



Perennial Notes

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society, Inc.

June 2017



Photo by Conrad Wrzesinski

The history of Rhododendron 'Madison Snow'

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski

The introduction of *Rhododendron* 'Madison Snow', might be subtitled the improvable plant. In the fall of 1975, Dr. Carl Phetteplace sent me some cuttings from a seedling of *R. dauricum alba* from his garden in Leaburg, Oregon. I was excited to receive the cuttings. Considering the native range of species, *Rhododendron dauricum*, includes: eastern Siberia, Mongolia, northern China and Japan, I felt the plant had a good chance of survival here.

With the help of Ed Hasselkus, the cuttings were rooted under mist. In June 1976, the cuttings were set out. In April the following year, the plant flowered for the first time. To my surprise, the

(continued on page 4)

WHPS coming events!

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

Thursday, June 1, WHPS Bus Trip to Central Wisconsin. Destinations include Four Elements Herbals, Edgewater Home and Garden, Prairie Nursery, Hancock Agricultural Research Station, Russell Farm Market. Sold out.

To register for the sold out trips, e-mail wisconsinhps@gmail.com for specific info.

Tuesday, June 6, WHPS Evening Garden Tour – West Side of Madison. More information is on page 5.

Tuesday, June 20, Workshop – Ikebana, The Art of Japanese Flower Arrangement, 6-7:45 pm, Olbrich Botanical Gardens. Ikebana is the Japanese art of flower arrangement, a disciplined art form in which the arrangement is a living thing where nature and humanity are brought together. See WHPS member Patty Nisbet and others make live arrangements. Information and registration at the Events Calendar of our website.

Tuesday, June 27, WHPS Evening Garden Tour – West Side of Madison. More information is on page 5.

Saturday, July 1, WHPS Bus Trip to Southeastern Wisconsin. Destinations include: Sangerhouse Gardens, Lynden Sculpture Garden, Mayfield Nursery, two private gardens. Sold out.

Thursday, July 20, WHPS Evening Garden Tour – East Side of Madison. More information is on page 7.

Tuesday, July 25, WHPS Workshop – Planting and Maintaining a Native Prairie, 6-7:30 pm, home of Linda Grosz, 4258 Blackstone Ct, Middleton. WHPS member Linda Grosz shares her 15 years of experience growing a one-acre backyard prairie. Topics include site preparation, plant selection, seeding, mowing vs. burning, and ongoing weed control. Learn what worked—and what didn't—and how the prairie evolved over the years. Information and registration at the Events Calendar of our website.

July 27-30, WHPS Bus Trip to Minneapolis, Minnesota. Destinations include: Riana de Raad's Concrete Mosaic Sculpture Garden, Como Park, Tangletown Gardens & Farm, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Noerenberg Garden, Kelley & Kelley Nursery, Tonkadale Greenhouse, Normandale Japanese Garden, Gardens of Rice Creek, Funkie Gardens, private gardens. Sold out.

Wednesday, Aug 9, 6:00 pm. – WHPS Tour of Janesville Rotary Gardens with Mark Dwyer, 1455 Palmer Dr., Janesville, meet in the building.

Wednesday, August 16, WHPS Summer Potluck & Walk Through Olbrich Gardens.

August 24-26, WHPS Bus Trip to Ames and Des Moines, Iowa. Destinations include: Reiman Gardens, Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens, Better Homes and Gardens Test Garden, In the Country Nursery, Iowa Arboretum, Quilted Gardens, Polk County Master Gardener Demonstration Garden, Culvers Garden Center and Greenhouse, private gardens. Sold out.

Wednesday, Sept 13, 5:30 pm. - WHPS tour of Epic Grounds 1979 Milky Way, Verona with Jeff Epping.

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WHPS Small Grants

see p. 4.



Westside Garden Tour

On June 6 & 27 – see p. 5, 6.



Eastside Garden Tour

On July 20 – see p. 7.

WHPS Coming Events (continued from p.1)

Wednesday, September 20, *Preparing for the Golden Years in the Garden*, with speaker

Kerry Ann Mendez, author of *The Right-Size Flower Garden: Simplify Your Outdoor Space with Smart Design Solutions & Plant Choices*. Kerry Ann has given lectures, workshops and classes throughout New England, across the



United States and even in Canada. She is an entertaining, inspirational and educational speaker who enjoys mingling humor with down-to-earth, garden-transforming expertise. Other books by Kerry Ann include: *The Ultimate Flower Gardener's Top Ten Lists: 70 garden-transforming theme lists and strategies for growing gorgeous, low-maintenance gardens in*

zones 3 through 7; *Top Ten Lists for Beautiful Shade Gardens*. As a garden columnist and freelance writer, she has written monthly columns for *518Life magazine*, based in Albany, NY. Kerry Ann has also written freelance articles for *Fine Gardening*, *Horticulture*, *Saratoga Life*, and *Portland Life*.

Saturday, October 7, *Bus Trip to Chicago Botanic Garden*. Openings still available. More information is in the 2017 Trips Brochure.



