



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 17 *Lovely Long-lasting Lilies and Awesome Alliums with Brent Heath.* As spring turns to summer, a real garden treat awaits you as alliums and lilies unfold their myriad of colorful and often fragrant blossoms. Several local public gardens have learned that alliums are a valuable “transition” plant, providing color after spring bulbs have faded during the “down time” when perennials are still emerging and annuals are just going in the ground. The second group, lilies, includes an enormous array of sizes and colors, from lovely delicate species to new cultivars with flowers so impactful they look like they are on steroids. We will look on overall samples of each genus and discuss best cultural practices to keep them blooming repeatedly for years. We will also include the most effective design uses for the garden and landscape. Brent and Becky Heath, owners of the nationally popular Brent and Becky's Bulbs, in Gloucester, VA, have co-authored *Daffodils for North American Gardens* and *Tulips for North American Gardens*. Brent and Becky have both been featured guests on National Television programs; Brent on *The Victory Garden* and *Karen's Garden* and Becky on *Martha Stewart*. www.store.brentandbeckysbulbs.com.

Saturday, May 18, 9:00-noon, WHPS PLANT SALE, (see page 3 for volunteer opportunities) West Madison Agricultural Research Station, 8502 Mineral Point Road. *Make this sale your number one stop for new plants this spring!*

Saturday, May 25, 9:00-11:30 a.m., WHPS Member Song Sparrow Nursery Buying Spree (see page 2 for more info)

Sunday, June 2, 2013 Bus trip to Lake Geneva/Burlington Area Nurseries and Private Gardens **SOLD OUT!**

CHANGE OF DATE Tuesday, June 18, WHPS Garden Tours in Nakoma. Look for full info and directions in June Newsletter

June 25-29 WHPS Brandywine River Garden Tour! SOLD OUT!

Thursday, July 11, WHPS Garden Tour off Mineral Point Road in Verona. Look for full info and directions in June Newsletter.

Thursday, July 25, WHPS Garden Tours in Oregon. Look for full info and directions in June Newsletter.

Friday, August 2, WHPS Bus Trip—Sheboyan Area. **SOLD OUT!**

Wednesday, August 21 Summer Potluck Dinner and walk through Olbrich Gardens.

Wednesday, September 18 Chic Plants for Modern Gardens: A Commentary on New Plants with Kelly Norris. In this commentary-style lecture, plantsman Kelly Norris, horticulture manager for the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden, will share his views on the current state of ornamental horticulture, provide an overview of new varieties in some of the hottest perennial categories, while encouraging the audience's feedback and sass—that's right, some new plants just aren't all they're cracked up to be. Join us

2013 WHPS GARDEN TOURS

NEW DATE Tuesday, June 18, Nakoma
Thursday, July 11, Off Mineral Point Rd, Verona.
Thursday, July 25, Oregon

for a rousing discussion on what makes a great garden plant and why we all need to demand more from the people that make them. Norris is an award-winning author of three books including the *Iowa Gardener's Travel Guide*, the first travel guide to Iowa's public gardens and nurseries, and *A Guide to Bearded Irises: Cultivating the Rainbow for Beginners and Enthusiasts*.

Sunday, September 22, WHPS PLANT EXCHANGE, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Allen Centennial Gardens. Bring plant(s); get plant(s)!

Wednesday, October 16 Joint Meeting with Hosta Society, SPECIAL TIME: 6:00 p.m. Social; 6:30 pm. meeting—Ferns for Gardeners with Sue Olsen. One of the most comprehensive and useful resources for garden ferns is the *Encyclopedia of Garden Ferns*, by Sue Olsen. With their beauty and versatility, often combined with a toughness that belies their appearance, ferns are among the most useful and rewarding plants that any gardener can grow. Ferns offer a staggering variety of habit and shape, with foliage comprising endless variations of green as well as bronze, pink, silver and blue-grey—a dazzling array of choices. Olsen has been studying, propagating and writing about ferns for over four decades. Her nursery, Foliage Gardens, has introduced numerous ferns to horticulture and is the oldest mail-order nursery in the United States for spore-grown temperate ferns.

Wednesday, November 13 Why Grow That, When You Can Grow This? with Andrew Keys. The recently released *Why Grow That When You Can Grow This?: 255 Extraordinary Alternatives to Everyday Problem Plants* is garnering much praise and for good reason. Pining to grow lilac but lack the full sun? Try the fragrant pink and white flowers of Korean spice viburnum. Love the drama of canna but need something hardier? Try the bold foliage of variegated fleece flower. Boston-based author, garden designer and lecturer Andrew Keys offers hundreds of all-star alternatives that replace—and often outshine—popular problem plants. Each profile in his book shows the problem plant and offers three alternatives that include three or more of the original plant's characteristics—hardiness, shape, color, texture, light, and size. Join us as he presents some of that information in an entertaining lecture. The host and producer of *Fine Gardening's Garden Confidential* podcast, Keys' writing has appeared in *Fine Gardening* and other magazines, as well as on his blog, *Garden Smackdown*. <http://www.gardensmackdown.com>

Wednesday, December 11, Annual Meeting, Seed Exchange and Member Potpourri

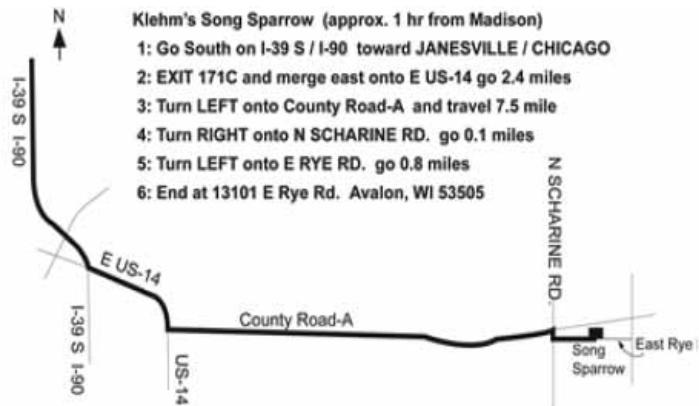
Song Sparrow Nursery Buying Spree for WHPS Members

SATURDAY, MAY 25
Klehm's Song Sparrow
Perennial Farm,
13101 E. Rye Road
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BETWEEN 9:00-11:30 a.m. ONLY!

