
GARDEN SCOOP

Volume 2, Issue 1

WESTLAKE GARDEN CLUB

January-February 2013

President's Message

By Regina McCarthy

This is an exciting year as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Club. The Board is finalizing plans for our programs, some of which will be discussed at our February 20 general meeting. Our speaker at that meeting, Ron Zayac of Canterbury Creek Gardens, is extremely knowledgeable about genetically modified organisms (GMOs), as some of us who heard Ron speak at a recent Garden Club of Ohio meeting can attest. An article entitled "The Truth About GMOs" in the current issue of *Mother Earth Living* states in part: "Why should you care whether you are eating these so-called 'Frankenfoods'? The many reasons include concerns over environmental stewardship, international relations and trade, biodiversity, chemical-based versus sustainable agriculture, the patenting and ownership of life forms, and a number of personal health maladies." If you are concerned about genetically engineered seeds farmers and gardeners are planting, the potential for new allergens, antibiotic resistance and pesticide exposure, the unpredictable and the unknown in the GM market, and how all this is affecting the foods we eat, our February 20 program is not to be missed.

Did you know?

The Westlake Garden Club was formed on April 24, 1963

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Officers for 2013

The elected officers for 2013 were installed at the December Holiday luncheon held at Houlihan's Restaurant.

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

Since Alberta Ricciardi was recovering from an illness and could not attend the luncheon, we thank Carol Lewellen for graciously stepping in to conduct the installation ceremony.



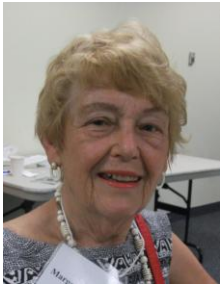
Following the ceremony and lunch, we were enlightened and entertained by Cleveland violinist, Mary Beth Ions, who played a variety of holiday music, classical pieces, and time-tested standards. There was a good turnout for the luncheon with several guests in attendance. Ann Van Dyke was presented with the Outstanding Achievement Award for 2012. Ann's son and daughter in-law arrived just in time for the presentation of her award. A big "thank you" to Ann for her many contributions to the garden club over the years.



Getting to Know You...

By Pat Dailey

Marge Emblom



After retirement, Marge and her husband moved to Westlake from Illinois. A casual remark to a fellow hiker that she loved to plant flowers would set Marge on a new life-long path. She was invited to attend a meeting of the Westlake Garden Club, and the rest is history. Marge has held,

and enjoyed, every office in the club except Treasurer. In return, the Garden Club opened new horizons in gardening and gave her many friendships. What with raising five kids and earning a PhD, teaching at a university, doing research in England, preparing lectures, grading papers, and cooking everything from scratch (her kids had allergies), her days had been harried at best, and impossible at worst! For once Marge had free time and decided to garden, and it was a learning process. Marge and her husband bought a roto tiller and began chopping up the acre they had inherited from her mother. Marge read every seed catalogue she could get her hands on, learned the Latin names of the flowers because she thought that was what everyone did, and learned, too late, that you should plant bushes and trees first and then flowers—but that was after planting 2,000 daffodils and finding that the garden in the middle back yard was in low land and became a giant shallow lake in spring! So her garden, knowledge, and interest have all evolved from such massive and wonderful mistakes. When Marge first approached gardening, she wanted to plant every bush and flower by herself—and still does today. Yet she has conceded the vegetables to daughter Vicki—also an avid and informed gardener—and while they both savor the colors and smells of Marge's garden, they eat the amazing organic produce of Vicki's garden. Today Marge enjoys a huge eclectic and un-manicured garden with flowers and weeds vying almost equally. She does not use pesticides or bloodmeal, and constantly fights the 14 deer that think of the yard as their cafeteria. Marge said, "My garden is not only the place where I dig and weed and dream, it is also the place where I eat my breakfasts and lunches, drink my afternoon glass of wine, read my books, and sometimes even take a nap. Because of my garden, I probably have the best life anyone could have, and I am grateful that I made a friendly remark to a fellow hiker."

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Photographs: Michelle Hathway, Alberta Ricciardi, Jean Smith

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

Happy Birthday

January

2nd Marge Domitz
31st Cathrin Peter

February

24th Judy Hullinger
24th Marge Paull
24th Carolyn Steigman



Membership News

By Carolyn Steigman

Please welcome new member, Rosemarie Evans. Rosemarie is a familiar face since she has attended several meetings in the past as a guest.

As you all know, membership dues are only \$20 for the year (a bargain!) and were due by February 1. It appears that we have lost three or four members and gained one and some maybe just tardy. Soon the smoke should clear and we'll know where we stand. We will consider a better way of collecting dues for next year, so if you have ideas, please let me know. (440) 892-3940.

2013 Fundraiser/50th Anniversary Luncheon

By Jean Smith

Robert Pearl and I have agreed to co-chair the committee planning the 2013 Fundraiser and 50th Anniversary Luncheon. The event will be held on **Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at Westwood Country Club, 22625 Detroit Road, Rocky River, OH.** Since this is a special celebration in addition to being a fundraiser, we decided to explore other venues, instead of automatically going to Wagner's. It was an interesting exercise and we gained some information that may be of value in the future. We presented the options to the board whose vote determined the venue. We are busy putting together the committee to start working on the various areas of the luncheon. We will use a "50 Year" theme that will appear on flyers, tickets, program, etc. There will be a Chinese raffle with, hopefully, 50 baskets; a bakery table; a silent auction and/or a 50/50 raffle. We are working on the program and speaker(s) and hope to have that finalized in the very near future. As in the past, we must depend on you, our members, to help make this event a success by donating a raffle basket, baked goods, and helping in any way possible. If you are interested in serving on a committee, please contact me or Robert. Look for more information in future issues of *Garden Scoop*.