Wednesday, October 18, *Moss Gardening – From Japan Onward*, with speaker

Dale Sievert. How moss is used in gardens, both as the dominant plant and as an accent. The presentation includes gardens of Japan, mainly in Kyoto, and various moss gardens of other countries, followed by American gardens (primarily Japanese-style gardens). Interspersed are brief discussions of taxonomy, physiology, culture, and maintenance. Raised on a Wisconsin farm, Sievert began landscape gardening at age seven by planting flowers in varying geometric designs. After several zigzags following other interests, his interest in landscape gardening was rekindled in 1966. This was followed by graduation from the University of Wisconsin with a B.S. in Agronomy and an M.S. in Agricultural Economics. On a visit to Foxfire Gardens in 2005 he was stunned by the beauty of its small moss garden and has since then developed moss gardens of his own, using over 50 species of moss on ground surfaces, in over 300 containers, and on rocks. In 2012, Sievert redesigned and rebuilt a moss garden in the Japanese garden at Rotary Botanic Garden in Janesville, WI. Sievert's work has been featured in *The Magical World of Moss Gardening*, by Annie Martin, *The American Gardener* in 2009 and 2016, and in *Chicagoland Gardening*, *Sukiya Living* magazine and the *Journal of the North American Japanese Gardening Association*.

Wednesday, November 15, *Implementing the Design*, with speaker

Nick McCullough. A close look at McCullough's process of growing the plant palette at his private nursery, designing high-end residential gardens, installing the design and then maintaining the gardens. When it comes to the art and science of landscape design, Nick McCullough's talents lie in



both worlds. He studied both horticulture and art history at The Ohio State University, giving him a unique perspective on every design project. Furthering his experience, he also studied landscape design in Northwest England. The aesthetic of English gardens made a profound impact on Nick, and many of his projects have ties to the classic design elements found in the English countryside. Nick is an APLD-certified Designer who has won numerous awards, including Young Professional of the Year from the Perennial Plant Association and Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association. A self-described "plant nerd," he is passionate about perennials and has a masterful understanding of how plants thrive in the Midwestern climate. This love of cultivating extends to Red Twig Farms—the nursery extension of his business, where unique perennials, annuals, specimen trees and hedges are grown for use in his designs. His social media presence of over 3-million Pinterest followers makes him a standout in the industry, and a sought-after public speaker. Author of the *Thinking Outside The Boxwood* blog, Nick has also been a featured writer for publications such as *Garden Design* magazine. Nick has owned and operated McCullough's Landscape & Nursery, LLC since 1997 and lives in Central Ohio with his wife and their two children.

Wednesday, December 6, *Annual Meeting, Member Potpourri and Seed Exchange*

Start planning now to take photos of your garden, gardens you visit, etc. to present at our December Member Potpourri.

2018 WHPS trip to England. Frank Greer is now planning the WHPS trip to England in 2018. More info will be in the Sept. newsletter.



2111 S. Fair Oaks Avenue, Madison, WI 53704

President – Jane Gahlman, 608-837-2317, jmgahlman@hotmail.com, Seed Exchange Coordinator, Trip Committee
Immediate Past President – Frank Greer, 608-233-4686, frgreer@sbcglobal.net, Program Committee
Vice President – Emily Buckingham, 920-960-6928, emilybuckingham@gmail.com
Treasurer – Diane Scharkey, dscharkey@gmail.com
Secretary – Emily Buckingham, 920-960-6928, emilybuckingham@gmail.com, Workshop Coordinator
Sally Averkamp, 608-235-9084, aversigg@sbcglobal.net, Newsletter layout
Lynn Belanger, 608-215-9127, lynnbelanger7300@gmail.com
Caroline Bohler, Homegrown Flowers, 262-483-2500, caroline@homegrownmadison.com, Webmaster
John Cannon, jtcannon@wisc.edu, Trip Committee
Donna Freiman, Donnafreiman@gmail.com, Dig Host Coordinator
Jeannette Golden, 608-767-3736, jgolden4142@gmail.com, Plant Sale Volunteer Coordinator
Jane LaFlash, 608-243-1208, jlaflash@wisc.edu, Membership Coordinator, Tour Coordinator, Trip Committee
Terri Maliszewski-Kane, 608-513-4189, terrimk1@hotmail.com, Olbrich Liaison
Linda Marx, 608-249-7717, ljmarx@chorus.net, Program Committee
Stephanie O'Neal, 608-256-6108, sone2@aol.com, Publications, Plant Exchange, Plant Sale Coordinator
Shirley Scriver, 608-467-2870, scrivs@charter.net, WHPS Garden Expo Display Coordinator, Trip Committee
Conrad Wrzesinski, 608-231-3279, conradw@charter.net

dnr.wi.gov – a valuable resource for gardeners

It was a strange spring this year without plant digs and calls for plants and volunteers to help with our sale. The thing I missed most was the comradery of members getting together to prep for the sale and the new friends we make each year – and, of course, the chance to find that interesting new plant I never thought about for my garden.

