



Perennial Notes

April 2012

Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society—an unincorporated nonprofit association

WHPS COMING EVENTS!

All regular meetings are 6:30 social time, 7:00 p.m. program at Olbrich Gardens Commons, 3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison, unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, April 18, Olbrich Gardens. Guest speaker Richard Hawke, Chicago Botanic Garden, *When Pretty Isn't Enough: Comparative Perennial Trials at the Chicago Botanic Garden*. CBG's Plant Evaluation Program is one of the largest and most diverse in the nation, and also one of the few programs in the United States that formally evaluates perennials. It received the Award for Program Excellence from the American Public Garden Association in 2008.

<http://www.chicagobotanic.org/research/staff/hawke.php>

Friday, May 18, Volunteers set up for 5/19 Plant Sale.

Saturday, May 19, WHPS Plant Sale! Held 9-noon at West Madison Agricultural Research Station, 8502 Mineral Point Road, Verona (just off the Beltline at the Mineral Point Road exit).

Saturday, June 2, WHPS Song Sparrow Buying Spree.

Look for map and info on page 2.

<http://www.songsparrow.com/>

June 10-19, 2012 WHPS Trip to England. Questions about the trip should be directed to Frank Greer at 608-233-4686.

Wednesday, August 15, 5:30 p.m. setup; serving at 6:00 p.m., Olbrich Commons. *Member Potluck and Summer Walk Through Olbrich Gardens.*



Wednesday, September 19, Barry Glick of Sunshine Farms and Gardens will present *Hellebores for Every Gardener*. Barry has been involved in the plant world since the age of five in 1954, when *Mr. Wizard* planted the seeds of his future gardening. In 1972, he bought 60 acres of a mountaintop in Greenbrier County West Virginia, where he gave birth to Sunshine Farm & Gardens, started

his plant collection, and has remained there since. Barry has spent the last decade combing the Earth for new germplasm to enhance the bloodlines of his *Helleborus x hybridus* strains. Virtually every species within the genus is also grown. Barry maintains more than 50,000 flowering size stock plants for seed production. **Note:** Barry will be supplying hellebores from his nursery for purchase at the talk!

Sunday, September 23, WHPS Plant Exchange, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Allen Centennial Gardens. Bring plant(s), get plant(s)! Members bring extra plants dug from their gardens, purchased and not-used perennials, woodies, annual bulbs, even a few houseplants.

I brake for plant sales.

—Jane Gahlman's bumper sticker



Wednesday, October 17, Lee Somerville of Sturgeon Bay, WI will discuss her book, *Vintage Wisconsin Gardens*. (Joint meeting—Madison Area Master Gardeners)

Wednesday, November 14, Plant Introduction Process: Do You Have the Hot New Plant? with speaker Angie Treadwell-Palmer,

Plants Nouveau, Charleston, SC.

Wednesday, December 12, Annual Meeting, Member Potpourri, Seed Exchange.

2012 WHPS Bus Trips **SOLD OUT!**

April 27-29—St. Louis area

July 28—Private Milwaukee gardens

Aug 10-12—Exploring Chicagoland's Garden Treasures

Thanks to everyone for registering early. We are always interested in ideas for future trips. Email us at WHPS05@yahoo.com if you have an idea you'd like us to look into.

SUMMER TOURS OF LOCAL GARDENS

WHPS, along with Madison Area Master Gardeners, has put together two evening tours featuring member gardens for summer 2012. A **June 20** Tour is in the Stoughton Area, with five open gardens, and a **July 18** Tour on Madison's Eastside with four gardens open.

Look for our tour list and directions in the June newsletter.

HELP AT OUR PLANT SALE!

- ❖ It's not too late to sign up to help at a Plant Dig.
- ❖ Volunteer to help the day before or day of the sale.
- ❖ If you want to contribute a few plants, make sure you pot them up, label with a name, let Stephanie O'Neal know what you are contributing (sone2@aol.com), deliver them before 2:00 p.m. 5/18, or before 9:30 a.m. day of sale, 5/19. *And thank you for doing this!*

This year, any Plant Sale volunteer, plant dig host or plant contributor is automatically entered into the end-of-sale drawing—our member businesses have contributed over \$600 in prizes for the drawing!

If you have any questions about the sale or want to volunteer, contact Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com.

One last thing...

