

GARDEN SCOOP

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020

WGC Events

Club Dues

The Club Booklet with member info will be published in Feb and distributed at the March meeting. Please renew now. See article, p.2.

First Meeting in 2020

Wed., March 18 at Porter Library, 11:15 a.m., see Notes from the Board, p. 2.

Board Meeting

Wed., March 11 at Porter Library, 10:30 a.m.; 2nd Wednesday instead of the usual 1st for the Board

Dates to remember

Sunday, Feb. 23 'Waking Up the Garden' p. 3
Emerald Necklace Garden Club, free.

Saturday, March 7
'Home Gardeners' Workshop', p. 3. Lake County Master Gardener Volunteers, \$48 includes meals.

Saturday, April 4
Westlake **Rain n' Garden Show**, Market Square, Crocker Park 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., free.

Thursday, August 13
Floral arranging for Westlake in Bloom ceremony, 1:30, LaCentre—more to come in the spring newsletter. No experience needed—mark your calendar.

Presidents' Message:

Looking back over the last year and evaluating the changes we made in the organization of the club, we are amazed that so much was accomplished. We instituted the following committees: Presidents's Committee, Program and Education, Refreshments, Communications and Community Outreach.

We had the largest program audience ever in co-operation with the library. A total of two scholarships benefited graduating seniors and the funding of several bee-keeping scholarships will help out in the high school. Two Christmas trees were decorated, one at the library and the other at the Cleveland Botanical Garden. Several trips included the CBG and American Greetings. Our Civic projects included the Arbor Day Celebration, the Hilliard Road Flower Box, the Memorial Day Wreath, Westlake in Bloom flower arrangements, Westlake's Rain and Garden Show as well as their new Exploring 50+ Fair and a program on the Westlake Watershed. Donations went to the Green Corp, Porter Library and The Nature Conservancy.

We also had contact with other area garden clubs. Some of whom attended some of our programs and visa-versa. All this and an impressive newsletter each month made for a very busy year.

Sally Knurek & Shirley Lutts

Christmas Luncheon at Westwood Country Club

Thank you to Shirley Lutts for organizing a beautiful and delicious Christmas luncheon and to our newly-installed officers for their past and future service. You are the best!



from left to right: *Marie McCarthy, treasurer; Deb Dougherty, program chair; Shirley Lutts and Sally Knurek, co-presidents; Marsha McEntee, board meeting secretary; Brian Thompson, general meeting secretary. Anne Engel, not pictured, shares the board secretary job with Marsha.*

Time to renew. We are looking forward to another productive year in 2020. Our co-presidents, Sally Knurek and Shirley Lutts, are facilitating a strong committee approach to our jobs so that all members have a chance to contribute and feel connected to the club. Deb Dougherty has been working hard on programs and Jean Smith is doing our year book with contact information for all of our members. **Be sure to send in your dues this January so that you are included.**

Annual dues are **\$25** for an individual and **\$35** for a couple.

Mail to Kathy Bruening, 30978 Walden Dr, Westlake, OH 44145-6815. Checks may be made payable to the **Westlake Garden Club**. ***Please note any changes in your address, phone or e-mail and do let us know if you do not plan to renew this year.**

Notes from the Board

Pollinator Gardens: The Mayor approved the concept of a Westlake Beautification Committee in a meeting with Susan Baker on December 13, 2019. This new organization will work directly with the City's Planning Department and Maintenance Department. The next step is to develop a steering committee for the organization. **The Garden Club** has been requested to be involved. The Board recommended that one standing member be provided as a means of communication between the Committee and the Garden Club to support needs. Our planned involvement will be to provide educational speakers for the citizens of Westlake, with a focus on pollinator gardens this year. Additionally, it is anticipated that the Garden Club would provide signage to identify flora used in new and remediated gardens throughout the City.

