



# Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society

## Perennial Notes

July 2004

We now have a Web site!  
<http://www.madison.com/communities/wisconsinhardyplantsociety/>

### COMING EVENTS!

**July Garden Tours**—Full tour info on page 2 of this newsletter.

- July 14, Schumann Drive in Fitchburg
- July 28, Blackhawk neighborhood

**August 18, 7:00 p.m. Potluck Supper** at Olbrich Gardens Commons and tour of the gardens. Bring a favorite dish to share, along with your own plate and utensils. Coffee and lemonade provided. **PLEASE NOTE DATE AND TIME—Next newsletter will NOT arrive until after this date has passed.**

**September 10-12, Door County Gardens and Nurseries.** (Look for trip flyer to be mailed to members in late July).

**Saturday, September 18—WHPS Plant Exchange 10:30-Noon** at Stephanie O'Neal's, 1850 Baird Street, Madison. From the Beltline, take Park Street toward Madison. Just past Buick Street, Beld Street curves off to the right. Take Beld, then turn right on Bram and left on Baird. It's the first little white house on the left. Bring plants that need thinning or dividing, plants you bought and never found a place for, this year's seed-grown plants that are "extra," and annuals to take cuttings from. Bring donations between 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. for labeling and setup. At 10:30 a.m. the selection of plants will begin (ending at noon). You can also take a stroll through the garden.

**September 15,** Olbrich Gardens Commons, 7:00 p.m. (social hour 6:30-7:00). Program to be announced.

**October 20,** Olbrich Gardens Commons, 7:00 p.m. (social hour 6:30-7:00) **Member Potpourri & Annual Business Meeting.** Don't forget to take slides of your garden to bring (10-15 slides) to the Potpourri.

**November 17,** Olbrich Gardens, 7:00 p.m. (Seed Exchange and social hour 6:30-7:00). **Guest speaker will be Bill Thomas, Executive Director, Chanticleer Garden in Wayne, PA.**

**December 1,** Olbrich Gardens, 7:00 p.m. (social hour 6:30-7:00). **Guest speaker Mike Yanny of Johnson's Nursery in Menomonee Falls will discuss new plant introductions.**



**And coming up in 2005**  
Trip to Virginia in April 2005

**Next newsletter—end of August**

### Many thanks

So many members to thank for volunteering for this year's Garden Expo in February and for the Plant Sale in May. As you can see by the list on the back page of this newsletter, it takes a great deal of volunteer effort to prepare for these events, and we are grateful to those who participated in this year's Expo and Plant Sale. Although many of you volunteered for more than one activity, a few individuals must be singled out for a special thank you. For the Garden Expo, Jeannette Golden receives special thanks for contributing photos to this year's display. For the Plant Sale there are many special thank yous. We thank Sandy Allen for once again opening the Pet Lodge for our sale. Ruth Cadoret did an outstanding job of coordinating the digs for this year's Plant Sale. Diane Scharkey (bad back and all) and Nell Cummings were particularly helpful in making sure that dig materials (pots, soil, etc.) were delivered to the dig sites AND then helped with the delivery of plants to the sale site AND then helped cleanup after the sale had ended. Rita Thomas is thanked for also helping with cleanup after the sale. And the prize (sorry, no prize, just many thanks) for the volunteers coming the farthest to help goes to Chuck and Pat Bell, who came from northern Illinois to help deliver plants to the sale site. And a very special thanks to all of the volunteers who helped set up for the sale and persevered on a most miserable rainy afternoon and evening. If I have missed anyone, please know that WHPS thanks everyone who volunteered this year. And thanks to those who came to buy—the plant sale was a huge success!

