



Perennial Notes

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society, Inc.

September 2016



Tattered umbrellas in the garden

by Linda Brazill

Some plants form the backbone of our gardens and are never noticed or exclaimed over by visitors. Then there are the plants that elicit "oohs" and "aahs," along with lots of admiring discussion, and finally a request for a nursery name. The plant in my garden that fulfills that starring role is *Syneilesis aconitifolia*. Or "Shredded Umbrella Leaf" as the folks at The Flower Factory in Stoughton call it. At Far Reaches Farm in Port Townsend, WA, they call it "Tattered Umbrella," a description that becomes clear when you see an image of this plant.

In their on-line catalog Far Reaches goes on to say, "Beats the botanical name. A grand foliage plant with silken gray cones of new growth pushing from the earth in spring like improb-

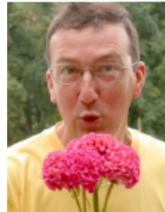
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WHPS coming events!

All regular meetings are at 6:30 pm. social time, 7 pm. program, at Olbrich Gardens Commons, 3330 Atwood Ave., Madison unless otherwise noted.

Sunday, Sept. 18, WHPS Plant Exchange, Olbrich Botanical Gardens next to Children's Garden, 12-12:30 pm. set out plants; 12:30-2 pm. pick your free plants! Come to share plants you have divided or purchased and not used. The exchange includes perennials for sun and shade, woody plants, annuals and even some houseplants. Questions? Contact Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com

Wednesday, Sept. 21, WHPS Program: Nativars – Strangers in a Strange Land with Irvin Etienne, Horticultural Display Coordinator at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. While many native plant species make good garden plants, certainly not all are ideal. Breeders and plant hunters have come up with many cultivars of natives (nativars) that do make excellent garden plants. Sometimes these are simply selections found out in nature and other times they are planned hybrids. Since



these plants are going into ornamental gardens rather than natural areas, their aesthetic qualities become equal to their native heritage. Indeed, sometimes they become strangers in a strange land. In this talk we will look at some of the better selections for the Midwest.

Wednesday, October 19, WHPS Program: What I Learned – Gardening at Great Dixter, with Mark Dwyer, Director of Horticulture, Rotary Gardens in Janesville. Funded by Chanticleer Garden (Wayne, PA), Mark was able to live and work at Great Dixter (garden of Christopher Lloyd) for one month last fall. Mark's experiences included living in the main house, helping in the gardens daily, weekends of travel to other gardens, and three days in London. Mark was able to connect with Fergus Garrett, Head Gardener, and also took over 4,000 photos at Great Dixter. Mark posted daily in his blog (www.rotarygardens.blogspot.com) about his experiences from Sept. 15-Oct. 11, 2015. This presentation will discuss his experiences while "over the pond."



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NEW! FREE WORKSHOPS - New Member-Led Workshops

We are trialing a new program type – casual, demonstration-style workshops led by WHPS members in their own gardens. These workshops offer an opportunity to learn from and converse with fellow gardeners in an intimate setting. Registration for this fall's workshops on plant division, growing and arranging cut flowers, and growing fruit in an urban setting is available now from the WHPS web-

site. The required registration is free, but is limited to WHPS members and is first-come, first-served.

Do you have a specific area of gardening knowledge that you could share at a workshop? Or is there something unique about your garden that you could show to other

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from the WHPS
President
– see p. 2.



Jumping Worms
see p. 6.



Free Workshops
see p. 3.

Message from the President

First things first: Update on 2016 tour of English gardens

Thirty-one hardy souls (27 plus garden visits in 9 days!) from the WHPS experienced a wonderful tour in mid June. The weather was typically English—cool with mostly cloudy skies, peaks of sun and a few brief showers of rain almost every day. This year's tour focused on Hampshire, Dorset and the Cotswolds, that translated into short distances between gardens and relatively little time spent on the coach. We visited the RHS's largest garden, Wisley, outside of London, as well as Hiller's Garden and Nursery near Winchester, probably the largest nursery in the world for trees and woody plants – 8,000 species, 600 genera, 500 UK cham-



