

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

# HOSTA LEAVES

ISSUE NUMBER 76

SPRING 2014

WINTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING

GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN CONVENTION



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## President's Message

For those of us who overwintered in the Midwest, it was a long, tough winter. But we can be sure that our hostas were fast asleep under a deep blanket of snow and will emerge in plenty of time for conventions this summer. And what a summer it will be, for the Midwest Region will once again be host to both national and regional meetings.

The Harshbarger Society will host the national convention in Cedar Rapids, IA, June 11-14. Ten beautiful gardens will be on display on Friday and Saturday, plus additional optional gardens on Sunday. The Harshbarger Society last hosted the national in 1993, so they are once again looking forward to putting their gardens on display. Be sure to "Czech it Out."

Hosting the Midwest regional meeting this year is the Green and Gold Hosta Society of Green Bay, WI. Dates of this event are June 26-28. "Hostas by the Bay" will boast 6 gardens, plus an optional trip to Door County. Be sure to stop by Lambeau Field for another meaning of 'Green and Gold!'

I look forward to another great summer of sunshine, warm weather, and aggressive planting in my now three year old garden. I can't wait to see what new plants the vendors will have for us to purchase at the conventions. Here's to a season of grimy knees and dirty fingernails!

See you this summer.

Glenn Herold  
MRHS President

## Wanted

**Host Societies for future MRHS Conventions. If your local group has never or not recently hosted a convention, please consider doing your part by hosting one of these convention openings, 2016, 2017, 2018.**



## "HOSTAS BY THE BAY"

Green Bay, Wisconsin

June 26-28, 2014

The Green and Gold Hosta Society of Northeast Wisconsin invites you to take a leap to your calendar and reserve the dates to join us for the convention. The lineup of activities for the three days include tours of six outstanding private gardens, an auction of Hostas of all colors, some will be our team colors of green and gold. Seminars will be quarterbacked by local and nationally recognized Hosta experts. An afternoon tour of the Green Bay Botanical Garden followed by a supper tailgate party will serve as a kickoff to the Hosta Auction back at the hotel. If you don't score at the Auction, there will be 10 vendors available throughout the convention to offer a wide selection of new and old favorites of hosta plants, conifers and yard art. You might want to take a chance at the raffle table where the Hosta Trophy of your dream awaits you. The leaf show winning entries will be displayed for all to see. An optional tour to Door County for a fish boil is available.

Contact the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center at (920) 494-7300 and be sure to mention **MHRS Convention** to get the special rate of \$95.00 per night, plus tax. You will be assured a room for the convention. A breakfast buffet each morning is included.





## WE'RE MOVING! WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO OUR HOSTAS?

by Jim King

Four of us were sitting around a low table with filled paper plates at the 2013 Spring Potluck of the Northern Illinois Hosta Society. Two of us were officers in the MRHS, Lou Horton and Barb Schroeder. Mark Rekoske, NIHS VP for Program, and I made up the balance of the quartet. Conversation meandered at first but came to rest on a problem facing most hosta societies, namely, is there a way to assist members who are moving and are concerned about the disposition of their hosta collections. We all felt that local clubs will confront this matter increasingly in the coming years.

I mentioned that when Floyd Rogers and I had previously discussed this topic, he remarked that, in his case at least, there would not be any problem concerning the disposition of his hostas. He intends to give the entire collection to NIHS--an elegant solution but perhaps not one that everyone will adopt.

So we asked ourselves, how could a local society organize itself to conduct a sale of a large lot of hostas. The ensuing exchange was quite instructive and the other three agreed to my reconstructing the conversation to share with others. We discussed whether the MRHS newsletter was the proper outlet for our summary, since undertaking a sale would fall to a local society. But it was obvious that to say how one club might help its members in this regard would provide a framework for discussion by leaders of any other club, and so we concluded *Hosta Leaves* was the ideal outlet. I approached Floyd about printing something for *Hosta Leaves* readers. Here it is.

Barb Schroeder started us off by reporting that her home club, the Prairie State Hosta Society, had several times conducted sales for members in the process of moving. We were eager for details and had a lot of questions. For starters, what was the basic role of the society? *To do the advertising by email and Craig's List (or presumably, in whatever outlets a local society has found successful).* Who conducted the sale? *Either the owner or volunteers from the local society.* Were the sales for hosta society members only or for the general public? *It could go either way.* Should prices be set by the owner or left to the discretion of the society volunteers? We agreed: *It would be best if the owners priced the plants and attached tags to the items for sale or NFS.* How can you prevent pre-sales? Barb answered: *We put that admonition prominently in the notices of the sale and early before the starting time we encircled the sales areas with yellow tape.* Should pots be provided or customers advised to bring their own? Our reply: *Bring their own.* Should one set an alternate date in case of rain? *No--these are gardeners; rain doesn't deter them.*

Who should dig the hostas--the owner, the buyer, or the volunteers? *As that would be a huge job for the owner, it should be by the customer or the volunteers.* What about backfilling the holes? *Not a problem if the owner conducts the sale. If the club does, volunteers will try to restore the natural appearance.*

We asked Barb how the sales went in the cases her club helped with. Were there a lot of leftover items? Answer: *The sales were hugely successful.* We wondered what should become of the leftover items? Our reply: *Depending on the owner's wishes, sometimes left with the property, sometimes donated to the local club.*

A particularly interesting question was whether there should be any reward for the volunteers. For instance, ought they get first picks? Or could they help themselves to leftovers? Following Barb's experience, we agreed: *Volunteers should be customers just like any others--no special privileges.*

Not surprisingly there are also questions that occurred to one or another of us after that session. For instance, what about low-ball offers? *Of course the owner must set a policy.* One imaginative suggestion was to post at the checkout the information that prices are firm, although unsold items are open to offers during the last hour of the sale.

Does a policy that volunteers are customers like all the others have the consequence of making it harder to recruit help? The reply was: *Volunteers are not in it for a reward. If an owner won't let them leave without taking home a gift, OK. But that's not expected.*

Please send any additional comments or suggestions to: [jtking@niu.edu](mailto:jtking@niu.edu).

<b>2014 Winter Scientific Meeting</b>		
<u>Financial Summary</u>		
<b>Revenue:</b>		
Registration Fees	\$4,510.00	
Seed Auction Revenue	\$857.30	
<b>Total Revenue:</b>		<b>\$5,367.30</b>
<b>Expense:</b>		
Hotel - Meals	\$6,644.14	
Hotel - Rooms	\$876.90	
Speaker Compensation	\$2,587.00	
Miscellaneous-Printing	<u>\$67.86</u>	
<b>Total Expense:</b>		<b>\$10,175.90</b>
<b>Net :</b>		<b>(\$4,808.60)</b>

# A history of the Midwest Hosta Society and its Newsletter

by Bob Olson

Ready for a boring history lesson? Well think again, especially considering the presenter. Dr. Bob Olson was the original editor of the Hosta Leaves and served in that position for 14 years during the society's formative years. The first issue of the Hosta Leaves appeared in 1977 - long before the advent of email, texting and cell phones. At that time the role of a society newsletter was to promote member networking and the sharing of group information. That was particularly important in those early days.

Being an editor can sometimes be a lonely job. Trying to recruit other writers is a constant challenge. As a result, a number of nom de plume writers emerged on the MRHS scene: Rollie Dahle, Ed Dantes, Art Dimmesdale and Allison Crossley. Most famous though was Axel Troedsson who to this day remains a lifetime member of the AHS (compliments of Herb Benedict). Of course you will never meet any of these fine authors. All are simply the product of an overactive imagination of the editor. They didn't create any less work for Bob, but alas he had plenty of company, even if only in his own mind.

As editor Bob would always be on the receiving end of membership responses to recent issues of the Hosta Leaves. Bob recalled a couple of rather humorous "Letters to the Editor". One letter from Julia Giesler inquired as to why Peter Ruh had registered one of her hostas for her posthumously. Another involved the classic tale of the origins of *Hosta* 'Craig's Temptation'.

One of the responsibilities of the newsletter editor was sending out annual renewal notices. Having tired of sending those notices out in great numbers every year, Bob presented a brilliant marketing proposal to the MRHS board - a new dues structure where one year was \$5 and 5 years was \$10. Nearly everyone member renewed for 5 years while membership grew to 456 members in those early days.

Bob spoke of the ever changing technology that goes with publishing a newsletter: from the days of typewriters, to digital typesetting; from the first issue with black and white pictures, to color pictures. In many of these advances the Hosta Leaves was actually out in front of the AHS Hosta Journal. Bob also bragged a bit about the Hosta Leaves breaking the news story on Hosta Virus X as a result of having Dr. Ben Lockhart as a speaker at the 1993 Winter Scientific Meeting.

And speaking of the Winter Scientific, it was first held in 1989 and has occurred each year since then. The first WSM was held in Mark Zilis' Greenhouse/Nursery; the second at a place called Danada House and the third at the Morton Arboretum. After that we started meeting at hotels with conference centers.

Bob also recalled some of the early MRHS "conventions". Actually they were more like "meetings" since there were no tour buses, no leaf shows, and no educational speakers back then. Meetings were held every other year so people could get together when there wasn't a national meeting (which was also held every other year). The 1981 Iowa City meeting was the third formal meeting of the organization. It was organized by Gretchen Harshbarger long before there was a local hosta society in Iowa. Besides the fellowship, the focus of the meeting was the garden tours - albeit relatively small gar-

dens containing relatively small hosta collections in those days. The auction was held at a nearby Chinese restaurant where auctioneer Jim Cooper provided the “entertainment” for the 35 attendees. After enjoying a few libations at dinner (well maybe more than just a few) Jim proceeded to auction off *Hosta* ‘Frisly Puckers’. Try saying that five times in a row! In an act of desperation Jim made a quick bid and purchased the hosta himself.

