

Wisconsin Handy Plant Society

Perennial Notes

June 2008

I used to love my garden, but now my love is dead. I found a Bachelor's Button in Black-eyed Susan's bed.
—Quote on stone plaque in Brookgreen Gardens, South Carolina.

WHPS COMING EVENTS!

Tuesday, June 17, SPECIAL SUMMER PROGRAM.Dan Heims, noted garden author and president of Terra Nova Nurseries, will present *New Perennials From Around the World.* SEE ARTICLE BELOW.

WHPS SUMMER TOURS OF MEMBER GARDENS Wednesday, June 18, Westport/Middleton Wednesday, June 25, Madison's near east side See insert in this newsletter for full information and directions.

July 26, WHPS one-day trip to Foxfire Botanical Garden in Marshfield. Information and a registration form will be sent to members in a separate flyer in mid June.

Wednesday, August 20, 2008 Evening Potluck at Olbrich Gardens.

September 13, *WHPS one-day trip to Chicago Botanic Garden and Mettawa Manor.* Information and a registration form will be sent to members in a separate flyer in mid June.

Wednesday, September 17, 2008, Laura Jull, Ph.D., Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison Dept. of Horticulture and Extension Services, will discuss her Favorite Woody Plants.

Saturday, September 20, 2008, *Member Plant Exchange* at the home of Jan Minardi on the Southwest side at 6310 Putnam Road. <u>Directions via Verona Road</u>:

turn west on Williamsburg Way (M&I time & temp sign). In about one mile, at Prairie Road, Williamsburg becomes Putnam Road. The Minardis are at the next corner, where Sara Road tees in. <u>Directions via Whitney Way</u>: Take Whitney south until it tees into Williamsburg Way. Turn right...(same as above). Directions via McKenna: Take McKenna south of Raymond Road to an intersection that is Canterbury Road to the right and Putnam to the left. Turn left go up over the hill about half a mile to the corner of Putnam and Sara Road.

Wednesday, October 15, 2008, My Improbable Garden, with speaker Ellen Horning, proprietor of Seneca Hills Nursery in Oswego, NY.

October 18, 2008, 1:00 PM - Longenecker Gardens Tour. In appreciation for the donations WHPS has given over the years to Longenecker Horticultural Gardens, Emeritus Professor of Horticulture Ed Hasselkus will give us a tour of the garden. Ed has been the curator of this garden for 42 years. We'll meet on the steps of the Visitor's Center.

Wednesday, November 19, 2008, The Low Maintenance Roses of William J. (Bill) Radler.

Tuesday, December 9, Annual Meeting, Seed Exchange and Member Potpourri.

Special June Meeting with Dan Heims!

Tuesday, June 17, 2008. 7:00 p.m. (6:30 social time). Dan Heims of Terra Nova Nursery will present *Perennials From Around the World*. Dan will discuss how new plants are found and will take us on a whirlwind tour of ten horticultural countries (Japan, China, Germany, Tasmania, Australia, U.S., Holland, England, Ireland & New Zealand). Terra Nova Nursery produces a large amount of the new plant materials you are probably buying or ogling in the catalogs! For more about Terra Nova Nursery and Dan Heims, go to: http://www.terranovanurseries.com/wholesale/modules.php?name=Content&pa=showpage&pid=463

Location: Monona Community Center, 1011 Nichols Rd

<u>Directions</u>: Turn West off Monona Drive at Nichols Rd. (which becomes Pflaum Rd on the other side of Monona Dr). There is a stoplight there with a Walgreens on one side and MG School District Office on the other. After turning onto Nichols, continue 8-9 blocks. The Community Center is on the right, past the City Hall and the library.

Put the garden on hold for one night and join us for this rare summer program with one of today's great plantspersons.

Plant Sales, Garden Tours and Trips 2008

Saturday, June 14, 2nd annual Secret Gardens Tour of 10 lovely gardens. Benefit for Beaver Dam Art Association in Beaver Dam, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Tickets on sale May 1 through June 14 at The Seippel Center For The Arts, 1605 N. Spring St. Advanced sale tickets-\$10.00, day of the tour for \$12.00. Mail checks to "The Secret Garden Tour" C/O Seippel Center For The Arts, P.O Box 442, Beaver Dam, WI 53916 Tickets can be picked up the day of the tour or anytime the Center is open (Thursday 1:00-7:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m..

Sunday, June 15, 10:00 a.m.–3:30 p.m. **Madison Rose Society Educational Exhibit.**, indoor exhibit of cut roses and arrangements in all sizes and colors. Stroll through Olbrich's two acre Rose Garden. For more information call 608-845-6063. Free.

Wednesday, June 18, WHPS Tour of Member Gardens. Westport/Middleton. More info in June newsletter.

