

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

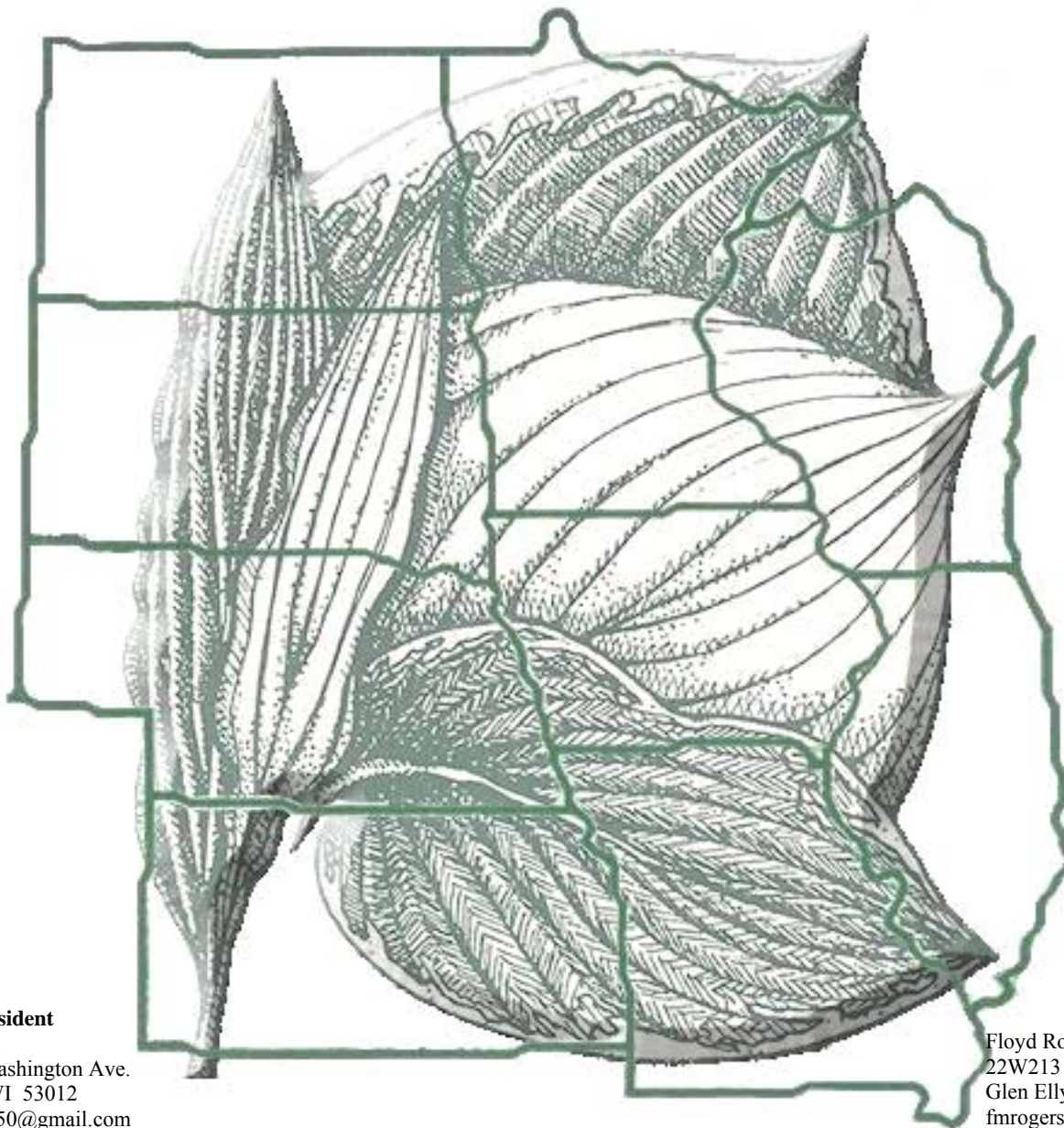
HOSTA LEAVES

ISSUE NUMBER 74

SPRING 2013

WINTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING

LISLE, ILLINOIS CONVENTION



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President's Message

Most of us are wondering if spring will ever come this year! As I write this at the end of April, my hostas remain fast asleep and friends in Minnesota and Northern Wisconsin are still under a blanket of snow. No doubt this will change soon and before we can clean up our yards, it will be convention time.

