
GARDEN SCOOP

Volume 3, Issue 11

WESTLAKE GARDEN CLUB

December 2014

WGC Holiday Tree at Porter Library

See story and more photos on page 4.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 *Getting to Know You.....*
- 2 *Happy Birthday; Membership News*
- 2 *Box Tops for Education*
- 3 *Upcoming Programs and Events*
- 3 *Holiday Luncheon; Interesting Christmas Trivia*
- 4 *WGC Holiday Tree at Porter Library*

President's Message

By Regina McCarthy

Our Club has had a great year. New members — many of whom have stepped-up to assist — and new projects, such as the Westlake Community Garden and the Hershey Children's Garden at the CBG. The Arbor Day tree planting is back on track. The Remembrance Garden is in good shape. The bus tour to Schedel Gardens was well organized and the grounds were beautiful. The Fundraiser Luncheon was a great success. The program speakers have been very interesting and varied. Our lunches have been delicious. And on and on. The WGC has gained respect in the community, particularly for our support of student gardens at several of the schools. Without all of you pitching in, in whatever way you can, none of this would have been accomplished.

The best news of all is that our Sunshine members are all recovering from various maladies. Your cards and prayers have helped.

We will end our year by decorating our holiday tree at Porter Library and by enjoying our holiday luncheon at Houlihan's on Wednesday, December 17.

I wish all of you and your families much happiness, good health and a joyful holiday season.

New Officers for 2015

At the November general meeting, the following officers were elected for 2015 and will be installed at the Holiday meeting on December 17, 2014 at Houlihan's Restaurant. See meeting and reservation information on page 3.

President	Regina McCarthy
1 st Vice President	Jean Smith
2 nd Vice President	Sally Knurek
Corresponding Secretary	Kathy Shimko
Recording Secretary	Kathy Shimko, Board Meetings Brian Thompson, General Mtgs.
Treasurer	Marie McCarthy

Wishing you all a very Happy Holiday.

Getting to Know You...

By Margaret Schulz



Marsha McEntee

Marsha grew up in North Olmsted and saw many changes in the area, especially during the 50's and 60's. It went from fields of wheat, corn and pastures and

horses, donkeys and other farm animals, to the Great Northern strip mall, restaurants and gas stations. While attending St. Augustine Academy, Marsha dreamed of becoming a veterinarian but ended up choosing teaching. She was a freshman at Kent State University when the May 4th shootings occurred. This tragedy had a profound effect on her belief system and changed her into a political activist. After graduation from Kent State, Marsha immigrated to New South Wales, Australia, a pretty gutsy move for a 23 year old. During this time, she became very interested in plants and flowers and developed a lifelong passion for gardening. Marsha met husband Steve in Sydney and their son Christian was born in 1990. The family moved to Auckland, NZ and Marsha came to love the unusual and beautiful native plants and developed many beautiful gardens. As a teacher, she developed gardening programs for adolescents with special needs as part of a work/study program. Never forgetting the dream of becoming a veterinarian, she went back to study Vet Science, but family circumstances prevented her finishing her degree. When the family returned to the US in 1998, Marsha returned to college and attained an RN degree in 2001 and started working at University Hospital in the OR. She bridged to a BSN from Indiana Wesleyan in 2006 and, as she puts it, "definitely live up to my name McEntee (son of the scholar)!" Marsha's hobbies/interests include gardening, hiking, cycling, rowing, swimming, pet care, nursing wellness education and advocacy for special needs children. She is currently semi-retired and runs a pet sitting/dog walking business called "Pet Friends Pet Care Services." She can think of no more enjoyable way to spend retirement than in the company of plants and pets. As a new member of the Westlake Garden Club, Marsha is pleased to be welcomed so warmly by long standing members. "I enjoy all the luncheons and informative guest speakers and social events. I look forward to putting in my best efforts as a proactive member and to a long association with the club." Marsha has already started fulfilling this goal by chairing the tree decorating committee. Thanks Marsha, and welcome to the garden club.

Happy Birthday

December

3rd Margaret Schulz
6th Pat Dailey



Membership News

By Kathy Bruening

Time to Renew.

We are looking forward to another great year in 2015 and hope to see all of you and perhaps some of your friends who might like to join the group.

Annual dues are **\$25.**

Please mail to:
Kathy Bruening
30978 Walden Dr
Westlake, OH 44145

Or bring a check to the December meeting. **Checks** should be made payable to **Westlake Garden Club.**

Please note any changes in your address, phone number or e-mail or call with any questions: 440-385-7566.

Box Tops for Education

By Margaret Schulz

Box Tops for Education coupons are on ZipLoc Bags, Campbell Soups, cereals, cake mixes and many other products. Please collect the box tops and any of the following school supplies: crayons, paste, blunt scissors, markers, colored pencils and regular pencils. Bring them to me and I will take to Dover Elementary School. In 2013, the PTA received \$800 from box tops for school assemblies, playground equipment and Fun Fair. As a resident of Westlake, the box tops and school supplies are a great way to support education for Dover Elementary School. Thank you for your help.

