



# Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society

## Perennial Notes

April 2009

### 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 15, 2009, *A Passion for Hosta*, Timothy Blumentritt** is co-owner of Shades of Green ([shadesofgreenusa.com](http://shadesofgreenusa.com)) in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Shades of Green specializes in hostas, with an astounding array of specimens and plants for sale. Hostas are offered through mail order, or retailed at Family Tree Floral in West Salem, which features over 325 varieties for sale and approximately 500 varieties in the display gardens. Plants sold from the nursery are soil grown and hand-dug so that they adapt quickly to garden soils. You may think you know the genus *Hosta*, but we invite you to join us as Tim shares his passion and expertise on this ubiquitous and reliable mainstay to every perennial garden.

**Saturday, May 16, 2009, *WHPS Plant Sale***, 9:00-Noon, **NEW LOCATION**—West Madison Agricultural Research Station, 8502 Mineral Point Road. Great buys on perennials, shrubs and trees, all grown and dug from member gardens. Shop early for best selection. See elsewhere in this newsletter for flyer and for opportunities to volunteer for this event.

**Wednesday, May 20, 2009, *Garden Tour—Fitchburg/Oregon***, 5:00 p.m.-dark. See page 3 for information and directions to the gardens of John and Sarah Hasselkus, Cherith Bruckner and Roger Fish and Ed Lyon and Dylan Hart.

**Saturday, May 30, 2009 "*Plant Buying Spree*" at Klehm's Song Sparrow Farm** is scheduled for 9:00 to 10:30 am. See page 2 for map and directions.

**Wednesday, June 3, 2009, *Garden Tour—McFarland***, 5:00 p.m.-dark. See page 4 for information and directions to the gardens of Debbie Weisman, Virginia and Dick Sonn and Todd and Wendy Meicher.

**Wednesday, August 19, 2009 *Member Potluck and Tour of Olbrich Gardens***. 5:30-dusk.

**Wednesday, September 16, *The Magic of "Minor" Small Bulbs***. Jill Selinger, Manager, Continuing Education and Joseph Regenstein, Jr. School of the Chicago Botanic Garden. Jill Selinger, Chicago Botanic Garden, teaches many of CBG's bulb classes and utilizes them in her designs for clients. In this presentation, she shows how this overlooked and underutilized group of bulbs can be used in naturalistic gardens and groundcover plantings and as a blanket of color amidst emerging perennials in early spring. Most gardeners have the standard tulips and daffodils, Jill will show us other

considerations to complete the ornamental garden landscape beyond spring bloom.

**October (exact date TBD), *An Exploration of the Genus Primula***. Guest speaker Pam Eveleigh, Calgary, Alberta, Canada. (Joint meeting with The WI-IL Rock Garden Society.) Pam is a founding member and current VP of the Calgary Rock and Alpine Garden Society (CRAGS). She has a keen interest in primulas and has served as a Board member and webmaster of the American Primrose Society. Her personal Web site—[www.primulaworld.com](http://www.primulaworld.com)—contains an image gallery of over 2500 images of primulas! This talk should truly expand your horizons with an in-depth look at a fascinating genus, including what we expect will be many new plants and species for you.

**Wednesday, November 18, *Making Your Garden Your Own***. Guest speaker Dan Benarcik, Horticulturist, Chanticleer, Wayne, PA. If you have been to Chanticleer, one of the most creative gardens in the country, then you have likely been impressed with the Tea Cup Garden and the amazing containers throughout Chanticleer. You might also have been delighted with a variety of hand-made and imaginatively painted chairs and furniture. WHPS is pleased to have the wood worker and horticulturist responsible show us how to personalize your garden through the use of artistic element and found artifact, the addition of garden furniture as a design element and the use of ornamental containers and floral container combinations as extensions of your personality in your garden. Join us as Dan shows how to bring some of Chanticleer's renowned creativity into your garden!

### WHPS GOES ELECTRONIC IN JUNE

In order to save on postage and paper costs and be more environmentally friendly, WHPS members with email addresses will begin to receive the newsletter via email with our next edition, June 2009. If you DO NOT want to receive the newsletter via email, please email us at [whps05@yahoo.com](mailto:whps05@yahoo.com) to request that future newsletters be mailed to you.