Mixed feelings about canceling this year's sale remain, but feedback from members and other organizations heard from after we published our decision has at least served to focus attention on the issue. Though we have nothing new to report on the "what do we do about the worms" front, we do hope you will keep your eye out in late June/early July and notify the DNR if you identify the jumping worms in your garden – you can email them at www.invasive.species@wi.gov.

DNR Invasive Plants and Earthworms Outreach Specialist Bernie Williams says, "The best way to get rid of the worms at present – if you are finding one of the adults – try and grab and bag as many of them as you can. At least that way, you're alleviating that pressure of having the cocoons in your soil. If you put them in a plastic bag and then put them in the sun for 10 minutes or so, you're going to have a congealed mess of worms... the humane way to put them out. And then just dispose of them in the trash."

And while we're on the subject of invasive species, I have found the general information for gardeners on invasives – <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/documents/gardeners1.pdf> – and the various lists on the DNR website very helpful for identifying and realizing what I need to get rid of in my garden – <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/what.html>

– both regulated and non-regulated, especially the terrestrial list.

I was not aware of the "Wisconsin's Rare Plants" page at the DNR site, but there is a full list of endangered resources at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/endangeredresources/Plants.asp>, including complete information and photos for each plant and where they can be found in the state.

I also found the Wisconsin DNR Features page – <http://dnr.wi.gov/news/features/> – interesting reading.

For anyone who wants to learn more about our natural resources – animals, plants, lichens and natural features – visit dnr.wi.gov.

– Stephanie O'Neal

2017 Other Events of Note

Sunday, June 11, Hosta Society Sale, 9:00 am.-3 pm, Olbrich Botanical Gardens. For more information contact wihostasociety@gmail.com

Friday-Saturday, June 16-17, Habitat for Humanity Plant Sale, ReStore East, 4207 Monona Dr, Monona.

Saturday, June 17, Rhapsody in Bloom, 5-10 pm. 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.

Sunday, June 18, Rose Show, 12-5 pm. The Madison Rose Society hosts this indoor exhibit of cut roses and arrangements in all sizes and colors. For more information call 608-634-2146.

Sunday, June 25, Wild Edible and Poisonous plants of Wisconsin, 1-3 pm. Garden hike with Dave Bendlin. Pre-registration required by Friday, June 23. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

Wednesday, June 28, The Ups and Downs of Wisconsin Weather, 6:30 pm, by Steve Ackerman and Jon Martin, UW-Madison atmospheric scientists. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

Sunday, July 9, Dazzling Daylily Show,

11 am.-4 pm. The Wisconsin Daylily Society sponsors this show of colorful, easy to grow plants. For more information call 608-221-1933. <http://www.wisdaylilysoc.org/>

July 14-15, Olbrich Botanical Gardens Annual Home Garden Tour, Friday & Saturday, 9:00 am.-3:00 pm, featuring enviable eastside gardens. Tour exceptional home gardens, talk with homeowners, see how other home gardeners use innovative landscape designs and get great ideas for your own garden. www.olbrich.org/events/homegardentour.cfm

Thursday, July 20, Favorite Perennials for the Late Summer and Fall Garden, 6:30 pm, by Nancy Nedveck, co-owner of the Flower Factory nursery in Stoughton, Wisconsin at Rotary Gardens. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

July 20-August 15, Olbrich Botanical Gardens' Blooming' Butterflies, 10 am.-4 pm. Experience the wonder of strolling through a tropical forest on a search for fleeting butterflies. Live butterflies emerge from chrysalises daily in the Bolz Conservatory.

Mondays, July 24 and 31, Garden Photography for Beginners, 6:00-8:00 pm, with Marsha Mood, Rotary Botanical Gardens volunteer photographer. Pre-registration required by Friday, July 21, 2017. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

August 19-20, Daylily Sale, Saturday, 10:00 am.-4:00 pm, Sunday 11:00 am.-3:00 pm. The Wisconsin Daylily Society sponsors this sale of colorful, easy to grow plants. For more information call 608-221-1933.

August 19-20, Dahlia Show, 10:00 am.-4:00 pm. Dahlias are late summer bloomers known for their diverse forms and bright colors. Sponsored by the Badger State Dahlia Society. For more information call 608-577-1924.

Tuesday, August 29, All About Monarchs – Their Life and Their Migration , 6:30 pm, by Emily and Larry Scheunemann, retired Janesville educators. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

August 31 – October 28, GLEAM: Art in a New Light, evening viewings – times vary by month (rain or shine), www.olbrich.org/events

Wednesday, September 27, Over-Wintering Tropical Plants and Favorite Houseplants, 6:30 pm, by Patty Bailey, retail manager of Oak Village Garden Center. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

September 29, Olbrich Botanical Gardens' Crackle & Froth, 7-10 pm.

Saturday, October 14, The Wisconsin Peony Society Ltd (WPS) fall Root Auction & Plant Sale will be held at West Madison

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WHPS New Small Grants Program – A beginning

The Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society will award up to \$500 to a community group, school, or other organization for a project that promotes the use of herbaceous perennial plants in the landscape.

