

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.

FALL GARDEN TOUR, Wednesday, September 8, *Tour of Allen Centennial Gardens.* 5:00 p.m. to dusk, 620 Babcock Drive on the UW-Madison campus, www.horticulture.wisc.edu/allencentennialgardens. **Garden Director Ed Lyon** will tour WHPS members through Allen Centennial Gardens and show members the many changes that have taken place over the last two years, as well as explain future projects. Some highlights include the "Pretty & Practical" 2010 theme; succulent, Echinacea, Heuchera and annual Rudbeckia collections; newly painted bridge and benches, rejuvenated gardens; new square-foot-gardening beds and lots of new plants. If you haven't recently visited one of Madison's "hidden gems," come join us! Because it is after hours, you can park in any of the adjoining lots; Lot 32 directly in back of the Gardens is closest and there is a parking ramp on Observatory Drive directly across from the Gardens.

Wednesday, September 15, *New Gardens at Green Bay Botanical Gardens* 7:00 p.m. (social at 6:30 p.m.), Olbrich Gardens. **Director of Horticulture Mark Konlock** will present new construction and plantings as Green Bay Botanical Gardens celebrates its 15th year in 2010. www.gbbg.org

Saturday, September 18, *Member Plant Exchange* 10:00 a.m.-noon at the home of Linda Brazill and Mark Golbach, 5805 Hammersley Road, on the West side of Madison. Linda says, "Most members think of the WHPS annual sale as the source for great plants, but the Fall Plant Exchange offers many exciting choices as well. I know, because I came away with two baby Hellebores from Stephanie O'Neal's garden last fall; just two among a number of interesting additions to our garden. Mark and I have a big driveway which can hold a lot of plants and shoppers; we hope to see you there in September when we host the 2010 WHPS Plant Exchange." (And don't forget to visit Linda and Mark at their blog, www.eachlittleworld.typepad.com.) Directions: Parking on both sides of their street is allowed but watch for the restricted parking area signs. They are related to the traffic islands to leave enough room for cars to pass. Linda's driveway is just before the second traffic island so there is no parking directly in front of the house.



Saturday, October 2, *WHPS Bus Trip to Chicago Botanic Garden* There are still seats left on the WHPS bus trip to Chicago Botanic Garden on Saturday, October 2. The original deadline was September 1, but it has been extended. You can sign up as long as your check is received by Sept 29. Leave and return time that day are 7:30 AM - 6:00 PM. And the cost is only \$25! For more information on this trip, contact Jane LaFlash at whps05@yahoo.com.

NOTE: Special Date and Time

Saturday, October 23, *Double Presentation by William Cullina: *Woodland Flowers--Jewels of the Forest and Understanding Lady Slippers** Program will be held at 5:45 p.m. on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus in the Microbial Sciences Building at 1550 Linden Drive. William Cullina is the Director of Horticulture/Plant Curator for the Coastal Main Botanical Gardens in Boothbay, Maine, as well as a noted author and recognized authority on North American native plants. We are very excited to be able to bring Bill Cullina to Madison to present to our members. <http://williamcullina.com/>

Wednesday, November 17, *Gardening with Conifers* Program 7:00 p.m. (social at 6:30 p.m.) at Olbrich Gardens. Gary Whittenbaugh is a past president of the American Conifer Society, lecturing extensively on the use of conifers, conifer companions and hypertufa troughs in the garden and landscape. Gary has been gardening for over 35 years, and his arden in Oelwein, Iowa shows his emphasis on dwarf, slow-growing and unusual conifers, plus trough and rock gardening. www.conifersociety.org

Wednesday, December 1, *WHPS Annual Meeting, Member Potpourri and Seed Exchange*

Take pictures of your garden throughout the season to share with members at our December Member Potpourri. This is one of our most popular events and we welcome member presentations of slides, photos, videos. Presentations should be 10 minutes maximum; contact Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com to reserve a spot on the program.

New Website!

Our new website and is now up and running. Take a look at let us know what you think—
www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.com.

We are looking for individuals who can help with upkeep and brainstorm ideas for the site. If you are interested in helping with our online presence, contact Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com, or leave a message at 608-256-6108.

Link to us! To increase our presence on the Web, we encourage individuals or anyone who belongs to an organization or business related to gardening to link to our website.

And if anyone is interested in joining WHPS, direct them to the website for more information.

Other Events of Note

The Chicagoland Orchid Growers Association presents the 2010, *Eighteenth Annual Chicagoland Orchid Festival*.

