

GARDEN SCOOP

WGC Events

APRIL MEETING

**Wednesday April 19, 10:30 a.m.,
Workshop at Big-Hearted Blooms**
5122 St. Clair Ave., Cleve., OH 44103
We will carpool. See article.

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

Wednesday, June 7, 10:30 a.m. at
Porter Library.
No Board Meeting in May.

SEEDS OF FRIENDSHIP

WGC members donated \$60 to this program sponsored by the Garden Club of Ohio. Funds will help the people of Rwanda and save the rainforest. (p.14 GCO Garden Greetings)

MAY MEETING

Plan to join us for a horticultural tour of the Metroparks Zoo. More info in the next newsletter and at the April meeting.

CHANGE OF DATE IN OUR PROGRAM

Our plant exchange will move from the 1st Saturday in June to Saturday, May 27 at 10:30 a.m. Please mark your directory and watch for more details in the May newsletter.

Welcome Spring

APRIL 20 AT THE BOTANICAL GARDEN. Affiliate Clubs are invited to hear Marshal Dirks of Proven Winners talk about why a better plant matters. We may also wander through the gardens and glass houses at our leisure afterwards. See page 3 for details.

SEE PAGE 3 FOR A LIST OF GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALES

April at Big-Hearted Blooms

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

Big Hearted Blooms is a non-profit organization delivering joy through recycled flowers. They repurpose flower arrangements to lift the spirits and boost the emotional health of individuals in all forms of care facilities. Ours will be a private workshop. If you have unused medium-sized vases that you can donate to the organization, please bring them along! Big Hearted Blooms is located at **5122 St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland, OH.** Members that wish to carpool will meet at the



Community Services Center at 9:45 a.m. The workshop starts at 10:30 a.m. A self-pay lunch will be arranged at a nearby location afterwards. **Please call Deb to let her know if you plan to attend and if you can drive/need a ride.** Seems like a perfect opportunity for a Garden Club—hope to see you there!



Yard Tools, Pots, Ornaments

Cleaning out your garage? Got stuff you haven't used in years? Looking to downsize? The Cuyahoga County Master Gardeners are looking for your **gently used items for their annual fundraiser, Plants in the Park.** This includes yard tools, pots and ornaments. Please contact Deb Dougherty (440-506-0237) to arrange for drop off or pick up of your items. Thanks for your help.

March Meeting Review



A brief business meeting was conducted by Carolyn Steigman, Co-President. This was our first meeting of 2023 and was held at the Community Services Center. Carolyn and associated members addressed club opportunities for near-term events: Staffing our table at the Rain & Garden Show (April 1), Attendance at the Cleveland Botanical Garden Affiliate meeting (April 20th) and the selection and planting of the Hilliard Flower Box (May 20th). Members were given an opportunity to donate to the Garden Club of Ohio's Seeds of Friendship. Patti Frank, our Membership Chair, distributed our 2023 Membership and Program booklet to those in attendance.

The business meeting was followed by Cuyahoga County Master Gardener Volunteer, Chris Harris, on the topic of starting seeds. Chris's lecture included helpful starting tips including soil, containers, lighting, fertilization, watering, and hardening off of the new seedlings. Several members stayed after the meeting to enjoy a light lunch at the Community Center's Café.

Many thanks to Chris and the Master Gardeners for the excellent tips.



Rain n' GardenShow

This year's show had lots of vendors featuring native plants and organic gardening. As usual there was something for everyone including the kids. It is a very good venue for us to get the word out about our club. Several attendees have expressed interest.

Thank you to members who helped with our table. Sally Knurek was our lead person in organizing it. Helpers were Deb Dougherty, Cheryl Dever, Patti Frank, Terri Lyons, Lavinia Cozmin and Kathy Bruening,. Chris Stuhm, Westlake's Deputy Dir. of City Service, provided the professional poster on pollinators that will eventually be erected in the Clague Park pollinator garden.



A Fond Farewell to a Dear Friend



Jackie, Cathie, Becky

We are saddened by the loss of one of our founding members, Jacqueline Crosier. Jackie passed away on April 2, 2023. She was a great promoter of gardening and made many contributions

to our club and the community. Besides our Westlake Garden Club, Jackie was active in the Herb Guild and in her gardening group in Fort Myers, FL. She was responsible for initiating the flower boxes on Hilliard Rd. in Westlake. She is pictured here at her bakery table at the 2016 WGC fundraiser luncheon along with two good friends and helpers, Cathie Karls and Becky Castelli.