2020 Program Draft: The major theme of our programs will be "pollinator gardens" to complement our new involvement with the City of Westlake's Beautification Committee. It has been decided that no speaker will be present for the General Meeting in March to accommodate adequate discussion of many significant issues, including membership duties, standing committees, and reduced workload for refreshments. Additionally, no speaker will be scheduled for the month of September in the event that we plan to pursue our biennial fundraiser luncheon. There are currently only 3 evening meetings planned; all scheduled during adequate daylight months. Our meetings will all be in conjunction with the Porter Public Library.

Constitution and Bylaws: The Constitution and By-Laws were written many years ago. Once again, there are too many requirements for our membership size. S. Knurek recommended a goal of reducing the size and complexity of the document.



The Glow tree at the Botanical Garden was taken down on Jan.6. Many thanks to Cathy Garlitz and granddaughter, Samantha for their hard work. S. Knurek, D. Dougherty and K. Bruening also assisted. Carolyn Steigman has suggested that we follow the example of another garden club at Glow and trim our tree next year with items that can be donated at the end of the season—men's socks made into snowmen was one idea.



The Porter tree was especially beautiful this year. The woodland theme attracted the interest of both children and adults. Many thanks to Robert Pearl for his generous donation of time and decor for the library lobby.



Orange Trees Even in The Depths of Winter

“Is it real?” It’s the first questions people usually ask when they see it. I guess an orange tree growing in Florida wouldn’t be unusual, but in Westlake – maybe not so much. In truth it isn’t a full sized tree but a miniature orange, Citrus Mitis Calamondin.

My tree is about 40-years-old and about 18 inches tall, not including the pot. I’m told they live about 50 years in containers but there is one in the Orangerie, in Versailles, France, that belonged to Louis XIV and it’s still doing nicely at age 300.

I’ve had my tree since it was between three and five-years-old, which is the age when most of them are sold. It’s a striking tree that has the most amazing smelling orange-blossom flowers. It fruits and blooms at the same time. The little oranges look and smell like regular oranges, but they don’t taste like them. They’re actually bitter.

It’s surprisingly easy to care for. It needs to be thoroughly watered about once or twice a week with water mixed with plant food. Give it as much sun as possible and don’t expose it to cold temperatures. In the summer I keep it in a sunroom. When the temperature dips below 50 degrees, I move it indoors to the sunniest window I have and train a Grow Spot light on it from a foot away for 16 hours a day. About every two years I knock it out of its pot, trim off about 1/3 of the root ball and repot in fresh soil. This keeps its growth in check. That’s all there is to caring for it. So if you are looking for a green friend who will be there for many years to come, a miniature orange tree is worth checking out.

Carolyn Steigman

Home Gardeners’ Workshop

CFAES

The Lake County Master Gardener Volunteers and The Ohio State University Extension

present

**The 2020 Home Gardeners’ Workshop
Saturday, March 7, 2020**

Lakeland Community College
7700 Clocktower Drive, Kirtland, Ohio 44094
Fee of \$48 includes continental breakfast, lunch and snacks

Registration is now open!

Join us for an exciting day of gardening ideas and best practices from professionals in the field!

For complete information about Workshop and the registration form, please see the attached brochure.

Questions? Please call 440-350-2254, email MGVLakeCounty@gmail.com

or visit <https://lake.osu.edu/program-areas/master-gardener-volunteers>

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“Waking up the Garden”:

Sunday, Feb. 23, 2020, 2 – 4pm

Emerald Necklace Garden Club (ENG) will present an education series program on Sunday, February 23, 2020 titled “Waking Up the Garden.”

The program will be held at the Brecksville Library, 9089 Brecksville Road, Brecksville 44141 from 2:00 – 4:00pm. The program is **free and open to the public**. Reservations are recommended. Call Jane at 440.526.4213 to register.

Three local gardeners will share their knowledge, followed by questions and answers on any gardening subject. The presentations will include spring garden prep, what the deer don’t eat, including herbs, and new plants for 2020 that you can include in your garden. There will be handouts on each subject, as well as a variety of free gardening literature.

Shake those winter blues and get enthusiastic about spring gardening at this program. Find out more about ENG at www.EmeraldNecklaceGardenClub.com.

A few Photo Memories from the past year.
May our friendships and our gardens continue to flourish in 2020.
See you in March!

