



# Perennial Notes

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society, Inc.

June 2018



## Rich's Foxwillow Pines Nursery 1988-2018

By Rich and Susan Eyre

Yes, Rich and Susan Eyre are hanging up their Felco pruners at the end of this year 2018. This is the last year for Rich's Foxwillow Pines under the current administration. After 30 years in the nursery business, we have decided to sell our business and move into a retirement position. It's with joy and sadness that we venture down this path. We have purchased our retirement home in Albuquerque, NM, where we met in 1980.

It is with great thanks that we send this information to our customers, fellow horticulturists and professionals. We are very grateful to our staff and workers who are Rich's Foxwillow Pines Nursery. The dwarf conifer nursery business has been a wonderful journey of joy, education (giving and receiving), self-growth and self-worth. What more could you

(continued on page 4)

## WHPS coming events!

All regular meetings are at 6:30 pm. social time, 7 pm. program, at Olbrich Gardens Commons, 3330 Atwood Av., Madison unless otherwise noted.

Questions about our events? Email [wisconsinhps@gmail.com](mailto:wisconsinhps@gmail.com) for specific info.

**Tuesday, June 12 – WHPS Workshop: Children in the Garden**, 3:00-4:30 pm. The goal for Ann Munson's garden of 38 years is to create an oasis in suburbia. Almost no lawn remains on the 3/4 acre lot. The garden creates a habitat attractive to birds, insects, toads, frogs, and all animals. Very little organic material leaves the garden. Fun is included in the plan for four grandkids visiting weekly: a playhouse, teepee, hammock, and climbing trees. The two ponds, stream connecting them and goldfish provide lots of kid entertainment. Especially popular are the hundreds of tadpoles that become toads in early summer. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whps-workshop-children-in-the-garden-tickets-41562138475>

**June 16-25, 2018 – WHPS Tour to England—North Wales, Shropshire, and Herefordshire. SOLD OUT!**

**Monday, June 18 – WHPS Workshop: Growing a Garden Under Black Walnut Trees, 6:30-8:30 pm.** Come and see the hundreds of perennials and woody plants happily growing under black walnuts in Jeannette Golden's garden. Jeannette will discuss her 25 years of experience gardening under these trees. Come away with a list of the many plants that have been successful in this garden, as well as the very few that have not. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whps-workshop-growing-a-garden-under-black-walnut-trees-tickets-42539708413>

[shop-growing-a-garden-under-black-walnut-trees-tickets-42539708413](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whps-workshop-growing-a-garden-under-black-walnut-trees-tickets-42539708413)

**Sunday, June 24 – WHPS Workshop: Grasses and Interesting Perennials to Enrich Your Garden Design**, 3-4:30 pm. Join us for this workshop held at The Flower Factory, led by co-owner Nancy Nedveck. Nancy will discuss planting and placement of ornamental grasses to complement and brighten your garden from late spring through winter. She will also show us some interesting perennials that can provide accents and emphasis at various times throughout the season. And you know there will be time to shop before and after! <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whps-workshop-grasses-and-interesting-perennials-to-enrich-your-garden-design-tickets-41562195646>

**Thursday, June 28, WHPS Evening Garden Tours: Stoughton (Janet Aaberg, Lynene & Dan Harmon, Susan Liimatta) details/map on page 8.**

**Saturday, July 7 – WHPS Bus Trip to Oshkosh.** Trip is full with a fairly long waiting list. See brochure on website at <http://www.wisconsinhardyplant-society.org/trips--garden-tours.html>

**Saturday, July 7 – WHPS Workshop: Doing Daylilies from Planting to Bloom, 9:30-11 am.** Explore Conrad Wrzesinski's garden of over 250 different daylilies. Enjoy daylily color, fragrance and form. Hear considerations to make in selecting daylilies for the garden. See how daylilies are planted and divided with recommendations for their location and care. Get your questions answered. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whps-workshop-doing-daylilies-from-planting-to-bloom-tickets-41967636330>

(continued on page 2)



Teaching Garden

see p. 5.



Saruma henryi

see p. 7.



2018 Garden Tours

starting on p. 8.

## WHPS Coming Events (continued from p.1)

**Wednesday, July 11, WHPS Evening Garden Tours: Madison west side (Jeff Epping, Wendy Sundby, Jean & John Matthews, Eric Sandgren) details/map on page 9.**

**Monday, July 16, WHPS Tour of Allen Centennial Garden, 6:30 pm., 620 Babcock Dr., UW Madison Campus, Madison.** Director Ben Futa promises that he himself will be leading this tour. See ACG's website <https://allencentennialgarden.org/visit.php> for directions, parking information, and a campus map. All street, metered, and surface lot parking is free after 4:30 pm. There is paid parking in the ramp across Observatory Dr. You are welcome to arrive earlier than 6:30 to wander the garden on your own before the tour.

**Wednesday, July 18-19 – WHPS Bus Trip to Manitowoc/Sheboygan Counties.** Trip is full



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Conrad Wrzesinski, 608-231-3279, [conradw@charter.net](mailto:conradw@charter.net)

with a short waiting list. See brochure on website at <http://www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.org/trips--garden-tours.html>

**Wednesday, August 8 – WHPS Workshop – UW Alumni Park Garden Tour, 3-4:00 pm.** Join us for a walking tour of the UW Alumni Park, the new campus landmark on the lake, with Mary Carbine, Managing Director of Alumni Park and One Alumni Place. Located between the Memorial Union and the Red Gym on campus, Alumni Park is a 1.3 acre green space that pays tributes to alumni around the world living the Wisconsin Idea. The tour will provide an overview of the park's design and gardens. Enjoy breathtaking views, inspiring design and learning about some of the alumni featured in the park exhibits. The tour will happen rain or shine. Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. To learn more about the park, visit [alumnipark.com](http://alumnipark.com). <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/whps-workshop-uw-alumni-park-garden-tour-tickets-44040572538>

**Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2018 – WHPS Potluck Dinner and Walk Through Olbrich Botanical Gardens.** Setup 5:30; 6:00 food line, Olbrich Gardens. Bring a dish to share and your own plates/utensils; juice and coffee will be provided.

