



Show Me Hostas Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 3

May, 2010

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Pam Wolkowitz President
Photo by Kelly Hall

Hello fellow gardeners!

This rain will surely make our hostas happy. I think most of us bought something at our Vendor's Day that will have to be placed in our gardens, along with our new club plants. It was a great time looking at new hostas and talking with vendors and friends.

We have two functions coming up that are really fun and we will need your help to make them great. The MoBot Sale will be coming up first and we will need for you to be digging hostas and companion plants for that sale. It is better if you dig them now and give them time to acclimate to their pots. Don't forget to put a name tag on them, so we can price them. There will be more info to come on this activity.

Also, our auction in July will feature Martha Karlovetz's hosta collection donation of approximately 75 plants. Because of this we are asking members to bring only one of their favorite hostas this year. This should give us a good selection with something each of you "can't live without"!

See you at the next meeting...

Pam Wolkowitz

2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 16** **Leaf Show**
11:00 AM, leaf preparation and setup
1:00 PM, judging and meeting
Creve Coeur Government Center
- June 5** **Work Day at the Missouri Botanical Garden**
9:00 AM, Missouri Botanical Garden
- June 18** **Plant Sale at the Missouri Botanical Garden Setup**
5:00 - 7:00 PM, Missouri Botanical Garden
- June 19** **Plant Sale at the Missouri Botanical Garden**
9:00 – 5:00 PM, Missouri Botanical Garden
- June 23-26** **American Hosta Society National Convention**
Bloomington, Minnesota
- July 8-10** **Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention**
Des Moines, Iowa
- July 18** **Member Plant Auction**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- August** Possible bus tour – TBA
- August 15** **Meeting with Speakers Joan and Larry Hummel**
1:00 PM, Shaw Arboretum, Gray Summit, MO
- September 19** **Meeting with Speaker Bill Ruppert**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- October 17** **Meeting with Speaker Dave Wanninger**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- November 21** **Meeting with ‘Show St. Louis Hosta Society’ DVD**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- December 5** **Holiday Party**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center

APRIL 18, 2010 MEETING

VENDOR DAY and CLUB PLANT PICK-UP



Melissa Byrd gathers information from Ron Vitoux of Homestead Farms.



Rose Hall checks Terry Fiebig's Meadow Sweet Gardens selections.



A full house listens to Jim talk about the leaf show.

Spring was in the air. The house was packed, the shopping furious. Even arriving 15 minutes early, I saw several members already carting bags of hostas to their cars and heading back for more.

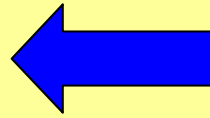
Nice selections of hostas and companion plants of all sorts, even herbs and vegetables, occupied the sales tables of our three plant vendors: Denny Ricketts from Avalon Acres, Ron Vitoux and sons from Homestead Farms and Terry Fiebig of Meadow Sweet Gardens.

Slugs beware! My husband was quick to purchase boxes of the deadly pellets from the table of Overland Hardware. I, on the other hand, now have a new pair of badly needed gardening gloves.

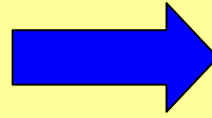
It's fun to search the tables for new cultivars to add to our gardens and discuss their pros and cons with fellow members. Having attended our event for several years, these vendors are a part of our extended hosta family and willingly share their vast knowledge of plants and plant habits. We thank them for taking time from their busy selling season to make our event a highlight on the yearly schedule.



From this



To this



It could be you!



Jim Weidman explains the procedure.

Leaf Show

May 16, 2010

Leaf prep and setup begin at 11:00 AM

Judging and meeting begin at 1:00 PM

At the April meeting, leaf show chair Jim Weidman explained who, what, why and how. He encouraged every member to join the fun by bringing in at least one hosta leaf and learning what it takes to properly prepare that leaf for display. There's no stress, no pressure, just friendly fun competition.

Diana and Craig Plahn are the judges. This is not a full, AHS sanctioned event. Our leaf show has only three divisions: Division I – cut leaf, Division II – container grown hosta, Division III – trough/container gardens arranged for effect. They will be looking for leaves that are the best representatives of their cultivars in substance, style, form and color. Sounds complicated, but it's not.

So where do we start. Begin by walking through your garden in the morning a day or two before the show. Look for leaves that are the right size for the cultivar; it's better to be too large than too small. Notice whether their color and/or variegation match their description. Select leaves that display correct margin size and symmetry. Finally, the most difficult task – find one that has no damage – no sun burn, no pinholes, no brown leaf tips.

