

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

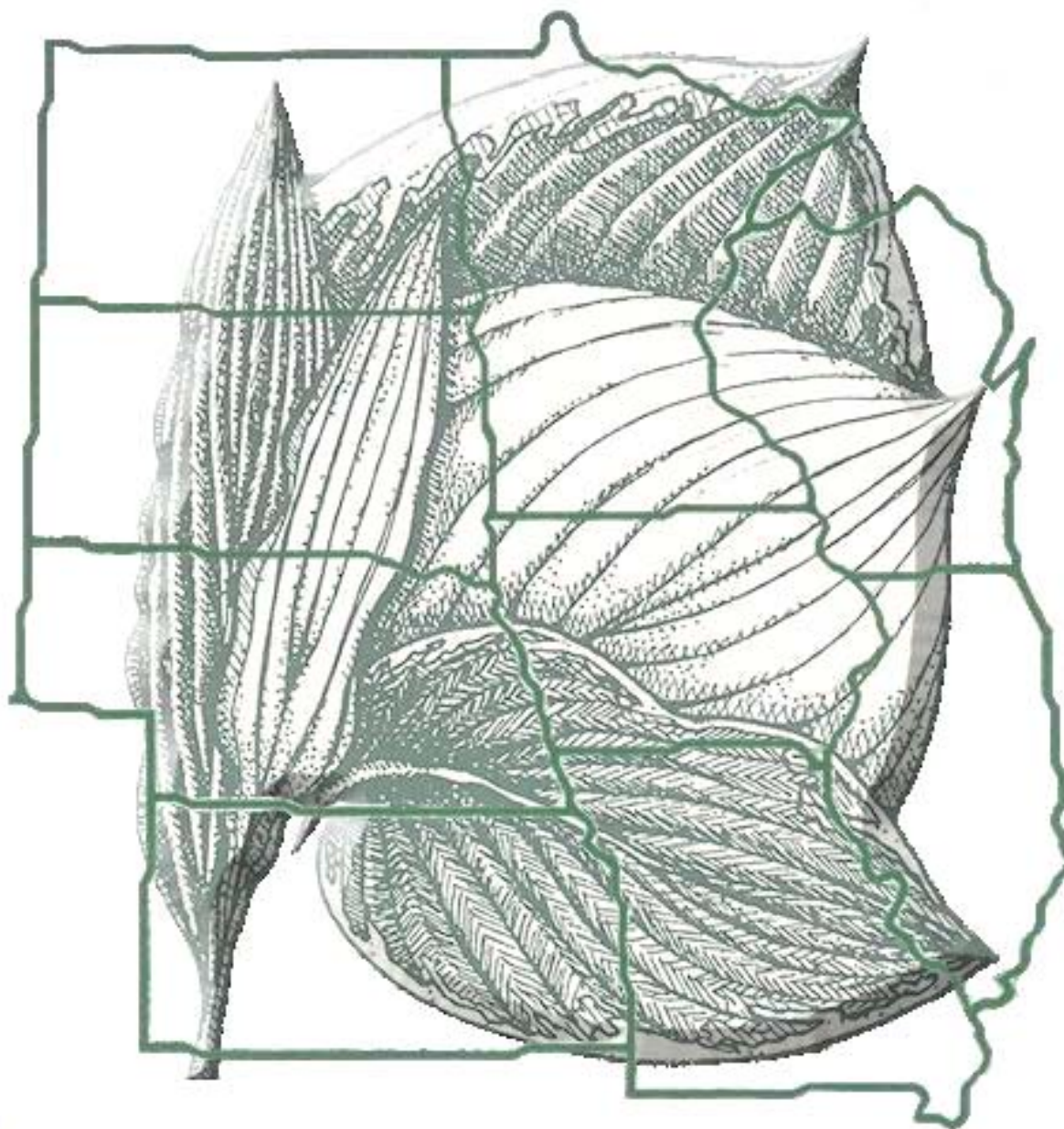
HOSTA LEAVES

ISSUE NUMBER 71

FALL 2011

WINTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING REGISTRATION

ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA CONVENTION



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DeEtta Montgomery Distinguished Service Award

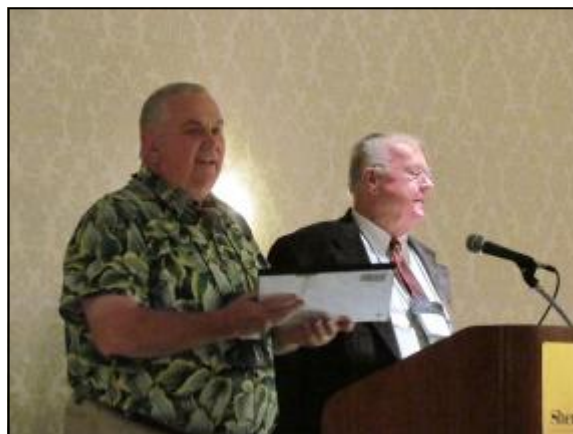
Each year the MRHS takes the opportunity to thank a deserving member of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society for their service. This award was named in honor of DeEtta Montgomery, who exemplified service to the society, and was its first recipient. I am pleased to announce that the winner of this year's DeEtta Montgomery Award is Irwin Johnson. Irwin served as MRHS newsletter editor for eight years. While he was editor, he introduced color photos into *The Hosta Leaves*, our award winning newsletter. Following this, Irwin served as Regional Director for the American Hosta Society for four years as well. During his term as Regional Director, he was instrumental in securing nine AHS Display Gardens in our region: Boerner Botanical Gardens in Hales Corners (near Milwaukee), Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison, Rotary Gardens in Janesville, Foxfire in Marshfield (no longer open), Green Bay Botanical Gardens, Dubuque Botanical Gardens, Bickelhaupt Arboretum in Clinton, IA, Van de Veer Gardens in Davenport, and Illinois Central Gardens in Peoria. Not resting on his past accomplishments, Irwin was elected as Secretary for the MRHS. We all thank Irwin for his years of service.