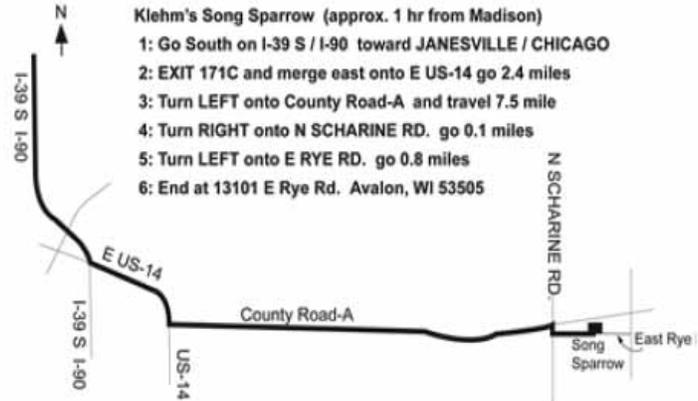
Visit the Plant Sale from 9-noon on Saturday, May 19 and buy, buy, buy!

BUYING SPREE for WHPS Members

SATURDAY, JUNE 2
Klehm's Song Sparrow
Perennial Farm,
13101 E. Rye Road
Avalon, Wisconsin

BETWEEN 9:00-10:30 a.m. ONLY!

Check out the Song Sparrow Website,
www.songsparrow.com,
for a full catalog of their plants.



It's A Party!

Our dear friend and mentor Ed Hasselkus is turning 80 this year, so we're having a birthday party for him and you're invited.

We will celebrate with cake, wine, ice tea, and if you would each bring an hors d'oeuvre to share, we will have a feast.

It will be held in my garden at 5586 Cheryl Dr., Fitchburg on Thursday May 24, 4:00 p.m.-dark. Directions: 2.5 miles south of the beltline on Fish Hatchery Road. Turn right on Cheryl Dr. 2nd block on the right.

Ed asks that in lieu of any gifts or cards, he would be most grateful for a contribution to the Longenecker Gardens. (Checks may be made out to U.W. Foundation. Note on the check that it is for "Ed Hasselkus Curator Endowment Fund 12096912.")



RSVP to
ritathomas5586@yahoo.com

And from all of us Ed, **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AND MANY, MANY MORE!**
—Rita Thomas

To Our Members— Just look what your membership has done!

Thank you for renewing your membership for another year. It allows us to present great speakers, garden tours, trips and our newsletter. *We welcome your ideas!*: a program topic or speaker you'd like to hear, a garden for us to tour, a topic for our newsletter to discuss—send us an email at WHPS05@yahoo.com.

Perennial Plant of the Year— **Brunnera 'Jack Frost'**

Many of you are familiar with this beautiful shade plant, selected as the Perennial Plant Association's Perennial Plant of the Year for 2012. Hardy in zones 3-8, best in light shade and moist soil, 'Jack' is doing great in my dry garden. The silvery leaves and baby-blue flowers really are lighting up the garden, and the leaves maintain throughout the season. Stop by the plant sale 5/19 and pick up a pot! —Stephanie O'Neal



It's that time of year again Grow Great Plants with Schönheit Gardens' Shredded Leaf Mulch!

Did you know that there is an easy way to mulch your garden and give your soil a boost at the same time? Most gardeners know that the secret to success starts with the earth that surrounds a plant's roots. Whether you have clay, sand or reasonably good soil, there is no garden that will not benefit from adding more organic content.

Shredded leaf mulch literally feeds the soil, providing essential plant nutrients and creating a home for the microorganisms and worms that nurture your garden. Beneficial microorganisms perform many tasks, including destroying pathogens and delivering nitrogen to the plants. Worms, of course, further enrich the soil with their castings. Why buy worms or worm castings when you can create your own by using leaf mulch?

The secret to good leaf mulch lies in the composting and shredding process. At Schönheit Gardens we gather the leaves each fall and allow them to compost over the winter in enormous piles. Then we double shred them, guaranteeing that they will form a fine layer of mulch that inhibits weeds and breaks down slowly to improve the soil. An added benefit to leaf mulch is that, like bark mulch, it retains soil moisture. You will water less when you use leaf mulch! Unlike bark mulch, however, leaf mulch builds better soil. In fact, many gardeners find that leaf mulch is the only fertilizer their garden ever needs. Use it around flowers and vegetables as well as trees and shrubs.

Schönheit Gardens is committed to a cleaner environment. *In keeping with this mission, we sell our leaf mulch in sturdy woven bags that we encourage customers to return. Customers receive a one-dollar credit for each returned bag, which can then be used to pay for purchases in our nursery.* Bulk leaf mulch can be delivered to your home or business with our bio-diesel run dump trucks as well.

Visit us when the nursery opens on April 14 to pick up a gift for your plants...and maybe one for you, too! Need mulch sooner? Call or email for details: 608-441-9832 or info@schonheitgardens.com.

Spring makes its own statement, so loud and clear that the gardeners seem to be only one of the instruments, not the composer.

—Geoffrey B. Charlesworth

TELL YOUR FRIENDS!
Spread the word!

Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society

Plant Sale
Saturday, May 19, 2012

9:00-Noon
rain or shine

CONVENIENT LOCATION!

