



Volume 23, Issue 3

April, 2022



President  
Phyllis Weidman

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

April means Vendor Day. This is not a meeting, but lots of fun. So just come and go as you like. Thanks to Jolly Ann Whitener and Lynn Teller, we have a space at the Crestwood Community Center in Crestwood's Whitecliff Park

Jolly Ann will need lots of help setting up the space, helping the vendors carry things in and out and of course cleaning up. Let her know if you wish to help. Call 636-240-5068 or email her at [jawhit6@gmail.com](mailto:jawhit6@gmail.com).

Vendor Day!!!! If you have never been to a Vendor Day you are in for a treat. We have vendors coming with only hostas, a vendor from a hardware store (need new gloves) and vendors with things you never thought you needed. You may say you don't need another hosta, but just wait. They always have something you can't live without. Just remember to bring your cash, check or credit card.

Without you this day will be impossible. We need you to come and for you to tell everyone you know about the day. This is a way for them to get some interesting plants and a way for our Society to introduce ourselves to them. You must be welcoming to all who come. Some of the people who have joined recently say they never knew we existed. That is something we must correct.

*Phyllis*

## 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 24**                      **Vendor Day**  
**2:00 PM, Crestwood Recreation Center, Whitecliff Park**  
**9245 Whitecliff Park Ln., Crestwood, MO 63126**
- May 7**                              **Work Day at the Missouri Botanical Garden**  
**8:00 AM, Missouri Botanical Garden,**  
**AHS Display Garden beds**
- May 15**                            **Garden Walk with Speaker Kim Gamel**  
**1:30 PM, Garden of Gene Pulliam**  
**822 Brownell Ave., Glendale, MO 63122**
- May 21-22**                      **Plant Sale – times TBD**  
**Kirkwood Farmers Market**  
**150 E Argonne Dr., Kirkwood, MO 63122**
- June 8-11**                        **AHS National Convention ‘Hosta Visions’**  
**Minneapolis, MN**
- June 19**                            **Garden Walk and Leaf Show**  
**1:30 PM, Home of Kathie Soehngen**  
**5111 Lampglow Ct., St. Louis, MO 63129**
- July 14-16**                        **Midwest Regional Hosta Convention**  
**Lisle, IL**
- July 24**                            **Members Plant Auction**  
**1:30 PM, Garden of Dave and Joan Poos**  
**9904 Crestwood Dr., Crestwood, MO 63126**
- August 21**                        **Garden Walk with Speaker Bruce Buehrig**  
**1:30 PM, Home of Chick and Bruce Buehrig**  
**31 Bellerive Acres, St. Louis, MO 63121**
- September 18**                    **Garden Walk**  
**TBD**
- October 16**                        **Meeting with Speaker Rob Mortko**  
**2:00 PM, The Des Peres Lodge**  
**1050 Des Peres Rd., Des Peres, MO 63130**
- November 11**                    **Board Meeting**  
**Time and location TBD**
- December 11**                    **Holiday Party at a member’s home**  
**Time and location TBD**

**VENDOR DAY**  
**APRIL 24, 2022, Sales 2:00 – 4:30 PM.**  
**Whitecliff Park, Crestwood MO**

This April's event gives members and their friends an opportunity to purchase quality hostas, companion plants, succulents, garden supplies, art inspired by nature and even munchies from a local bakery. Chairwoman Jolly Ann Whitener has assembled a full house of seven vendors, some favorites from previous years, others new to us. This event is open to the public. This is not a fund raiser. Vendors are not charged to participate and all profits are theirs. Bring all your friends and of course your checkbook. An afternoon of plant and gadget shopping is the perfect way to welcome the spring gardening season.

Wear your hosta shirt and help spread hospitality to potential new members! If you can help vendors carry in their merchandize or be a greeter at the door, let Jolly Ann know.

### **AVALON ACRES**



**Avalon Acres** is a 10 acre hilltop nestled among hundreds of large red and white oak trees in South Central Illinois near Effingham. The family owned and operated nursery's mission is to bring you the highest quality plants at the lowest possible prices. Denny and Alicia Ricketts state on their web site that they "don't just sell hostas, but are avid collectors as well." They have had a sales table at our Vendor Day event for many years, offering quality hostas - both new cultivars and old standards

If you are interested in a particular hosta and want to inquire if they have it and can bring it to the April event send them an email at [sales@avalonacreshostas.com](mailto:sales@avalonacreshostas.com) or call them at 217-663-2347. If you are unable to attend on April 24<sup>th</sup>, the Ricketts welcome visitors to their nursery. Please call ahead so they can dedicate quality time to you. They are available most evenings and Sundays from April 30 through August 25. For more information, visit their web site [www.avalonacreshostas.com](http://www.avalonacreshostas.com).