Garden Scoop, Published 11 times per year

Editor: Jean Smith

Contributing Writers: Regina McCarthy, Margaret Schulz

Photographs: Kathy Bruening, Jean Smith

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

2014 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

WGC PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2014 – HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2015

PLACE: HOULIHAN'S,

TIME: MEETING AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS, FOLLOWED BY LUNCH. THERE WILL BE NO PROGRAM

WE WILL ORDER FROM A LIMITED MENU AND EVERYONE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN CHECK

TABLE DECORATIONS: REGINA MCCARTHY

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: ALBERTA RICCIARDI

RESERVATIONS: SHIRLEY LUTTS, 440-871-8057

OTHER EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2014 – GLOW AFFILIATE NIGHT

PLACE: CLEVELA INND BOTANICAL GARDEN, 11030 EAST BLVD.

TIME: 6-8 P.M.

COST: \$8

Interesting Christmas Trivia

(From *A Victorian Christmas, Joy to the World*
By Cynthia Hart, John Grossman and
Priscilla Dunhill)



The Original St. Nick

The granddaddy of all Santas was the young bishop Nicholas, who lived in the seaport of Myra in present-day Turkey. He delivered alms to the poor and small gifts to the children, defending Christianity when it cost one's life to do so. In twelfth-century France on St. Nicholas Day, when nuns resurrected the custom of gifts for children, the "modern" St. Nicholas was born.



Gifts for the Christ Child

The first Christmas gift-givers were shepherds, dressed in animal skins, who visited the Christ Child the night of his birth, bringing a cruse of oil, a piece of cheese, and fleece for a blanket. Twelve nights later, having read a special message in the bright star of Bethlehem, three Persian priest-kings came by camel to honor the Child King with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, once used in perfumes to embalm the dead.

Tree Sweets

The German Christmas tree dainty called marzipan was shaped into animals, Santas, angels and even musical instruments. The possibilities were endless, since the dough – sugar, egg whites and almond paste – could be so easily molded. If the marzipan was not to be eaten, frugal German *hausfraus* substituted wheat flour and glue for the costly almond paste.



December Holiday Luncheon and Installation of Officers

This year's Holiday Luncheon at which new officers for next year are installed will be on
**Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at
Houlihan's Restaurant
25651 Detroit Road**

A meeting at 11 a.m. followed by lunch and installation of officers for 2015. We did not plan a program so everyone will have ample time to visit during this holiday season.

We will order from the following menu with everyone responsible for their own check.

Luncheon Menu

Southwest Chicken Wrap

Grilled chicken, pecans, lettuce, tomato, red peppers, bacon, tortilla strips, jalapeno jack cheese and garlic ranch dressing rolled in a grilled flour tortilla with a side of homemade salsa
\$11.50

Beef and Cheddar

Thinly sliced roast beef, aged cheddar, lettuce, tomato and red onion served on a torpedo roll with a side of mayo
\$12.50

BLT

The classic bacon, lettuce and tomato on sourdough breads
\$11.50

Southern Cal Fish Tacos

Chipotle mayo, panko breaded tilapia, napa cabbage, pico and honey cumin dressing in flour tortilla shells
\$11.50

Spinach Salad

Fresh baby spinach topped with strawberries, kiwi, blueberries, toasted hazelnuts, goat cheese and poppyseed dressing
\$11.50

Non-alcoholic beverages
\$2.95

Sandwiches are served with tortilla chips or fresh fruit
Soup or salad may be added for \$3.00
Alcoholic beverages available upon request
8% Tax and 20% Gratuity will be added

WGC Decorates Holiday Tree at Porter Library

For the third year now, the Westlake Garden Club has decorated a holiday tree for the lobby of the Westlake Porter Library. On Sunday, November 30, the lobby was abuzz with garden club members, boxes and bags of ornaments, ladders and curious visitors to the library. The theme this year is a child's Christmas and is quite evident by the many, many toy type ornaments. Marsha McEntee chaired the tree committee and supplied most of the ornaments from her personal collection. Marsha's helpers included Ruth Bertrand, Kathy Bruening, Marie McCarthy, Regina McCarthy, Robert Pearl, Cathi Peter, Margaret Schulz, Kathy Shimko and Jean Smith. There was a period of concern when the middle section lights were not lit, but eventually that problem was solved and the ornaments went on. The primary color on the tree is red with other seasonal colors of green, white and gold, and finished off with real candy canes. Please stop by the library sometime this month and enjoy the club's work. We should be very proud of this year's tree and trust the community will also appreciate the holiday spirit it adds to the library. And a very big THANK YOU to Marsha for taking on the responsibility of getting members together to work on the tree and supplying most of the ornaments and thanks to the committee. Good job!



Top row: detail of toy ornaments on tree

Bottom left: tree committee including in front, Regina McCarthy; middle row, Marie McCarthy, Margaret Schulz, Ruth Bertrand and Jean Smith; back row, Cathi Peter, Robert Pearl, Marsha McEntee and Kathy Bruening. Missing is Kathy Shimko.

Bottom right: Robert Pearl adding ornaments to top as Kathy Bruening watches.