



Perennial Notes

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society, Inc.

November 2017



King of the Shade – ‘Sun King’ Japanese Spikenard

By Mark Dwyer, Director of Horticulture, Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville, WI

I've not been this excited about a relatively new perennial for the shade in many years! The golden Japanese spikenard (*Aralia cordata* 'Sun King') first caught my eye in 2010 and since the time of our first planting of one specimen in 2011 at Rotary Botanical Gardens in Janesville, WI (zone 5), I've now installed over 40 more specimens of this colorful, statuesque and textural perennial in many of our part-shade and full-shade gardens. It is nice to see the momentum of established popularity and performance this perennial continues to enjoy each year and it comes as no surprise to me.

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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 Av., Madison unless otherwise noted.

Wednesday, Nov. 15, Implementing the Design, with speaker Nick McCullough.

We will get 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 de-



sign 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.

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Adding a snag to the garden

by Stephanie O'Neal

This past spring I lost a Korean fir I've had for almost 20 years. Rather than cutting it down completely, I've decided to leave it up, cutting it back to about 10-15 feet, as a snag. A snag is a dead tree that's been kept to allow animals, birds, insects and fungi to make nests, perch, feed, store food, hide from predators and return nutrients to the soil.

I already have a living snag in the old honeysuckle bush that turned into an ancient tree

(continued on page 4)



photo by Stephanie O'Neal



Seed Exchange

see p. 3.



Iowa Trip 2017

– see p. 6.



Remembering Joan

– see p. 7.

WHPS coming events (continued from p.1)

Wednesday, Dec. 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.

Sunday, Jan. 21, 2018 – WHPS Potluck Brunch, Olbrich Gardens Commons, set up time 9:30, food line 10 am.

Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018, Radio Gardening with WI Public Radio host Larry Meiller. Reminisce with WPR popular Garden Talk host Larry Meiller as he reflects on the radio show history and how the garden talk program evolved from it. Quite a bit of it is humorous, so we should have fun!



He will tell some garden stories but claims he has nothing much close to gardening advice. There's also talk about long-range goals for the garden talk show and he will offer some quick thoughts on public radio in general. Some fun facts about Larry: he once ran an airport in Jamaica for an afternoon; he was run off the road in the middle of nowhere in Pakistan and while there, spent 15 million dollars on a USAID project in 14 days; while in Nicaragua he was accused, at gun point, of working for the CIA; he sat with the pilot and copilot on a passenger plane trip in the Caribbean. Larry Meiller is a Professor emeritus in the Department of Life Sciences Communication (LSC) at UW-Madison and is host of *The Larry Meiller Show*, a 90-minute call-in talk show heard each weekday at 11 am. on Wisconsin Public Radio. He and his radio guests talk about a wide variety of topics, including the environment, health, consumer issues, finance, gardening and many others. Larry also teaches broadcast classes and advises up to 100 undergraduates. He was the longest-serving faculty member of the UW's student radio station, WSUM, and played a key role in launching the station on air and in developing its organizational structure. Larry lives in Madison with his daughter, Emily.

Wednesday, Mar. 21, 2018 – Head Gardener at Home: A Peek into the Home Garden of Olbrich's Horticulture Director. Jeff Epping, Director of Horticulture at Olbrich Gardens, will cover the gardening challenges and joys facing every home gardener and useful designs he's developed to enhance his environment, save time and, of course, add beauty to the yard (no mow grass front yard). Then you'll have the opportunity to visit his home garden along with four other home gardens on a July 11, 2018, WHPS garden tour. Jeff Epping has been Director of Horticulture at Olbrich Botanical Gardens for over 20 years. He oversees the horticultural operations and garden designs of over ten inspirational display gardens, showcasing the best plants for south-central Wisconsin. Epping and his staff have practiced and preached



sustainable gardening for years, which is reflected in their award-winning garden designs and environmentally conscious cultural practices. Their designs put plants at the forefront to create gardens that celebrate the region, enhance the senses and satisfy our innate desire to connect with the natural world.

Allen Centennial Gardens HortiCULTURAL Landscapes Symposium, April 13-14, 2018, tickets go on sale Jan 15.

