



## Member Spotlight

### Cathy Scott

My favorite volunteer opportunity is the plant sale and garden walks. I love seeing the wide variety of perennials and how people build them into beautiful gardens. I'm very much a perennial gardener. I do better growing plants outside with the help of Mother Nature. My indoor plant skills are sorely lacking as I don't cook much and veggies are a very small part of my diet, although I do experiment with planting a few veggies I like among the perennials. I suppose most of my other interests relate to music. I play flute/piccolo in the Fox Valley Community Band at UW-Fox. I also volunteer at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, which provides me with the opportunity to experience a wide variety of musical and theater events. I love to go to Broadway shows and rock concerts. If there's any time left, I enjoy cross-stitch. For exercise, I enjoy yoga, biking, and hiking.

Hmm...what is a hidden talent? If it's truly hidden, then no one knows of it. I guess I have what's considered a lost art in that I can add and subtract in my head quite accurately and quickly. I also am a natural grammarian – grammar error and misspellings dance on the page for me – I don't even have to look for them...it's more of a curse than a talent.

I am divorced and live alone, although I have three cats: Indi – four years old, white flame point boy; Onyx – two years old, black boy; Roxy – nine month old, grey tiger girl. These days not many people remember that I used to operate a go-kart track in Lakewood, WI with my husband. It's been closed now for about five years, and I'm still trying to sell the property. I used to manage all of the landscaping and flower beds up there, along with the ones I have at home....what was I thinking! I'm also a bird-watcher...probably fewer people know that as I haven't had much time to enjoy it recently, though I'm still pretty good at bird ID and get excited when I see an unusual bird – like the Great Frigate Birds I got to see last December in Cozumel!

My favorite vacations are the times I get to hang out at home and do projects around the house. If I have to name one away from home, it would be an Alaskan cruise in 2007. I was awestruck by the endless beauty of nature and the power and beauty of Glacier Bay. It was also a chance for Mom and me to return to Anchorage, where we lived in 1963-5. It helped to heal Mom as her last memories of Anchorage were that of severe devastation after the historic earthquake in 1964. I love sci-fi and fantasy. In typical geek-fashion, I like anything Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, and Star Trek. I love going to Universal Orlando to visit the "Harry Potter Park" – Butter Beer is the BEST! If you want to stretch "movies" to include Broadway shows, my absolute favorite is WICKED and my new second favorite is "The Book of Mormon". Both are incredibly thought-provoking while being thoroughly entertaining. I read a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction, although for fun I read more murder-mysteries. I collect Patricia Cornwell, Diane Mott Davidson, and Perry O'Shaughnessy. My favorite "self-help" book is Don Miguel Ruiz, "The Four Agreements". I highly recommend it.

If money was no object I would love to travel to Australia and New Zealand. It's on my bucket list and I will get there in the next ten years. I'm kind of hoping I get to go there on a business trip and can add on a bit of vacation. All of these questions were difficult, but what is my greatest achievement is most challenging. I'm a work in progress and do the best I can to contribute positively in all my interactions. Tangible achievements and recognition are just events on life's paths that give you new opportunities and choices about how to respond and grow. For the first time in many years I can honestly say I'm happy and comfortable where I am right now in my life.