Frank Greer

WHPS
President

panion trees. The roses, Kousa dogwoods, and native foxgloves were at their peak as we traversed the back country lanes in search of our gardens. This resulted in many memorable tight squeezes (and a few scrapes) with the coach. There was lots of political signage and discussions about the Brexit vote that occurred a couple of days after our visit ended. There were also visits to a cathedral, the world's only swannery, and a world-class furniture maker (with a garden, of course!) Highlights for me personally included: 1) Athelhampton Gardens, a lovely manor house with immaculate, artistic plantings, complete with a guide who was actually the inspiration for the character of Daisy in Downton Abbey; 2) Chideock Manor, which had been destroyed by Oliver Cromwell's forces in the English civil war, and beautifully restored to its 1920 glory using the ruins of the 17th century manor house. The Italianate manor house even had its own Italianate Catholic chapel attached, which included a museum to memorialize the local Catholic martyrs who had lost their lives in the civil war; 3) a very fortuitous visit to Starvodale Priory, the private garden of Sir Cameron Macintosh (sorry no photos available, nor were we able to take photographs), which included a two-story elephant prop from the movie version of Les Miserables. Hopefully, there will more on our 2016 tour in a future newsletter and a slide show at the January brunch!!

Now for a more earthly and more significant consideration: Jumping worms (*Amyntphas*) and the potential impact on the WHPS

I am sure that the majority of our members are familiar with the jumping worm problem in the Madison area. They are now present in the UW Arboretum, as well as in many Madison gardens. I have been reading about this invasive Asian species for about ten years in gardening magazines, and at least for the past three years, they have been identified in southern Wisconsin gardens, as well as in the Twin Cities area. They are oc-

curring from New England to the Pacific Northwest and up into southern Canada. To see how they get their name see the following YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbS48v2Qc6w> To put this into perspective, it is important to point out that there are no earthworm species native to Wisconsin. The other 20 or so species that have been identified are native to Europe. It is also not clear what impact the jumping worms will have on the home garden, especially one that is not mulched. However, it is thought they have the potential to harm native species in the forest by their ability to consume the litter layer faster than other earthworms in the state. They have now been identified in more than 14 counties in Wisconsin including the Madison area. The DNR has urged gardeners not to share plant material known to come from areas with the jumping worm, and presumably this also applies to nursery stock.

This has been a concern of other local garden groups as well. The Westside Garden Club did not accept donated plants for this spring's sale but purchased all of their plants from a wholesale supplier. This of course comes with a new set of issues. At the time of our plant digs, mostly in April, the presence of the jumping worms is not obvious as they reproduce from tiny cocoons deposited by adults during the previous growing season. Adult worms do not over winter in Wisconsin. Although the adult worms spread slowly, there are no effective ways to date that have been shown to contain their spread, and there is no treatment to eliminate them from the environment.

Needless to say, the board has struggled with this for the last two years. The plant sale is our only significant source of funds outside of our annual dues, and proceeds of our sale are donated to area public gardens that we support as a society. The sale and its preparation are also a very important activity for our group, and allow many members of the society to interact and form friendships with one another. It also helps to identify individuals who will become future contributors and leaders of the society. So, the burning question is, whether or not we should continue our annual sale (as

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New FREE Workshops (continued from p.1)

members? Please contact Emily Buckingham at emilycbuckingham@gmail.com to discuss potentially hosting a future workshop.

Upcoming FREE Workshops – New Offerings from the WHPS

Fall Plant Division on Sept. 10 at 10:00 am. – Watch how gardener Rita Thomas digs, divides, and replants peonies, daylilies, iris, and other plants that can be divided in the fall. This workshop will be held rain or shine, so dress appropriately. In the case of rain, portions of the workshop may be held in the garage. Go to www.eventbrite.com/e/whps-workshop-fall-plant-division-tickets-26884706882

Growing and Arranging Cut Flowers on Sept. 13 at 6:00 pm. – Join Caroline, owner of *Homegrown Flowers*, for this workshop on cut flowers. She will discuss the best bulbs, perennials and woodies for cutting, and how to condition and arrange them.

Go to www.eventbrite.com/e/whps-workshop-growing-and-arranging-cut-flowers-tickets-26957132509

Growing Fruit in an Urban Setting on Sept. 15 at 5:30 pm. – Join Emily for a tour of the fruit she grows in her west-side Madison garden. She will discuss varieties she has tried, pruning and other maintenance, and mistakes you can avoid. Bring your own fruit experiences to share with the group. Go to www.eventbrite.com/e/whps-workshop-growing-fruit-in-an-urban-setting-tickets-26956873735

WHPS receives warm welcome from all of the hosts of the August 13, 2016 Bus Trip to Burlington, Racine, etc.



From the President (continued from p.2)

well as our September Plant Exchange), let alone exchange plants among ourselves in any way? Yikes!! Heady stuff!