What a glorious spring we have had! After the unusual warmth of February began the snowdrop display and awakened the winter aconite way ahead of schedule, the coolness of an ideal spring (for the gardener anyway!) set in for March, much of April and continued into mid-May, without the killing frost we had this time last year. The displays of magnolias and crabapples have persisted in flower and daffodils and tulips seem to be lasting forever in the cool, cloudy, wet weather, without the intermittent blasts of heat of many springs of the recent past. As I write this, I have just returned from a stroll through the lilac collection in the Longenecker Garden and noted with glee that the lilacs were at their peak on Mother's Day weekend which, seems to me, hasn't happened consistently in recent years.

On a related subject, spring has awakened the generosity of our member-

ship, and we are ready to launch our Small Grants Program. Thanks so very much for all of the contributions that have accompanied your dues renewal.

These grants will be limited to no more than \$500 and it is expected that they will have a WHPS member or a sponsoring WHPS member's name on the application. Funds may be used for educational purposes, plant material, hardscaping, or tools and supplies. They also must promote the use of herbaceous plants in the landscape, including community gardens. We encourage applications that include our youth (very loose definition) as much as possible.

The grant application process is simple and can be done online at the following link from our website: <http://www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.org/whps-grant-application.html> Any supporting documentation (pictures, diagrams, etc.)

or questions can be sent to frgreer@sbglobal.net. Grant applications can be submitted at any time and will be reviewed at the board meetings of the WHPS held three times a year. The only other requirement is that a report on the project be given at the annual WHPS business meeting, which is usually held in early December at Olbrich Gardens.

You can also donate to WHPS at any time online at <http://www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.org/grants.html>.

Thank you again to those who have donated. We look forward to these funds promoting and influencing future gardeners and increasing the beauty of our community.

– Frank Greer

Editor's Note: Special thanks to Frank Greer for his support in bringing this grant program forward.

History of 'Madison Snow' (cont. from p.1)

color was a beautiful clear white.

In early 1977, Carl indicated in a follow up letter that other the seedlings of *R. dauricum alba* were just the usual magenta color of the species *R. dauricum* and not especially attractive. He destroyed all the seedlings, including the one from which he sent the cuttings to me.

After ten years, *R. 'Madison Snow'* was 52 inches (1.3m) in height with a 40 inch (1m) spread. Peak flowering usually occurs during the last week in April or the first week in May, depending upon weather conditions. This is later flowering than the species, which helps to avoid damage from late spring hard frosts. The flowers are able to withstand light frosts without any damage.

Following this successful 10-year growing trail, I decided to register the plant. Initially, I wanted to name this plant *R. dauricum 'Madison'* in deference to this area in which the plant was growing. When I submitted the registration form, the registrar informed the name was taken. Since flower color looked as white as snow, I decided to resubmit the registration form with the name, *Rhododendron dauricum 'Madison Snow'*. The name was accepted. Knight Hollow Nursery in Middleton, Wisconsin, then propagated and introduced *Rhododendron dauricum 'Madison Snow'* to the trade.

The later flowering was the likely reason Carl destroyed the plant from which he sent me the cuttings, along with his other seedlings of *R. dauricum alba*, without seeing it bloom, thinking the plant would have the same inferior magenta color as the rest. Fortunately, Carl had sent me cuttings from the one improvable plant that was not only a white in color, but also superior in hardiness, form and flower. Several mature specimen plants of *Rhododendron dauricum 'Madison Snow'* can be seen at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum.

NOTE: We are currently unable to find a resource for the purchase of this plant.



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WHPS West Madison Garden Tour – June 6

Tuesday, June 6, 2017 – 4:00 pm – dark

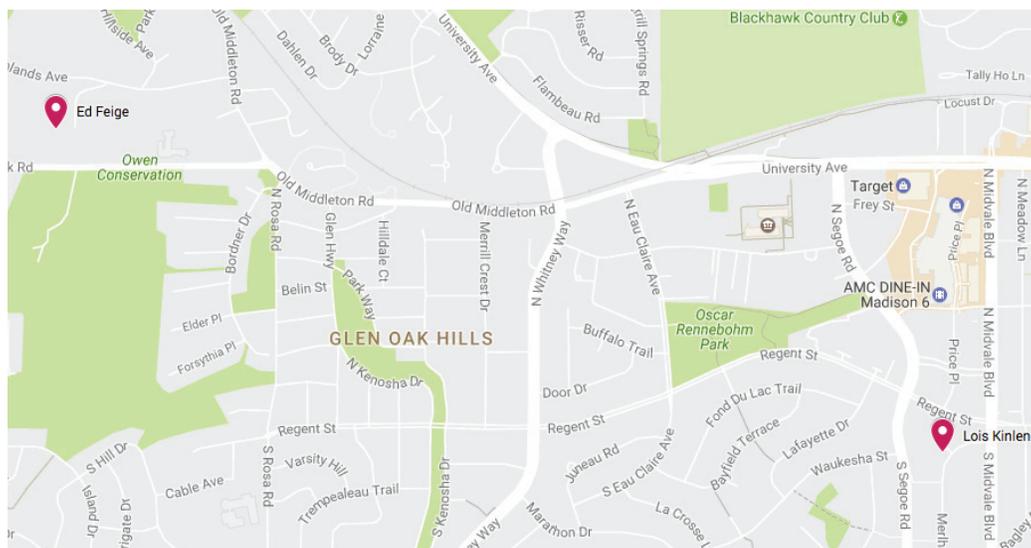
These directions are just one option for the order of the gardens. We encourage people to also use the alternate order to prevent overcrowding.

