

GARDEN SCOOP

WGC Events

First Meeting 2020 Wed., March 18

Porter Library, 11:15 a.m.
Pick up your **club yearbook**
with the list of programs and
members.

**Bring your own lunch-see
Notes from the Board, p. 2.**

Board Meeting

Wed., April 1 at Porter
Library, 10:30 a.m.

**Westlake Rain n' Garden
Show,
Saturday, April 4**, Market
Square, Crocker Park,
10 a.m. to 2 p.m., free.
See pp. 2 & 4.

Dates to Remember

Tues., March 24 4-6:30 p.m.
Volunteer Fair at Porter, p. 4
& on Porter website

Mon., April 6, 6-9 p.m.
Master Gardeners of
Cuyahoga County,
Independence Library, p.2.

**April 15-16, 2020 GCO
Convention**, Rockside Rd,
Independence, **all info in
Spring Garden Greetings**
or gardenclubofohio.org

**Thursday, April 23,
9:30-11:30 a.m.** Affiliate
Day at CBG; **Friday, April
24**, Arbor Day. Check April
newsletter for more info on
these 2 events.

**Tues., April 28, GCO Cleve.
District Meeting.** See flyer,
p. 4.

March General Meeting

Your Input is Needed!

As our Club starts its 57th year, we have some serious decisions to make. We are blessed with a large percentage of long-time members. How lucky are we?! Given that our Club is generally more senior than not, what is our club's function? Is it a monthly luncheon and speaker or do we want to be a Garden Club that is a resource to the community? Two issues to consider:

—Our funding has grown thin and we need to decide what community efforts we want to continue, if any. Do we want to continue to support our local schools through educational programs and scholarships? Provide educational speakers to our members and the community? Support the Cleveland Botanical Gardens? Contribute to the Nature Conservancy? If we want to continue to make an impact, we need to raise money.

Some things to discuss at the March meeting: One possibility is a raffle (each of us would be responsible to sell or buy a fixed number of tickets); another is to continue with our biennial luncheon at Westlake Country Club. The raffle is a relatively low-effort endeavor. The luncheon is a lovely event, but is resource-intensive in money and effort.

—Each member's participation and contribution is deeply needed and appreciated. In order to continue our tradition of community involvement, we are asking all members to sign up for at least one of our committees at the March 2020 meeting. Working together is the best way to get to know one another and to really enjoy what we do as a club and for the community. Start thinking about how you would like to be involved this year.

Thanks in advance for giving some thought to these issues. How they are resolved will determine if the Westlake Garden Club continues as a social and garden club or also as a contributing community organization.

Why are Pollinator gardens so important?

- 75% of all plants rely on animal/ insect pollination.
- Directly or indirectly, pollinators play a role in the majority of what we consume.
- Pollinators are vital to maintaining the habitats that animals rely on for food and shelter.
- Pollinators facilitate the reproduction of 90% of flowering plants.
- Worldwide, there is a decline in pollinators. Bees, butterflies, beetles, birds, wasps and bats all contribute to pollination.

*from growingagreenerworld.com,
The Importance of Pollinators by Joe Lamp'l*



Please stop by to enjoy the exhibits. Flyer, p.4

2020 Rain & Garden Show

The City of Westlake and the Westlake Watershed Group will be hosting the ninth annual Rain & Garden Show this April at Market Square in Crocker Park. The goal of the event is to raise awareness of storm water quality issues and to promote eco-friendly products and services.

The 2020 Rain & Garden Show is April 4 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. A special Kid Zone will run from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., and this year's theme is: "Indigenous Plants." Marge Embloom has again generously offered to be in charge of the WGC table, along with Margaret Schulz, Regina McCarthy and any others who are willing to help.