You can help select the next award winner. MRHS members can send nominations for those they think have served the society and deserve to receive the DeEtta Montgomery Award to any member of the MRHS board. Selections are made at the winter board meeting held in conjunction with the Winter Scientific Meeting, January 21, 2012.

Tom Micheletti



Irwin Johnson



Tom Micheletti presents the award

President's Message

2011 has been a year of change for me. Not only am I trying to fill Lou Horton's shoes as President of the MRHS, but I retired after teaching horticulture for 32 years at Illinois Central College and moved to Cedarburg, WI. I am looking forward to the challenges of serving you as president, and designing and planting a garden in our new (old) home. Change can be good!

If the MRHS is to move into the future, the next few years must also bring about some changes. Floyd spells out the situation in his financial letter on page 22, but basically under the present format, the MRHS would no longer exist after 2016. We know that you are a member of the MRHS for a variety of reasons. Some of you value the annual conventions highly; others the newsletter; still others the Winter Scientific Meeting. Right now the newsletter and the Winter Scientific Meeting are the primary outflows of revenue, while conventions are the primary income. Increasing membership alone will not make up the budget deficit. Rather than cut back on services to members, the board decided to reduce expenses by emailing the newsletter to members, instead of mailing it. For those who still want to receive a hard copy, or don't have an email address, you will still receive a mailed copy, but the pictures will be in black and white. This change will start with the spring issue. What are your thoughts on this?

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society is now on Facebook! If you would like to join Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/#!/groups/111529828955070/ and sign up. This would be an excellent place to discuss the financial issues. Also, feel free to post questions, hints, photos, or anything else relevant to the hosta gardener on this page. You don't have to be an active Facebook user to join the MRHS page or to use it. It's easy to get started and can become a great tool for keeping in touch with your fellow gardeners.

Lastly, make plans now to attend the Winter Scientific Meeting in Lisle, IL on January 21 and the summer convention, "Operation Hosta," in Rochester, MN on July 12-14. Go to www.midwesthostasociety.org for links to both of these events. See you there!

Glenn Herold

Check the expiration date on the back of this newsletter. Don't miss out on the next issue. It will include the 2011 convention registration form and the convention schedule.

Remember -- due to our bulk mailing practices, you must contact Barb Schroeder if you will not be at your normal mailing address. The post office will **not** forward our newsletters.

Barb can be contacted at barbschro1@gmail.com
or by letter at the address on the front cover.

The following is the first of the write-ups from our 2011 convention garden tour in Madison. Many thanks to the authors. Enjoy.

Frank Greer Garden

The bus rolls through the streets of a neighborhood of lovely houses, all set back from the street under stately overhanging oaks. The view out the windows is of an oasis of calm serenity. The bus comes to a stop in front of the house on the street with the loveliest front garden, and you know you've arrived.

Stately, describes the oaks, the neighborhood, and the garden. The assembled group files off the bus into a driveway that holds a place in hosta history. Here, Dr. Greer tells us, is the site of the first hosta driveway sale held by the Wisconsin Hosta Society.

The centerpiece of the front garden is a mature oak tree decorated by a beautiful climbing hydrangea. It holds court over a corner bed of evergreens surrounded by begonias and a colorful border of yellow corydalis. Along the house are beautiful hosta specimens, ferns, more conifers, and shade perennials.

The walkway around the garage reveals trough gardens that look as though they've been in place for decades, including a moss-covered one which contains miniature yews and dense clumps of *Hosta venusta*. The path leads you around the corner of the house to a terrace of flagstone and white rock. Perched on the arm of a settee is a clever lizard sculpted from an old file, and a black bird watches the proceedings from the chair. The seating area is highlighted with beautiful drifts of pots, chock full of beautifully grown hostas and a wide variety of tender annuals and perennials, all backed by more small conifers, hakone grass and Japanese maples. As you look out over the back garden, your eye falls on a small koi pond with a stone rim, which is home to many more pots and a family of whimsical turtle sculptures. Tucked away in every nook and cranny are frogs, hedgehogs, and birds. Particularly entertaining is a circle of frogs dancing in a birdbath. You stop for a while to admire an intricate moving sculpture, gently spinning in the breeze. From the seating area, a set of rough-hewn white flagstone steps leads down into the garden, where your eye is drawn to the skies by the many specimens of climbing hydrangea reaching up into the tree canopy. The high filtered shade provides the perfect environment for masses of ferns, lily varieties, toad lilies, trillium, epimedium and other woodland dwellers, which all keep company with Japanese maples, and, of course, hostas.

As you continue through the garden, sculptures of all sizes and shapes catch your eye. A beautiful blue tuteur holds your attention for a few moments, before you move on to admire a wonderful multilevel birdhouse with a skirt of large hosta clumps. The lush plantings stretch all the way round the garden. As you turn to head back towards the house, you have to stop and admire a most unusual seat, constructed of an old cast-iron bathtub. When you make your way back to the house, you are unable to resist climbing the steps onto the terrace and turning once more to take in the layer upon layer of plant specimens that combine to offer remarkable serenity. One last path leads you around the far side of the house, where yet more grasses, bergenia, conifers, and yes, even more climbing hydrangea vines, beg you to linger just a moment longer.