Wednesday, Apr. 18, 2018 – Abelia to Ziziphora: 30 Years of Plant Evaluation at Chicago Botanic Garden, with speaker Richard Hawke. The Chi-



cago Botanic Garden has been evaluating and recommending superior garden plants to home gardeners and the green industry since 1988. Richard Hawke will give an overview of the evaluation program and present a variety of proven plants from 30 years of trials, including new selections and old favorites. Richard Hawke is responsible for the comparative evaluation of over 1,000 perennials and woody plants each year. He is the principal author of *Plant Evaluation Notes*, an author and contributing editor for *Fine Gardening*, and writes for other horticulture publications such as *Perennial Plants*, *The American Gardener*, and *Nursery Management*.

June 16-25, 2018 – WHPS Tour to England—North Wales, Shropshire, and Herefordshire. Tentative Itinerary: We will be meeting at London Heathrow Airport on the morning of Saturday, June 16, 2018 and departing from there to Shropshire and the Welsh border area, visiting a couple of gardens along the way. We will end up back at a hotel Sunday night, June 24, for departure on Monday, June 25. This trip is full including no room on the waiting list per Frank Greer at frgreer@sbcglobal.net.

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2018 – WHPS Potluck Dinner and Walk Through Olbrich Botanical Gardens

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018 – Program TBA

Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2018 – Program TBA

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018 – Program TBA

Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018 – Annual Meeting, Member Potpourri and Seed Exchange



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Explore the website

If you haven't taken an online walk through our Website, we think you will be pleased to find some resources you might find helpful and informative. We're now including: handouts from our program speakers (when available) under Speaker Handouts in our NEWSLETTERS tab; current and past newsletters; our up-to-date calendar of events (with online registration now available when necessary); information on our new Grant program and an online opportunity to donate to that and all our programs; information and brochures for our bus trips under the EVENT CALENDAR tab; an entire page of Resources under our LINKS tab with favorite gardening blogs and other Web-

sites to visit; and under our HISTORY tab you can find out a bit about our past, a list of officers and directors, and a list of our current member businesses. www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.org



Member opportunity

The curators of the Wisconsin State Herbarium in the Department of Botany at UW-Madison are always in need of volunteers. Recently they secured a dedicated parking spot behind Birge Hall that is now reserved exclusively for Herbarium volunteers. If you are interested in discussing opportunities to work with the state Herbarium, please contact either Ken Cameron (kmcameron@wisc.edu), Mary Ann Feist (mfeist@wisc.edu), or Mark Wetter (mawetter@wisc.edu). You can also learn more about the Herbarium on their website: <http://herbarium.wisc.edu/>

Other events of note

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

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

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

Wednesday, Nov. 29, Plant Selection for Four-Season Garden Interest, 6:30 pm, by Mark Dwyer, Horticulture Director of Rotary Botanical Gardens. www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org

Dec. 2-31, Olbrich Botanical Gardens' Holiday Express.

December 8-31, 2017 Holiday Light Show, Rotary Botanical Gardens, Janesville, <http://www.rotarybotanicalgardens.org/event/>

February 9-11, 2018. Wisconsin Garden Expo, Alliant Energy Center, Madison.

April 13-14, 2018. Allen Centennial Gardens HortiCULTURAL Landscapes Symposium, Madison. Tickets on sale Jan. 15.

March 7-15, 2018 Southern California Travel Experience, sponsored by Friends of Allen Centennial Garden. Contact Benjamin Futa, Allen Centennial Garden Director, at bfuta@wisc.edu.

May 18-26, 2018 Gardens of Kent Trip led by Jeff Epping, sponsored by Olbrich Gardens and Burkhalter Travel; <http://www.olbrich.org/events/regionalinternational.cfm>

Seed Exchange

It's time to do a final walk through the garden to collect seeds to bring to our Seed Exchange before and after the program at the December 6 WHPS Annual Meeting. Envelopes for sharing will be provided. For more information on collecting seeds, we have an article posted at http://www.wisconsinhardyplantsociety.org/uploads/7/5/7/4/75745871/seed_exchange_faq_9-2002.pdf

There is also a nice article on collecting and saving seeds online in *Fine Gardening* Issue 57 by Sally Roth: <http://www.finegardening.com/collecting-and-storing-seeds>.



photo by Fine Gardening

WHPS ties to Fine Gardening magazine

By Jane LaFlash

When reading through the current (Nov-Dec 2017) issue of *Fine Gardening*, I was surprised at how many ties WHPS has to the various contributors.