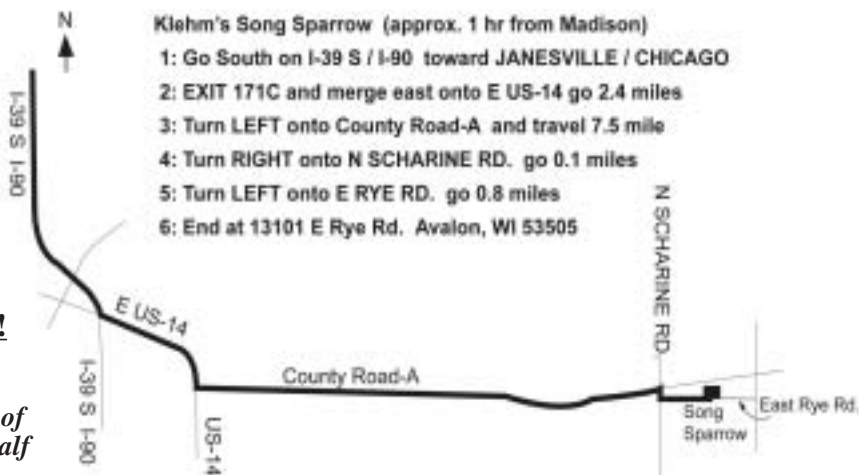
## Klehm's Song Sparrow Farm, Avalon, Wisconsin

### **BUYING SPREE for WHPS Members**

**Saturday, May 30, 2009**

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

*Check out the Song Sparrow Web site,  
[www.songsparrow.com](http://www.songsparrow.com), for a full catalog of  
their plants. (With only an hour and a half  
to shop, it pays to plan ahead!)*



### **WHPS Trips 2009**

Within the next three weeks you will receive registration information to sign up for our spring and summer trips.

**Woodstock, Illinois—One-day trip  
Saturday, June 13**

**Michigan—Four-day trip  
Thursday, July 30-Sunday, August 2, 2009**

**Iowa—Two-day trip—October 3-4, 2009**

### **Yard Waste Turns to Gold!**

For quite a few years, yard waste has been banned from our landfills. Dane County has three sites where you can drop off yard waste. While you're there, you can pick up "Gold." Well, at least that is what some gardeners call finished compost. It can really improve poor soil and bring joy to your plants root systems. Best of all, it is really economical and eco-friendly. You can get a pickup truck load of screened compost for \$10!

You may pick up finished compost at Verona and Westport during hours of operation. Check out the details on the website [http://www.countyofdane.com/pwht/recycle/compost\\_sites.aspx](http://www.countyofdane.com/pwht/recycle/compost_sites.aspx).

### **WHPS T-SHIRTS still available**



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](mailto:jmgahlman@hotmail.com) (or call her at 608-837-2317 and leave a message).

### **DONATE PLANTS TO THE SALE**

If you are a member with an uncommon or unusual plant in your garden, won't you consider dividing it this spring and contributing one or two pots to the plant sale?

And we've found that many members aren't able to donate because they live out of town and can only come the day of the sale and cannot drop off plants the day before as we encourage you to do.

This year, for those individuals who have a few plants they'd like to donate but can only attend the day of the sale on May 16, we are offering a special check-in table near the entrance to the sale. We would like you to label your plants before you bring them, and we will check in your plants and price them and incorporate them with the others. **NOTE: You must bring the plants to the sale site before 8:30 a.m. the morning of the sale.** It is too crowded and difficult to deal with late arriving plants once the sale is on.

If you live in the area, please bring your plants to the sale site the day before the sale, May 15. We will be at the site from 2:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Or you can call Stephanie O'Neal at 256-6108 ([sone2@aol.com](mailto:sone2@aol.com)) and arrange to drop your plants off at her house sometime the week before the sale.

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### **VOLUNTEER TO HELP SET UP OR WORK AT THE SALE**

If you would like to volunteer to sign up to help set up the day before the sale (May 15) and the day of the sale (May 16), please contact Stephanie O'Neal at [sone2@aol.com](mailto:sone2@aol.com) to volunteer for the plant sale.