2013 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

WGC PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2013 –GENERAL MEETING

PLACE: WESTLAKE PORTER LIBRARY, 27333 CENTER RIDGE ROAD

TIME: 11 A.M. MEETING, LUNCH AT NOON, 1 P.M. PROGRAM

"THE BENEFITS OF ORGANIC GARDENING: SOILS, FERTILIZERS AND OUR HEALTH." **RON ZAYAC** FROM CANTERBURY CREEK GARDENS WILL SHARE HIS KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE.

HOSTESSES: CAROLYN STEIGMAN, BILL HOCK, MICHELLE HATHWAY, CATHRIN PETER, MARGE EMBLOM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2013 – GENERAL MEETING

PLACE: LEE BURNESON MIDDLE SCHOOL VIVARIUM, 2240 DOVER CENTER ROAD

TIME: 11:30 A.M. MEETING, LUNCH PROVIDED BY LEE BURNESON.

PROGRAM: 1 P.M. TOUR VIVARIUM

NO HOSTESSES NEEDED THIS MONTH

OTHER EVENTS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5 – SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2013

ORCHID MANIA

PLACE: CLEVELAND BOTANICAL GARDEN, 11030 EAST BLVD.

TIME: 10 A.M.-5 P.M. TUES.-SAT., NOON-5 P.M. SUNDAY

SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2013 – RAIN & GARDEN SHOW

PLACE: WESTLAKE RECREATION CENTER, 28955 HILLIARD BLVD.

TIME: 10 A.M.-2 P.M.

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2013 – CITY OF BROOK PARK

BEAUTIFICATION & PRIDE COMMITTEE ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON

PLACE: BROOK PARK COMMUNITY CENTER, 17400 HOLLAND ROAD

TIME: 1-4 P.M.

PROGRAM: "BACK YARD HABITATS" BY KAREN LAKUS OF CLEVELAND METROPARKS. ATTRACT OR DETER SPECIES OF WILDLIFE AND ENCOURAGE NATIVE VS. ALIEN PLANTS

DONATION: \$15 – CALL 216-676-8873 FOR TICKETS

Printing Roster from Website

If you tried in the past to print the membership roster from the website and had difficulty, please try again. Regina McCarthy talked with our website designer and was able to get some adjustments made that simplify the printing process. If you try to print the roster again and still have problems, please contact Regina for help.

The Book Corner

By Kathie Carnall

Thoughts of spring planting are beginning to stir and mail-order catalogs have arrived with their lush color photos of new, bewitching selections. I have ordered from catalogs for many years, mostly because they offer plants unavailable in local nurseries. Three of my favorite catalogs are:

White Flower Farm in Litchfield, Connecticut

Yes, the prices are higher, but they offer new and unusual plants. They are packaged well, and, being in the same zone, they are more likely to survive and prosper in northeastern Ohio. The farm offers everything from perennials to shrubs. They are famous for "The Works" – 100 mixed daffodils for naturalizing. Their collections for planting in containers are inspired. A catalog to dream over!

Bluestone Perennials in Madison, Ohio

Bluestone's prices are more reasonable, but the plants are smaller and need nurturing. They specialize in perennials – from Achillea to Veronica – plus a selection of ornamental shrubs. Usually, each variety contains several selections – 12 different Dianthus are available for ordering, over 35 Echinacea, over 20 Sedums. It's difficult making a choice!

Wayside Gardens in Hodges, South Carolina

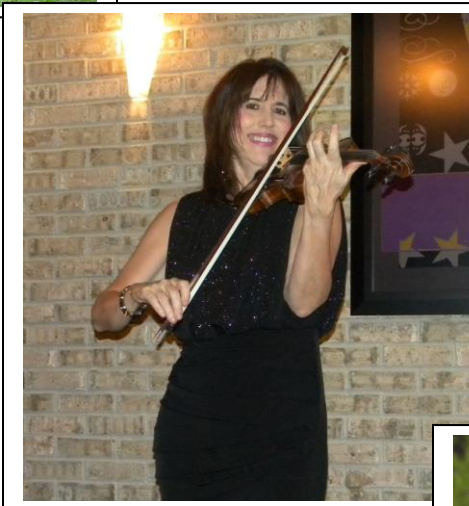
Wayside actually originated in Lake County, Ohio. As a child, I accompanied my mother on spring buying trips that whetted my appetite for gardening. Since Wayside moved south, it has been necessary to rely on their annual catalog which is an education in plants and gardening. Sadly, coming from the Deep South, their plants find it more difficult to survive in our northern climate. Don't let that be a deterrent from viewing their selections. Trees and shrubs, roses, vines and perennials are all beautifully pictured. The 2013 catalog offers over 125 new items to drool over, including an "Amethyst Falls" wisteria on the cover!

All three catalogs are on line. Bluestone and Wayside have included listings of Deer-Resistant Plants on their sites. I wish you happy gardening!

2013 Yearbooks

The 2013 Yearbooks will be distributed at the March general meeting. Included will be the monthly program information for 2013, an updated membership roster, and the amended constitution and bylaws. Please insert the new yearbook pages into your binder and keep handy so you can refer to the monthly calendar of events. You can also insert your monthly *Garden Scoop* into the back of the binder for easy reference.

Memorable Events from 2012



Top 1 to r: Mark Johnson, speaker at fundraiser luncheon; tree planting at Founders' Walk on Arbor Day.

Second row, l to r: Tour of Lakewood High School's greenhouse; Debbie Dean Espie in Dean's Greenhouse gardens.

Left to right: Holiday tree at Westlake Porter Library; Mary Beth Ions entertaining us at the 2012 Holiday Luncheon; Lillian Bialosky, charter member of the garden club, sharing some insight at the 2012 Holiday Luncheon.