—Stephanie O'Neal

## WHPS Garden Tours

**Wednesday, July 14**

**Garden Tour in Seminole Forest, Fitchburg**

**6:00 PM - dark**

**Directions:** From the Beltline going west, take the Seminole Hwy. exit and turn left onto Seminole Highway. Continue on Seminole past the intersection with PD and turn left on Schumann Dr. (3rd street after PD intersection). From the West Beltline going east, (there is no Seminole exit) exit on Verona Rd. going west towards Verona. Turn left on PD and turn right onto Seminole Highway. Schumann Dr. is the 3rd street on the left. After viewing the Schumann Dr. gardens, turn right on Osmundson and then left on Pembroke.

**5927 Schumann Drive**

Perennials and annuals provide a perfect setting for entertaining or bird watching. Established trees and shrubs act as an extension of the porch. Owner's interest in geology is seen in interesting rock formations found throughout.

**5903 Schumann Drive**

A surprise garden tucked behind a contemporary Bauhaus. Creative use of a small space, nice architecture provides the structure for shrubs and plants.

**5882 Schumann Drive**

The garden began as an English garden done by the resident, who is from Ireland. As the years have gone by and the residents reside in Florida for six months of each year, she has replaced higher maintenance perennials and annuals with shrubs of varying shapes and colors, beginning in the front yard and continuing in the back yard. The white fence around the garden is quite delightful, and the area is designed to attract birds.

**5831 Schumann Drive**

Newly-designed yard of trees, shrubs, water features and dry beds cover the entire yard. Pretty brick footpaths lead the guest through the garden.

**5826 Schumann Drive**

Established shade gardens that manage to include most varieties of perennials and annuals. Plants and shrubs for all seasons. Gardens maintained by owners.

**2830 Osmundson**

Chris Biedermann's garden—woodland and native plants garden

**5806 Pembroke**

Joan Severa's garden—a shade garden full of especially nice understory trees.

**Wednesday, July 28**

**Garden Tour—Blackhawk Neighborhood**

**Middleton**

**6:00 PM - dark**

*The Garden of Jennifer Ondrejka and Tom Rudy*

**8418 Blackwolf Drive, Madison**

Since moving into a new home five years ago, Jennifer and Tom have completely redone the landscaping, adding large perennial borders to the sunny front yard. The back yard features shade gardens and a small water feature. This year, timber steps were built down the hillside to access city-owned ponds and a surrounding prairie, which they and other neighbors help to maintain. After removing invasive buckthorn from their back slope, Jeni and Tom have begun adding native shrubs and wildflowers to create a naturalized garden.

**Directions:** From the west Beltline, exit at Old Sauk Road, turning left. Turn left on Junction Road and then turn right on Blackwolf Drive. Proceed approximately one-half mile; the home and garden will be on the right.

*The Garden of Linda and Phil Grosz*

**4258 Blackstone Court, Middleton**

From a vacant lot in 1997, the Grosz's have created a diverse landscape with prairie, pond and abundant gardens. The yard is surrounded by an acre of prairie, installed by Prairie Nursery using a seed mix of over 30 native wildflowers and grasses tolerant of clay soil. Three years ago a large pond and stream were installed by Wisconsin Pondscares. Linda then planted the naturalized landscape around this area. Over the years the Grosz's have added many plantings, including both ornamental and fruit trees and mixed shrub and perennial borders, as well as a few vegetables and herbs.

**Directions:** From the Ondrejka/Rudy garden, return to Junction Road and turn left. Turn left on to Old Sauk Road and then right on to Pleasant View Road. A short distance past the Blackhawk subdivision, turn left on to Blackhawk Road. Proceed past the golf course approximately one-half mile and turn right on to Blackstone Court. The Grosz home is the second on the right.

*The Garden of Jill and Tim Sherry*

**4189 Rose Court, Middleton**

The Sherry's purchased their private five-acre property in 1989, and without professional help, they have continually transformed the landscape. Ten large perennial beds and a grass garden have been created. After realizing that their property included a native prairie remnant, in 1991 Jill and Tim began restoring this area by adding seed and plant plugs and removing pine trees and nonnative plants. The restored prairie now includes an impressive stand of big bluestem grass. Jill is interested in adding a pond to their property and would welcome any suggestions from other gardeners.