The Northern IL, Southern WI area is convention headquarters this summer as both the national and regional conventions will take place in these venues. Tom Micheletti and Jack Barta have put together a great convention headquartered in the Milwaukee area in mid-June and the Northern IL Hosta Society, led by Barbara King and Lou Horton, will host us in early July. As my wife and I did when I retired almost two years ago, we can all *Escape to Wisconsin* from June 13-15. Before our suitcases even get unpacked, it's *Hosta Mania* all over again as we convene in Lisle, IL from July 11-13. Both are reasonably priced and feature an abundance of excellent gardens.

We are blessed with many fine gardens and enthusiastic hostaholics in the Midwest Region and need some of you to step forward to help organize future midwest conventions. Green Bay is planning 2014, but after that we have no locations in the queue. If Jack and Tom can single-handedly organize a national convention, certainly some of you can put your heads together for a regional. Please consider doing so, as it would be a shame to go a year without a midwest convention.

See you this summer.

Glenn Herold

Wanted

Host Societies for future MRHS Conventions. If your local group has never or not recently hosted a convention, please consider doing your part by hosting one of these convention openings. See the write-up on page 18 for the MRHS policy on helping with the Auction effort.

THE 2013 Winter Scientific Meeting

A HOSTAHOLIC'S WINTER GETAWAY

January in the Chicago area – just gives you goosebumps thinking about it! The WSM, however, always promises to warm the heart of the hosta lover. You always learn something, you always make new friends, and you always get inspired. The format is a simple one. One Saturday in January a number of hostaholics assemble at a Chicago area hotel and listen to some of the experts talk about topics that are either about hostas or directly related to them. There are two breakout sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The attendees are able to choose two out of three topics that most interest him/her and attend those sessions. If you're interested in the third topic – well, you do as I did. You send your spouse to that one and make him promise to take good (and legible) notes.

Bob Solberg, Glenn Herold, Mark Zilis, and Jeff Miller gave the featured presentations. Bob, of Green Hill Farm in North Carolina, has introduced numerous hostas including *H.* 'Guacamole' and 'Orange Marmalade'. His topic, “What Makes a Great Hosta?”, concerned the 14 traits of hosta greatness and how he uses these traits to judge hostas. One of the traits, marketing, has a lot to do with the name of the hosta which can affect its popularity. In Bob's opinion, 'Blue Mouse Ears' is the best name ever for a hosta with 'Sum and Substance' coming in a close second. Also, he noted that whereas certain hostas were years ago very popular they are now considered mundane. This is a result of the market being flooded with new cultivars every year. So, what makes a great hosta? The WOW FACTOR!

Glenn's “The Korean Hostas and their Contributions to the Hosta Garden” was the next presentation. He discussed the eight species of hostas that are indigenous to Korea and nearby islands. At first glance these hostas all look similar – plain green hostas. Most of the species, however, have been used in hybridizing. For example, whether it is piecrust leaf edges from *Hosta capitata*, interveinal puckering from *Hosta yingeri*, or flowers that don't open from *Hosta clausa*, each species is in its way unique. The Korean hostas have been used to produce such cultivars as 'Potomac Pride', 'Mango Salsa,' 'Gemstone', and 'Whiskey Sour'.

Mark Zilis of Q & Z Nursery in Rochelle, Illinois (and author of the hosta bible – Hostapedia) presented “Hostas of Distinction – Part 12”. Mark discussed not only a few of the unique hostas he has seen in some of the hosta gardens that he has visited throughout the years but also revealed some of the equally unique hybridizers. Some hostas worth mentioning are: 'Dorothy Benedict' – a breakthrough in hybridizing for its thick substance and variegation; 'Golden Tiara' – 1st small hosta with gold edges; 'Paul's Glory' – greatest gold centered hosta; the “groundhog hosta” found at Wade and Gatton, 'Sum and Substance' – 9 ½' wide and 5' high. (Size due to a groundhog being buried beneath it???) Mark's visits to Japan throughout the years have enabled him to explore the native growing areas of several *Hosta* species as well as getting together with some of the Japanese hosta experts and sharing both knowledge and ideas. On his 5th trip in 2012 he came to the realization that there is a lot more potential in hybridizing when the species plants are vastly different in the wild. *Hosta longpipes*, for example, varied greatly within a quarter mile radius. Some exhibited narrow curled leaves while others had dark green wide leaves. Then there were those specimens that resembled neither! In October, Mark received an email from Japan informing him that *H. sieboldiana* had been discovered in the

