



Volume 14, Issue 6

July, 2013



**Phyllis Weidman President**

### **A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

June has been very busy. Starting with the Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Sale, we had people standing at the doors when we opened. The word must be getting out that it is a great place to get excellent plants at an affordable price. We stayed open on Sunday only until noon because we did not have enough good quality plants left to sell. It was the first time we were able to let the customer pay by credit card and I think it was a positive addition to the sale. We cleared over \$3000. Thanks to all who supplied plants, worked to set up the sale, and were there to sell the hostas.

The next week-end was the Open Hosta Garden Day. There were twelve gardens open to the public--rain or shine. Of course, it rained. Some places got lots of rain. No matter how many people visited a particular garden, I think it was another great success. Many of the people who visited our garden were not Society members and seemed very interested in learning about hostas. Some even became new members!

After those two events, Jim and I headed to Milwaukee, WI to attend the American Hosta Society Convention. As always it is wonderful to see friends, visit gardens, and enter the leaf show. Since we forgot our hosta leaves at home, we were only observers this year. The gardens were wonderful. They can grow hostas so well in the north. We took lots of photos so you may see them in the future. It was the first convention without buses taking you to gardens. Using private cars and sharing rides went very smoothly. We were lucky to have the other St. Louis member, Elaine Fix, as a passenger.

Now after a little break we look forward to our plant auction, two excellent speakers, and a holiday party. Make sure to mark your calendars because none of these events should be missed.

*Phyllis*

## 2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 11-13**                      **Midwest Region Hosta Society Convention**  
Lisle, Illinois  
For more information: <http://mrhs2013.org/>
- July 21**                              **Members Plant Auction**  
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- September 15**                      **Meeting with Speaker Rob Mortko**  
**“Hot Hostas for the Cool Shade”**  
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- October 20**                              **Meeting with Speaker member Ted Piekutowski**  
**Bonsai Basics**  
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- November TBA**                              **Board Meeting**  
TBA
- December 8**                              **Holiday Party**  
**NOTE DATE CHANGE**                      1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center

**\*\*\* NEXT NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> \*\*\***

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Martha and Bob Dickson of Des Peres, MO**  
**Nancy Hediger of Highland, IL**  
**Sandy Oldfield of Lake St. Louis, MO**  
**Cheryl Pease of Cedar Hill, MO**  
**Sharron Pollack and Joe Weixlarann of Clayton, MO**  
**Charles Scherrer of St. Louis, MO**  
**Dianna and Bob Schneiderjohn of St. Louis, MO**  
**Sue and Larry Simpson of Sunset Hills, MO**

These wonderful people joined our society during two recent events, our plant sale at the Missouri Botanical Garden and our first annual Open Garden Day. If you see any of our new members at future events, introduce yourselves and welcome them to our group.



2012 Auctioneer Mike Schmitt gets the bidding started.



Members look over the selection of plants before the 2012 auction.

## **MEMBER PLANT AUCTION** **July 21, 1:00 PM** **Creve Coeur Government Center**

Tomorrow morning before the sun gets blistering hot take a walk in your garden. Check your plants to see if any could be divided. Dig out a part, pot and label. Bring a donation or two to our July 21<sup>st</sup> auction. Then check if there are barren spots in your beds that are badly in need of new plants. This is your opportunity to acquire something new that will be the envy of your hosta friends.

Auction chairman Jeff Hall is ready to kick off this popular event. The annual auction is one of two events that fund our society's yearly activities and make the publication of this newsletter possible. So bring your wish list, some friends and of course your checkbook. Be ready to outbid your fellow hostaholics. That plant that you've been dying to have your whole life may be there waiting for you.

But most of all socialize. Come swap stories about how you've weathered the storms (and tornados) and are beating the heat. Join your fellow society members for an afternoon of fun.

### **Members' Wish List**

At each meeting this year, President Phyllis Weidman had available a sign up sheet on which members could list hostas that they would like for their gardens. The upcoming auction is a perfect time to have one or more of these available for sale. Check your gardens to see if you might have some that are on the list below. If so, think about donating an eye and making one of your fellow members deliriously happy.

The hostas members crave are:

**Great Expectations**  
**Gunther's Prize**  
**Midnight at the Oasis**  
**Purple Haze**  
**White Christmas**  
**Whoop Whoop**

## Missouri Botanical Garden Hosta Sale June 1-2



Barb Moreland and Kelly Hall discuss pricing strategy during the sale setup on Friday night. Other members were busy arranging the plants in alphabetical order.



