
GARDEN SCOOP

Volume 3, Issue 9

WESTLAKE GARDEN CLUB

October 2014

Slate of Officers for 2015

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

The general membership will have the privilege of voting on this slate of officers at the November meeting. There are no recommended changes to the By Laws this year. The elected officers will be installed at the December Holiday meeting. The current Board will help transition any new Board members to their new responsibilities. The non-elected Board positions will be appointed by the President. If you have an interest in serving on the Board, please contact Regina McCarthy.

Thank you to everyone who helped make the fundraiser luncheon a big success, either by serving on the committee, donating a raffle basket or silent auction item, or by attending the luncheon and bringing friends.

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President's Message

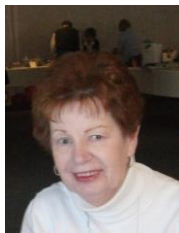
By Regina McCarthy

It bears repeating how proud I am to be your President. You made it easy for me to stand in front of the 200+ attendees at our Fundraiser Luncheon and talk about what our Club has accomplished. The Luncheon ran smoothly but we all know how much work, stress and loss of sleep was involved. Jackie Crosier and her bakery team; Sally Knurek and her basket raffle team, including "worker bee" Jean Livingston and Alberta Ricciardi, bow maker *par excellence*, and Kaye Tilton, although new to our Club, handled the auction items like a pro. Kathy Bruening, who ensured that our table centerpieces were sufficient in number (with the ever-growing list of attendees) and perfect for the occasion. Ruth, who I know worked hard to bring in attendees from other civic organizations, had the task of assigning tables, not receiving a table layout until the day prior; and those members that helped her write table numbers on the name tags. Marie McCarthy, who assisted both Ruth in checking-in the guests and Kaye at the auction table checkout. Jean Smith, who not only co-chaired the event, but also typed all the name tags. Robert Pearl, co-chairing with his inimitable style (and charming my family), contributing several beautifully-wrapped baskets, and who was the first to arrive the morning of the event and set up the raffle and auction tables. All the members who help wrap and contributed baskets, auction or bakery items, and invited family and friends to join us. Our merchant donors, with Margaret Schulz breaking her own personal record of merchant donations obtained. Several members who could not attend contributed financially toward the bottom line. As for me, I haven't typed and printed so much since I worked for a living. *Most importantly, we came together as a team.* I received many, many compliments on every aspect of the Luncheon and on our Club's accomplishments, particularly with schools. One person used the word "admirable" to describe our work. It's going to be very difficult to top the photo boards and thank you card given to us by Bassett, Burneson and Hilliard Schools. The vase of flowers from the Hilliard children's garden personally delivered that morning by Donna DiFranco, the "force" behind that garden – how thoughtful was that! Mayor Clough and Mr. Heaton were relaxed and enjoyed themselves. The vibe in the room was light, and I saw a lot of smiling faces. We could not have asked for more. You, too, dear members, should be very proud.



Getting to Know You...

By Margaret Schulz



Claire Evangelista

Claire grew up in Lakewood and graduated from Lakewood High School. She still sees classmates for a monthly luncheon to keep in touch. Claire attended Cleveland State and Bryant & Stratton College where she got her Accounting degree. For a while, she did accounting for three beauty shops at one time. Claire and Lee Evangelista were married in 1965 and had three sons. She now has four grandchildren: Gavin, Paige, Viviana and new born, Carmine Robert. In 1975, Lee and Claire found an abandoned Arco Station on the corner of Detroit and Canterbury Roads. After much remodeling, they turned it into a beauty shop, which remains there today. Lee passed away in 2009. Claire joined the Westlake Garden Club in 2010 after attending a meeting with her friend Ruth Bertrand. She loved meeting new people and making new friends. As a condo resident, Claire is limited in what she can plant, but she enjoys all of the plants that come up in spring and summer as well as her indoor plants. Even though she is not doing a lot of gardening, Claire appreciates and enjoys the programs and speakers at the garden club meetings. In retirement, Claire likes spending time with her children and grandchildren. She also loves live theater and movies. For the past two years, Claire has served as Corresponding Secretary of the garden club. Her duties include doing all of the advertising and publicity for garden club meetings and events. Claire is surely well thought of by the Westlake Garden Club members and adds a lot to the club. Claire's favorite flower is the Knock-Out Rose.