Next, cut that leaf, keeping as much of the petiole as possible and immediately place in water. Immerse the whole leaf in cool water overnight (the bath tub works great). Lots of water gives that leaf its substance. Figure out a way to label the leaf that won't fall off or wash off in water. On May 16, put your leaves in a bucket of water and arrive at the government center by 11:00 AM.

All items needed to clean and display the leaf will be available when you arrive. That includes the vase. Judges look for dirt, so it's important to properly clean the plant. Do not rub blue hostas as that removes the wax coating that makes them blue. Just soak blue leaves in water. Phyllis and Jim and other members who have entered leaves in shows in the past will be there to help you clean, set up for display and fill out the entry forms. You must write your name and address on each entry form so it is time-saving to bring some of those preprinted address labels that you're always getting in the mail. Arrive early, as it takes time to thoroughly groom a leaf. All entries need to be in place for the 1:00 PM judging.

Complete rules for our leaf show follow on the next three pages. Don't let them intimidate you!

Come early, learn a bit, socialize a lot, enjoy the camaraderie!

COMING EVENTS

**Work Day at the Missouri Botanical Garden
June 6, 9:00 AM. - until all plants in the ground**

Mark this date on your calendar. Get involved with a Society project truly worth your time. Join your fellow Society members to 'make a difference' in the hosta beds at the Missouri Botanical Garden. No tools needed, just your helping hands. More information will appear in the June Newsletter, arriving in your mailbox at the end of May.

**St. Louis Hosta Society Plant Sale
Missouri Botanical Garden, Orthwein Room
June 18, 9:00 AM. - 5:00 PM.**

**St. Louis Hosta Society Member Auction
July 18, 1:00 PM.**

While you're cleaning up your garden beds after the long cold winter or after this last set of severe storms consider setting aside plants or divisions for these two big Society fund raisers. Due to the generosity of members Martha and Lamar Karlovetz, only a few plants are needed for the member auction. However, for a successful MoBot plant sale, the Society needs your donations. Remember, monies from these sales pay the costs associated with meeting room rental, speakers, the website, the newsletter publication, the holiday banquet and many more events held throughout the year. Dig and pot now while the weather is mild. More information will be forthcoming in the June and July newsletters.

St. Louis Hosta Society Leaf Show
May 16, 2010

General Show Rules

1. **Anyone who wishes to exhibit may do so. Entries will be received from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Judging will begin at 1:00 PM. All entries must remain in place until 3:00 PM.**
2. **Entry tags must be properly completed by the exhibitor. Incorrect entry tag information will be corrected.**
3. **All 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.**
4. **Divisions, I – Horticulture, II – Container Grown Hosta, III – Trough/Container Gardens Arranged For Effect, will be judged by panels of two or more American Hosta Society judges. The American Hosta Society Point Scoring System will be used to break a tie in judging major awards. Each panel of judges will be the final authority of each class it judges. All decisions of the judges are final.**
5. **The American Hosta Society uses the AHS Standard System of Awarding and Judging as specified in the AHS Judges Handbook. The AHS Point Scoring System will be used in breaking a tie and for major awards. First Place entries must score 90 points or higher in order to receive a blue ribbon. To be awarded Best of Class or higher awards, the entries must score 95 points or higher. Second Place entries must score 85 points or higher to receive a red ribbon. Third Place entries must score 80 points or higher to receive a yellow ribbon. Fourth Place entries must score 75 points or higher to receive a white ribbon.**
6. **For all show divisions, provided entries score the minimum points, each sub-class (or class if there are no sub-classes or section if there are no classes) is allowed the awarding of only one blue, one red, one yellow and one white ribbon. In Division I: Section I-V, each registered cultivar or species constitutes a separate named 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 and is not eligible for major awards.**
7. **Blue, red, yellow and white ribbons will be awarded to First, Second, Third and Fourth places, respectively, in each class or sub-class (or Section if no class), if merited in all competitive divisions. Best of Class, Best of Section and Best of Show in Horticulture, Division I: Cut Leaves Sections I through V will be awarded to the most outstanding entries, if merited. A "Sweepstakes Award" will be awarded to the exhibitor who wins the largest number of blue ribbons in Division I.**
8. **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.**

DIVISION I – HORTICULTURE (CUTLEAF)

