

# Friends of the Domes

## Current and Upcoming Events

### Mark your Calendars for Rainforest Night!

October 12th 6-9 pm.

*Sponsored by Milwaukee County Parks*

Bring your flashlight and spend an adventurous night in the rainforest. Free samples of exotic fruits and nuts—ranging from pomegranates and pineapples to Brazil and macadamia nuts—will be provided. Chocolate lovers will savor free samples of high-quality chocolates. Tropical fruit preparation will be demonstrated. Observers will get glimpses of trees and plants that supply us with chocolate, vanilla, coffee, tea, and a myriad of pharmaceutical products. There will be flashlight tours of a jungle at night. Doors will open for Rainforest night at 6pm. Admission is \$6.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children ages 6-18 and free for children ages 5 and under. This event is only free to FOD members who volunteer to help/regular rates apply to everyone else. Please call Paula at 649-8375 if you want to volunteer. This special evening is fun for all ages!

### Ikebana Show, Japanese Flower Arranging

October 19th – 21st



### Balloon-a-Palooza “Bedtime Stories”

November 17th – 25th

*Sponsored by Milwaukee County Parks*

Come experience the largest balloon art exhibit in the USA. Balloon sculptures, mazes, cartoon characters and more await you and your family at the Domes.

### FOD Holiday Dinner and Fundraiser

November 29th 6 pm

### Asian Festival

November 30th 3-9 pm

Food, crafts & exhibits celebrating the Asian Culture

### Aurora Senior Holiday Health Fair

December 4th 9-3 pm

*Sponsored by Milwaukee County Parks & Aurora.* Vendors, services, resources and entertainment for seniors

### Holiday on Village Square Show Domes

Nov. 17th – Jan 6th 2008

Showcasing 8 ethnic trees decorated by local organizations

### New Year’s Eve at the Domes

Sponsored by the Friends of the Domes  
December 31st 6-10 pm

This great event has become a tradition for many families! Celebrate with your kids and ring in the New Year with live music, magic, comedy and food!

### 2008 “Gulliver’s Travels” Annual Train Show

January 19th – March 9

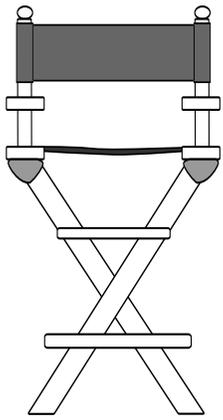


### Restaurants Under Glass

Friday, January 25th 2008, 6pm – 9pm

The evening will include music 6-9 pm and a Cash Bar. Notable Milwaukee area restaurants will be serving samples from their menus between 6:00 pm & 8:00 pm.





# DIRECT FROM THE DIRECTOR

Sandy Folaron

Well, the ducks and geese are headed south (South Shore Park that is...!), the leaves are turning and all of us here at the Domes are beginning to gear up for our busiest season of the year! The calendar has become a crazy mix of new events, celebrations and show changes.

The Orchid Show just wrapped up and boasted the best attendance figures since 2002 (a big thanks to Bil Nelson and his Orchid Society for all of their hard work). Rainforest Night, a family favorite, has added more vendors and entertainment than ever before. Balloon-a-Palooza, which draws over 8,000 visitors to the Domes, is once again gearing up for its new show. And let's not forget the Ikebana Show, our ethnic tree decorating community project, the brand new Asian Festival, the ever-popular Senior Health Fair, the Holiday Show itself (Holiday on Village Square), New Years Eve Family Celebration and of course, working to layout our fabulous Train Show for 2008! If that's not enough, we are also planning additional mini-festivals next year working with several of the lake-front festival committees to bring them to the Domes!

**What's missing?  
YOU!**

We need your support and help in making all of these events come to life! In a little less than a year that I have served as the Domes Director, I have been able to work with a very small and dedicated group of people that devote hours and hours of their time and energy to make this organization strong. I see the same faces at the events, fundraisers and meetings. With a membership of over twelve hundred, I know that there are more of you that could help. A couple of hours here and there during the year, purchasing a few raffle tickets, coming to a Fundraiser and maybe bringing a new friend along with you.

The possibilities are endless!