West Madison Agricultural Research Station

8502 Mineral Point Road
Beltline exit Mineral Point Road headed south,
on the right just past the stoplight at Highway M

**A wide range of perennial plants for shade
and sun, woody plants, bulbs, even a few
annuals and houseplants.**

***Great plants, great prices,
plenty of free parking!***

*If you can, bring your own plastic or
cardboard flats to collect and carry plants for purchase.*

Our Website? www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.com

List of 2012 Plant Sales, Garden Tours and Events

Olbrich's Leaf Mulch Sale Thursday 4/12 (Members only, 2-5 PM), **Friday, 4/13** 2-5 p.m., **Sat., 4/14**, 9:00-noon. Bags \$6.50 each + tax (each bag covers about 35 sq. feet at 2-3 inches), bulk scoops \$40 + tax (bulk scoop is equal to about 8-10 bags of mulch, covering approx. 350 sq. ft. at a depth of 2-3 inches). **Additional dates:** 4/19, 4/21, 4/26, 4/28.

Friday & Saturday, April 20 & 21, Annual Tree Sale, Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville, 8 am-3 pm, rain or shine. 2-3-year-old transplants - \$1.85 each (in minimum bundles of five). For more information and to pre-order (for guaranteed availability) call (608) 754-2152 after April 1.

Saturday, April 28, Willy Street Park's Green-Up-Time Plant Sale, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the park at Williamson and Bearly streets. Sale held rain or shine. Bedding plants, perennials and vegetables.

Thursday-Saturday, May 3-5, Habitat for Humanity of Dane County Plant Sale, Habitat ReStore, 208 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., this year featuring more than 30 different varieties of hybrid daylilies donated by the Wisconsin Daylily Society. In addition, there will be wide variety of other perennials including iris, hosta, rudbeckia, ferns and various groundcovers. Prices are \$4 each, or 3 for \$10, unless otherwise marked. Proceeds are used to help build homes for Habitat families in Dane County. Donations of hardy perennials and plastic planting pots are welcome. To donate, please contact Ann Eaves at 442-8768 or e-mail at aeaves@charter.net.

Friday & Saturday, May 4 & May 5, Cross Plains Garden Club Plant Sale, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., 1119 Gils Way, Cross Plains. Our own backyard plants including some woodland natives for sale. This sale is during the Cross Plains Trout Days village-wide event. Questions? Contact Bobbie Fehr at 1946.bby@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 5, Bulk Mulch Sale 9-1; Saturday, May 19, 9-1, Olbrich Gardens

Saturday, May 5, Parkway Garden Club Plant Sale, 1523 Hollister Avenue, Tomah, WI

Sunday, May 6, Badger State Dahlia Society Dahlia Tuber Sale, 12-2 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. Dahlias are late summer bloomers popular for their extravagant blooms, diverse forms, and bright colors. For more information call 608-577-1924.

Friday-Saturday, May 11-12, West Side Garden Club Plant Sale, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Friday, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Saturday, 3918 Nakoma Road, Madison.

Friday-Sunday, May 11-13—Fitchburg Gardeners 10th Annual Plant Sale, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Sunday, 5586 Cheryl Drive, Fitchburg, WI. 2.5 mi. south of the Beltline on Fish Hatchery Rd.

Friday, May 11, Olbrich's Plant Sale with the Pros, 10-11 a.m. Olbrich Circle Members are invited to shop early at **Olbrich's Plant Sale with the Pros!** Olbrich members and the public may also shop during this special time for \$20.

Continued on next page...

2012 Longenecker Garden & Arboretum Tours & Topics

Tours begin at 7:00 p.m.

at the McKay Visitors Center at the Arboretum

Wednesday, April 25—Native Plant Garden Tour: *Early Signs of Spring.* As trees and shrubs begin to leaf out, Dutchman's breeches, anemones and rue-anemones might be blooming in the woodland gardens. In our prairie gardens, we may find Pasque flower, prairie smoke and bird's-foot violet.

Wednesday, May 2—Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: *Early spring flowering woody ornamentals.* This tour, led by Dr. Laura Jull, UW-Madison professor of horticulture, will include the yellow and Little Girl Series magnolias, early lilacs and rhododendrons, and other spring flowering plants.

Wednesday, May 9—Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: *Flowering Crabapples and Lilacs.* Emeritus Professor of Horticulture Ed Hasselkus, curator of the Longenecker Gardens, will concentrate on flowering crabapples and present highlights in the Gardens' large lilac collection.

Wednesday, May 16—Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: *Azaleas and Rhododendrons.* Dr. Deb McCown, a specialist in woody ornamentals, will discuss the care of azaleas and rhododendrons in the Madison area.

Wednesday, May 23—Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: *Small Ornamental Trees.* Ed Lyon, Director of Allen Centennial Gardens, will highlight some of the Arboretum's interesting, and unusual, ornamental small trees.