- Our own Jeff Epping wrote the page 26 article on *Digging Deeper into Gravel Gardens*, and all the photos are of Olbrich Botanical Gardens.

- On our 2015 Portland trip we visited the private garden of Linda Ernst, who wrote the page 40 article *Balancing Act*, about balancing lush plantings with clean lines.

- Our Sept 2016 speaker was Irvin Etienne, horticulturist from the Indianapolis Museum of Art. His page 58 article is titled *A Bright Idea for Spring Containers*.

- And *Fine Gardening* Senior Editor Danielle Sherry wrote the article on *Going Gracefully into Winter* on page 68. Danielle has been to Madison twice in the past 15 months scouting and photographing local gardens for possible future inclusion.



Snag (cont. from p.1)

that was on my property when I moved here. Half of it fell over during a winter storm my second year gardening and I decided to leave part of it laid over the side as a kind of natural bench. Since then it has been home to a groundhog, been taken over by a five-leaf akebia, served many squirrels and chipmunks well and is still standing, though I keep a close watch on it.

According to the National Wildlife Federation (www.nwf.org/Home/Garden-for-Wildlife/Cover/Trees-and-Snags), the removal of dead material from forests can mean a loss of habitat for up to one-fifth of the animals in the ecosystem. Snags provide:

- habitat—many animals, including birds, bats, squirrels and raccoons make nests in hollow cavities and crevices in standing deadwood.
- food source—by attracting insects, mosses, lichens and fungi, deadwood becomes a gourmet restaurant for wildlife looking for a snack.
- a “crow’s nest”—higher branches of snags serve as excellent look-outs from which wildlife such as raptors spot potential prey.
- hiding places—the nooks and crannies of deadwood are put to good use by squirrels and other wildlife looking to store food.
- soil refresher—mosses, lichens and fungi all grow on snags



and aid in the return of vital nutrients to the soil through the nitrogen cycle. Decaying logs on the forest floor also act as “nurse logs” for new seedlings.

I’m hoping to add a clematis to the base of the fir snag in spring. Yes, it looks kind of stark right now (though I love the sapsucker nibbles on the trunk), but it’s a work in progress and it will be interesting to see what develops as time goes by.

Japanese Spikenard (cont. from p.1)

I was formerly familiar with the straight species (green form) of this plant (*Aralia cordata*) for many years and our two gigantic specimens at the gardens would reach 7’ tall every year with showy white bloom clusters in summer followed by purple (inedible) berries. This species is native to Japan, Korea, and portions of China. The fine young shoots of this perennial (called mountain asparagus or “udo”) are a delicacy in Japan (tastes like asparagus) and the roots can also be consumed as you would parsnips. My interest, however, was in the huge, green, subtropical appearance of this large herbaceous perennial in the shaded garden. Then along comes ‘Sun King’ that has, in my opinion, become one of the most exciting perennial introductions in the last 20 years.

Barry Yinger, plantsman extraordinaire, was said to have found this gold form at a department store nursery in Japan. The rest will become welcome history with this spectacular garden option. This tough perennial offers superior, bold texture in the shaded garden and now the compound, golden leaves offer excellent “illumination” in those locations as well. Reaching 3’ – 6’ tall once established, this perennial prefers rich, moist soils with adequate drainage but has not been overly choosy with soil conditions beyond the drainage requirements. Extra pampering will certainly benefit growth rate and the progression towards maturity. ‘Sun King’ also exhibits the excellent hardiness (to zone 4) and shade tolerance of the species. I did see a specimen in hardiness zone 3 and it looked like it was thriving. It is important to note that in dappled shade or areas where some sun is available, the foliage reads as a solid gold. In darker locations, it still offers interest as a “strong chartreuse”. Our original specimen (now eight years old) reaches 5’ in height annually and is a real focal point in the dappled shade of our gazebo garden. I have seen ‘Sun King’ placed in full sun and while the foliage is quite bright in spring, leaf burning or washing out to a blanched white once summer arrives is typical. Some degree of shading is vital for maintaining the integrity of the foliage intensity and protection from strong winds will help keep the foliage intact.