**Directions:** From the Grosz garden, return to Blackhawk Road and turn right. Proceed approximately one-quarter mile and turn right on Rose Court. The garden is at the end of the cul-de-sac, up a long driveway on the left hand side.

### Other events of note

#### Plant Sales

**August 7, Iris Rhizome Sale** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Olbrich Gardens. Sponsored by Madison Area Iris Society. For more information call 608-825-7423.

**August 14 (10 a.m.-5:00 p.m.) and 15 (noon-4 p.m.) Daylily Sale**, Olbrich Gardens. Sponsored by the Wisconsin Daylily Society. For more information, call 608-274-4921.

#### Garden Tours

**July 16 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) and 17 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.), Olbrich Home Garden Tour—Gems of the East Side.** Tickets for Olbrich Botanical Society members are \$8 in advance and \$10 on the day of the tour. General public tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 on the day of the tour. For more info, go to [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org).

## A vegetarian solution for verticillium wilt

It happens all too often that one just has to have a special plant for a specific area in the yard or garden, but once the plant is in place, despite one's best efforts, it simply doesn't thrive, or it just dies. I always wanted a smokebush to set off the corner of my back shrub border and was delighted when I received a small seedling in the mail. The first year, the smokebush did just fine, putting out lots of healthy new stems. But the following June, I arrived home (after a garden tour) to find it completely wilted. Naturally, I first assumed that it was simply in dire need of watering, but when it remained wilted by the following morning, I knew that I had a much more serious issue to deal with.

Getting onto the Internet, I discovered that the most likely problem afflicting the plant was verticillium wilt, and when I called plant pathologist Brian Hudelson, he confirmed that was indeed the likely issue I was facing. Verticillium wilt is caused by a specific fungus—*Verticillium dahliae*—that grows in the vascular system of the afflicted plant, preventing adequate water uptake. Brian told me that I might as well resign myself to losing my smokebush and suggested that I put in something else that would be resistant to the fungus.

But I really wanted to save that smokebush!

So after a bit more sleuthing on the Internet, I discovered an agricultural research article that purported low incidence of verticillium wilt in fields previously planted with broccoli (<http://www.apsnet.org/phyto/search/2000/0126-04r.asp>). With nothing to lose, I went to the store and bought a head of broccoli, which I chopped up and incorporated into the soil all around the smokebush, digging the broccoli bits into the soil and then watering. I did this every week for about a month and could see that the smokebush was miraculously recovering.

It is now four years later and I have a huge thriving smokebush—just what I wanted. I can't promise that this "cure" will work for you, but it's simple, inexpensive and safe, unlike most commercial fungicides.

So if you are ever plagued with verticillium wilt, at least give it a try!

—Margaret Welke

## GRAND OPENING!

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for a small preview  
of trees and prices

(By appointment only)

## YAHARA NURSERY

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Phone: 608-335-2750  
Email: [jkiley@direcway.com](mailto:jkiley@direcway.com)

## Back in print

I just stumbled across an article from your newsletter, *Perennial Notes*, that is posted online. It's an article about visiting Turkey Run State Park, from the April 2003 issue, written by Sandra Allen.

In the article, Allen quotes from a chapter about the park in **Reading the Landscape of America** by May Theilgaard Watts, and compares what was written in the book to what she experienced on a recent visit. Ms. Allen mentions that the book is out of print. I wanted to let her and readers of the article know that we have brought this book back into print, and it is available.

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## A farewell and a welcome

**From immediate past Treasurer Barb Herreid**—*It is with mixed feelings that I say good-bye to you as the WHPS Treasurer. I'm looking forward to retiring in a couple of months, selling our home and moving up to our place on Lake Camelot near Wisconsin Rapids. Finally, I'll be able to devote time to my garden there and hopefully find a way to thwart the deer! The past five years have gone by very quickly and I really cherish the friendships I've made from belonging to WHPS. I will continue to belong and hope to join you on future trips, possibly at some of the monthly meetings and definitely for the annual potluck and brunches! Thank you all for making this job easy for me and for the opportunity to meet so many of you.*

Thank you, Barb, for your exemplary work as treasurer! If you find a way to thwart the deer, let us know.