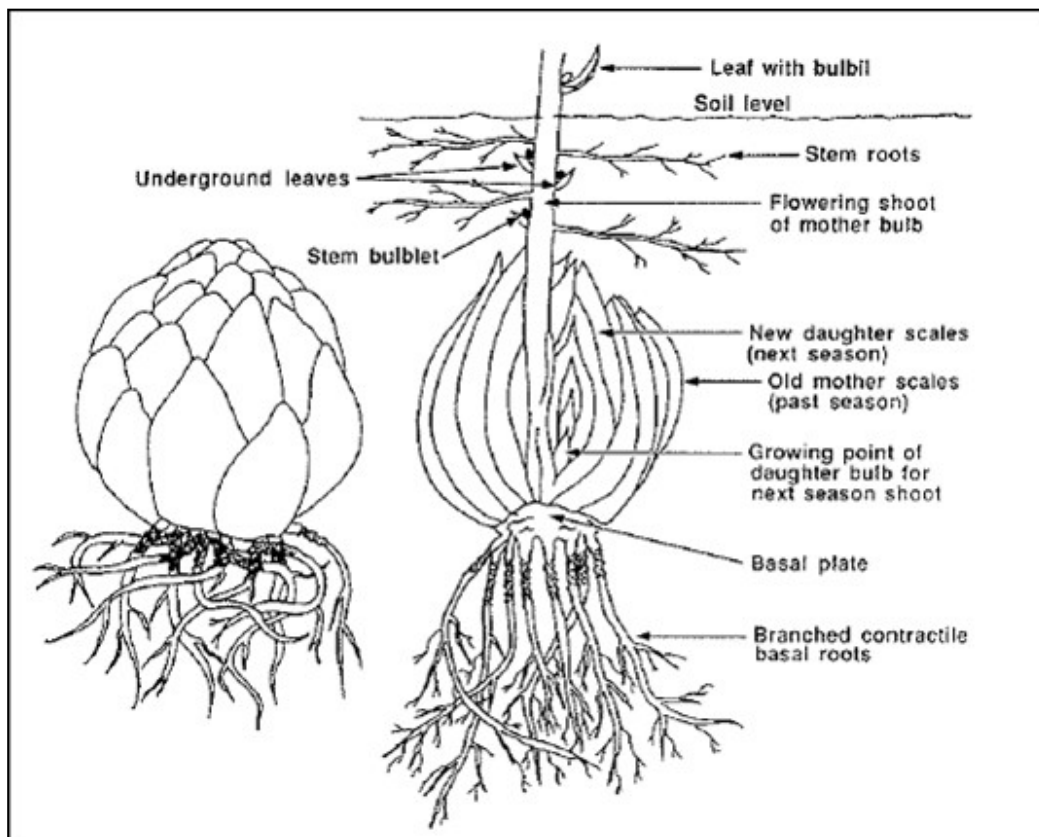
Submitted by *N. D. Plume*



## More than you Ever Wanted to know about Lilies

Glenn Herold, Cedarburg, WI

Many of the plants that we refer to as lilies, including Calla Lily (*Zantedeschia*), Torch Lily (*Knifofia*), Magic Lily (*Lycoris*), Daylily (*Heemerocallis*), Lilyturf (*Lilope*), and Lily-of-the-Valley (*Convallaria*) are not true lilies. Only members of the genus *Lilium* are true lilies. What distinguishes plants of this genus is the structure of the bulb. It is what is known as an imbricate, or scaly bulb. The fleshy scales are separate from each other and united at the basal plate. Because of the fleshy nature of the scales and the fact that the bulb is never truly dormant, it must be kept moist at all times.



Lilies are tall perennials that can grow from 2 to 6 feet tall. Flowers are large, and sometimes fragrant. They are borne either in a raceme (flowers attached to the stem by short stalks) or umbel (flower stalks arise from one point at the tip of the stem.) In some North American species, the base of the bulb develops into rhizomes, on which numerous small bulbs are found.

The most important cultural factor for lilies is to maintain good drainage. Plant the bulbs in very well drained soil or on a slight slope in full sun or part shade. Most bulbs should be planted with 4 to 6 inches of soil over the top of the bulb. The Madonna lily (*Lilium candidum*) is the exception. It should be planted shallow, with just one inch of soil over the bulb. A winter mulch, applied just after the ground freezes, is helpful in preventing early emergence of the shoots. A balanced fertilizer, such as 10-10-10, is recommended just after the bulbs emerge in the spring and throughout the growing season. Water the fertilizer in immediately and keep it from direct contact with the stems



and leaves. Some tall lilies may need staking to prevent them from nodding over. Other than these few simple tasks, lilies are easy to grow and care for. Perfect drainage and good air circulation are keys to disease prevention and prize-winning flowers.

Lily species classification has changed in recent years as a result of DNA analysis, but the Lily Society arranges garden lilies into nine different groups, which we will discuss individually.

The Asiatic lilies, division 1, are derived from central and east Asian species. They are medium sized and mostly unscented. Blooming in June and July, they are among the earliest lilies to bloom. Asiatic lilies have the widest color range of any lily group and are very easy to grow. Many of the lilies available from garden centers are of this group. They are highly recommended for the beginning lily grower. Among the Asiatic lilies that are growing well in my yard are 'Mount Duckling,' 'Enchantment,' 'Butter Pixie,' and 'Orange Pixie.'

The Martagon lilies are division 2, and are thought to be the most shade tolerant of the lilies. I have seen many clumps of martagons growing well in shaded hosta gardens. Blooming about the same time as the Asiatics, they are distinguished by whorled leaves growing in tiers along the stems and turkscap blooms. They do not like hot humid weather, and thus are best suited to the northern garden. *Lilium martagon*, and *Lilium tsingtauense* are two of the species from which the martagon hybrids are derived. 'Claude Shride' is a popular variety with burgundy flowers.

The Candidum hybrids, division 3, are bred from European species. Growing up to 6 feet in height, few are found in commerce. They must be planted shallow to do well. *Lilium candidum*, the Madonna Lily, is perhaps the most well known of the group.

Division 4, the American hybrids, are bred from species native to North America. Because of the wide diversity of this group, their ease of culture varies tremendously. If left undisturbed, most can form large clumps over time. They tend to be taller growing and may spread underground via rhizomes. Grow them in dappled shade for best results.

The Longiflorum hybrids, division 5, are derived from just two species: *Lilium longiflorum* and *L. formosanum*. They are not particularly hardy in the garden, but are widely seen as pot plants and cut flowers. You know this plant as the Easter Lily.

Division 6 contains the Trumpet and Aurelian hybrids. They are tall plants, often topping 7 feet, and bloom late in the summer. The flowers are usually fragrant and bloom for an extended period of time. This group may need staking, winter mulch, and protection from spring frosts. The Aurelians are very hardy and have *Lilium henryi* as part of their lineage. The Trumpets have variable hardiness and are blends of a variety of species. 'African Queen,' 'Golden Splendour,' and 'Pink Perfection' are three excellent hybrids of this group.

The Oriental Hybrids, division 7, are not easy to grow. They need plenty of water and a rich, organic, acidic soil. Mulch them in summer to keep the roots cool. Blooming from July into September, they reach heights between 3 and 6 feet. 'Stargazer' is a popular pot plant that can be transferred into the garden. Its pink blooms are extremely fra-

grant. Other hybrids are 'Black Beauty,' 'Muscadet,' 'Lovely Girl,' and 'Excelsior.'

The "Orienpets" are interdivisional hybrids and are placed in division 8. Three groups make up this division. The LA Hybrids are a result of crossing *Lilium longiflorum* (Easter Lily) with Asiatic varieties. They are hardy plants with large, slightly fragrant flowers. The OT Hybrids are derived from crossing the difficult to grow Oriental lilies with the more garden worthy Trumpet/Aurelian lilies. They are very robust and durable. Cultivars in this group include 'Leslie Woodriff,' 'Scheherazade,' and 'Starburst Sensation.' The third group, the OA Hybrids consist of crosses between the Orientals and the Asiatics.

The final division, division 9, includes species lilies. It consists of wild lilies from North America, Europe, and Asia. Some are easy to grow, others are more challenging. Infiltrate your hosta beds or perennial border with them or any of the many hybrids to add beauty and excitement to your garden. As Jesus said in Matthew 6:28-29, "See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these."

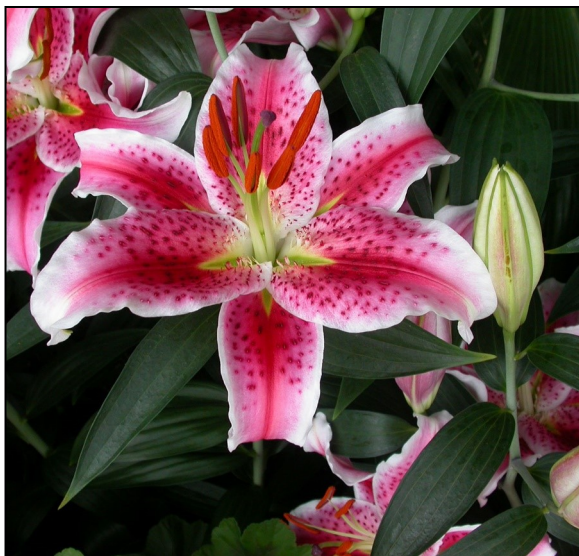
Submitted by Glenn Herold



*Lilium* 'Mount Duckling', an Asiatic Hybrid



*Lilium martagon*



*Lilium* 'Stargazer', an Oriental Hybrid



*Lilium candidum*, the Madonna Lily





*Lilium martagon* 'Claude Shride'



*Lilium michiganense*



*Lilium longiflorum*, the Easter Lily



*Lilium* 'Scheherazade', an "Orienpet"



*Lilium* 'Golden Splendour'

## Memo to all AHS Members

Perhaps you have not made your way through the AHS Online Journal yet. Perhaps you didn't notice that there is a contest on the back page of the Online Journal. Perhaps you don't want (or need) any more prized hostas. Perhaps you are simply procrastinating.

