



Grapevine



Summer 2009

Rotary Botanical Gardens. 1455 Palmer Drive. Janesville, WI 53545. 608.752.3885. www.rotarygardens.org

20 Years of Community Ties

Gardens' Dinner Dance 2009

This year The Gardens is proud to celebrate it's 20th Anniversary. The Dinner Dance, held on Saturday, July 18, 2009, will highlight this anniversary.

We would love to have you attend this event. We are offering a four course gourmet meal provided by Best Events. There will be a special dessert highlighting the anniversary. The Steve Pease Quartet will be offering entertainment as well as Yuri Rashkin who will provide background music for the cocktail hour. We have a great live auction lined up and plenty of exciting opportunities for silent auction bidding.

If you can't make the event, please consider purchasing raffle tickets which are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. They will be available at the Cottage Garden gift shop! We have a beautiful bracelet donated by the Diamond Center and \$500 cash donated by Parker Community Credit Union.

A special thanks to our major sponsors this year: Huntington Place, M & I Bank, Mercy Health System, Murphy Desmond, S.C., & Pelsue & Ellis Orthodontics. For information on obtaining tickets, call (608) 752-3885 X16. Celebrate 20 years with us!

Gardens Volunteers Win 2009 Helping Hand Awards

On June 16 Dr. Gredler and Maury & Kay Frey were honored with a 2009 Helping Hand Award for their dedicated volunteerism at the Rotary Botanical Gardens. Five years ago, the United Way's Volunteer Network developed the Helping Hand Awards with the intent of recognizing, honoring and increasing awareness of the many caring and giving people right in our own backyards.



Dr. Gredler

This year, Dr. Gredler received the highest award given each year, Volunteer of the Year. With over 15 years of volunteering, Dr. Gredler is a vital part of the grounds crew contributing over 1,040 hours each year. He maintains the Gardens' 6 acres of lawns and developed our turf program with the objective of minimizing environmental impact.

Maury & Kay Frey, received the Family Volunteer Award for the many areas of their involvement with the Gardens. Maury is the Treasurer of our Board of Directors, sits on the Garden Development, Executive and Funds Development Committees and is a Grumpy. His technical knowledge has been invaluable in saving us time and significant money, in the gardens

and in building and maintaining our facilities. Kay volunteers in the office supporting our Events Manager and Funds Development Director.

Both Dr. Gredler and the Freys are proactive in promoting the Gardens. We are grateful and appreciate their contributions and generosity of time and talent.



Maury & Kay Frey

Dr. Gredler and the Frey's are two of the many, many wonderful volunteers the Gardens are blessed to work with. If they gave out an award for the "Best Group of Volunteers", the Rotary Gardens would surely win. Thanks to every volunteer – we love working with you.

Electronic or Paper Newsletter?

Help us lower the production costs of the Grapevine. You can elect to have your newsletter e-mailed rather than receive a mailed copy. If you wish to receive the next issue electronically send Angie Haber an e-mail at angie.haber@rotarygardens.org. Thanks for your consideration.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities at the Gardens

For more information pertaining to any of these events, please call (608) 752-3885 or visit www.rotarygardens.org. All events subject to change or cancellation.

- July 11, Volunteer Workday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
- July 18, Dinner Dance Fundraiser 5:30 pm
- July 23, Native Plants
- July 25, Home Garden Tour 10 am - 4 pm
- Aug. 13, Horticulture IS Therapy
- Aug. 22, Volunteer Workday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Sept. 11, Plant Pre-sale for Supporters & Volunteers 9 am - 5 pm
- Sept. 12 - 20, Plant Sale for the Public 9 am - 5 pm
- Sept. 12, Garden Festival 11 am - 4 pm
- Sept. 19, Volunteer Workday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm
- Oct. 17, Volunteer Workday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

What's Wrong with my Maple Tree?

Spring's cool, wet conditions are optimal for many fungal leaf spots. Anthracnose is common, but this year *Venturia* leaf blotch is prevalent. **Don't panic.** It won't kill your tree and you really can't do much about it now anyway.

Plant Problem, Insect Inquiry, or Disease Dilemma?

Diagnostic Clinic in the Sholl Education Room

Rotary Botanical Gardens, in conjunction with Rock County UW-Extension and the Rock Prairie Master Gardener Association, will again offer garden related help this season.

Friends, volunteers, and the general public are welcome to stop into the Sholl Education room, inside the Parker Education Center, with their plant questions or samples for viewing. The room will be open from 1pm to 5pm each Tuesday, Memorial Day through Labor Day. Master Gardener Volunteers and your County horticulture educator will be on hand during that time to assist. Hours may possibly expand depending on MGV availability.

Services include:

- Plant and insect identification
- Garden problem trouble shooting
- Soil testing and fertilizer recommendations

For more information, please visit <http://rock.uwex.edu> for details. It is recommended to make an appointment if you need to meet outside of these hours. Call (608) 752-3885x17.



The 2009 Spring Plant Sale went well. Surplus vegetable plants were given to ECHO and the Salvation Army for distribution to the needy.