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

*(With only two and a half hours to shop,
it pays to plan ahead!)*



GARDEN EXPO THANK YOU

Eleanor Rodini, the coordinator of the WHPS booth at the Wisconsin Garden Expo, would like to thank the following individuals for their help in making this year's booth a success!

- Lynn Belanger for updating the panels on her beautiful walls listing upcoming speakers, trips etc.
- Lynn and Shirley Scriver for setting up the booth on Thursday.

And thank you to the following volunteers for staffing the desk:

Lois Anderson	Bonnie Berg
Stephanie Bloomquist	Linda Brazill
Marilynn Bunnell	Chris Bylsma
Maggie Carrao	Sue Christoffersen
Judy Crandall	Nell Cummings
Jane Gahlman	Jeannette Golden
Ann Hasselkus	Ellen Henningsen
Jane La Flash	Corrie Norman
Barbara Obst	Cindy Schwierske
Diane Sharkey	

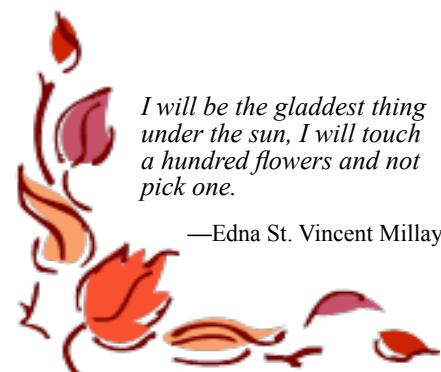


Have you tried these perennials?

The *Perennial Plant of the Year Program* is sponsored by the Perennial Plant Association. Each year, members vote for one of four committee-selected plants with the following attributes: suitable for a wide range of climate types; low maintenance; easily propagated; exhibits multiple seasonal interest. (<http://www.perennialplant.org/>)

2013	<i>Polygonatum odoratum</i> 'Variegatum'
2012	<i>Brunnera macrophylla</i> 'Jack Frost'
2011	<i>Amsonia hubrichtii</i>
2010	<i>Baptisia australis</i>
2009	<i>Hakonechloa macra</i> 'Aureola'
2008	<i>Geranium 'Rozanne'</i>
2007	<i>Nepeta 'Walker's Low'</i>
2006	<i>Dianthus gratianopolitanus</i> 'Feuerhexe'
2005	<i>Helleborus xhybridus</i>
2004	<i>Athyrium niponicum</i> 'Pictum'
2003	<i>Leucanthemum</i> 'Becky'
2002	<i>Phlox</i> 'David'
2001	<i>Calamagrostis x acutiflora</i> 'Karl Foerster'
2000	<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i> 'Butterfly Blue'
1999	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i> var. <i>sullivantii</i> 'Goldsturm'
1998	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i> 'Magnus'
1997	<i>Salvia 'Mainacht'</i> (May Night)
1996	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> 'Husker Red'
1995	<i>Perovskia atriplicifolia</i>
1994	<i>Astilbe</i> 'Sprite'
1993	<i>Veronica 'Sunny Border Blue'</i>
1992	<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i> 'Moonbeam'
1991	<i>Heuchera micrantha</i> 'Palace Purple'
1990	<i>Phlox stolonifera</i>

Look for many of these plants—if not all of them—at the **WHPS PLANT SALE Saturday, May 18, from 9:00-noon** at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station, 8502 Mineral Point Road



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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT AND REQUEST

After 13 years, our plant sale coordinator Stephanie O'Neal has announced that this will be her last year as coordinator. There is an excellent team in place, made up of Linda Marx—Dig Coordinator, Jeanette Golden—Volunteer Coordinator, and Kathy Haupert and Laurie Zimmerman—Cashier/Checkout Coordinators (in addition to the support of the full board). Stephanie has written instructions for the duties of the Plant Sale Coordinator and would love to have 1-2 individuals volunteer to shadow her this year in the weeks leading up to and through the plant sale. She will also continue to be a resource to anyone who volunteers to lead this important effort for our organization, which donates all of the money raised to worthy garden efforts in our area. Please contact Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com if you are interested in finding out more about leading our sale.

AND EVERYONE READING THIS—PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THIS YEAR'S SALE BELOW!

PLANT SALE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Get to know other members, learn about plants, have fun!

Call for DIG HOSTS

If you think you would be able to donate more than four flats of plants to the WHPS Plant Sale and would like to host a dig for the 2013 Plant Sale, please contact Linda Marx at ljmarx@chorus.net, 608-249-7717, or Stephanie O'Neal, sone2@aol.com, 608-256-6108. You dig the plants—we provide the soil mix, pots and volunteers to pot up the plants and label. Win/win—your garden is thinned out and WHPS generates cash for donations. If you are interested but not sure about hosting a dig, contact Stephanie to discuss in more detail. She can talk to you about the kind of plants needed, the number needed and how to make your dig fun and successful. If you have some plants to dig up for the sale, but want to do it yourself without a dig, please contact Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com.

