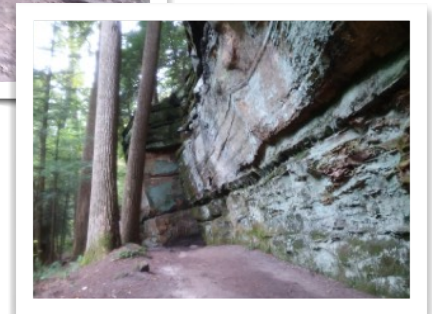


Beauty and Wonder of Nature

Roger and I are avid hikers, getting out two to three times a week hiking two to four miles each time. We cover a wide area of Northeast Ohio and enjoy every hiking trail but have our favorites that we return to again and again. We recently hiked one of our favorites, the Ledges Trail at Virginia Kendall in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. This is a somewhat challenging trail with a lot of up and down and rocks and roots but is well worth the effort. To me, this trail is magical with the huge rock formations and a lot of moss. It is also spiritual. I feel the power and splendor of Nature when I am there with so much beauty that has been shaped over thousands of years. It certainly puts things into proper perspective. I am a believer in Nature’s power of healing and renewal. Not only are we getting good exercise by hiking, we are enjoying these powers of Nature and always come home feeling tired but renewed. There are two quotes by John Muir that somewhat define my life: “In every walk with Nature one receives far more than he seeks” and “Of all the paths you take in life make sure a few of them are dirt.”

Jean Smith



Of all the paths you take in life, make sure a few of them are dirt.

Glow at the CBG: a Cleveland Tradition



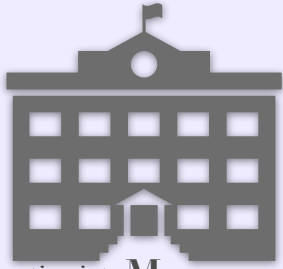
Decorating Day: To be announced but most likely the week of Nov. 16.

Tear down date: TBA but probably Monday, Jan 4, 2021

Our Garden Club has participated in the Glow decorating project at the Botanical Garden for the last 4 years and it is always a fun activity. We have signed up to decorate a 10 ft. tree in Eppig Hall. The overall CBG theme this year is **Home for the Holidays** with an emphasis on the plants and trees that we use during the Christmas season. Our Westlake Garden Club tree theme is “**A Penchant for Poinsettias**”.

If you would like to help with the ornaments, with the actual decorating and/or taking down of the decor, please contact Kathy Bruening. The website has more details: cbgarden.org under Join and Support / Affiliate Garden Clubs / Bulletin Board.

A few plans for this year’s Glow have been scaled back and reservations will be necessary to view the trees. But Glow promises to be just as magical and delightful as always. It is a wonderful Cleveland Christmas tradition.



Helping Westlake Schools

Our receptionist, **Margaret Schulz**, has an ongoing project to help our local school district. Margaret collects box top coupons for education from products like soups, cereals, plastic bags, cake mixes etc. There is a complete list of participating products at <boxtops4education.com>. If you use any of these products that have the coupon (it resembles a UPC symbol) and would like to donate to the Westlake PTO, please pass them on to Margaret or drop them at the elementary school in Westlake. Margaret’s contact information is in our Westlake Garden Club member booklet.

The Great Garden Giveaway

Many thanks to Marsha McEntee for letting our club know about an opportunity to salvage some planting material from a lot that will soon be re-landscaped. The email went out with the invitation and those of us who responded were very happy to arrive with shovels and spades, garden gloves and masks. There were Hydrangeas and Hosta as well as some smaller flowering pollinator plants. The timing was just right for fall planting. We hope to show off some of the fruits of our labor in the spring and summer of next year.

Happy Halloween and may all of our gardeners stay healthy and safe during the pandemic year. We are looking forward to a better 2021. The photos below are from Holden Arboretum—a safe outdoor space. The arboretum requires reservations and a face covering.