wild on a cliff in Japan. This will add fuel to the ongoing debate as to whether it is a species or a cultivar. Mark also shared with the audience that he believes 'Tosayama' should be a species, not a cultivar, and has made it one of his goals to make sure that this hosta becomes a species. Lastly, and to much applause, Mark announced that the 2nd edition of The Hosta Handbook will be released in the late spring. It will differ from the first edition by including info about tree and shrub compatibility as well as a problem solving guide. I'm sure we'll all be looking forward to it!

Last, but not least, Jeff Miller of Land of the Giants Hosta Farm in Milton, Wisconsin, presented “So You Want a Shade Garden – Building a Shade Garden Dos and Don'ts”. Jeff reminded everyone to put a 12-12-12 fertilizer and a slug repellent around where hostas grow as soon as the snow is gone. If hostas have started to emerge by the time you get around to doing this it is still okay to put both fertilizer and repellent over the pips. Since slugs tend to retreat in July and August when the weather heats up and the ground is drier it is essential to use the slug repellent in spring and early summer. Planting hostas in groups of three, of course, makes clumps faster but Jeff also suggested the 50' rule pertaining to the different colors of hostas. The discussion turned to hosta enemies such as southern blight, foliar nematodes, voles, slugs (again – they are persistent), and HVX with helpful hints to handle each. In conclusion, Jeff's parting words were: “Don't be afraid of sun.”!

Breakout sessions

“Experiences and Experiments on Moving a Mature Garden – You Don't Have to Say Goodbye to Your Old Friends” was Olga's description of her ordeal going through the result of eminent domain. Fortunately, she could take whatever she wanted from her old garden since her former home and yard were being demolished. She took everything – even the groundcovers! From using forklifts to rip out trees and shrubs, a pickaxe to get through clay soil, and dealing with bobcats “suckin' gas and haulin' ass” through her yard, Olga finally made the move to her new home and proceeded to plant her garden. More problems arose when the trees providing the necessary shade for her hostas died and she had to start over yet again. The result: cedar posts with shade cloth are now installed to protect the plants until the new young trees mature. Moral of the story: hostas are survivors! And so are their gardeners!

I sent my husband, Jim, to the breakout session hosted by Rob Mortko of Made in the Shade Gardens. “Tissue Culture for Dummies...Like Me” sounded like a good presentation for the hosta lover. In attendance were nursery personnel, collectors, as well as hybridizers. Jim has a biology degree with some background in lab work. He has been interested in tissue culture but became discouraged as to his chance of being successful after doing some research on the internet. Fortunately, Rob's explanations filled in some gaps that the web research had left out. TC is labor intensive but when broken down in steps it is much easier to understand and accomplish. One interesting fact was that if taking tissue from a plant infected with nematodes the nematodes will not be passed on to the new plants. That is not true with HVX, however. (But then, one shouldn't be working with HVX infected plants!) Jim noted that there was a great Q & A session after the presentation with the answers being concise and easy to understand. I have a feeling that our basement will soon resemble a lab.

As I walked into the next seminar I spotted the familiar face of Richard Hentschel who had been one of my Master Gardener instructors. Richard's topic was "Garden Pests – The Good Guys vs. the Bad Guys". A power point presentation was used to explain the differences among insects and their life stages. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) was emphasized as a safe and responsible method for controlling "bad" insects and not harming the "good" ones. Essential to this philosophy is correct identification of the insect and what stage the insect is in at the time damage is noticed so that proper control methods may be used. The goal is not eradication of a particular insect in the garden but to determine whether or not control is warranted at all – economic threshold level vs. economic injury level. IPM includes cultural, biological, mechanical, and as a last resort, chemical control methods. Controls should be applied when the insect is in its most vulnerable life stage using the safest product available. And what garden doesn't have its share of pesky bugs?

A summary of the WSM would be incomplete without the mention of the annual Seed & Plant Silent Auction which is held throughout the day. A handout was distributed with around 90 choices for the attendees to bid on. Last year, at my first WSM, I was able to win 3 lots of blue hosta seeds. Since blues are my favorite I tried bidding on 5 different lots of blues this year. Unfortunately, I had no success. Apparently, I'm not the only blue lover! I'll try again next year.....