**Wednesday, September 12-14, Green Bay/Door County Bus Trip.** There are still a few openings for this trip. See brochure on website at <http://www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.org/trips--garden-tours.html>

**Wednesday, September 19 – WHPS Program – Small Conifers in the Garden with an Emphasis on Troughs, with speaker Gary Whittenbaugh,** an Iowa native well known in the Midwest for his many presentations on gardening subjects, particularly the use of conifers and companion plants in the garden. Gary was an electronics technician in his BC (before conifers) life and has been gardening for over 40 years with emphasis on dwarf, slow-growing and unusual conifers, plus trough and rock gardening. Gary served as President of the American Conifer Society Central Region 2001-2005 and, in 2005, he was the recipi-



ent of the prestigious Marvin and Emelie Snyder Merit Award for Support of the American Conifer Society.

**Sunday, September 23, WHPS Member Plant Exchange, setup is 10-10:30 am., Exchange between 10:30-12:30 pm. at 1850 Baird St., Madison.** After skipping last year, WHPS has decided to hold a Plant Exchange this year. Members are invited to bring a few of their favorite woodies, plants for sun, plants for shade, bulbs, etc. to exchange with other members. A great way to get some new plants for free at the best time of year to plant! Please keep the jumping worm situation in mind. If you are potting up plants, wash the plants before potting and bringing to Exchange. Members who take plants should plan to wash plants before planting in their garden.

**Wednesday, Oct. 17 – Speaker Will Radler, creator of the renowned Knock Out™ roses and WHPS member, shares a casual evening on “what he does” in the gardening world.**



**Wednesday, November 14 – WHPS Program – Flowering Shrubs for All Seasons. David Stevens, Curator of the Longenecker Horticultural Gardens at the UW Arboretum,** will highlight his favorite flowering shrubs from their Living Collection. The gardens contain Wisconsin's premiere collection of woody ornamental plants, with over 5,000 specimens representing over 2,500 taxa. Prior to his current role, David spent 14 years working in the field of forest tree genetics with the University of Wisconsin Forest and Wildlife Ecology Department. David has a Bachelor's degree in Horticulture from Virginia Tech and a Master's degree in Horticulture from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



**Wednesday, Dec. 5 – Annual Meeting, Member Potpourri and Seed Exchange.**



## 2018 Other events of note

**Sunday, June 10, Herb Day, 10 am.-4 pm., Olbrich Gardens.** Shop the Herbal Marketplace between your chosen events for herbal teas, tinctures, salves, soaps, plants and books. Free by Madison Herbal Institute and the Madison Chapter of the American Herbalist Guild. Contact Kate McFeeley at [kkmcfeeley@gmail.com](mailto:kkmcfeeley@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, June 12, Amazing Sprouts Garden Adventures: The Dirt on Dirt, 9:30-11:00 am., Allen Centennial Garden.** FREE. The Amazing Sprouts is a program for 4-5-year-olds and their caregivers designed to expose children to the natural world through hands-on gardening activities. Registration required. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/amazing-sprouts-garden-adventures-the-dirt-on-dirt-tickets-44333305109>

**Wednesday, June 13, Native Plant Garden tour: Woodland, Savanna, and Prairie Gardens, 7 pm. with Susan Carpenter.**

**Saturday, June 16, Olbrich Gardens' Rhapsody in Bloom (ticketed event), 6-11 pm.** Come dine and drift through gorgeous summer gardens. Call 608-246-5616. <http://www.olbrich.org/>

**Saturday, June 16, Masterclass: Design, Create, Build: Walls, 9:00 am.-12:30 pm., Allen Centennial Garden.** \$15 Public; Free for FACC members. Instructor: Avant Gardening and Landscaping. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/masterclass-design-create-build-walls-tickets-44267939599>

**Sunday, June 17, Rose Show, noon-5 pm., Olbrich Gardens.** The Madison Rose Society organizes this indoor exhibit of cut roses and arrangements in all sizes and colors. For more information call 608-634-2146. Free and open to the public.

**Monday, June 18, Hitchhikers Guide to the Garden – The Nose Knows, 10-10:45 am., Allen Centennial Garden.** FREE. Register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hitchhikers-guide-to-the-garden-the-nose-knows-tickets-44344725267>

**Tuesday, June 19, Amazing Sprouts Garden Adventures: Seeds and Me, 9:30-11:00 am., Allen Centennial Garden.** See description on June 12. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/amazing-sprouts-garden-adventures-seeds-and-me-tickets-44335092455>

**Wednesday, June 20, 7 pm. Native Plant**

**Garden Tour: What's Blooming? at UW Arboretum.** Join Susan Carpenter to find, compare, and learn about flowers on native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants.