Wednesday, May 30—Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: *Conifers.* If you are confused about telling a spruce from a fir, join Dr. Laura Jull on a walk through the Garden's spectacular conifer collection. On this tour you will learn about "garden-sized" conifers of many types.

Wednesday, June 6—Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: *Shade Trees.* Laura Wyatt, WDNR Urban Forestry, will lead the group through the Gardens' extensive collection of larger trees while discussing strategies for growing healthy trees in urban/suburban conditions.

Wednesday, June 13—Native Plant Garden Tour: *Woodland, Savanna and Prairie Gardens.* Celebrate the beginning of summer by visiting the woodland, savanna and prairie gardens. This tour provides an overview of the Wisconsin Native Plant Garden.

Wednesday, June 20—Native Plant Garden Tour: *What's Blooming?* Find, compare and learn about flowers on native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants, and see what's blooming in their collection of plants native to southern Wisconsin.

Wednesday, July 18—Native Plant Garden Tour: *Native Gardens for Pollinators.* This tour will feature many summer-blooming species in the diverse native garden. Highlights include plants and gardening practices that support essential pollinators in urban/suburban landscapes.

Wednesday, August 8—Native Plant Garden Tour: *Native Grasses.* In late summer, take a closer look at color, size and features of native grasses, from tiny mustache grass to big bluestem.

**New this year! Fall tours will be held on
Saturday afternoons, 1-3pm.**

September 29—Native Plant Garden Tour: *Fall in the Native Plant Garden.* Color, fruits, seeds, late-blooming plants, late-season insects—find these and more in the varied native plant gardens around the Visitor Center.

October 13—Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: *Featuring Fall.* Don't miss the lovely range of fall color in the woody plant collection. Leaves, fruits and form will be highlighted in this tour.

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2012 Plant Sales, Garden Tours and Events, continued

Friday, May 11 and Saturday, May 12, Olbrich's Plant Sale with the Pros, Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Get great plants and expert advice from area professionals. Visit Olbrich's Pro Potting Bench for container design and planting services. Olbrich's Plant Sale with the Pros features everything from annuals and perennials to ornamental grasses and shrubs. Local gardening experts, master gardeners, and Olbrich's horticulturists will be available to answer questions. Olbrich members receive a free garden tool for coming to the Plant Sale with the Pros! Proceeds from the sale benefit Olbrich Botanical Gardens.

Saturday, May 12, Native Plant Sale, Friends of the Arboretum, 9 am-noon, Tents outside Arboretum Visitor Center. We'll have native grasses; woodland, prairie and savanna plants; trees and shrubs. http://uwarboretum.org/foa/native_plant_sale.php
Order form: <http://uwarboretum.org/foa/pre-orders2012.pdf>

Saturday, May 12, Troy Community Farm Annual Plant Sale, Troy Gardens, 506 Troy Drive, Madison, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. All plants are certified organic and carefully selected and grown by our experienced farmers. To view 2012 availability list visit: <http://www.troygardens.org/what-we-do/troy-community-farm/bedding-plants>

Saturday, May 12, Sundowners/Crosstown Violet Club Sale, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Olbrich Gardens. Annual sale includes African violets, starter plants, blooming plants, leaves, gesneriads of all kinds. For more information call 608-833-5552.

Saturday & Sunday, May 12 & May 13, Spring Plant Sale, Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville, 9 am-4 pm. For veggie and herb lists, visit <http://rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/spring-plant-sale>.

Saturday, May 12, Oregon Garden Club Plant Sale, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. or until all plants are sold! Waterman Park, downtown Oregon. Benefiting Oregon Area Food Pantry.

Saturday, May 12, Annual Plant Sale, Lancaster Fair Grounds, Lancaster, WI, 8:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Proceeds sponsor scholarships. For more info contact Kathy Kubitz: dk.Kubitz@mchsi.com.

Thursday and Friday, May 17 & 18, Windsor Area Garden Club Plant Sale, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., 6596 Chestnut Circle, Windsor. Master Gardener available to answer questions. Profits donated to Gilda's Club. Huge selection of garden plants.

Saturday, May 19, Uplands Garden Club's Annual Plant Sale in the Ley Pavillion at Harris Park, Dodgeville, WI (south of the roundabout). This year we'll also have ornamental Grasses. Mark your calendars!

