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Mailing address: 518 S 7th Ave, Wausau, WI 54401
Gardens address: 1800 N. First Ave, Wausau, WI 54401



THANK YOU for giving to the Gardens in 2020!

Supporters of Monk Botanical Gardens are making an impact in our community.

"Such a gem! One of my very favorite places in Wausau. It's beautiful year-round!"
—Google Reviewer

"This is a great place to learn new things and have fun outside. I love coming here every year!"
—Teacher, HeadStart

www.monkgardens.org



2020

Gratitude Report



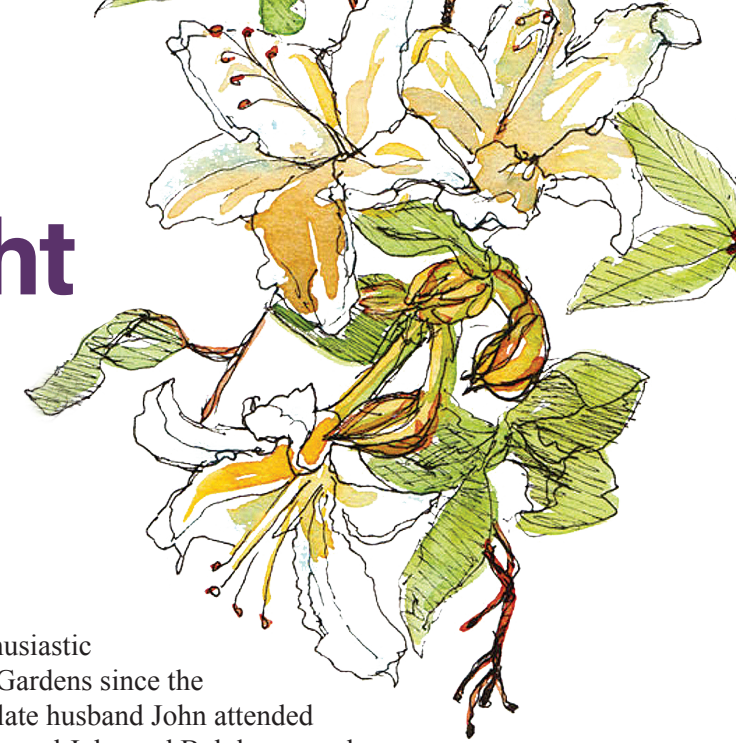
Experience the beauty. Share the vision. **Grow with us.**

www.monkgardens.org

Monk Gardens are located at 1800 N. First Ave, Wausau, WI 54401

Donor Spotlight

Giving to Grow the Gardens



Judy Stevens has been an enthusiastic supporter of Monk Botanical Gardens since the very beginning. Judy and her late husband John attended the same church as Bob Monk, and John and Bob knew each other as they both worked in real estate. When Bob decided to donate land to establish the Gardens, John and Judy were eager supporters of the project.

Judy and John gave their first gift to Monk Gardens in 2007. Although John passed away in 2012, Judy continues to give to the Gardens each and every year to ensure this valuable community resource remains available to everyone.

"It's an important thing to have places like this in the community for people to go to, and that it is free to get in. It's so good for people," said Judy. The Gardens became all the more important to the community in 2020 when the pandemic made indoor gatherings unsafe and outdoor spaces became more valuable than ever to our wellbeing.

Judy's favorite thing to do in the Gardens is to walk the trails and take in the restorative beauty of various plants and flowers. "I love being out in nature. It just calms me down," she said.

Having been an avid supporter of the Gardens since its inception, Judy enjoys watching improvements and additions added to the Gardens each year. In particular, she noticed that the vegetable gardens near the potager looked incredibly vibrant and lush during the summer of 2020. (This is in no doubt due to the attention of our new Horticulturist Marissa Ashbeck and her dedicated volunteers)! Although she hasn't yet attended the free cooking classes herself, she is delighted that the Gardens offers these classes to help people learn how to grow and cook healthy foods and incorporate more plants into their meals.

The entire Board of Directors and staff extend our heartfelt thanks to Judy Stevens for her loyal and consistent support of Monk Gardens since its beginning. Thanks to donors like Judy, the Gardens has expanded into a valuable community resource and is poised for more exciting growth in 2021.

Monk Botanical Gardens depends on the support of generous and loyal donors like Judy to fulfill our vision to connect people and plants for a sustainable future. To join Judy in support of the Gardens, visit www.givebutter.com/monk-botanical-gardens

From the board president



In my introduction to last year’s annual report, I began by saying: “Based on 2019, we look forward with confidence that 2020 will again be a memorable year for our programming, events, and projects.” How right I was, but in a way none of us could have imagined!

For those of us in leadership at Monk Botanical Gardens, and in non-profit organizations across the U.S. and the world, 2020 was the epitome of the old blessing and curse, “May you live in interesting times.” There were sleepless nights, but in many ways we were enormously blessed.

Despite having to cancel most in-person events and even close the Gardens for a time, membership numbers and donations increased significantly. Our staff — Darcie, Elise, and Marissa—quickly pivoted, making sure we stayed relevant and visible through virtual programming and social media. They were nimble and creative. We were even able to add a fourth staff member, Melissa Sullivan, our new Development Director. Many members and donors increased their support, and new members and donors appeared. And support from our foundation partners was, as always, critical. I can truly say that we didn’t just survive in 2020—we thrived.