**Garden Tours of Taliesin, 6-8 p.m.: June 22, Daylilies; August 3, Full Blooms; August 31, Lilies.** For info: [https://www.taliesinpreservation.org/visit/tours-tickets/garden-tours?\\_SID=00adaaea62abf7d5f521cf4d129840b7U](https://www.taliesinpreservation.org/visit/tours-tickets/garden-tours?_SID=00adaaea62abf7d5f521cf4d129840b7U)

**June 23, South Milwaukee Historical Society Garden Tour & Art Fair, 9 am.-4 pm., South Milwaukee Historical Society, 717 Milwaukee Ave., Milwaukee.** Advance tickets \$8; day of event \$10 – <https://wimastergardener.org/events/2018-south-milwaukee-historical-society-garden-tour-art-fair/>

**Tuesday, June 26, Amazing Sprouts Garden Adventures: Lovely Leaves, 9:30-11:00 am., Allen Centennial Garden.** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/amazing-sprouts-garden-adventures-lovely-leaves-tickets-44335350226>

**Tuesday, June 26, Botanic Talk: Square Foot Gardening & Raised Beds, with Lisa Johnson, UW Extension. 6:30-8 pm., Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville.** Registration not required. \$7 non-members, \$5 members. <http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/2018-06/>

**Tuesday, July 10, Amazing Sprouts Garden Adventures: Fabulous Flowers, 9:30-11:00 am., Allen Centennial Garden.** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/amazing-sprouts-garden-adventures-lovely-leaves-tickets-44335350226>

**Friday-Sunday, July 13-15, Iris Sale, 8 am.-5 pm., Olbrich Gardens.** The Madison Area Iris Society organizes this sale of iris rhizomes. For more information call 608-271-3607.

**Friday/Saturday, July 13-14, 2018 Olbrich Home Garden Tour, 9 am.-3 pm.** Tour exceptional home gardens, talk with homeowners, and see how other home gardeners use innovative landscape designs. Tickets at <http://www.olbrich.org/>

**Saturday, July 14, Drag Queens and Daylilies, 5:00-7:00 pm., Allen Centennial Garden.** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/drag-queens-and-daylilies-tickets-45239294949>

**Wednesday, July 18, 7 pm. Garden Tour: Plants for Pollinators** Tours are open to

the public and begin at the Arboretum Visitor Center.

**Thursday, July 19, Botanic Talk: The Monarch Kingdom, with Shelly Culea, 6:40-8 pm., Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville.** Registration not required. \$7 non-members, \$5 members. <http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/2018-04/>

**July 19-August 12, Olbrich's Bloomin' Butterflies, 10 am.-4 pm. daily, Olbrich Gardens.** <http://www.olbrich.org/>

**Friday/Saturday, July 20-21, American Conifer Society Central Region Conference.** Madison is hosting the Central Region Meeting of the American Conifer Society, July 20-21, 2018. Registration form: <http://conifersociety.org/events/event/2018-central-region-conference/>

**Saturday, July 21, Home Garden Tour, 9 am.-3 pm. Tour seven local gardens and Rotary Botanical Gardens.** Tickets required. <http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/2018-07/>

**Monday, July 23, Hitchhikers Guide to the Garden- Can('t) Touch This, 10-10:45 am., Allen Centennial Garden.** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hitchhikers-guide-to-the-garden-cant-touch-this-tickets-44345407307>

**Tuesday, July 24, Amazing Sprouts Garden Adventures: Circle of Life, 9:30-11:00 am., Allen Centennial Garden.** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/amazing-sprouts-garden-adventures-circle-of-life-tickets-44336870774>

**Thursday, July 26, Masterclass: Integrated Pest Management, 1-4 pm., Allen Centennial Garden, FREE.** As gardeners, much of our attention can be focused on insect pests that are damaging our plants. There's an amazing diversity of beneficial insects around our yards and gardens that help us out by controlling pests, pollinating our plants and recycling organic materials. In this session, we'll focus on recognizing beneficial arthropods and learning what we can do to help them. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/masterclass-integrated-pest-management-tickets-44269287631>

**Tuesday, July 31, Fresh Summer Floral Design, 5:30-7:30 pm., Allen Centennial Garden with Executive Director, Ben Futa.** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/master>

(continued on page 4)

## Other events of note (continued from p.3)

[class-cut-flowers-tickets-44272383892](http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/2018-08/)

**Wednesday, August 8, Summer Symposium: Horticultural Therapy, 8 am.-4 pm., Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville.** Limited Tickets, \$65-\$85. Online registration required. <http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/>

**Wednesday, August 8, 7 pm. Native Plant Garden Tour: Native Grasses** with Susan Carpenter at the Arboretum Visitor Center.

**Saturday/Sunday, August 18-19, Daylily Sale, Olbrich Gardens, Saturday 10 am.-4 pm., Sunday 11 am.-3 pm.** The Wisconsin Daylily Society organizes this sale. For more information call 608-221-1933.

**Wednesday, August 22, Botanic Talk: Gardening for Pollinators, with Larry & Emily Scheunemann, 6:30-8 pm., Janesville Rotary Gardens.** Registraton not required. \$7 non-members, \$5 members. <http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/2018-08/>

**Saturday, August 25, Opening – Gleam: Art in a New Light, Olbrich Gardens. 7:30-10:30 pm.** (rain or shine), Be the first to

see Olbrich's exhibition, GLEAM, Art in a New Light, featuring site-specific art and light installations in the outdoor gardens. Open August 29-31; September 1, 5-8, 12-15, 19-22, 26-29; October 3-6, 10-13, 17-20, 24-27. <http://www.olbrich.org/>

**Friday-Sunday, September 7-9, Fall Plant Sale, Janesville Rotary Gardens, Friday 9 a.m.-6 pm., Saturday 8 am.-5 pm., Sunday 10 am.-4 pm.,** <http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/2018-09/>

**Saturday, September 15, 1-3 pm. Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: Edible Landscaping.** Join Judy Kingsbury and Marian Farior at Arboretum Visitor Center.

**Sunday, September 16, UW Arboretum Native Gardening Conference, 8:45 am.-4:30 pm.** Information about the 2018 conference will be posted in May. <https://arboretum.wisc.edu/visit/events/native-gardening-conference/>

**Saturday, September 22, 1-3 pm. Native Plant Garden Tour: Fall in the Native Plant Garden** with Susan Carpenter at the Arboretum Visitor Center.