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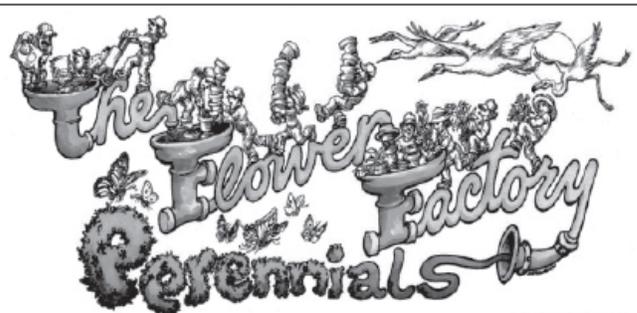
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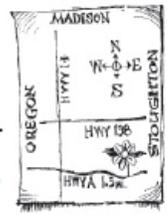
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- Enjoy weekly organic bouquets of flowers from June to October! Peonies, tulips, hyacinths, and alliums, White Flower Farm Strawberry and Cream Lilies, Stargazer Lilies, Casa Blanca Lilies, LimeLight Hydrangeas and Annabelle Hydrangeas, Dinner Plate Dahlias, gladiolus, sunflowers, snapdragons, bells of Ireland, zinnias and more.
- Depending on Mother Nature, the weekly share will include 22 weeks of flowers and the every-other-week share will include 11 weeks of flowers, give or take a week.

Give the gift of the garden this Mother's Day!

2012 Plant Sales, Garden Tours and Events, continued

Saturday, May 19, Annual Spring Plant Sale, Portage Co. MGA will offer perennials, vegetables, grasses, herbs and more from 8:00-11:00 a.m. at the Portage Co. Business Park, 3317 Business Park Dr., Stevens Point. For more information, contact Lynn Caine at dljed@charter.net.

Saturday & Sunday, May 19 & 20, Badger Bonsai Annual Show, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Olbrich Gardens. Marvel at these growing miniature landscapes. Sponsored by the Badger Bonsai Society. For more information call 608-438-8469.

Saturday, May 19, Festival of Spring, The Paine Art Center and Gardens, Oshkosh 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. (8:00 a.m. for Paine members). Free outdoor festival featuring the Paine's annual Spring Plant Sale (shrubs, perennials, annuals, herbs), 200+ vendors of original art, fine crafts, plants and garden supplies. Corner Flea Market located at the corner of Elmwood Avenue and Congress Street; food and entertainment throughout the day. Tour the Paine's Spring Garden Showcase, featuring more than 10,000 blooming spring wildflowers, tulips, daffodils and flowering trees. <http://www.thepaine.org/events/index.html>

Saturday, May 19, WHPS PLANT SALE! West Madison Agricultural Research Station 8502 Mineral Point Road, Madison

Sunday, May 20, Chicago Western Suburbs Garden Conservancy Open Days, information at gardenconservancy.org/opendays.

Sunday, May 20, Garden Memories Stroll, Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville, noon-4 pm. One- and two-mile strolls through the gardens, beginning at 12:30 p.m. Cost to participate is \$25 per person. This is a fundraiser for Rotary Botanical Gardens and Alzheimer's Support Center of Rock County.

Saturday, May 26, McFarland Garden Club Plant Sale, 9 a.m.-1:00 p.m., at the Corner Gazebo in McFarland, the intersection of Farwell and Exchange Streets. (Farwell is the first left coming south on Hwy 51, just turn by Culvers and keep going till the 4 way stop, sale on the right)

Saturday, June 2, Berry Backyard Club Garden Accessories (pot's, vases, tools, bird houses, baskets, buckets, watering cans, etc.). 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Town of Berry Town Hall, 9046 Hwy 19, Mazomanie WI. <http://www.townofberry.org/bbackyardclub.html>; Contact Bobbie Fehr: 1946.bby@gmail.com

Saturday, June 2, Windsor Area Garden Club, Dragon Art Fair Plant Sale, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Garden Tour advanced sale tickets and raffle tickets available. All profits donated to Gilda's Club. <http://sites.google.com/site/windsorareagardenclub/upcoming-events-1>

Saturday, June 2, Plant Sale, Fond du Lac Co. MGA, at UW-FDL, 400 University Drive, Fond du Lac, WI, from 9:00 am-3:00 pm. For more information call (920) 929-3172, or email master.gardener@uwex.edu.

Sunday, June 3, Wisconsin Hosta Society Hosta Sale, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. or while supplies last. Olbrich Gardens. For more information call 608-835-3291.

Saturday, June 2, Daylily Society of SE Wisconsin Daylily Plant Sale, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., rain or shine. West parking lot Unitarian Universalist Church, 13001 W. North Avenue, Brookfield, WI. View sale plants: <http://www.dssew.org>. Sales benefit Boerner Botanical Gardens and other public gardens.



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2012 Plant Sales, Garden Tours and Events, continued

Sunday, June 3, Madison Area Iris Society Iris Show, noon-5:00 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. Cut irises in a rainbow of colors will be on display. For more information call 608-271-3607.

Thursday-Saturday, June 14-16, Habitat for Humanity of Dane County Plant Sale—second sale of season, at the Habitat ReStore, 208 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Prices are \$4 each or 3 for \$10, unless otherwise marked. Contact is Ann Eaves at 442-8768 or e-mail at aeaves@charter.net.

