



# Perennial Notes

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society, Inc.

November 2020



Downy rattlesnake plantain, *Goodyera pubescens*

## Lessons from an old field

By Emily Buckingham

Last October, my husband and I purchased eight acres of old field in the town of Verona. Our eventual plan is to build a house on the property, a south-facing slope with a creek at the bottom. For now, we live in Madison and are actively working to establish a healthy woodland where there are existing hardwood trees, and replant native prairie on the half that's currently invasive shrubs.

When we first viewed the land, I remember thinking that there was an awful lot of honeysuckle, but I thought it would probably be okay to leave some of it, as it must be habitat and food for birds. However, after learning that the berries provide nearly zero nutrition for birds and that birds that nest in the low, sturdy branch crotches are at greater risk for predation, we quickly realized a "zero

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## WHPS coming events!

**SCHEDULING NOTE:** Our schedule of meetings and events continues to evolve due to the pandemic and our desire to do as much as we can to maintain the safety and health of our members. We are guided by the recommendations of the State of Wisconsin, Dane County and City of Madison for large events and the availability of facilities at which to hold them. As a result, for the rest of 2020 and into the first quarter of 2021, we are planning virtual events via Zoom. **Please pay close attention to your email, as updates and event zoom links (announcements at 6:45 pm.; meetings at 7:00 pm.) are sent.**

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

**Wednesday, Nov. 18, WHPS Meeting via Zoom: Have Plants – Will Travel, Speaker Michael Jesiolowski, Director of Horticulture, Rotary Botanical Gardens.** Jesiolowski is Director of Horticulture, Rotary Botanical Gardens. North, South, East and West, Jesiolowski has traveled across the country on a quest for stunning horticultural finds. From the crape myrtles of the Carolinas to the cacti of the Sonoran Desert, this presentation will highlight the most inspirational gardens and plants he has encountered in the Midwest and beyond. As Director of Horticulture, Jesiolowski leads the horticulture staff and volunteers, where they balance the creation of display gardens with building plant collections with diversity. Jesiolowski has spent most of his career at public garden institutions, most recent-

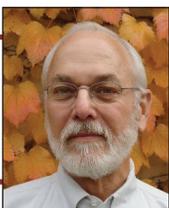


ly as Garden Supervisor at Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, Missouri. At Chicago Botanic Garden, where he was Senior Horticulturist, he was responsible for the Entrance Gardens, which encompassed the Visitor's Center, Grunsfeld Children's Growing Garden and the Regenstein Learning Campus. He created the seasonal displays in these areas, spearheaded the creation of gravel garden beds in the Parking Lots, and added hundreds of new taxa to the collection. Jesiolowski received his formal training through the University of Illinois, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Horticulture. He also has experience working at The Morton Arboretum (Lisle, IL), Bernheim Arboretum (Clermont, KY), Epic Systems (Verona, WI) and the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

**December WHPS Annual Meeting.** We are cancelling our in-person Annual Meeting and Party and will likely be sending out a Survey Monkey to ask your approval of new Directors coming on the Board, and donations we will be recommending for the coming year. We hope to be able to celebrate again in person at the 2021 Annual Meeting.

**Wednesday, January 20, 2021 – WHPS Meeting via Zoom: You got the mid-winter blues: The best blue conifers for WI and a few more (not all blue about half are blue to blue-green), speaker Laura G. Jull.** Dr. Jull has been a member of the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Horticulture and the Wisconsin State Extension Specialist of Woody Ornamental Horticulture since 1998. She currently

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**Dennis Buettner**

remembered

– see p. 7.



**Song Sparrow Nursery**

see p. 4.



**Flower Factory**

see p. 6.

## WHPS Events (cont. from p.1)

teaches Identification and Culture of Woody Landscape Plants, Arboriculture and Landscape Maintenance, and Plant Propagation. Laura's extension responsibilities include serving Wisconsin's Green Industry, providing direction for statewide proactive programs, supporting county extension agents in implementing and evaluating programs, and advanced Master Gardener training. Her research interests are diverse and include

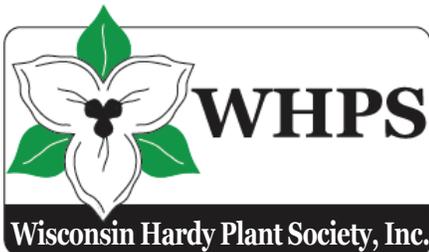
woody plant evaluation, tolerance of ornamentals to urban conditions, best management practices in nursery production, plant propagation, and invasive species. Her published work includes many trade and extension publications, and she has appeared on many local gardening broadcasts and radio programs.

