

GARDEN SCOOP

Merry Christmas

Peace and Joy to all in the New Year

WGC Events

ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON/
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:
Thursday December 15, 11:30 a.m., Westwood Country Club, 22625 Detroit Rd., Rocky River, OH

SCHEDULE FOR 2023:
The WGC year starts in March. Although the programs have yet to be determined, our usual schedule will be **board meetings, 10:30 a.m. on the first Wednesday** of the month; **member meetings & program, 10:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday** of the month.
Variations to this along with the program schedule will be announced at the first meeting in March. Check your newsletter for updates.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS are due. See the article bordered in red on this page.



OFFICERS FOR 2023

CO-PRESIDENTS: **Carolyn Steigman & Deb Dougherty**

TREASURER: **Rosemary McEntee**

SECRETARY: **Susan Baker**

MEMBERSHIP: **Patti Frank**

Committee Chairs (not elected):

Reception: Margaret Schulz
Sunshine: Lavinia Cozmin,
GCO & HFG Rep: Sally Knurek,
Website: Regina McCarthy
Newsletter: Kathy Bruening



Porter Library Tree

Thank you again to **Robert Pearl** who is in year 7 of doing a Christmas Tree for the foyer of Porter Public Library. This year's theme is Woodland Friends. As always, Robert had helpers form the group. Thank you to **Terri Lyons, Carol Lewellyn, Margaret Schulz, Deb Dougherty and Carolyn Steigman**. Please stop by to see the finished tree.



November 19th Annual Membership Meeting

Members voted unanimously to approve both the Constitution and By-Law changes. Dues have been increased to **\$40** per person. This rate increase reflects an annual price of less than \$5 per meeting. There are no additional pricing categories (family, student, business, etc.). Dues are payable to the Westlake Garden Club; mailed to Lavinia Cozmin 1493 Dover Center Road, Westlake OH 44145. Additionally, we voted unanimously to reduce the number of elected officers to President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Co-presidents are authorized. In the event of Co-presidents, no Vice President will be elected.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM:

Where Art Meets Horticulture

Many thanks to **Dan White** of **Black River Bonsai** for a very entertaining and informative presentation on the harmonious art of Bonsai. This art form might have originated in China but comes to us from Japan. The Bonsai artist uses cultivation techniques to produce small trees (not dwarf species) in containers. The tree is pruned to keep it small and to mimic the large tree that it could become in nature.



Dan's discussion included Bonsai styles, terminology, tools, wiring, pots, soil, Bonsai care, winter care and getting started.

'Twinkle in the 216' at the Cleveland Botanical Garden

A visit to the Winter Show at the Botanical Garden is a good way to revitalize your holiday spirit and support the Botanical Garden and all that it does for Cleveland. Please be sure to stop at our table setting in the Japanese Overlook section. We were able to feature Westlake this year by imagining a Christmas table in the Clague House as it might have been in the early 1900s when the Dover Region was a major orchard and grape-growing area. Thanks to Shirley Lutts, Cathy Garlitz, and Susan Baker for setting the table and to the whole committee for their donations and creative ideas: Jean Smith, Linda Strong, Eileen Drusendahl, Deb Dougherty and Kathy Bruening.



Clague House
History in our own Neighborhood

Changing of the guard

We thank the officers who stepped up to serve our club and keep our programs going during 2022.

Carolyn Steigman and **Deb Dougherty** have been a wonderful team and we appreciate all their hard work of planning, budgeting and inspiring us to keep on learning and gardening. **Anne Engel** has always been a faithful secretary and helps on many of our other gardening projects. **Marsha McEntee's** love for gardening has inspired many to join our club. We ask that you keep her in your thoughts and prayers as she continues to work through the injuries suffered in her accident.

Carolyn and Deb will continue to serve and work as **co-presidents in 2023**. We are delighted to welcome our new **treasurer, Rose McEntee**, our new **membership chairperson, Patti Frank**, and our new **secretary, Susan Baker**. Your service is a great gift to the club.

Committee Chairs for 2023 include **Kathy Bruening (Newsletter)**, **Lavinia Cozmin (Sunshine)**, **Regina McCarthy (Website)** and **Margaret Schulz (Attendance Table)**. A Parliament Committee is desperately needed to further update our Constitution and By-Laws. Other volunteer opportunities include our Holiday project at the Holden Forests and Gardens (formerly known as "Glow"), educational projects, and community activities.

Your ideas and input are needed and appreciated.

From the President

Several years ago the club went on a field trip to Gardenview. It made such an impression that the club has been sending yearly donations ever since. The rugged individualist and horticulturalist Henry Ross dedicated several decades of his life to turning Gardenview into a 16 acre garden paradise. Its beauty is awe-inspiring.

Gardenview has gained world-wide gardening fame. Several news stories have been written about it and it was featured on TV gardening shows and in gardening magazines and has attracted visitors from all over the world. This year more than 1150 people visited Gardenview.

Ross recently died and Gardenview is now run by an all-volunteer board of directors and maintained by just one underpaid gardener. Ross's ashes are buried there in the place he so dearly loved.

Unfortunately, Gardenview is now in financial trouble and it would be a tragic loss if it closed. The land was offered to other nonprofits like Holden and the Metroparks if they would just maintain it as a garden, but they all refused. But you can help.

Gardenview is looking for a volunteer who knows grant writing. If you can do this, please lend a hand and call (440) 238-6653. Gardenview also needs volunteers to help the gardener, Mark LaRosa, from April to October.

If you would like to visit Gardenview, call ahead to make sure the gates will be open. It's located at 16711 Pearl Road in Strongsville, 44136.

If you would like to become a member, it's \$25 for individual membership and \$50 for family. And donations of any size are always welcome. Gardenview is nonprofit.

Before you are out of the Christmas mode

1. Jean’s table of Christmas items to sell at the November GCO Luncheon was a big success. Do you have an idea for a small item that we could make and sell next year?
2. The theme for the Botanical Garden Winter Show in 2023 is ‘Welcome to the Frost Forest’. Would you like to be the lead person in getting a small group to design our offering. We need to decide whether to do a table, tree, wreath or door immediately after the show ends this year. That would be Jan 2, 2023. Let me know, please, Kathy B. (kcbruen@att.net)

**Photo reminders of the year gone by
So many beautiful gardens, fun projects & wonderful friends . . .**

