



Notes from

# HORNBAKER GARDENS, Inc.

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## ***OPEN HOUSE JUNE 8, 9, 10***

Our annual Open House and Hosta Walk will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 8, 9, and 10. The hostas should be looking great at that time. Refreshments will be served, and drawings for prizes will be held each day. We will be firing up our grill to sell pork chops, brat burgers and burgers for lunch on Friday and Saturday. We will also have a selection of specially priced plants, including a good selection of hostas. Look for specials on some of our Shop items. You never know what we might decide to feature. The Open House specials list will be available on our website by June 7. The afternoon "Make and Take" Hypertufa workshop is full. We do have a waiting list in case of any cancellations.



### **Annuals Galore**

We keep getting in fresh loads of annuals that are looking fantastic. It seems that Molly gets as carried away ordering annuals as I do ordering trees and shrubs. There are some outstanding combo pots, as well as a great selection of hanging baskets. So come grab a load of color!

*Mark Your  
Calendar*

# Artisan Market

Saturday, September 15th from 10 am to 4 pm

## Painting the Gardens

Artists from central Illinois will be painting En Plein Air during the three days of our Open House; June 8, 9, and 10. It will be fun for all of us to watch them capture the beauty and serenity of our gardens on canvas. Some artists may have a piece or two for sale as well.



*Artist Terri Shockency*



*Children's Garden*

# Bring the Kids

The Children's Garden (actually more of a play area) is proving to be very popular with youngsters. They love to run up and down the hills, go through the tunnel, climb and jump off of the large rock and oak log, play with the trucks and scoops in the pea gravel, and play in Kathy's Kitchen. A couple of kids' picnic tables and one for adults provide some seating and, of course, a great place to have a picnic. We had left a long board out by Kathy's Kitchen, and found that kids couldn't resist using it as a see saw, so we have set that up to be a regular addition to the fun, with a mild enough teetering action that small children can use it.

**But please keep an eye on your children:** We ask that you not leave your children unattended in the Children's Garden.

## **HOURS:**

From April 10 through July 10, we will be open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5:00 p.m. From July 11 through October 10, we will be open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and we will be closed on Sundays.

# *Impressive Hostas*

Here are three hostas that are really impressing us this year, both in the way they look and in the way they have sized up in the pots. **'Touch of Class'** is a tetraploid version of 'June', meaning that it has an extra set of chromosomes. It has the same gold centers with blue margins and even better substance, and it stands more upright than 'June'.

It's appropriate that **'Royal Wedding'** is looking great this year. Harry and Meaghan would approve. 'Royal Wedding' is a wide margined sport of 'Diana Remembered', forming an upright mound of thick, shiny green leaves with wide, creamy white margins. Large, fragrant, white flowers top the plant in summer.

**'Blue Hawaii'** has just exploded in size this year into a stunning, upright plant with outstanding substance and corrugation. The blue foliage is gorgeous, and the plant will have white, lightly fragrant flowers.



*Hosta 'Blue Hawaii'*



*Hosta 'Touch of Class'*



*Hosta 'Royal Wedding'*