**Wednesday, February 17 – WHPS Meeting via Zoom: Cool, Hardy Plants for Wisconsin Gardens, speaker Karl Gercens.** Gercens is Conservatory Manager at Longwood Gardens. His passion for horticulture started at an early age while growing-up on a 10,000-acre cotton plantation in Mississippi. Karl's experimentation with different plant types and growing methods in that region sparked an interest in new and dynamic explorations on cultivation, which ultimately led to his B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture at Mississippi State University. His years of horticultural tenure include innovative design work at such world-class organizations as Longwood Gardens (Kennett Square, PA), The Filoli Estate (Woodside, CA), and Walt Disney World (Orlando, FL). His notoriety for using a pallet of colored foliage trees, shrubs, and perennials extends to the content of his professional lectures and his horticultural classes offered at Longwood Gardens. When Karl is not gardening, lecturing, or consulting, his horticultural passion extends world-

wide, with frequent visits to public and private gardens in all 50 states and more than 20 countries.

**Wednesday, March 17 – WHPS Meeting via Zoom: Speaker TBD**

**Wednesday, April 21 – WHPS Meeting via Zoom: Pollinators in the Garden (re-scheduled from 4/2020) speaker Krissa Skogen.** Dr. Skogen holds a Ph.D., and is Conservation Scientist at the Chicago Botanic Garden. She is also an adjunct professor in Biological Sciences at Northwestern University. Her research interests include: reproductive and pollination biology; plant insect interactions; floral trait evolution; demography; population genetics; large-scale anthropogenic threats to biodiversity; understanding the causes and consequences of plant population and species decline; and Onagraceae, Sphingidae, and Microlepidoptera. She believes that understanding the diversity of life starts with uncovering the evolutionary histories and relationships between interacting organisms and landscapes. As a botanist, she is fascinated by the rich diversity of flowering plants (angiosperms) and the insects that interact with them – both pollinators and antagonists (herbivores, seed predators, etc.) – and how these interactions may help explain the great diversity we see today.



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## Plant Sale Wrap-Up

The WHPS Intrinsic Perennial Garden Plant Sale on September 20 at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station turned out to be a beautiful 70-degree sunny day, which made social distancing and our essentially driveway sale a pleasure to visit, and we accomplished our goal of offering our members a buying opportunity with some unusual and some tried and true plants ready to go in their late season garden.

Huge thanks to Mark Dwyer for taking charge of arrangements for the sale with Intrinsic's Brent Horvath and for leading the setup of the plants, along with Anna DePauw leading the pricing. Much appreciation to our volunteer cashiers Caroline Bohler, Leslie Johnson and Diane Scharkey and all of the other volunteers



who stepped up during this pandemic to help setup, price and work the sale: Sally Averkamp, Vickie Kaufman, Linda Marx, Rachel Baker, Carolyn Coffey, John Cannon, Marie and Ted Hoffman, Leslie Johnson, Liz Kepplinger, Karla Knobel, Kate McWhirter, Nancy Nedveck, Chris Neumann, Jennifer Ondrejka, Nola Risse-Connolly and Julie Wells.

And to all the members who came out to shop the sale – wishing you much success with your new garden pleasures!

## Field (cont. from p.1)

honeysuckle tolerance policy” was the only acceptable course of action. We have since begun the mammoth task of clearing the 40-year-old honeysuckle and buckthorn. Throw in a good dose of garlic mustard, reed canary grass, and Japanese hedge parsley eradication and we’ve got ourselves a life-long project.

Fortunately, invasives aren’t the only plants growing on our former oak savanna/prairie. While clearing shrubs, I discovered our hillside is covered with showy orchid (*Galearis spectabilis*) and downy rattlesnake plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*). I’ve also found at least five species of ferns in various places – ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*), cut-leaf grape fern (*Sceptridium dissectum*), sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), spinulose wood fern (*Dryopteris carthusiana*), and lady fern (*Athyrium filix-femina*). Other interesting species identified include ground cedar (*Diphasiastrum digitatum*), bottle gentian (*Gentiana andrewsii*), and woolgrass (*Scirpus cyperinus*).

