the east is Santa Fe Drive. The land had an unfinished bath-house on the grounds. This pool was transformed into a pool for water plants. The house on this property is being remodeled, and the water system has been installed. When finished it will contain a library, meeting rooms, a glassed room for planting, and a visitor center. The center is designated as “Headquarters of the Colorado Federation of Garden Clubs” as well as “The Garden Center”. Garden Club members are responsible for taking care of this property.”

Historic Elitch Gardens Theatre

Founded by Mary Elitch in 1891, the Elitch Theatre is located at the original Elitch site in northwest Denver. It has the distinction of being the oldest summer stock theater company in the U.S.; and also hosted Colorado’s first moving picture screening in 1896. The last production occurred in 1991 after which this Denver landmark fell into disrepair. In 2002 the Theatre became a 501(c)3 non-profit organization to restore and provide sustainable programming for this historic theater. With a \$425,000 grant the theatre is currently undergoing interior renovations. However, volunteers are needed to help with renovation of the gardens. Dave Nels, has offered interested CFGC garden clubs a tour of the Theatre in the hopes of getting volunteers

for the garden or as a club community project. To learn more about the Historic Elitch Gardens Theatre visit their website at historichelitchtheatre.org or visit their Facebook page. Contact Dave Nels at 917-570-6763 if your club is interested in setting up a tour.



Dig and Dream Garden Club

By Mary Vickers

Dig and Dream has been busy with our community service projects, fund-raisers and a lot of fun playtime. We are proud of Jeanette Hunt for taking 3rd place for "Winter Hardy Succulents" at the Adams County Fair in August. Great Job, Jeanette! We are excited that a couple of new gardening members have joined Dig and Dream over the summer and Michelle started a Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/digdream.

On July 26, six of our members enjoyed a tour of Rod Proctors Garden at his Denver home. After the huge display of color we saw in his garden it made us want to run home and get busy in our own garden. It was an inspiration. On the 28th, our members gathered at Pickens Technical College for a rose workshop. Rosarian, Joan Franson presented "Maintaining and Refurbishing An Established Rose Garden". We learned about the care, identifying different species, pruning and trimming of your roses. After being taught correct pruning, members were able to practice what they learned; applying their new skills to the rose bushes at Pickens Tech, which stimulated the roses for new growth. September 22 will be "Chihuly Under The Stars". We'll see Denver Botanic Gardens and Chihuly in the daylight, have hors d'oeuvres in the Solarium, and stay late to see the exhibit lit up at night.

All summer we were busy working and having fun in our community. A group of members are dedicated to Excelsior Youth Center.



The past months they have been weeding, planting, weeding and then more weeding. Vegetables and perennials were planted and maintained all season. The pumpkin patch is growing with a great scarecrow to keep watch (I was told Julie, our president, made that little guy). The girls have enjoyed the vegetables harvested this summer. Ronald McDonald House in Aurora needs weekly maintenance. The flowers give a homey touch for the patients and family members. September 18th is our Ft. Logan National Cemetery work day. September is our fund raising month.

On the 5th and 6th we will have our annual "Garage Sale". We are also selling "Sun Safe Bracelets". The beads change color to inform you that it's time to get out of the sun or reapply your sunscreen. Our bracelets sell for \$5.00 from our club members. We are implementing a member garden show photo contest. Our members submit photos from their garden July thru September or photos from October thru March; with a chance twice a year to show their best perennials, harvest, landscape, ornamental or winter beauty. This will give us an opportunity to enjoy each others gardens or food harvested through this photo contest.

Tree Planting and Care

By Becky Elder, Horticulture Chairman



Planting a tree has certain steps to consider beyond basic planting techniques. The first important step is to decide upon the species of tree you desire.

Trees have different qualities and attributes. Some provide fruit, some are great shade trees, others are evergreen, and still others can feed the trees and shrubs around them. Know your tree and feel confident that it will fit your needs and will not overgrow the area you want to plant it into. Once you have decided on a tree and made your purchase, you can follow these easy steps to increase your success and aid the health of your new tree:

1. Look at your tree and decide how to position the tree. Which side is the “best side” and who gets to look at it... the neighbors, the front porch? Know how you want the tree positioned then begin to dig the hole for it.
2. The hole is important! Dig the hole wide, wider than the pot or root ball. Clay soil makes this even more important as the poor draining qualities of clay soil can cause a smaller hole to drown the tree. Measure the soil depth of the tree in the pot or the root ball (just the soil, not the entire pot depth!) Your hole should not be deeper than that depth. Your tree needs a solid base upon which to sit, so it won't sink into the ground over time. In heavy clay soil it is better to keep the hole two inches shallower and allow the tree to extend above the soil surface (which you cover the root crown with mulch.)
3. Fill the hole with water and watch how it

drains. This accomplishes two goals – to wet the soil around the tree and to also gauge how well (or not) the soil is draining. A slow draining hole indicates a location that will require less water than a hole that drains in five minutes (for example.) A hole that doesn't drain and empty within 24 hours should be deemed unfit for tree planting (and better for a pond!)