Ed Feige – 6118 Old Sauk Rd, Madison

"In 1917 geology Professor Charles Leith built his home adjacent to the Brittingham property on the remnants of the terminal moraine left by the last ice age glacier. Leith planted the rows of oaks, ash, white and scots pines which form the structural foundations of the present garden. The northern stone wall and its backdrop of lilacs and peonies survive from Leith's original garden, as do the rugosa roses in the western garden.

Over the past forty-six years I have gradually enlarged the north and west gardens. The newer southern, eastern, and patio gardens have been established since my retirement in the mid 1990's. The most recent additions are the far western sections beyond the row of ash trees, including the casual "ramble" in the far northwestern corner, planted after clearing a half-acre of buckthorn and overgrown woods. I suggest a counter clockwise circular tour of the garden, beginning down the drive at the right of the entrance and exiting from the south in front of the small brown shed. I recommend pausing on the benches en route to enjoy an overview of the garden from the patio.

Thanks to the advice of friends, neighbors and the youthful energies of university students, plantings now include varieties of Japanese maples, rhododendrons, azaleas, dogwoods, ninebarks, viburnum, spirea, beech, barberry, smoke bushes, Rose of Sharon, hydrangea, kerria, malus, bridal veil, paeonia, potentilla, hemlocks, yews, arborvitae, juniper, redbuds, weigela, buddleia, hostas, lilies, vinca, hibiscus, perovskia, campanula, alliums, irises, heuchra, ligularia, cimicifuga, astilbes, lavender, monarda, epimediums, crocosmia, ferns, phlox, sedums, dicentra, rogersia, yarrow, hellebores, pul-



monaria, ajuga, brunnera, monkshood, aralia, Japanese sedge and aruncus."

Directions: Coming west on University Avenue take the Old Middleton Rd exit. Turn left off Old Middleton Rd at the stop sign onto Old Sauk Rd. Drive up the hill past Crestwood School on the right and follow the chain link fence until it ends. Turn right at the first driveway before the mailboxes and park in the Brittingham parking lots. Continue on foot up the hill on the curved driveway to the Feige garden.

Lois Kinlen – 26 Merlham Rd, Madison.

"My garden has collections of Anemone, Arisaema, Epimedium, ferns, Fritillaria, Trillium, Hellebores, Primula and a few orchids. Many plants are in the gardens because their leaf form gives interest after blooming. I've started transitioning the gardens to lower maintenance. This translates to adding many peonies, lilies (especially Martagons), clematis and experimenting with growing Iris ensata. A crevice garden has been added around a pool with waterlilies for my son-in-law's hybridizing activities. The garden has several raised beds and a few troughs."

Directions: Turn north off University Ave. onto Midvale Blvd. (at Hilldale). Turn right onto Merlham Rd. (one block after Regent). The Kinlen garden is in one block, on the corner of Merlham and Christopher Ct.

Garden Tips

If you have a rain gauge, put a few drops of food coloring into the gauge to mix with the rain that falls to make it easier to read the gauge.

Place plastic forks handle down in the ground around new plants to protect them and prevent critters from nosing around and pulling up the plants.

Here's a quick way to dry herbs. Lay a sheet of newspaper on the seat of your car, arrange the herbs in a single layer, then roll up the windows and close the doors. Your herbs will be quickly dried and your car will smell great.



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WHPS West Madison Garden Tour – June 27

Tuesday, June 27, 2017 – 4:00 pm – dark

These directions are just one option for the order of the gardens. We encourage people to also use the opposite order to prevent overcrowding.

Note that both Highlands Ave. (S and N) and Skyline Dr. (W and E) are continuous loops. Which ever end you turn onto, you will eventually arrive at the gardens.

Tom and Cheryl Kuster – 5510 Stadium Dr, Madison.