## Garden Tour – Fitchburg/Oregon

Wednesday, May 20, 2009, 5:00 PM–dark

### John and Sarah Hasselkus—3001 Bryn Wood Dr, Fitchburg

Ten years ago, this large backyard was covered in buckthorns, honeysuckles, and under growth. Now, a hosta-lined path winds through perennial gardens of shade and sun. The shade garden is under a mature oak canopy and is filled with numerous native plants such as shooting stars, Jacob's ladder, and trillium. The back of the garden is lined with white pines and redbuds. A smaller sun garden at the top of the hill is offset by two silverbell trees. Colorful irises, daffodils, tulips, peonies and columbine add springtime excitement to the garden.

**Directions:** From Madison, south on Fish Hatchery Rd. Turn right (west) on PD. Just before the top of the hill, turn right on Osmundsen Rd. Turn left on Tree Line Dr. Turn left on Bryn Wood Dr.

From Cherith and Roger's, return to Hwy M, turn right on M, and continue one-quarter mile to a 4-way stop. Turn right on Fish Hatchery Rd. Drive about 4.5 miles. Turn left on PD. Just before the top of the hill, turn right on Osmundsen Rd. Turn left on Tree Line Dr. Turn left on Bryn Wood Dr.

### Cherith Bruckner and Roger Fish—1889 Paddock Place, Fitchburg (between Fitchburg

and Oregon) Their shady gardens are woven throughout wonderful hickories, oaks, and walnuts on a corner lot. Like nature itself, the gardens have had little or no pen-to-paper planning. No sharp edges or straight paths will be found here. The gardens have taken shape gradually over the last 12+ years—from their first efforts of pulling wild raspberry brambles and weeds to what has grown into a passion to enhance the woodland setting, but with a desire not to bend the scene beyond its breaking point. A casual discussion on a water feature led to a full-fledged stream, waterfall, and pond. A lot of terra forming played a role in creating a "natural" setting. Over any one of three bridges lie plants and structures and crags and crevices that hold countless surprises and rewards. Vignettes of many shade-loving perennials and shrubs continue to evolve along the woodland paths and water elements.

**Directions:** From Madison, South on Fish Hatchery Rd. Turn left on Hwy M (east). This is a 4-way stop. Drive one-quarter mile and turn left on Barry Dr (Briarwood neighborhood sign). Turn right on Stable View Lane. Turn left on Paddock Place. From Ed's, return on MM (N Main) to Hwy M (just before 14) and turn left on M. Drive about 2.5 miles. Turn right on Barry Dr (Briarwood neighborhood sign). Turn right on Stable View Lane. Turn left on Paddock Place.

### Ed Lyon and Dylan Hart—248 N Main St, Oregon

Ed Lyon and Dylan Hart's small but packed garden starts at the street curb and runs to the back lot line, with no remaining turf. The gardens are predominantly shade with a few sun pockets and surround a 110 year old Victorian home. Plant materials run the gamut of tried and true to the latest cultivars and the design focuses on foliage, texture and form, utilizing perennials, trees and shrubs, annuals and tropicals as well as garden art. Note the use of various cultivars of Hachonechloa that weave through the entire garden and connect front with back as well as contrasting foliage that provides visual interest all season.

**Directions:** From Cherith and Roger's, return to Hwy M and continue left (east) about 2.5 miles. Turn right on Hwy MM, which becomes N Main St in Oregon. Park in the school parking lot adjoining Ed's house. From Madison, south on Hwy 14. Turn right at the second MM exit, which becomes N Main St. Go through two stoplights. Ed and Dylan's garden is on the left. Park in the school parking lot adjoining the house.

### Rare and Unique Trees

For Gardens and Landscapes

Conifers and Japanese Maples

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phone. 608.770.1831 fax. 608.455.1831

## Garden Tours—McFarland

Wednesday, June 3, 2009, 5:00 PM—dark

### Debbie Wiesman—6205 Johnson St, McFarland

Debbie's garden has been a work in progress for 25 years, with the goal of "not much grass." The front (west) gardens combine decorative fencing with sunshine and shade gardens along the sidewalk. The back yard (east) includes three large gardens, a fire pit area, pool, garden shed, deck, and screened porch. The north side of the house is a shade garden and the south side is a cutting garden for annual flowers.