**Friday, September 28, Crackle – Fire & Froth, 7-10 pm., Olbrich Gardens.** Be inspired by the beauty of a crisp fall evening in Olbrich's outdoor gardens. <http://www.olbrich.org/>

**Saturday, October 13, 1-3 pm. Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: Fall Favorites** with Michael Jesiolowski at the Arboretum Visitor Center.

**Tuesday, October 23, A Rock Garden for All Seasons, with speaker Marcia Tatroe, 6:00 pm., Olbrich Botanical Gardens Atrium.** The WI-IL Rock Garden Society is hosting this event and all WHPS members are invited to attend.

**Tuesday, October 23, Botanic Talk: The Other Witches' Brooms – Gems of the Conifer World!, with Josef Braeu, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville.** Registration not required. \$7 non-members, \$5 members. <http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/2018-10/>

**December 1-31, Olbrich's Holiday Express: Flower and Model Train Show, 10 am.-4 pm. daily** (closes 2:00 p.m.). <http://www.olbrich.org/>

## Foxwillow (cont. from p.1)

ask for? We are proud of our legacy – leaving thousands of gardens created with our plants in home landscapes, public gardens, institutions and colleges. Our customer base is Brattleboro, Vermont to Aspen, Colorado. There are hundreds of research plants that would leave the next owner with a potential to make other significant introductions beyond the 20+ plants that have already been introduced and are in production around the world. Plus, there are tens of thousands of dollars' worth of perennials (hostas, daylilies, iris, huechera, etc.) to divide and propagate included with the dwarf conifers, Asian trees and unique ornamental deciduous trees.

Our message to all is to partake in a serious way on your journey. Join organizations that hold interest for you and ask the seniors questions on how to do your dream. The American Conifer Society gave us a knowledge base. You must work to learn appropriate vocabulary to ask a good question. Our whisper is to master *Michael Dirr's Handbook of Woody Landscape Plants*. Learning the information in Dirr makes your light shine. In the world of horticulture, the other big part is to visit the gardens around the world. Limited exposure, limited dream. The Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society does a great job of taking horticulture trips to many great gardens and nurseries.

We hope you take this opportunity to add to your conifer collection this year: great plants, great prices, so you should come down on your own. Our final Hosta Sale for Mano a Mano International is June 2, 2018: hostas, Bolivian crafts, frog collection, vases, pots and gardening items will be available for sale.

And don't forget about the American Conifer Society Central Region Meeting in Madison WI July 20-21, 2018.

Thank you, Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society members! We sure had fun the last 30 years!

## Members in the news

WHPS Business Member **Heritage Flower Farm** has been recognized by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) for creating a Certified Wildlife Habitat through its Garden for Wildlife® program. NWF celebrates the efforts of Heritage Flower Farm to create a garden space that improves habitat for birds, butterflies, frogs and other wildlife by providing essential elements needed by all wildlife – natural food sources, clean water, cover and places to raise young. Certification also makes Heritage Flower Farm part of the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge, a national effort to restore critical habitat for pollinators.

You can find Heritage Flower Farms at 33725 County Road L (Janesville Dr.), Mukwonago WI and [www.heritageflowerfarm.com](http://www.heritageflowerfarm.com).

## Acclaimed gardener Beth Chatto Dies

On May 13, renowned English gardener Beth Chatto passed away at the age of 94 at her home in Colchester, England. Through her writing, including books such as *The Dry Garden*, *Beth Chatto's Gravel Garden* and *Beth Chatto's Woodland Garden*, she encouraged gardeners around the world to garden in challenging conditions. WHPS member Jane LaFlash recalls a tour of her garden on a trip to England where Chatto herself came out to speak to the tour group. To read the obituary posted on her Website, go to <http://www.bethchatto.co.uk/gardens/our-blog/garden-news/beth-chatto-27th-september-1923-13th-may-2018.htm>





## Discover the Dane County UW Extension Teaching Garden

Celebrate spring in the Teaching Garden, when the Eastern Fringe Tree bursts into clouds of fleecy white flowers in early June (right). Come back again in summer when the Color Wheel Garden impresses all visitors with its stunning mosaic of plants arranged in a spectrum of colors (right). And don't miss the brilliant fall color of the Japanese maples and ornamental grasses. There are 12 unique garden areas to explore and over 850 varieties of perennials, trees and shrubs to inspire you with ideas to take home.

The Teaching Garden offers many learning opportunities. Discover which forbs and grasses are native to prairies in Dane County. Learn about plants that are salt and drought tolerant, or that thrive in wet conditions. Pick and taste vegetables straight out of the Edibles Garden in the new "tasting beds". Relax on a bench in the Pollinator Garden and watch butterflies and bees hovering among the blossoms of different size, shape and color. Appreciate the wild spirit and beauty of the Naturalistic Garden.

Our goal is to enhance each visitor's experience by making more information available to them. This is the only public garden in the area using QR (Quick

Response) codes on plant labels that can be read with a QR code reader on a smart phone. By holding the QR code reader in front of the plant label, you will be connected to a webpage containing picture(s) and detailed information about each plant. Before coming to the Teaching Garden, be sure to search the App Store and download a free barcode scanner or QR reader application.

With the continued support from volunteers, vendors, and sponsors, we are able to take on some very important projects. Thanks to a grant from the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society, perennials will be added to the Color Wheel Garden this year. The Edibles Garden received funding from the Dane County Environmental Council to install a demonstration drip irrigation system for the raised vegetable beds and provide information so homeowners can implement their own irrigation projects.