Without a doubt, the foliage is the primary asset of ‘Sun King’ Japanese spikenard.

However, the reddish stems offer some interest as do the white summer flower clusters that later transition to deep purple berry clusters. Pollinators enjoy the flowers and while the berries are inedible to humans, many birds will avidly consume them. This perennial is also touted as deer resistant and the frequent deer in our garden have left them entirely alone.

Consider adding this stalwart perennial in to the shadier garden as an accent, focal point, mass planting or for all of these purposes. I can’t envision a day in the future where this plant will be considered ubiquitous. . . I think it has become the essential backbone of our shadier gardens and deserves all the accolades it continues to receive. Availability can still be a challenge but consider locating this plant and giving it a try.



Jumping worms

Update from WHPS Member April Hoffman

At the September WHPS Meeting, member April Hoffman reported on conversations with Dane County Extension Horticulture Educator Lisa Johnson and Olbrich Gardens Director of Horticulture Jeff Epping about their recent experience with Early Bird Fertilizer, which has been suggested as a possible solution to the jumping worm problem (golf courses have used it for years). She spoke with her gardening buddy, chemist and Master Gardener Lee Bjerke, who checked the ingredients and said he wanted to try it.

April contacted the only distributor in the state, DHD Turf & Tree Products in Juneau and spoke with the very helpful manager there, Joe Jehnsen. (He was worried about my loading the 50-pound bags and insisted on delivering them to my door. I tipped Jim with a six pack of his favorite beer, 'Moon Man'. You can find it at HyVee.)

For her 50' x150' lot he suggested three bags, and was told by both Jehnsen and Lee Bjerke that it was not too late in the season to fertilize. She ordered three bags at \$51 per bag, applied it liberally with a hand spreader, applying in mid-Septem-

ber, again two weeks later, and will again in early spring 2018. April was told it is best to use right before a rain, noting it damages the mucous coating of all earthworms and slugs.

Follow-up on 9/21/17

April emailed to let us know that she applied – heavily – and watered for a good half-hour. She reported that the worms came to the surface and, like lemmings, raced to the sidewalk. *I stomped them until I realized they were dying. Of course, there may be hundreds more that are happily in there still eating my mulch, but it was a sight to see.*



photo from link at right

Update on 9/30/17

Here is the latest report from April:

• Lee Bjerke put it on his yard. He watered it an hour and found worms skedaddling out in droves.

• April used it far more sparingly in her

back yard and still found worms. *Lisa Johnson is right. It requires a LOT.*

• Jeff Epping said that it will never get rid of all the worms, but it allows for a bit of control, so go ahead and mulch knowing more will come in with the mulch. You can use the Early Bird when they get thick again.

• April told K&A Greenhouse about the product, and they said they will try to order a pallet for next spring.

Final note for this season

Here is the link to an article on this promising new approach for dealing with the jumping worms. – <http://gsrpdf.lib.msu.edu/ticpdf.py?file=/article/potter-controlling-10-21-11.pdf>, and here is contact information for DHD Turf and Tree Products (Early Bird Fertilizer) 179 W. Kindt Street, P.O. Box 126, Juneau, WI 53039; email – info@dhdproducts.com, 920-386-9000

The WHPS Board is continuing to work on this issue and we will have an update on the product, its availability and any other updates on dealing with the worms in upcoming newsletters.

They come from far and wide!

Update from Jane LaFlash

Among her many other activities for WHPS, Jane LaFlash is our Membership Coordinator. She just recently conducted a review of our membership and, as of October 2017, the WHPS has 845 members (including 23 business memberships).

Wonder where all these people live? Following is a general breakdown.

