
GARDEN SCOOP

Volume 1, Issue 11

WESTLAKE GARDEN CLUB

December 2012

O' Christmas Tree!

By Gail Morse

Have you seen our festive tree at the Westlake Porter Library? If you haven't, you're in for a treat! Committee members Lillian Bialosky, Don Bowman, MaryAnn Brock, Pat Dailey, Michelle Hathway, Judy Hullinger, Regina McCarthy, Gail Morse, Robert Pearl, Alberta Ricciardi, Margaret Schulz, and Jean Smith met in October and November to choose the nature theme and to craft many of the unique and creative ornaments you see on the tree. Special thanks go to our president, Regina McCarthy, for purchasing and donating the beautiful tree to the club. Thanks also to Judy Hullinger for inviting us into her lovely home to make our tree decorations. And thanks go to Robert for the two hours spent putting the lights on the tree. To all committee members, a thousand thank yous! The compliments keep pouring in!



Detail of decorations on the Holiday tree at the library.

See page 4 for more photos.

President's Message

By Regina McCarthy

The Holiday Season is a time for giving. It was a pleasure for me to announce at the November meeting the Board's decisions on our Club's donations for 2012. Without the help and support of the membership for our successful Fundraiser Luncheon, and vigilance by the Board to our operating budget, such donations would not be possible. The Westlake Garden Club has sent funds in support of: The Cleveland Botanical Garden's Green Corps; Lakewood High School's Horticulture Learning Lab; the Westlake Community Services Department's operating fund; Westlake Porter Public Library, to include the purchase of horticulture books; and fully funding the Westlake Board of Education's Lee Burneson Middle School's purchase and construction of a cold frame/high tunnel for a garden and environmental project involving its 7th and 8th grade Science and Technology students. Earlier in the year our Club contributed to the Nature Conservancy through the Garden Club of Ohio and to Cleveland Metroparks' outdoor education project at CanalWay Center. Next Spring we will be working with, and contributing to, a joint venture between the Community Services Department and St. John Medical Center on the creation of Westlake's first community garden. Reflecting on these donations and all the volunteer projects our Club undertakes, members should take great pride in what we collectively have accomplished. I particularly want to thank the Board for its hard work and support. Happy Holidays to everyone and I look forward to working with you in 2013.

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Toys for Tots

If you are looking for a project for the holidays that will help children in need, you might consider volunteering with Toys for Tots. Our member, Don Bowman, has been involved with this charity for several years. "There is plenty of work for all types of volunteers. I know I could keep a dozen volunteers busy doing all types of work," says Don. This year the warehouse was donated by American Greetings in Brooklyn. You can go to the website, www.brookpark-toysfortots.org to get more information and to register to be a volunteer. This is a very worthwhile cause and the work is easy. Last year, Regina McCarthy and Jean Smith spent a morning at the warehouse sorting toys into age-appropriate bins. This is the time of year to give back and to help those in need.

Getting to Know You...

By Margaret Schulz

Bill Hock



Bill became aware of the Westlake Garden Club from its sponsorship of the Westlake in Bloom garden tour several years ago. He joined the club in June 2010, becoming the Second male member. Bill served as co-first

vice president along with Nancy Chopp, and they planned all of the meetings and field trips for 2012. Bill grew up in the Cincinnati area and received a BS degree in geology from the University of Cincinnati. His brother, also a geologist, worked in the oil industry for many years. Bill chose the education route and a science teaching position with the Cleveland Schools brought him to Cleveland in 1971. He later taught earth science and physics with the Lakewood Schools for 33 years before retiring in 2006. Bill says he greatly misses teaching because it was so much fun. Since retiring, Bill has on occasion, taught geology for several semesters at Cleveland State University. Bill and his wife Prudy love to travel and they picked up their 50th state on a beautiful trip to Alaska in September 2011. They have made multiple trips to the UK, Ireland and the Caribbean. Bill said that his son Billy, a commercial airline captain, has made it easy to fly internationally and that his daughter, Abby, who now works and lives in Ireland, gives him an excuse to continue to return to the beautiful Emerald Isle. When not traveling, Bill loves to garden and paint. A large number of his paintings grace the walls of his home, and his gardens have grown and changed each year since the house was built 22 years ago. Many club members may have seen Bill's gardens when they were featured in the garden tour of 2011. Bill's son Phil lives in Avon Lake so, luckily, Bill can also visit often with his three grandchildren.

Our best wishes to Kathy Molner and Alberta Ricciardi to continue your recovery of good health. We miss you and our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.

Garden Scoop, Published 11 times per year

Editor: Jean Smith

Contributing Writers: Kathie Carnall, Gail Morse, Margaret Schulz

Photographs: Jean Smith

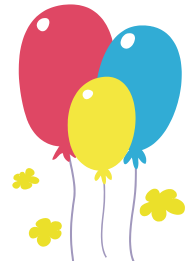
Deadline: last Wednesday of the month for next month's issue

Happy Birthday

December

3rd
6th

Margaret Schulz
Pat Dailey



Membership News

By Carolyn Steigman

Please welcome our newest member Mildred Shernock and add her information to your member's directory. She joined us at our last meeting at Porter Public Library and it was wonderful to meet her.

Mildred Shernock
23238 Marion Road
North Olmsted, OH 44070-1141
Phone: 440-779-8588
Birthday: 9/18

We also had a guest attend the meeting and she inquired about membership. She has a brochure and I'm hoping to hear from her soon. She would make member number 40. Both of these new members were known by people who are already in the club so remember to invite your friends to our meetings. If anyone needs membership brochures give me a call at (440) 892-3940.