Saturday, June 16, Rhapsody in Bloom Benefit Gala, 5:00-10:00 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. Dine and drift through gorgeous summer gardens, mingle with friends throughout the lush summer gardens, then enjoy dinner under elegant white tents. For ticket information and reservations call 608-246-5616.

Sunday, June 17, Rose Show, noon-4:00 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. The Madison Rose Society hosts this indoor exhibit of cut roses and arrangements in all sizes and colors. Stroll through Olbrich's two-acre Rose Garden. For more information call 608-845-6063. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, June 20, WHPS Garden Tours—Stoughton Area. Full list of gardens, locations and directions in June Newsletter.

Saturday, June 23, Oregon Garden Club Tour, Gardens Galore and More, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Benefiting Oregon-Brooklyn Satellite's (Dane Co. Habitat) 2012 Silver Anniversary Home Build. Advance tickets \$9; day of tour \$10. Follow signs at entrances to Oregon.

Friday & Saturday, July 13 & July 14, Windsor area Garden Club 2012 Garden Tour, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Eight local gardens featured. Tickets \$8.00 in advance; \$10.00 day of tour. Purchase tickets at Country Bloomer's Greenhouse, De Florist Floral & Gifts, or at any garden during the tour. call Monique at 608-846-5299. Profits donated to UW Carbone Cancer Center.

Friday & Saturday, July 13 & July 14, Olbrich Home Garden Tour: Featuring The Welcoming Garden, Friday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Tour eight exceptional gardens that illustrate this year's theme, The Welcoming Garden. Homes feature colorful street-side gardens, surveying Madison's Highlands and surrounding areas, including several historic properties. Tickets are \$12 for Olbrich members and \$14 for the general public.

Friday-Sunday, July 13-15, Madison Area Iris Sale, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Olbrich Gardens. Sale of iris rhizomes, the roots that grow into iris plants. For more information call 608-271-3607.

Saturday, July 14, The Midwest Chapter of The American Rhododendron Society will meet at The University of Wisconsin Arboretum at 11:00 a.m. in Madison. Fellow WHPS member Mike Heim will be the guest speaker and all Wisconsin Hardy Plant members are invited. The meeting is scheduled to take place in The Visitor's Center. If you plan to attend, please confirm with Ted Nyquist at 630-215-5022 or t.nyquist@sbcglobal.net. Mike Heim's presentation is titled *Pushing Hardiness Limits: Rhododendrons and their Companions in the Northwoods*.

Wednesday, July 18, WHPS Garden Tours—Madison's East Side. Full list of gardens, locations and directions in June Newsletter.

July 18-August 12, Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. daily. Experience the wonder of strolling through a tropical forest on a search for fleeting butterflies. Live butterflies emerge from chrysalises daily in the Bolz Conservatory. Children can visit stations in the outdoor gardens with their Butterfly Passport while learning fun facts. Cost \$5 for adults; \$3 for children 3-12; children 2 and under free.

Continued on next page...

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Open Wednesday through Sunday 10 am - 6 pm
(Closed January/February)

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2012 Plant Sales, Garden Tours and Events, continued

August 13-October 28, Bolz Conservatory Exhibit—Integrated Pest Management (IPM). Olbrich Gardens beneficial insects have been used in the Conservatory since it opened in 1991, providing control of plant-damaging insects, minimizing the need of more dangerous traditional insecticides, striving for less toxic methods of control to be more environmentally sensitive. Learn about Olbrich's methods and get ideas you can use to reduce or eliminate pesticide use at home. Conservatory is open 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$2 for the general public, free for Olbrich members and children 5 and under, free for the general public on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 10:00 a.m.-noon.

Saturday-Sunday, August 18-19, Wisconsin Daylily Society Daylily Sale, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Sunday, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Olbrich Gardens. For more information call 608-221-1933.

Saturday, August 18, Badger State Dahlia Society Dahlia Show, noon-4:00 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. Dahlias are late summer bloomers known for their diverse forms and bright colors. Sponsored by the Badger State Dahlia Society. For more information call 608-577-1924.

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Saturday, September 22, Olbrich's Bulk Mulch Sale, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Bulk mulch is loose and is loaded with a tractor. Bring your own truck or trailer and Olbrich will load bulk scoops for you. Each scoop \$40 plus tax, covering about 350-square feet at a 2- to 3-inch depth. Also held on Saturday, October 6 and Saturday, October 13, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 23, WHPS Plant Exchange FREE!, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Allen Centennial Garden. Bring plant(s), get plant(s)! Members bring extra plants dug from their gardens, purchased and not-used perennials, woodies, annual bulbs, even a few houseplants.