Master Gardener Volunteers help design and maintain the 12 garden areas, working in dedicated teams. Be sure to include a visit to the Teaching Garden in your plans this year and be inspired!



Open sunrise to sunset. No admission. Ample on-site parking. Group tours welcome at 5201 Fen Oak Drive, Madison WI [www.dane.uwex.edu/horticulture/teaching-garden](http://www.dane.uwex.edu/horticulture/teaching-garden); [www.facebook.com/uwex-teachinggarden](https://www.facebook.com/uwex-teachinggarden)




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# WHPS opportunities to contribute

## Hosting an Open Garden

Hosting an open garden gives you the opportunity to invite people to visit your garden at very short notice, when you think it's looking especially good. All you have to do is contact us a few days to a week ahead at [wisconsinhps@gmail.com](mailto:wisconsinhps@gmail.com) with a date and time, short garden description and directions, and we will send out an e-mail invitation to our members. Feel free to email with questions, too. We know we have many members with lovely gardens and we'd like to see them!

– Jane LaFlash

## Trips Committee

Are you interested in helping to plan and arrange for our trips? Do you have some great ideas for places gardeners would love to see?

Please email us at [wisconsinhps@gmail.com](mailto:wisconsinhps@gmail.com) – no experience necessary – we can help train you!

## Newsletter content and editing

Our current newsletter editor and content coordinator (20 years!) Stephanie O'Neal will be retiring from the WHPS Board at the end of 2019. We would like to find someone to volunteer to begin working with Stephanie on that aspect of the newsletter later this year in preparation for taking over the position fully in January of 2020. Presently, Stephanie and our director of layout Sally Averkamp put together five newsletters a year. The position involves keeping ears and eyes open for subjects of interest to our members, identifying members to contribute articles, collecting information on the yearly gardening calendar and working with our Board to communicate regularly with our members. If you are interested, please contact Stephanie at [sone2@aol.com](mailto:sone2@aol.com).

## Take photos of your garden – Member Potpourri in Dec.

We hope you are taking photos of your garden or other gardens visited this year, so you can show them to our members at the December Annual Meeting, Seed Exchange and Member Potpourri at Olbrich Gardens Evjue Commons. At the event, you will have 10 minutes maximum to present, and you are welcome to present as many or as few photos as you wish. You don't have to be a professional photographer or presenter to be a part of the Member Potpourri. If you have any questions about presenting in December, contact Stephanie O'Neal at [sone2@aol.com](mailto:sone2@aol.com). Now is the perfect time of year to showcase your garden in photos we can enjoy as winter descends at our December meeting!

## New members

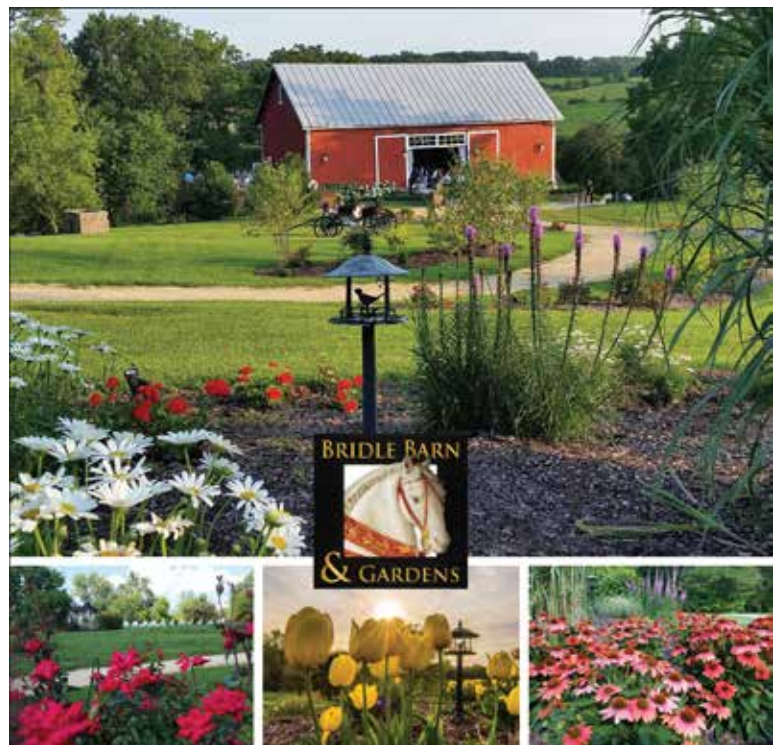
The following members have recently joined WHPS:

Katey & Sean Pratt	Karen Crawford
Janet Farnan	Katrina Schneider
Rachael Drechsel	Alissa Karnaky
Lolita Martens	Glenys Gale
Martha & Dean Brusegar	Colette Sisco

Welcome!

## Why do we have two Facebook pages?

Members have asked why the WHPS has two different Facebook pages. Each page serves a different purpose, which is why we have chosen to maintain both. The *WHPS Facebook Business/Organization Page* – <https://www.facebook.com/WisHardyPlantSociety/> is the official page of the group, where we post info on meetings, trips, sales and other relevant membership content, along with a link to our Website and our logo. While this page is great for disseminating official information, only admin posts show up on the page, which is why we created the WHPS Facebook Group. *The WHPS Facebook Group* – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1829676897290007/> is the discussion/forum page, where members can post gardening questions, observations, pictures, free stuff, stuff wanted, etc. It is moderated by WHPS, but it's open to anyone interested in gardening. There is no way to highlight official info or link back to our site, which is why we decided to keep the WHPS Facebook Business/Organization page live as well.