Volunteer for PLANT DIGS

If you would like to volunteer at a plant dig, helping to pot up and label plants, please contact Linda Marx or Stephanie O'Neal at the above email/phone. Volunteer sign-up sheets will also be at the WHPS meeting April 17. **Listen to what member Jane LaFlash has to say about volunteering—I remember when I first joined WHPS: For the whole first year I would walk into the meeting room, sit down, listen to the program, and walk out - never talking to anyone, never knowing anyone. I decided that was not acceptable to me and the next spring I volunteered for all four of the plant digs that were held. At each one I got to know some people by working side by side with them for a few hours. At the board meeting last night, this topic came up and many there agreed that that was how they first got to know people in the organization and feel involved - by volunteering at the digs or sale, which is a social time in addition to working. So if you feel you would like to get to know more people and feel more a part of the group - volunteer!**

Volunteer to Set Up the Day before the Sale, May 17

We'll need help transporting plants to the sale site and then organizing the plants, pricing and placing them on the tables. Starting at 11:00 a.m. May 18. Finishing 6:30 or 7:00 p.m. You really get a chance to know members, the plants, ask questions and know what's going to be for sale the next day.

Volunteer to Work the Day of the Sale, May 18

We'll need help checking in plants prior to checkout, help getting plants loaded into shoppers' vehicles, help as "experts" directing and guiding shoppers through the sale, and help cleaning up after the sale. Shifts available 8:30-1:30 p.m. This is fun! Helping buyers get great plants for their garden and finding some new plants for your own garden. It's the fastest, most interesting and satisfying three hours you'll experience this spring. To volunteer the day before or day of the sale, contact Jeannette Golden at jgolden4142@gmail.com or call her at 238-4370.

Donate Plants to the Sale!

Once again this year we'd like all of our members to consider donating a special plant or two from your garden for our sale. If you are dividing a perennial you think we might not have seen at our sale before, please think about potting up a few for us to sell! Contact Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com so we can make sure we have time to make a plant sign for the sale.

ALL VOLUNTEERS WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR DRAWING AFTER PLANT SALE. Our member businesses have been very generous in donating prizes. A drawing will be held after the sale and anyone who works for the plant digs, sale or donates plants (to qualify, we must have your name in advance of the sale day) will be automatically entered.



WHPS PLANT SALE

**Saturday, May 18
9:00-noon**

West Madison
Agricultural Research Station,
8502 Mineral Point Road



The Epaulette Tree—an Uncommon Point of Garden Interest



Visitors to our garden often query the identity of two trees highlighted with large bright green foliage and silvery-gray bark. The trees in question are *Pterostyrax hispida*, the epaulette tree. According to Hillier's Manual of Trees and Shrubs, the epaulette tree is native to China and Japan and was introduced in England in 1875.

To compliment the large bright green leaves, the tree has lacy white pendulous flowers, which come into bloom in June after many other flowering trees are finished blooming. The 2- to 3-inch flowers are borne in pendulous panicles about 5- to 10-inches in length. The seedpods, which follow the pendulous shape of blooms, are tan, fuzzy and quite showy and can be used in dried flower arrangements. Though there is no fall color, some of seedpods will cling to the branches well into the winter providing a continued point of interest.

The bark on new growth is a tannish color before maturing to a silver-gray. The tree grows quickly and begins to flower at an early age. In ten years, the tree will be about 15 feet tall and, ultimately, may reach 20 to 30 feet. The root system is quite fibrous, which makes transplanting fairly easy.

Though occasionally some smaller branches may suffer die back over the winter, the epaulette tree has never failed to flower in our garden. Usually any die back is confined to branches of late summer or early autumn growth that did not have time to harden off before the onset of cold winter temperatures.

When I began landscaping our city lot with woody plants, I happened across a reference to the epaulette tree and was intrigued. At the time, I had no idea if the tree would survive in our USDA Zone 5a location. Since a ready source of information about the tree was not available, I decided to contact several northern arboreta for information and the possibility of obtaining seed. During this search for information, I discovered that two specimens were growing in the County of Monroe Park System in Rochester, New York since 1899. Eventually, I obtained a packet of seed courtesy of John Fogg, Director of the Arboretum of the Barnes Foundation in Merion, Pennsylvania.

After the seed was stratified and planted, the resulting plants were lined out and observed for hardiness and vigor. Over time I selected several specimens that seemed the most adaptable to growing condition here. The rest is history. Since then the white pendulous flowers of the epaulette tree have graced our garden for almost 30 years.

— Conrad J. Wrzesinski



Though rare in the trade, try Lazys' Nursery Farm http://www.lazyssfarm.com/Plants/Shrubs/M-R%20Shrubs/shrubs_trees_M-R.htm#SHRU16730 Conrad should also have seed available at the WHPS Seed Exchange at the 12/11/13 Meeting.

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Learning and Leading

UW-Madison Arboretum Team Leader Training & School of the Land

If you are interested in getting your hands dirty while learning about native landscapes, and you enjoy working outdoors and meeting new people, become an UW Arboretum Team Leader! Team Leaders learn about the art and science of ecological restoration, and about the native ecosystems of Wisconsin. They apply this knowledge by leading other volunteers at the ecological restoration work parties at the UW Arboretum.

Responsibilities include teaching and supervising volunteers, working outdoors in a variety of seasons and weather conditions, clearing brush, controlling invasive plants species with weeding and/or herbicide application, seeding in restoration sites, and collecting research data. This is a great professional development opportunity, and a way to practice the land ethic by giving back to your community. Training runs from April 4 to August 1, 2013; cost for materials and training is \$85. Contact Marian Farrior for more detailed information and an application form.

If you don't like to wake up early Saturday morning, but are still interested in learning more about ecological restoration, consider taking the *School of the Land* classes—Thursday, April 4-Thursday, July 25, 6:00–8:30 p.m.—14 presentations and workshops delving into the history and potential of the land for sustainable living and restoration of native plant communities or gardens. Improve your observation skills and understanding of native ecosystems. Register at <http://uwarboretum.org/>

— Marian Farrior, Earth Partnership Field Manager, UW-Madison Arboretum; (608) 265-5214; mlfarrior@uwarb.wisc.edu

2013 CALENDAR OF GARDEN EVENTS

Rotary Botanical Gardens Annual Bagged Compost Sale will be held every Saturday in April and May from 8 am-12 noon, Horticulture Center, Janesville. Compost bags are 1.5 cubic feet and roughly 45 lbs in weight, selling for \$5.50 each plus tax; RBG Friends Members receive a 10% discount. This soil amendment is used out in the gardens incorporated into the annual beds and used as a mulch topdressing in other garden beds. Call Mark at (608) 754-1779 with any questions.

