

GARDEN SCOOP

WGC Events

NOVEMBER MEETING: We are back to our usual 2022 meeting time and place: **Saturday, November 19, Porter Public Library, 10:30 a.m.**

The Magic of Bonsai will be presented by Dan White, owner of Black River Bonsai.

TREE TRIMMING AT PORTER:

Robert Pearl is supplying all the decor. Join him in the tree trimming at the library **Monday, November 28 at 11 a.m.**

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 10:30 a.m. at Porter Library. All are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE: *Christmas Luncheon at Westwood Country Club, Thursday, December 15, 2022. Please note this date change in your program and re-mark your calendar accordingly.*



Slate of Officers for 2023

Co-presidents: **Carolyn Steigman & Deb Dougherty**

Treasurer: **Rosemary McEntee**

Secretary: **Susan Baker**

Membership: **Patti Frank**

Committee Chairs, (not elected):

Sunshine: Lavinia Cozmin,

GCO & HFG Rep: Sally Knurek,

Website: Regina McCarthy

Newsletter: Kathy Bruening

November 19 Program:

The Magic of Bonsai



President's letter
Carolyn Steigman

Our very last actual meeting of the year will be on Nov. 19 at 10:30 a.m. **This is an important meeting so please plan to attend.** We will be voting on a couple changes to the club's constitution. You will meet the new slate of officers for the new year. In addition, membership renewal time is also here and there are a few changes there too. If you prefer, you can renew your membership at the meeting. Plus, we will be going over the plans for the fancy holiday luncheon next month at the Westwood County Club. You can make your reservations for the luncheon at the meeting but remember the deadline is Nov. 21. There will be a lot of news and you don't want to miss this meeting.

Our speaker this month is a special treat. Ever since I was a child and learned about the art of bonsai in school I have been fascinated by it. Imagine, a real tree that you can grow on a table top! What could be cooler than that? Then as an adult when I saw the bonsai trees at the Natural Arboretum in Washington D.C. that are hundreds of years old, I was overwhelmed. There are many plant species that can be miniaturized into bonsai from a mighty maple to the common jade. What I really love growing bonsai is that you can make it as easy or challenging as you want.

Do you want to have a deciduous tree that you can overwinter in the cold and then have the joy of watching it wake up in the spring or would you prefer a tropical that you just bring in and place in a sunny window all winter? Do you want to try your hand at creating awesome forms by wire wrapping the branches or would you prefer a more natural shape that only requires that you clip it from time to time? Both are possible and will depend on the variety of plant. Either way, bonsai are a fascinating mix of art and nature.

I could not resist the call of bonsai and have two tropical varieties. For the past several years I have been happily growing a Brazilian rain tree and a parrot's beak tree. These trees can live as long as their outdoor counterparts so chances are they may outlive me.

Our speaker, Dan White, is the owner of **Black River Bonsai** and is also a member of the Cleveland Bonsai Club. He will captivate you as he shows you several kinds of bonsai. He will also tell you how to care for them. Bonsai make great holiday gifts that keep on giving as they grow more beautiful with each passing year.

PEOPLE FOR TREES: What we learned at the October Meeting

The ‘People for Trees’ initiative of the Holden Forest and Gardens was launched in February of 2021. The goal is to have people plant trees to replace the dwindling tree canopy in northeastern Ohio. Most forested land is privately owned and therefore we need ordinary people to come to the rescue by pledging to plant trees. Holden will support this effort by supplying instructions for care, guidance on how to select appropriate trees and where to purchase them. They also have a tree giveaway at the end of April. The tree canopy is a major player in the fight against climate change. Trees suck up the heat. They retain carbon and produce oxygen. They help to control pollutants, reduce heating and cooling costs, increase property values, provide habitat for wildlife, and reduce noise pollution. So far, people have pledged to plant 4,000 trees. The goal is 15,000 by 2025. The website <holdenfg.org> has more information and a pledge form.

Holden Forest & Gardens Affiliate Meeting Report

The Fall Affiliate Meeting is open to our Holden Forest and Gardens representative and one other member: **Sally Knurek, our representative, and Deb Dougherty attended.**

Information from the meeting:

Thirty-six clubs are participating in the Winter Show (formerly Glow, but now called Twinkle in the 216). Amusements inside and out will be expanded this year.

Deb and Sally made contact with other clubs and are extending our networking to promote mutual support among West Side clubs. They were asked what our club could do for the HFG and chose to possibly sponsor a bus for inner city children to visit the botanical garden. Many suburban schools do this but the cost of the bus is often prohibitive for less affluent school children. The price is reasonable and arrangements are done by the HFG.

