



hortie

As Good as Gold

by William McClenathan

Donna Wright wears a lot of "hats." If you work in, or shop at most garden centers in the Western United States you may already be aware of one such "hat" she dons. Donna has worked as a representative for Black Gold for about 13 years now.

She found her beginning at Horizon Distribution in 1992, which was a distributor for Black Gold's products. Through this position she was able to become familiar with those at Black Gold, and when it came to move on from Horizon, she was already well known by the folks at Black Gold.



I have personally worked with her at many special events. I can honestly say that not many vendors spend the time and energy she does with her clients! She is always willing to assist, either personally (she worked like a madwoman at a houseplant sale for me and my staff potting up the plants), or through Black Gold with giveaways for special events. Few vendors have impressed me as much as Donna with her willingness to extend assistance to retail stores, as she is.

Another "hat" she wears is co-owner of Sedum Chicks. Donna and her daughter, Becky Sell, started Sedum Chicks in 2000. Utilizing skills obtained from working for Black Gold, Donna and Becky give classes, sell sedums wholesale and retail, and do special events throughout the year. One such event is Gardenpalooza. Sedum Chicks can be found there every year with stunning, whimsical Sedum designed planters and plants that you can buy, take home, and make your own creations. Donna has stepped away from the day to day operations of Sedum Chicks now, but is always willing to lend a hand should it be requested. Once a year, several fantastic people get together to make the year's supply of concrete hypertufa pots that Sedum Chicks do most of their adorable plantings in. Gardentime was fortunate enough to be there last year, and let me tell you, it was a blast to assist them in this endeavor.

Of course two of her favorite hats are that of Mother and Grandmother. Donna has two children, Becky and Brian, and three grandchildren, Brandon, Jorja and Jacobe. It would be no shock to anyone who knows her to say that her grandchildren have taken center stage in her life!

Donna's plans for the future are aligning like the stars. Looking forward to retirement, she plans on visiting as many gardens as she can, working in and expanding on her own private gardens, assisting Becky with Sedum



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As Good as Gold...*continued*

Chicks when needed, and of course, spending time with her three adorable grandchildren.

The horticulture industry in the Northwest is all the better because of Donna Wright. She has tirelessly promoted Black Gold with the same passion that she has lived her life! No wonder those that know her adore her. After suffering the loss of her husband a few years back, she could have given up. But that would simply not be Donna's way! She has continued to work with amazing speed, grace, and diligence promoting Black Gold, Sedum Chicks and the entire industry here in the Northwest. And for that, Donna Wright, we thank you!