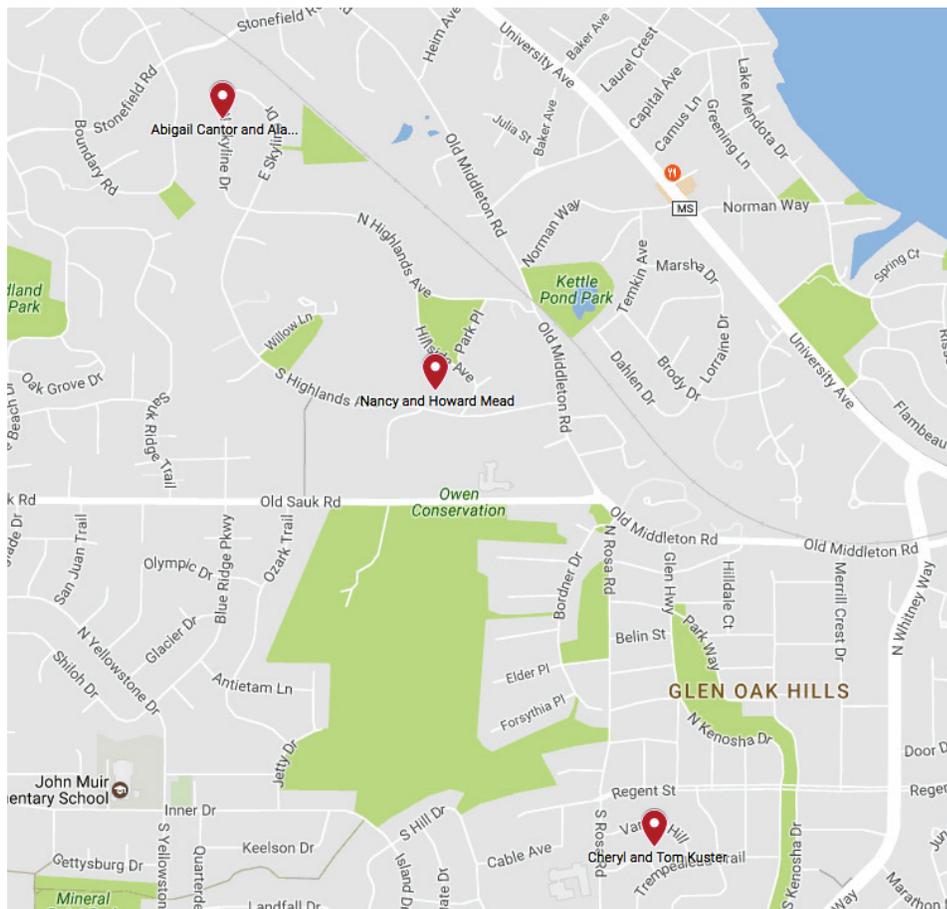
“We moved to our Hill Farms home in 1990. The backyard had been professionally landscaped in 1968 when the home was built, including a small pond and waterfall. I created several new flower beds and mostly moved plants around. In 2004, we asked Steve Lesch to do a landscape plan for us and were amazed at the vast array of conifers, Japanese maples and other plants. After I completed several other landscape plans by Steve, the basic structure of our yard took shape. I have added miniature and dwarf conifers, 15 Japanese maples, and over 500 different perennials and woody plants.

Last year I added a new area in front, including dwarf Dawn Redwood ‘Northern Lights’, Japanese Cedar ‘Spiraliter Falcata’, Japanese Umbrella Pine ‘Moonlight’, Full Moon Japanese maple ‘Aureum’, and Daphne ‘Carol Mackie’. I also started a new area of Solomon Seal with 15 different varieties. We have a small Japanese garden that has miniature hostas, elm trees, and a Japanese ‘Fairy Hair’ Maple under a Seven-Sons-Flower tree (*Heptacodium miconioides*). We also have a small tufa rock garden next to our pond with various alpines, miniature woodies, some hen-and-chicks, and a Japanese White Pine ‘Fukai’.

In 2008, we redid our pond and waterfall and made it bigger, with a swing at the end to enjoy watching the Koi and goldfish. We have a few water lilies, bog bean, and several rushes around the edge. I designed a fen for water filtration which has water irises, marsh marigolds, Aquatic Forget-Me-Not (*Myosotis scorpioides*), and Horsetail Reed.

We enjoy watching the seasonal changes in our garden but I find myself still moving plants around.”

Directions: Mineral Point Road, north on Rosa Road, right on Stadium Dr. Or take the



Old Middleton Rd exit off University Ave. Turn south onto Rosa Rd. Turn left onto Stadium Dr. The Kuster house is a ranch house with an orange door at the curve in the road.

Nancy and Howard Mead – 6010 S. Highlands Ave, Madison.

“In 1968 when we moved into this wonderful old farm house built at the time of the Civil War, there was practically no space for flowers. There was however, a huge vegetable garden, orchard and many enormous elm trees. In 1987, with the last child off to college, we felt a total redo was in order. Square play spaces became curving flower beds. A patio was built adjacent to the screen porch, steps and walls defined a rock garden, and flower beds were extended to the front roadside.

In 2001, the addition to the house on the West side meant we could have a water feature. Our son, who has a landscape business in Boulder, Co., came home to create a stream, waterfall, and pond surrounded by rock gardens. Here we have added more plantings with colorful and

textured foliage. The patio seating is surrounded with pots of dramatic annuals, as well as a hand-thrown bubbling birdbath that birds can't resist!