When the whistle summons there is only time for one last spin around the front garden and a glance up and down the beautiful tree-lined street. We all reluctantly climb the steps and find our seats. As the bus winds down the street and away to the next garden, you sense that you have stepped out of time for a few moments, and you turn for one last look.

Submitted by Linda Port



The front garden



By-ways



Bathtub conversion



Enjoying the hostas



Japanese maple

Ed and Chris Schulz Garden

This is a hosta gardener's garden. Beautiful hostas abound. In fact, Ed and Chris have over 600 labeled hostas, many impressively large. The Schulzes collected many hostas in the Rosedale series, including some of Jerry Hadrava's which were never registered. Intermingled throughout the garden are numerous varieties of companion plants including a lovely collection of over a dozen Japanese maples, as well as numerous flowering shrubs. Tree peonies and daylilies grace areas with bright sunlight.

The house is laid out wide on the lot, and a curved quarry stone-lined border marks out a good deal of space in the front for hostas. A Roseomarginata beech provides shade and among many other plantings visitors will have their attention drawn to an impressive *H. yingeri*.

An arbor leads to the north garden, where one notes a large flowering dogwood, boxwood and coneflowers, *H. 'Lollapalooza'*, *H. 'Sea Dream'* and *H. 'Golden Oriole'* especially stand out. Past the hydrangeas we find a number of Rosedale hostas including *H. 'Rosedale Misty Pathways'*.

Surrounding the patio at the rear are gardens quite extensive, both in breadth and depth, with pathways dividing off sections of the surrounding yard. Strategically planted Japanese maples provide focus, particularly for the extensive set of mini and dwarf hostas, among which *H. 'Green Eyes'* and *H. 'Feather Boa'* stand out. Winding one's way about, one can't help but notice *H. 'Bumble Bee'*, *H. 'Olympic'*, *H. 'Sunrise'* and *H. 'Arctic Blast'*, among many other hostas. A very nice *H. 'Jeanne Johnson'* underscores how many of the Schulz' hostas have women's names.

The cedar fence at the back of the garden is particularly interesting. Along it one finds a charming collection of artistic ceramic suns and set among them a continuing display of hanging plants. On each side of the pathway visitors admire a lovely array of hostas, including *H. 'Gaijin'* and *H. 'Dust Devil'*. Areas are set aside for lilies.

Off to the southwest corner, not a part of the garden proper, one finds Ed's raised beds. Here are divisions being tended for annual sales or sharing with friends, and an area for experimentation and sports.

Visitors must wonder how the Schulzes accomplished so much in the twelve years they have owned this property! Thanks Ed, for sharing your garden with us.

Submitted by Jim King



Rosedale Hostas



H. 'Rosedale Misty Pathways'



Ceramic suns grace the garden



Ed's Experiment



Kleinheinz Garden



H. 'Powder Blue'

My first impression of the Kleinheinz Garden was of an ordinary, but tasteful residential lot. Gardens bordered the property edges and the front of the light brown wood and stone modified ranch house. But a garden island between the driveway and the curving sidewalk to the front door hinted that this was not a typical suburban garden.

A formation of weather-aged blackish-gray stones anchored the garden and surrounded a mature green Japanese maple. Light green Epimedium foliage contrasted with the dark stones. The many textures and greens of ground-hugging perennials mingled with dark green conifer *Draba siberica* and gold-tipped *Juniperus horizontalis* 'Mother Lode'. The inch long grassy foliage of *Armeria* 'Cottontail' sat at the base of a mass of light yellow dwarf Peruvian lilies while *Thujopsis dolbrata* 'Hondae' and daylily 'Stella's Ruffled Fingers' mimicked the height of the taller stones. Rosy pink geraniums complimented the color of rose 'Mystionairy' near the house, and the thick stalk of a solitary *Allium* 'Pskemense' leaned gracefully toward deep green hellebore foliage.



H. 'Remember Me'



H. 'Pineapple Upside Down Cake' & H. 'Sageae'

In the garden on the right of the grassy front lawn, a long ribbon of medium-sized gold hostas contrasted with ribbons of silvery-purple Heuchera 'Silver Shadows' and the rich greens of Trycirtis and Epimediums. My eye was drawn from the silver-green and white leaves of Brunnera 'King's Ransom' to the rich wine throats of white-flowered Asiatic lilies and finally rested on a wave of deep magenta Clematis floating atop a sea of Pachysandra.

The garden to the left of the drive gave more hints of what was in store. Low-growing, narrow-leaved green grasses arched over dark stones. Japanese painted ferns and purple-flowered annuals contrasted with predominantly white-margined hostas, shrubs and conifers providing height. *H.* 'Quilting Bee', *H.* 'Cream Cheese', and *H.* 'Shadowfax' were standouts. Two short, angled rows of *H.* 'Hi Ho Silver' drew my eye into the garden. The second row was flanked on the right by a colony of low-growing, purple-tinged Ajuga 'Chocolate Chips'. It visually pulled me past *H.* 'Island Charm' and *H.* 'Stetson' toward a cluster of green *H.* 'Gumdrop' at peak bloom. The soft matte finish colors of a perfect *H.* 'Olive Branch' trio sat beneath the bluish-green of a cascading Juniperus procumbens 'Hana' on a standard. Well grown plants of *H.* 'Royal Tiara', *H.* 'Morning Light', and *H.* 'Touch of Class' accented by more white-margined hostas, Japanese painted ferns, grasses, and a dark purple oxalis ended the bed.