For WHPS members' information and benefit, Bernadette Williams from the DNR will be the speaker at our November meeting, and we anticipate some lively discussion. Her article in the DNR magazine is included with this newsletter.

Now a consideration related to our new nonprofit status: Expanding the mission of the society as a nonprofit organization

Somewhat related to jumping worms, our annual sale and our overall financial status is the discussion the board has had on what we might do with our newly attained nonprofit status. Even though we have already been donating the proceeds of our sale to other nonprofit groups (public gardens), we now have the ability to solicit donations to the society for which the donor will be able to declare a tax deduction. The board has been in discussion about what to do with such donated funds, which could be solicited, as is done by many nonprofit groups, including the Oregon Hardy Plant Society, Mid Atlantic Hardy Plant Society, and the UW Arboretum. These could also be donated to honor a loved one, etc. Other

than public gardens, we do get requests to support projects from local grass roots groups, including those from community gardens, organizations such as hospice and the Urban League, various neighborhood associations for beautification projects, and even individual projects from service groups such as Boy Scouts. Thus, the board has been discussing the establishment of a small grants program (\$500 or less) using donations, that would still support the over all mission of the society: to promote the use of herbaceous plants in the landscape. Ideally, any of the requests for funds would be sponsored by a member of the WHPS. It has also been suggested that a priority might be given to projects that involved children and or adolescents, given that the average age of WHPS members is well above 50 years, and this would be with an eye on the future. There, of course, would be an application process and committee formed to review the proposed projects and determine the awards.

Further Discussion

The board would like to promote discussion and responses to the two above issues among our members. If you have any thoughts on these topics, please speak to board members at our meetings

this fall, or email me at frgreer@sbcglobal.net. You are also welcome to leave a comment on our website page to the group at large: www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.org/contact.html

In closing

Finally, totally unrelated to the above thoughts, I would like to announce that I will be relinquishing my position as WHPS president at the December meeting this year. Twenty years is a long time to serve as president, and I never intended to be around this long. We do at present have a very competent group of board members, all of whom are younger, with exciting new ideas and technical skills. Indeed, it has been an honor to be involved with this group, as it expanded from a couple of dozen to over 800 members. I guess we did something right! Hey! This is not a goodbye, as I still plan to remain an active member of the Board for the foreseeable future!

See you at the meetings!

– Frank Greer

WHPS – Coming Events (continued from p.1)

Wednesday, Nov. 16, WHPS Program – Jumping Worms: A discussion of the latest info and approaches, with speaker Bernadette Williams, Invasive Plants and Earthworm Outreach Specialist Madison, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. *Note: in advance of the meeting, see this newsletter's message from President Frank Greer and article co-authored by Williams.*

Dec. 3, Green Bay Holiday Trip – see description/registration info insert.

Wednesday, Dec. 7, WHPS Annual Meeting, Member Potpourri and Seed Exchange. Start saving seeds now to share before and after the meeting (envelopes for sharing will be provided; see our website for article on seed-saving). Have you been taking pictures of your garden and others visited this season? Please think about sharing those photos at our Member Potpourri! Our Annual Meeting this year will include the list of donations proposed and the presentation of our new slate of officers and directors for the next 3-year term. Would you like to serve on the WHPS Board? Please contact Stephanie O'Neal at sone2@aol.com.

Sunday, Jan. 15, 2017, Winter Potluck Brunch, setup of items 9:30; serving at 10:00 am. Olbrich Gardens Commons

Friday-Sunday, Feb. 10-12, 2017 WHPS at the Wisconsin Garden Expo. In addition to the WHPS Booth at the Expo (volunteer opportunities announced soon), WHPS will sponsor a John Cannon & John Fritsch presentation of two shows: the England Garden Tour 2014 and Portland Garden Tour 2015.

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017, New and Exciting Woody and Perennial Introductions from Bailey Nursery, with Debbie Lonnee, Plant Development Manager from Bailey's Nursery in St. Paul, MN, and co-author of *Growing Shrubs and Small Trees in Cold Climates*, will preview the fabulous new introductions for 2017. We will get a sneak peek at some of the exciting varieties being added to the Endless Summer®, First Editions®, Easy Elegance® product lines, and more! Recognized as one of the largest wholesale nurseries in the United States, Bailey Nurseries is a fifth-generation family-owned company serving more than 4,500 customers worldwide.



