
GARDEN SCOOP

Volume 4, Issue 9

WESTLAKE GARDEN CLUB

October 2015

President's Message

By Regina McCarthy

The weather was gorgeous; the views of Westwood Country Club outstanding. The Valet whisked away your vehicle as you entered the beautiful clubhouse. You were greeted by a WGC member who presented you with your name tag and luncheon ticket. The Bakery Tables, gaily decorated and laden with homemade treats, were tempting, so you made a purchase. You heard music in the background, as the Pianist played songs you actually knew. Entering the lovely dining room, you found your table and greeted your tablemates. You walked around the room viewing the Raffle Baskets. So many, each more beautiful than the next. Which to choose in hopes of winning? From the podium, introductions were made, attendees welcomed and the Invocation given. The Servers got to work and you were presented with a delicious meal. The Speakers were next, each stating she or he was honored to be asked to participate. Their comments made you proud to be a WGC member. You enjoyed them both; and although you could have listened to the Featured Speaker awhile longer, there was more on the program. Lucky attendees won baskets, centerpieces and door prizes. Then . . . it was over.

It is my wish that the Committees realize all the work, lack of sleep and stress that went into this first-class affair was well worth it. One could not help but feel the upbeat vibe of the room and see all the smiling faces. It doesn't get much better than that.

- 2 *Getting to know you ...*
- 2 *Happy Birthday; Membership News*
- 2 *Luncheon Raffle; October Meeting*
- 3 *2015 Programs and Events; Life at Sandy Ridge*
- 3 *What's Happening in the Neighborhood; Get Creative*
- 4 *2015 Fête des Fleurs Luncheon; Bake Shoppe Results*

A Weed is in the Eye of the Beholder

Or you maybe have heard someone say that a weed is just a plant where a person doesn't want it. And when a plant has the word "weed" in its common name, it can be all the more of a sales barrier. But we just have to introduce **Joe Pye Weed**, though this northern Ohio native has always been here. About a generation ago, people began to realize that this pretty perennial of damp meadows would look equally great in residential landscapes. So Joe Pye Weed found a new home. The species grows to over six feet tall but we have acquired a selection that tops out at just 1 ½' tall called – you got it – 'Baby Joe.' Like the full-sized version, Baby Joe does great in full sun to part shade in normal to wet soils. Our heavy clay is its normal stomping ground. The plants at The Rock Pile are topped with lovely mauve flowers, which in turn are often topped with lovely butterflies of countless colors. Oh, and Joe Pye was believed to be a Native American medical person in colonial America. Grab some Joe!



Article taken from the September e-newsletter of The Rock Pile

My Moment with Nature

By Jackie Crosier

Our view out the west door at Porter Library meeting room will be greatly improved when my grandson, Zachary Wise finishes his Eagle Scout project of a butterfly garden he will be building and planting. I will keep you posted as it progresses.

Happy Birthday

October Birthdays

10/18 Alberta Ricciardi
10/19 Cathie Karls
10/25 Lucy Kalbers



Getting to Know You...

By Margaret Schulz

Ron Hollis

Ron, one of our newer members, has lived in Westlake for 37 years and has two children and four grandchildren. Ron's wife passed away in 2006. He has a degree in Elementary School Science and a Masters Degree from BW in Science and taught for 32 years in the Cleveland Public School System. Ron is an avid bicyclist and photographer, and rode his bike 3,429 miles, averaging 85 miles a day, with 120 miles on the longest day. Ron was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in 1983 and travelled from Portland to Atlanta raising money for the Diabetes Association. Before his wife passed, they travelled to New Zealand, Australia, Peru, Equador and South Africa. This year, Ron travelled to India and Nepal. You have probably guessed that biking and photography are two of Ron's hobbies, but he also loves gardening and has volunteered for 10 years at Dover Elementary School. Ron has a backyard garden with tomatoes, peppers, corn, pumpkins, zucchini, squash and arugula. He said his backyard belongs to the deer where they rest and often sleep in the leaves. Ron sits on the back porch and takes photos of the deer. He also enjoys his community garden where he has tomatoes, peppers and acorn squash. In addition to vegetables, Ron's favorite flowers are zinnias and cosmos. We welcome you Ron, as a new member of the garden club.