Members who live out of Wisconsin – 39

California – 2	New York – 1
Illinois – 20	North Carolina – 4
Iowa – 1	Ohio – 2
Michigan – 1	Oregon – 2
Minnesota – 5	Washington – 1

Members who live in Dane County or a nearby county

Columbia Co – 10	Jefferson Co – 19
Dane Co – 644	Rock Co – 16
Green Co – 5	Sauk Co – 5
Iowa Co – 7	

Members who live in Wisconsin but outside any of the above counties – 83

Of those who live in Dane County – Where do they live?

Belleville – 2	Mazomanie – 8
Black Earth – 4	Middleton – 52
Brooklyn – 9	Monona – 20
Cambridge – 7	Morrisonville – 1
Cottage Grove – 10	Mt Horeb – 9
Dane – 1	Oregon – 20
DeForest – 4	Stoughton – 21
Edgerton – 5	Sun Prairie – 21
Fitchburg – 28	Verona – 26
Madison – 366	Waunakee – 13
Marshall – 2	Windsor – 2
McFarland – 15	

We thank you for your continuing membership and look forward to seeing those of you who are able to attend upcoming programs, tours and trips!

Thank you Jeannette Golden!

Jeannette Golden will be retiring from our board at the end of this year. She has served for over 10 years and has done an excellent job leading the coordination of Plant Sale Volunteers and set-up day during that time. We will miss her organizational expertise on the board but she has promised to continue to help with the Plant Sale when we are able to start up again. Thank you Jeannette!

If you are interested in serving on the WHPS Board, please contact Stephanie O'Neal at 608-256-6108, sone2@aol.com. Directors join at large, to allow them to become familiar with the board before taking on any additional duties. We try to maintain an informality and gregariousness to make it both effective, open to the future, and never boring!

Reflections – the Iowa trip

• Thoughts from a lapsed bus traveler: I forgot you need to get to the bus REALLY early to get a good seat. I enjoyed seeing gardeners I hadn't seen or talked to for a while. I loved having John Cannon as the tour leader! I loved not being the tour leader! I was very impressed with Iowa public gardens and very impressed with the sea junk sculptures at Reiman Gardens in Ames. Adding these extra elements makes a big impression and a valuable environmental statement. It was so much fun to visit Ed Lyon's home garden and always a treat to listen to him and see his newest garden. Great job planning and executing the trip!!! – Ann Munson

• In the *Country Garden and Gifts* is a nursery I will definitely visit again. I found a couple of treasures which had been on my "gotta have" list that were very reasonably priced. At the *Quilted Gardens Nursery*, I found a couple of plants I didn't even know I needed. Such fun! WHPS tours are the greatest. (As for the plants she found, Rita says, "They'll have to come to my garden to see!!") – Rita Thomas

• The highlight for me of the Iowa Trip was touring Ed Lyon's gardens – both Reiman and his own. He seems really happy in his new environment and was the perfect host for us! The other private gardens were also very interesting as they highlighted a love of mine – dwarf conifers. I definitely want to try *Pinus parviflora* (see photo) after seeing so many beautiful specimens. – Barb Herreid

• Special mention to the "found" items from the sea at Reiman Gardens and Ed Lyon's role in developing Reiman. I thought the wall planting from Des Moines Botanical Garden was lovely, so much has been done to improve this and

the people working there are very qualified. I really wasn't impressed with the Better Homes & Gardens garden compared to other trial gardens we have seen. The butterfly garden was also a nice surprise at Reiman garden. I enjoyed the trip very much. John did a great job. – Dee Van Thorne

• Had loads of fun. – Pattie Pilz, Owner, NSITEDESIGNS

• The trip was great and I always learn lots and I most always learn that WHPS members are generous with sharing their knowledge. – Penny Torhorst