Most importantly, I’ve discovered that I am a naturalist

at heart. I think about native plants all the time – topics like which native species to plant and where, which invasive to work on eradicating next, and how to inflict as little collateral damage on the land as possible while accomplishing our goals.

While there is still so much to be done, our little corner of the county is already a refuge for my mind and soul.

Caption p. 1: Downy Rattlesnake Plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*, one of our native orchids. Unfortunately, I didn’t capture a photo of it when it was blooming. Those gorgeous leaves are evergreen and it puts out a single flower stalk each summer. I stepped over it for a long time before taking the time to look up what it was.

Below, left: Emily in front of a pile of cut honeysuckle

Upper right: Ground Cedar (*Diphasiastrum digitatum*)



Right: A Country Girl – Emily’s daughter “fishing”



## 2020 – Other gardening events of note

Key events of interest are listed below, but please visit the following websites for more info on events. Many of these garden entities are offering virtual classes and other events of interest to accommodate current Covid-19 conditions.

- [Allen Centennial Garden in Madison](#)
- [Boerner Botanical Gardens in Milwaukee](#)
- [Chicago Botanic Garden](#)
- [Green Bay Botanical Garden](#)
- [Lynden Sculpture Garden in Milwaukee](#)
- [Mitchell Park Horticultural Park \(The Domes\) in Milwaukee](#)
- [Morton Arboretum in Lisle, IL](#)
- [Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison](#)
- [Paine Art Center and Gardens in Oshkosh](#)
- [Rotary Botanical Gardens in Janesville](#)
- [University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum](#)

November 13, 2020-January 3, 2021: **Lightscape: An after-dark, illuminated trail**, Chicago Botanic Garden

November 20, 2020-January 3, 2021: **Illumination: Tree Lights at The Morton Arboretum**

November 20, 2020-January 11, 2021: **Nutcracker in the Castle, The Paine Art Center and Gardens** – Oshkosh, WI

November 27-November 29; December 3-December 6; December 10-13; December 17-20; December 22-23; December 26-27; December 29-30, **Rotary Botanical Gardens Holiday Light Show**, Janesville.

November 27-29; December 3-6; December 10-13; December 17-20; December 25-30, **WPS Garden of Lights**, Green Bay Botanical Garden.

February, 2020 **2021 Garden & Landscape Expo** has been cancelled.

# Song Sparrow Nursery closing in December



Erika Severson of Klehm's Song Sparrow Farm has confirmed that the mail order nursery's legacy will come to an end in December. She reports that the farm will transition into corn and soybean fields as the current owner intended when it was purchased and noted that the 60-plus greenhouses are nearly empty, with the final harvest of peonies still



Roy Klehm (left) with Ed Hasselkus, 2013.

underway. She says, "Jose Velazquez and I have enjoyed our many years of service to the Klehm's and Song Sparrow and we are still pushing hard through a busy fall season. The Song Sparrow websites, retail and wholesale, the emails and phones will no longer be in service after the end of the year. We will probably notify our customers and post on the website closer to December. We do appreciate and value the patronage of WHPS members over the years and all your knowledge and great stories shared."

We asked a few of our members to comment on their experiences with Klehm's Song Sparrow Farm over the years.

**Mark Dwyer:** When I started at Rotary Botanical Gardens (RBG) back in 1998, Song Sparrow Nursery was just getting started and I met Roy Klehm, the legendary plantsman, for the first time. Roy became a wonderful supporter and advocate for the garden. Over the years, Song Sparrow became a source for not only amazing plants, thousands (literally) of which were installed at the gardens, but Roy supported the gardens with nursery donations for our silent auction EVERY spring and fall symposium for close to 20 years. This also amounted to thousands of donated peonies that went home with our fall symposium registrants over the years. Song Sparrow also supplied plants for some of the RBG plant sales and the continued and generous donations to the gardens were significant. I enjoyed working with previous managers Renee and Tannis and wish the best to Erika and Jose, who have managed the nursery for the past year with a talented staff. It is sad to see this nursery go but our gardens were made better for many years by this amazing source of plants, albeit for an all too brief time.