Membership News

By Kathy Bruening

A warm welcome to Kathleen Brown. Kathleen sent in her application and will probably be joining us at the October meeting. She heard of the club from Marsha McEntee. Although Kathleen no longer lives in Westlake, she was a resident for many years and she did make it to our luncheon. We are delighted to have her join us. Please look for her and say hello at the October meeting.

Luncheon Raffle

By Sally Knurek

Thank you so much for this club's participation in the luncheon raffles. I can always count on the membership to rise to the occasion. It is a testament to the memberships' interest and value of our club. In my opinion we are a pretty special group. Special thanks go to Kathy Bruening and her organizational talents as co-chair, also to our ticket sellers: Alberta Ricciardi, Shirley Lutts, Marsha McEntee, Judy Hullinger and Anne Engel. Kudos to the crew that made the raffle drawing go so quickly and smoothly. Together all of us in the club are the BEST!



October Meeting

By Sally Knurek

Bring your taste buds to the October 21st meeting. We will be experiencing a deluxe olive oil and balsamic vinegar tasting. A special appetizer and dessert will feature some of these ingredients. In addition, everyone will receive a small bottle of oil courtesy of our club. The program is given by "The Olive Scene" and entitled "The Lore and Logic of Olive Oil."



Right top: Sacred Valley in Peru, below Machu Picchu

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Editor: Jean Smith

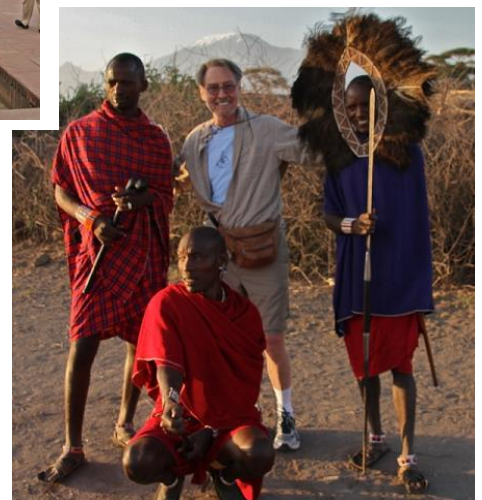
Contributing Writers: Kathy Bruening, Jackie Crosier, Sally Knurek, Regina McCarthy

Photographs: Ron Hollis, Alberta Ricciardi, Jean Smith

Deadline: last Wednesday of the month for next month's issue

Above: The Taj Mahal in India

Right: A Masai Village in Africa with Mt. Kilimanjaro in the background.



2015 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

WGC PROGRAMS

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015 – GENERAL MEETING
“THE LORE AND LOGIC OF OLIVE OIL” PRESENTED BY
TRACY LOCKHART FROM THE OLIVE SCENE**

TIME: MEETING AT 11 A.M., LUNCH AT NOON, PROGRAM AT 1 P.M.

PLACE: WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY, 27333 CENTER RIDGE ROAD, WESTLAKE

HOSTESSES: BILL HOCK, LUCY KALBERS, SHIRLEY LUTTS, KATHY MOLNER, THEA STEINMETZ

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2015 – GENERAL MEETING
“NEW HORIZONS FOR THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY”
PRESENTED BY GARRETT ORMISTON**

TIME: MEETING AT 11 A.M., LUNCH AT NOON, PROGRAM AT 1 P.M.

PLACE: WESTLAKE PORTER PUBLIC LIBRARY, 27333 CENTER RIDGE ROAD, WESTLAKE

HOSTESSES: KATHY SHIMKO, CAROLYN STEIGMAN, JEAN SMITH, MARGE DOMITZ

OTHER EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2015 – GCO FALL DISTRICT MEETING

TIME: 10 A.M.

PLACE: ST. MICHAEL’S WOODSIDE, 5025 MILL, BROADVIEW HTS., OH

COST: \$22 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

SEE REGINA MCCARTHY IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2015 – GCO HOLIDAY PROGRAM

TIME: 10 A.M.

PLACE: ST. MICHAEL’S WOODSIDE, 5025 MILL, BROADVIEW HTS., OH

COST: \$22 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

SEE REGINA MCCARTHY IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND

Life at Sandy Ridge

By Jean Smith

On a recent hike at Sandy Ridge in Lorain County Metro Parks, Roger and I were surprised by the number of Great White Egrets we spotted. Usually there are two or three but on this day there were dozens, along with more than usual Great Blue Herons. We also saw a Green Heron, two swans, a lot of ducks and a few Canada Geese. All in all, it was a very pleasant day at the marsh.