• One of the standout takeaways was the Des Moines Botanic gardens. It is a gem! There is a group of young horticulturists that are working together to do some cutting edge and cool things. I'm not sure I would have realized that without having an arranged tour. . . thanks to the trip arranger John Cannon. These trips are awesome. I will never take for granted the work that goes into having carefree transportation and arranged tours. Some stops are better than others of course. The group is well trained to keep on schedule and to be patient when there are changes beyond our control. It was great to see Ed Lyon on this tour and to see some of what occupies him in



photo by Dee Van Thorne

his new life in Iowa (my personal second favorite state). He shared his home with us and hosted the dinner on our first night. I could go on... *just moved here from Omaha, Nebraska where we had an awesome Master Gardener program but less in the touring department.* – Vicky Shallow (New WHPS member)



photo by Barb Herreid

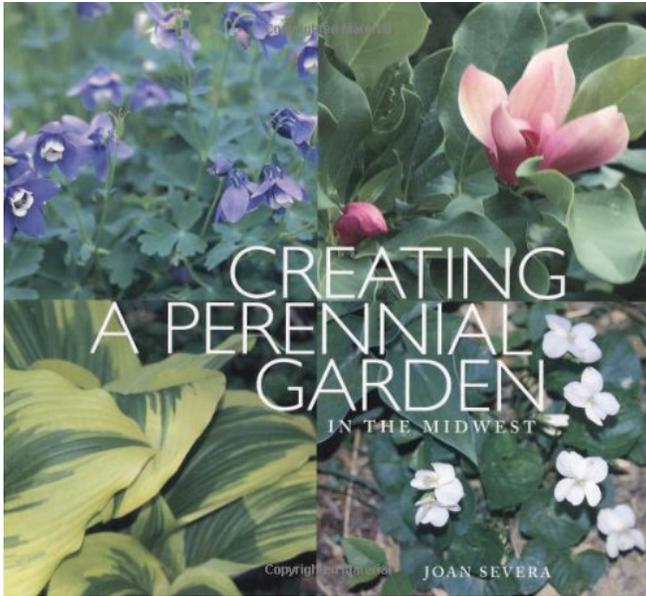


photo by Dee Van Thorne



photo by Dee Van Thorne

Fall is lurking



– A tribute to the fall garden from the late Joan Severa, first published in *Perennial Notes*, September 2002.

Suddenly, the daylilies are over, and their bare stems interrupt the eye's progress as I survey my beds. The early-blooming hostas are in that raggedy stage that makes me remember why I didn't used to like them—and with just a little effort, I think, I can transform them back to glossy mounds again. And shouldn't I cut down the *Campanula lactiflora* entirely? It isn't pretty in its brown state, and it interferes with the graceful curves of the waving tall clumps of *miscanthus*. And when did that 'Henry Kelsey' climber send out those eight-foot feelers? If only they weren't so wickedly thorny!

Well, it isn't "just a little effort," of course, and furthermore getting into it by this back door, so to speak, I am suddenly aware of a thousand things that cry out to be done NOW, while it is just a bit cooler and I have just watered. Trimming up tired plants leads me to look into all the beds, and see, for instance, where some precious small plants are swamped by the stunning growth of a young *hosta* 'Regal Splendor', and how ready the little *Primula* 'Wanda' is for dividing. Wanda has already made a three-foot patch from one original plant three years ago, and I can make a curving six-foot drift out of the sturdy plants today. I love the brilliant pink of 'Wanda's' short-stemmed clump in May, and they last for simply weeks. What a sweep of color that will be! I haul off the

weed-bag full of trimmings, dump it on the compost and get out my tools for digging.

Carefully moving two nice sedges out of a cramped corner, I notice two ruby-red lanterns on *Trillium rubrum*; wonderful! They have made seed pods for me! One has fallen off and I take it inside to save it from mice, ants, and birds; the other I leave on the stem in case it needs to ripen further. I got those from Gene Bush; better email him and find out how to propagate those darling

plants. These ones have really red blossoms, not just dull maroon, and I would love a little forest of them. No luck with *Arisaema sikkokianum*; I thought for sure I would have a bunch of red berries this year. And wouldn't THAT be fun! *A. ringens* didn't set seed either. I hope they aren't sterile.

It is supper time when I finally look at that berm and like the way it looks—*Lamium* 'Pink Pewter' is pretty in bloom, but messy in the middle of a bed, and taking it out has freed up the entire area around that *hosta*, showing off the pale standing fronds of 'The Ghost' fern as well. Several *epimediums* and small *astilbes* are set off by better placement, too, and some actually got moved all the way out to the new bed under the old spruce. Now that garden looks more finished too! And then I see about a hundred seedlings of the Nakoma pass-along pink primrose in the nicely composted bark path across the way. Oh shoot. Another job. But wait. I think I had better leave them until spring, and put them in in situ. If I try to pot them up I will lose many, and putting them in the beds now is too risky. Who knows what this weather is going to do?