### **HOSTAS ON THE BLUFF**



**Hostas on the Bluff** is a specialty hosta farm and display garden. This small family owned business, the brain child of Brian and Erica Kniffin, is situated on the French Village bluffs overlooking the St. Louis skyline and river valley near Fairview Heights, Illinois. They offer more than 150 varieties of hostas plus daylilies and other companion plants. We are pleased to welcome them back for a fourth year.

To order hostas online or to schedule an appointment to visit, contact them by email [support@hostasonthebluff.com](mailto:support@hostasonthebluff.com) or calling 618-830-5921. For more information about their facility and services, visit their web site at <https://hostasonthebluff.com/>.

## Betty Shew Paper Art



**Betty Shew** worked as a graphic designer for many years until she discovered the joy of paper-casting. She creates intricate original molds from live flowers, ferns and other nature objects. These molds capture all the detail, texture and beauty of the original object. Her unique three dimensional embossed paper castings use pulp made from 100% cotton and natural fibers. Each piece is made completely by hand and finished with acrylic paint using a watercolor technique.

Betty shows her art at many local art shows. To see examples of her beautiful art work, learn more about her technique or to contact her, please visit her web site at: [Artwork • Betty Shew Paper Art](#)

## OVERLAND HARDWARE



**Overland Hardware** owners, Gregg Wesche and Don Burkhardt, continue the long tradition of excellent customer service established by their father and father-in-law. They state that they are an “old-fashioned” hardware store. In their minds that means “you can get in and out without having to walk a quarter mile, that someone offers to help you when you walk in the door and the person who helped you find what you needed also checks you out and helps carry it out to your car”. They stock everything from Italian granite paint for countertops to numerous blends of birdseed and rabbit chow.

**Overland Hardware**, located at 2520 Woodson Road, Overland MO 63114, is the place to go for those hard to find services. Specialties available at Overland are: cutting glass and acrylic to size, sash and screen repair, sharpening chainsaw chains, lock re-keying, chip keys for cars, cutting and rethreading pipe, sharpening lawn mower blades and lamp repair. Visit their web site, [www.overlandhardware.net](http://www.overlandhardware.net) for more information, hours of operation and directions to their store.

Again this year, Gregg, a St. Louis Hosta Society member, is offering special prices for selected gardening items that he will bring to our Vendor Day event. Later in this newsletter is a list of products and prices. Email ([greggdon@swbell.net](mailto:greggdon@swbell.net)) or call (314-427-1404) Gregg with your order and he will bring it with him on April 24<sup>th</sup>

### Directions to Crestwood Community/Recreation Center Whitecliff Park

- From the intersection of I-270 and MO 366W/Watson Road, take MO 366W/Watson Road east. Travel 2.6 miles to Pardee Lane. If you reach Grant Road you have gone too far. You can turn right onto Grant Road and take it to Pardee Road.
- Take Pardee Lane south until it T-intersects with Pardee Road (0.5 miles).
- Turn right onto Pardee Road.
- Travel 250 feet and turn right onto Whitecliff Park Lane.
- The Community Center is located at the top of the hill (0.3 miles).

## LoKey Designs



**LoKey Designs** started with Laura Dooley's need for low maintenance plants and home décor for her own home. She began planting succulent arrangements for her own enjoyment and that of her friends. This, in turn, led to teaching succulent planting classes.

Laura's business offers plants, pots, home décor, gifts and much more. It also has in-studio shopping by appointment, plant styling consultations, custom plant creations and planting classes. A class is the perfect activity for a bridal or baby shower.

See Laura's website [www.lokeydesigns.com](http://www.lokeydesigns.com) for more information about her services, her studio location and hours. Contact her at [Laura@LoKeyDesigns.com](mailto:Laura@LoKeyDesigns.com).