Holly O'Donnell

2013 Winter Scientific Meeting	
<u>Financial Summary</u>	
No. of Registrations	141
Revenue:	
Registration Fees	\$7,490.00
Seed Auction Revenue	<u>\$1,047.00</u>
Total Revenue:	\$8,537.00
Expense:	
Hotel - Meals	\$8,219.88
Hotel - Rooms	\$ 669.92
Speaker Compensation	\$1,826.00
Seed Auction Expenses	\$ 27.95
Miscellaneous-Printing	<u>\$ 233.75</u>
Total Expense:	\$10,977.50
Net :	(\$2,440.50)

By-Laws
Midwest Regional Hosta Society
July 9, 2010

ARTICLE I – NAME

This organization shall be known as “The Midwest Regional Hosta Society”.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The Society was organized exclusively as a nonprofit educational society formed to foster and promote knowledge of and interest in the genus Hosta. The Society shall engage only in activities consistent with organizations that are exempt from Federal Income tax and whose contributions are deductible under Internal Revenue Code Provisions.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

- Section 1 Membership in the Society is open to the public, without reservation, upon application for membership and payment of the applicable membership dues.
- Section 2 The membership of the Society shall be divided into the following classes: Family, Life, Charter and Honorary.
- Section 3 The dues of all classes shall be set by the Executive Committee. Dues are payable by the year, becoming due and payable on January 1 and are based on the calendar year.
- Section 4 The honor of Charter Membership is bestowed upon all members who joined the Society prior to January 1977.

ARTICLE IV – FINANCE

- Section 1 The fiscal year of the Society shall be from January 1 to December 31.
- Section 2 The Society shall be supported by membership dues, donations, plant auctions and other fundraising activities.
- Section 3 No funds of the Society shall be used for salaries or other compensation for officers.
- Section 4 A budget shall be prepared annually by the Treasurer.
- Section 5 The proposed budget for the oncoming fiscal year shall be presented for review and approval at the annual meeting. Expenditures under and approved budget may not exceed the total amount of approved expenditures in the budget unless there is an offsetting increase in income, or the expenditures are approved in advance by the Executive Committee.
- Section 6 Necessary expenditures incurred by members of the Executive Committee in the discharge of their duties to the Society, shall be paid by the Treasurer, subject to approval of the President. Expenses of any other member of the Executive Committee must have preliminary approval of the President and the Treasurer, prior to expenditure, and be submitted to the Executive Committee for final approval.
- Section 7 In the event of the dissolution of the Society, all assets remaining after payment of legitimate expenses shall be contributed to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

ARTICLE V – MEETINGS

- Section 1 The annual meeting of the Society shall be held at a site and at such time as de-

terminated by recommendation of the Convention Chairperson and approval of the Executive Committee. The host group shall schedule a general business meeting, a hosta garden tour, a hosta auction, an accredited cut leaf show, and a judge's clinic.

- Section 2 At least 25 members constitute a quorum.
- Section 3 Special meetings may be called by any member of the Executive Committee.
- Section 4 Scientific Meetings shall be called annually.
- Section 5 The minutes of the actions of the Society shall be recorded by the Secretary.
- Section 6 Monies received from the hosta auction shall be retained by the Midwest Regional Hosta Society.
- Section 7 The sale of other plants shall be retained by the host society.
- Section 8 Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, unless otherwise specified herein, shall govern all business meetings.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS AND DUTIES

- Section 1 The officers of the Society shall consist of the following: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, EDITOR, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT and AHS REGIONAL DIRECTOR. These officers shall constitute the Executive Committee.
- Section 2 Vacancies other than the Presidency occurring between meetings shall be filled by appointment of the President.
- Section 3 The President shall preside over all meetings of the Society. The President shall appoint all Committee Chairpersons, shall serve as ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee, and shall perform such duties as the advancement of the interests of the Society require. The President shall report on the state of the Society to the membership at the annual meeting and in the publications of the Society.
- Section 4 The Vice President shall preside in the absence of the President. He/she shall perform any other duties incumbent upon the office.
- Section 5 The Secretary shall record the minutes of the Executive Committee including Internet minutes, Annual and Scientific meetings, and actions taken. The Secretary shall provide all minutes to the Hosta Leaves editor for publication
- Section 6 The Treasurer shall receive all funds from payments of memberships and all other funds of the Society, be responsible for all Society monies; discharge accounts payable by check and maintain adequate financial records, prepare and render an annual report at the annual meeting, and authorize publication of the annual financial report to the general membership. The Treasurer shall receive all new memberships, maintain a current membership list, and provide the same to the Hosta Leaves editor. When the Treasurer retires or resigns from office, or elects to serve more than two terms, the books must be audited.
- Section 7 The Regional Director of the American Hosta Society (AHS) shall also serve on the Board of Directors for the AHS, and act as a liaison between the AHS and The Midwest Regional Hosta Society (MRHS). He/she shall communicate between the Board of Directors of the AHS and the Executive Committee of the MRHS.