*"Gardening is the art that uses flowers and plants as paint, and the soil and sky as canvas - working with nature provides the technique."*

— Elizabeth Murray

[bridlebarnandgardens.com](http://bridlebarnandgardens.com)

## A touch of sunlight in the shade

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski

A touch of sunlight in the shade may seem like an oxymoron, but the bright yellow flowers on *Saruma henryi* provide just that touch.

*Saruma henryi* is an uncommon perennial native to woodlands and valleys of central China. The specific epithet of *Saruma henryi* honors Augustine Henry (1857-1930). Augustine was an Irish physician, plant explorer and collector who spent 20 years in Central China (1881-1900) collecting seeds, specimens and plant samples for shipment to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. The two-word species *Saruma henryi* consists of generic name, *Saruma*, and the specific epithet, *henryi*, which may honor someone in botany that was associated with the plant. In this instance, Augustine Henry was so honored for collecting the plant in central

China. Augustine also helped the famous plant explorer, Ernest Wilson, from the Arnold Arboretum in his exploration for plant material in China.

*Saruma henryi* grows fairly slowly, forming a spreading mound that is 18 to 24 inches in height, with a width of 24 to 36 inches. The rounded, heart-shaped leaves emerge with a dense pubescent silvery sheen in the spring but later mature to an attractive green color, which remain throughout the growing season. If bruised, the leaves produce a fragrant scent. Showy, yellow, three-petaled, one-inch blooms appear from the leaf axils on upright stems rising above the foliage in spring and intermittently through the late summer, as in the photo from our garden.

*Saruma henryi* grows well in partial to full shade. Moist to slightly dry well-drained soils are best. The plant has no



serious insect or disease problems and tolerates both alkaline and acid soils. *Saruma henryi* is rated hardy in USDA Zones 5 through 8. After the second coldest April ever recorded in the Madison area, *Saruma henryi* is emerging in our garden without any winter damage. If you wish to add a ray of sunlight and contrasting foliage to a shady garden area, *Saruma henryi* would be a perennial to consider.

## A jumping worm update

We asked Jeff Epping for his thoughts on plants and landscaping that might do well competing with jumping worms. Here are his comments.

*From my personal experience at home, the plants that do the best are those that are most deeply rooted and/or drought tolerant, plants like: hosta, epimedium, hackonechloa, calamintha, Asclepias tuberosa, Echinacea pallida, prairie grasses & other herbaceous prairie plants, hemerocallis, sedum. My trees and shrubs seem to be doing fine, but I do deep-water them in periods of extended drought, since the soil seems to be less moisture retentive. I do try to keep a layer of organic mulch on the garden to help with moisture. I make my own with leaves that I store in a corner of my veggie garden and mow as I need them. In spring, I mow my entire garden and leave it lay to serve as mulch. I keep all of my plant material in my garden now. I don't dispose of anything other than brush. I don't want to take the chance of spreading the jumping worm to others so I think it's important that I keep everything right here. The hardest part is not being able to share any divisions of my perennials anymore. – Jeff Epping*

We also asked Lisa Johnson, Horticulture Educator at Dane County UW-Extension, for her thoughts on dealing with the jumping worms this summer. She recommended everyone get a copy of the latest

jumping worm publication from the DNR - <https://p.widencdn.net/tkh5lw/Unwanted-Jumping-Worms>.

Here are some other thoughts from Lisa. *My advice is not to use free compost and to only buy soil/compost that has been treated according to DNR protocols. Regarding control, I have personally had good luck with Early Bird, but it should be noted that we have no info on long-term soil effects, nor guidance on lowest effective dose, nor info on whether cocoons are affected.*

*IT IS FOR EXPERIMENTAL USE ONLY. It is not labeled as a vermicide, but is approved by DATCP for that use in WI. It is available for a wholesale price at DHD Tree and Turf in Juneau or retail through Paradigm Gardens on the east side of Madison at \$75/50 lb bag. You might also like to read comments made by Lisa earlier this month (see "Hort Short" in the following link) <http://www.mamgawi.org/mamga-notes/2017/4/27/extension-express-for-may-2017>*



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# WHPS/MAMGA Stoughton Garden Tour – June 28

Thursday, June 28, 2018 – 4:00 pm – dark

## **Barb & Bob Shenk – 617 Hamilton, Stoughton**

In 1988, we purchased our home in the Victorian District of Stoughton. We were drawn to the secluded feel of the double lot situated in the middle of town. Three decades later, our yard looks much different, but the secluded feel remains. When we moved in the yard was a bit of an eyesore and hostas were the primary plant of choice. That slate was wiped clean and life was brought back, but is a constant work in progress. Gardening is more than a hobby for me but a form of therapy where I can escape and revel in the fruits of my labor. When I'm not getting my hands dirty in the garden I love to sit and watch the bees do their work as pollinators, watch the butterflies and songbirds.

As you approach our century-old Victorian home you are greeted by a quaint picket fence and flower beds full of perennials and pots and baskets of annuals resembling a cottage garden. Make your way behind the house and relax by the pool. Keep an eye out for hummingbirds that like to feed on the bee balm, daylilies and begonias, to name a few. Around the side of the house is a pond that attracts yellow finches, cardinals, blue jays, wrens and, of course, robins. I like to think of our gardens as an extension of the house and just another area for guests to visit and find peace and relaxation.

## **Janet Aaberg – 1814 Hildebrandt, Stoughton**

I started digging about 19½ years ago after a life-changing event and have not stopped. My little slice of sunny paradise is not only food for the soul but also attracts many birds and pollinators. I now have 17+ flower gardens in which something is blooming from early April through late October. One word to describe my gardens is diverse. You will find prickly pear cactus, echinacea, ornamental poppy, milkweed, primrose, amaranthus, lupine, a large Seven Sisters climbing rose, peony, phlox, balloon flower, veronica, delphinium, ornamental grasses, rose bushes, a yellow climbing rose, 50+ varieties of daylilies, salvia, Asiatic lilies, ornamental lilies, OT lilies, pop-up lilies, torch lilies, monarda, butterfly bush, butterfly weed, hibiscus, Rose of Sharon, campanula, queen of the prairie, penstemon, ge-



ranium, sedum, 23 clematis climbers and two clematis bushes, iris and many more. Last year I retired from an office job and started working seasonally in perennials at a greenhouse to support my habit. As a result, several new plant and shrub varieties have made it into my gardens. Fingers crossed, they all survived!