Wednesday, March 15, 2017, Magnolias for Midwest Gardens, with guest speaker Andrew Bunting, B.S., Assistant Director Chicago Botanic Garden and Director of Plant Collections (will also have a book sale and signing for *A Plant Lover's Guide to Magnolias*). He directs the content and curation of the Garden's permanent plant collection including plant acquisition and collecting, accessioning, mapping, and labeling. An extensive lecturer and author, Bunting is an expert in woody plants and is active in the American Public Gardens Association. Bunting was the curator at the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania for



25 years, and also owned a landscape design and construction business called Fine Garden Creations, Inc.

Wednesday, April 19, 2017 – The Problem with Plant Blindness, with Ben Futa, Director of Allen Centennial Gardens. Explore what it means to have "plant blindness" and how public gardens across North America are presenting unique solutions to combat this phenomenon. As living museums public gardens are in a unique position to engage new audiences with horticulture through cultural experiences that also connect visitors to the objects in our collection, our plants. At the Allen Centennial Garden, we're taking this one step further as we embrace participatory culture – inviting our visitors to contribute something to make everyone's experience more rich and fulfilling. This presentation will explore how public gardens across North America, including the Allen Centennial Garden, are embracing participatory cultural experiences as a mechanism to combat plant blindness.

Saturday, May 20, 2017 – 20th Annual WHPS Plant Sale (setup May 19)

Wednesday, August 16, 2017, WHPS Summer Potluck and Walk through Olbrich Gardens.

Wednesday, September 20, 2017, Preparing for the Golden Years in the Garden, with Kerry Ann Mendez, author of *The Right-Size Flower Garden: Simplify Your Outdoor Space with Smart Design Solutions and Plant Choices.*



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Tattered Umbrellas (continued from p.1)

able fungi and expanding to rounded leaves so deeply incised as to appear shredded. Way cool which is good as the flowers are nicht so gut.”

It's true. This is a dramatic plant, but the drama comes from its deeply divided leaves, which are dinner-plate size. The flowers sway at the top of tall stems with a slight pinkish tint, but more often than not, I cut them off so as not to distract from the foliage. I bought my plant in 2011 from Plant Delights Nursery who said

to expect a decent sized clump as the rhizomes slowly spread to two feet wide in five years.

Also true — except that it's two feet wide where the stems emerge from the ground and a little more than three feet wide at the top where the gorgeous leaves have spread out into an impressive plant. The leaves top out at two feet high, while the flower stems go up another two feet. Most sources say that *Syneilesis* should have light shade, and that's where I planted

mine until the trees that shaded it came down in the winter of 2012-13. Now it's growing in almost full sun and tends to sulk a bit at noon, but it perks up again quickly as the day goes on. It's also growing in a spot with fairly rich, moist and well-drained soil just as the plant requires. Everything I've read says *Syneilesis aconitifolia* is drought tolerant once established and I don't baby it or ever give it extra watering. It is suitable for Zones 4-8.

For such a showy plant, *Syneilesis aconitifolia* is virtually maintenance-free. Its slow but steady growth suggests that it could colonize an area in a large garden if left to its own devices, a perfect characteristic for gardeners like me who are trying to reduce our work load.

Flower Factory sells *Syneilesis aconitifolia* for about \$12, compared to \$16 (plus shipping) at Far Reaches Farm, where they also carry two other versions of this plant: *Syneilesis palmata* and *Syneilesis x hybrid*, which is a cross between *S. aconitifolia* and



S. palmata. I am also growing *S. palmata* 'Kikko' which I got from PDN. Its leaves emerge nicely patterned, but that characteristic fades as the growing season goes along. To my frustration, it then becomes just an expensive background plant without the long-term beauty of *S. aconitifolia*'s leaves.

New Members

The following members have recently joined WHPS – welcome!

Michael Breen
 Abigail & Lynn Christiansen
 Jeanne Endres
 Frank Fitzgerald
 Yvonne Hagen
 Nancy Hoekman
 Madge Klais
 Marge Menacher
 Jenny Meyers
 Sue Okas
 Julie Olson
 Alice Page
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 ID into Mount Horeb to fifth Roundabout; turn South onto 8th street to JG South; JG South for 6 mi. to Perry Center Rd.; turn right onto Perry Center; go to stop sign; turn right; go to brown home; turn left; the studio is the third home on the right. Watch for the flag.

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Jumping worms – There’s a new creepy-crawly in Wisconsin

By Bernadette Williams and
Colleen Robinson Klug

Reprinted with permission from Wisconsin
Natural Resources Magazine, June 2015

In October of 2013, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources discovered a population of jumping worms in Dane County — the first to be identified and reported in the state. Jumping worms belong to the genus *Amyntas* and are also known as “crazy worms” or “Alabama jumpers.”