Much of our recent planting has been chosen to increase wildlife visits, from hummingbirds to butterflies.”

Directions: Return to Old Middleton Rd and turn left. Turn left onto S. Highlands Ave. The Mead garden is the second from the corner of S. Highlands and Hillside Ave.

Alan Kalker and Abigail Cantor – 1430 W. Skyline Dr, Madison.

There are multiple sun and mixed shade beds – front and back – connected by a beautiful shade path filled with a large variety of perennials. The eye is led throughout to see what is around the corner. In the front, as the trees began to take over the driveway, their understory was opened to create more shade gardens. The yard is a calm, restful oasis from the city, isolated by many trees and shrubs. It is easily our favorite “room” in the house.”

Directions: Continue on S. Highlands Ave. Turn left onto W. Skyline Dr.

WHPS East Madison Garden Tour

Thursday, July 20, 2017 – 4:00 pm – dark

These directions are just one option for the order to view the gardens. We encourage people to use whatever order is convenient to prevent overcrowding.

Rosemary and Tom Kleinheinz – 104 W. Lakeview Ave, Madison

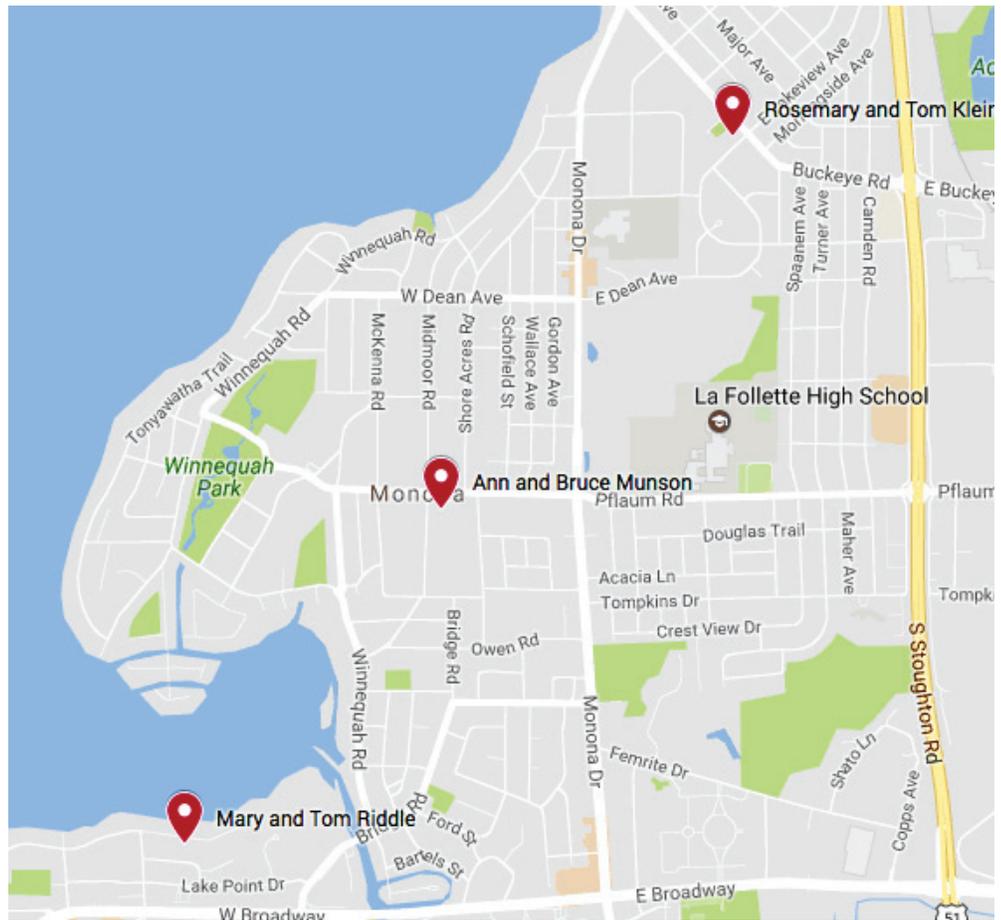
“In the summer of 1997 we retired from full-time employment, decided we really needed to “do something” with our yard, met Steve Lesch, and the rest is history!

Located on a deep city lot, our garden is an Ever-Changing Garden – always something new to see. Recently, we’ve been encouraged to add groves of trees, so now there’s a grove of columnar oaks to replace a diseased magnolia, and a grove of red-leaf birch to replace a voracious silver maple. Of course, there are always new daylilies for the sunny part of the yard and hostas and ferns for the shady side, along with lots of unusual perennials, shrubs and trees. Here and there you will find garden art from our trips overseas. Two years ago we added a new island bed near the street that features a miniature version of a rock garden, along with some gorgeous boulders and perennials. No sooner was that accomplished than the city had to take down a struggling linden shading the front yard. More changes needed! All in all, there’s bound to be something interesting to catch your eye.”