April 11–April 14 Art in Bloom: A Tribute to Art and Flowers, Milwaukee Art Museum. Discover captivating bouquets by the region's top floral designers, inspired by the works of art nearby. Milaeger's Wine and Food Garden, Opening Night Iron Designer Competition, Marketplace and a variety of lectures and presentations led by celebrity floral designers and master gardeners. Contact: Fran Serlin at fran.serlin@mam.org or 414-224-3840.

Thursday, April 11, Friday, April 12 (2-5 pm) and Saturday, April 13 (9 am-noon), Olbrich Leaf Mulch Sale. Now you can have the same top-quality mulch used in Olbrich's gardens. Bags-\$6.50 each + tax (Each bag covers about 35 square feet at 2-3 inches. Bulk scoops-\$40 each + tax (A bulk scoop is equal to about 8-10 bags of mulch, and covers approximately 350 square feet at a depth of 2-3 inches) Enjoy the convenience of drive-through service. For more information call 608-246-4550. Visit www.olbrich.org to learn about other opportunities to purchase Leaf Mulch from Olbrich in April/May and September/October.

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April 12, 2013 Gardening Beside the Experts Hands-on Workshop Olbrich Gardens, Madison. Olbrich's horticulturists will share their gardening tips on spring clean-up and much more. Dress to be outdoors and to get a little dirty during this hands-on workshop from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Rain or shine. \$47 (\$38 members). For more information contact Olbrich Botanical Gardens, phone (608) 246-4550.

Saturday, April 13 Wisconsin Gourd Festival, 9:00am-4:00 pm , Olbrich Gardens. Learn about gourds, gourd art, and gourd growing. Visit www.wisconsingourdsociety.org.

April 17, Perfecting Peonies: Bartzella and Beyond Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville, WI. In 1986, world-renowned (and local!) peony hybridizer Roger Anderson struck gold with

the introduction of Bartzella, the first rich, yellow intersectional peony hybrid. Intersectional or Itoh peony hybrids are crosses between tree and herbaceous peonies, with the large flowers of tree peonies and greater hardiness, stiffer stems and more numerous blooms. Sue Zimmerman, who has worked closely with Anderson and shares his passion for peonies, will present the story of Anderson's life work and share what it took to establish the largest public intersectional hybrid peony garden in N. America, located at the Hoard Historical Museum in Fort Atkinson, WI. Class from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Post-presentation, RBG will welcome Roger Anderson himself to answer questions. \$7 (\$5 members). For more information or to register contact Kris Koch at (608) 752-3885 ext. 17.

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April 20, Seed Savers Workshop and Seed Swap West Bend, WI. Seed Savers Exchange leads a hands-on seed-saving workshop from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Learn the importance of preserving genetic and heirloom varieties, as well as wet and dry seed saving techniques. \$30 until April 15; \$40 after. At Wellspring, 4382 Hickory Rd. West Bend, WI 53090 (across the River from Newburg). For more information and to register, call (847) 946-5565 or <http://www.wellspringinc.org/>

April 25, Sustainable Gardens: Creating and Maintaining a Gravel Garden, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Olbrich Botanical Gardens. Green or sustainable gardens make sense for many reasons—good for the environment and good for us. Olbrich's Director of Horticulture Jeff Epping and his staff have created a number of gravel gardens at Olbrich that can easily be incorporated into home landscapes. Jeff will show you how Olbrich has replaced lawns and traditional perennial beds with these sustainable gardens. \$15 (\$12 members). For more information contact Olbrich Botanical Gardens, phone (608) 246-4550.

Saturday, April 27, Huge Tree Auction, Moyer's Hometown Nurseries (rain date Sunday, April 28), starts 10:00 am, 936 Starr School Rd, Stoughton, , 608-873-9141, www.moyersinc.net

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 am-2:00 pm Willy Street Park's Green-up Time Plant Sale. Bedding plants, perennials and vegetables for early gardeners. Proceeds benefit the Willy Street Park, Williamson Street, Madison

May 4, Parkway Garden Club Plant Sale, Tomah

continued on next page

2013 Calendar of Events (continued from previous page)

May 4 and 5, 11th Annual Bluff Country Master Gardeners Plant Sale, La Crosse. Concordia Ball Room, 1129 La Crosse Street, Friday (4:00-7:00 pm), Saturday (8:00 am-noon)

Sunday, May 5, 9:30 am-3:30 pm, Herb Day, Olbrich Botanical Gardens. Join the Madison Herbal Institute to learn about the many uses of herbs from exhibits, demonstrations, speakers, and garden walks. Free. Call 608-512-9633.

Sunday, May 5, Noon-2:00 pm, Dahlia Tuber Sale, Olbrich. The sale is sponsored by the Badger State Dahlia Society. For more information call 608-577-1924.

Thursday-Saturday, May 9-11, International Lilac Society Conference, Madison. Please see the ILS website and supporting pages for more information on how to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity in our home state! **Convention page:** <http://www.internationallilacsociety.org/Convention.html> Registration page: http://www.internationallilacsociety.org/Convention_files/2013%20Convention%20Registration%20Form.pdf

Friday, May 10, 8:00 am-6:00 pm & Saturday, May 11, 8:00 am-4:00 pm West Side Garden Club Plant Sale, 3518 Nakoma Road (near Seminole Highway)

Friday-Sunday, May 10-12, Fitchburg Plant Sale, 8:00 am-3:00 pm, 5586 Cheryl Drive, Fitchburg. Great perennials at great prices.