These worms are a big deal, but to understand them best, we’ll start with a refresher on earthworms in general.

Earthworms in Wisconsin

We don’t have any native worms in Wisconsin. Our native worms were destroyed during the last ice age. That means Wisconsin forests as we know them evolved without earthworms. It’s hard to believe worms are actually an invasive species. Not many people suspect that “nature’s recyclers” have a dark side, but they do.

Historically, the verdict on worms has been in flux. Before Charles Darwin published one of his most popular works, *The Formation of Vegetable Mould through the Action of Worms, with Observations on their Habits* in 1881, worms were viewed as a pest and nuisance. Darwin’s research changed public perception of these remarkable animals, which perhaps has played a role in their inevitable spread.

In Wisconsin, we’ve documented over 20 European species of earthworms in a variety of ecosystems. Researchers have studied their negative impacts on forest regeneration, ground nesting bird populations, and their role in facilitating the spread of terrestrial invasive plants like garlic mustard and buckthorn.

Problems caused by earthworms

Forest floor leaf litter is comparable to the skin on an animal. It retains moisture, protects roots, breathes, prevents erosion, deters pathogens and non-native plants and promotes seed germination. When leaf litter is consumed by earthworms it’s like removing the skin of the forest floor. Disturbance from earthworms exposes the soil and causes erosion, compaction and increased rainwater runoff. This disturbance favors invasive plants, beginning a cycle of non-native invasions com-



peting for critical resources. The result is less diversity of native plants and animals in our forests.

Before October 2013, we knew earthworms were invasive. What we didn’t know was that we had a new worm in the mix in Wisconsin.

Problems caused by jumping worms

All earthworms are invasive and they can cause a lot of problems in places they don’t belong, like Wisconsin’s northern forests. Jumping worms are a concern because they can consume the litter layer faster than any other earthworm in the state. Where jumping worms are present, fallen leaves and topsoil are processed by the worms until the soil becomes granular, dry and looks similar to coffee grounds. We have even observed a decline in European earthworms where jumping worm populations are established. Research is ongoing to better understand why this happens.

We don’t know the full effects jumping worms may have on our native forests, but given what we know about European species it’s not something we want to find out. What we do know is that in Wisconsin, jumping worms appear to be concentrated in urban areas, though they may be hitching a ride to new areas by multiple means.

The scoop on jumping worms in Wisconsin

In 2009, all 51 species in the genus *Amyntas* were listed in Wisconsin’s first *Invasive Species Rule*, (Wis. Admin. Code Ch. NR 40). They were classified as a “Prohibited Species” because we knew enough about their “dark side” to know

we didn’t want them in the state. This law helps prevent the introduction of unwanted species by making it illegal to sell, introduce, transport, possess and propagate them in the state.

Unfortunately, some species make it here anyway.

Jumping worms are native to Southeast Asia.

The worms or cocoons may have been accidentally introduced in a potted plant, nursery stock or soil.

Concerned about the discovery in October 2013, the Department of Natural Resources launched an outreach effort to inform people about jumping worms. The public became actively involved in reporting their presence. During the summer and fall of 2014, DNR staff verified a number of populations in five counties. This surveillance allowed us to gain a better understanding of their spread and the possible ways they are moved from place to place. It also required the department to reassess *Amyntas*’ “Prohibited” classification under NR 40.

With populations established in five counties, jumping worms no longer fit the definition of “Prohibited.” It was recommended they be reclassified as a “Restricted Species” to better limit their unintentional spread. This classification still prohibits the sale, introduction, transport and propagation of jumping worms in the state.

Jumping worm basics

This is no ordinary worm. Jumping worms didn’t get their common name on a whim. They earned it. Their appearance, life cycle, biology and behavior are nothing short of extraordinary, and once you see them you’ll understand why this unusual worm is commonly called the “crazy” or “jumping” worm. When they are disturbed, jumping worms thrash violently, slither like snakes and even jump into the air.