## Mosiacs by Virgene



**Mosiacs by Virgene** began about 25 years ago by Virgene Tyrell. After spending 32 years as a Communications teacher, then Director of Outreach at Kansas School for the Blind, Virgene let her creative side loose. After trying other crafts, she became enamored with mosaics. She is inspired by everything around her – nature, wildlife, graphic designs, art and color. She loves to take photographs and then transform these images into mosaics.

For more information check Virgene's web site: [MOSAICS BY VIRGENE - MOSAICS BY VIRGENE](http://MOSAICS BY VIRGENE - MOSAICS BY VIRGENE) or search for her on Facebook. Her art work can be found at Lillian Yahn Gallery in O'Fallon, Missouri.

## Laughing Bear Bakery



Founded in 2015, Laughing Bear Bakery is a labor of love. Kalen McAllister combined her love of baking with her desire to help men and women ex-offenders become self-sufficient and successful in their lives when they return to the St. Louis community. Kalen organized both the funding and the volunteer help necessary for the opening of a viable business.

The bakery offers mouth-watering, made-from-scratch fresh-baked products. Currently featured are cookies, cakes, pies, muffin tops, biscotti and delicious bear candy.

After five years of renting barely adequate commercial kitchen spaces, Laughing Bear Bakery has purchased a home of its own located at 4001 Utah, St. Louis MO. For more information about the bakery and its hours, check out its web-site: [Laughing Bear Bakery](http://Laughing Bear Bakery)

*All photos by J Poos or from artists web-sites.*

## March Meeting

### New & Exciting Plants for 2022

A week of warm spring temperatures really got the gardening juices flowing. The attendance at our first meeting of 2022 was outstanding. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces and greet friends we have not seen in years.

Abby Lapides, owner and plant expert of Sugar Creek Gardens Nursery, gave us a sneak peek at new and exciting plants that will grace nursery shelves this year. She introduced us to new cultivars of old perennial favorites and to snappy, quite colorful new annuals.

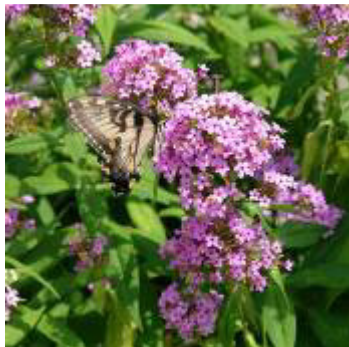
Have you ever heard of *muhlenbergia capillaris*, better known by the quirky name 'hairy-awn muhly'? A native grass with seed heads that look like luscious pink cotton candy, it is the 2022 Native of the Year. It's certain to draw attention to the sunny side of your garden.

How about a peony with blooms that are a foot across? Look for 'Lorelia' *paconia*. *Heucherella* 'Eye Spy', with its bubble gum pink flowers and chartreuse foliage, and *heuchera* 'Timeless Night' will add interest to your shade garden.

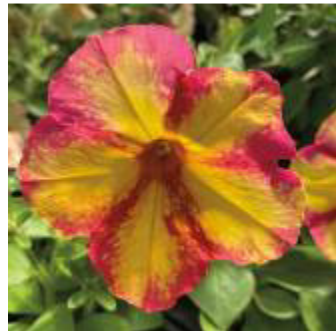
A new phlox 'Jeana' is a long blooming, fragrant, butterfly magnet that also possesses excellent mildew resistance. Add this to your pollinator bed.

I must have 'Fun House Potpourri' petunia to place around our pond. The magenta and yellow flowers will blend beautifully with our daylilies. What a pop of color they would add to a container or hanging pot.

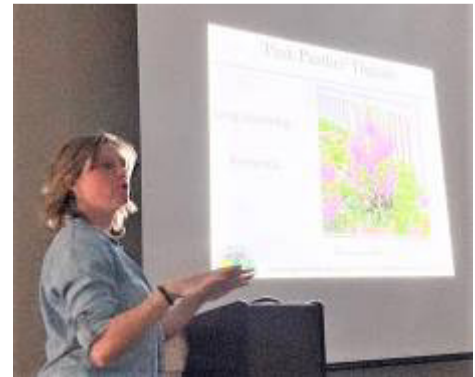
Can't wait for the season to begin!



'Jeana' Phlox



'Fun House Potpourri'  
Petunia



Abby Lapides discusses new and exciting perennials and annuals available in local nurseries in 2022.



Members await the start of Abby's presentation.