June 20-22 Rotary Gardens Minneapolis Bus Tour, Trip led by Ed Lyon and Mark Dwyer.. Plenty of behind-thescenes and plant buying opportunities! Enjoy the recently renovated (\$50 million) Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Other locations: Bailey Nurseries, Shades of Green, Squire House Gardens, Funkie Gardens. Rotary Gardens Member \$295, Public \$345. www.rotarygardens.org.

Saturday, June 21, Country Gardens Self-Guided Tour for Shake Rag Alley Center for the Arts in Mineral Point. \$10. www.shakeragalley.com/pages/events/garden-tour.html.

Saturday, June 21-Sunday, June 22 Summer Solstice Garden Tour 2008, benefit for the Waukesha Symphony Orchestra League featuring eight gardens in and around the City of Waukesha. Advanced tickets \$12.00; at the Garden Tour \$15.00. For further information call the Waukesha Symphony office at 262-547-1858, or go to www.waukeshasymphony.org

Monday, June 23, Attic Angels Home Garden Tour, in Monona area this year. \$16 Advance Tickets, \$18 at the door Buy tickets online at www.atticangels.org, or call 608-662-8900.

Wednesday, June 25, WHPS Tour of Member Gardens. Madison's near East side. More info in June newsletter.

Friday, July 11 (10:00 a.m-4:00 p.m.) and Saturday, July 12 (9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.), Olbrich Botanical Garden's Home Garden Tour. Rain or shine. Visit eight private gardens in Maple Bluff. Advance Tickets \$10.00/members, \$12.00/ general public available at Olbrich's greeter desk.

Friday, July 11 and Saturday, July 12. Poynette Garden Tour/Arts & Crafts Fair. Garden tour 4:00-8:00 p.m. Friday, 9 a..m.-4:00 p.m. Sunday.

July 26, WHPS one-day trip to Foxfire Botanical Garden in Marshfield. Information and a registration form will be sent to members soon.

July 29-August 7 Trip-Famed English Gardens: Inspiring & Dreamy Landscapes. 10 days and 9 nights visiting gardens from the Cotswolds to London--some of England's most memorable gardens. Sponsored by the Gateway College Horticultural Students and Gateway Alumni Association. For more information on the trip see www.latitudeworldtours.com/gateway.

Saturday, August 2 and Sunday, August 3, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

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 contact Rosemary Kleinheinz at 608-221-1933.

Saturday, August 16 (10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.) and **Sunday, August 17** (11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) **Daylily Sale**. The Wisconsin Daylily Society sponsors this sale of colorful, easy to grow plants. For more information call 608-837-2317.

The Perennial Plant Association is sponsoring a two-day Perennial Symposium in Madison, Wisconsin, August 22-23, 2008. Six speakers on August 22 will share their expertise on a variety of woody and herbaceous perennials. Topics range from the best perennials for northern gardens, an organic approach to perennial gardening, ornamental grasses, and perennial maintenance. Information may be found at http://www.perennialplant.org/ or by contacting the Perennial Plant Association (614)771-8431, or email at ppa@perennialplant.org.

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Now in Bookstores

Wisconsin Gardens and Landscapes, featuring 125 or so of the state's public and not-so-public gardens is now available in your favorite bookstore or gift shop.

The 235-page book by Mary Lou Santovec features color photos, lists of labyrinths, garden clubs, Master Gardener groups, and specialty gardens. Each of the featured sites includes a description, contact information, directions and fees/hours, if applicable.

The book is now available from Trails Books (www.trailsbooks.com) or by calling 800/258-5830.

• • • • • Another Great Plant Sale! • • • • •

The WHPS May 17 Plant Sale was a great success! Most of the plants sold within the first hour and a half, and the plants contributed this year by members looked particularly strong and healthy. The Board will present recommendations for contributions to be made from the Plant Sale proceeds to the membership at the Annual Meeting in December.

In the meantime, there are a great many people to thank for making the plant sale the success it was. First and foremost, Bill Hoernke and Jeannette Golden must be thanked. Bill did another great job this year coordinating the digs and the volunteers for the digs. And Jeannette coordinated the volunteers for the set up the day before the sale and the day of the sale. She also supervised the set up of the plants and pricing the day before. These two really made the sale happen this year, so thank them in person when you see them! And Laurie Zimmerman once again ran an organized and smooth-flowing checkout—very little waiting despite the crowds in the first hour and a half! And thank you Linda Armas for making the arrangements for use of the gym again this year.

So many members contributed plants this year. In addition to our dig hosts—Tom Cottington, Linda Dauck, Jeannette Golden, Ed Hasselkus, Jane LaFlash, Peg Luby, Stephanie O'Neal, Mary Polancih and Nancy Ragland—plants were also contributed by Jean Bawden, Lee Bjerke, Barbara Borders, Norma Briggs, Ruth Cadoret, Gene Dewey, Rita Dupuis, Cindy Hoffland, Carol Olsen, Pat Sturdevant and Conrad Wrzesinski.