Jumping worms are darker and smoother than other earthworms in Wisconsin. They are relatively easy to identify if you take a look at their clitellum (the band around the body of a worm). The clitellum on a jumping worm is milky white to gray-colored, smooth and completely encircles the body of the worm. In contrast, the clitellum of European earthworms does not

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Other Events of Note

Sept. 2016 – Gleam: Art in a New Light, (Sept. GLEAM – Thurs, Fri, Sat 7:30-10:30 pm.). This fall, Olbrich Botanical Gardens unveils GLEAM, Art in a New Light, a cutting edge exhibition featuring site-specific art and light installations in the outdoor gardens. Local artists and professional lighting designers will collaborate to create sculptural art, featuring light as a major component in each installation.

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 5 – 7 pm. Vineyard Walk West Madison Agricultural Research Station. Tour the vineyards and taste both wine and table grapes. Free event and parking. 8502 Mineral Point Road, Verona. Contact 262-2257, janet.hedtcke@wisc.edu.

Sept. 16-18, 2016 Convention North Central District of the American Rose Society, Holiday Inn Pewaukee-Milwaukee West. Rose Show, Guided Tours, Speakers: info and registration at www.ncdrose.org

Sunday, Sept. 18, UW-Arboretum 2016 Native Gardening Conference: Native by Design: Gardening for a Sustainable Future. 8:45 am.–4:30 pm.; \$60 (\$54 FOA, \$30 student w/ID). Using the Arboretum's Wisconsin Native Plant Garden as an outdoor classroom, this conference offers workshops, take-home tips, and living examples. Keynote is Heather Holm, author of *Pollinators of Native Plants*. www.arboretum.wisc.edu/visit/events/native-gardening-conference/.

9 am.-noon, Saturday, Sept. 24, Cut-N-Dig Event West Madison Agricultural Research Station, 8502 Mineral Point Rd, Verona. Fall ornamental plant divisions/cutting and seed collecting event. Hundreds of cultivars available. Tools provided. For a nominal fee, you'll have the chance to acquire a wide variety of annual and perennial plant material including coleus, begonia, daylilies, canna lilies, dahl-

ias, and much, much more. We will also provide handouts on rooting the cuttings and over wintering tubers. Free parking. Contact 262-2257, janet.hedtcke@wisc.edu.

Wednesday, Sept. 28, Evening Garden Seminar: Bulb Planting, Rotary Gardens, Janesville, 6:30-8:30 pm., \$5 for non-members, \$3 for members, no preregistration required. Presenter, Mark Dwyer. As the gardening season starts winding down, it is the time to consider planting spring blooming bulbs out in the gardens with visions of a colorful spring. See details at: www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/.

Friday, Sept. 30, Crackle – Fire & Froth, 7-10:00 pm., Olbrich Botanical Gardens. Be inspired by the beauty of a crisp fall evening in Olbrich's outdoor gardens. Watch the flames from bonfires dance on the Great Lawn, groove to live music, sa-

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wrap entirely around the worm. Also, on a European species it is raised above the body of the worm, not smooth.

What makes jumping worms truly unique is their life cycle. While we are still learning the full life cycle and biology details, we already know jumping worms are asexual, which means an individual can reproduce solely on its own. These worms reach maturity within 60 days of hatching. Then they reproduce and drop cocoons in the soil. The cocoons hatch and start the cycle all over again. The adults do not survive Wisconsin winters, so the life of an individual worm ends there.

The bad news is that the cocoons those adults have dropped into the soil do survive Wisconsin winters. It's this ability that allows the next generation of jumping worms to go undetected well into the spring growing season, as tiny cocoons rather than adult worms.

You have surely seen a variety of European earthworms when you start turning your soil, putting in your vegetables or annuals and splitting your perennials in spring. These European worms have overwintered and become active and visible in spring. Be assured, you will not find jumping worms during that time of year. Surveys in Wisconsin during the summer of 2014 showed adult jumping worms did not become apparent until late June and early July.

The temperature requirements need-

ed for cocoons to hatch is something we don't fully understand, but we know that jumping worm cocoons hatch earlier than those of European worm species. With this early hatch, jumping worms reach maturity by early summer which allows for a second hatch of cocoons that can lead to infestation levels of jumping worms by early fall.

What are we doing about it?

In January 2015 the Department of Natural Resources organized a committee of representatives from the green industry, composters, Master Gardeners, cities and municipalities and the University of Wisconsin-Extension to develop Best Management Practices to minimize the spread of jumping worms and educate the public.

Research to further understand jumping worms will take time, but that doesn't mean we have to wait to spread the word and reduce the spread of these worms.

As with all invasive species the goal is to minimize their spread. That can be as simple as following these suggested BMPs:

- Arrive clean, leave clean. Clean soil and debris from vehicles, equipment, gardening tools and personal gear before moving to and from a work or recreational area.