**Directions:** Hwy 51 south to McFarland. Turn left on Hwy MN (Farwell Dr). Go to the first 4-way stop. Go through the intersection (Bashford St) and turn right on Johnson St. Go past the school. Debbie is on left, next to the Silo house.

### Virginia and Dick Sonn—5207 Marsh Rd, McFarland

The Sonn's had their home built in 2000 on an open farm field. Steve Lesch drew up a landscape design for them from which they have sometimes strayed, "as it's hard to resist new plants." Their garden includes a pond, many sun and shade perennials and a collection of "found object" garden ornaments.

**Directions:** Hwy 51 south to McFarland. Turn left on Hwy MN (Farwell Dr) and follow it as it becomes Main St (left turn at 4-way stop) and Broadhead St (right turn at 4-way stop). Turn left on Marsh Rd (McFarland Lutheran Church is on that corner). Drive 0.5 miles and the Sonn garden is on the right.

### Todd and Wendy Meicher—5510 Glenway St, McFarland

This Japanese garden has been the most requested repeat of all our garden tours. Todd and Wendy Meicher have hosted garden tours of their garden creation called Shakai for twenty years now since the garden's inception. In 1997 their garden was featured in the Capital Times by reporter Linda Brazill. Its inspiration and direction are in essence Japanese but done using hard and soft landscape material indigenous to Wisconsin. Todd's studies in landscape design and horticulture started at Solano Community College in California where he received an associate degree. He then worked with a company that specialized in micro landscape work—installing garden ponds, dry stream beds, and theme gardens. He returned to Wisconsin in 1979 and purchased a home in 1984. The garden began in 1985 and has become a regular stop for curious visitors seeking advice and quiet respite. Many have likened it to entering another place in time. Their goal is to let others realize that it can be done and that it can be fun. The garden itself features three garden ponds, two of which are connected by a beautiful little rill stream that acts as the filtration system. His wife Wendy has been a constant inspiration and brings her own individual artistic talents and skills to the garden.

**Directions:** Hwy 51 south to McFarland. Turn left on Hwy MN (Farwell Dr) and follow it as it becomes Main St (left turn at 4-way stop) and Broadhead St (right turn at 4-way stop). Turn left on Glenway St (the street after Leanne). Drive 0.1 mile and the Meicher garden is on the left.



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## List of Plant Sales/Garden Tours

**Saturday, April 11, Olbrich Gardens Pansy Sale 10:00 a.m.** Olbrich Gardens. Olbrich's Spring Pansy Sale is on Saturday, April 11 starting at 10 a.m., while supplies last.

**Saturday, April 11 Orchid Sale, 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. or while supplies last** Olbrich Gardens. Sponsored by the Orchid Growers Guild. For information call 608-231-3163

**Olbrich Gardens Leaf Mulch Sale Thursday, April 16, 2:00-5:00 p.m., Friday, April 17, 2:00-5:00 p.m., Saturday, April 18, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.** Olbrich's environmentally friendly leaf mulch of shredded, composted leaves enrich the soil, cuts down on watering and weeding, recycles local leaves, and is credited for Olbrich's healthy-looking gardens. Bags \$6 each; bulk scoops (8-10 bags equivalent) \$40. Enjoy the convenience of drive-through service. For more information call 608-246-4550.

**Sunday, May 3, Dahlia Tuber Sale,** noon-2:00 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. Dahlias are late summer bloomers popular for their extravagant blooms, diverse forms, and bright colors. They're subtropical annuals grown each year from tubers dug up in the fall and overwintered in a cool, dry environment. The sale is sponsored by the Badger State Dahlia Society. For more information call 608-577-1924.

**Friday, May 8 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 9, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Plant Sale,** 5586 Cheryl Dr, Fitchburg, WI. (609) 271-5985. 2.5 mi. south of the beltline of Fish Hatchery Rd. Turn right on Cheryl Dr. 2 blocks.

**Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9 Olbrich's Plant Sale with the Pros.** Olbrich Gardens, 3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison. May 8 members only 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; open to all 4:00-7:00 p.m. May 9 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Great selection of perennials, annuals trees and shrubs.