Section 8 The Editor shall be responsible for publishing the official Society publication, *Hosta Leaves*. The publication shall contain material that is of interest to all members of the Society, and such material shall be in keeping with the purpose and intent of the Society. Publication will be on a timely basis.

ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES

Section 1 The President shall appoint, with the approval of the Executive Committee, chairpersons of Standing Committees, Historian and Parliamentarian.

Section 2 The Nominations Committee shall consist of at least three members elected at the annual meeting prior to the elections.

ARTICLE VIII – TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1 The term of all officers who constitute the Executive Committee is two years. Two consecutive terms constitute maximum tenure for the President and Vice President, excluding appointment for vacancies occurring to fill unexpired terms. Elections shall be held annually as necessary.

Section 2 All Committee Chairpersons, the Historian and Parliamentarian serve only at the appointment of President.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

Section 1 These bylaws shall be amended at any annual meeting when an amendment is submitted in writing to the Executive Committee and published in the Society publication prior to that Annual Meeting. This must be approved by a two-thirds vote of those members voting.

Section 2 These bylaws shall be reviewed annually to assure that they continue to reflect the purpose and operations of the Society.

ARTICLE X - DISSOLUTION

Section 1 **Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.**

Section 2 **Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of the section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.**

ARTICLE XI – ADOPTION OF BYLAWS

The bylaws shall be declared adopted when approved by a majority vote of the members at an Annual Meeting.

Midwest Regional Hosta Society

Actual versus Budget

1/1/2012—12/31/2012

Category	Actual	2012 Budget	Difference	Notes
Income:				
Convention	\$11,811.90	\$6,000.00	\$5,811.90	
Income-Interest	\$217.18	\$0.00	\$217.18	
Membership	\$1,493.90	\$1,660.00	(\$166.10)	442 members
Subtotal	<u>\$13,522.98</u>	<u>\$7,660.00</u>	<u>\$5,862.98</u>	Actual over Budget
Expense:				
Grant	\$0.00	(\$1,000.00)	\$1,000.00	AHS did not need any grant money this year
Miscellaneous	(\$2,732.22)	(\$360.00)	(\$2,372.22)	We spent on IRS and Computer Equipment and Software
Newsletter	(\$2,613.63)	(\$7,000.00)	\$4,386.37	We emailed 78% for the first time
Internet Site	(\$222.93)	(\$225.00)	\$2.07	
Winter Scientific 2012	(\$1,473.00)	(\$4,450.00)	\$2,977.00	Winter Scientific did better on reducing losses. They are raising the entry fee a little each year until we break even.
Winter Scientific 2013	\$1,535.00	\$0.00	\$1,535.00	This is just the what was spent and brought in for 2012. More income and expenses will be done in January of 2013
Subtotal	<u>(\$5,506.78)</u>	<u>(\$13,035.00)</u>	<u>\$7,528.22</u>	Actual under Budget
Totals	<u>\$8,016.20</u>	<u>(\$5,375.00)</u>	<u>\$13,391.20</u>	Income was better than budgeted.
Account Balances:				
Checking	\$18,461.30			
Mutual Fund	\$23,757.99			
Total Assets	<u>\$42,219.29</u>			

Respectfully submitted,
 Barbara Schroeder, Treasurer
 January 19, 2013

The Korean Species Hosta

by Glenn Herold, Cedarburg, WI

When you think of the origin of hostas Japan comes first to mind, and rightly so, for of the approximately 40 recognized species the vast majority originated there. In fact, only three countries can claim hostas as being native to their borders: Japan, China, and Korea.

.....