Lucky winner Andrea Michalak receives an attendance prize,



President Phyllis Weidman chats with member Mary Jones.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

### Novwe Akushe of Florissant, MO

Look for her at future meetings and introduce yourselves. Show her how welcoming and friendly we all are. We hope all our members, new and old alike, will attend the April Vendor Day event.

## Dig, Divide and Donate

Right now as winter still holds on it may seem that it will never happen, but those hostas are just waiting for a few more warm days before poking their pips above ground. One or two of mine are already visible. When they do, note which ones might be divided, potted and donated to the upcoming May hosta sale or the member auction held in July. Look for side shoots that can easily be removed. If each of us would take a moment to donate a couple of our babies both the sale and auction would be outstanding events filled with a wide variety of plants. If you need help digging, give Phyllis a call and she will arrange a digging crew to help you.

## Spring Chores

Have you spread your slug control? Have you fertilized your beds? Now's the time. It is also a good time to mulch your beds. Everyone uses their favorite type: shredded hardwood, shredded leaves or pine needles. Just remember do not spread the material deeper than 2-3 inches. Try to keep the mulch off the crown of your hostas. Over mulching can lead to vole problems by providing a nice warm medium that is easy to tunnel through.

## Don't Let Mother Nature Fool You

Spring is a time of anticipation and excitement for gardeners. But our excitement must be tempered with the realization that freezing temperatures are always a possibility. The average last frost date in St. Louis is April 10, but can occur as late as May 10.

Some hostas are eager to begin to grow like *H. montana* 'Aureomarginata'. If shoots are a few inches or more tall, yet the leaves have not started to unfurl and temperatures below 30 degrees F are forecasted, some protection should be applied. Additional mulch or dried leaves can be piled around and over the emerging pips. If leaves have started to unfurl other types of coverings to consider are frost cloths, old sheets, cardboard boxes, bushel baskets, garbage cans, newspapers or plastic pots. Avoid using plastic bags or polyethylene sheets as condensation can build up on the inside and increase the likelihood of damage to hosta leaves. If plastic pots are used, remove them as soon as the frost risk has passed. Once the sun comes out, heat can build up rapidly damaging the emerging plants.

Protecting hostas from low temperatures is certainly a hassle. Each of us has to determine if it is worth the effort. We must always be aware of the possibility of a frost or hard freeze and be ready to spring into action to preserve the beauty of our gardens.

## Overland Hardware Vendor Day 2022 Price List

Thanks to everyone who purchased something from me in the past. Most of these items I use in my own hosta beds at home and I've marked the price down to benefit Society members as they begin to work in their own beds. **Please email me if you have special requests.** Prices include sales tax.

For the April Vendor Day Meeting, I will take **preorders only** for 32# Milorganite for \$11 a bag. I will **not** be bringing additional bags to the meeting and I will need preorders by **April 12<sup>th</sup>**.

### SNAIL & SLUG PRODUCTS

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN BLESSED WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF SLUGS IN MY HOSTA BEDS.

- 2.5 LB HI-YIELD SLUG & SNAIL BAIT, INGREDIENTS: METALDEHYDE & BITREX \$12
- 1.5 LB SLUG MAGIC, ACTIVE INGR.: PELLETIZED IRON PHOSPHATE \$12
- 4 LB DIATOMACEOUS EARTH (Food Grade) \$13

### WEED CONTROL

ONE OF THE BANES OF ALL GARDENERS IS THE PULLING OF WEEDS, ALTHOUGH IT SOMETIMES GIVES YOU SOME TIME TO THINK OR WORK ON YOUR TAN.

- 5.625 LB PREEN WEED PREVENTER, ACTIVE INGR.: 1.47% TRIFLURALIN \$17
- 16 LB PREEN WEED PREVENTER, ACTIVE INGR.: 1.47% TRIFLURALIN \$33
- 16 LB PREEN WEED PREVENTER PLUS PLANT FOOD 9-12-9 \$39
- 31.3 LB PREEN WEED PREVENTER \$47
- 30 OZ SPECTRACIDE CONCENTRATE WEED/GRASS KILLER – MAKES UP TO 10 GAL \$19
- 35.2 OZ ROUNDUP SUPER CONCENTRT 50.2% GLYPHOSPHATE SALT- UPTO 23 GALS \$52