The deadline for entering the contest draws near and it would be a shame to miss out on this one. Promise!

Get onto the web; do a bit of research; fill out the entry form; then mail it in.







## Not the Same Old, Same Old—New, Better Trees and Shrubs for the Home Garden

by Dave Wanniger

Dave in his exuberant, humorous style informed and entertained us about better woodies for the garden and landscape. Dave explained that he was emphasizing smaller plants that are very hardy and will thrive in partial shade. He didn't mince words and when called for Dave explained some of the down sides of a particular plant. A list of the plants that Dave showed us is listed at the end of this article.

Dave started with shrubs for the garden, particularly the Barberry family. He explained that while some of the larger Barberry's are listed as invasive, the smaller ones he described are not invasive. Next he showed us Dogwoods, with some nice smaller as well as variegated varieties. While there are also invasive Honeysuckles, a nice bush Honeysuckle, 'Cool Splash' is a very showy variegated variety that is not invasive. A couple of favorites in the old standby Forsythia family that are smaller and very showy were shown next.

Fothergilla is one family of shrubs that Dave is very excited about. Not only do they have attractive summer leaf color, often a nice blue, they also provide very good fall color. Any partial shade garden can't live without Hydrangea and Dave tempted us with many showy cultivars. Ninebarks, or Physocarpus are native shrubs with many purple leaved cultivars. Most are fairly large shrubs, but Dave tempted us with some smaller selections. When one mentions Buckthorn the highly invasive large shrub comes to mind, but Dave showed us a hybrid 'Fineline' that is not only smaller, but does not set seed. It is a striking upright growing large shrub/small tree that has narrow green leaves reminiscent of a dissected leaf Japanese Maple, but is very hardy. When thinking of shrubs for shade, Viburnum's have to be mentioned, and Dave showed us some compact varieties of the fragrant Korean Spice Viburnum with showy fragrant flowers. He wrapped up the section on shrubs with a showy variegated Weigela, 'My Monet'.

Next Dave presented selections of attractive small trees for the partial shade garden. Many have not only showy foliage and nice fall color, but also have attractive bark. There are some very nice showy maples that do not have the shallow root systems maples are notorious for, and are hardier than Japanese Maples. Next up was a London Plane tree, 'Morton Circle' which is upright growing and has attractive peeling bark. An underutilized native, American Hornbeam, Carpinus aka musclewood provides yearlong interest with nice foliage, good fall color and attractive winter interest with its smooth bark. Pagoda Dogwoods are attractive in themselves, but Dave tantalized us with a couple of variegated varieties which provide more color and interest in the garden. Heptacodium, aka Seven Son Flower, is a unique plant in that it doesn't bloom until late August/September with large white tresses of flowers. After blooming red panicles form for late summer interest. On top of that it has interesting peeling bark.

No garden is complete without a few Magnolias and Dave again tantalized us with some hardy, yellow flowered varieties. Crabapples are a ubiquitous spring flowering tree, but they are often plagued with disease. Dave gave us a couple of showy, disease resistant varieties. He wrapped up his presentation with two ornamental pear trees that have good growth habit and are not susceptible to disease or breakage, and they do not come with the Partridge in the Pear Tree!

All in all Dave whetted our appetites with some exciting selections of newer and tried and true small shrubs and trees for the partial shade garden.

Submitted by Tom Micheletti

## **Shrubs**

Concorde Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii* 'Concorde') - better looking than 'Crimson Pygmy', best rated in invasiveness trials- sets very little seed. Also almost seedless- 'Golden Nugget', 'Gold Beret'.

Helmonds Pillar Barberry (*Berberis thunbergii* Helmonds Pillar)- unique columnar habit, but what about invasive potential? Also: 'Pow Wow'- gold/green foliage w/ mottling; Sunjoy™ Gold Pillar ('Maria') – gold foliage.

Irish Setter™ Gray Dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*) -tough, shade tolerant, better leaf spot resistance than the species. From NDSU: Snow Lace® ('Emerald') – 8' x 6'; and Snow Mantle® (*Cornus drummondii* 'Jade') -16x8'. Also: the Counties of Ohio™ series- Huron®, Geauga®, Cyuhoga™, etc.

Cool Splash Variegated Bush-honeysuckle (*Diervilla sessilifolia* 'LDPC Podaras') - tough, easy, shade tolerant, clean, sharp variegation.

Happy Centennial Border Forsythia (*Forsythia x intermedia* 'Happy Centennial') - dwarf habit, proven flower bud hardiness.

Golden Peep Border Forsythia (*Forsythia x intermedia* 'Courdijau') - big improvement over Bronx Forsythia. Smaller and more uniform, but not quite as flower bud hardy as 'Happy Centennial'.

Blue Shadow Fothergilla (*Fothergilla x intermedia* 'Blue Shadow') holds its remarkably blue color all through the growing season, great fall color.

Endless Summer™ Hydrangea (*Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Bailmer')- promises more than it delivers? – proper siting is very important. Midwesterners are much more likely to have success with the arborescens, the panicle, and the oakleaf hydrangeas than with bigleaf (*macrophylla*) hydrangeas.

*Hydrangea arborescens* Invincibelle Spirit®- a pink flowering 'Annabelle???' *Hydrangea arborescens* Bella Anna™ - another pink flowering Annabelle???

Limelight Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight')- non floppy, strong garden performer. The best panicle hydrangea?

Quickfire™ Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'Bulk') - early flowering, compact habit, flowers turn pink by midsummer.

Little Lamb Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'Little Lamb') - nice smaller, fluffy flower panicles, but what about flopping?

Pinky Winky™ Hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'DVPinky') -large, pink-white panicles- looks very good so far.

Vanilla Strawberry™ Panicle Hydrangea has looked very good in the Earth-Kind Hydrangea Trials.

Other new, smaller panicle hydrangeas of promise: 'Sky Light', Bombshell™, 'Little Lime', 'Silver Dollar', Tickled Pink™ (dwarf 'Pink Diamond').

'Ruby Slippers' Oakleaf Hydrangea (*H. quercifolia*)- a heavy flowering, dense, compact cross of 'Snow Queen' x 'Pee Wee'. Similar- 'Munchkin" oakleaf hydrangea. Both are USDA intros.

Summer Wine™ Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Seward') - more compact, better growth habit than Diabolo® purple ninebark

Coppertina™ Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Mindia') - striking amber toned new growth overlaid on purple foliage – 'Centerglow' is virtually identical. Both are larger, looser in habit than Summer Wine™.

Little Devil Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Donna May') -compact (4'), upright habit. A winner!

Fine Line® Fernleaf Buckthorn (*Rhamnus* 'Ron Williams')- striking, unique plant - both in narrow plant habit and in leaf form. Sets virtually no viable seed - non invasive.

Sugar 'n Spice™ Korean Spice Viburnum (*V. carlesii* 'Select S')- heavier flowering than the species; full, even plant form.

Spice Island™ Korean Spice Viburnum (*Viburnum carlesii* 'Select A')- a better version of 'Compacta' Korean Spice Viburnum.

Little Joe™ & Raspberry Tart™ Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*)- both are tight and compact (4' x 4')- much smaller than other arrowwood viburnums.

My Monet® Weigela (*Weigela florida* 'Verweig') -small, but tougher and hardier than you'd think – certainly hardier than the dwarf purple foliaged varieties like Midnight Wine and Dark Knight. Needs a little afternoon shade to prevent leaf burning.

## **Shade Trees**

State Street™ Miyabe Maple (*Acer miyabei* 'Morton')  
-great urban tolerances- salt, thin or heavy soils, wet/dry  
-dense foliage similar to Hedge Maple, good yellow fall color  
-not invasive - sets little or no viable seed, unlike Norway Maple

Fall Fiesta® Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum* 'Bailista')  
-vigorous grower with good form and less frost cracking  
-thick, large leaves resistant to tatter  
-reliable orange red fall color

Exclamation!™ London Planetree (*Piantanus x acerifolia* 'Morton Circle')  
-very good urban tolerances - drought /wet, low oxygen soils, salt tolerant  
-upright, uniform growth habit, showy peeling bark - fast grower- gets big



- good anthracnose (leaf blight) resistance, resistant to frost cracking
- Listed as Zone 4, but not widely trialed for hardiness yet.

## Ornamental Trees

Northern Glow® Hybrid Korean Maple (*Acer pseudosieboldianum* x *palmatum* 'Hasselkus')

- much hardier than Japanese maple (*A. palmatum*)
- faster growing, increased vigor over species Korean maple (*Acer pseudosieboldianum*).
- deeply incised leaves with brilliant red fall color.