Tired and happy, I truck all the tools up the hill and look back. Everything is in balance. But couldn't I use just a touch of deep purple right there, with all the gold variegated hostas behind it? Right beside the gaudy, bushy *persicaria*, with its limey green leaves with their purple chevrons? And right under the golden 'Full Moon'



maple? Better go to The Flower Factory tomorrow. I am sure I will find *Cimicifuga simplex* 'Purpurea' there. Deep, deep purple leaves, and white spikes in October. Just what I need!

[Joan's book, published in 1999, is still a great addition to a gardening library. There is also a wonderful article about Joan online at http://www.lindabrazill.com/each_little_world/2015/03/page/2/]

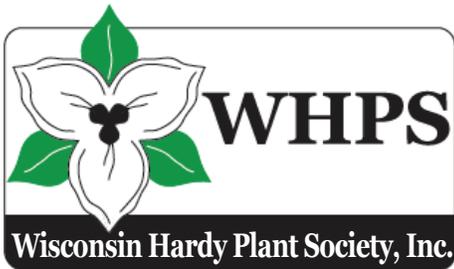
Brent and Becky's Bulbs WHPS Fundraiser

Help Us Raise Needed Money!
Bloomin' Bucks
with Brent and Becky's

Now you can help the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society raise money with any order you place with Brent & Becky's Bulbs.

Simply visit www.bloominbucks.com and select "Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society" from the organization drop down menu. Hit "GO" to be sent to the Brent and Becky's website where you can order any item, in any quantity – bulbs, tools, books, supplements, gift certificates and more – **and 25% of your purchase will be donated to the Wisconsin Hardy Plant Society.** This option applies to phone and mail orders as well – just be sure to mention WHPS or write us in as the organization you would like to support. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, donations like these are essential to continue our mission.

Please help us with this easy and generous offer to raise funds.



211 S. Fair Oaks Avenue, Madison, WI 53704

November 2017 Newsletter

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

Member Potpourri guide

If you've been taking pictures of your garden or other gardens visited this year, or if you have a special garden project you've documented and would like to show us, we welcome you to present at the December 6 Member Potpourri at Olbrich Gardens Commons.

You will have 10 minutes maximum to present, for a total of nine presentations (if some are estimated at less, we can fit additional presentations into the program), and you are welcome to present as many or as few photos as you wish. You don't have to be a professional photographer or presenter to be a part of the Member Potpourri. Please contact Stephanie O'Neal (sones2@aol.com, 608-256-6108) by December 1 so she can put you on the list to present your photos.

To avoid last-minute surprises and to prevent frustration and make it easier for presenters to show their images at the member Potpourri, please bring your images in one of these formats:

1. Images (with or without music) created as a PowerPoint or program on a DVD or flash drive. These can be presented slide by slide or could play as an uninterrupted slideshow program.

2. A Quicktime or Windows Live Moviemaker presentation on a DVD or flash drive. This can be played with music or you can narrate. (There is a sample potpourri video with music on the WHPS Facebook page.)

3. Individual numbered image files in .JPEG format and saved onto a CD, DVD or flash drive. Add sequential numbers to each .JPEG at the front of each existing file name or number in the order you want to show them. [Example: 1.jpg, 2.jpg, 3.jpg, etc.] These images can then be easily loaded onto a laptop and projected one by one using a remote or as a slideshow.

There are a couple of sample Potpourri videos with music on the WHPS Facebook page - https://www.facebook.com/pg/WisconsinHardyPlantSociety/videos/?ref=page_internal

This program is always varied and interesting and we hope you will plan to attend!

New members

The following members have recently joined WHPS: Andrew Bunting, Richard Hawke, Monica Macarra, Janet Miller & Ulrich Sielaff, Carol Nickles, Raluca Allen, and Kris Robinson. Welcome!