Leading past the house was a narrow stone path bordered on the left by a privacy fence and low-growing shrubs. On the right, the base of a mature Acer campestre 'Royal Ruby' was surrounded by Liriope. The blue hues of *H.* 'Lakeside Old Smokey' and *H.* 'Blue Moon' subtly contrasted with the light brown house. Along the pathway the compact form of a full-grown *H.* 'Praying Hands' was repeated just beyond it by a slightly larger conifer. At the rear of the house, one corner of the deck held a huge gardenia tree. Below its dark glossy foliage and fragrant white flowers three attractive *H. montana* 'Aureomarginata' bordered the sloping base of the deck.

Looking ahead I could see that the garden held a multitude of wonderful things, and I had just begun to see them. I knew I wouldn't have enough time to take everything in. The stone path became steps interspersed with the tiny-leaved groundcover Euonymus 'Kewensis' as it continued down the slope to the back gardens. At the bottom, cypress 'Heatherbun' provided a visual anchor on the right while to the left of the pathway past a swath of dark green groundcover and Japanese painted ferns was an outstanding *H.* 'Lakeside Shoremaster'. Beyond it was the beginning of a row of *H.* 'Sagae' - six plants - each magnificent and easily five feet across. Bob Solberg and I stood in front of them amazed. A half-log bench - center side up - was tucked in front of several of the plants in the row.

Turning back toward the house, everyone on the tour was dumbfounded by the largest *H.* 'Pineapple Upsidedown Cake' any of us had ever seen. Mark Zilis missed the convention, but he definitely needed to be there with his measuring tape for this one. (Later I heard an unconfirmed report that it was 77" across.)

And that was just the beginning... This wonderful garden was filled with shadows and light. Assorted lilies splashed color in sunny spots. A little stream following the natural slope fell over sun-drenched stones into a small water garden near the house. Ribbons of rich colors - both subtle and bold - wove through the gardens accenting and highlighting the hostas. Sometimes the hostas themselves were the ribbons. An immense *H.* 'Abba Dabba Do' at the base of

a tree was ensnared by dozens of diminutive *H.* 'Lemon Lime' reminding me of Gulliver and the Lilliputians.

Unusual trees - Miniature Chinese elm 'Seiju', *Chamaecyparis* 'Golden Whorl', and *Alnus glutinosa* dissectum - complimented beautifully grown hostas and companion plants wherever I looked. Interesting artwork and benches provided accents in just the right places. The life-sized terracotta Chinese Warrior was a hosta garden first for me. In one far corner, two large fallen tree sections had been inverted with branches in the ground and supported against each other creating a truly unique and natural piece of garden art. And wooden-slat orchid baskets were hanging from the trees.

H. 'Dancing in the Rain' and *H.* 'Fair Maiden' - both difficult to grow for many of us - were large and beautiful. *H.* 'Dab a Green' was a bright spot, *H.* 'Beckoning' did indeed call me closer, and *H.* 'Queen of the Seas' was tall, rippled, and stately. The rarely seen older cultivar, *H.* 'Trail's End', was cupped and corrugated, large and unruly, and 'nestled' at the base of a clump of very tall orange lilies.

A fine-looking specimen of *H.* 'June' led me on to *H.* 'Powder Blue' and the other half of the half-log bench. And then a stone sculpture I'd caught glimpses of called me toward a curving stone pathway. Along the way I stopped to admire the smooth curves of a lichen and moss encrusted light gray stone and then pushed aside the arching, piecrusted leaves of *H.* 'Niagara Falls' spilling over the path before I reached my destination. The rectangular blackish-gray stone was upright and huge - a monolith - and very impressive! Smaller stacked stones, ferns and a shining mass of *H.* 'Little Razor' - leaves wavy and sharply-pointed - huddled at its base.

The wealth of plant material in the garden was amazing and inspiring. As I reluctantly made my way back to the bus, I stopped on the deck for a drink and smelled the gardenia. There I discovered a framed picture of the backyard before the garden transformation began. Just five trees - two planted much too close to the house and since removed - and grass. Virtually unrecognizable from the lush garden paradise that awaits visitors today.

For me, there wasn't enough time in this garden. I could easily have spent the afternoon there and still not have seen everything. Or maybe I would have just relaxed on one of the half-log benches enjoying the greens and golds and blues of this wonderful garden and the beautiful day.

Submitted by Reldon Ramsey



Ed Lyon and Dylan Hart Garden

Ed Lyon and Dylan Hart have owned this garden since May of 2007 and they have managed to fill it to overflowing with a large variety of plant material. Ed is the Director of the Allen Centennial Garden at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and the former director of the Rotary Botanical Gardens in Janesville, so he has a substantial background in gardening. After the convention I also stopped at the Allen Centennial Garden and found the stop very worthwhile. There was a lot of similar plant material in both gardens, but the university setting had more room for display and was well appointed with garden architecture and a substantial Victorian house.