**Saturday, May 9, Shorewood Hills Garden Club Annual Cocoa Mulch and Plant Sale** The cocoa mulch and plant sale will be held at the Village Hall, 810 Shorewood Blvd., Shorewood on Saturday, May 2, 2008 from 9:00 a.m-1 p.m. For additional information call 238-4860 or 236-9374.

**Saturday, May 9, Sugar River Gardeners Plant Sale,** 8:30-noon, 301 Main Street, Verona, in front of St. Andrew's Catholic Church.

**Saturday, May 9, Friends of the Arboretum 2009 Native Plant Sale,** 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the large tents next to the Arboretum Visitor Center. Native grasses; woodland, prairie and savanna plants; trees and shrubs.

**Saturday, May 9-Sunday, May 17, Earthspirit Farm Sale.** 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. List of plants available at [myearthspiritfarm.com](http://myearthspiritfarm.com). Directions: Take Hwy 14 south from the Madison beltline (Park St. is also Hwy 14) past both Oregon exits. Look at your odometer at the second exit (Hwy 138) and stay on 14, going about 1.5 miles further. Turn left on Oak Hill Rd.

**Friday, May 9-Saturday, May 10, West side Garden Club Plant Sale** Choice perennials, specialty annuals, herbs Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. 3918 Nakoma Road, Madison. Near Seminole Hwy, west of Thoreau School Proceeds donated to support garden related civic organizations and projects.

**Friday, May 8 & Saturday, May 9 Children's Benefit Sale** Friday, May 8 2 p.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, May 9, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 6310 Masthead Drive, Madison, WI (North of Mineral Point Road, across from Oakwood Retirement Center) Support programs for the basic needs of the most vulnerable children in Dane County. Donations of plants welcome. Call 608-238-4005.

**May 15, 16, 17, Rotary Gardens Spring Plant Sale,** 9am-5pm Daily at the Horticulture Center. Featuring thousands of daylily divisions, 100 varieties of heirloom tomato plants 50 varieties of bell and hot pepper plants, 25 varieties of basil plants, bagged mushroom compost and much more! See [www.rotarygardens.org](http://www.rotarygardens.org) for more info or call Mark at (608) 754-1779

**Saturday, May 16—WHPS PLANT SALE! See flyer on page 7 of this newsletter. 9-noon, West Madison Ag Station, 8502 Mineral Point Road.**

**Saturday, May 16, Uplands Garden Club's Plant Sale,** 8:00 a.m., Harris Park in Dodgeville. The park is on the east end of town just off of 18 and 151. From Madison continue on on 18 and turn left on Bennet Rd just past the truck stop for 1/2 mile.

**Saturday, May 16 and Sunday, May 17, 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 608-233-3305.

**Wednesday, May 20, WHPS Garden Tours Fitchburg/Oregon.** 5:00 p.m.-dark. See page 3-4 of this newsletter for complete details.

**Sunday, May 31, Hosta Sale, 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.** or while supplies last. Olbrich Gardens. Pick up some interesting hostas to add to your collection at the Wisconsin Hosta Society's Plant Sale. For more information call 608-443-4281.

**Sunday, May 31, Iris Show,** 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. Cut irises in a rainbow of colors will be on display in the Evjue Commons. Sponsored by the Iris Society.

**Wednesday, June 3, WHPS Garden Tour McFarland.** 5:00 p.m.-dark. See page 2-3 for complete details.

**Saturday, June 6, The Daylily Society of Southeast Wisconsin Annual Sale** 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church 13001 W. North Ave., Brookfield, WI. A list of Daylilies and a partial list of photos are on the Web site [www.dssew.org](http://www.dssew.org).

**Sunday, June 13, WHPS Bus Trip to Woodstock, Illinois.** Mailing mid April to WHPS members with info and registration.

**Sunday, June 21, Rose Show 12:30-4:00 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. Sponsored by the Madison Rose Society. For more information call 608-845-6063.