**Jane LaFlash:** For one day each spring, we were so lucky that Roy Klehm and his Song Sparrow Farm staff gave the WHPS the opportunity to walk through all the greenhouses and buy whatever we wanted with no shipping charges. I always looked forward to the day of our shopping spree, which went on for I believe about 15 years. It was an extremely popular event for our organization. Many thanks to Roy and Sarah Klehm and their staff Jose, Erika, and Tannis for your generosity and helpfulness. I think of you when I see all the plants in my garden that came from your nursery. We will miss you!

**Linda Brazill:** I've been shopping at Klehm's for so long that my memories and list of plants from them are both endless. I still have one of the first catalogs I ever got from them – 1995 – when they went by the moniker "Klehm Nursery" and were still located in Illinois. The catalog was for mail-order plant purchases (pre-internet shopping) and remains the most beautiful garden catalog I've ever seen. It was a square format (9" x 9") with thick, high quality paper. There were limited color photos on glossy paper, grouped in three sections: Peonies, Daylilies and Perennials. The rest of the book (it was 109 pages!) was detailed with beautiful watercolor illustrations by Marcella J. Spanogle. The design quality, time and attention to detail that went into the creation of the catalog suggested to me that any plants I ordered from this lovely book would be of equal quality. And that has proven true right up to my most recent order.



photo by Linda Brazill

Above, *Hemerocallis 'Tetrina's Daughter'*  
Below, *Paeonia 'Soft Salmon Joy'*



photo by Linda Brazill

When I had a sunny garden in the early 1990s, Klehm was my go-to source for unusual daylilies, including those with small flowers like 'Cricket' that suited my small garden at the time. When I moved to a larger garden, Klehm provided me with *Hemerocallis 'Tetrina's Daughter'*, a daylily with four-foot high stems that bloomed at the end of the day with an extreme lemony fragrance. How many of us are still growing *Paeonia 'Soft Salmon Joy'*, the Peony plant that Roy Klehm gave to every member of the WHPS at the October 2001 meeting when he spoke to the group? Mine is still going strong, even after having been moved during a construction project.

Perhaps my most notable memory of Klehm's is the year I ordered three Martagon lilies from them. They were expensive enough that it took me a while to decide to take the plunge.

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WHPS members at Song Sparrow outing lining up to pay, Nov. 2010.

## Message from Ben Futa

Just over a month ago my partner Paul and I moved out of Madison and back home to our family roots in South Bend, Indiana. Throughout our five years in Madison, it was my pleasure and privilege to lead the Allen Centennial Garden on the UW-Madison campus as Director.



From the moment I arrived in May 2015, I was impressed by the caliber, diversity, depth and passion for horticulture in our area. As a life-long public garden nerd, I've visited public gardens across the United States and, without a doubt, Madison and the surrounding region's "horticultural IQ" is one of the best. Olbrich Botanical Gardens is easily on the same level as Chanticleer or Mt. Cuba Center in the Philadelphia region. The UW-Madison campus and the land ethic that originated there, living on from the Lakeshore Preserve to the Arboretum, embodies a spirit of ecologically inspired partnership with nature. With a veritable cornucopia of exceptional nurseries and garden centers, especially gems like The Flower Factory, the network of plant suppliers through to home gardeners was (and is) impressive.

Through my time with the Allen Centennial Garden, in partnership with many exceptional volunteers, students, and staff over the years, I was excited to continue to grow our own horticultural IQ through introducing new hardy plants, including many natives. From the Babcock Border and New American Garden projects, to the new designed prairies and meadows being developed by Josh Steger, Allen's current Director of Horticulture, we attempted to amplify our ecological benefit by gardening with nature rather than against it. We also raised the profile of our campus garden through programs like our Spring Symposium, which enjoyed four years of curious crowds before Covid-19 forced us to pause this year. From expanded internships to new programming which engaged undergraduate students, I was proud to lead a team who built new connections to our campus community.

I hope everyone in Madison and beyond continues to sow beauty, dig deep, and dream big when it comes to gardening in your community. You have something special and it thrives because you cultivate it so wonderfully. I'll be back to visit and see what's growing on just as soon as the world allows. In the meantime, stay curious, stay grounded, and happy gardening.