We rely on our "friends" and outside partners so much. Now, more than ever, with budget constraints, a new greenhouse proposal on the table and a facility and operation that is at a "tipping point" your support is needed more than ever. Our success in engaging the next generation of Domes supporters falls on all of our shoulders. So stop by, get involved and support the efforts of your board and committees. They work hard on your behalf and could use a little help...

## Friends of the Domes Fund Raiser a Huge Success!



Sunday September 16th saw the First Annual Friends of the Mitchell Park Domes Fall Fundraiser held at the renowned Mia Famiglia restaurant in Hales Corners. This event was such a successful intimate evening that next years event is already in the planning stage!

Those in attendance enjoyed the fabulous and varied cuisine as WTMJ's own Gene Mueller conducted the raffle of exciting items, and then the super silent auction. Valuable items ranged from 2 complimentary airline tickets on Midwest Airlines to a Marquette University basketball items basket. Some incredible deals were had!

Next year be sure to sign up early for this event and take advantage of the early bird raffle ticket deal!

**You will want to mark your calendars for.....**

November 29th the Friends of the Domes will be hosting their 2008 Holiday Dinner, please join us for a fun filled evening. A Silent Auction and raffle will be available, featuring several Ethnic Baskets, several Milwaukee Dining Baskets, Christmas fun baskets, several puzzles and games baskets, romance baskets, and more.

Please look for details in the mail to you soon.

# Restaurants Under Glass



Bring your friends and family to the Domes on Friday, January 25th 2008, 6pm – 9pm

While enjoying the festivities, enjoy our 2008 Winter Show Dome Opening. The theme for The Train Show, “Gulliver’s Travels”, will feature working G-Scale Trains.

The evening will include music 6-9 pm and a Cash Bar.

Notable Milwaukee area restaurants will be serving samples from their menus between 6:00 pm & 8:00 pm. Quantities are limited so get there early! Top off your night with delicious cake from Rich’s House of Cakes.

For this Special Event, regular admission rates apply. FOD members are not admitted free. Tickets for food samples can be purchased at the Door. For further information, call Diane (414) 803-7910

## New Faces at the Domes – Meet Darlene Dorsett and Debbie LaDue

*by Darlene Dorsett*

I was born and raised in West Allis but lived in Las Vegas for 25 years. When I returned to the Milwaukee area, I worked as a media coordinator for Better Living Patio and Sunrooms. People interested in our products called an 800 number, their names were sent to my computer and I was responsible for selling our company to them and scheduling appointments. It was interesting work, and it enabled me to perfect my computer and customer service skills. That experience has helped me tremendously with all my duties with FOD. In my position as administration assistant, I am responsible for all membership contact, from sending renewal forms to entering information into the computer, board meeting minutes, assisting with the production of the FOD newsletter and many other things. But, I also walk through the Domes every chance I get, especially the arid dome. It brings back fond memories of my time in Vegas!



Pictured are from left: Darlene Dorsett (new Administrative Assistant), Kathy Weber (outgoing Admin Assistant) and Debbie LaDue (new Volunteer and Event Coordinator)

*By Debbie LaDue*

To begin with, my best work in this lifetime are my children, Billy 34 and Amy (who passed away 4 years ago at 27). I enjoy riding my Harley (a Road King Classic) and spending time with my family and friends. I live in West Allis with my 2 cats, Ozzy a Persian, and Abby a Abyssinian who I adopted. Music has always been a big part in my life. I was a former Disc Jockey in the

Milwaukee Night clubs for years. I started working with the Domes as a volunteer and then I was hired to work the gift shop. I have worked as a Sales Rep. with Gift Companies for over 22 years. I really enjoy interaction with the public and I look forward to building the excitement of volunteering at the Domes! Hope to see you there.

# FOD Gift Certificates Make Great Holiday Gifts!

It's hard to believe it's almost time to start thinking about the holidays. What to get that special person in your life...or your helpful neighbor...or your fun co-worker? Well, here is a way to make that decision quick and simple! Call the Domes Gift Shop and purchase Gift Certificates over the phone! You can order as many as you like, and the Gift Certificates will be mailed to you so you can wrap them up like any other gift. Or, you could request the Gift Certificate be mailed directly to your gift recipient. Right now you can either charge over the phone, or send a check. But in the coming months, it will be even easier to purchase Domes products, or FOD gift certificates when our new website is up and running. So make life easier and call today!! (414-383-7769)

## *New Year's Eve Party at the Domes*

Entertainment for every age at the Mitchell Park Domes  
Wednesday, December 31st, 2007

The fun starts at 6:00 pm and goes until 10:00 pm.