4. If the soil is in need of amending, wood chips or composted wood chips seem the best choice... trees don't require rich soil and actually thrive better with no or minimal soil amending. Amend the backfill soil and have at close access for the planting.
5. To get a potted tree from a pot have a partner hold the pot, tipping downward to allow the tree to slip out... gather and catch the root ball. *Do not pull the tree out by the trunk*, as that will damage the root system. While the root ball is out, check the roots and if they seem root-bound, pull the larger ones loose gently or even cut through a few to open up the spread. Place the root ball in the hole.
6. For balled and burlapped trees, the wire mesh should be removed and as much of the burlap pushed down into the well-prepared hole. This allows the spreading roots to move freely out of the root ball and into the soil. To not remove the burlap from the top half of the root ball may spell disaster for a young tree. Burlaps and other materials do not degrade in Colorado soils as quickly as in other regions of the Country.
7. In either case, recheck the height of

Tree Planting and Care (continued)

the root ball to the depth of the hole... If too deep, gently lift from the bottom and have the partner slip in more amended soil, building up height. If not deep enough lift the root ball and set aside while re-doing the hole depth. Once happy with the hole, reset the root ball and begin to backfill pressing down gently with hands to remove air pockets. Do not smash or stomp on the soil, as the soil will become compacted, which is not good. Water at the half-full level before filling with soil completely. Water well again. Top with mulch to protect the roots, to hold the moisture and moderate the soil temperature.

8. Note here that the circle of mulch should be maintained until each tree develops thick bark, sometimes for 10–15 years! The mulch will help the young trees establish, and this practice helps keep weeds and grass at bay to avoid the use of weed whips/weed eaters around the base of the trunk. Damaged trunks kill or deform many young trees yearly. The Master Gardeners call this condition *“weedeater-itis.”*
9. Stake the tree if necessary (high wind area or balled and burlapped trees require it) otherwise staking is usually not necessary for a potted tree. The two-strap method with the tree trunk loosely held between the two straps, not with the straps wrapped *around* the trunk is the best practice. This allows the tree some movement and helps develop root strength and “wind roots.”
10. Staking is not always necessary, but deer protection will be necessary to keep bucks from rubbing antlers and all deer from eating tender bark. Trees of all varieties need deer protection when young and until

the bark becomes thick enough to resist damage from bucks. Shrubs, too.

On-going, Year-round maintenance:

- Water the tree thoroughly again after waiting for one day, then continue every other day watering well. After about 5 waterings, skip two days between waterings for about 2 weeks, then skip three days, and so on until watering once a week. The tree should receive water once a month at the end of the growing season and through the winter season until spring rains come again. Even then the spring rains may not deliver enough water for good establishment. The second year, watering once a week if spring rains don’t happen and during hot, dry weather. Otherwise twice a month should be sufficient in cool and rainy situations. After the second season, once a month of a good drink of water should ensure health and good growth for your tree. *Continue on page 11*





CFGC BUTTERFLY AND BIRD PHOTO CONTEST
CFGC 2013-15



Submit your photos for the Butterfly and Bird Photo Contest; entry form below. Winners will be announced at the CFGC 2015 Annual Meeting. \$50 first place prize for each category (Butterfly or Bird), and \$25 second place prize for each category.

1. Photo must be taken between May 2013 and May 2015.
2. Photo may be of any stage of their life.
3. Butterflies or birds must be the focus but any stage of life, other items or people may be included.
4. Photo must be no less than 8x10 inches and no greater than 11x14 inches.
5. Photo may be black and white or color print (digital or film).
6. Photo may not be retouched or "photo-shopped" for effect.
7. Location and date taken must be on entry form.
8. Photo must be matted: mat cannot be wider than three inches.
9. Photo must be sent or delivered to CFGC Chairman for judging before May 15, 2015.
10. Photo may not have been entered in any other photographic competition.
11. Photographer may be any non-professional photographer, member of CFGC or non-member.

ENTRY FORM
COLORADO FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS
Bird and Butterfly Photo Contest

Must be submitted no later than **May 15, 2015**

Send your entry via email or snail mail to:
(email submissions must be Jpeg image)

Audrey Coyle
afloris@q.com

15778 Open Sky Way
Colorado Springs, CO 80908

First Prize \$50 each Bird & Butterfly category
Second Prize \$25 each Bird & Butterfly category

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email _____

Member of _____ Garden Club(s)

Where was the photo taken? _____

When? _____ Other interesting information about the photo _____

Tree Planting and Care (continued)

- Earthworks can also help keep trees watered simply by capturing rainwater and snow melt that is moving over the land. Simple swales and basins where appropriate are legal and puts moisture into the soil where the trees have access. Earthworks can help recharge the soil moisture. This is smart.
- Wintertime will require a monthly watering, with some trees needing less and others, more exposed, may require every 3 weeks in winter. Every location and tree has different aspects and requirements. Winter watering is critical for the health of trees and healthy trees are critical for the good health of people and the planet.

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

Check it out!



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