- Watch for jumping worms and signs of their presence. If you find them, report

them to the DNR by email at invasive.species@wi.gov.

- Educate yourself and others to recognize jumping worms.

- Only use, sell, plant, purchase, or trade landscape and gardening materials and plants that appear to be free of jumping worms.

- Only sell, purchase, or trade compost that was heated to appropriate temperatures and duration following protocols for reduction in pathogens (see Wis. Admin. Code Ch. NR 502.12).

The keys to dealing with any invasive species are: prevention, control, monitoring, disposal and education.

While we still have unanswered questions, you can be a part of finding the answers. The First Detectors Network will help us document jumping worms across the state this summer and you can join at: University of Wisconsin-Extension First Detector Network. You can also report findings directly to the DNR by email at invasive.species@wi.gov or go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbS48v2Qc6w>.

Bernadette Williams is a conservation biologist.

Colleen Robinson Klug is a natural resources educator in the DNR Forest Health Program.



211 S. Fair Oaks Avenue, Madison, WI 53704

September 2016 Newsletter

Have questions about your membership? Contact Jane LaFlash at whps05@yahoo.com or (608) 243-1208.

Contribute Plants!

By Shirley Scriver

Nuestro Mundo Community School (a dual-language school) moved from Frank Allis school to an empty school in Monona in 2012. When my grandson started kindergarten in 2013, I noticed near the entrance to the school a small empty plot of land that said "Heather's Garden." Heather must have been a student at the former Monona Maywood School. I asked the principal if I could plant some flowers that would be blooming while the children were attending school (minus snow season). He said yes; so I bought spring bulbs (tulips, daffodils, and allium) and I went to The Flower Factory and bought 15 perennials. Last summer, someone from the Madison school district weed-whacked them all down. The bulbs came up this spring but only one *Chelone lyonii* made it and, of course, many weeds. If you are dividing your perennials I would appreciate any donations of *Chelone lyonii*, coreopsis, Geranium cranesbill, Echinacea, Bleeding Heart, Pasqueflower, or *Alchemilla mollis*/Lady's Mantle. You may reach me at (608) 467-2870 or at scrivs@charter.net. I would be happy to pick them up.

Other Events (continued from p.7)

vor a variety of tasty foods from Food Fight restaurants, and sip Wisconsin brews. Tickets are \$20 for Olbrich members and \$25 for the general public.

Oct. (throughout) 2016 – Gleam: Art in a New Light, (Oct. GLEAM – Wed, Thurs, Fri - 6:30 - 9:30 pm.) (see September listing)

Saturday, Oct. 1, Habitat for Humanity 4th and Final Plant Sale of the Season, 9:00 am.-5:00 pm., Habitat ReStore East, 4207 Monona Dr., Monona. Many varieties of hardy perennials will be available, including daylilies donated by the Wisconsin Daylily Society. Woodland plants, ground covers, hosta, ferns, iris, sedum, mums, perennial grasses, along with other prairie plants and flowering perennials are available. Plant prices are \$4 each or 3 for \$10, unless otherwise marked. Plant donations are welcome. Please contact Ann Wolfe at 442-8768 or plantlady123@outlook.com for more information.

Tuesday, Oct. 18, Evening Garden Seminar: Fall Gardening Tasks, Rotary Gardens, Janesville, 6:30-8:30 pm., \$5 for non-members, \$3 for members. Presenter, Mark Dwyer. See more details at: www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/

Tuesday, Nov. 29, Evening Garden Seminar: The Best Winter Interest Plants, Rotary Gardens, Janesville, 6:30-8:30 pm., \$5 for non-members, \$3 for members. Presenter, Mark Dwyer. Often neglected, this "fourth season of interest" can focus on colorful conifers, plant form, ornamental stems and bark, ornamental fruiting, grasses and other features.

Saturday, Nov. 5, Madison Herb Society Herb Fair, 9 am.-3 pm. Olbrich Botanical Gardens. Hear about herbs from speakers and vendors. Purchase herbal products. Make & Take projects, demonstrations, Q & A. Free by the Madison Herb Society. Visit www.madisonherbsociety.org

December 3-31, Olbrich's Holiday Express: Flower and Model Train Show, 10 am.-4 pm. daily.

December 2016, Rotary Gardens Holiday Light Show, 4:00-8:00 pm., Janesville. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/events/calendar-of-events

Orchid Quest February 4-5, 2017 – Olbrich Gardens.