## **Lynene and Dan Harmon – 3073 Shoreview Dr, Stoughton**

My husband and I built our dream home 5½ years ago so we could landscape to our hearts content. We had land to clear and took down 18 oak, hickory, walnut and cherry trees but planted mature evergreens, maples, clump birch, Wisconsin river birch, crabapples, redbud, serviceberry and assorted other trees. We also planted a variety of bushes ranging from a variety of hydrangeas, viburnum, dogwood, and smokebushes, as well as many perennials and hostas. We love birds and provide a nice habitat for them year round. A little pond, birdbaths, feeders and birdhouses add to their cozy environment. Finally, we work at a green-

house and have easy access to a variety of plants that you may not have seen before. Enjoy a tour of our property along with a beverage on our patio.

## **Susan Liimatta – 3062 Course View Dr, Stoughton**

I've been gardening since my dad gave me a pack of peas to plant in his vegetable garden when I was 10 years old. I don't remember really loving peas as a kid but I loved those peas! Gardening and quilt-making have been part of my life for nearly 30 years. Being surrounded by art and color is very important to me. I have discovered that making a garden incorporating texture, line, unity, repetition, and color is very much like creating a quilt. I have relied on a few principles to guide the growth of my home garden for the last nine years: create a green fence, use natives and low-maintenance plants, construct outdoor rooms connected by grass pathways or stone, and choose plants with structure for interest in the winter months. I have worked closely with landscape architect Cherie Schmid to bring



## WHPS/MAMGA Stoughton Tour – Thursday, June 28 (cont. from p.8)

my ideas to reality. As luck would have it, I met Cherie while contractors were grading my property. Within three days of meeting, we had marked out a bed for prairie grasses, selected the grasses, and

planted them. Our most recent collaboration is the “patchwork quilt” garden adjacent to the front entry. You are also invited to visit my lower-level quilt studio (accessible from the backyard entrance), where

you will see many of my quilts on display, along with new works in progress.

Google map: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1JG8P55OzmgljVr9nuJ6ljuw3lHOgKE4u&usp=sharing>

## WHPS/MAMGA West Madison Garden Tour – July 11

Wednesday, July 11, 2018 – 4:00 pm – dark

### Wendy Sundby – 2124 Regent St, Madison

Creeping Charlie was practically the only “perennial” adorning the garden when I purchased my home in 1989. I saved a few trees, but cut some down to encourage sun loving plants to flourish. There was never a master plan, but each year I purchased plants I liked and planted them in places that met their requirements and coordinated well with other vegetation while providing food for birds, bees and butterflies. Basil for pesto grows in leaf bales and tomatoes grow in the area with the most sun. I’ve also gone vertical, with more than 15 clematis and many trellises, including the burr oak which has become a trellis for a climbing hydrangea. Blue spruce, weeping mulberry, and a rose-covered arbor form a colorful tapestry in front, and the backyard brims with interesting specimens for both sun and shade. The artist in me likes repurposing – a large homemade sprinkler (bought at a farm auction) and a dead eunonymous find new lives as trellises.

### Eric Sandgren and Holly McEntee – 4813 and 4805 Tokay Blvd, Madison

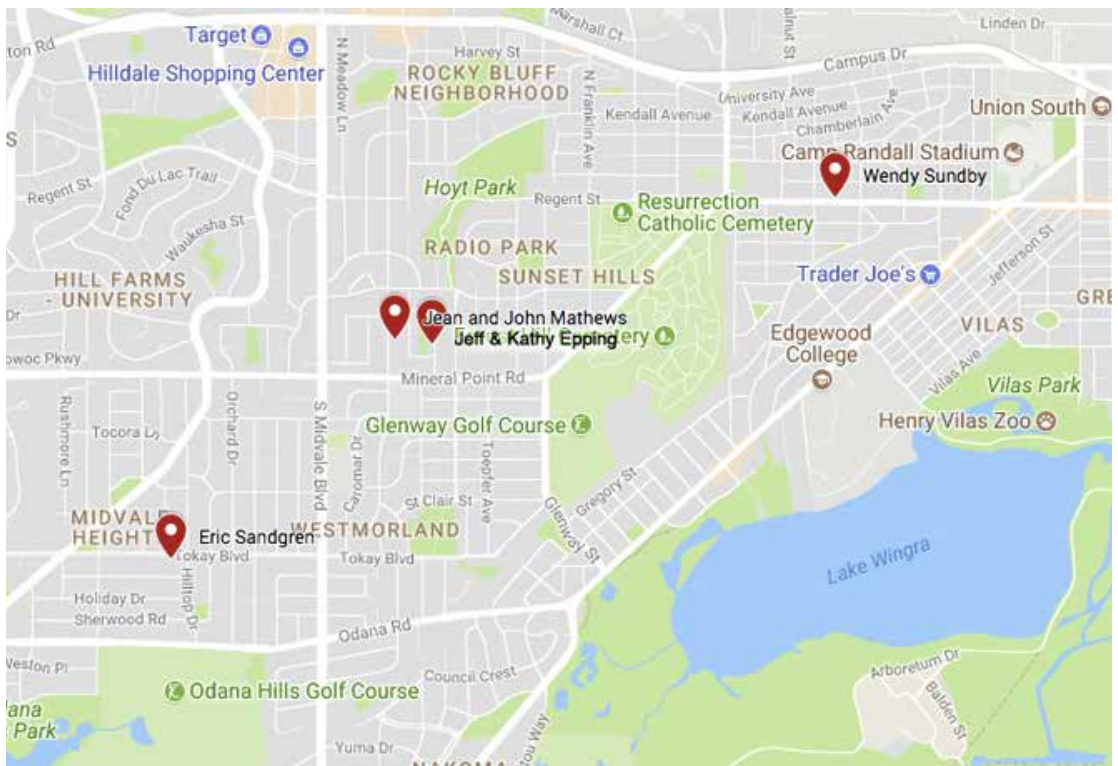
The gardens at 4813 were started in 2015, represent the third shade garden endeavor, and are the most extreme. Next door at 4805 (the second garden, also open), the gardens are more restrained and ten years older. My parents were born in Superior, WI, and I spent a lot of time there as a child. Apparently, the northern Wisconsin ecosystem left a big impression, because that is what we have been trying to recreate. We hauled in several hundred tons of boulders in our attempt