As I pass the presidential gavel to my long-time friend, Hooshang Zeyghami, I know that the Gardens will be in good hands. Hooshang was there at the beginning, working with Robert Monk and others to implement a vision that must have seemed daunting at the time. It is the mix of long-time volunteers and continual new and fresh perspectives that has been key to the success of our organization.

And so, the optimism that I felt at the beginning of 2020 holds even truer here at the beginning of 2021. This year will see the culmination of the hard work by the North Central Wisconsin Master Gardeners Association in completing the beautiful Hosta Garden. We will also see the first phase of Sara’s Storybook Garden, in partnership with and spearheaded by the Marathon County Bar Association. We also will be actively making plans for launching a major capital campaign to create a Visitors Center Complex, part of the Garden’s master plan since the beginning.

A heartfelt thank you to our passionate members, our dedicated volunteers, our generous donors, and our wonderful and hardworking board members and staff. In closing, I want to especially recognize our Executive Director, Darcie Howard. Without her creativity, perseverance, and smarts, our organization could not have made it through 2020 the way it did, and neither could I.

See you at the Gardens!

Robert Reinertson
Board President, Monk Botanical Gardens

Board of Directors	Members	Staff
President — Robert Reinertson Vice Pres. — Hooshang Zeyghami Secretary — Nancy Cedar Treasurer — Jen Powers	Sandi Cihlar, Tom Monk, Vicki Richmond-Hawkins, Sheila Rossmiller, Paul Whitaker, Julie Bollman, Mallory McGivern, Chumpot Ratanawong, Liz Guzman	Executive Director - Darcie Howard Education & Events Director - Elise Schuler Horticulture/Grounds Mgr. - Marissa Ashbeck

137 programs and events offered to the community

84 volunteers provided 2580 hours of service

3002 community members served by programs

Over 1 mile of trails surfaced for accessibility

Financials

INCOME	
In Kind Contributions	\$ 14,597
Grants	\$ 97,843
Memberships	\$ 28,190
Contributions	\$ 111,384
Program Fees	\$ 66,723
Temp Restricted Project Funds	\$ 63,164
	\$ 381,901
EXPENSES	
Program	\$ 231,646
Core Mission Support	\$ 61,922
Capital	\$ 33,000
	\$ 326,568
NET	\$ 55,333
ASSETS (as of December 31, 2020)	
CASH	\$ 358,802
PROPERTY	\$ 2,425,532
TOTAL	\$ 2,784,334



Individual donations increased by 47%



1 additional staff member added



Our success in 2020 was only possible because of our generous donors.

* indicates funding from the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin.
^ indicates funding from the B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation & Wisconsin Arts Board

Corporate & Foundation Donors

\$75,000+

B.A. & Esther Greenheck Foundation

\$25,000+

Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin
Dwight & Linda Davis Foundation

\$15,000+

Dudley Foundation, Inc.

\$10,000+

May Family Foundation Inc.
Ruder Ware

\$5,000+

Community Arts Grant*^
Murco Foundation Fund*
Wisconsin Public Service Foundation
WSAW Channel 7

\$2,500+

Albert R. Olson Charitable Trust
American Family Insurance Dreams Foundation Inc.
Harvey J. Nelson Charitable Trust

\$1,000+

Bell Family Charitable Foundation
Connexus Association
CoVantage Cares Foundation, Inc.
First Student, Inc.
Hsu Growing Supply
John & Mary Hartwig Foundation*
Liberty Mutual Charitable Fund
MCDEVCO
Mid Wisconsin Foundation Legacy Fund*
Nsigthtel Wireless, LLC dba Cellcom
Raymond & Marie Goldbach Charitable Foundation, Inc.
RE-VI Design LLC
Team Royal Restoration, LLC
The GoodCoin Foundation
William M. & Mary Nell Reif Family Fund*

\$500+

Holiday Inn & Suites-Rothschild
Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company
Great Lakes Coca-Cola Bottling
Green Lawn Underground Sprinklers
Urban Street Bistro LLC
Eye Clinic of Wisconsin
Hsu Global Distribution LLC
Mary Bethke Fund*

Newcomb Electric and Heating
Reimer Construction
Runkel Abstract & Title
Throm Health and Wellness
Walmart of Wausau

\$250+

Cloverbelt Credit Union
Evolutions in Design
Fred Mueller Automotive
Hougum Law Firm LLC
Hsu’s Ginseng Enterprises
Jim Kryshak Jewelers
Katzenbarkers LLC
Maher Water Corporation
Peterson & Kraemer Funeral Home & Crematory
SK Excavating & Trucking
Szmanda Dental
Technical Details Inc.
The Waraksa Group at Coldwell Banker Action
Wausau Bird Club

\$100+

Cattail Organics
County Market
Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist
Just picked flowers
La Prima Deli
LandArt, Inc
Landscape Solutions
Maguire’s Tree Farm
Olson Tire & Auto Service Inc
Rib Mountain Cycles
Rothschild Garden Club

Target
Thrive Foodery
Trek Bicycle Store
Wausau Area Garden Club
Wild Birds Unlimited
Wimmer Real Estate, LLC

\$99 & Under

2510 Restaurant
Days Bowl-A-Dome
Field and Forest Products, Inc
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church-Corks N Covers
Bookclub
Melzer Trucking LLC
Now and Zen Massage, LLC
Tamara-Dawn Images
Walkowski Photography
Wisconsin Woodchucks Baseball Club

Due to space limitations not all donors are listed. For a full donor list for 2020, scan the QR code:



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www.monkgardens.org