Eight hosta species are native to Korea—

1. *Hosta capitata*
2. *Hosta clausa*
3. *Hosta jonesii*
4. *Hosta laevigata*
5. *Hosta minor*
6. *Hosta tsushimensis*
7. *Hosta venusta*
8. *Hosta yingeri*

These species have been carefully analyzed for morphology and for the enzymes they produce (DNA determines which enzymes are made by a plant and closely related hostas will produce similar enzymes). The conclusion of these studies indicate that:

- ... *Hosta laevigata* is closely related to *Hosta yingeri*
- ... *Hosta minor* is closely related to *Hosta venusta*
- ... *Hosta tsushimensis* is closely related to *Hosta jonesii*
- ... *Hosta capitata* and *Hosta clausa* are not closely related to any of the others.

This is of more interest to hybridizers than to most home gardeners. The Korean species plants are small and green and would not likely make anyone's top ten list. BUT, their DNA is a unique source of genetic material—different from the Japanese and Chinese hostas. Desirable characteristics seen in these plants can be bred into the existing hosta cultivars.

Hosta capitata is found in the southern part of the Korean peninsula and isolated from the other hosta species. It is characterized by:

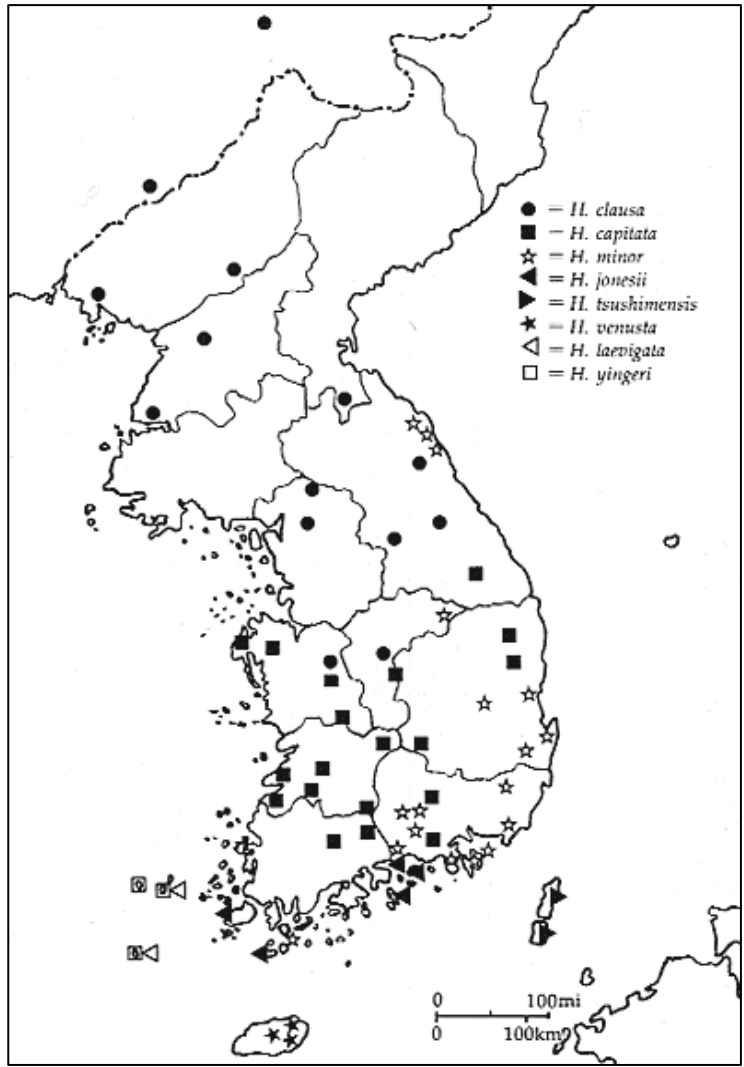
- ... tall scapes
- ... rippled leaf margins
- ... purple flowers arranged in tight clusters.

It has not been widely used in hybridization—and when so mainly for its fine flowers. H. 'Amanua' and 'Show Piece' have outstanding flowers. *Hosta capitata* 'Alboflora' is a white flowered form of the species.

Hosta clausa has the broadest geographic range of the Korean species, and it also shows the most species variation:

- ... *Hosta clausa* var. *clausa* is a triploid rarely found in the wilds. Its flowers do not open (consequently it never sets seed); it spreads by rhizomes.