Cleveland Botanical Garden

Affiliate Day

Registration: 8 am
Program 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Thursday, April 20, 2023



To those who have signed up for the CBG Affiliate Day: Please arrange for your transportation with one of our drivers:

- Deb Dougherty
- Sally Knurek
- Regina McCarthy
- Rosemary McEntee
- Cheryl Dever
- Kathy Bruening

Thank you,
 Sally
More detailed information is in last month's newsletter.

Plant Sale Round-up Mark your calendars!

Looking for perennials? Try our neighboring garden club plant sales. Support their efforts at greening our world and save a little green \$\$\$ as you plant.

Sunday, May 7, 2023

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Olmsted Falls Garden Club Annual Plant Sale
 26100 Bagley Road, Olmsted Falls, 44138
 (Between City Hall /Community Center and Olmsted Falls Library)

Online orders of \$25 or more will allow you to shop early: <olmstedfallsgardenclub.com>.

Saturday, May 13, 2023

9:00 a.m. - Noon

Avon-on-the-Lake Garden Club
 ALGC Plant Sale

Goddard School, 430 Avon Belden Rd, Avon Lake

Saturday May 20, 2023

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Avon Garden Club Annual Spring Plant Sale
 36774 Detroit Road ("The Old Police Station").
 There will be a wide selection of perennials, flowering shrubs, ground-cover and ornamental grasses grown in member gardens. Great prices. CASH ONLY!

Saturday, May 27, 2023

10:30 a.m.

Our own **WGC Plant Exchange** at Carolyn Steigman's. Perennials and Houseplants as well as pots and garden art can be exchanged! This one is not a sale. More info in the May newsletter. The date has been changed from June 3 in the directory.

Saturday, June 3, 2023

9:00 - 1:00

The Cuyahoga County Master Gardeners' Annual Plant Sale
 "Plants in the Park" Plant Sale
 Selig Park, Independence, OH



2023 Dean's Spring Plant Fundraiser for Westlake Garden Club



2023 Walk-in Fundraiser at Dean's Greenhouse is from May 1, 2023 through June 15, 2023

Dean's is again offering 30% back on all walk-in sales. When you shop at Dean's, be sure to tell the cashier that you are with the **Westlake Garden Club** before they start totaling your order. Please tell your family and friends to also mention the Westlake Garden Club when making purchases and we will receive cash back on those purchases too. This is the easiest fundraiser in which we can participate and the proceeds will help fund the club's endeavors for this year.

Banana Peels in the garden

Not only are banana peels good for you but they add essential nutrients when composted for your garden. Using them is an easy and free way to fertilize.

Ron Finley of [Master Class](#) (an online educational program) recommends them as a soil additive and pesticide. The peels are rich in magnesium and potassium which contribute to stronger stem and root growth. They also add calcium and phosphorous which help with the distribution of nutrients and flower and pollen production. Ron says that you can blend the peels into your compost pile or make a slurry with water and peels in a blender. Work the slurry into the soil as a side dressing near the plant. Cutting the banana peels into small pieces and burying them is a good way to repel pests. He also recommends making a banana peel tea by soaking them in water in a jar for about a week. Dilute the mixture so it is not so acidic and spray it on your plants as a pesticide. Spring weather has finally arrived so save those banana peels.

Legacy

It seems a sad fact that as we get older we are saying our final good-byes to friends and loved ones more frequently. Often one wants to do something special to honor their memory. If the deceased was involved in the Westlake Garden Club or loved plants, making a donation to the WGC may be the perfect way to celebrate their life. By making a memorial donation you can be assured that your loved one's spirit will live on through the WGC's mission of providing horticultural community education and civic involvement. Remember you can also make a legacy gift to the WGC in your own will as well.

The Westlake Garden Club is a 501c3, which means that it's a certified nonprofit and so all donations are tax deductible. Donations are handled by the club's treasurer, Rosemary McEntee, who will be happy to answer any questions.