**Welcome**—To our new Treasurer, Laurie Zimmerman. If you have a membership-related question, please contact Laurie at: PH—608-838-4477; email—[jltszim@chorus.net](mailto:jltszim@chorus.net). Membership renewals and new memberships can be sent to 5108 Leanne Lane, McFarland, WI 53558.

..... **Many Thanks to our volunteers!** .....

**EXPO Thanks:**

Stephanie Bloomquist  
 Judy Crandall  
 Nell Cummings  
 Rita Dupuis  
 Jeff Epping/Olbrich Gardens  
 Jane Gahlman  
 Jeannette Golden  
 Jill Hynum  
 Alaine Johnson  
 Marian Kohler  
 Jane LaFlash  
 Sherry Lloyd  
 Barbara Obst  
 Eleanor Rodini  
 Diane Scharkey  
 Georgene Stratman  
 Bernie & Jim Treichel  
 Dawn-Marie Zimmerman

**Digs:**

Jennifer Allen  
 Bonnie Beer  
 Stephanie Bloomquist  
 Cherith Bruckner  
 John Cannon  
 Martha Coughlin

Judy Crandall  
 Nell Cummings  
 Louise Eberhardt  
 Jeanne Frey  
 Jane Gahlman  
 Jeff Gepner  
 Katie Harriman  
 Bill Hoernke  
 Christa Iausly  
 Sherry Lloyd  
 Diane Lorenz  
 Margaret McEntire  
 Jan Minardi  
 Richard Mueller  
 Janet Newlands  
 Barbara Obst  
 Susan Robertson  
 Ann Ross  
 Diane Scharkey  
 Mary Jo Schiavoni  
 Jan Swartz  
 Mary Jane Smith  
 Rita Thomas  
 Mary Trewartha  
 Shari Voss  
 Laurie Zimmerman

**Dig Hosts:**

Jean Bawden  
 Linda Brazill  
 Cindy Fillingame  
 Terence Gilles  
 Jeannette Golden  
 Frank Greer  
 Ed Hasselkus  
 Erv Koenig  
 Jane LaFlash  
 Peg Luby  
 Lloyd Ravet  
 Joan Severa

**Plant Donors:**

Chris Biedermann  
 Jean Halverson  
 Paula Kaplan  
 Lois Kinlen  
 Conrad and Mary Wrzesinski

**Sale Setup and Day of Sale:**

Kay Allen  
 Lois Anderson  
 Chuck and Pat Bell  
 Chris Biedermann  
 Ruth Cadoret

Heidi Carvin  
 Judy Crandall  
 Linda Dauck  
 Susan Francis  
 Jane Gahlman  
 Frank Greer  
 Gay Gross  
 Linda Grosz  
 Katie Harriman  
 Barb Herreid  
 Kathleen Kane  
 Jane LaFlash  
 Sherry Lloyd  
 Peg Luby  
 Moneen Meuer  
 Jan Minardi  
 Richard Mueller  
 Barbara Obst  
 Annie Porter  
 Susan Robertson  
 Diane Scharkey  
 Carol Schiller  
 Joan Severa  
 Jan Swartz  
 Peggy Sharpe  
 Rita Thomas  
 Kathleen Voit  
 Gail Wood



**Got a garden tip or idea for our members to use in their garden? Contact Stephanie O'Neal at [sone2@aol.com](mailto:sone2@aol.com)**

**Wisconsin Hardy  
 Plant Society**



**July 2004  
 Newsletter  
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 Seed Exchange—Ruth Cadoret, [rcadoret@wisc.edu](mailto:rcadoret@wisc.edu)

**Someone you know interested in joining WHPS?**

Contact WHPS Treasurer Laurie Zimmerman at [jltszim@chorus.net](mailto:jltszim@chorus.net), (608) 838-4477