Barb Moreland and Martha Lafata consult the *Hosta Finder* to obtain the average retail price for the particular cultivar. The price then assigned each pot also depended on the rarity of the cultivar and the number of eyes in the pot.



Karen Frimel, Joan Clarkson and Pam Wolkowitz assist Kelly Hall in arranging and fixing prices. With so much help, this time-consuming task was quickly accomplished. Afterwards, everyone adjourned to "The Hill" for a well-earned meal.



Marian Murphy affixes a price to each pot. Prices ranged from \$3 to \$50.



Mary Lou Farrow and Diane Sherrillo assist Jim Weidman in setting up a leaf display. Jim had cut and cleaned leaves from his garden for the display.



The purpose of the 'Leaf Display' was to show visitors the diversity of hosta foliage. The leaves were different in size, color, texture and variegation.



Chairwoman Phyllis Weidman gives growing tips to a customer. Many society members were present to answer questions.



At 9 o'clock sharp the doors opened to a line of eager customers. Not even the threat of stormy weather kept them away.

## Open Garden Day June 9



A stepping stone path allows visitors to Linda Van Deven's lovely home a close-up look at her beautifully grown hostas.



A mother swan tending her young makes her home in the large lake behind Linda's home.



Hostas wrap around the corner of Linda's home beckoning the visitor to pass through the gate and continue around the back and down to the lake.



Grasses, conifers and containers grace the entrance to JoAnn Rawson's home. Ceramic and terra cotta pots of various sizes display dwarf conifers. A tall metal tree "blooming" with colorful vases sits outside her front door.



A pot containing a weeping dwarf conifer nestles amongst hostas at the base of a tree.



Walking around the back, we view more of JoAnn's vast collection of conifers and grasses. The columnar shape of the four at right echo the lines of her back porch. Just visible in the background are numerous grass cultivars.



How inviting! Bright blue chairs and red climbing roses are a few of the touches that evoke joy and happiness in the beautiful garden of Pam and Chester Wolkowitz.



A frog basks in the sun on a bed of gold shaded by a purple iris. Isn't life wonderful!



A large pool dominates one of the inner beds. Surrounded by neatly labeled hostas and an edge of golden creeping jenny, the pool exudes serenity.



Entering the beautiful garden of Karen and Greg Frimel, you are struck by the many large, well tended hostas, astilbe and ferns. Japanese maples provide structure and artistic interest under the high canopy of the older trees.



One of Karen's many whimsical frogs spends his time daydreaming.



A resting spot along the path that weaves amongst the hostas in Karen's backyard beckons one to stop and reflect. Karen has artistically blended "found treasures" into her beds. What's hidden behind that dogwood? What's at the end of the path?



A sweeping view of the backyard garden of Dave and Joan Poos, shows beds filled with different hosta cultivars, accented by conifers, Japanese maples, and other shade companions. Sunnier beds house a vast daylily collection.



Bright spires of astilbe contrast with the cool greens and gold of the nearby hostas.



Hostas grow well in containers as shown by this grouping in one of Dave's and Joan's hosta beds. In winter, the pots are tipped to keep water from collecting and freezing and covered with mulched leaves.



A bed of well grown hostas flows away from the white obelisk in the garden of Phyllis and Jim Weidman.



This is but one of the Weidman's hypertufa troughs that display their mini hosta collection. Making interesting shaped troughs is a winter pastime for Phyllis and Jim. The troughs are perfect containers for those fragile minis.



What a lovely spot to spend the day! Phyllis' and Jim's back patio overlooks a hillside dotted with sun and shade perennials.



The back wall of the Buehrig's home displays Chick's collection of brightly painted fish. On each of the steps of the stoop are nesting chickens clothed in eye catching plumage.



One of the paths that lead down the steep slope leading to a sunny vista planted with daylilies.



A small pool guarded by herons is situated in front of some of Bruce's collection of unusual conifers. Paths meander around specimen conifers, beautiful sculptures and clumps of hostas. An afternoon is too short a time to fully experience its beauty.



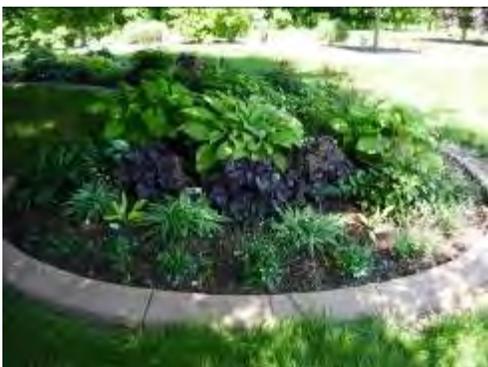
Raised beds on the back patio of Nancy and Arlie Tempel's home showcase their collection of small and mini hostas.