The next Affiliate meeting in the spring will be open to everyone. We hope you will attend and enjoy a day in the botanical gardens.



Christmas Tree at Porter Library

Once again, Robert Pearl is decorating our Garden Club tree in the foyer at Porter Library. Every year he manages to come up with a new and interesting theme. Join him to help decorate the tree November 28 at 11 a.m. This is the Monday after Thanksgiving. No expertise needed. Just a little Christmas spirit.

“Twinkle in the 216”

The **Winter Show at Cleveland Botanical Garden** has a new name and a new look. “Twinkle in the 216” will feature holiday traditions in the various neighborhoods throughout greater Cleveland. Our Westlake Garden Club committee has chosen: **Clague House, History in our own Neighborhood** as the theme for a Christmas table setting reminiscent of the early 1900s (a big change from our usual tree trimming).

The centerpiece of grapes and other fruit is a reminder of some of our history. Westlake was originally part of Dover, an orchard and grape growing region. In fact Dover was the 2nd largest grape growing area in the US in 1900.

Many thanks to our committee who planned and contributed all that was needed for this elegant table of the past: **Susan Baker, Eileen Drusendahl, Deb Dougherty, Cathy Garlitz, Shirley Lutts, Jean Smith, Linda Strong and Kathy Bruening.**



Good-bye to a dear friend

The garden club has lost another longtime member. Ruth Bertrand passed away on the last Sunday in October. She was a woman of great energy and organizational skills. She delighted in meeting new people and drawing them into her many social and community groups. Ruth contributed generously to the garden club and many other service groups. We will miss her and remember her as we go through some of our gardening events that she was so fond of. A donation was made to the Beck Center from WGC in Ruth's name.

The Garden Club of Ohio held their Holiday Show on November 10th. Clubs were permitted to set up craft tables to provide a free, fund-raising opportunity. Our Jean Smith jumped at the opportunity. Her efforts made us \$147. Thank you, Jean! We plan to schedule an event to prepare crafts for next year's opportunity. Thanks also to Teri Lyons, Cheryl Dever, and Deb Dougherty for staffing the table and selling those crafts!



This n' That . . .

Time to renew your membership in WGC for the 2023 calendar year. Dues need to be in by December 31 in order to be included in the roster. We will be voting on an increase at the November meeting so please plan to attend to vote and perhaps bring a check to pay your dues.

Garden Club of Ohio offers a variety of awards to its member clubs. The Westlake Garden Club has submitted applications for both the newsletter and the pollinator garden.

A Rose on the WGC name tag indicates a new member. Please be sure to seek out and welcome all those who have joined us recently.

Enjoy taking photographs? Nowadays, all it takes is a few clicks of a smart phone. The newsletter is looking for a photographer, someone who attends most meetings and doesn't mind snapping and sharing a few photos of members, speaker and whatever is going on.

The Christmas luncheon is arranged. It's at **11:30 a.m. on Dec. 15** at the Westwood Country Club. There are 6 entree choices all at different prices. Garden Club members' lunch will be subsidized by the club as noted on the reservation form but guests will have to pay for their meal in full. There is a cash, not credit card, bar and the price includes tax, tip, valet service, dessert and bread, butter and coffee. For those who have not yet registered, forms are available from Deb after the meeting. **Reservation due by Nov. 21.**

The Westlake Garden Club
Annual Holiday Luncheon/Officer Installation

Thursday, December 15th

Westwood Country Club
 22625 Detroit Road
 Rocky River, OH 44116

Social Hour 11:30 a.m. (Cash bar) Luncheon 12:00 p.m.

Please use the side door for valet service

Luncheon Prices are as below and include tax, gratuity and valet service

Entrée Item #	Entrée Selection Meals include bread/butter, dessert, coffee:	Member Price	Guest Price
A	Lemon Chicken and Pasta	\$36	\$50
B	Salmon and Risotto	\$39	\$53
C	Chicken Alfredo	\$36	\$50
D	Fettuccine Alfredo (Veg)	\$29	\$43
E	Bib Citrus Supreme Salad with Shrimp	\$32	\$46
F	Bib Citrus Supreme Salad with Chicken	\$32	\$46

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN
 NOVEMBER 21ST**

Please make your checks payable to **Westlake Garden Club** and mail along with your entrée selection to:

Deb Dougherty, 1814 Bur Oak Drive, Westlake OH 44145

Member's name: _____ Phone # _____

Number of reservations: _____ Check amount \$ _____

Menu Selection listed above (A-F): _____