Upcoming Work Days



Mark your calendars for our summer workdays. Summer work days are scheduled for July 11th, August 22nd, Sept. 19th and Oct. 17. The volunteer

work sessions begin at 8 am and run until noon (donut break at 10 am). Meet at the Parker Education Center. Call Mark at (608) 754-1779 with any questions.



Encourage a Friend to Become a Friend

Do you know someone who would be interested in becoming a Friend of Rotary Botanical Gardens?

When you encourage a friend to become a Friend of the Gardens, let them know that it is through their generosity that the Gardens remain a beautiful and integral part of Janesville.

In addition to free admission, Friends supporter benefits include Cottage Garden Gift Shop discounts, plant sale discounts, reduced rates on educational programming, entrance into other botanical gardens throughout the nation and additional discounts from local businesses.

Most important, is the continuation of the growth and development of the Gardens. By encouraging someone to become a Friend, you are playing an important role in the Gardens' success and your support is appreciated by staff, volunteers and visitors alike.



Friends Members and Volunteers Recieve 10% Discount in the Gift Shop and on Plant Sales

Thank You

Please help us show our appreciation to the following in-kind sponsors who have recently contributed to RBG.

- L.P. Tree Service
- Reinders, Inc.
- Central Vending
- Rollie & Audrey McClellan
- The Waters Edge
- The Flower Factory
- Jenka Blossoms
- Stonefield Plant Farm
- Nu-Line Striping

**Be Sure to Visit
Mark's Daily Rotary
Botanical Gardens Blog**
www.rotarygardens.blogspot.com

Spring Volunteer Potluck

Everyone had a great time visiting and no one went home hungry. From BBQ ribs, hot and cold pasta dishes to salads and yummy desserts there was something for everyone's taste.

Throughout the evening a new DVD, created by Dr. Owano, was shown, highlighting Garden photos and many familiar volunteer faces. Our new director David Jennings was introduced and Mark Dwyer gave a current update on the Gardens. Each attendee received a visor, can coozie and the Rotary Garden's History publication.

Thanks to everyone who participated and to those who couldn't attend – we hope to see you next time.

Summer Visits to the Gardens Encouraged!

Come visit the gardens this summer to enjoy the maturing seasonal collections. Our pink and chartreuse theme should really be filling in around the entrance garden and other collections will also be peaking.



We planted over 600 varieties of annuals this

year. Look for our annual Rudbeckia (*Rudbeckia hirta*) collection near the arboretum as well as our "ornamental edible" collection along the lower larch wall. Our vegetable collection will be developing over at the Horticulture Center as well. Other garden improvements include new labels, 22 new garden signs and a focus on exciting color themes.

Visit the Cottage Garden Gift Shop Lately?

New Items Arriving

As Spring turns into Summer, things are heating up in the Gift Shop.

Stained glass stars, made by Garden volunteers, will sparkle and catch the sun in any window. Our unique birdhouses will be a treat for you to look at and your backyard birds will love them too. Our new candles, especially the chicks and hen cacti, are so cute you'll want to buy them but won't want to burn them.



Remember to check out the Cottage Garden Gift Shop if you're looking for a gift or just treating yourself! For your shopping convenience, the Cottage Garden Gift Shop hours have been expanded to 8 pm for June, July and August

Special thanks to all our great volunteers who keep the Gift Shop staffed.

Rotary Botanical Gardens' Fall Plant Sale at the Horticulture Center

September 12th – 20th
9 am – 5 pm daily

Pre-sale on Friday, September 11th (9 am-5 pm) for Friends & volunteers.

Friends members and Rotary Gardens' volunteers receive 10% during the duration of the sale. This sale will feature:

- 400 varieties of perennials
- Thousands of giant mums
- Shrubs, roses, ornamental grasses
- Spring blooming bulbs
- Bagged Mushroom Compost

We'll need lots of volunteer assistance for this event. We'll start filling slots in July for this event. Call Angie at (608) 752-3885 (ext. 20) for more information regarding volunteering for this event.

Home Garden Tour

July 25th, 10 am - 4 pm

Tickets are \$10 in advance (\$12 day of event) with a lunch option (*see below) By mid-June, tickets can be purchased at Rotary Gardens or K&W Greenery and all tickets also can be used for entry to Rotary Gardens on that day only. Come tour eight wonderful home gardens in the Janesville area and get ideas for your own landscape. Homes will also feature live music from local musicians of all ages. For information, call Mark at (608) 754-1779

A \$25 advance ticket for this event (limited to 150 available), purchased only at Rotary Botanical Gardens, entitles the participant to entry to all Home Garden Tour gardens, entry to Rotary Gardens and a catered box lunch, served on the Rotary Gardens terrace between 11:30 am and 1 pm. See website for menu (www.rotarygardens.org) or under event listing.



1455 Palmer Drive
 Janesville, WI 53545
 (608) 752-3885
 ROTARYGARDENS.ORG

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 ORGANIZATION
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 PERMIT NO.1055



**Annual Fall
 Plant Sale**

September 12 - 20

9:00am - 5:00pm daily

Members of Rotary Gardens will
 receive 10% off all plant sale
 purchases during the sale.

Pre-Sale

Friday, September 11

9:00am - 5:00pm

for members and volunteers.