At his own house Ed has to deal with two mature silver maples in the front. They take up space and have substantial root systems. In the rear there are two black walnut trees (*Juglans nigra*) which furnish plenty of toxicity in the form of juglone. Both problem areas have been dealt with magnificently. Ed is a plantsman who has filled his available space with a very close knit tapestry of plant material which includes hostas. He says, "I have no issues with planting close so that one plant shines after its neighbor recedes!"

The parkway between the sidewalk and the curb on this city lot is also abundantly planted which marks this property as that of a gardener to passersby. The Victorian house has a wrap-around porch on the front and one side which provides a very friendly and inviting space. Many of our hostaphiles enjoyed the view from an armchair on the porch. Ed uses ferns and around 250 hosta cultivars for textural contrast, but his favorite shade tolerant plants are his martagon lilies (*Lilium martagon*).

Although Ed uses Heuchera he indicates, "I am becoming disenchanted with this group and now consider them shorter-lived perennials." Instead he seems to prefer Tricyrtis (toadlily), Epimedium (barrenwort), Ligularia (goldenray), Asian Arisaema (cobra lilies), tree peonies, Tiarella (foamflower), Heucherella (foamybells) and Hachonechloa (Japanese forest grass). Some of his other favorites include Dicentra spectabilis 'Gold Heart', Tradescantia 'Sweet Kate', Caryopteris 'Snow Fairy', Clematis integrifolia 'Rooguchi', Picea orientalis 'Skylands', Pinus parviflora 'Tanima No Uki', *H.* 'Fire Island', Arisaema urashima, Pinellia tripartita 'Dragon Tails, and Heucherella 'Sweet Tea'. Most of his plant material comes from southern Wisconsin sources available to all of us like including The Flower Factory, Song Sparrow Perennial Farm and Northwind Perennial Farm.

Submitted by John Van Ostrand



H. 'Christmas Cookies'



2011 MRHS AUCTION



Auction preview



Two of our professional auctioneers on task

A FEW OF OUR VENDORS



Companion plants also

Jack Barta
Bob Solberg
Bill Silvers
Joan Severa

Jeff Miller
Gary Lindheimer
Josh Spence
Lee Coates



Shop 'til you drop

LEAF SHOW

Our annual convention leaf show gives us an opportunity to show off. How well do you grow hosta? How well do you protect your plants from damage? How well do you prepare



your display item, be it a leaf, an arrangement, or a plant? How does your leaf stack up against the standard? These questions are addressed by a panel of judges and ribbons are awarded. See page 20 for the winners.

BANQUET



We all had a great time



Leaf show winners

Doug and Jennie Post Garden



H. 'Beckoning'

When the Post family moved to their house in Oregon Heights eight years ago, the landscaping consisted of four pine trees along the road and shrubs adjacent to the garage and porch. In the years following, the property has been transformed into a wonderland of garden rooms. Doug says it's a work in progress and hopes to have it complete in time for his son's high school graduation in 2014. Throughout the yard's transformation, the Posts have brought in 100 tons of stone, 200 yards of dirt, as well as many loads of compost.

As I entered Doug and Jennie Post's garden, the first thing I noticed was a decorative fence. Standing approximately six feet tall and stained with a red tint, the wooden fence makes an eye-catching and contrasting backdrop to a large hosta bed. The fence design includes alternating arched window panels and lattice inserts enhanced by window boxes filled with colorful annuals. The fence's voids frame the garden beyond and encourage you to explore its other side.



Nap time



When I had a chance to speak with Doug, he provided a background story to the creation of the fence. Doug built the fence during a weekend in which the rest of the Post family left town while he stayed home to work on yard projects. However, when the family returned, Jennie told Doug she didn't like the fence, because she felt the large structure blocked off the yard and its circular and square elements clashed with each other. After Doug began working on panels for a new fence, neighbors he had never met stopped while driving by to compliment his work as the most beautiful fence they had ever seen. Although a replacement fence panel that incorporates a traditional window frame and window box sits in the garden, the original fence stayed, and I have to admit that I side with the neighbors.

The winding paths, whimsical garden art, and found objects behind the fence draw you further into the yard. Jennie created much of the art, which includes birdhouses, painted pots and signs. Along the paths are over 250 well grown hostas in addition to other perennials. Of note was a large *H. 'Mango Tango'* and *H. montana 'aureo nebulosa'*.

While walking through the garden, I came upon a scenic garden shed vignette and asked Doug about it. Doug informed me that he and Jennie were on their way home from a weekend away when some sheds on sale for \$99 at a big box store caught his eye. They bought a shed and assembled it when they returned home. Jennie immediately claimed the shed and its adjacent area as her special spot. Jennie painted the shed and surrounded it with a diverse sampling of her artwork. Continuing along the snaking paths, another of the many garden rooms is an area where Doug is growing hostas for future sales.

An octagonal gazebo attached to the deck provides a birds eye view of the backyard and the pond featuring a ten foot cascade of waterfalls. Adjacent to the pond is a flagstone patio. Jennie relayed the story that Doug had no sooner finished the patio and proceeded to tell her he was digging two large holes in it to erect a hammock. Jennie was skeptical but admits that Doug knew what he was doing and it turned out wonderfully.

A 2008 storm with high winds downed numerous trees and flooded the yard. Since then over 100 new trees, a dry creek bed, and thousands of perennials have been added. The creek was created using rock and boulders claimed from farmer's fields and given to Doug by a local contractor. It provides a drainage area for future runoff. The dry creek also features a sturdy bridge of Doug's design for easy access to the other side.