### FERTILIZERS & AMENDMENTS

- 8 QT BAG EARTHWORM CASTINGS BLEND \$8
- 8 OZ SCHULTZ 10-15-10 LIQUID PLANT FOOD WITH DROPPER \$7
- 8 LB OSMOCOTE OUTDOOR & INDOOR 15-9-12 \$26
- 8 LB OSMOCOTE FLOWER & VEG 14-14-14 \$28
- 20 LB BONE MEAL 0-10-0 \$30      2.75 LB BLOOD MEAL \$12
- 1 QT ALASKA FISH FERTILIZER 5-1-1 ORGANIC WON'T BURN \$9

#### And For The Hardcore Gardener:

- 4 LB SUPERPHOSPHATE \$9      4 LB MURIATE OF POTASH \$9.50
- 4 LB ALUMINUM SULFATE \$9      3 LB COTTONSEED MEAL \$9
- 4 LB COPPERAS (IRON SULFATE) \$9

### GARDENER HELPERS

- THESE GLOVES I RECOMMEND WITHOUT RESERVATION! ATLAS NITRILE TOUGH GLOVES AVAILABLE IN SM, MED., LARGE AND XLARGE. TOUGH AND DURABLE, BUT LIGHTWEIGHT WITH MAXIMUM DEXTERITY. 7 COLORS AVAILABLE \$4/PAIR
- IS YOUR PRUNING SHEARS DULL AND/OR WORN OUT?  
FISKARS ALL STEEL BYPASS \$14 OR CORONA BYPASS PRUNER \$14
- FOAM KNEELING PAD 20 x 9.5 x 1 \$5
- O'KEEFE'S WORKING HANDS - OUTSTANDING RELIEF FOR CRACKED/SPLIT FINGERTIPS \$7. VALUE SIZE O'KEEFE'S - TWICE THE SIZE \$12 **NEW** 3 OZ SQUEEZE TUBE \$7
- POP-UP GARDEN BAG 27"H X 22"DIA LIGHTWEIGHT BUT DURABLE, COLLAPSES FOR EASY STORAGE OR TRANSPORT, GREAT FOR CLEANUP & WEEDING \$20

**YOU CAN EMAIL OR CALL ME WITH YOUR ORDERS AND I'LL BRING THEM TO THE VENDOR DAY. THANKS**

**GREGG WESCHE, OVERLAND HARDWARE  
2520 WOODSON, OVERLAND, MO 63114  
314-427-1404 OR [GREGGDON@SWBELL.NET](mailto:GREGGDON@SWBELL.NET)**



## St. Louis Hosta Society Officials

**Phyllis Weidman** – President  
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314-821-1622  
[david.poos@att.net](mailto:david.poos@att.net)

## St. Louis Hosta Society Membership Information

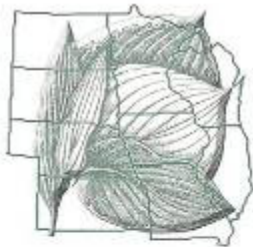
**Contact:** David Birenbaum  
209 Brook Lane  
O'Fallon, MO 63368  
[d.birenbaum@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d.birenbaum@sbcglobal.net)

**Dues:** \$7 per year, \$18 for three years  
Family or Individual

Meetings held at **The Des Peres Lodge, 1050 Des Peres Road, Des Peres, MO 63130** (near I270 and Manchester Rd) unless otherwise noted.

**Visit our Web site:** [www.stlouishosta.org](http://www.stlouishosta.org)

**Visit us on Facebook, St. Louis Hosta Society**



### Midwest Regional Hosta Society

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society represents Region 5 of the American Hosta Society that includes 9 states.

Membership in the society is \$20.00 for 2 years, which includes two issues per year of the newsletter.

Please mail a check made payable to **MRHS** to:

Barbara Schroeder,  
Treasurer  
1819 Coventry Dr.  
Champaign, IL 61822

along with Name, Address, phone, and email (Most correspondence is by email). For questions email [MRHS.Hosta@gmail.com](mailto:MRHS.Hosta@gmail.com).



## AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

Members receive three issues per year of The Hosta Journal, which includes color photographs of hostas, reports on national conventions, scientific information concerning current research pertaining to hostas, and advertisements of interest to hosta families.

Membership checks should be made out to "AHS," and mailed to:

Barry Ankney, AHS Membership Secretary  
1104 Oxford Ct  
Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

Dues for one year are \$30 for an individual and \$34 for a family. For more information, visit the AHS website: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/>