Friday, May 10, 11:00 am-6:00 pm and Saturday, May 10, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Olbrich's Plant Sale with the Pros, Olbrich Gardens. Get great plants and expert advice from area professionals at Olbrich's Plant Sale with the Pros. Everything from annuals and perennials to ornamental grasses and shrubs. Olbrich's staff carefully chooses unique plants that grow best in this climate. Local gardening experts, master gardeners, and Olbrich's horticulturists will be available to answer questions. Bring photos of your landscape for design advice from landscape architects! Olbrich members receive a free gift for coming to the Plant Sale with the Pros! Proceeds from the sale benefit Olbrich Botanical Gardens.

Friday, May 10, National Public Gardens Day. Celebrate Madison's public garden! Visit www.nationalpublicgardensday.org for more details.

Saturday, May 11-Sunday, May 12, 9:00 am-4:00 pm Rotary Botanical Gardens 14th Annual Spring Plant Sale, Horticultural

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ture Center, Janesville. RBG Members can enjoy pre-sale on Friday, May 10, 9 am-4 pm and receive 10% off all purchases. Sale includes a wide range of vegetables and over 80 varieties of herbs, trailing vegetables for the windowbox and/or container, thousands of perennials, woody plant selections, bagged compost and other offerings. Vegetable descriptions/listings www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org so you can make your "acquisition plans!" This is a vital RBG fundraiser, so "spread the word" regarding this opportunity to support the gardens and get some neat plants. Call Mark at (608) 754-1779 with any questions.

Saturday, May 11, 9 am-1:00 pm, Shorewood Hills Garden Club Plant and Mulch Sale, 1008 Shorewood Blvd, Shorewood Hills, WI

Saturday, May 11, Friends of the Arboretum Native Plant Sale, 9:00 am-2:00 pm, 1207 Seminole Hwy.

Saturday, May 11, 9:00 am-2:00 pm, Oregon Garden Club Plant Sale, Waterman Park, downtown Oregon. Wide assortment of annuals, perennials, hanging baskets and vegetable seedlings supplied by local nurseries and members' garden divisions. Proceeds benefit two local charities, the Food Pantry and the Habitat Build.

Saturday, May 11, 8:30-11:00 am, Mound Vue Garden Club Plant Sale, Mount Horeb Fire Station, 120 S. First Street, Mount Horeb. Contact—Ed Glover, 608-263-2455

Saturday, May 11, 9:00 am-4:00 pm, Sundowners/Crosstown Violet Club Sale, Olbrich Gardens. Annual sale includes African violets, starter plants, blooming plants, leaves, gesneriads of all kinds, potting soil and pots.

continued on next page

2013 Calendar of Events (continued from previous page)

Sponsored by the Sundowners and Crosstown African Violet clubs. For more information call 608-833-5552.

Saturday, May 11, 10:00 am-2:00 pm Troy Farm Spring Plant Sale. Certified organic vegetable and herb plants for sale in the parking lot by the Troy Farm greenhouse, 502 Troy Gardens.

Saturday, May 11, 8:00 am-noon, Grant County Master Gardener's Plant Sale, at Lancaster Fairgrounds, 8am to noon. Proceeds from sale for our local Master Gardner projects.

Thursday-Saturday, May 16-18, Habitat for Humanity of Dane County Plant Sale, Habitat ReStore, 208 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison, 9:00 am-5:00 pm. Hybrid daylilies donated by the Wisconsin Daylily Society, a wide variety of other perennials. 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.

Saturday, May 18 & Sunday, May 19, 10:00 am-5:00 pm, Badger Bonsai Annual Show, Olbrich Gardens. Marvel at these growing miniature landscapes. Sponsored by the Badger Bonsai Society. For more information call 608-438-8469.

Saturday, May 18, 9:00 am-4:00 pm Festival of Spring, Paine Art Center and Gardens, Oshkosh free outdoor festival featuring the Paine's annual Spring Plant Sale and more than 200 vendors of original art, fine crafts, plants and garden supplies. For more information, please call 920.235.6903 ext.22 or email info@thepaine.org. http://www.thepaine.org/events/fest_of_spring2013.html

Saturday, May 18, WHPS Plant Sale, 9-noon, West Madison Agricultural Research Station, 8502 Mineral Point Road, Madison

Saturday, May 18, 8:00 am-1:30 pm, SouthEast Wisconsin Master Gardeners' Perennial Plant Sale will be held on at the DNR Area of State Fair Park. Proceeds sale benefit the Horticulture Educational programs of the University of Wisconsin Extension.

Saturday, May 18, Portage County Master Gardener Association Annual Plant Sale. Rettler Corporation Parking Lot, 3317 Business Park Drive, Stevens Point, across the street from Crossroads Commons.

Sunday May 19, 12:00-3:00 pm Master Gardener Plant Sale, Dane County UW-Extension Office, 1 Fen Oak Ct, Madison. Purchase select plants from the Extension Office Teaching Gardens and MGVs personal gardens. Contact: Lisa Johnson (608) 224-3715 johnson.lisa@countyofdane.com

May 21, Ornamental Container Gardens Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 6:30-8:30 pm, Madison. Containers are a fabulous way to dress up your patio, deck, or balcony. Olbrich's Director of Horticulture Jeff Epping and Horticulturist Samara Eisner will guide you on how to plant containers with overflowing beauty. You will go home with one finished ornamental container with plants appropriate for the lighting conditions you indicate. Upon registration, please indicate whether you prefer sun or shade plants. All materials supplied. \$82 (\$66 members). For more information contact Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Madison, phone (608) 246-4550, www.olbrich.org.