Also: two plants with similar parentage and promise from Iseli Nursery:

'North Wind'- finer textured with with bronzy red new growth that lasts into summer

'Arctic Jade' -less divided, green leaves. Both have reported vigor, hardiness, and good red fall color.

'White Tigress' Snakebark Maple (*Acer tegmentosum*)- hardy in southern WI, but needs some wind protection. Also: 'Joe Witt'-even whiter bark.

Musclewood, aka Blue Beech, aka American Hornbeam - (*Carpinus caroliniana*)  
The "JN Strain" seed strain developed by Mike Vanny has improved plant vigor and fall color, as are his cultivars Firespire™ and Ball O'Fire™.

Pagoda Dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*). 'Golden Shadows' is a variegated cultivar, 'Gold Bullion' is all gold leaved. Both need some afternoon shade.

Heptacodium aka Seven Son Flower (*Heptacodium miconoides*)- unique plant with four season interest. Upright, vase shaped form to 18'.

Yellow Magnolias (*Magnolia* 'Elizabeth', 'Yellow Bird', 'Butterflies', 'Solar Flair'). All are hardy, large (>25') and ornamental. I have not yet seen a yellow Magnolia I didn't like.

Royal Raindrops™ Flowering Crabapple (*Malus* 'JFS-KW5')- purple foliage, bright pink flowers, decent scab resistance.

Firebird™ Sargent Crabapple (*Malus sargentii* 'JN Select')- smaller and tighter than its Sargent Crab parent, with better flowering and excellent, extremely persistent fruits. Usually grafted to a standard.

Jack™ Ornamental Pear (*Pyrus calleryana* 'Jaczam') – sort of like a half sized scale model of 'Chanticleer' – mature size of 15-20', with a tight, even, upright habit. Listed as zone 5, but took -25 in 2009 with no problems.

Korean Sun™ Ornamental Pear (*Pyrus faurei* 'Westwood') – at 12-15', much smaller than most other ornamental pears. Has the best, most reliable fall color of any pear I've seen.

## Hosta Trends

by Mark Zilis

Mark began by pointing out that today, the vast majority of hostas offered commercially are produced by tissue culture rather than by division. As a result, more and more of the recent hosta introductions are TC sports rather than being the product of crosses by hybridizers.

What are hybridizers working on these days? Many are manipulating the chromosome count of cultivars to maximize qualities such as substance which can result in increasing the ploidy of the plants. Increases in the chromosome count can come about from crosses as well as by the use of some chemicals including herbicides.

The production of hostas with new flower shapes and colors as well as increased numbers of petals are other objectives of some breeding programs. Of course, the increase in red color in scapes and leaves is a long standing goal of several prominent hybridizers.

In terms of plant size, mini and small hostas are among the hottest sellers and as a result, their production is an increasing priority.

Too, you may have noticed that the number of plant patents seems to be on the increase despite a process which is costly and time consuming. It is also interesting to note that the number of hosta plant patents held by overseas producers (particularly in Europe) is growing.

Speaking of European producers, Mark notes that they have made significant strides in eliminating Hosta Virus X from their operations.

Submitted by Lou Horton



## Hostas of Indistinction, The Name Game Revisited

by Bob Solberg

One of Bob's favorite things to do is name Hostas. He gets frustrated when he feels like he's thought up a great name, but it has already been taken by a "Hosta of indistinction", a plant we will never see, never know, but the name is gone and can't be used again. This presentation is the result of that frustration and based on information found in the Hostapedia by Mark Zilis.

We all know what a Hosta of distinction is. It's beautiful, easy to recognize, an all-around great plant, and generally also has a good name as well. Examples are Benedict Award Winners, AHGA Hosta of the Year Selections and Hostas chosen in the AHS Popularity Poll. We gardeners only have impact on one of these categories, the AHS Popularity Poll. It is very hard to get a plant on the popularity poll because we vote for the same plants year after year. We're going to try to work on that. Bob's current favorite is *Hosta plantaginea* 'Poseiden' described as 'Aphrodite' with a white edge. We are encouraged to vote for our current favorite to try to get it recognized on the poll.

Let's look at the 2012 AHS Popularity Poll:

When you look at the list, only seven of the top twenty-five are seedlings. This is not good news for hybridizers. All of this sport business just creates nepotism. We like the same plant over and over again with just a slight change in color. Eleven of the top 25 all come from four hostas.

1. 'June'	1991	14. 'Earth Angel'	2002
2. 'Sagae'	Japan	15. 'Orange Marmalade'	2002
3. 'Liberty'	2000	16. 'Praying Hands'	1996
4. 'Sum and Substance'	1980	17. 'Guacamole'	1994
5. 'Blue Angel'	1986	18. 'Great Expectations'	1988
6. 'Paradigm'	1999	19. 'Rainforest Sunrise'	2003
7. 'First Frost'	2002	20. 'Abiqua Drinking Gourd'	1989
8. H. Montana 'Aureomarginata'	Japan	21. 'Fragrant Bouquet'	1982
9. 'Krossa Regal'	Japan	22. 'Guardian Angel'	1995
10. 'Striptease'	1991	23. 'Curly Fries'	2008
11. 'Stained Glass'	1999	24. 'El Nino'	2003
12. 'Regal Splendor'	1987	25. 'So Sweet'	1986
13. 'Niagara Falls'	1987		

'Earth Angel' (#14) and 'Guardian Angel' (#22) are sports of 'Blue Angel' (#5). 'Stained Glass' (#11) and 'Guacamole' (#17) are 'Fragrant Bouquet' (#21) sports and 'June' (#1), 'First Frost' (#7), and 'El Nino' (#24) are all sports from 'Halcyon' which was just recently retired from the poll. Finally 'Liberty' (#3) is a tetraploid sport of 'Sagae' (#2).

Three of the top twenty-five, *H. 'Sagae'*, *H. montana 'Aureomarginata'*, and *H. 'Krossa Regal'* (= "Ginba Giboshi") are ancient plants from Japan, that have been around for decades. While they are great plants, they are certainly not new hostas. Seven of the plants were registered in the 1980's, thirty years ago, and only seven were even registered this century. 'Curly Fries' (registered 2008) is the newest addition to the poll and is a seedling, which is good news for hybridizers but 'Rainforest Sunrise' and 'El Nino', the next youngest, are over ten years old now. (2003)

Sixteen of the nineteen AHGA selections are in the 2012 popularity poll, so we may be cheating off of this list. Shockingly, 'So Sweet', the very first AGHA Hosta of the year, selected in 1996 is still in the poll at #25! Can't we move on? What should we lose? Some suggestions from the

audience were 'So Sweet', 'El Nino', 'Fragrant Bouquet', 'Guacamole' and 'Great Expectations'. Bob feels that 'Krossa Regal' should go and that 'Great Expectations' should definitely go.

So what is a "Hosta of Indistinction"? In the Hostapedia, Mark Zilis may describe it as: "have never seen in a collection, garden, or nursery catalog", "not listed for sale", or "may not exist". A few examples are 'Beacon', 'Happy Pockets' and 'Proud Mary'. All are on the Wilkins list, but have no description and "have never been seen in a collection, garden, or nursery catalog".

Bob spoke with Kevin Walek recently and he said that establishment is becoming more important. What is establishment? Any time a name is published with an adequate description, the name becomes established and cannot be used again. This can be in a book, a written nursery catalog, a journal, a newspaper article etc. It has to be published though. Online catalogs, the Hosta Library, Facebook and other online sites do not count at this point. Registration is another way to establish a Hosta name. Registration codifies the establishment of a name and ensures it cannot be used again. What is the "Wilkin's List"? Every registrar has a list of established names. Jim Wilkins had one; Daren Stevens had one before him. The effect of the Hostapedia is that these names are now published which takes it one step further to ensure they are established. This has resulted in many hosta names becoming established that were never intended to be, and unfortunately the permanent loss of many good Hosta names.

If you want to name a Hosta, the first thing you should do is go to the Hosta Registrar website <http://www.hostaregistrar.org> to see if it has been registered. Next you can check the Hostapedia and see if it is listed there. If you have a name, but are not ready to register it yet, you are now able to pay a fee and reserve the name for one year with the Hosta Registrar before ultimately registering it. So what do you do if you want to share a picture of one of your seedlings on Facebook? Do you give it a garden name? Do you assign it a number, or list the cross? It is a dilemma and you run the risk of losing the name because it does not constitute establishment.

For a while there were naming wars going on to get the first and last names listed in the Hostapedia:

'1st and Ten'	'Zuni'
'A 1-A-Day Delight'	'Zuzu's Petals'
'A 10 Hut'	'Zydeco'
'A B-1 Bomber'	'Zydeco Green Mist'
'A Big Splash'	'Zypunic Finale'
'A Blue Streak'	'ZZZ, A Sleeping Beauty'
'A Lady in Blue'	
'A Many-splendored Thing'	
'A Very Good Boy'	
'Aachen'	
'Aardvark'	
'Abba' series	

In Bob's opinion, 'Zuzu's Petals' is the real last Hosta name as the others may or may not exist.

'A Many-splendored Thing' is the first, though Doug Beilstein's "1st and Ten" is a real plant, in tissue culture, and may be the new first name if the registrar approves it.