Dried Flowers in Abundance!

Following the November general meeting, election and lunch, the meeting room was transformed into a florist's work room. Vases, baskets, urns and other containers were brought out, as well as scissors, pruners and clippers. One corner of the room was filled with tubs of dried flowers and plant material, thanks to Bill Hock and Robert Pearl. Everyone got down to business creating their arrangements, with a little help from Bill. Everyone took home a lovely arrangement or just some dried flowers to use when they got home. This was a very informal and enjoyable program, although a bit messy. Thank you to everyone who helped with the cleanup; disposing of cut stems, wiping tables, and vacuuming the floor.



Some of the dried flowers and plant materials used for arrangements.

2012 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

WGC PROGRAMS

THURSDAY , DECEMBER 20, 2012 – HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS

PLACE: HOULIHAN'S RESTAURANT, 25651 DETROIT ROAD

TIME: 11:30 A.M. FOR A SHORT MEETING AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS, FOLLOWED BY "VIOLIN: UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL" WITH MARY BETH IONS.

NOTE: WE WILL ORDER FROM THE MENU WITH SEPARATE CHECKS.

OTHER EVENTS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2012 – 2013 WESTLAKE MAGAZINE RECEPTION

PLACE: WESTLAKE CITY HALL, 27700 HILLIARD BLVD.

TIME: 6:30 P.M. RECEPTION WITH LIGHT REFRESHMENTS, 7 P.M.

PRESENTATION

A RECEPTION TO RECOGNIZE AND THANK ADVERTISORS, RESIDENTS, AND BUSINESSES/ORGANIZATIONS FEATURED IN THE 2012 WESTLAKE MAGAZINE. WGC IS LISTED ON PAGE 15 WITH OTHER CIVIC AND FRATERNAL CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 – CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN WINTER SHOW: GLOW AFFILIATE NIGHT

PLACE: CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN, 11030 EAST BLVD.

TIME: 5-8 P.M.

REFRESHMENTS AND CASH BAR.

The Votes are in

At the general meeting on November 28, 2012, all suggested changes to the Constitution and Bylaws were unanimously approved and will be included in your 2013 Year Book.

The slate of officers was also approved and the following officers have been elected for 2013:

President	Regina McCarthy
1 st Vice President	Bill Hock
2 nd Vice President	Jean Smith
Treasurer	Marie McCarthy
Recording Secretary	Sally Knurek and Marge Emblom
Corresponding Secretary	Claire Evangelista

The officers will be installed at the December meeting.

Book Corner

by Kathie Carnall



Some gift suggestions for garden and nature lovers:

"La Formentera; The Woodland Refuge of Juan Montoya"

This is a coffee table book, large in size, but worth dipping into at any time. It consists mainly of wonderful, inspiring photographs of the 110 acre estate developed over 30 some years near Garrison, New York. Juan Montoya spent 2 ½ years listening to the trees before beginning to mold the land with a respect for nature. Just viewing the photographs leaves one with as much a feeling of serenity and wonder as a real walk in the woods.

"Chanticleer; A Pleasure Garden" by Adrian Higgins

Chanticleer is a 40 acre estate, open to the public, located outside of Philadelphia. The Rosengarten family came to the estate in 1913. Both father and son loved plants, especially trees, and over the years created garden areas to showcase the wide diversity and beauty of plant life. This book enables you to visit one of America's outstanding gardens, if you haven't been able to visit it in person. As stated in the introduction, "Chanticleer isn't about flowers alone... It's the garden as an art form."

"Natural Companions; The Garden Lover's Guide to Plant Combinations" by Ken Druse

Ken Druse, well-known author of gardening books, has released his latest book and it is a real treat! The book offers well-honed gardening tips, but with a concentration mainly on combining form, color and texture to create a pleasing blend. The professional photographs are amazing and illustrate wonderful combinations of various plants against a black background. You'll have to see these photos to believe the beautiful combinations that can help to make your own garden shine.

"Wild Ohio; The Best of Our Natural Heritage" by Jim McCormac and Gary Meszaros

This book travels Ohio's nature preserves and wildlife areas (many not too well known, but, oh so worth visiting). Rare plant and animal species are discussed in each of the locations, many of which are little touched by human hands. Nature lovers and explorers of our beautiful state, take note! This is a very special and informative resource.

"The Bluebird Effect; Uncommon Bonds with Common Birds" by Julie Zickefoose

Julie Zickefoose is a bird watcher extraordinaire. She now lives on a farm in Ohio and has ample opportunity to study and sketch in watercolors the creatures with which she is fascinated. This, her second book, "is many things – a sketchbook, a journal, an attempt to understand other beings." It is also a series of personal stories about specific bird friends.



Top left and right: Robert placing owl on top and Regina adding lights.
 Above: Tree committee (missing are Michelle, Alberta, Don, Pat, MaryAnn and Margaret).
 Right: Finished tree.
 Below: Detail of ornaments.



Right: Lillian Bialosky wanted to honor the oldest tree in Westlake so she created a wreath and added acorns from the tree. The tree is a White Oak and is located to the east of the parking lot at Pat Catan's on Center Ridge Road. The wreath is displayed behind the Welcome Desk at Westlake Porter Library. Please stop by and take a look.