May 25, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, MG Plant Sale Fond du Lac, WI The Fond du Lac Co. MGA at UW-FDL, 400 University Dr., Fond du Lac. For more information contact <http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener>

Saturday, May 25, WHPS Buying Spree to Song Sparrow Nursery, 9:00-11:30 am (see page 2 for map & info)



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May 25, 9:00 am-4:00 pm, Herb Fair and Plant Sale Hales Corners, WI. The Herb Society of America-Wisconsin Unit annual event from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Local artisans and plant nurseries will sell herb-related products, including thousands of herbs plants, soaps, dried herbs, medicinals, teas, essential oils, jewelry, ceramics. Educational sessions include Melinda Myers, horticulturist and author, on the Care and Use of Elderberry. She will have books for sale and book signing. Melinda's two-hour workshop is \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Bartolotta's Catering offers their popular Culinary Workshop, creating a gourmet herbal dish. Workshop is \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door (includes admission to gardens also!). Nino Ridgway, HSA-WI member and owner of Herbs & Everlastings Nursery (*and WHPS member*) will speak on Popular **Culinary Herbs: Tips for Growing and Using Your Favorite Herbs**. Admission is \$5 at the door. Entry to the Herb Fair, parking, and most events are free. At Boerner Botanic Gardens, 9400 Boerner Dr, Hales Corners, WI. For more information, visit the Herb Society's Herb Fair website or call (414) 761-0020.

Saturday, June 1, 9:00 am-1:00 pm, Daylily Society of SE Wisconsin Daylily Plant Sale, rain or shine, west parking lot of the Unitarian Universalist Church, 13001 W. North Ave., Brookfield, WI. Over 150 cultivars in all prices, colors and sizes. View sale plants at <http://www.dssew.org> Sales benefit Boerner Botanical Gardens, other public gardens and or club activities. Contact: Ted Haasch 414-425-7465 or thaasch@wi.rr.com

Sunday, June 2, 10:00 am-2:00 pm (or while supplies last) Hosta Sale, Wisconsin Hosta Society, Olbrich Gardens. Pick up some interesting hostas to add to your collection. For more information call 608-835-3291.

Sunday, June 2, noon-5:00 pm, Iris Show, Olbrich Gardens Cut irises in a rainbow of colors will be on display in the Ejue continued on next page

2013 Calendar of Events (continued from previous page)
Commons. Sponsored by the Madison Area Iris Society. For more information call 608-271-3607.

Sunday, June 2, American Conifer Society, Iowa Conifer Rendezvous, Bickelhaupt Arboretum and private gardens Clinton, Iowa, For more information contact: Gary Whittenbaugh, framara@mchsi.com

June 13-15, 2013 American Hosta Society National Convention, Milwaukee. National convention with speakers, garden tours, vendors, auction and leaf show. The hosta show, vending and auction are open to the public at no charge (no registration needed). \$139 by May 15 (\$189 after). For more information visit: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/>

Saturday, June 15, 5:00-10:00 pm, Rhapsody in Bloom, Olbrich Gardens. Dine and drift through gorgeous summer gardens at Olbrich Botanical Gardens' Rhapsody in Bloom Benefit Gala. Mingle with friends throughout the lush summer gardens, then enjoy dinner under elegant white tents at Madison's largest garden party. For ticket information and reservations call 608-246-5616.

Sunday, June 16, Noon-4:00 pm, Rose Show, Olbrich Gardens The Madison Rose Society hosts this indoor exhibit of cut roses and arrangements in all sizes and colors. Members of the Rose Society will be available to answer questions. Stroll through Olbrich's two acre Rose Garden. For more information call 608-634-2146. Free and open to the public.

Tuesday, June 18, WHPS Garden Tour, Nakoma (more info/directions in June WHPS Newsletter).

June 19, Current Garden Problems and How to Treat Them, Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville, WI. UWEX Horticulture Educator, Barbara Larson will highlight the most current garden problems in Southern Wisconsin and discuss ways to treat them in this class from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.. Bring in a sample from your own yard and Larson will help to diagnose the plant problem and offer tips to treat and/or avoid future problems. For specifics on how to collect a sample for diagnosis, please check: <http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/pddc/generalcollection.html>. \$7 (\$5 members). For more information or to register contact Kris Koch at (608) 752-3885 ext. 17.

June 21-23, American Conifer Society, Central Region Meeting, Schaumburg IL, Check their website for more information: www.conifersociety.org

Thursday, July 11, WHPS GARDEN TOUR off Mineral Point Road, Verona (more info/directions in June WHPS newsletter).

Friday, July 12 (10:00 am-4:00 pm) & Saturday, July 13 (9:00 am-3:00 pm) Home Garden Tour: Featuring Olbrich's Neighbors. Tour exceptional gardens in the neighborhoods around Olbrich Botanical Gardens. Linger in each of these gardens, talk with homeowners, see how other home gardeners use innovative landscape designs and get great ideas for your own garden. Tickets are \$12 for Olbrich members and \$14 for the general public.

Friday, July 12 & Sunday, July 14, 9:00 am-5:00 pm, Iris Sale, Olbrich Gardens The Madison Area Iris Society sponsors this sale of iris rhizomes, the roots that grow into iris plants. For more information call 608-271-3607.

July 12-13, Garden Parade Stevens Point, WI. The Portage Co. MGA is organizing their 16th annual tour through Portage County gardens. Entertainment, flower container raffles and education add to the program. "Art bloom" will also be back. Local artists display their work, and floral designs inspired by the art are created by amateur and professional arrangers including

MGVs and a local 4-H Club. For more information contact Lynn Caine dijed@charter.net, 715-344-1564.

July 13, Garden Walk Manitowoc, WI. Manitowoc Co. MGA, bi-annual event featuring nine gardens. For more information contact Judy Lango, 920-682-2824.

July 17-August 11 Olbrich's Blooming Butterflies, 10:00 am-4:00 pm daily. Cost \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 3-12, free for children 2 and under, and free for Olbrich Botanical Society members.