NOTE: Johanna Oosterwyk, DC Smith Greenhouse Manager, has been appointed Interim Director of Allen Centennial Garden. Click [here](#) to view her introduction to volunteers and her message to the community.

## WHPS Grants Program

The Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society offers grants to community groups, schools, or other organizations for projects that promote the use of herbaceous perennial plants in the landscape. Grants can only be awarded to a nonprofit organization or a group that is associated with a nonprofit organization. For more information go to our website: <http://www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.org/grants.html>

## Song Sparrow – cont. from p. 4

When my plants arrived, I was stunned to find three narrow boxes, each at least three feet tall. I assumed I was getting bulbs but, instead, I received three plants that were fully budded with stems as tall as the boxes they were housed inside. The boxes open like a closet door to easily remove the plants without damaging them. In fact, not a bud had come off in the time those lilies left Klehm's and arrived at my house. At that moment I fully understood the cost of shipping and I've never complained about that expense again.

It is heartbreaking to know that I will never again get a catalog or a package of plants from such a rare and historic nursery as Klehm's. I will treasure those Klehm plants I do have in my garden even more.

*It is with great sadness that we have learned that Song Sparrow's long-time employee Jose Velazquez passed away on Friday, October 23 from COVID-19 complications.*



- 🌿 Acres of Gardens for photos
- 🌿 Anniversaries, meetings
- 🌿 Retreats, vow renewals
- 🌿 Milestones, reunions

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

# Reflections on a year of uncertainty, but of hope and community supporting each other: The natural world giving us succor in uncertain times

By Nancy Nedveck

This has been a year all of us were dreading: COVID-19, quarantine, masks, no toilet paper, and The Flower Factory closing.

Well I won't admit our business was that important, but in the wide world of gardening, it's right up there. In a leap of faith in 2019, we decided to stay open one more season. So we gave all the plant addicts a final chance to pick up plants you had always wanted, or some new ones you never knew you needed.

We envisioned opening as joyous and with a big party at the end; in between, meeting old friends and telling funny stories of days long gone. By early spring we had hired a great crew, the weather was gradually warming, plants were waking up; life was good. We heard rumblings of disruptions due to this virus but figured we could avoid it. Where is that sand when you want to stick your head in it? The virus hit Wisconsin, and then Dane County.

The reality of the world came to our door when we had to lay off all our help and shelter in place. A very low point for me was having to tell them they didn't have a job after starting just two weeks earlier. What to do with the plants we had and the ones soon to arrive if we didn't have help or couldn't open for business? Wait until next year? If I was a drinking person...

Thank goodness Derek, our son, was here to set up an ordering and pick-up system. After two weeks, we were able to hire back most of the crew. Eventually, on Memorial Day weekend, we opened the farm for walk-in trade. Gardening suddenly became therapy more than ever. Watching plants emerge for those hordes of rabbits to devour. It was comforting to see life was somewhat "normal."

The summer fell into a routine of five days of sales, and two days trying to be closed to retail. We even had a bus from Green Bay come to shop. We were in an endurance run with August 31, the finish line. People were happy to come out for a time of peace and/or conversation. We perennial people are resilient, understanding the ebb and flow, and able to adapt to change.



August 31 came after a crushing weekend. Hard to keep plant people back when there is a sale of epic proportions. It was hard for me since I wanted to shake hands or more likely hug everyone one more time. I was always wondering if our precautions would be enough to keep everyone safe and healthy. Everyone cooperated, even wearing masks on hot days and standing in long lines in the sun to check out. People also thanked us for being careful.

At the end of the day on the 31st, we cheered that we had accomplished our goal. I told the crew that they should be able to handle anything after the season they had worked through. As final icing on the cake, we had a surprise gathering, albeit small, of representatives from WHPS, a lovely end to the final day.

That The Flower Factory is now closed is hard to fathom, but hopefully other nurseries will fill the gap. Maybe not at one place, but multiple smaller businesses.

For the future, David and I can slow down. He will sell at the Farmer's Market, bringing just the plants he likes to grow. I will be refurbishing (ripping out) the gardens. Frank (Greer) - I almost have the carex under control. If anyone is looking for a water-sucking erosion control, *Carex muskigumensis* is the ticket. Just don't put it in your garden and ignore it for 10 years.