Some people do series of names. Mildred Seaver popularized the idea and has 69 plants, more or less, in her 'Sea' series. A few of them are "Hostas of Indistinction" and may not exist. Exam-



ples include 'Sea Corty', 'Sea Delightful', 'Sea Worthy' and 'Sea Weirdo'. There are a couple plants that begin with "Sea" that are not hers. (ie. 'Sea of Japan' Carol Brashear Hosta Library and 'Sea Surf' Steve Moldovan NR) Once a series has been established, the registrar will protect it sort of like a trademark and is unlikely to let anyone else use it. Mildred Seaver was also smart enough not to use 'Sea' every time. An example is 'Spilt Milk'. Mary Chastain named all of her hostas with the 'Lakeside' prefix. Of her 170 plants, 150 are registered and there may be twenty that don't exist. Rob Canning of Lakeside Acres now owns the rights to her plants and 'Lakeside Tropical Breeze' NR 2011 is one of his introductions. Using 'Lakeside' also allowed Mary Chastain to take names and use them again by putting Lakeside in front, (ie. 'Lakeside Sophistication'). The registrar is more particular about this now though and may not allow this in the future.

We then played a game where Bob gave us the series name and we were asked to guess the originator. If you'd like to play along, cover up the right side of the list and see how many you get correct.

Series	Originator
'Abba'	Aden
'Abiqua'	Walden West
'Academy'	Steve Chamberlain
'American'	Van Wade
'Birchwood'	Florence Shaw
'Chesieres'	Liselotte Hirsbrunner
'Clifford's'	John Clifford
'Colesburg'	Robert Hackbarth
'Collector's'	Bill Jansen
'Crossroads'	Tim England
'Devon'	Ann and Roger Bowden
'Foxfire'	Steve Schulte
'Genesee'	Peter Brandt-Sorheim
'GoldBrook'	Sandra Bond
'Gosan'	George Schmid
'Hadspen'	Eric Smith
'Harvest'	Alex Summers
'Holly'	Gladys Holly, Herb Benedict
'Honey Hill'	Marsha Erb
'Iron Gate'	Van Sellers
'Kiwi'	Barry Sligh
'Lakeside'	Mary Chastain
'Maui'	Bill Vaugh
'Northern'	Walters Gardens
'Ohh!'	Ed Shultz
'Olympic'	Naylor Creek Nursery
'Pacific'	B. Jansen, D. Heims, R.Dubeck,R. Goodwin
'Paradise Island'	Marco Franzen
'PeeDee'	Ursula Syre-Herz
'Piccadily'	Sam Jones
Presidential	Peter Ruh
'Richland'	Van Wade
'Rosedale'	Jerry Hadrava
'Sea'	Mildred Seaver
'Sunfish'	C.Sauve
'Tucker'	Ray Stevens

'Valley'  
'Warwick'  
'Wylde'  
'Xanadu'

Jeroen Lindman  
Gil Jones  
John and Elizabeth Stratton  
Virginia & Brian Skaggs

Did the series help market their plants? It can, but does not necessarily help market a Hosta. There are also historical names. These include Hiroa, Krossa, Mackwood, Summers, Tisch and Zager. Ron Livingston has a 'Pre-' series. This arose from the quote "Dr. Livingston I presume?" which Ron apparently heard quite often when he was younger. Examples include 'Preconceived', 'Predisposed' and 'Presweetened'.

Hostas named for people often become "Hostas of Indistinction". Garden names are handy, but in this age of communication via the internet, it can become problematic. It's not necessarily a bad thing, but we should think about it. The other side is that sometimes numbers become names so they are not necessarily better. Just think about how you use the names and where they may go. The name may get taken, so if you really like the name, register it. Another option is to give it a mundane description so you don't care if the name gets taken. As an example Bob used "Waxy Guacamole" as a descriptor for a wax-covered 'Guacamole' sport. The neat part about this plant is that in tissue culture, you'll get solid plants too and rather than being green like 'Fried Green Tomatos', they are blue instead. 'No Slug Yellow', is an example of a plant in the [Hostapedia](#) and on the Wilkins list where naming it this way was likely the intended purpose.

A few of the likeable names that have been taken by "Hostas of Indinction" that Bob specifically mentioned were 'Scooby Doo', 'Salsa', 'Frosty the Snowman', which he had hoped to use for 'Waxy Guacamole' and 'Bugle Boy' which he intended to use for what has now become 'Toy Soldier'. 'Rainbow', 'Robin's Egg', 'Teddy Bear', 'Kaleidoscope' and 'Wizard' also made this list. Unfortunately all of these names have already been taken for "Hostas of Indistinction".

Bob finished the lecture by having us choose which Hosta we preferred from a number of beautiful seedling duos. The audience was split pretty much fifty/fifty as they were equally matched in their beauty and desirability.

Submitted by Dan Wols

## A Renaissance Man in the Post-Mendelian World of Hostas

by Rick Goodenough

Explaining the title of his talk, Rick Goodenough said, “Mendel did a lot of incredibly fine work ... but when you’re working with hostas some of those rules and predictabilities ... are not as predictable as you’d want.”

Rick discovered hostas while living in Indianapolis in the early 1990s when he visited Marge Soules’ garden on the south side. It was the first time Rick had ever seen a whole garden of hostas. “It was pretty shocking. I didn’t even know if I liked it. That’s how I started with hostas. I started hybridizing hostas just two or three years after that and didn’t get going full bore until 1999.”

“This presentation is sort of out of the box. I’m hoping that it spurs you on to take some action which is little different than what you’ve done in the past. I get excited when talking about hostas.”

Rick shared a quote from Horace which he felt related well to gardening whether one is hybridizing or trying to grow good hostas. “We get creative when we have obstacles.”

**Adversity has the effect of eliciting talents which in prosperous circumstances would have lain dormant.**

“I don’t proclaim to be a Renaissance man or even close, but the idea I love. The idea that as we garden; as we get involved with hybridizing; that we will be growing ... into a person who’s a little more rounded ... what we do is somewhat isolating, but I think that we become broader in exposing ourselves to new and different things.”

Rick’s definition of a Renaissance man: “Someone who is accomplished and competent in many areas in learning and of knowledge; Language, Classics, the Arts. Someone who is spiritually alive; someone who has the social graces; is not arrogant ... but in a sense is sophisticated in that they are comfortable talking to anyone. Discipline – someone who lives a disciplined physical life, as well. Not many of us could say we’re that accomplished in any one of those.”

“I think we’re all Renaissance men and Renaissance women in some respects. We’re all growers of hostas and all growers of hostas have Renaissance qualities.”

Hosta gardeners are exposed to other languages through hosta names. There is language particular to every discipline and every field of work with unique terminologies for each. “I contend that in hybridizing we have a unique set of terms that we use and in some sense this is expanding you and making you more of a Renaissance man or woman.”

The dictionary definition of hybridizer: *One who forms base pairs between complementary regions with two strands of DNA that were not originally paired.* “I think that’s a pretty darn good definition. You have plants that come about because of intentionality through that definition that are hybridized plants.”

Hybridizers use words very specifically. **Cross** refers to that pairing of two plants, **emasculate** means to remove petals and anthers leaving only the pistil in preparation for hybridizing, and **progeny** are the seedlings that result from a cross.

“We also have specialized information used for a specific purpose.” Using the cross of ‘Dorothy Benedict’ x ‘Aureomarinata’ as an example, Rick said, “Because we’re hybridizers and involved with hostas most of us know that the first position is the pod parent and the second is the pollen parent.”

The term **additive** in hybridizing refers to an approach in which plant genes that express a desired trait are combined with other plant genes which express a similar or complimentary trait in the hope that it will appear with a greater propensity or be expressed more boldly in the next generation.

“Mayan Red” is the garden name for a seedling from Rick’s cross of ‘Designer Genes’ x ‘Maya Kingsnake’ which he believes to be a better plant than either parent. “It’s not high drama or one that I will probably introduce, but it is better than both parents in showing the red and persists longer.”

Combining hostas with excellent red qualities doesn’t always produce the desired results. “You think you have a solution by using ‘Beet Salad’ - an incredible passer of red genes, and you have another excellent red that you think would make a really strong cross and compliment – but what you end up with is not always the synergy that you expect the resulting seedling to have.”

He suggested looking at other places (besides petioles and scapes) for expressions of red - flower bracts, pedicels, flowers, and seed pods. “You can get really rich color from different plant parts, and when you hybridize ... the colors show up in different places than you might expect to see.”

Rick shared photos of hostas that he has crossed and their resulting progeny. *H.* ‘Blue Cascade’: “It’s just become one of my favorite plants to hybridize with – awesome form, nice blue color, and it passes red nicely.” Arthur Wrede’s ‘Mr Jack’ has red veins on the entire surface of the plant for several weeks in spring, but the the color fades quickly. Rick crossed the two and the color in the veins stays until August - much longer than the color in ‘Mr Jack’. “I’m thrilled with that. I didn’t expect that result. That’s serendipity.”

Another Renaissance quality is engaging with other people. “It’s pretty neat to be associated with a plant that’s actually known as the Friendship Plant. I’ve had so many wonderful plants given to me over the years.”

“In hostas we have our classics.” Rick included ‘Gunther’s Prize’, ‘Great Expectations’, ‘Piedmont Gold’, ‘Lakeside Paisley Print’, ‘Niagara Falls’, ‘Golden Meadows’, ‘Seducer’, ‘Marilyn Monroe’, ‘Glad Rags’, ‘Spilt Milk’, and ‘Sand Pebbles’ on his list of hosta classics.

Renaissance women and men have developed a spiritual side. “We all are people with a spirit. We need to feed our spiritual side.”