Thursday, July 25, WHPS Garden Tour, Oregon (more info/directions in June WHPS newsletter).

July 27, 2013 Walk About the Hoard Museum Gardens Fort Atkinson. Join Jefferson Co. MGvs for a guided walk through the Museum's five gardens: perennial garden, rain garden, intersectional peony garden, entry garden and herb garden, 2:00-3:30 pm. Free. Hoard Historical Museum, 401 Whitewater Ave, For more information call 920-563-7769.

Saturday, August 17 (10:00 am-4:00 pm) & Sunday, August 18, (11:00 a.m-3:00 pm Daylily Sale, Olbrich Gardens. For more information contact the Wisconsin Daylily Society at 608-221-1933.

Saturday, August 17 (10:00 am-5:00 pm) & Sunday, August 18 (9:00 am-4:00 pm) Dahlia Show, Olbrich Gardens . Sponsored by the Badger State Dahlia Society. For more information call 608-577-1924.

Sunday, September 22, WHPS PLANT EXCHANGE, 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Allen Centennial Gardens. Bring plant(s); get plant(s)!

Friday, October 4, 7:00-10:00 pm, Crackle – Fire & Froth, Olbrich Gardens. Watch the flames from bonfires dance on the Great Lawn, groove to live music, savor a variety of tasty foods from Food Fight restaurants, and sip frothy Wisconsin brews. Tickets are \$20 for Olbrich members and \$25 for the general public. A limited number of advance tickets are available. Food and beverages are an additional cost above ticket price. In case of inclement weather, CRACKLE will be held indoors.

Saturday, October 12 (noon-5:00 pm) & Sunday, October 13 (10:00 am-4:00 pm) African Violet Show and Sale, Olbrich Gardens. Sale will include African violets, streptocarpus, and other gesneriads. Leaves, starter plants, soil, pots, handouts with growing tips 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.

Saturday, November 2, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Herb Fair, Olbrich Gardens. Hear about herbs from speakers and vendors, purchase herbal products, make & take projects, demonstrations, Q & A station. Free! Sponsored by the Madison Herb Society. Visit www.madisonherbsociety.org.

Saturday, December 7-Monday, December 31, 10:00 am-4:00 pm daily Olbrich's Holiday Express: Flower and Model Train Show Twinkling lights, festive poinsettias, tiny landscapes, and large-scale model trains: all aboard for Olbrich's Holiday Express! Using large-scale model trains, Olbrich's horticulture staff will showcase miniature landscapes among hundreds of colorful poinsettias. Members of the Wisconsin Garden Railway Society come from all over the state to show off their large-scale model trains. 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. Admission to the tropical Bolz Conservatory is included.

2013 UW-Arboretum Walks

A plethora of free, informational tours of Longenecker Horticultural Gardens and the Native Plant Gardens that surround the Visitor Center are led by experts April through August on Wednesday evenings from 7 p.m. until dark, and in the fall on Saturday afternoons from 1-3 p.m.

— **WALK** - Sunday, April 14 • 1 pm–2:30 pm - We will look for Pasque flowers, the earliest spring wildflower on the prairie, and early woodland wildflowers.

— **WALK - Woodland Wildflowers** - Sunday, April 21 • 1 pm–2:30 pm - The earliest spring wildflowers could be blooming in our restored woodlands. We will look for hepatica, bloodroot and toothwort, and the pollinators that visit them.

— **Native Plant Garden Tour: Early Signs of Spring** - Wednesday, April 24 • 7 pm–9 pm - Wednesday 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.

— **WALK - Woodland Wildflowers** - Sunday, April 28 • 1 pm–2:30 pm - Sunday As spring progresses, more flowers emerge. Look for windflower, trout lily, rue anemone and Virginia bluebells along the trails of our restored woodlands.

— **WALK - Oak Openings and Restored Prairies of the Grady Tract** - Sunday, May 5 • 1 pm–3 pm - Free naturalist-led hike to look for wildflowers. Meet at the parking lot at the SE corner of the Beltline and Seminole Highway.

— **GARDEN TOUR - Longenecker Horticultural Gardens**

Tour: Flowering Crabapples and Lilacs - Wednesday, May 8 • 7 pm–8:30 pm - 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.

— **SPECIAL EVENT** - Sunday, May 12 • 1 pm–3 pm - **Free narrated tours aboard the Badger Trolley** begin at the Visitor Center at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. No fee: sponsored by the Friends of the Arboretum

— **GARDEN TOUR - Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: Azaleas and Rhododendrons** - Wednesday, May 15 • 7 pm–8:30 pm - On this tour, Dr. Hasselkus will discuss growing and caring for azaleas and rhododendrons in the Madison area.

— **SPECIAL EVENT** - Sunday, May 19 • 1 pm–3 pm - **Free narrated tours aboard the Badger Trolley** begin at the Visitor Center. FOA sponsored

— **GARDEN TOUR - Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: Small Ornamental Trees** - Wednesday, May 22 • 7 pm–8:30 pm - Ed Lyon, Director of Allen Centennial Gardens, will highlight some of the Arboretum's interesting, and unusual, ornamental small trees.

— **SPECIAL EVENT - Night Walk: Sunset Serenade** - Saturday, May 25 • 8 pm–9:30 pm Free naturalist-led hike to take in the sights and sounds of a late spring evening. The sun will set at 8:30, followed by an hour of twilight time in woods or prairie. Meet on Visitor Center steps.

— **GARDEN TOUR - Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: Conifers** - Wednesday, May 29 • 7 pm–8:30 pm - If you are confused about telling a spruce from a fir, join Dr. Hasselkus on a walk through the Garden's spectacular conifer collection. On this tour you will learn about "garden-sized" conifers of many types.

— **GARDEN TOUR - Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: Shade Trees** - Wednesday, June 5 • 7 pm–8:30 pm - 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.