There are numerous sitting areas around the garden. One is a cozy open air room complete with a small table and chairs attached to the side of a storage shed. Other areas include colorful chairs or benches. In three years when Doug and Jennie's son graduates, they'll hopefully find time to sit and enjoy their beautiful garden. While they're enjoying the view or dozing in the hammock, it wouldn't surprise me that they're dreaming up new projects.

Submitted by Sally Stewart

MRHS CONVENTION 2020

The 2020 convention is actually not that far away. Given the speed with which change happens, it's fun to speculate on how different a convention of the future might be. Here are my thoughts, presented by two convention attendees, Mabel and Joe. Joe and Mabel work for the same company. She is based in Chicago and he in Portland. They share a love of perennials, in particular, hostas.

Mabel pulled into the parking lot at the Sheraton in Madison. An attendant hurried over, a token in his hand. "Welcome to the Sheraton. Please give this to the desk clerk as you check in today. It will connect your room's display monitor with your car and tell us where to take your luggage. Nice car by the way. A new DeLorean?"

"Yes," she replied, "all electric and fully loaded. Please be nice to it. The plants are for the auction so please see that they get there in good shape." He nodded and Mabel headed for the lobby. She thought to herself, "This is quite a bit different from the 2011 convention here." She checked in and inquired, "Two questions: Has my friend Joe checked in, and where is the convention registration booth?"

The clerk checked the computer and replied, "Yes, Joe just arrived and the convention registration is up those stairs."

"Thank you," Mabel responded. She headed for a house phone to call Joe. He agreed to meet her at registration so she headed up the stairs, eager to find out what fun was in store over the next three days. "Hey Joe," she called out. "Long time, no see."

Joe grinned and said, "Last year at this time we were in St. Louis, right? Did you ever get all those plants you bought planted?"

"Smart aleck," she shot back. Changing the subject, rapidly, she asked, "You didn't drive in so you haven't seen the new Full Service bays in the parking lot. They hook a cable to your car, run all the diagnostic, re-charge the batteries, and display the results on the room monitor. If attention is needed, you can arrange for it online. They'll be very surprised that my new electric car doesn't need a charge. The exterior is all solar panels."

"That's cool," said Joe. "How was your trip up?"

"Very restful," she said. "Got on the toll road, set the GPS, turned on the autopilot and read a book. The high speed automatic lane on the toll road is just terrific. I'm even looking forward to the drive home. Let's get down to hosta business." They turned toward the registration area.

"Same old—same old," muttered Joe. "Auction, banquet, gardens, vendors, speakers, etc." "That's why we come to these conventions," replied Mabel. "We can always count on having those things along with the great fellowship of other addicts. Look at this! The convention bulletin has a section titled, 'What's New'."

Joe read aloud, “The auction will feature holographic images of the plants being auctioned at their mature sizes. That’s terrific; I’ve always been reluctant to bid on the babies on offer.”

Mabel continued, “And the banquet speaker is King William with help from Charles and Kate. Don’t you just love her? His dad, Charles, has a fabulous hosta collection. They’re appearing via the same holographic process.”

“Wow!” said Joe. “Here’s the best of the new things. No bus trip!”

“How will we get to the gardens? We’ll get lost! I’m already missing the bus trip,” said Mabel.

Raising an eyebrow, Joe inquired, “You’re missing the toilet on the bus? You’re missing the herd rushing into the gardens? You’re missing the ultra-comfortable seats on the bus? You’re missing the extra cost of renting the buses?”



GPS—Allen
Centennial
Gardens

“Well perhaps not,” she admitted. “Oh look! Here’s the answer! QR Codes! This one has the GPS coordinates for the Allen Centennial Gardens. And the next one has the coordinates of the hotel. Very thoughtful of the host club to provide us a way to get back in time for the auction.”



GPS for the
Sheraton

“The others have GPS coordinates for all the gardens. Now I understand why the registration instructions asked us to bring a GPS capable cell phone. We point the phone at the code and get turn-by-turn instructions to the next garden. And we can travel in comfort, at our own pace, and really enjoy the garden visits. This is really sweet!”

Joe, not to be outdone, chimed in with, “Look at this! Have you ever visited a garden and seen a plant that you simply must have—now? One with a fabulous rippled edge, a misty blue, with bright red stems and veins?”

Mabel nodded with a glazed look in her eyes.

“Here’s a QR code to help you deal with your addiction. It sends an email to the convention vendors, asking them to save you the plant in the photo you take with your cell phone. Wow, instant gratification! The plant can end up in your room, or, they can ship it directly to your home address, your choice. That way your new electric DeLorean won’t get dirty.”



Email to con-
vention ven-
dors

“This is going to be a blast!” they both said, laughing.