***An old Cherokee told his grandson there is a battle of two wolves inside us all. One is evil – it's anger, jealousy, greed, resentment, inferiority, lies, and ego. The other is good – joy, peace, love, hope, humility, kindness, and truth. The boy thought about it and asked, 'Grandfather, which wolf wins? The old man quietly replied, 'The one you feed.'***

“Discipline. I have to admit that this is not one of my strengths.” Discipline in Rick’s garden comes in the form of an espaliered apple tree and the many stone walls he has built which form the terraces in his steeply sloped back yard.

Rick believes many of us are more artistically creative than what we ourselves think. “I encourage you to put art into the equation whether it’s in the design of the way your beds flow or a stack of rocks that go up eight or ten feet. Hybridize something that no one’s ever seen before - what a neat artistic expression.”

He showed his ‘Frank Lloyd Wright’ as an example of artistic expression. “I think it’s an attractive, architectural form plant ... often in the early spring as it’s unfurling it will have leaf tip curls that add an artistic element. Showing the very artistic bloom of ‘Key Lime Pie’, he shared a quote from renowned hybridizer Luther Burbank.

***Flowers always make people better, happier, and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul.***

“I think he’s absolutely right. It’s wonderful to see a flower like the ‘Key Lime Pie’ flower we’ve never seen before.”

Rick concluded the presentation by showing photos of what’s new and coming up. To the group’s laughter, he said, “This isn’t meant to be terribly self-serving, but it turns out that it’s completely that.” Featured were Rick’s ‘Cape Cod’, ‘Stag’s Leap’, ‘Hot Air Balloon’, ‘Boston Harbor’, ‘Grand Teton’, ‘Rust Bucket’, ‘Gran Premio’, ‘Mary Chastain’, and ‘Generation X’.

“Whatever generation you’re in, I hope you see yourself as a person who has already expanded your horizons more than you’ve already thought. Maybe you’re inspired to do a bit more. If you haven’t done something different, grown some seeds ... just do it if you haven’t grown seeds before.”

Submitted by Reldon Ramsey



# Čzech it Out!

*months* Vitáme Vás  
(we welcome you)

The 2014 AHS Convention is ~~less than a year~~ away. Harshbarger Hosta Society is excited to be your host for this convention. We have been planning and working hard to make your visit to Iowa a positive experience, and the convention a memorable one.

*The convention will feature an optional bus tour on Wednesday and a driving tour on Thursday to showcase our local culture and cuisine.*

## The Amana Colonies

The colonies are a world reknown tourist destination that offers old world German charm.

## The National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library

This Cedar Rapids Museum celebrates the culture and heritage of thousands of Czech and Slovak immigrants to Linn and Johnson counties.

*Of course, the real reason for attending the convention is for the hostas and gardens.*

The rich black soil of the heartland provides an excellent environment for beautiful gardens accented with the creative flavor of Middle America.

- We have 10 exciting gardens for you to visit on Friday and Saturday
- More optional gardens on Sunday as you return home

Harshbarger Hosta Society is excited and proud to be hosting the 2014 AHS Convention. We will have the Collins Road Marriott Hotel to ourselves to enhance the experience.

## Come to the Convention to ...

- ✓ See our Hostas!
- ✓ Sample our Heritage (be sure to check out yours)
- ✓ Experience our Warm Midwestern Hospitality

Come to Cedar Rapids June 11 - 14, 2014

**to Čzech it Out!**

HarshbargerHostaSociety.org





## 2014 AHS National Hosta Convention Registration

June 11 - 14, 2014 Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Hosted by the Harshbarger Hosta Society

Please check out our website at [HarshbargerHostaSociety.org](http://HarshbargerHostaSociety.org)

**\*\* Please fill out a separate form for each person being registered \*\***

Name as you would like it to appear on your name badge:		
_____		
Address: _____	City: _____	State: _____
Zip Code: _____	Phone: _____	*Email: _____
<i>*Registration confirmation will be sent by email only. No refunds after June 1, 2014</i>		

Publish my name in the Conference Attendee list? Yes  No

<b>JUDGES CLINIC</b>	A current handbook is required and may be downloaded for free at <a href="http://americanhostasociety.org">americanhostasociety.org</a>
	_____ Check here if you want to purchase the handbook for \$10.00 at the clinic
<b>JUDGES CLINIC</b>	Please note which clinic(s) you will attend.
	_____ Clinic I (Wed. evening) _____ Clinic II _____ Clinic III (times to be announced)

<b>HOSTA SHOW</b>	I plan to: _____ Enter _____ Judge _____ Clerk _____
	Please enter the number of entries in each category you plan to submit ( <i>limit of 20 leaves per garden in Div. I</i> )
	Division: I - Cut Leaf II - Containers III - Troughs IV - Education VI - Artistic
No. of Entries: _____	

I will donate plants or items for the Friday Night Auction. (proceeds to go to AHS) Yes  (approx. no.) \_\_\_\_\_

Will you need a ride for the garden tour? Yes  No  This will be a drive-yourself garden tour.  
 Can you offer a ride for others on the tour? Yes  No  One bus will be available (see our website for details)

<b>DINNER OPTIONS</b>	Friday: Beef _____ Tilapia _____	<b>Full Registration</b> \$175 _____ <i>(postmarked before May 23)</i>	
	Saturday: Pork & Sauerkraut _____		<b>Late Registration</b> \$200 _____ <i>(postmarked May 23 or after)</i>
	Chicken Paprika _____		<b>Tour of Amana Colonies</b> (June 11) \$55 _____ includes lunch at Ox Yoke Inn
	Both Nights: Veg. _____ Gl. Free _____		<b>Dinner at Czech Museum</b> (June 12) \$45 _____
<p>For a complete description of the registration options, full schedule and latest updates, please refer to <a href="http://HarshbargerHostaSociety.org">HarshbargerHostaSociety.org</a></p> <p>Send registration and check payable to AHS 2014 Convention to:  <b>Diann Pavelka</b>          600 Main St.          Lisbon, IA 52253</p>		<b>Garden Tour Bus</b> \$55 _____ first 50 to sign up, box lunch on Friday <b>Meals Only Registration</b> \$125 _____ <b>Credit Card Fee</b> \$10 _____ <b>Total - payable in US funds</b> \$ _____	

All convention registrants assume all responsibility for liability.

If paying by credit card:  
 Visa  MC  Am Ex  Disc   
 Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 Digit Code on Back: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Cedar Rapids Marriott</b>	
1200 Collins Rd NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402	
<a href="http://cwp.marriott.com/cidmc/americanhostasociety">cwp.marriott.com/cidmc/americanhostasociety</a>	
Convention Rates of \$114.00 - reserve by May 27th	
Make reservations by calling 1-800-396-2153 and mentioning 'Hosta Convention'.	

# 2014 MRHS Convention - "Hostas by the Bay"



2014 Midwest Regional Hosta Society (MRHS) Convention Registration Form  
 June 26-28, 2014, Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Green Bay, Wisconsin  
 Hosted by: Green & Gold Hosta Society of Northeastern Wisconsin

To Register, mail one completed registration form per person.  
 Include check payable to "GGHS/MRHS Convention 2014".  
**REFUND POLICY: NO Refunds will be made after May 30. Make a copy of this for your records.**

Printed Name (First & Last, as you want it on your badge. One letter per line please.)  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address  
 \_\_\_\_\_

City	State	ZIP Code
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E-mail *	Phone	Phone
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**Hotel: Radisson Hotel & Conference Center**  
**2040 Airport Dr, Green Bay, WI 54313**  
 Hotel reservation must be made separately. Call (920) 494-7300 or 800-333-3333. Mention "MRHS Convention" for convention room rate of \$95 + tax for single/double occupancy/night through May 30. Hotel guests get large breakfast buffet. Convention rate not available on-line.

Publish my name in Attendee list?  
 Yes  No

\* Confirmations will be sent by E-mail only.  
 For questions E-mail pathen33@yahoo.com.

**Meals Included: Friday Tailgate Dinner and Saturday Banquet.**  
 Saturday banquet choice:  Beef Short Ribs  Walleye  Vegetarian/Gluten Free Friday and Saturday

**Auction Donations**  
 I will donate plants or items for the Friday night auction. Approximate number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Auction proceeds go to the MRHS. Please support MRHS with a donation.

**Hosta Leaf Show:** Preparation time is Thursday, 8/26 from 6-9:00 PM and Friday, 8/27 from 7-10:30 AM.  
 Check if you plan to:  Enter  Judge  Clerk (Judging will begin Friday, 8/27 at 11:30 AM)  
 Check each category you plan to enter:  Cut Leaf (Limit of 20 Leaves)  Trough/Container Garden for Effect  
 Container Grown  Educational Display  
 Artistic Design\*  Non-Competitive Exhibit  
 \* The themes are: Hostas By the Bay, Hostas in the Off-Season, Heritage Hill and Let's Go to Bay Beach

**Judges Clinic I, Friday, 8/27, from 9-11:00 AM:**  
 I will attend judges clinic I  
 A current Judges Handbook is required. You may download the free Judges Handbook at [www.hosta.org](http://www.hosta.org).  
 Check here if you want to purchase the official handbook/binder at the clinic. (\$10.00 payable at convention)

**Speakers:** The educational class speakers will be Leo Bordeleau of Rose Hill Gardens on 'Heucheras-A Wonderful Companion to Hostas' and Roy Brodhagen of Apple Valley Nursery on 'Conifers for Shade'.

**Class**  
 Pebble birdhouse make & take Friday morning \$45.00.  
 (Limit 20 people)

**Convention Registration**  
 \$120 Full Registration (Postmarked By 5/30/14)  
 \$160 Late Full Registration (After 5/30/14)  
 \$90 Meals Only

Full registration includes the following: Hosta "Cheesehead", admission to the Green Bay Botanical Garden, Friday night tailgate party, leaf show participation, 8 self guided garden tours, 2 seminar speakers plus Saturday banquet and speaker.