— **GARDEN TOUR - Native Plant Garden Tour: Woodland, Savanna and Prairie Gardens** - Wednesday, June 12 • 7 pm–8:30 pm - Celebrate the beginning of summer by visiting our woodland, savanna and prairie gardens, with an overview of the Wisconsin Native Plant Garden.

— **GARDEN TOUR - Native Plant Garden Tour: What's Blooming?** - Wednesday, June 19 • 7 pm–8:30 pm - Find, compare and learn about flowers on native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants, and see what's blooming in our collection of plants native to southern Wisconsin.

— **GARDEN TOUR - Native Plant Garden Tour: Native Gardens for Pollinators** - Wednesday, July 17 • 7 pm–8:30 pm Tour features many summer-blooming species in our diverse native plant garden and highlight plants and gardening practices that support essential pollinators in urban/suburban landscapes.

— **GARDEN TOUR - Native Plant Garden Tour: Native Grasses** - Wednesday, August 14 • 7 pm–8:30 pm In this summer tour, we will take a closer look at color, size and features of native grasses, from tiny mustache grass to big bluestem

— **GARDEN TOUR - Native Plant Garden Tour: Fall in the Native Plant Garden** - Saturday, September 21 • 1 pm–3 pm Color, fruits, seeds, late blooming plants, late-season insects—find these and more in the varied native plant gardens around the Visitor Center.

— **GARDEN TOUR - Longenecker Horticultural Gardens Tour: Featuring Fall** - Saturday, October 12 • 1 pm–3 pm - Don't miss the lovely range of fall color in our woody plant collection. Leaves, fruits and form will be highlighted in this tour, led by Laura Wyatt, WDNR Urban Forestry.

Friends of the UW-Madison Arboretum



Saturday, May 11 • 9 am - 2 pm

UW-Madison Arboretum
1207 Seminole Hwy

- 100+ species of woodland and prairie plants & ferns
- Propagated plants—not dug from the wild
- Information on plant care with each species
- Experts on hand to answer your questions
- Proceeds benefit Arboretum projects



Call 608.263.7760 for information or go to: uwarboretum.org/foa
Open to the public – discount for Friends members

TELL YOUR FRIENDS!
Spread the word!



Plant Sale

Saturday, May 18, 2013
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? <http://www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.com/>

Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society



April 2013
Newsletter

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

President Frank Greer, 608-233-4686, frgreer@sbcglobal.net
Vice President—Jane Gahlman, 608-837-2317,
jmgahlman@hotmail.com, Seed Exchange Coordinator
Secretary—John Cannon, jtcannon@wisc.edu, Trip Committee
Treasurer—Diane Scharkey, dscharkey@aol.com
Lynn Belanger, 608-215-9127, lynnbelanger7300@gmail.com
Linda Brazill, 608-278-1587, lbrazill@gmail.com
Jeannette Golden, 608-767-3736, jgolden4142@gmail.com,
Plant Sale Volunteer Coordinator
Ed Hasselkus, erhassel@wisc.edu
Cindy Hoffland, 608-233-8083, hofflc@chorus.net, Webmaster
Jane LaFlash, jlafash@wisc.edu, Membership Coordinator
and Trip and Tour Co-Coordinator
Edward Lyon, 608-658-3456, eslyon@wisc.edu, Program
Coordinator and Trip and Tour Co-Coordinator
Terri Maliszewski-Kane, 608-513-4189, terrimk1@hotmail.com,
Olbrich Liaison
Linda Marx, 608-249-7717, ljmarx@chorus.net, Plant Dig Coordinator
Stephanie O'Neal, 608-256-6108, sone2@aol.com,
Publications and Plant Sale Coordinator
Eleanor Rodini, 608-257-2984, erodini@library.wisc.edu,
WHPS Garden Expo Display Coordinator
Conrad Wrzesinski, 608-231-3279, conradw@charter.net

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

• • • • • Member news, tips, etc. • • • • •

Member Heritage Flower Farm in the News

—An article written by Betty Adelman entitled *Laugh at the Drought - a Dozen for Drought*, will be published in the March-April issues of the Midwest State-by-State magazines, Wisconsin, Indiana, Minnesota and Michigan.

—Heritage Flower Farm received a **Garden Watchdog Top 5 Award** from the Website Dave's Garden for 2013.

Straw Bale Gardening?

In a recent article in the *New York Times* — http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/21/garden/grasping-at-straw-a-fool-proof-vegetable-plot.html?pagewanted=2&_r=1&smid=fb-share—Author Joel Karsten (**Straw Bale Gardens**) discussed this new style of container gardening, in which a straw bale, fertilizer and water can create a raised container garden anywhere: on concrete in an urban landscape, in the middle of the yard, on a deck, on a sunny stoop. The bale will decompose and create a healthy growing medium for tomatoes, beans, broccoli, annuals—the possibilities seem endless.

Maybe I'll stop by my local garden retailer and see about a bale of straw...

—Stephanie O'Neal

A Gardener Extraordinaire

Keith Anderson, gardener extraordinaire and long-time member of WHPS, died of cancer January 16, 2013, in Rochester, NY. He and his wife Elaine moved there five years ago so they could live closer to their two daughters who are both in Rochester.

Keith gardened on the near west side of Madison in a mostly shaded yard. He had a wonderful way of putting colors together. It seemed everything he planted grew with gusto. He was also a craftsman and artist who made large and small wooden furniture pieces and then painted them in the Norwegian rosemaling tradition.

Keith and Elaine traveled with the WHPS to England several years. They hosted a traditional English High Tea in their garden after one of the trips.

There will be a memorial service for friends in the Madison area on Sunday June 2, 2013 at the home of Keith's sister, Marlene LaFleur, 3440 Meadow Road, Verona WI. A time will be announced later.

— Peg Luby

Visit our website: <http://www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.com>