Directions: Turn onto Buckeye Rd. from Monona Dr. Turn right on W. Lakeview Ave. The Kleinheinz garden is the second house on the right.

Ann and Bruce Munson – 5304 Midmoor Rd, Monona

“The goal for my garden of 38 years is to create an oasis in suburbia. No lawn remains on the 3/4 acre lot (except for 2 tiny triangles). I wish to create a habitat attractive to birds, insects, toads, frogs, and all animals except for rabbits and ground hogs, which were controlled last summer by our resident fox. Very little organic material leaves the garden. Removed trees are chipped and become paths, trunks left to decompose, snags left for birds and



insects to inhabit. Fallen leaves become mulch, weeds become compost, birch twigs become wattle.

Fun is included in the plan. For my four grandkids visiting weekly, there is a playhouse, teepee, hammock, and climbing trees. The two ponds, stream connecting them and goldfish provide lots of kid entertainment. Especially popular are the hundreds of tadpoles that become toads in early summer. The toads then help to control slugs and other insects.

For me, the garden is my creative outlet, sanctuary, and reason to collect wonderful plants!”

Directions: Return to Monona Dr. and turn left (south). Continue to Nichols Rd. (Pflaum on the other side) and turn right. Turn left on Midmoor Rd. The Munson garden is the second house on the left.

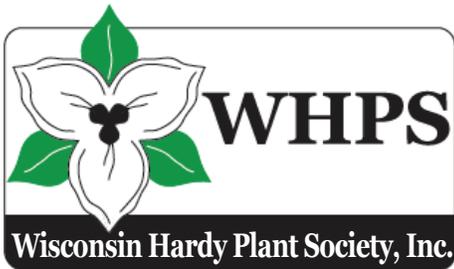
Mary and Tom Riddle – 1809 Waunona Way, Madison

Tom and Mary built their home 40 years ago on a sunny lot, with young black wal-

nut trees growing along the sides of the yard. They put rock walls across the back to help with a tight landscaping situation and in the intervening years have added a pond, then several tiers of waterfalls to the pond. The mature black walnuts now provide ample shade, and they have taken advantage of that and their appreciation for hostas, by gradually adding beds and berms throughout.

Tom and Mary sell at Farmer’s Market for several Saturdays in May, but will have hosta available for anyone who may be interested in purchasing a plant after the tour.

Directions: Return to Monona Dr. and continue to W. Broadway. Turn right (west) on W. Broadway. Turn right on Hoboken Rd. and right on Waunona Way. The Riddle garden is the 8th house on the right.



211 S. Fair Oaks Avenue, Madison, WI 53704

June 2017 Newsletter

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

Other Madison Area Events (continued from p.3)

Research Station. Check with the Wisconsin Peony Society Ltd. - www.wipeonysociety.org/events for additional information.

Tuesday, October 17, Unique Conifers Make a Garden Special, 6:30 pm, by Rich Eyre, owner of Rich's Foxwillow Pines Nursery in Woodstock, IL. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

Saturday, November 4, The Madison Herb Society Herb Fair, 9 am.-3 pm, Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Hear about herbs from speakers and vendors. www.madisonherbsociety.org

Saturday, November 4, Fall Symposium devoted to the study of Landscape Design at Rotary Gardens. 9 am.- 3:30 pm. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

Wednesday, November 15, Hands-on "Evergreen Arrangement" design class, 6:30-8:30 pm, with Patty Bailey. Pre-registration required. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

Wednesday, November 29, Plant Selection for Four-Season Garden In-

terest, 6:30 pm, by Mark Dwyer, Horticulture Director of Rotary Botanical Gardens. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

December 2-31, Olbrich Botanical Gardens' Holiday Express. Twinkling lights, tiny landscapes, and model trains.

New Members

The following members have recently joined WHPS:

Marie Barwick, Nina Davis, Robin Deike, Kathryn Derauf, Sue Gerlach Tom LaChance, Ginger Larsen, Peggy Maguire, Marilyn McWilliams, Susan Haerle Merten, Bruce Munson, Steven & Judy Penticoff, Deborah Roll, Susan Tiffany, and Pat Vater.

Welcome!

Members in print

WHPS member Ed Lyon's article, *Surprising Plants for Shade*, is in the July/August issue of **Fine Gardening** along with an extensive article by Richard Hawke titled, *Make Room for Everything*.

WHPS T-shirts now \$5!

WHPS T-shirts are now available for \$5. (Sizes available are S-M-L-XL-XXL-XXXL.) Please email Jane Gahlman at jmgahlman@hotmail.com or call Jane at (608) 837-2317 if you would like to buy one.

Hosting an Open Garden

Hosting an open garden gives you the opportunity to invite people to your garden at very short notice, when you think it's looking especially good. All you have to do is contact us a few days to a week ahead at wisconsinhps@gmail.com with a date and time, a short garden description and directions, and we will send out an email invitation to our members. Feel free to email with questions/concerns too. We know we have many members with lovely gardens and we'd like to see them!

– Jane LaFlash