Look for details in the mailing for the Holiday Dinner!



Admission:

\$8.50 Adults

\$4.50 Children 6-17

5 and under free

Admission for Friends of the Domes members

\$5.00 Adults

\$3.50 Children 6-17

5 and under free



F.O.D. FREE ADMISSION NOT APPLICABLE FOR  
NEW YEAR'S EVE EVENT.

## What's New in the Gift Shop?

The newly-released book, Milwaukee County Parks, by Laurie Muench Albano, which takes a historical look at the nearly 15,000 acres of Milwaukee County Parks is filled with wonderful old photos and other interesting information is now available in the gift shop. Look for information on the author's signing of this fascinating book in the near future at the Domes.

We are looking forward to the new products coming soon to the shop. These items include Young Living Essential Oils, and an expanded gardening section. We are also very excited about progress being made on our new website. Come see us.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

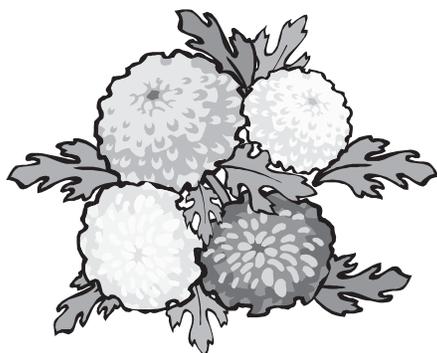
*Do you have a few hours to  
spend volunteering in  
the gift shop?*

If you think the Domes might be a nice place to spend some time this winter, how about working a few hours in the gift shop 1 or 2 half days a week? Be a part of your FOD Gift Shop, and see the latest merchandise coming into the store, take a discount, and enjoy the Domes on a regular basis! If you're interested, please call Mary, 414-383-7769, Tuesday through Thursday, 10:00 – 5:00.

## Welcome New FOD Members!

Listed below are all the new Friends members who have joined since the last newsletter was published. Perhaps you see your name, or that of a friend or neighbor! We appreciate your support and hope you enjoy frequent visits to the Domes!

Aranda, Sylvia & Arturo  
Bales, Jon & Anne  
Defranco, Anthony  
Dorn, Kathy  
Eapen, Jacob & Sunu  
El-Meanawy, Ashraf  
Galloway, Jenny  
Gordon, Kurt & Kathy  
Horst, Lori  
Kautzer, Steve & Janie  
Kearney, Anne & Joseph  
La Due, Debbie  
Linz, Tony & Nancy  
Maddox, Dain  
Maglio, Barbara  
O'Keefe, PJ & Kathy  
Peltier, Elizabeth  
Rohloff, Gene  
Rogers, Carey  
Rouse, Andrew & Lita  
Schlunz, Tracy  
Smith, Shirley & Craig  
Syrrakos, Lisa & Derek



## Domes Gift Shop Has New Manager

*By Mary Philips*

I used to go to the Domes occasionally, principally to show off this Milwaukee gem to out-of-town guests. In 2000 we opened our home to a foreign exchange student for a year. Nattawan is from Thailand. I warned her about our winters, trying to give some helpful hints on how to survive February through March in Milwaukee. Unfortunately, the helpful hints didn't work very well. Our days were too short, too dark, and too cold. It occurred to me that Nattawan might like to escape to the Domes as a pleasant place to do her homework. After the first visit, her spirits lifted noticeably, and we became regular visitors.