Curiosity will keep me busy and I will have the time to follow it. The winter will be filled with working on my fiber arts. I can finally start using my stash of wool and yarn. I will always have my fingers in the dirt, and every day will be a great day in paradise.



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## In remembrance – Dennis Buettner

The Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects recently announced that longtime WHPS member and noted landscape architect Dennis Buettner passed away on September 15, 2020. He was an alumnus of the UW-Madison Class of 1967 and was President of Buettner & Associates, Inc. for over 38 years. His landscape architecture firm designed many notable public and private spaces, including the Cedar Valley Arboretum & Botanic Garden (Waterloo, Iowa), the Cochran House (Mineral Point, WI) Wisconsin Governor's Residence, Rotary Botanical Gardens (Janesville, WI), Allen Centennial Garden in Madison, the Green Bay Botanic Garden, and the 1997 Villa Terrace garden restoration on Milwaukee's lakefront. Dennis' passion for history and native plants sprinkled with his joy for public projects gifted us a collection of elegant and thoughtfully designed public and private spaces throughout the Midwest and earned him numerous accolades including awards from both the WI ASLA (1979, 1983) and the Wisconsin Landscape Federation (1981, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1995).

Below are a few remembrances of Dennis from our members.

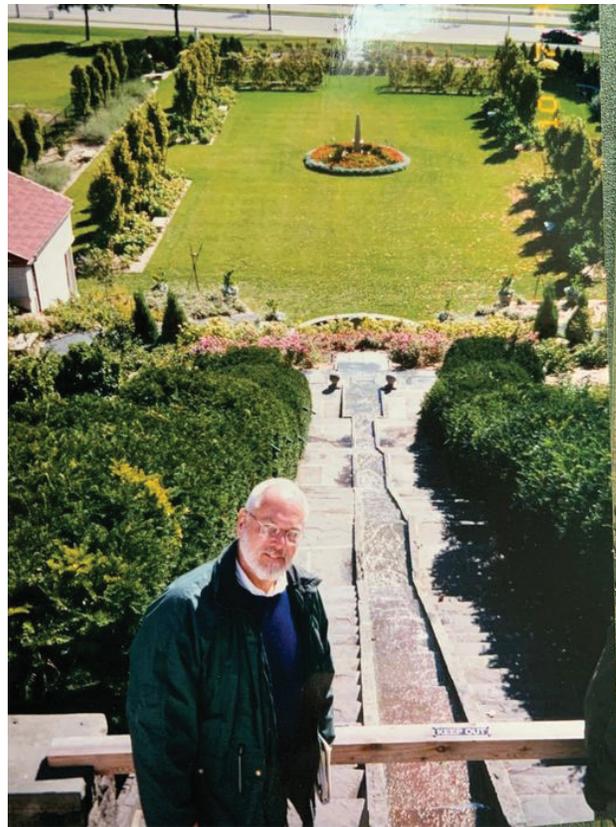
**Ed Hasselkus:** I remember Dennis as a former student and as a talented landscape architect who developed master plans for the Longenecker Horticultural Gardens, Allen Centennial Garden, Paine Art Center & Arboretum, Oshkosh, Green Bay Botanical Garden and Bickelhaupt Arboretum, Clinton, IA - all gardens where I had a personal connection.

**Mark Dwyer:** Great guy. Did the early master plan for Rotary Botanical Gardens (Janesville, WI) and was involved with many other gardens as well. A kind spirit and soul.

**Edward Scott Lyon:** I had the privilege of meeting Dennis when I returned to U.W.-Madison as an adult graduate student and started working with my graduate advisor, Dr. Dennis Stimart, in Allen Centennial Gardens. Dennis had created the original master plan for ACG and we consulted with him from time to time and he made fairly regular visits just to see the Gardens. We kept in touch as I then went on to positions in three other gardens before returning to ACG as director. I concur with Mark Dwyer, he had a kind spirit and soul. He was quiet, soft-spoken and possessed a keen mind for design which is evidenced in most of the public gardens in Wisconsin. I found his brilliance was in how critical planned circulation routes were to gardens and the importance of structures to help accent the plant materials. Just visit Green Bay Botanic Garden to see evidence of that. He loved garden design history and I felt one of his best contributions to Allen Centennial Gardens' design was creating individual gardens that represent a historical perspective that is not often found in other gardens and was so appropriate to a university garden with horticulture and landscape architecture students. His firm did many large projects but for those of us in the WHPS, his legacy will be the work he did to make so many public gardens a pleasure to visit.