**Friday, July 10 and Saturday, July 11, Olbrich 2009 Home Garden Tour.** Friday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Tour private home gardens in the village of Shorewood Hills and collect ideas for your own home garden. Pre-tour tickets are \$10 for Olbrich Botanical Society members and \$12 for the general public. Tickets during the tour are \$12 for Olbrich members and \$14 for the general public.

continued on next page

## 2009 Plant Sales/Garden Tours

continued from previous page

**July 17-18 Windsor Area Garden Tour.** A public tour of selected gardens as a benefit for Cancer research. For more information: 608-825-9986, [pdmil@aol.com](mailto:pdmil@aol.com)

**July 15-August 9, Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. daily.** Live butterflies emerge from chrysalises daily in the Bolz Conservatory. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 3 to 12, free for children 2 and under, and free for Olbrich Botanical Society members.

**Thursday, July 30-Sunday, August 2, WHPS Bus Trip to Michigan.** Mailing mid April to WHPS members with info and registration.

**Saturday August 1 and Sunday August 2, Iris Sale.** 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Olbrich Gardens. The Madison Area Iris Society sponsors this sale of iris rhizomes, the roots that grow into iris plants. For more information call 608-825-7423.

**Saturday, August 8, Open Garden hosted by Norma and Mike Briggs,** 1519 Storytown Road, Oregon.

**Saturday, August 15 and Sunday August 16, Daylily Sale** Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Sunday, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Olbrich Gardens. Sponsored by the Wisconsin Daylily Society. For more information call 608-231-3279.

**Saturday, August 22 and Sunday August 23, Dahlia Show.** Olbrich Gardens. Saturday, noon-4:00 p.m., Sunday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Sponsored by the Badger State Dahlia Society. For more information call 608-577-1924.

**Saturday October 3-Sunday, October 4, WHPS Bus Trip to Iowa.** Mailing late summer to WHPS members with info and registration.

**Sunday, October 4, Herb Day.** Olbrich Gardens. 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Local herbalists celebrate the importance of herbs via exhibits, workshops, demonstrations and garden walks. HerbDay is free and open to the public. For more information call 608-831-2845.

**Saturday, October 10 and Sunday, October 11, African Violet Show and Sale.** Olbrich Gardens. Saturday, noon-5:00 p.m., Sunday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The sale will include African violets, streptocarpus, and other gesneriads. Sponsored by the Wisconsin State Council of African Violets. For more information call 608-833-5552.

## SCHÖNHEIT GARDENS

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**Monday, October 12 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 7, 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.

**TELL YOUR FRIENDS!**

**Spread the word!**

**Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society**

**Plant Sale**

**May 16, 2009**

**9:00-Noon**

rain or shine

**NEW 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, with native plants, a few  
annuals and woody plants too.**

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

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

**Thank you, Ruth Cadoret**

Ruth Cadoret recently retired from the WHPS Board of Directors after serving for six and a half years. She has served us well, organizing and leading our yearly Seed Exchange, coordinating the digs for the plant sale for many years and offering guidance and good counsel in voicing and approaching issues facing the association.

We will continue to call upon Ruth to help with the organizing of the woody section for the plant sale (look for her gorgeous tree seedlings at the sale May 16) and we look forward to her continued participation in WHPS tours and activities.

Thank you Ruth!

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**Garden Expo Thank You!**

Thank you to all of the members who volunteered to work the booth at the Garden Expo in February and to Ed Lyon for his informative presentation on behalf of WHPS to a full auditorium at the opening of the Expo.

Special thanks to member businesses donating prizes for the drawing: America's Best Flowers; J Carlson Growers; Klehm's Song Sparrow Nursery; Schonheit Gardens.

And welcome to the more than 30 new members joining WHPS at the Expo!

**WHPS Web site:** [www.madison.com/communities/wisconsinhardyplantsociety/](http://www.madison.com/communities/wisconsinhardyplantsociety/)

The Hosta Society has solicited a Hosta limerick from attendees to the next convention. I'm not going, but this triggered an impulse, and I got carried away and wrote five. The verses actually sort of sum up my love of Hostas. It's been fun! You'd be surprised how hard it is to incorporate the name of a hosta in a short verse, let alone two or three! Below is my favorite.

—Joan Severa

**A HOSTA LIMERICK**

Said a gardener under the trees  
If only myself I would please  
I would plant Masquerade  
And small things for the shade  
And spend all my time on my knees.

*There can be no other occupation like gardening in which, if you were to creep up behind someone at their work, you would find them smiling.* —Mirabel Osler



**Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society**



**April 2009  
Newsletter**

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

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