**Optional Tour, Thursday 6/26 Transportation Provided at 3:00 PM**  
 Meissner Nursery/garden tour and Door County fish boil.  
 \$40 Per Person (Minimum of 50, maximum of 100 people)  
 Meissner's Website: <http://www.meissnerlandscape.com/>

For the latest details, schedules, updates, etc. go to:  
<http://greenandgoldhosta.org/2014-convention.html>

**Payment**  
 Early Registration: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Late Registration: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Meals Only: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Thur. Tour & Door  
 County Fish Boil: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pebble Birdhouse  
 Class: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Make checks payable to:  
**GGHS/MRHS Convention 2014**  
 Send this form and check to:  
**Germaine Schwaller**  
**N1492 Blue Heron Trail**  
**Keshena WI 54135**  
 Germaine's E-mail: [gmschwaller@yahoo.com](mailto:gmschwaller@yahoo.com)



# MRHS CONVENTION SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY JUNE 26, 2014

8:00 AM-Noon	VENDOR SETUP	Bear Room
9:00 AM-NOON	HOSTA LEAF SHOW SET UP	Turtle Room
1:00 PM-9:00PM	HOSTA LEAF SHOW ENTRIES	Turtle Room
10:00 AM-8:00 PM	REGISTRATION	3-Clan's Ballroom
10:00 AM-2:30 PM	AUCTION PLANTS RECEIVED	Wolf Room
1:00 PM-9:00 PM	VENDOR SALES <b>open to public</b>	Bear Room
1:00 PM-9:00 PM	RAFFLE SALES	Bear Room
3:00 PM-7:30 PM	OPTIONAL TOUR MEISSNER NURSERY-DOOR COUNTY FISH BOIL	
7:00 PM-10:00 PM	HOSTATALITY	State Board Room

## FRIDAY JUNE 27, 2014

6:30 AM-10:30 AM	BREAKFAST BUFFET/Hotel Guest Only	Pine Tree Grill
7:00 AM-10:30 AM	HOSTA LEAF SHOW ENTRIES	Turtle Room
9:00 AM-10:00 AM	MRHS BUSINESS MEETING	Executive Board Room
9:00 AM-4:00 PM	REGISTRATION	3-Clan's Ballroom
9:00 AM-2:00 PM	AUCTION PLANTS RECEIVED	Wolf Room
9:00 AM-11:00 AM	JUDGES CLINIC 1	Champion Board Room
9:00 AM-4:00 PM	VENDOR SALES <b>open to public</b>	Bear Room
9:00 AM-4:00 PM	RAFFLE SALES	Bear Room
10:00 AM-NOON	PEBBLE BIRD HOUSE Dave Calhoon	Oneida Room
11:00 AM-11:30 AM	JUDGES LUNCHEION	Champion Board Room
11:30 AM-2:30 PM	HOSTA LEAF SHOW JUDGING	Turtle Room
12:30 PM-1:30 PM	"HEUCHERAS-A WONDERFUL COMPANION TO HOSTAS" Leo Bordeleau	Oneida Room
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	CONIFERS FOR SHADE Roy Brodhagen	Oneida Room
2:30 PM-4:30 PM	HOSTA LEAF SHOW OPEN	Turtle Room
2:30 PM-4:30 PM	AUCTION PREVIEW	Wolf Room
3:00 PM-5:00 PM	TOUR GREEN BAY BOTANICAL GARDEN 2600 Larsen Road, Green Bay	
5:00 PM	TAILGATE SUPPER AT GREEN BAY BOTANICAL GARDEN	
6:30 PM-9:00 PM	VENDOR SALES <b>open to public</b>	Bear Room
6:30 PM-9:00 PM	RAFFLE SALES	Bear Room
7:00 PM-9:30 PM	AUCTION <b>open to public</b>	Wolf Room
9:30 PM-11:00 PM	HOSTATALITY	State Board Room

## SATURDAY JUNE 28, 2014

6:00 AM-10:30 AM	BREAKFAST BUFFET/Hotel Guest Only	Pine Tree Grill
7:00 AM-3:00 PM	GARDEN TOUR Self-guided tours-6 gardens	
7:00 AM-4:00 PM	VENDOR SALES <b>open to public</b>	Bear Room
7:00 AM-4:00 PM	RAFFLE SALES	Bear Room
7:00 AM-4:00 PM	HOSTA LEAF SHOW OPEN	Turtle Room
4:00 PM	VENDOR & HOSTA LEAF SHOW TEAR DOWN	Bear & Turtle Room
5:00PM -8:45 PM	COCKTAILS & BANQUET	Wolf Room
	(5:00 – 6:00 COCKTAILS; 6:00 – 7:00 DINNER; 7:00 – 7:15 2015 PROMO; 7:15 – 7:30 HOSTA LEAF SHOW AWARDS; 7:30 GUEST SPEAKER MARK KONLOCK GREEN BAY BOTANICAL GARDEN; 8:30 ANNOUNCEMENTS)	
9:00 PM-11:00	PM HOSTATALITY	State Board Room

## SUNDAY JUNE 29, 2014

6:30 AM-10:30 AM	BREAKFAST BUFFET/Hotel Guest Only	Pine Tree Grill
9:00 AM-2:00 PM	OPTIONAL GARDEN TOURS	

CHAIRPERSONS: Cathy Lindeman and Nancy Gardebrecht

## MRHS GENERAL SHOW RULES

1. Anyone who wishes to exhibit may do so. However, Section and higher awards are limited to AHS members. Any exhibitor who is not an AHS member and wins a section or higher award will be asked to become an AHS member. If the winner refuses membership, the Show Chair may either present the award to the next qualified entry or leave the award vacant.
2. Entries will be received from 1:00 - 9:00 pm on Thursday, June 26, and from 7:00 - 10:30 am on Friday, June 27, 2014. No late entries will be accepted. Judging will begin at 11:30 am. All entries must remain in place until 4:00 pm on Saturday, June 28. Entries must be removed by 4:30 pm. Entries remaining after 4:30 pm will be disposed of by the Show Chairpersons. Entry tags, ribbons, and awards may also be claimed from 4:00 to 4:30 pm.
3. Entry tags must be properly completed by the exhibitor. Incorrect entry tag information will be corrected by the Classification Committee and entries may be disqualified at the discretion of the Classification Committee. A line has been added for leaf length and width to be entered by the exhibitor at time of entry.
4. During the time of judging, only the Show Chair, AHS Judges Chair, Judges and Clerks are permitted in the immediate judging area.
5. Divisions I - Horticulture, II - Container Grown Hosta, III-Trough/Container Gardens Arranged for Effect, and IV - Education Displays, will be judged by AHS show judges including one master judge. The AHS Point Scoring System will be used to break a tie in judging major awards. Judges will be the final authority of each class it judges.
6. All decisions of the judges are final.
7. Care will be taken, but no responsibility shall be incurred by any person, group, or organization for any accidents, damages, injuries, thefts, or omissions or commissions of any kind or nature from this show.
8. All entries designated as registered cultivars and species shall either be listed in the current year's AHS Hosta Show Classification List or shall have had registration data recorded in an official publication of The American Hosta Society by the date of the show in order to be considered registered for show purposes.
9. For all show divisions, provided entries score the minimum points, each sub-class (or class if there are not sub-classes or section if there are not classes) is allowed the awarding of only one blue, one red, one yellow, and one white ribbon. In Division I, Sections I-V and Section XI, *each registered cultivar or species constitutes a separate name sub-class. Each seedling or sport entry in Sections VI-X is a separate sub-class and is eligible for any ribbon. For Section XII, each unregistered named cultivar constitutes a separate name sub-class within each alphabetical letter class.*

### 10. Division I - Horticulture (Cut Leaf Rules)

Containers will be provided by Green and Gold Hosta Society.

Bloom scapes are not permitted in this division.

Sections I-V (Registered Cultivars and Species, XI (Youth Exhibits) and XII (Unregistered Named Cultivars) require ONE leaf per entry. Sections VI-X require TWO leaves per entry. Sports shall be indicated in the entry tag as "Sport of (Name of Cultivar)". Seedlings shall be indicated on the entry tag as "Seedling (Hybridizer's Identification Number)".

An exhibitor may enter more than one horticultural specimen in a single class provided each entry is of a different variety. **Multiple entries of the same cultivar are not permitted.** All entries must have

been grown by the exhibitor.

Persons placing entries in Section XI-Youth Exhibits must be 18 years of age or younger as of the date of the show.

All leaves entered should be representative of the plant as a whole and should be taken from plants approaching maturity.

#### **11. Division II Container Grown Hosta Rules**

Container-grown hostas must have been grown by the exhibitor and must be established in the containers in which they are grown. **Only registered cultivars or hosta species may be exhibited in the division and only one hosta may be grown in each container.** Container and plant must be clean. The plant should be centered in the container. Inner containers or container liners are allowed but must not be visible. Only one type of ground cover material is allowed per exhibit. Ground covers may be any natural non-living material such as bark chips or stones, or an indigenous moss of one variety only.

#### **12. Division III - Trough/Container Gardens Arranged for Effect Rules**

Self-contained trough or container gardens of any size may be entered for judging as an arrangement.

Multiple varieties of hosta and other plant material may be used. **Hostas must be a strong focal point of the entry. No artificial plant material is allowed.** Plants and container must be clean. Accessories are permitted.