Here is What’s Happening in the Neighborhood

Gale’s Westlake Garden Center Fall Seminars

Saturday, October 3 – “Save Me” Techniques for moving tropical and annual plants indoors for the winter

Saturday, October 10 – “Fall Plants and Decorating Ideas” Decorating your doorway for the fall season

Saturday, October 17 – “Time to Plant” Methods of planting fall bulbs for loads of spring color

Go to website or call 440-871-0808 for more information. check out the Senior Gardeners Club for 60 and over to receive 10% discount on all garden products every Thursday 9-5.

Miller Nature Conservatory

Sunday, October 11, 5-7 p.m. Clambake and Music
Call 440-937-4545 for reservations

Westlake Community Services Department

Wednesday, October 7, 4 p.m. - Annual Clambake \$23
RSVP to 440-899-3544

Wednesday, October 14, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. – Flu Shots administered by Maxim Health. No charge with Medicare Part B and some other insurances.
Call 440-899-3544 to reserve a spot.

Get Creative

By Jean Smith

If you regularly or occasionally submit articles for this newsletter, then you must, to some degree, enjoy writing. I would like you to seriously consider volunteering to edit the club newsletter, *Garden Scoop*. We currently publish the newsletter 11 times per year, however it could be done quarterly – that is just four times per year. I have been the newsletter editor for four years now and I think it is time for some fresh new ideas, formats, articles, etc. The December issue will be my last so if we want to continue to have a newsletter, someone will have to volunteer to do it. This is a great opportunity to change things up a bit. My newsletter is very different from the previous editor’s newsletter, and the next editor’s newsletter should be different from mine. There is no right or wrong way to do the newsletter. You can find a newsletter template online, like I did, or just do it freestyle. Various people regularly submit articles and information so as editor, I am not writing everything. Please give this some thought and I will bring it up at the October meeting. Again, this is a great opportunity for a member to do something special and important for the club and I will be there to help when and where needed.

2015 *Fête des Fleurs* Luncheon

By Jean Smith

The final figures are not in yet, but just by positive comments, this year's luncheon could well be our best yet. We had 205 reservations with right around 200 attending. The day was near perfect with cooler temperatures but abundant sunshine. The ornamental pepper plants used as centerpieces were lovely and the many raffle baskets were beautiful. A delicious lunch was served by friendly, efficient staff and I heard more than one comment about the to-die-for chocolate mousse brownies. Mayor Clough had a schedule conflict so Ward 1 Councilwoman Lynda Appel attended as a representative of the City. The guest speaker, Joe Crea, was funny, entertaining, and connected with the audience. It seemed like everyone enjoyed sharing his experiences, even when he went a little over his time limit. I felt there was a very good "vibe" in the room at this year's luncheon; everyone seemed to be really happy and enjoying themselves. I received phone calls and emails the next day and the following are two quotes from emails received from non-members'

"It was a truly lovely luncheon. Interesting people at our table and well prepared event in every regard. The speaker was delightful."

"What a lovely event! The venue couldn't have been more perfect.....everything was top notch; Joe Crea, food, and the never ending door prizes and great baskets.....you did a great job."



Left, top: Joe Crea, speaker; middle: Regina McCarthy; bottom: Raffle team, Anne Engel, Kathy Bruening and Sally Knurek.

Below: Speaker's table.

Right, top: Lynda Appel, Ward 1 Councilwoman; bottom: Jean Smith and Robert Pearl, Luncheon Co-Chairs.



Bake Shoppe Results

By: Jackie Crosier

Thanks to our 9 (yes, only 9!) bakers creating 101 delicious products, 2 more who contributed 5 yummy professionally baked products, and 3 others who made monetary contributions of \$60 (because they no longer bake.) our Bake Shoppe sold out with a grand total of \$265 with no expenses!!! Our beautifully packaged variety of specialties ranged from a sugared roses cake inside a glass

pedestal to rosemary thumbprint cookies to Martha Stewart's banana bread to olive oil anise biscotti to fudge to apple tarts and pumpkin scones! Our festive 4 tables were staffed by Cathie Karls, expert packer, Claire Evangelista, chief cashier, Sally's daughter, Rebecca and I kept our wares interestingly displayed. Only "down note", we could have used more merchandise from a few more bakers. Thank you to all who provided attractive shopping bags for our happy customers