Saturday, October 13 and Sunday, October 14, African Violet Show and Sale, Saturday, noon-5 pm, Sunday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. African violets will be on display and for sale in the Evjue Commons. Starter plants, soil, pots, and handouts with growing tips will also be available. Sponsored by the Wisconsin State Council of African Violets. Portion of proceeds benefits Olbrich Gardens. Questions? Call 608-833-5552.

Monday, October 15, Fall Quilt & Flower Show Plant Sale, Olbrich Gardens. Beginning at noon, while supplies last. Proceeds benefit the Gardens.

Friday, October 19, Crackle – Fire & Froth, 7:00-10:00 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. Watch flames from bonfires dance on the Great Lawn, groove to live music, savor tasty foods from Food Fight

restaurants, sip frothy Wisconsin brews. Tickets: \$15-Olbrich members; \$20-public. Food and beverages are an additional cost above ticket price. If inclement weather, event held indoors.

Saturday, November 3, Madison Herb Society Herb Fair, Olbrich Gardens, 9 am-2 pm. Speakers, vendors, demonstrations, Q&A station. Free! Visit www.madisonherbsociety.org.

Saturday, December 1-Monday, December 31, Olbrich's Holiday Express: Flower and Model Train Show, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. daily. press! Members free. Admission general public-\$3 for adults, \$2 children ages 3 to 12. Children 2 and under-free. Admission to the tropical Bolz Conservatory is included.

Longenecker Horticultural Garden

reprinted from Perennial Notes, January 2005

It all began with the first lilac plantings made on Good Friday 1935 under the direction of Prof. G. William Longenecker, the first Director of the new UW Arboretum. With the support of the Madison Garden Club, the new lilac collection grew to become one of the largest in the upper Midwest in the years that followed. Other woody plants were added in an effort to evaluate new and promising trees and shrubs for their adaptation to Wisconsin conditions and for their aesthetic merit. Beginning in 1942, Madison's West Side Garden Club supported an Ornamental Crabapple Collection, now considered the most up-to-date collection in the world.

A master plan developed by Longenecker was approved by the Arboretum Committee in October 1957. This included a Shrub Garden, Tree Display Area and Pinetum. Under the direction of Prof. Longenecker as curator, the Viburnum Collection and Shrub Garden were planted prior to his retirement in 1967. That year, what had been known as the "Horticultural Area" was dedicated as the Longenecker Horticultural Gardens in his honor.

I succeeded Prof. Longenecker as curator in the fall of 1966 with the direction to complete the planting of the Tree Display Area and Pinetum. After 38 years of guiding its development, conducting plant evaluations with graduate students, utilizing the plant collections in my teaching and working with wonderful volunteers (most are WHPS members), the Longenecker Horticultural Gardens is now the premier collection of woody plants in the state and one of the finest in the Midwest. Most of the 2500 taxa of woody plants in the collection are cultivars of proven merit for Wisconsin landscapes.

With the support of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, a Master Landscape Plan was developed by Buettner & Associates, Inc. in 2004. Development would include way-finding, pedestrian circulation, structures and some rearranging of the plantings.

What about the future? While the university has provided the maintenance of the Longenecker Horticultural Gardens for 70 years and most plantings have been generously donated by nurseries and other institutions, there is no provision for a future curator nor support for the development of the 2004 Master Plan.

Looking toward the future, Betty and I have initiated a Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Endowment Fund with the University of Wisconsin Foundation. The contributions to this fund by the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society over the past five years and from over 100 WHPS members have been deeply appreciated.

—Ed Hasselkus, Professor Emeritus, Horticulture Curator (Volunteer),
Longenecker Horticultural Gardens

2012 update: The Ed Hasselkus Longenecker Curator Endowment fund has reached the \$1 million mark! To celebrate, donors will be invited to a June 21 Garden Party at the UW Arboretum.

Meet Our Board

Lynn Belanger



My mom introduced me to growing, harvesting, canning and preserving fruits and vegetables, but her flowers were always my favorite. My WHPS membership started in 2008 after Ed Lyon's presentation and recommendation at the Garden Expo. Several meetings and local garden tours later I signed up solo for the Michigan multi-day bus trip. Jane LaFlash made me feel at home on that first trip along with Barbara Obst, Joan Lawrence and Norma Briggs, just to name a few. WHPS

has a diverse group of garden members, styles and a huge knowledge base.

My husband and I have been gardening and transforming a 20-acre property outside of Sun Prairie since 2000. Our biggest ongoing DIY project is restoring a ferrule farm field back to native wet-mesic prairie. We also have added nature trails, a 4,000-gallon waterfall/koi pond, compost bins, raised berry and vegetable beds. Yearly goals include changing over gardens and landscape around our home to a variety of hardier plants that will lower maintenance. Currently, a large amount of time is still spent amending poor soil and controlling invasive species.