to turn a backyard of lawn into a rocky Wisconsin forest. Plantings include native birch and maple, but because we like autumn we’ve stretched a bit to the south to put in sassafras, tupelo, and sweet gum, and across the world to plant Japanese maples. Emerging ground cover is a mix of native and non-native informal plants that tolerate shade. Bulbs have been planted everywhere, and this spring we had a very nice (if late) show. We seem to have done at least some things right, because moss and even a few ferns have started to colonize on their own. The biggest challenge is growing cliff-face plants, and the experimenting has been very enjoyable, if occasionally lethal. Of particular note, we are trying to grow yellow birch and white pine on top of rocks, as they can be found so prominently in Parfrey’s Glen, and so far it seems to be working. In ten more years, I’m hoping I can’t tell the backyard from northern Wisconsin (and

not just because old age has set in!)

### Jean and John Mathews – 305 S Owen Dr, Madison

This will be our fifth full summer in our home. We removed most of the lawn and some shrubs to create Japanese-influenced outdoor spaces. Fortunately, there are some nice-sized maple and cedar trees for structure and a naturally quiet backyard. One of our goals is to use some recycled materials for walkways and structures in the yard. For example: incorporating old stone countertop pieces into walkways and transforming old cedar fence boards into new fencing. Because we are using mostly recycled wood, the perimeter-fence construction is a step-by-step process as materials become available, and therefore the fencing is not complete. Our smaller-sized lot has allowed us to have unique areas that gently flow from the front to the back yard.





211 S. Fair Oaks Avenue, Madison, WI 53704

June 2018 Newsletter

*Have questions about your membership?  
Contact Jane LaFlash at [wisconsinhps@gmail.com](mailto:wisconsinhps@gmail.com) or (608) 243-1208.*

### **WHPS/MAMGA West Madison Garden Tour – Wednesday, July 11, 2018** (cont. from p. 9)

The front yard begins with a mix of dwarf hostas, dwarf conifers, dwarf ginkgos, and Japanese Maples, along with perennials and splashes of colorful annuals. Bamboo fencing is used to create an Asian feel to the front. A separate small bed in front of the house is a dedicated space for a moss garden, with a small bamboo water feature. A rounded boulder path from the front leads to a Japanese garden gate. After the gate, the pathway transitions to a geometric stone and small cedar plank walkway. Our back yard continues with larger hostas, more dwarf trees, a pine needle pathway, simple bamboo fencing, a stone patio, and a pond with a waterfall and stream. Creating the waterfall was a challenge because of the original flat back yard. We brought in over thirty tons of stone and gravel to create the raised flagstone patio and elevation needed for the waterfall. We give treats to our koi fish throughout the summer – jumping worms are their favorite. The most challenging aspect of our property is our two large, energetic dogs. Short fencing and strategic boulder placement allow

our gardens and dogs to co-exist. Please pay attention to the parking signs on our street, there is intermittent alternate side parking.

#### **Jeff and Kathy Epping – 310 E Sunset Ct, Madison**

Our small garden (60'x 120' lot) here on Sunset Court has changed dramatically since we moved from our first Madison home and garden near Olbrich Botanical Gardens in 2003. Thanks to my wife Kathy's persistence and good friends in the neighborhood, she found the ideal home for our family, even if it didn't meet my one and only requirement – a mature oak tree. In fact, there was only one plant that lived to see another day after the slate was wiped clean of weeds and invasive trees and shrubs – a nice apple serviceberry, which is still growing in the garden. We built a small breakfast deck around this tree when we remodeled our small cape cod in 2005-6, and the garden took off from there. The first plants to be planted in this fertile ground were, of course, whitespire birches, in honor of my friend and mentor Dr. Ed Hasselkus. Since

those six birches took root, hundreds of plants have come and gone, because I love to garden and that's what gardeners do. My garden philosophy is to create gardens that have lots of interest year round, especially during the dormant season, and to create gardens that can thrive on what Mother Nature provides. I want my gardens to succeed on what rain falls naturally as much as possible and to live without the input of chemicals. And last, but not least, my gardens need to take care of themselves as much as possible. I try to create interactive plant communities, using plants that grow together to make a beautiful garden that we can enjoy, as much as the insects and birds that live with us here. No chemically dependent lawns allowed in my garden – the shady back garden is planted with a matrix of sedges and ornamental grasses, and the front has just been converted from no-mow fescue lawn to a gravel garden full of drought-tolerant perennials.

Google map: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1J5hWkYEcVuXqvfDSJPcO4hBpZnSWUTAC&usp=sharing>