April 2020 is Ohio's first ever Native Plant Month

The **Master Gardeners of Cuyahoga County** are offering a continuing education program on April 6th with two very timely presentations: **Woody Natives and Hydrangeas**. Ginger Woolridge will underscore the case for using natives, including the serious threats they face in both the planted and wild landscapes. She will review many of our proven and attractive native plants, their uses, their cultures and contribution to our ecology. Kim Hawkins will be presenting **Everything You Want to Know About Hydrangeas**.

Monday, April 6, 2020 from 6 to 9 p.m. Fee: \$6. Independence Library, 6361 Selig Drive, Independence, OH 44131. Register online at cuyahogamg.org.

Notes from the Board

Public Meetings: Because of health concerns we are asking members to bring their own lunch to the March meeting. We will still provide coffee. Watch for possible cancelations of any event that you plan to attend in the near future.

Members: We have 44 members. Our two newest members are **Kathleen Armor**, sister of Rosemary McEntee and **Linda Lydrickson**. Please welcome them.

Ways and Means: How to fund garden club projects and donations to the community was discussed. A possible solution would be a raffle with each member being asked to sell a certain number of \$25 tickets, the prizes being a portion of the money.

Social Committee: This committee needs a chairperson. This committee includes 4 subgroups: refreshments, telephone, sunshine, and reception. The job of the chairperson would be to communicate with each group to make sure that all are keeping up with their respective tasks.

Website: We will contract with a new provider to maintain the website as the current provider is no longer available.

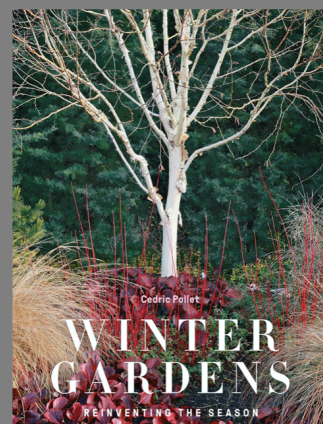
Marsha McEntee's dog, **Bear**, was spotted on the front page of the *Villager* in February—smiling and looking sweet for the camera.



Winter Gardens

by Cédric Pollet

Porter library owns this wonderfully inspiring book of photos of gardens in France and Great Britain. Pick it up to see what plants will add texture and color even in the winter months. The photos are fabulous—a wonderful coffee table book and a great gift. Recommended by Lavinia Cozmin, our new membership chairperson.



Swing into Spring

After being cooped up indoors all winter you may be eager to get out into the garden and now, before the outdoor plants break dormancy, is an excellent time to get some necessary outdoor work done. March is the perfect time to transplant anything that needs to be moved so you avoid shocking the plant.

It's also the time to prune many bushes or shrubs. Plants that flower in the spring should be pruned AFTER they flower but ones that flower in the late summer or fall should be pruned in spring. Remove any dead branches, branches that are crossing over other branches and ones that have gotten too big for the area. Cut the branch cleanly right above a bud to encourage a bushy plant. Also remove the sucker roots emerging from the roots of grafted trees. If the roots are too big to remove with garden clippers, use a saw. For larger branches, an alligator chain saw works like scissors. It has a button on each handle that needs to be pushed simultaneously for it to run so it's safer than a standard chain saw. It's a compact size so it's easy to maneuver and has no kick back.

When you see the yellow forsythia blooming in your neighborhood it's time to apply a pre-emergent weed killer and early grass fertilizer to the lawn. Watch out for dandelions and crabgrass and either dig them out by hand, or if there are too many, spray a weed killer on individual weeds. It is an urban legend that you need to get the whole root out or the weed will regrow.

Remove any withered or dead leftover leaves and grass starting to invade the garden and your yard is ready to move into spring with style.

Carolyn Steigman



Chautauqua Bird Tree and Garden Club: 2020 House and Garden Walk

The 2020 Chautauqua BTG House and Garden Tour is **Thursday July 16th** during Week 3 of the 2020 Chautauqua Season. Tickets are now on sale on the [Chautauqua BTG website](#).

You can also download and mail a [ticket order form](#).