"You have the best raffle baskets at your luncheons!" Comment from a luncheon attendee.

Garden Scoop, Published 11 times per year

Editor: Jean Smith

Contributing Writers: Jackie Crosier, Sally Knurek, Regina McCarthy, Margaret Schulz

Photographs: Alberta Ricciardi

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

Happy Birthday

October

2 nd	Linda Pintz
18 th	Alberta Ricciardi
25 th	Lucy Kalbers
29 th	Rosemarie Evans



Membership News

By Jean Smith

As reported in last month's newsletter, Kathy Bruening will take over responsibilities of Membership. I will meet with Kathy this month to make the transition. We added several new members to our roster this year and hope to add more. We will also be updating our Membership Brochure and Application to reflect changes. If you know someone who is interested in joining our club, please contact Kathy and she will send them a brochure and information.

Holiday Tree at Library

The garden club will again decorate at holiday tree for the lobby of Westlake Porter Library. Please let Regina or Jean know if you are interested in participating in the planning and decorating. A possible theme of "The Night Before Christmas" was suggested. We welcome your ideas. We would like to be able to make some of the decorations which not only keeps the cost down, but displays our creative skills and dedication to the project - and I think people enjoy seeing hand-made ornaments.

More Good News!

Jackie Crosier Reports

Mary Ann Brock's visitors are welcome at daughter Debbie Incorvia's home in North Olmsted. Suggestion is that 2 friends go together as there are 80 some of us between WGC and Herb Guild alone! So NO drop ins please. Call Debbie's cell phone voice mail at 440-283-9010 leaving your names, phone number to call back, with day and time you wish to come. Debbie gets home from work at 3:30 so 4 pm should work out. Weekends in afternoon depending on family schedule. Her easy to find home at 30953 Old Shore Dr. is off Lorain just west of Barton Rd in North Olmsted. Take Lorain Rd west past Barton to first street on right Hickory Ln (north) turn left (west) at next corner onto Old Shore. Her home is 5th house on left (south) side at 30953. Watch as numbers are similar! She will be glad to visit with us a few at a time

2014 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

WGC PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2014 – GENERAL MEETING /ANNUAL POTLUCK DINNER

PLACE: CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, 23500 CENTER RIDGE ROAD

TIME: 6 P.M. SOCIAL, DINNER AT 6:30 P.M., PROGRAM AT 7:30 P.M.

PROGRAM: "FOR THE LOVE OF PETE" PRESENTED BY ALICE

MASTROVITO, PRESIDENT OF GARDEN FOCUS

HOSTESSES: CATHI PETER, DON BOWMAN, LAURA MESSING, NANCY CHOPP

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014 – GENERAL MEETING

PLACE: WESTLAKE PORTER LIBRARY, 27333 CENTER RIDGE ROAD

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

PROGRAM: "UPDATE ON IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY OF WESTLAKE WATERSHEDS" PRESENTED BY ROBERT P. KELLY, P.E., DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING AND WESLEY DAVIS, EIT, STORM WATER DISCHARGE COORDINATOR – CITY OF WESTLAKE.

HOSTESSES: KATHY BRUENING, MARGE EMBLOM, ANNE ENGEL

OTHER EVENTS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2014, GCO FALL DISTRICT MEETING

PLACE: ST. MICHAEL'S WOODSIDE, 5025 MILL, BROADVIEW HTS.

TIME: 10 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

9 A.M. REGISTRATION BEGINS

10 A.M. PROGRAM BY JEFF GRIFF FROM LOWE'S GREENHOUSE "GAINING MORE INTEREST FROM YOUR WINTER GARDEN"

NOON – LUNCH (SIGNATURE SALAD, ROLLS, CHICKEN PAPRIKASH OVER SPAETZEL, GLAZED CARROTS, SHERBET AND BEVERAGES). VEGETARIAN OR GLUTEN FREE MEALS ARE AVAILABLE

1 P.M. – PROGRAM BY SANDRA APIDONE OF COUNTRYSIDE FLORIST, "FALL AND HOLIDAY TRENDS"

COST - \$22 MEMBERS / \$25 NONMEMBERS

SEND YOUR CHECK, MADE PAYABLE TO "GCO CLEVELAND DISTRICT," TO REGINA **NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 7.** KINDLY INCLUDE A NOTE IF VEGETARIAN OR GF IS REQUESTED

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2014, GCO HOLIDAY PROGRAM

PLACE: ST. MICHAEL'S WOODSIDE, 5025 MILL, BROADVIEW HTS.