1. Containers will be provided by the St. Louis Hosta Society with a limit of 25 entries per exhibitor for Division I. Bloom scapes are not permitted in this division.
2. Sections I – V (Registered Cultivars and Species), and XII (Unregistered Named Cultivars) require ONE leaf per entry. Sections VI – X require TWO leaves per entry. Sports shall be indicated on the entry tag as “Sport of (Name of Cultivar)”. Seedlings shall be indicated on the entry tag as “Seedling (Hybridizer’s Identifying Number)”.
3. An exhibitor may enter more than one horticultural specimen in a single class (one or two leaves as required) provided each entry is of a different variety. All entries must have been grown by the exhibitor.
4. Persons placing entries in Section XI – Youth Exhibits must be 18 years of age or younger as of the date of the show.
5. All leaves entered should be representative of the plant as a whole and should be taken from plants approaching maturity.
6. Point scoring for Horticulture: Cut Leaves, Sections I through V: Registered Cultivars and Species. Total 100 points: Form - 15, Size - 15, Color and Pattern - 25, Texture - 15, Substance - 15, Condition and Grooming - 15.
7. Point scoring for Horticulture: Cut Leaves, Section XII - Unregistered Named Hosta Cultivars. Total 100 points: Form - 15, Size - 15, Color and Pattern - 25, Texture - 15, Substance - 15, Condition and Grooming - 15.
8. Point scoring for Horticulture: Cut Leaves, Sections VI through X - Unregistered Sports and Seedlings. Total: 100 points: Distinction - 50, Color and Pattern - 10, Form and Size - 10, Substance - 10, Texture - 10, Condition and Grooming - 10.

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 – Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species

Section V – Miniature- Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species

Section VI – Giant-Leaved Unregistered Sports and Seedlings

Section VII – Large-Leaved Unregistered Sports and Seedlings

Section VIII – Medium-Leaved Unregistered Sports and Seedlings

Section IX – Small-Leaved Unregistered Sports and Seedlings

Section X – Miniature-Leaved Unregistered Sports and Seedlings

Section XII – Unregistered Named Hosta Cultivars

Entries in Sections 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

(center distinct from margin color)

Class 7 – Streaked or Mottled

Class 8 – Others (including early season variants)

**THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY
POINT SCALES FOR JUDGING HOSTA**

REGISTERED CULTIVARS AND SPECIES - DIVISION I, SECTION 1 – V

Form 15	Texture 15
Size 15	Substance 15
Color and Pattern 25	Condition and Grooming 15
TOTAL POINTS 100	

UNREGISTERED NAMED HOSTA CULTIVARS - DIVISION I, SECTION X11

Form 15	Texture 15
Size 15	Substance 15
Color and Pattern 25	Condition and Grooming 15
TOTAL POINTS 100	

UNREGISTERED SPORTS AND SEEDINGS - DIVISION I, SECTIONS VI – X

Distinction 50	Texture 10
Form and Size 10	Substance 10
Color and Pattern 10	Condition and Grooming 10
TOTAL POINTS 100	

CONTAINER GROWN HOSTA DIVISION II

Form 15	Texture 10
Size 15	Substance 10
Color and Pattern 25	Condition and Grooming 15
Container 10	
TOTAL POINTS 100	

TROUGH/CONTAINER GARDENS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT - DIVISION III

Variety 20	Condition 30
Arrangement 30	Container Relative to Arrangement 20
TOTAL POINTS 100	

Welcome new members

The Society is delighted to welcome new members for 2010:

Paulette Carr of St. Louis

Jeanne Davis of Florissant

Look for them at future meetings, show them how friendly we really are, and invite them to join us for the exciting events scheduled this year. We hope our new members and all our old friends will join in this year's fun.

In Memoriam

We are deeply saddened by the sudden death of new Society member Ray Mueller of Florissant. Ray and his wife Virginia were quite active in the Water Gardening Society and had just joined our hosta family at the last meeting. Ray was tragically killed in a motorcycle accident on April 13.

On behalf of the Society, we extend our sympathies to Ray's wife and their family.

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Membership Information

The American Hosta Society

Contact: Sandie Markland

8702 Pinnacle Rock Ct.

Lorton, VA 22079-3029

AHSMembershipSecretary@earthlink.net

Dues: Individual \$30 per year, Family \$34 per year

Midwest Regional Hosta Society

Contact: Barb Schroeder

1819 Coventry Drive

Champaign, IL 61822

mrhs.treasurer@midwesthostasociety.org

Dues: Individual \$20 for two years

St. Louis Hosta Society

Contact: Dave Poos

9904 Crestwood Drive

Crestwood, MO 63126

dpoos@juno.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

Other Hosta and Garden Web Sites

American Hosta Society – <http://www.hosta.org/>

Midwest Hosta Society – <http://www.midwesthostasociety.org>

Hosta Library – <http://www.hostalibrary.org>

Hosta Forum – questions/answers – <http://forums.gardenweb.com/forums/hosta/>

Mini Hosta forum – <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/minihosta>