Submitted by Floyd Rogers

Final Results MRHS Convention

Hosta Show

Division I – Section Winners:

Section I	Giant Leaf	<i>H.</i> ‘Sum It Up’	Joanne & Irwin Johnson
Section II	Large Leaf	<i>H.</i> ‘Rosedale Genevieve’	Jean Schulz
Section III	Medium Leaf	<i>H.</i> ‘Spilt Milk’	Cathy Lindeman
Section IV	Small Leaf	<i>H.</i> ‘Rhythm and Blues’	Cheryl Hird
Section V	Miniature Leaf	<i>H.</i> ‘Little Joy’	Cindy Tomashek
Section XII	Best Named Unregistered Leaf	<i>H.</i> ‘Goober’	Sally Stewart

Best in Show – *H.* ‘Rhythm and Blues’ Cheryl Hird

Division II – Container Grown Hosta

Best In Show - *H.* ‘Tiny Tears’ Gregg Peterson

Division III – Trough/Container Garden

Best In Show - Gregg Peterson

Division IV – No Entries

Division V – Non-competitive entries

Leaf Display of new and Uncirculatd Hosta Plants – Jim Schwarz

Division VI – Artistic Design

Class I	Go Pack Go	Bonnie Evenson
Class II	Sand Bar on Wisconsin River	Bonnie Evenson
Class III	Mice and Cheese	Elizabeth Jansen

Best In Show – Go Pack Go – Bonnie Evenson

Division VIII - Midwest Preview Show

Unregistered, Unnamed Seedling or Sport – Bob Hackbarth, ‘The Hosta Leaf’ –

Best Plant in Show

And

Peoples Choice Award

Wanted

Host Society for the 2013 MRHS Convention. If your local group has never or not recently hosted a convention, please consider doing your part by hosting this one.



Best In Show



Midwest Preview Winner



Artistic Design Winner



Trough/Container Garden Winner



Container Grown Hosta Winner

Financial Budget Discussion

You may not enjoy reading financial statements. We all hear about Social Security going bankrupt unless steps are taken. In fact, we hear it so often that we begin to ignore it, to our great discredit. I want you to look at the “Totals” line on the next page. The MRHS is budgeting for a \$5,000 and up loss for each year into the future. At that rate we have about five years before bankruptcy. What can we do?

You can start by looking at the big numbers:

- ... **Convention** represents projected income from the auction at the summer convention. It's unlikely that the annual deficit can be addressed by projecting more auction revenue.
- ... **Membership** is the income from your dues and an increase is one possible means of narrowing the gap.
- ... **Newsletter** is the cost of printing and mailing this document twice each year. It's the largest target and there are possibilities there.
- ... **Winter Scientific** is the cost of underwriting that meeting in January each year. It could be eliminated and that would be a loss to the Hosta world.

Here are some possible combinations of actions which have been discussed. The full-color printing of our newsletter, while a quality product, is expensive. Reducing the number of copies by emailing a subset would help. Increasing membership dues for those wanting printed copies while keeping dues level for the email members would help. Making the printed copies black and white would help further.

The current plan, as outlined by Glenn Herold in his President's Message, is to focus on this newsletter in an initial step to address the issue. Beginning with the Spring 2012 edition, we will print black and white copies for those who wish to continue receiving hard copy documents. Members with valid email addresses will receive the full color newsletter which they can read, print, and save as they wish. This plan will substantially reduce our deficit position and defer more unpalatable decisions.

In early January Barb Schroeder will send out a test email to all the members we currently have email addresses for. Any that bounce back will be removed and a hard copy newsletter will be sent to them in the spring. If you would like to update their email address send a email request to mrhs.hosta@gmail.com. Next Spring if you do not get an email you should get a hard copy publication printed in black and white. Once we have a valid email list established we will start sending out other communications to our members about things like the Winter Scientific Meeting, Convention information, etc.

Please send your comments, thoughts, ideas to Barb at mrhs.hosta@gmail.com. She will tabulate, categorize, and titivate—presenting the results in a discussion forum at the Rochester convention.

Submitted by Floyd Rogers

Midwest Regional Hosta Society

Budget Recommendations for 2012

ALL ACCOUNTS

Approval July 9, 2011

<u>Category</u>	<u>2011 Budget</u>	<u>2012 Budget</u>	<u>Change</u>
Income:			
Convention	\$4,575.00	\$6,000.00	\$1,425.00
Income-Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership	<u>\$1,660.00</u>	<u>\$1,660.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Subtotal	<u>\$6,235.00</u>	<u>\$7,660.00</u>	<u>\$1,425.00</u>
Expenses:			
Grants	-\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Internet Site	-\$225.00	-\$225.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	-\$360.00	-\$360.00	\$0.00
Newsletter	-\$7,000.00	-\$7,000.00	\$0.00
Winter Scientific	<u>-\$4,450.00</u>	<u>-\$4,450.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Subtotal	(\$13,035.00)	(\$13,035.00)	\$0.00
Totals	<u>(\$6,800.00)</u>	<u>(\$5,375.00)</u>	<u>\$1,425.00</u>
Current Net Worth:	<u>\$27,124.51</u>		

Additional Notes:

The Budget item for Grants and Miscellaneous is to support the AHS Online Auction Award the MRHS sponsors as well as the DeEtta Montgomery Service Award and AHS HVX research.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Schroeder
Treasurer

Winter Scientific Meeting Midwest Regional Hosta Society

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society is once again sponsoring the Winter Scientific Meeting. This popular winter event will be held Saturday, January 21, 2012 at the Wyndham Hotel, 3000 Warrenville Road, Lisle, IL. The hotel has given us a \$79.00 room rate. Please make your own reservations by calling 877-999-3223, and mention the “Midwest Regional Hosta Society Winter Scientific Meeting” to guarantee the rate. You can also make your hotel reservation online by clicking on the link below:

http://www.wyndham.com/groupevents2011/ordli_hosta/main.wnt

We have an outstanding program of speakers focusing on interesting and timely topics:

Roy Klehm – My Favorite Garden Plants

Bob Solberg – Bringing a New Hosta to Market: Hybridization, Selection, Production and Marketing

Mark Zilis – Tissue Culture – Past, Present, and Future

C.H. Falstad – Topic TBA

The program will include a series of three concurrent breakout sessions. The topics covered in these sessions will be:

Session A: So You Want to Create a Water Feature (by Dennis Hood)

Session B: Trees for the Hosta Garden (by Glenn Herold)

Session C: Hybridizer’s Perspective (by Jeff Miller of Land of the Giants Hostas)

These breakout sessions will be presented twice, so attendees will be able to attend two out of the three sessions.