**Zannah Crowe:** A loss to the horticultural community, indeed. Let us remember Dennis as we enjoy these lovely public gardens in the years to come.

**Jeff Epping:** Dennis was a very talented landscape architect



with great ideas and vision. I worked with him on a few projects and was very impressed with how he pulled everyone together and valued everyone's ideas and melded them together to come up with beautiful designs. He was such a gentle soul and will be missed.

**Jane LaFlash:** The first time I met Dennis Buettner was in 1999 when he gave the WHPS a guided tour of Allen Centennial Garden. It was so interesting to hear of the history and planning of the garden. The last time I saw him was at Epic Systems on one of the tours Jeff Epping gave the WHPS. In between were running into him at Song Sparrow at some of our buying opportunities, at Woody Plant Society meetings, or on one of the England trips we were both on. But most of all, I remember the five WHPS bus trips he led for us to public and private gardens he had designed in the Milwaukee area. They were wonderful!

**John Cannon:** I remember joining a great WHPS bus trip to the Milwaukee area a few years ago, which included a day-long tour with lunch led by Dennis to visit The Villa Terrace and gardens, along with several of his client's home gardens and Dennis and Scot's own private home garden north of Milwaukee. We also enjoyed traveling and spending time with Dennis and Scot on one of the WHPS England garden tours.

**Allen Centennial Gardens Facebook Post:** The Garden is saddened by the loss of Dennis Buettner, the Garden's original master plan designer (much of Dennis's original master plan still exists in the garden today). Dennis' landscape architecture firm designed many other notable green spaces including the Wisconsin Governor's Residence, Rotary Garden, and The Green Bay Botanic Garden.



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November 2020 Newsletter

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

## New members

The following members have recently joined WHPS:

Kristine and Thomas Anderson (Madison); Rose Bingham (Reedsburg); Joseph Fritz (Monona); Pam Gerst (McFarland); Connie Hansen (Madison), Lindsay Kasten (Milwaukee); Laurel & John Link (McFarland); and Dennis Tande (Waunakee)

Welcome!

## Member dues

Please don't renew yet!

About half of our WHPS members pay dues for multiple years and it's pretty hard to remember if you owe dues or not. Memberships are for the calendar year. In late December, we will send an email to every member letting them know they either need to renew or they paid ahead last year. So you don't have to wonder if you need to renew or not. We give everyone plenty of time and multiple reminders before we update our membership list in March.

## WHPS Members fundraise through purchases

• When you shop with Amazon, you can support WHPS! Navigate to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and search for the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society to designate us as your charity of choice.

• We continue to participate in Brent & Becky's Bulbs [bloominbucks.com](https://www.bloominbucks.com), which allows WHPS to receive a donation of 25% of your purchase of bulbs, tools,

books, supplements, gift certificates and more. This applies to phone and mail orders as well – just mention WHPS or write us in as the organization you'd like to support.

As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, donations like these are essential to continue our mission!

## Jumping worms update

Linda Marx has been reporting periodically on her battle with jumping worms in her garden. Late this summer she emailed us an update: *Jumping worms? ABSOLUTELY horrible. They are big and juicy and in huge numbers, devouring grass roots and shallow-rooted plants. The grass is currently suffering from lack of water and then when the worms eat the roots, you can roll back the dried tufts of grass that remain...not a pretty sight. (Or the spongy feel of the grass that hasn't died but you know the worms have wrought their damage below ground.)*

*I'm watering my in-ground (as well as container) plants very regularly because the soil structure is so bad due the worms, that no moisture is retained in the upper 2-3 inches. Very discouraging.*

**NOTE:** We are planning an article in the January newsletter to provide information from the DNR and others on research and reactions to jumping worm activity in this year's garden season. If you have an update on jumping worms in your garden, please email Stephanie O'Neal at [sone2@aol.com](mailto:sone2@aol.com).