The Domes helped our exchange student through the winter, making her stay in Milwaukee a much more enjoyable experience, and I wanted to give back something to this beautiful, "healing" place. I became an FOD volunteer and board member helping out in several different areas, and my involve-



Pictured at left, Cindy Smith (outgoing Domes Gift Shop Manager) with Mary Phillipps (new Gift Shop Manager).

ment soon became a passion. When the manager/buyer position opened up in the gift shop, I was immediately interested, having experience running an Irish gift shop, which I had enjoyed very much. So, after seven years of volunteering at the Domes, I feel extremely fortunate to have been hired for this job. As I walk through one of the Domes almost daily, I can't believe that I'm actually working in this beautiful place, and that I have the opportunity to manage a shop filled with remembrances of this park for visitors to take home.

### Join AAA –Receive a Discount!

As a member of the Friends of the Domes, you are eligible to receive a 15% discount off the cost of AAA membership. Call AAA at 414-423-2180 ext 224 or note this when you send in your AAA membership renewal. Mention group number 4026.

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE FRIENDS OF THE DOMES PRESIDENT: Roger Krawiecki



I have been so busy that I missed writing something for the last newsletter. I decided to take a road trip over Labor Day weekend to see some gardens. I found a new website that was very helpful, [www.ilovegardens.com](http://www.ilovegardens.com). I ended up going to Iowa since I have never been to Iowa before. Plus one of the newest conservatories in the US is located in Rock Island Illinois which is across the river from Davenport Iowa. The Quad City Botanical Center, [www.qcgardens.com](http://www.qcgardens.com), is a 6,444 square foot tropical sun garden conservatory which opened June 20, 1998. The plants in our tropical dome look much healthier and happier than the plants in this conservatory. I was there on a Saturday afternoon. When I left I was the only car in the parking lot. It re-emphasized to me that we sure are lucky to have such a great facility as the Domes.

This weekend I stopped at the Domes to view the orchid show. Every year it

seems like there is a new type of orchid that I have never seen in bloom before. Congratulations go out to the Domes staff for winning several ribbons for the orchids they entered into the competition. The show dome looked absolutely wonderful. This is the first time plant material from the prior show was left in the dome while the show was being held. It made a wonderful backdrop to all of the beautiful orchids.

This weekend was also the Friends of the Domes first offsite fundraiser. We had dinner at Mia Famiglia with a raffle and silent auction. The food was outstanding. I never sampled so many different types of Italian food at one time. If you have never eaten there it is worth the trip. Check them out at [www.miafamigliarestaurant.com](http://www.miafamigliarestaurant.com).

Our new website is under development. The address will be [www.milwaukeehomes.org](http://www.milwaukeehomes.org). This means our email address will also change. This is good news because we continue to have difficulties with our current email system. Some of our members have not been receiving notices when we send them out.

There is a lot in the works for the Domes. Sandy has been keeping herself very busy. It looks like a lot of things are going to start to come together. It is a very exciting time to be associated with the Domes.

I'm wishing all of the Friends of the Domes members a safe and joyous holiday season and looking forward to whatever 2008 brings. I can be reached by phone, 414-384-0161, mail, Roger Krawiecki, 1020 S. Layton Boulevard, Milwaukee, WI 53215-1633, or by email, [rkrawiecki@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rkrawiecki@sbcglobal.net).

### Pick 'N Save Wee Care



Do you or your family or friends shop at any Pick 'N Save? If so, you could help contribute to the Friends of the

Domes while you shop. Here's all there is to it. Go to the service desk at the front of the store and ask them to designate our charity code number (#243900) on your Advantage Card. You only have to register once. From then on, whenever you shop, a percentage of your grocery total will be automatically accumulated for the Friends. The more you use your card, the more "Wee Care" dollars the Friends. This is a great and simple way to contribute towards our educational and cultural programs offered here at the Domes.

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## Have you Moved Recently or Will Soon?

If you move, please contact the Friend of the Domes at 414-383-3818. To keep postage costs down, we mail the newsletters out bulk mail. If you have a different address than the one you originally gave us, the post office WILL NOT forward these mailings as it does to your first class mail. You could be missing many mailings and not even be aware of it. Please, if you have changed your address, please call us and leave us a message as to your new address. We don't want you to miss any information! Thanks for your help.