And then there are the wonderful volunteers from our membership who worked the digs, the day before and the day of the sale. I hope I have not left anyone out—each and every one of you helped to make the sale the success it was—THANK YOU!

—Stephanie O'Neal, Plant Sale Coordinator

Kay Allen Jane LaFlash Marlette Larson Lois Anderson Linda Armas Joan Lawrence Sherri Baldwin Merry Lehner Aleta Barmore Nancy Mohs Stephanie Bloomquist Agate Nesaule Mary Polancih Barbara Borders Norma Briggs Marlene Richard Donna Burgette Jane Rouleau Ruth Cadoret Diane Scharkey Marie Cadv Mary Jo Schiavoni Ray Sherman John Cannon Judy Crandall Jen Simpson **Nell Cummings** Georgene Stratman Julie Fitzpatrick Pat Sturdevant Susan Francis Mary Trewartha Frank Greer Shawn Trinko Shirley Haidinger Pat Tuchscherer Ed Hasselkus Margaret Welke Kathy Haupert Julie Whitehorse Mary Hegge Chris Wooddell Joan Heitman Martha Worcester Ellen Henningson Laurie Zimmerman Christl Iausly Tesha Zimmerman

A favorite plant for shade

A few years ago I was visiting Frank Greer's garden and he pulled out and gave to me a handfull of a beautiful sedum that was growing everywhere in his shade garden. That small handfull of *Sedum ternatum* is now one of the stars of my own shade garden and has formed a weedstifling mat along my paths that never wavers from spring through fall. The books say it prefers moist soil, but it's doing great in my dry soil in partial shade. I love the shiny succulent dark green leaves so much that the white starry blooms in April/May are just a bonus! If you don't try it before then, look for it at next year's plant sale—I'm sure I'll have a few pots to contribute again next year!

A favorite shrub for shade or sun

Variegated five-leaf aralia (*Acanthopanax sieboldianus variegatum*—quite a mouthful) is a fabulous plant for sun or shade. I bought a small one five years ago at the Olbrich plant sale and planted it in full sun in my front yard. It is now over four feet tall and I trim it to keep it that size (it takes very well to pruning), as it is tucked in between my bayberry and Camelot crabapple. The variegated foilage sparkles a bright yellow and white and does not fade in the the sun. Having read that it does equally well in shade without losing its variegation, I bought two additional plants last year and they are doing great in my dry shade garden. They grow a little slower in the shade and the color is a more contrasted green and white than the sun grower. Yes it has thorns but so does my favorite rose. This is a great addition to any garden!

-Stephanie O'Neal

Awakenings to Spring

Spring bursts into being with a joyous sound. It comes into my heart with a joy that abounds. I feel myself awakening s the spring rains fall. And the earth comes forth from the dormant stall.

My excitement grows as I discover little green heads, Peeking and poking out of their sleepy winter beds. I know God is renewing His wonders for all to see, Why do I feel he has done it just for me?

To see, feel, and wtiness the awakening of spring, My awareness brings me to the most significant thing. The betrayal, Christ suffering, and his death on the cross How can I ease this terrible sense of loss?

I go to my garden and watch it come alive. My spirits lift and I know He did survive. He lives in my heart as I treasure these things. God awakens my spirit with the wonders of spring.

-Marlene Richard

Member News, Tips etc.

Proven Perennials

At the April meeting, Richard Hawke, Plant Evalulation Manager at the Chicago Botanic Garden, reviewed the process of conducting a plant evaluation and presented some of the perennials that have been through the process and are published in Plant Evaluation Notes. For more information about these plant evaluations and to view a list of Evaluation Notes that have been published, go to http://www.chicagobotanic.org/research/staff/hawke.php

WHPS t-shirts still available



You may have seen our t-shirts modeled by member volunteers at the Plant Sale in May. WHPS t-shirts are still available for \$10 each. (We're out of small.) If you'd like to order a t-shirt, contact Jane Gahlman at jmgahlman@hotmail.com (or call her at 608-837-2317 and leave a message).

Taking pictures of your garden?

Don't forget to take pictures of your garden throughout the season. We'd love to have you show 10-20 photos of your garden at our member potpourri at the December meeting.

Newsletter online?

WHPS is considering offering the newsletter via email to those who have email addresses. If you have a comment or opinion to offer on this possibility, please email Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com.

Send us a tip/write an article

Members are encouraged to submit articles or tips for publication in the newsletter. If you've something garden-related—a poem you've written, a photo you've taken that will duplicate well in black and white, or if you have a few paragraphs to offer on a favorite plant, plant combination, garden you've toured or trip you've taken—send it to sone2@aol.com, or mail it to Stephanie O'Neal, 1850 Baird Street, Madison, WI 53713.

WHPS Web site: www.madison.com/communities/wisconsinhardyplantsociety/



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