The festival takes place simultaneously at four different orchid greenhouse locations within the suburbs of Chicago. Spanning a three day period, the greenhouses of Oak Hill Gardens, Windsong Orchids, Orchids by Hausermann, and Natt's Orchids will be open to the public during the festival. **Friday, September 24th 8am-5pm. Saturday, September 25th 8am-5pm. Sunday, September 26th 10am-3pm.** The festival features a vast array of plants for sale by "guest growers," presentations by world-renowned orchid specialists, refreshments, special bargains, and the opportunity to stroll among the most exotic and beautiful plants found in nature. The festival is sponsored by four well-known growers and certified members of the Chicagoland Orchid Growers Association (COGA). All four sites are within a 40-minute drive of each other and are run by experts in the field of orchid horticulture. To find out more about the Festival, go to www.chicagolandorchidfestival.com.

Monday, October 4, The McFarland Garden Club is meeting at the Maple Tree Restaurant on Hwy 51 in McFarland. Jeff Epping from Olbrich Gardens will present *Bark, Berries, Grasses and Beyond*. All are welcome to attend. The meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

Saturday, October 9 and Sunday, October 10, African Violet Show and Sale, Saturday, noon-5:00 p.m., Sunday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Olbrich Gardens. The sale will include African violets, streptocarpus, and other gesneriads. Leaves, starter plants, soil, pots, and handouts with growing tips will also be available. Sponsored by the Wisconsin State Council of African Violets. A portion of the proceeds benefits Olbrich Botanical Gardens. For more information call 608-833-5552.

Monday, October 18, Fall Quilt and Flower Show Plant Sale, Olbrich Gardens, noon—while supplies last! Selected plants and fall foliage used to decorate Olbrich's Fall Quilt & Flower Show will be on sale. Proceeds benefit the Gardens.

Saturday, November 6, Herb Fair, Olbrich Gardens, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Browse through displays of herbal foods, crafts, and books for sale. The Herb Fair is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Madison Herb Society. For more information call 608-233-6219.

Saturday, December 4-Thursday, December 31, Olbrich's Holiday Express: Flower and Model Train Show, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. daily. Members of the Wisconsin Garden Railway Society come from all over the state to show off their large-scale model trains. Bring friends and family and enjoy holiday refreshments available for purchase in the lobby. Olbrich's Photo Depot also provides the perfect background for a holiday photo! Admission for Olbrich Botanical Society members is free. Admission to Olbrich's Holiday Express for the general public is \$3 for adults, and \$2 for children ages 3 to 12. Children 2 and under are free.

Make Mine Minneapolis!! Musings on the WHPS Trip to MN

Ed Lyon, John Cannon, and Jane LaFlash put together a fantastic trip August 20-22 to beautiful gardens and bountiful nurseries in the greater Minneapolis area that was not to be missed!

Our first stop Friday at Bailey Nurseries (one of the largest wholesale nurseries in the U.S.) included a “What’s New and Exciting” guided tour by Debbie Lonnee of their display gardens, trial beds and acres of container fields. I foresee many future purchases of *Hydrangea paniculata* ‘White Diamonds’, with huge white flowers on strong stems and *Physocarpus opulifolius* ‘Little Devil’, ninebark with small dark leaves on stems maxing out at four feet. The new black petunia is also very cool!

Then it was on to Funkie Gardens nursery of rare and unusual plants, where we cleaned them out of *Clematis alpina* ‘Stolwijk Gold’ (bright chartreuse foliage and nodding blue flowers) and the dark-green, lacy-leaved *Dryopteris intermedia* ‘Fancy’ fern, including one for yours truly.

Saturday morning stops featured gorgeous annual/perennial/shrub borders with most everything labeled at both Lyndale Park Gardens (encompassing a Perennial Trial Garden, Rose Garden and unique Peace/Rock Garden with origami crane folding memorial) and Noerenburg Gardens on the north shore of Lake Minnetonka.

Onward to the MN Landscape Arboretum, which was in a word: Spectacular! After enjoying our flowerpot lunch, some of the group took a tram tour for an overview of the display gardens and plant collections on the over 1,000 acres included in the arboretum. Others spent hours strolling through the annual beds, perennial borders, conifer collection, herb garden, rose and clematis garden, hosta/shade garden, Japanese garden, and vegetable plots—again with every plant labeled for the obsessive compulsive note takers among us! The fantastical Willow Hut installation out front by artist Patrick Dougherty (www.stickwork.net/) looked to be straight out of the movie *Where The Wild Things Are*.