Wisconsin Garden Expo February 10-12, 2017 – Alliant Energy Center, Madison.

Green Bay Holiday Bus Trip

Saturday, December 3, 2016



Bus trip to the Wreath Factory in Menasha, dinner at Victoria's in Appleton, and then to Green Bay Botanic Gardens Christmas Light Show.

Tour Leader: Jane Gahlman, Ph: 608-837-2317; Cell: 608-575-6630; email: jmgahlman@hotmail.com

Departure time: 1:30 pm from Shopko South Towne parking lot

Return time: approx. 11:05 pm

What's included: bus, driver tip, entry to GBBG and Wreath Factory

What's not included: Dinner is on your own at Victoria's Italian Restaurant in Appleton. There will be NO water or beverages on the bus—please plan accordingly and bring your own refillable water bottle or beverage for the day.

Cost: \$33/person

Deadline to sign-up: Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016 (No refunds after Nov. 12, 2016)

Highlights: On this one day bus trip to Menasha/Green Bay we will stop at the Wreath Factory in Menasha for shopping, eat dinner at Victoria's Italian restaurant in Appleton, and then see the Christmas Light Show at Green Bay Botanic Gardens. (Actual schedule subject to change. Final itinerary will be sent to participants after November 12, 2016.)



THE
WREATH
FACTORY

&



OTTER CREEK
LANDSCAPE

The Wreath Factory Retail Shop & Garden Center: Named by *Today's Garden Center Magazine* as one of the Top 100 Independent Garden Centers in America, we've earned a reputation for outstanding customer service and a unique shopping experience. Both of our Wisconsin locations are stocked with gifts, outdoor living products and items for your home & garden.

Holidays: It's a sight to behold! Visitors travel from all over the Midwest to see the sights of the showrooms completely transformed into a Holiday Wonderland. Dozens and dozens of themed trees dot the spaces with sparkling decoration in between. www.wreathfactoryonline.com/ Wreaths: Our namesake fresh evergreen wreaths are produced annually from November through December and are available in the showrooms and shipped all over the country.

At Victoria's you'll enjoy Northeast Wisconsin's largest, and finest, selection of authentic Italian cuisine, prepared especially for you by our world-



class chefs. While here, you'll dine amongst a unique collection of fine art murals depicting the Italian countryside, completed by

a modern master in the style of the Italian Renaissance, for a truly unique experience.

www.victoriasitalian.com/



For style, ambiance, intimacy, and, of course, the best in Italian cuisine, come to Victorias!

Experience the magic of **WPS Garden of Lights**, encompassed by more than 250,000 twinkling lights, and create extraordinary holiday memories with your family and friends at the Garden this winter. You'll discover a spectacular array of botanical-themed light displays, featuring an enchanted icicle forest, glistening flowers, a dazzling 60-foot walk-through caterpillar and so much more. The show is topped off with the area's tallest and brightest shining tree. Enjoy this stunning winter landscape by foot or take a horse-drawn wagon ride. In addition, you're invited to indulge in a tasty treat or beverage from the Winterberry Café, shop for holiday gifts in the WPS Trelis Gift Shop, visit with Mr. & Mrs. Claus, see the model train exhibit by the G-Gagers and warm up by the campfire. www.gbbg.org/



Registration Form

2016 WHPS Bus Trips



Bus Trip Registration Form – GREEN BAY HOLIDAY TRIP – Saturday, December 3, 2016 - \$33*

Registration Deadline Saturday, November 12, 2016 (No refunds after November 12)

Name _____ Phone(s) _____

Address _____ Email _____

COST: \$33 _____ **No refunds after November 12.**

Tour Leader: Jane Gahlman, Ph: 608-837-2317; Cell: 608-575-6630; email: jmgahlman@hotmail.com

Departure time: 1:30 pm. from Shopko South Towne parking lot. **Return time:** approximately 11:05 pm.

What's included: bus, driver tip, entry to GBBG and Wreath Factory.

What's not included: Dinner is on your own at Victoria's Italian Restaurant in Appleton. There will be NO water or beverages on the bus—please plan accordingly and bring your own refillable water bottle or beverage for the day.

I/we agree to release Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society, trip tour guide and board members from any liability for loss or injury of any kind on this tour.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Make checks payable to Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society and send to Jane LaFlash, 211 S. Fair Oaks Ave., Madison, WI 53704

**Only checks/forms sent U.S. Mail are accepted. • Separate checks for each trip • nonmembers pay additional \$10 membership fee*