A large praying mantis sits upon a mill stone waiting for its next meal to walk by.



No human should be able to garden on such a steep incline, but Arlie and Nancy do! The tiered hillside is home to hundreds of hostas, ferns and other shade lovers.



A 2009 picture of one of Jolly Ann Whitener's hosta beds. At that time, Jolly Ann had interspersed her hostas with heuchera and Forget-me-nots. Beautiful concrete edgings defined each bed.

Many thanks to Kelly and Jeff Hall for providing pictures of the gardens they were able to visit. Huge black thunder clouds prevented them from checking out our friends in St. Charles and St. Peters. If anyone has photos from the gardens of Karen Frey, Karen and Micheal Gray, Laj and Paul Bonstead and Jolly Ann Whitener, please email some of them to me at [david.poos@att.net](mailto:david.poos@att.net) or give them to me at the July meeting. I would love to feature their gardens in the next issue of the newsletter.

The day was a huge success – maybe there will have to be a second Open Garden Day. Thanks to all the members who opened their beautiful gardens and showed the public how hostas can be incorporated into their landscape.

## St. Louis Hosta Society Popularity Poll

From all green to all gold, from small to very large, and everything in between describes the hostas selected by members as their favorites. These were hostas that grow well in the heat and humidity of St. Louis. They don't peek out before that last frost in spring that seems to nip the tips of early emerging hostas. They don't burn out or melt in our glaring summer sun. They keep their good looks into old age when cooling weather finally signals winter's return.

The list contains 36 different cultivars. Only four, H. 'Liberty', H. 'Paradise Joyce', H. 'Rainbow's End' and H. 'Victory' received more than one vote. This demonstrates that a variety of hostas perform well in St. Louis and that all sorts, from humble H. 'Lancifolia' to majestic H. 'Victory' are loved. I wonder how many on this list will make an appearance at our annual member auction in July.

August Moon	Earth Angel	June	Paradise Joyce (2 votes)
Blue Angle	El Nino	Leading Lady	Queen Josephine
Blue Mouse Ears	Gold Standard	Lemon Lime	Queen of the Sea
Brother Stefan	Gosan Gold Mist	Leola Fraim	Rainbow's End (3 votes)
Clear Fork River Valley	Guacamole	Liberty (2 votes)	Sagee
Dark Star	H. lancifolia	Marbled Cream	Sea Dream
Dawn's Early Light	Hacksaw	Marilyn Monroe	Tokudama aureionebulosa
Deep Blue Sea	Halcyon	Marrakech	Victory (2 votes)
Dick Ward	Heat Wave	Moonlight Sonata	World Cup



**H. 'World Cup'**



**H. 'Queen Josephine'**



**H. 'Brother Stefan'**



**H. 'Rainbow's End'**



**H. 'Marrakech'**



**H. 'Marilyn Monroe'**



**H. 'Clear Fork River Valley'**



**H. 'Paradise Joyce'**



**H. 'Marbled Cream'**



**H. 'Victory'**

## St. Louis Hosta Society Officials

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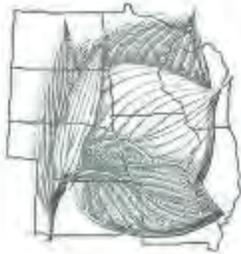
## St. Louis Hosta Society Membership Information

**Contact:** Cindy Michniok  
14300 Quiet Meadow Ct.  
Chesterfield, MO 63017  
[Cmichniok@gmail.com](mailto:Cmichniok@gmail.com)

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

Meetings held at **1:00 PM** at the **Creve Coeur Government Center, 300 N. New Ballas, 63141** (between Ladue Road and Olive), unless otherwise noted.

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



### Midwest Regional Hosta Society

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society represents Region 5 of the American Hosta Society that includes 9 states. Our mission is to promote education, research, development and enjoyment of Hosta.

Membership in the society is \$20.00 for 2 years, which includes two issues per year of the newsletter. This publication reports on events and information on Hostas in general.

Please mail a check made payable to MRHS to:

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Woodstock, IL 60098

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:

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. For more information, visit the AHS website: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/>