GARDEN SCOOP

WGC Meetings and Events

**November 20, 7 p.m.**
**WGC Evening Meeting**

Come, give a HOOT!
Owls in OHIO

Jim Tomko, President of the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland, will share his passion for birds and wildlife. Twelve species of owls have been spotted in Ohio. Several are residents, some are migrants, and a few are accidental visitors. Interesting owl trivia will be revealed. Some tips on how, when, and where to spot owls will be shared. This is a powerpoint presentation and no live owls will be exhibited. This chapter does not have a license to have captive wildlife.

Our garden club Christmas trees have featured decorative owls in the past and they have always attracted a lot of positive attention. Come learn about the real bird and why people are so fascinated by the owl.

Please make reservations to Shirley at shirllutt@att.net or Kathy at 440-385-7566 or Claire at 440-835-2663 by November 17. Also respond if you are unavailable. This is our last meeting of the year. December 18 will be our officer installation luncheon at Westwood Country Club.

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**Save the Date**

**Wed. Dec. 18**
WGC Holiday Luncheon & Installation of Officers
Westwood Country Club
Watch for reservation details in next month’s newsletter.

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**More Gardening Events**

**Monday, Dec. 2, 2-8 p.m.**
**Glow Affiliate Thank You Day** at Cleveland Botanical Garden. All members of our club are welcome & encouraged to attend at no cost. Invitation p. 4

See Affiliate Bulletin Board under Join & Support at cbg.org for many other gardening activities

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**Psychologists Confirm People Who Decorate For Christmas Early Are Happier . . . . trivia from Facebook.**
So let’s get happy. See pages 2 and 3.
Oct 16 WGC Meeting

Medical Marijuana

The October meeting topic of Medical Marijuana in Ohio was clearly of interest to members of our community: over 70 attended the presentation. Dr. Dvora Nelson, M.D. gave an informative overview of Ohio’s newly implemented medical marijuana program. Dr. Nelson explained how medical marijuana can alleviate suffering from certain conditions and emphasized the importance of working with a doctor to assure that the product that you get is tailored to your disease or condition and that it comes from a safe and regulated pharmaceutical source. She spoke about a few of the conditions that Ohio deems eligible for a medical cannabis treatment and mentioned some that do not respond at all to treatment with medical marijuana. Dr. Dvora Nelson is a co-founder of the Lakewood Medical Clinic and a general surgeon.

Psychologists confirm people who decorate for Christmas early are happier

WGC tradition includes two opportunities for decorating early: the tree we do for Glow to benefit the Cleveland Botanical Garden and also our tree at the entrance to Porter Library.

Porter Tree: Robert Pearl has again offered to lead the decorating of the Porter tree and has everything needed to get it set up and looking beautiful before Thanksgiving. The 2019 theme is Our Wilderness Friends, chosen with the idea of appealing to the many youngsters who visit the library. Please join Robert at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, November 14. RSVP to Robert or Kathy B.

Glow tree: The overall theme at Glow is ‘Tiny Treasures’ and the theme chosen for our particular tree is ‘Sow Many Seeds’. Please contact Sally Knurek if you wish to help decorate the tree: 440-331-8722. Monday afternoon, Nov. 18 is our tree trimming time at Cleveland Botanical Garden.
News from our board meeting:

Pollinator Gardens

Many of you know Susan Baker, associated with our own Westlake in Bloom program. Susan has just started laying the groundwork for our city to establish pollinator gardens. At the recommendation of Westlake’s Planning Director, Jim Bedell, Susan has reached out to the Garden Club.

While Susan waits to set up additional meetings with the City’s administration, the Garden Club can consider our best way to assist. Members, here is your chance to be involved at the very ground level of this important, eco friendly program.

How can the Westlake Garden Club help? Suggestions discussed at our November Board meeting included educational speakers, spreading the word on lesser known plants, and perhaps assisting in the signage (especially for lesser known plants!).