The 2020 House and Garden Tour will combine Chautauqua history, homes of the Institution presidents and newly renovated designer showcase houses. Docent-led tours of two privately owned gardens and four Institution gardens will be featured on the tour in addition to the 15 HOUSES.

Plan to enjoy a day at Chautauqua viewing beautiful homes and wonderful gardens while taking in all Chautauqua Institution has to offer.

Mailing address: Chautauqua Bird Tree & Garden Club, PO Box 721, Chautauqua, NY 14722
ChautauquaBTG@gmail.com

Tickets are on sale now for \$45 plus an online processing fee of \$3.

Non-refundable, parking not included.

From the Westlake Porter Public Library:

Westlake Porter Public Library is partnering with Westlake's Senior and Community Services Department for our **second annual community volunteer fair**.

There will be something for everyone. Whether you are interested in developing new skills or want to give back using your expertise, you will be able to discuss a variety of short or long term opportunities with many organizations. Are you unsure of what kind of volunteer projects or roles to look for? Be at the heart of the Westlake community. Help others. Additionally, we will be accepting donations of non-perishable unexpired items for the Westlake Food Pantry.

Tuesday, March 24, 4 - 6:30 p.m. Porter Room

Mark your Calendar: Westlake in Bloom Floral Arrangements

It maybe still be chilly outside but now is the time to make plans for the summer. Every year the city of Westlake sponsors Westlake in Bloom, which is a friendly competition where residents compete to have the best flowers, lawns and gardens in the city. The winners are given awards and bragging rights at a special free reception hosted by the mayor.

Every year the **WGC** helps out by creating 30 floral arrangements for the reception room tables. The city supplies about \$300 worth of flowers and vases and we make the arrangements. If you love beautiful flowers this is like being a kid in a candy shop.

To make this a success we need volunteers to help out. **NO EXPERIENCE IS NEEDED**, just bring a set of garden shears or florist knife. You will be provided with instructions.

The lead for this is Carolyn Steigman. **She is compiling a list of helpers so please let her know NOW if you plan on helping.** Her phone number is 440 892-3940 and the email is sunpetsnews@yahoo.com. **Volunteers will meet on August 13 at 1:30 p.m. at LaCentre. It takes about an hour. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.**

GARDEN CLUB OF OHIO, INC. CLEVELAND DISTRICT SPRING MEETING APRIL 28, 2020

Location: Acacia Reservation
26899 Cedar Rd.
Lyndhurst, OH 44124

Time: 9:30am Registration

Presidents' Meeting - 10:00am

Full Meeting - 10:30am

Morning: "Acacia Country Club Turns Natural"
by Christopher Cheraso, PLA, Landscape Architect Cleveland
MetroPark & Josh Philips, Natural Resources Area Manager
Cleveland MetroParks

Afternoon: "Destinations Inspire Design"
By designer, Jean Gilbert, Cleveland Flower Arrangers Guild

Cost: \$25, due by April 20th

Checks to: Cleveland District GCO, mail to District Co-Director,
Barbara Schuh
570 Battles Road
Gates Mills, OH 44040-9767

Lunch Choice:

Pecan Crusted Salmon with rice pilaf
or
Pasta and Vegetable Aglio e Olio

Cleveland District Meeting April 28, 2020 - Please RSVP BY APRIL 20th

Please list all members/guests attending and their meal choice. For multiple entries, continue on the back of this form.

Garden Club: _____

Name: _____ Salmon ☐ Vegetarian Pasta ☐

Total Enclosed: # of attendees _____ @ \$25.00/person = _____



FREE City of Westlake **FREE**
Rain & Garden Show
Market Square
at Crocker Park
Saturday, April 4, 2020
10:00am-2:00pm



40+ Vendors



Chef Demo

Kid Zone

11:00am-2:00pm

Guest Star: Michael Roy's

Cirque du Papier

- * Face Painting
- * Balloon Clown
- * Contest



www.cityofwestlake.org/Go-Green