TIME: 10 A.M. – 2:30 P.M.

COST: \$22 INCLUDES LUNCH

My Moment With Nature

By Jackie Crosier

"Psst! Wanna buy a banana tree? Call Kevin". Really! You may buy one or more of his 20 plus palms growing in his front or back yard at 4149 West 210 in Fairview park. Besides palms there are giant leaf philodendron, ti (tee) plants, and other tropicals. You must stop to see this fantastic sight! He plants it every year, but admitted he "got carried away this year!" I couldn't believe my eyes last year while driving to Westgate, but he has topped it this year! His home is on east side of West 210, 2nd house from Eastwood. Park on Eastwood and walk around to his house. There is a "Banana Trees for Sale" sign at street. He will be taking them in for winter and replant in spring so hurry! Afterwards drive down Hilliard in Westlake to see why our beautiful trees in median are named Honey Locust, but hurry before their golden leaves fall!



Luncheon Raffle Baskets

By Sally Knurek

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the basket raffle. It is just amazing how the club members rise to the occasion with their generous donations. Our baskets were just beautiful this year. We had some old favorites and some very inventive baskets. One big surprise was the top ticket seller - the salad bowl of lettuce (\$). Everyone can be very proud of our club; we sure do put on a classy affair. Our reputation keeps growing and is justly deserved.



2014 Fete des Fleurs Luncheon is a Tremendous Success

By Jean Smith

Robert and I want to thank everyone on the luncheon committee and those not on the committee who jumped in and helped with the luncheon – we could not have done it without you. It is a wonderfully satisfying feeling to see everything come together and to see over 200 guests enjoying the day. The Westlake Garden Club can be very proud about putting on such a classy luncheon. The dining rooms at Lakewood CC, with the lovely view, set the stage as everyone entered the room. The food was delicious and the service was outstanding. The staff was, without exception, so friendly and accommodating, and Alfredo – what can I say. When I met him on his third day with Lakewood CC, my comfort level rose significantly. He is the new Food and Beverage Manager who just started working there a few days before our event. Regina welcomed everyone and talked about the Club's community involvement over this past year. She introduced the Mayor, who talked about the City of Westlake and thanked several people and the garden club for involvement with various city-wide programs. After lunch, guest speaker Michael Heaton talked about his daughter who is involved in the new concept of Permaculture, or Permanent Agriculture, which is the philosophy of working with rather than against nature to create a sustainable system. She lives and works in California but has also travelled to Peru to study. In preparation for his speech, Michael's daughter had given him names of some books to reference, so he was educated on the subject. He inserted bits of his own style of humor to entertain luncheon guests. Michael also sold his books before and after lunch, and donated one for a door prize. This year we had 36 baskets in the Chinese Raffle and 16 items on the silent auction. Thanks to the many businesses who donated gift certificates, services and items, we were able to add many to raffle baskets to increase the value, and there were some left over for door prizes. Preliminary figures indicate that we did considerably better, financially, on the luncheon this year compared to last year, which means we will have more funds to donate to educational and civic programs in the community. We received many compliments from guests after the luncheon and almost everyone said they liked this year's event more than last year. Those who were not able to attend the luncheon missed a very enjoyable event. Now comes the challenge – how to we top this next year?



Top row, l to r: Ruth Bertrand and Marie McCarthy at registration table; Regina McCarthy; guest speaker, Michael Heaton.

Middle Row, l to r: Mayor Dennis Clough; Anne Engel and friends; a group of guests.

Bottom row, l to r: Lucy Kalbers; Gail Morse and Herb Guild table; another group of guests.

Right: Jean Livingston, Cathi Peter, Margaret Schulz, Shirley Lutts and Pat Dailey on September 17 at basket-making meeting.