Our last stop of the day was at Mike Heger’s unusual Ambergate Gardens perennial nursery, where all the plants were laid out in square blocks on the ground with not one greenhouse in sight! There were several purchases made of *Molinia caerulea* ‘Variegata’, including one by me.

Sunday morning started off with Scott Endres’ and his partner Dean’s private garden, filled with a tremendous variety of annuals, tropicals and succulents, both in containers and in the ground, nestled between perennials, shrubs and small-scale trees overflowing into the neighbors’ yards. Six huge koi swim laps in the foot-wide moat surrounding the patio out in back of their 19th century Victorian style house that we had the pleasure of walking through to get back to the front yard.

Scott is co-owner of our next destination: Tangletown Gardens, a glorious tangle of plants, artwork and Campania statuary and fountains—and that’s just outside! The old gas station on the corner lot has been converted into a retail center chock full of interesting gardening books, fun contain-

ers, and one-of-a-kind gifts for gardening geeks. And it’s conveniently located right next door to an ice cream shop that sells the best “Oreo Fluff” ice cream I’ve ever eaten!

Our final destination of the trip was the Gardens of Rice Creek, owned by Betty Ann Addison, who gave us a guided tour of her extensive rock gardens and conifer collection. We swarmed her small specialty nursery of rare perennials and woodies, and bought up all of her stock of martagon lilies (a steal at only \$10 each) and pink lady slippers (an even bigger steal at \$35!).

As we returned to Madison with our pocketbooks much lighter and unloaded our treasures from under the bus, our thoughts turned to “Why did I buy all these plants?” and more importantly “WHERE AM I GOING TO PLANT THEM?!” But as hardy members of Plantaholics Anonymous—er, I mean WHPS—we are all looking forward to the next wonderful trip!

P.S. A couple great places to eat in downtown Minneapolis: an Irish pub called *The Local* and *Hell’s Kitchen*, that serves breakfast all day—including their lemon-ricotta hotcakes that are to die for!

—Jane Gahlman

Congratulations Stacey Wright!

WHPS member Stacey Wright was honored with *Stoughton Garden of the Month* for June by the Stoughton Garden Club. Stacey has a beautiful corner city lot in Stoughton with large established trees, wonderful groundcover, a nice mixture of shrubs and small trees, perennials and short rock walls terracing the backyard. The honor was particularly a surprise to her as she is not a member of the Stoughton Garden Club. During the celebration, a sign was placed in her front yard and the local paper had a photo and blurb about the garden—which was a great incentive to keep the bit of grass cut and the beds tidy!

— Liz Wolter

NO MORE POTS!

Thanks to everyone who dropped off pots and flats to store for next year's plant sale. I will still accept flat flats (flats with no dividers), but that is all. If you have flats to drop off, email Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com.

WHPS T-shirts!

At \$10 each, WHPS T-shirts are a real bargain. Sizes currently available are medium, large and extra large.

To order a T-Shirt, contact Jane Gahlman at jmgahlman@hotmail.com (or call her at 608-837-2317 and leave a message).

England's Elderflower Enjoyment

Here is the Elderflower Cordial recipe from Mrs. Andrew Elkington at Little Court in England.

24 Elderflowers
3-4 pints boiling water
Add 4 lbs. sugar
4 teaspoons citric acid

Dissolve sugar, boil and leave 24 hours, strain and bottle. It keeps in the refrigerator, and Mrs. Elkington freezes it.

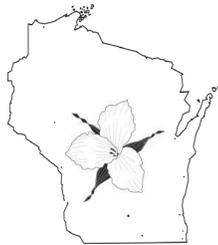
What she didn't say was that she must mix this with water to serve. The sugar quantity sounds horrible, but she wrote it down that way, so it must be right. WHPS member Cristal Iausly provided us with a similar recipe a few years ago from one of our other England trips, and she feels that water should be added to the drink before serving.

All I can say is that it was very good and fun to sit in her backyard garden and sip it with cookies, etc. One thing that I really liked while sitting and sipping Elderflower Cordial was the very mesmerising whirlygig in one of the flower beds that looked like a sunflower. This was a very nice private home garden.

—Ann Hasselkus

Visit our website:
www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.com

Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society



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Newsletter**

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Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society—an unincorporated nonprofit association

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