Individual plants need not be identified. However, if the exhibitor would like to identify the material, an identification ledger card to the side of the exhibit is acceptable.

#### **13. Division IV - Educational Displays Rules**

Education displays must pertain to Hosta.

#### **14. Division V - Non-Competitive Exhibits Rules**

Entries in this division are not judged. The exhibit may be a single cut leaf, a hosta bloom scape, a container grown plant, or any other display deemed to be of interest to the show observers. However, the plant material must be hosta predominant, the exhibit must be tastefully presented, and the material must be in good condition. The Show Chair may refuse placement of any exhibit that does not meet these requirements.

#### **15. Division VI - Artistic Design Rules**

Hosta Leaves must be the predominant foliage in the design. Some dried and/or treated plant materials and hosta blooms are permitted. No artificial flowers, fruit, or foliage may be used. Contrived flowers made from hosta leaves are permitted.

An exhibitor may enter one entry per class. Plant material need not be grown by the exhibitor but the design work must be the work of the exhibitor.

Staging for all classes will be skirted tables and covered with white tablecloths. Overlays and accessories are permitted but should not exceed dimensions set in the class rules. The Artistic Design committee reserves the right to move an entry to improve spacing if the exhibitor is unavailable to do so.

Pre-registration is required. Exhibitors are requested to register their entries in advance with Cathy Lindeman. The Leaf Show Chair will provide additional class definitions, rules and requirements, and exhibition instructions upon registration.

In each class, the designer is asked to interpret the class title

## SHOW DIVISIONS

### **DIVISION I - HORTICULTURE (Cutleaf)**

- Section I Giant-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species  
Section II Large-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species  
Section III Medium-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species  
Section IV Small-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species  
Section V Miniature-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species  
Section VI Giant-Leaved Unregistered Cultivars and Species  
Section VII Large-Leaved Unregistered Cultivars and Species  
Section VIII Medium-Leaved Unregistered Cultivars and Species  
Section IX Small-Leaved Unregistered Cultivars and Species  
Section X Miniature-Leaved Unregistered Cultivars and Species  
Section XI Youth Exhibits of Registered Cultivars and Species Displayed in Alphabetical Order.  
Section XII Unregistered Named Hosta Cultivars Displayed in Alphabetical Order
- Entries in Section I-X are to be displayed using the following Color Classes:  
Class 1 - Green (All Shades)  
Class 2 - Blue (All Shades)  
Class 3 - Yellow (All Shades)  
Class 4 - White Margined  
    a. Yellow, White, or Chartreuse Center  
    b. Green to Blue Center  
Class 5 - Yellow Margined  
    a. Yellow, White or Chartreuse Center  
    b. Green to Blue Center  
Class 6. - Green or Blue Margined  
    a. Yellow, White or Chartreuse Center  
    b. Green to Blue Center (distinct from margin color)  
Class 7 - Streaked or Mottled  
Class 8 - Others (including early season variants)

### **DIVISION II - TROUGH/CONTAINER GROWN HOSTA**

- Section I Container displays not exceeding a total height or width of 18 inches.  
Section II Container displays with height or width greater than 18 inches.

### **DIVISION III - TROUGH/CONTAINER GARDENS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT**

- Section I Concrete Composite  
Section II Ceramic, Terra Cotta, Bronze and other Metals  
Section III Plastics and all man-made materials  
Section IV Natural Materials, Stone, Wood, Baskets, etc.

### **DIVISION IV - EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS**

### **DIVISION V - NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS**

### **DIVISION VI - ARTISTIC DESIGN**

- Class I Hostas By the Bay  
Class II Hostas in the Off-Season  
Class III Heritage Hill  
Class IV Let's Go to Bay Beach

Pre-registration is required for exhibition in this division. Contact the Show Chair for definitions and requirements, and exhibition instructions.

#### **Class Definitions**

Any mechanics in these designs need to be hidden.



**Class I: Hostas By the Bay**

The Niagara Escarpment, a limestone ledge formation, runs from Green Bay north through Door County along the Lake Michigan shoreline. It is a unique biosphere in our area. The ledge is formed by the erosion of softer rock underneath the cap rock of limestone. Your design should incorporate the 'ledge' as well as the shores of Lake Michigan.

**Class II: Hostas in the Off-Season**

When the residents of Green Bay are not watching football, they are gardening. This design should be all about green and gold hosta leaves. In Green Bay even in the off-season there are not any other colors as important.

**Class III: Heritage Hill**

Heritage Hill Historical State Park is a 50-acre living history museum that celebrates the diverse heritage of Northeastern WI. Incorporate the classic varieties of hostas as well as a little history in your design.

**Class IV: Let's Go to Bay Beach**

When someone says "let's go to Bay Beach," they are thinking 700 acres of green area on the Bay of Green Bay with a wildlife sanctuary, hiking/ski trails, picnic areas, and an amusement park for kids (tickets still only cost 25 cents).

**HOSTA SHOW AWARDS**

Division I - Section I-V: single streamer and prizes awarded.

Best of Show (division I): large triple streamer and prize awarded.

Sweepstakes (most blue ribbons Division I): large triple streamer and prize awarded.

Best Seedling or Sport: large triple streamer awarded

Best Artistic Design Award (Division VI): medium triple streamer awarded.

Grand (Division II, III, IV, and VI): medium triple streamer awarded

Section (all divisions) medium single streamer awarded

Class (all divisions): medium single streamer awarded

First Place (all divisions): Blue ribbons

Second Place (all divisions): Red ribbons

Third Place (all divisions): Yellow ribbons

Fourth Place (all divisions): White ribbons

## Midwest Regional Hosta Society Board Meeting January 17, 2014

### Those attending

Glenn Herold, Mary Ann Metz, Barbara Schroeder, Lou Horton, Patricia Gwidt and Katherine Kelly

Non-attending - Floyd Rogers (in Africa)

### Call to order

Meeting started at 8:20 pm.

### Secretary's report

This was not available.

### Treasurer's report

Bank Accounts	19,264.09
Investment Accounts	23,791.70
Total	43,055.79

### Membership report

Memberships are two years. Reminders will be sent to the members. 75% of members have emails. 25% of members do not have emails or have chosen to not give their email address to the MRHS. Kristine James will be sending out reminders.

### Convention Updates

2014 MWHS will be in Green Bay. Floyd will bring a computer and a printer to the convention. There will be a raffle as well as an auction. Patricia Gwidt is working on the convention with a great team. There will many opportunities for fun.

2015 MWHS will be in Dubuque. Bob and Cheryl Hird are putting together the convention.

2016 MWHS maybe in Nebraska.

### Montgomery Award

### Introduction of new WSM steering committee

The team is Mark Rekoske, Matt Bendig and Jeff Miller.

9: 20 The meeting was closed.

Respectfully submitted, Katherine Kelly

### Editor's Note:

We saved a ton of money last year by emailing the newsletter. These funds will enable us to contribute to research projects and continue our support of Winter Scientific. If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail, please consider requesting future newsletters by email. Thank you.

## AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

We invite you to join over 3,000 other hosta enthusiasts as members of the American Hosta Society. Members receive two issues per year of The Hosta Journal, which includes color photographs of hostas, reports on national conventions, scientific information concerning current research having to do with hostas, and advertisements of interest to hosta families. A third publication is the Online Journal. Membership checks should be made out to "AHS," and mailed to Sandie Markland, AHS Membership Secretary, P O Box 7539, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948. Dues for one year are \$30 for an individual and \$34 for a family. Joining AHS will enable you to attend our national conventions.

<http://www.americanhostasociety.org/>

**Advertise in the  
*Hosta Leaves***

<b>Full Color Ads:</b>			
<b>Size</b>	<b>Single Issue</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>
Full page	\$275	\$475	6½" x 9½"
1/2 page	175	300	6½" x 4½"
1/4 page	90	155	3⅛" x 4½"
1/8 page	45	80	3⅛" x 2"
<b>Black &amp; White Ads:</b>			
<b>Size</b>	<b>Single Issue</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>
Full page	\$100	\$175	6½" x 9½"
1/2 page	55	95	6½" x 4½"
1/4 page	40	70	3⅛" x 4½"
1/8 page	30	50	3⅛" x 2"

Contact Floyd Rogers for publishing deadlines and more details. (630) 858-3538 or [mrhs.editor@midwesthostasociety.org](mailto:mrhs.editor@midwesthostasociety.org)

# Wanted

**Host Societies for future MRHS Conventions. If your local group has never or not recently hosted a convention, please consider doing your part by hosting one of these convention openings in 2016, 2017, 2018.**

**MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY**  
**SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER**

**Kristine James**  
**523 E. Calhoun Street**  
**Woodstock, IL 60098**  
[mrhs.hosta@gmail](mailto:mrhs.hosta@gmail.com)

**MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY**

Our Regional Society is composed of over 300 members in AHS Region Five (Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin) and many members from other states. We publish a twice-a-year newsletter, hold an annual convention each summer, and hold the Winter Scientific Meeting each January in Schaumburg, Illinois. To join, or renew membership, please send a check for \$20 (ten dollars per year) to Kristine James, address above. This summer's convention will be held in Green Bay, Wisconsin, Dubuque, Iowa in 2015, and TBA in 2016. Our conventions include a Hosta Show; a Judges' Clinic; garden tours; speakers; vendors of hostas, companion plants, and garden art; a lively auction; a sit-down banquet; a buffet dinner; and lots of hospitality and fellowship!