



The mission of Columbia Green is to promote beautification of the Columbia area through landscaping, gardening, horticulture, education and conservation. Making Columbia more beautiful will enhance the quality of life of its citizens and visitors and support economic development.

## From the President



Hillary McDonald

Antebellum gardens and the master plan for the restoration of the Historic Columbia gardens were the topics of a special presentation at Columbia Green's annual meeting on November 7, 2006. Noted landscape architect and author James Cauthen presented an overview of typical landscape designs and plants in urban gardens in time periods corresponding to the heyday of the five Historic Columbia properties. Following the presentation, a reception was held at the Columbia Museum of Art for all to enjoy.

In September, Columbia Green sponsored a workshop with Woodley's Garden Center on cool-season container gardening. The workshop was followed by an evening garden party at Harry and Betsy Mashburn's lakeside home and garden in Spring Valley.

To recap project news during the last few months, Columbia Green has once again provided funds for the City to plant cool-season annuals at eleven sites throughout the City. Neighborhood grants were recently awarded to four neighborhood associations to beautify common areas, and planting trees at the Memorial Park will take place in early December.

We are pleased to report the results of the annual election of officers. The officers-elect are: Earl Ellis, president; Susan Hamilton, vice-president; Ardis Savory, treasurer; Don McInnes, recording secretary; and, Bevie Kinder, corresponding secretary. More to follow on the new board members.

It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve as president of Columbia Green for the past two years. My sincere thanks to all of you who share my belief that the beautification of Columbia is a positive measure of our quality of life and who support Columbia Green's many activities.

## Carol Shropshire's "Backyard Playground" Is Full of Memories

By Jan Collins

When Carol Shropshire gardens in her one-acre backyard in the Wildewood section of Columbia, it brings back wonderful memories of different periods of her life. Shropshire moved to Columbia in 1985 after a decade in Virginia. When she was a young mother, she was "busy growing children." But after Hurricane Hugo destroyed three or four trees in the family's backyard in 1989, they had to figure out "what to do with this plot." She took a Master Gardener course, and "it just bloomed from there."

Now as chairperson of the Projects Committee, Shropshire reviews prospective projects and makes recommendations to the Columbia Green Board on how to spend money beautifying the city. "It's a very important position," says President Hillary McDonald. "It requires contact with City Forestry and Beautification people, landscape architects, garden club representatives, and neighborhood association officers"—not to mention attending City Council meetings.

But Shropshire thinks it's all worth it. Helping to beautify Columbia "impacts the economics and the quality of life here," she says. "I have found out that beautifying the city is something I can be passionate about."

Columbia Green is a different organization today than it was when she was president for about 18 months in the late 1990s, Shropshire says.



Carol Shropshire

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## Cultural Gardens to Be Restored

By John Cullum, Co-chair, Garden Restoration Committee  
Trustee, Historic Columbia Foundation

"This garden is yet to the heart most appealing – most especially claimed by the heart's sense of feeling – For, richer than all the exotics there found, are the associations that there do abound; And sweeter than all the sweet flowers that we see, is the past they recall to the heart's memory."

These words, taken from an 1859 poem entitled *Green Spots – No.3. Hampton Garden*, refer to one of the grandest gardens created in the South during the antebellum period. When General and Mrs. Wade Hampton took ownership of the Hampton-Preston Mansion in 1823, Mrs. Hampton began the task of transforming four acres of sandy soil into a lush garden featuring exotic plants from around the world. Her garden survived many years after the Civil War but was destroyed in 1946 despite valiant efforts by many good Columbians to save it.

Historic Columbia Foundation began the task in 2005 of planning for the restoration of the gardens, not only at the Hampton-Preston Mansion but also at the three other historic house museums that the Foundation manages for the City of Columbia and Richland County, and also at the Seibels House, which the Foundation owns. With the assistance of Columbia Green, funds have been raised to secure the professional services of noted landscape architect Jim Cothran of Robert and Company of Atlanta, who will develop a master plan for the cultural landscape surrounding the properties.

Each site will be developed in a period-appropriate historic setting. At the Hampton-Preston Mansion, the garden will reflect the landscape of the 1850s – a time when the importance of the property was at its height. The Robert Mills House and Grounds will represent the 1820s style of English Country homes. The Woodrow Wilson Family Home will replicate the Victorian garden that Mrs. Wilson planted. The Mann-Simons Cottage will feature a swept yard and a rear work area. The Seibels House will echo the Colonial Revival period of the 1920s.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, thank you for supporting Historic Columbia's garden restoration. Together, we can again provide "the sweet flowers that we see, is the past they recall to the heart's memory."