We look forward to hearing from you with any suggestions. We may not do much digging, but there is a lot of talent and knowledge within our membership. This would be a great opportunity to show our stuff!
Deb Dougherty

The WGC 2020 Slate of Officers:
Sally Knurek & Shirley Lutts, Co-Presidents
Deb Dougherty, Program Chair
Marie McCarthy, Treasurer,
Brian Thompson, Recording Secretary, general meetings,
Anne Engel & Marsha McEntee, Recording Secretaries, board meetings.

No new nominations were made therefore the above officers will be installed at the December luncheon/ installation. Congratulations to all and many thanks for your service.

The Nominating Committee members are Alberta Ricciardi, Margaret Schulz, Debbie Dougherty and Jackie Crosier.

Glow Tree

Many thanks to our co-president, Sally Knurek, for hosting two workshops for the Glow tree decor at her home. The group of workers included Sally, Nancy Whelan, Judy Hullinger, Aggie Tark, Cathi Peter, Margaret Schulz, Jean Smith and Kathy B.
Our Theme ‘Sow Many Seeds’ fits the overall CBG theme of Tiny Treasures. The women worked on Vintage Seed Packet decorations under Sally’s direction and hope that you will join in the fun of decorating on Monday, November 18. see p. 2.

Fall advice: You can leave leaves in wooded areas, on mulched areas, under shrubs and around perennials as long as you think of them like mulch: not built up too thickly (3–4” at most” and not piled up against stems and trunks.) Not on lawns; be sure you can see the plants underneath.
Membership Renewal for 2020:

We are looking forward to another great year in 2020 and hope to see you and some of your friends who might like to join the group. Annual dues are $25 or $35 for a couple. Please mail to: Kathy Bruening, 30978 Walden Dr, Westlake, OH 44145-6815

Checks should be made payable to Westlake Garden Club.
*Please note any changes in your address, phone or e-mail.

We appreciate renewal at the end of the year as it allows us enough time to organize and print the 2020 membership booklet in time for distribution at the first meeting in March of 2020. Also please let us know if you are not renewing. 

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Guilt-free Crème Brûlée: delicious, easy to make, low cal and fancy enough to impress dinner guests. 140 calories per serving and only 20 of those calories from fat.

1 can (12 fl ounce) evaporated low fat 2% milk 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup egg substitute or 4 large eggs, beaten 1/4 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup granulated sugar 6 teaspoons sugar for topping

Put all ingredients, except the sugar for topping, into a bowl and mix well. Pour mixture through a sieve and divide evenly into 4 oven-proof custard cups. Put cups into a baking dish and fill the baking dish with boiling water half way up the outside of the custard cups, taking care not to get any water inside the custard cups. Bake for 30-35 minutes until gently set in center. Carefully remove cups from baking dish and let cool overnight in refrigerator or for several hours. If water accumulates on top, pat with a paper towel. Sprinkle each custard top with 1 teaspoon sugar and caramelize the sugar with a kitchen torch (the easiest way) or by placing custard cups on a baking sheet with sides and broiling with tops 4-6 inches from the heat for 5-6 minutes. Watch carefully to make sure the sugar is melted and the custard is not burning. Let cool just a few minutes. Serve immediately or refrigerate for no longer than 1 hour or the top will soften.

*from Carolyn Steigman who says she has tried this and it is wonderful! 

Your CBG Invitation — remember to register!

2019 Glow Affiliate Thank-You Day (part of Glow Member Day)
Monday, Dec. 2, 2:00 – 8:00 pm
Cleveland Botanical Garden

This year, Cleveland Botanical Garden opens on Monday, Dec. 2, specially for HF&G members and Affiliate Clubs that decorated for Glow — our thank-you for the many hours of time, dollars, and limitless creativity that 38 member clubs shared to make Glow such a memorable winter experience in Cleveland.

FREE ADMISSION for members of Affiliate Clubs that decorated a tree or wreath for 2019 Glow
Half-price admission for up to (2) guests: $7.50 Adults and $5 Children (2 and under are always free)
Validated parking for Affiliate Club members and guests (subject to availability)
Cookies and hot cocoa available as you take in the show (while supplies last)
Cash bar available

Clubs that did not decorate for Glow are welcome to attend for half-price admission. Advance registration is required. Please register online or by calling Meggie Buscio at (216) 707-2834 by Friday, Nov. 29.