# Featured PLANT

## Leucophyllum frutescens

by Gail Schumann

*Is it going to rain? Ask the “barometer bush”*



Have you seen the barometer bush in the Arid Dome? It has silvery bluish-green leaves. Plants that grow in dry conditions have a variety of ways to minimize water loss, such as the spines of cacti. The barometer bush reduces water loss by having very small leaves that are covered with fine, white hairs. Its scientific name comes from the Greek: Leuco-white -phyllum leaf. It goes by several additional common names including Texas sage, Texas ranger, or cenizo, which means ash-colored in Spanish.

Common names can cause confusion because they vary from place to place and can be similar or identical for plants that are completely unrelated.

Texas sage is unrelated to the herb or ornamental sages (*Salvia*) of the mint family. It is also unrelated to the sagebrush (*Artemisia*) of the old Westerns which belongs to the aster family.

You can see what plants it is related to by observing its abundant purple flowers (photo credit: Clarence A. Rechenthin @ USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database). The small flowers are funnel-shaped, with five lobes and two lips. Color ranges from white to magenta to purple, although it is mostly purple in the wild. The spotted throat of the flower, similar to its relative foxglove, is thought to serve as a nectar guide for pollinating insects. Other related plants include Indian paintbrush, mullein, snapdragon, and speedwell (*Veronica*). Horticultural varieties are planted across the southern states, especially in the Southwest and Florida.

Why is it called the barometer bush? When the atmosphere changes from arid to high humidity and rain, flowering is triggered. This is a survival trait for successful seed production. Texas sage can be propagated from cuttings or seeds. It cannot tolerate very cold winters, however it does very well in dry regions and is suitable for xeriscaping. It prefers strongly alkaline soils and tolerates salty soils.

## Watch for New Website

The Friends of the Domes are in the process of developing a new and exciting website. The address is: [www.milwaukeehomes.org](http://www.milwaukeehomes.org). You will be able to go online and check on all the current and upcoming events at the Domes, renew your FOD membership and purchase products from the Gift Shop. There will be pictures of new plants at the Domes, and plant information. It should be ready in a few months!

## ATTENTION FOD Members

### We need your email addresses!

When our new website is fully developed, it will enable us to email our members more efficiently. Since postage and printing costs continue to rise, we hope to eventually email all our mailings and newsletters to everyone with email access. In order to do this, we need all of your email addresses. Right now, we have over 1100 FOD members, but we only have 550 email addresses. And, when we do an email blast, we get over 50 messages back to us each time, with error messages. Some of the errors are because our email is blocked in your server, and sometimes you have not contacted us with your new address.

PLEASE, when you read this, take a minute and send us an email? Tell us your name (first and last) and your correct email address so we can get our database up to date. Send to: [domes-gs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:domes-gs@sbcglobal.net). Thank you so much.



## Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

- \$20 Student                       \$25 Student & One Guest  
 \$30 Individual                     \$40 Individual & 3 Guests  
 \$40 Family                          \$100 Contributing

Make your check payable and mail to:

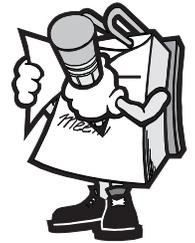
**Friends of the Domes**  
 524 S. Layton Blvd.  
 Milwaukee, WI 53215

Please contact me about volunteering!

A Friends Membership makes a great gift!  
 If interested in a gift membership call 414-383-3818

## Calendar of Events

October 12 (6-9pm) .....Rainforest Night  
 October 19-21 .....Ikebana Japanese Floral Show  
 Nov 17- Jan 6 .....“Holiday on Village Square”-Show Dome  
 Nov 17-25.....Balloon – a – Palooza  
 November 29.....FOD Holiday Dinner & Fundraiser  
 November 30.....Asian Festival  
 December 4.....Aurora Senior Health Fair  
 December 31 (6-10pm) .....New Year’s Eve at the Domes  
 January 19-March 9, 2008 .....“Gulliver’s Travels” -Annual Train Show  
 January 25 (6-9pm) .....Restaurants Under Glass



Admission Rates: Adults \$5.00, Seniors \$3.50,  
 Children 6-17 \$3.50, Free 5 and under.  
 Milwaukee County Residents free on Mondays  
 (excluding major holidays) 9am-11:30am.

Mitchell Park Domes: 414-649-9830 · Friends of the Domes: 414-383-3818  
 E-mail: domesgs@sbcglobal.net

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