### Memorials

**In memory of Elizabeth Lewis**

From: Bill & Keller Barron  
Libby Bernardin  
Dawn Catalano  
Susan Hamilton  
Tom & Meg McLean

Hannah Rogers  
Ardis Savory  
Ted Wachter & Jan Collins  
Mozella White

**In memory of Edelu Pearlstine**

From: Hal & Podie Brunton

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October 2005 - September 2006

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Please note: These businesses offer a 10% discount to members of Columbia Green. We encourage you to patronize these friends of Columbia Green.

## Grants to Four Neighborhoods for Beautification

As part of our ongoing effort to encourage and support the beautification of common areas within residential neighborhoods, Columbia Green has awarded grants to four neighborhoods for beautification projects. The awards range from \$500 to \$850.

A request for proposals was sent to all neighborhood organizations and garden clubs early this fall. Proposals requesting a maximum of \$1,000 were reviewed by a committee of members of Columbia Green; the winners were announced at the annual meeting on November 7. The grant recipients are as follows:

- East Lake Homeowners Association
- Elmwood Park Neighborhood Association
- Sims Alley Homeowners Association
- Wheeler Hill Neighborhood Association

As a condition of receiving a grant, the neighborhood organizations will provide a match of funding or labor and will ensure the sustainability through regular maintenance and irrigation.

## —Shropshire

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"Now we're trying to become more of a driving force in the city by partnering with local businesses and other major groups like Historic Columbia. It's all about getting our name out there and educating the public about who we are, what we do, and what we need."

Shropshire grew up in a tobacco-growing community of eastern North Carolina, where her father grew tobacco and her mother grew roses. After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a degree in early childhood development, Shropshire taught in the public schools for 20 years. Today she is a sales manager and recruiter for The Worth Collection, a fashion design company.

Now, she and her husband of 31 years, Jed, have the time to enjoy what she calls her "backyard playground." Among her favorite flowers in that playground: groups of cleome (also called "spider flowers") that she grew from seeds that Jed brought back years ago from impressionist painter Claude Monet's famous garden in Giverny, France.



## Become a member of Columbia Green!

Yes. My involvement in Columbia Green will help beautify our capital city and promote knowledge and appreciation of gardening, horticulture, landscape design, and conservation in the Columbia area.

Name(s) (business or individual(s)), as you want to be listed:

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address

City

State

Zip

Membership Category (check one):

- \$50 Individual       \$250 Supporter  
 \$500 Patron       \$1,000 Benefactor

**All membership categories receive the following benefits:**

- Subscription to quarterly newsletter
- 10% discount on purchases from Columbia Green Associates (garden centers, nurseries, and other businesses)
- Invitation to the annual meeting and other special events
- Discount on Festival of Gardening tickets

**Supporters, Patrons and Benefactors will receive the following additional benefits:**

- Recognition in newsletter, other publications and web site
- Complimentary tickets to the Festival of Gardening, including the kickoff party

Additional ways to support Columbia Green:

- I would like to be a Columbia Green volunteer  
 I would like to work on a committee.  
 I would like to make a gift in honor of someone special.

Name of person to be honored: \_\_\_\_\_

Please notify: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of gift: \_\_\_\_\_ Honorarium \_\_\_\_\_ or Memorial \_\_\_\_\_

To become a member or offer your support to Columbia Green, please copy or cut out this form and send it with your check to: Columbia Green, P. O. Box 50191, Columbia, SC 20250  
Contributions are tax deductible. Thank you!



## Columbia Green 2006 Board of Directors

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Carol Shropshire

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## Cherry Pansies!



Once again Columbia Green has given the City the funds to buy cool-season annuals to be planted at eleven sites throughout the City. Every fall colorful annuals are planted to brighten the winter landscape and provide a little cheer to commuters and pedestrians. Blue, violet and yellow pansies and violas will be inter-planted with Swiss chard and kale along the busy thoroughfares. The flower beds at City Hall, the island at Senate and Sumter Streets, and the medians on Rosewood are just off the few mini garden spots sponsored by Columbia Green.

Columbia Green  
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