



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



Earl Ellis

I am pleased to report to you that our Spring Festival of Gardening was a big success. One of the things we do that other gardening festivals don't do is offer the gardens on two different days—one during the week and the other on the weekend. It gives everyone a chance to go. Many thanks to the garden owners who spent countless hours getting their gardens in peak condition for us.

As Columbia Green has grown, so have the requests of various organizations for their projects. Presently we have many more projects planned than we do funds available. For that reason, we are in process of developing special fundraising plans. You will be hearing more about those in the coming weeks and months. Remember, all of our efforts go towards making Columbia green.

Part of our long-range plan was a realization that our organization needs a paid staff person. We are in the process of looking for a part-time person to work with the organization in many different aspects—increasing our membership services, organizing the day-to-day business of Columbia Green, and helping us with our fundraising efforts. (We do not anticipate this person to be a professional fundraiser.) We are excited about it. This is a big step forward for us, but one that our organization needs to make at this point in our development.

Seibel's Candlelight Tour to follow Awards Ceremony

The Seibels House garden will bask in a candlelit glow as this year's Columbia Choice Awards are unveiled Sept. 27 at the historic mansion.

The winners of this year's Columbia Choice Awards will be announced at the Seibel's House – an entity that itself has undergone major re-landscaping efforts this year as part of a broader plan to improve and re-create the historical gardens that were so revered in Columbia during the 1800s.



The newly renovated Seibels House garden will be on tour after the Columbia Choice Awards on September 27.

5:30 p.m. The 6:30 award presentation will be followed by a candlelit tour of the garden. The event is free to Columbia Green members while guests are welcome at a \$20 fee. The Seibels House is located at the corner of Richland and Pickens streets.

The awards are sponsored jointly by Columbia Green and the Columbia Tree and Appearance Commission. They are utilized to recognize and reward businesses, neighborhood groups and public entities whose landscape design

The Columbia Choice Awards recognizes organizations that demonstrate exemplary landscaping design and maintenance. The sixth-annual ceremony will take place Thursday, Sept. 27 at the Seibel's House with a cash bar and hor d'oerves at

Garden Festival: a blooming success

Beautiful skies and magnificent gardens favored the 17th annual Columbia Green Festival of Gardening in May, but it was also the hard work of countless Columbia Green supporters that made this year's tour the success that it was.

The two-day festival featured 11 intriguing gardens starting in Wheeler Hill and winding up in the Heathwood neighborhood. As in past years, tour participants were treated to impeccable traditional Southern landscaping as well as eclectic and magical paradises. Master gardeners and Columbia Green volunteers were on hand to greet participants as well as answer questions about the array of plantings at each site. Approximately 220 attendees enjoyed meandering through the private gardens on May 17 and 19 under cooperatively sunny skies.

Culminating the tour was a tea party held at the home of former Columbia Green board member Hannah Rogers and her husband Ron. The tea party was donated in its entirety by Northern Exposure, a catering company owned by Columbia Green supporter Les Gray.

Special thanks go to the garden owners who put countless hours into pulling weeds, mulching and adding last-minute color to their yards. This year, those hosts were: Barb and Bill Butler, Bob and Diane Light, Meg Atkinson, Mike and Kathy Duggan, John and Marilyn Edelhoach, Archie and Sally Hardy, Phil and Nina Stuckey, Dave and Lynn Odom, Mike and Anna Dickson, Ned and Caroline Barnes, and Ron and Hannah Rogers. In addition, the tour could not have been the success that it was without the help of the 40 Master Gardeners and additional 40 volunteers who worked three-hour shifts at each site.

Help wanted: administrative assistant

Columbia Green is seeking a part-time administrative assistant. Our goal is to provide continuity and stability to an ever-changing board on a year-to-year basis; to provide administrative and clerical support for the board of directors, especially the president and executive committee; to facilitate the duties of the board during the special events of each calendar year; to assist in the growth of the membership of the organization; and to facilitate and promote volunteerism throughout the organization.

Applicants will need the ability to work from home on a flexible schedule. Computer skills and organizational ability are required. Familiarity with Columbia Green and photographic ability are desirable.

To interview for the position, contact Meg McLean at 799-2745 or mmclean@sc.rr.com.

makes a significant contribution to the community as well as the quality of life in Columbia.

The Columbia Choice Awards offer recognition in up to six categories, including: New construction, renovation or reuse, site beautification management, education, neighborhood or community and special achievement. A jury comprised of landscape architects, architects, and representatives from both Columbia Green and the Columbia Tree and Appearance Commission reviews applications and visits sites to select the award recipients each year.

Last year, Palmetto Health Heart Hospital, the National Advocacy Center, the South Carolina Governor's Mansion, Columbia College and First Citizens Bank received award obelisks for their beautification efforts.

Hosting the awards ceremony at the Seibel's House is a way of also recognizing Historic Columbia for its efforts to improve the historic mansion's public gardens. Columbia Green last year agreed to partner with Historic Columbia in this endeavor, pledging \$75,000 over a five-year period toward the garden renovations. To date, Columbia Green has contributed \$30,000 toward the garden renovation.

The Siebel's House is believed to be the oldest home still standing in Columbia, dating back to 1796. The garden is one of Columbia's most sought-after locations for weddings, particularly in the spring. The landscaping efforts are the first step in creating a 21-block garden district bounded by Taylor, Calhoun, Marion and Barnwell streets where Columbia's oldest and most noteworthy homes still stand.

Neighborhood Grant Beautification

Does the entrance to your neighborhood need a little sprucing up? How about the park down the street...could it benefit from some additional shade trees? If the answer is "yes," you may want to take advantage of Columbia Green's Neighborhood Grant Beautification program. Close to 90 letters have recently been mailed to Neighborhood Associations containing the call for proposals for the 2007 Neighborhood Grant program. Columbia Green has established this program as part of its ongoing mission to make Columbia more beautiful for residents and visitors alike. Through it, our grant committee awards small grants for beautification projects. Eligible organizations include residential neighborhood associations, neighborhood groups, garden clubs etc. Eligible projects may include landscaping and beautification of common areas, other public areas, entryways, and recreational areas within the Greater Columbia area. The total funding available for these grants is \$3000 per year, with individual award amounts up to \$1000.



Wheeler Hill

Some of our most recent grant awards have gone to the following neighborhoods:

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

For more information regarding the Neighborhood Beautification Grant Program, please go to our website www.columbiagreen.org or call Columbia Green at 254-7595.

Columbia Green Society

July 2006 – June 2007

Benefactors

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Forest Lake Gardens
Mill Creek Greenhouses
Rebekah's Garden, Inc.
Woodley's Garden Center

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

What's Ahead?

- Columbia Choice Awards
- CG Annual meeting

September 27 Seibels House Garden
November 13 Columbia Museum of Art



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 29250
Contributions are tax deductible. Thank you!

Columbia Green

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A hibiscus in the Dave and Lynn Odom garden on the Feastival of Gardens tour in May



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