I have been married to my wonderful husband Greg for over 25 years and we have raised two daughters together and they are both currently Madison college students. Since 1987, I have been a mechanical engineer, designing Nicolet products in Middleton. Additional hobbies include nature, ornithology, hiking, biking, travel, and cooking, painting and public radio.

Jane LaFlash

I did not get interested in gardening until I bought a house in 1994 and just "wanted my yard to look nice." It was a slow process until I went to the Garden Expo with my sister in 1997, stopped at the WHPS booth, and joined up so I could go on garden tours (never thinking I would actually go to a meeting). I feel so fortunate that I accidentally bought a house just two blocks from Olbrich, where I now visit and volunteer regularly.

I grew up in Middleton and worked for 31 years as a microbiologist at the State Laboratory of Hygiene, retiring seven years ago. Besides gardening, I enjoy travel, reading/learning, volunteering, and being a grandma.

Yes, I enjoy buying plants, working in the garden, and visiting gardens. But really, the best thing for me is all the great new friends I have made through various gardening activities.



Ed Lyon



Ed Lyon is Director of the Allen Centennial Gardens in Madison, Wisconsin, a position he has held since 2008. His public garden career includes serving as Symposia & Special Programs Coordinator for Chicago Botanic Garden, Director of Education for Olbrich Botanical Gardens and most recently, Executive Director for the Rotary Botanical Gardens.

Through Spellbound Garden Writing & Consultation, he writes and speaks for both public and professional audiences across the Midwest. He currently writes the *Ask the Expert* column and feature articles for **Wisconsin Gardening** magazine, plus a regular *Regional Report* and features for **Chicagoland Gardening**. He teaches, lectures and has served as featured/keynote speaker for a number of conferences. He is emphatic about focusing on gardening with regionalism as a primary focus.

Most importantly, he is an avid gardener with dirt under his fingernails. He and his partner Dylan Hart and their boxer, Baron, live in a historic Victorian home in Oregon, WI, surrounded by Lyon-Hart Gardens, a destination for private garden tours. He loves outdoor activities, photography, writing and travel. Originally from upstate New York, Ed grew up on a dairy farm and started gardening at a very early age, assisting his mother in the home vegetable garden. He moved to Wisconsin in 1991 for a former career in agri-business, went back to school at UW-Madison, earned a M.S. degree in Horticulture in 2001 and started a second career. Favorite gardens visited include Chanticleer in Pennsylvania, Minter Gardens in British Columbia, and Huntington Library & Gardens in Pasadena.

A member of WHPS for over 12 years and a board member since 2008, Ed serves on the Trips & Tours Committee and coordinates WHPS speakers.

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••••• Member News, Tips, etc. •••••

GARDEN EXPO THANK YOU!

WHPS would like to thank everyone who participated at the Garden Expo in February. Our first thank you goes out to Eleanor Rodini, Garden Expo Booth Coordinator—*Great job in your first year Eleanor!*

Thanks to Frank Greer for his excellent and informative presentation: *Favorite Perennials for the Shady Garden.*



A huge thank you to Lynn Belanger and her husband Greg for not only making the display booth panels, but also for setting them up and taking them down. John Cannon and Emily Hauck also helped with setup.

And many thanks to those who worked the booth during the three days of the Garden Expo.

Jennifer Allen	Bonnie Berg
Sue Christoffersen	Mary Collett
Judy Crandall	Nell Cummings
Jane Gahlman	Jim Gentry
Jeannette Golden	Emily Hauck
Ellen Henningsen	Jane LaFlash
Barbara Obst	Cathie Richards
Marla Robinson	Georgene Stratman
Shari Voss	

Members in print

—July/Aug 2011 issue of *Chicagoland Gardening*—feature article on page 54 on the garden of Karen Watson-Newlin. On page 59 WHPS member Kris Jarantoski, EVP and director of the Chicago Botanic Garden, was awarded the Distinguished Medal of Service for service in the field of horticulture from the Garden Club of America (GCA)—one of only 10 medals awarded in any given year.

—In *Wisconsin Gardening* magazine, Ed Lyon is the "Ask the Expert" each month, and Dane County Horticulture Educator Lisa Johnson writes the regional report. In the March 2012 issue, Ed Lyon wrote an article on Colorful Containers.

—Barb and Bob Wetzel's garden is featured in the April 2012 issue of *Midwest Living* (page 51). See the Wetzel garden in person during the Garden Conservancy's Chicago Western Suburbs Open Days program May 20, 2012; information at gardenconservancy.org/opensdays.

Members featured in media?

Do you know of a member's garden that has been featured recently in the media? Send info to sone2@aol.com.

Visit our website:

<http://www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.com>

Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society



**April 2012
Newsletter**

**211 S. Fair Oaks Avenue
Madison, WI 53704-5822**

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Do you have a question about your membership? Contact Jane LaFlash at whps05@yahoo.com, 608-243-1208.