

Member Spotlight: Terry Tess

by Terry Tess

My favorite gardening activity is designing the beds themselves. I enjoy picturing what they will look like when they are installed. My knees are getting too old to do much installation myself (too much jumping out of trees when I was a kid, I think). In my free time outside of gardening, I love to watch old movies—you know, the type without all those colors. I also like to bike around town to check out everyone's landscaping, take walks through nature and read inspirational books.



I enjoy being a guest member on the Garden Expectations "Ask the Experts" Panel. It's fun to answer attendee questions and get the rest of the audience involved in answering the questions when the "experts" don't know or are looking for more input.

I've been married for 27 years to my green-eyed lady, Sara. Our daughter Amanda, age 24, works in Green Bay for RR Donnely. We have two cats - "Bear" a very handsome silver-gray longhair and "Jasper" a chubby, peach tabby. I used to have a wild "pet" Mama Woodchuck and about a dozen wild deer when we lived in Combined Locks, but we moved and they didn't. I like living in this area because it has all four seasons. My favorite season is Autumn. I used to like Spring, but I've been in landscaping for 30-plus years and now all Spring means is long days. And "Yes", I do like the cold of winter MUCH more than the heat of summer, so there!

My wife and I love to travel. My best vacation was to Northern California several years ago. We toured the coast, wine country, San Francisco, Redwood Forest and more. We stayed in a beautiful, 2-story, Spanish-style condo. If money was no object, I would love to travel to Australia and New Zealand. There are so many different plants, animals, landscapes and views to see.

Here's some additional "fun facts" about myself:

- I would like to learn more about wine-making.
- My favorite movies are anything with Sandra Bullock in it.
(Jean Arthur, Barbara Stanwyck, or Irene Dunn.)
- Favorite authors would be J.R.R. Tolkien. The Prophet, Hosea.

But, I have to say my greatest achievement is staying married as long as I have to the wonderful woman in my life and raising our daughter to become a fine, young, independent lady.

Terry Tess is a Registered Landscape Architect/Horticulturist/Estimator
Vande Hey Company, Inc.

*Gardening is a matter of your enthusiasm
holding up until your back gets used to it.
~Author Unknown*