Again this year, there will be a hosta seed silent auction, proceeds of which will be used to underwrite a portion of the cost of the meeting.

The cost of this winter extravaganza is only \$55 per person for Midwest Regional Hosta Society members and \$65 for non-members, and includes a continental breakfast and a deli buffet lunch. At their option, non-members can apply the \$10 difference in the registration fee to a one-year membership in the MRHS. The MRHS web site has current information as well as a link to a fill-in registration form. Please make checks payable to MRHS, and mail with the registration form to:

Kristine James
523 E. Calhoun Street
Woodstock Ill. 60098

Registrations postmarked after January 9 require a \$10 late registration fee per person.

Questions? Contact Lou Horton (630-293-7735) or email: lehorton85@ameritech.net

2012 Winter Scientific Meeting Registration Form

Make a copy of this registration form for your records. If you would like confirmation of your registration, list a valid email address or enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Please **PRINT CLEARLY**. Fill out registration form completely.

Note that MRHS memberships are family memberships, so individuals in the member's household are also MRHS members.

ATTENDEE 1:

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

e-mail:

Member of MRHS Non-member

If a non-member, do you want your \$10 surcharge applied to a one-year FAMILY membership in the Midwest Regional Hosta Society?
 YES NO

Please confirm my reservation by email

ATTENDEE 2: Address same as Attendee 1

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

e-mail:

Member of MRHS Non-member

If a non-member, do you want your \$10 surcharge applied to a one-year FAMILY membership in the Midwest Regional Hosta Society?
 YES NO

Please confirm my reservation by email

Registrations postmarked after January 9 require a \$10 late registration fee per person.

Cancellations before January 9 will be sent a full refund.
 We will be unable to issue refunds after Jan. 9, 2012.

Number of Members	<input type="text"/>	x \$55	<input type="text"/>	
Number of Non-Members	<input type="text"/>	x \$65	<input type="text"/>	
Number of Late Registrations	<input type="text"/>	x \$10	<input type="text"/>	
Total	<input type="text"/>		<input type="text"/>	

Please make checks payable to MRHS.

Questions about registration? Contact Kristine: email dankrisj@mc.net or phone 815-337-4621

Mail your registration to:

Kristine James
 523 E Calhoun Street
 Woodstock IL 60098



**Plan on attending the
2012 Midwest Regional Hosta Convention
Hosted by Shades of Green Hosta Soc. of Southeast MN
July 12-14, 2012
Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Rochester, MN**

“Operation Hosta” is well underway, with plans for an exciting convention showcasing 5 of southeast Minnesota’s premier gardens (all within easy commute times and no repeats from the 2010 optional AHS tour!). This “Operation” includes Educational Seminars, Hosta Show, Vending, and the MRHS Live Auction, plus an optional garden picnic in the heart of Southeast Minnesota’s bluff country to kick off the convention.

Visit our website, http://www.soghs.org/2012_Midwest_Convention/, to view the promotional video, convention hosta, tentative schedule, tour gardens, and much more. Registration will be available on the website starting next year.

Join us for some mid-summer fun with hosta friends from around the region and discover for yourself what “Operation Hosta” is all about!

**Convention co-chairs,
Cindy Tomashek and June Stoehr
*Shades of Green Hosta Society (SOGHS) of Southeast MN***

AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

We invite you to join over 3,000 other hosta enthusiasts as members of the 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 having to do with 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 27948-7539. 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*

Contact Floyd Rogers for publishing deadlines and more details. (630) 858-3538 or fmrogers@noctrl.edu



Full Color Ads:			
Size	Single Issue	Full Year	Dimensions
Full page	\$275	\$475	6½" x 9½"
1/2 page	175	300	6½" x 4½"
1/4 page	90	155	3½" x 4½"
1/8 page	45	80	3½" x 2"
Black & White Ads:			
Size	Single Issue	Full Year	Dimensions
Full page	\$100	\$175	6½" x 9½"
1/2 page	55	95	6½" x 4½"
1/4 page	40	70	3½" x 4½"
1/8 page	30	50	3½" x 2"

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY
FALL 2011 NEWSLETTER

Barbara Schroeder, Treasurer
1819 Coventry Dr
Champaign, IL 61822
mrhs.editor@midwesthostasociety.org

BULK RATE
STAMP
REQUIRED

PRSRT STD

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Bulk Mail Issue

Because of the use of bulk mail (at a substantial savings), mail will not be forwarded. Members must, therefore, notify Barb Schroeder, the Treasurer, each time their address changes. This can be done via email (barbschrol@gmail.com), phone (217) 359-2868, or snail mail at the address on the newsletter cover.

Please check the expiration date on the label located above this notice.

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 Lisle, Illinois. To join, or renew membership, please send a check for \$20 (ten dollars per year) to Barb Schroeder, 1819 Coventry Dr., Champaign, IL 61822. Next summer's 2012 convention will be held in Rochester, MN, 2013 in _____, 2014 in Green Bay, WI. 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 and a buffet dinner; and lots of hospitality and fellowship!