- ... *Hosta clausa* var. *ensata* has narrow lance-shaped leaves; it is seldom encountered.
- ... *Hosta clausa* var. *stolonifera* is also a rarity. It never produces scapes or flowers.
- ... *Hosta clausa* var. *normalis* is the common form; it is diploid and has been used often by hybridizers. It has green oval leaves (a yellow-leafed variant has been called ‘Golden Arrow’) and red petioles.
- ... *H.* ‘Purple Lady Fingers’ (*Hosta clausa* var. *normalis* x *H. longissima*) has prolific purple flowers. Bob Solberg started with *Hosta clausa* var. *normalis* and after several crosses got ‘Mango Salsa’ with its yellow foliage and red petioles



Hosta yingeri is found on remote islands off the southern coast of Korea. It is noted for good substance, shiny leaves and most unusual spider-like flowers. *H.* ‘Lily Pad’ is a selection of the species with blunt leaves, typical of those found in the wild. *H.* ‘Treasure Island’ is another selection—it has puckering between the veins. A white-margined sport was found in tissue culture by Mark Zilis and named ‘Gentle Spirit’.

Some hybrids:

- ... H. 'Old Coot' and 'Jaz' (*Hosta yingeri* x Sum and Substance') –good substance/shiny leaves
- ... H. 'Get Nekkid' (*Hosta yinger* 'Treasure Island' x 'Elvis Lives')—fine spider-like flowers
- ... H. 'Harpoon' (*Hosta yingeri* x 'Swoosh')—yellow margin
- ... H. 'Korean Snow' (*Hosta yingeri* x ?)

Hosta laevigata is found off the south coast of Korea on the same islands as *Hosta yingeri*, and is closely related to *Hosta yingeri*. It has proved very difficult to breed with. Only a few variants and hybrids are known.

H. 'Roller Coaster Ride' is a tissue culture sport (found by Mark Zilis) of the naturally occurring heavily streaked form of *Hosta laevigata* named 'Ray of Hope'. George Schmid crossed pollen from *Hosta laevigata* onto *Hosta longipes* f. *Sparta* and one of the resultant seedlings was used to get 'Gosan Leather Strap'.

Hosta venusta is among the smallest of hosta species and is found growing wild only on Cheju Island off Korea's south coast. Because it makes a clump six inches high, forms tight clumps, grows fast, and its leaves remain small in maturity it has been very popular with hybridizers seeking to produce miniature hybrid cultivars. There is much variation in the wild, but until 1990 there was only one form in America. So it is not surprising that the hybrids produced by "selfing" *venusta* are look-alikes—all closely resembling the parent:

- ... 'Minuta'
- ... 'Rock Princess'
- ... 'Thumbnail'
- ... 'Tiny Tears'

When *Hosta venusta* was used as the pod parent some distinctive petite cultivars resulted:

- ... H. 'Masquerade' (*Hosta venusta* x *H. sieboldii* sport) forms an attractive white-centered green-edged small clump. Unfortunately it is quite prone to sporting to an all green form. A fine white-edged sport is 'Little White Lines'.
- ... H. 'Lakeside Neat Petite' (*Hosta venusta* x 'Blue Cadet') forms a small clump with fine purple flowers.
- ... H. 'Gemstone' (*Hosta venusta* x 'Dorset Blue') a very nice mound of small blue green foliage.

When *Hosta venusta* was used as the pollen parent:

- ... H. 'Cody' ('Shining Tot' x *Hosta venusta*)
- ... H. 'Leather Sheen' ('Sum and Substance' x *Hosta venusta*)

And the offspring of these *Hosta venusta* hybrids have taken the genetic material of *Hosta venusta* into contact with more and more diverse hosta cultivars:

- ... Example: H. 'Riveria Sunset' ('Leather Sheen' x 'Beatrix')
- ... And: H. 'Imp' [('Yellow Splash' x *H. tibae*) x *Hosta venusta*] x (*Hosta venusta* x 'Shining Tot')

Hosta minor is taxonomically similar (closely related) to *Hosta venusta*. It comes from South and East areas of the Korean Peninsula. *Hosta minor* can be distinguished from *Hosta venusta* by distinctive ridges along the scape. It also is a very small hosta—making a mound about eight inches tall.

It has not been used much for breeding because most of the hostas labeled as *Hosta minor* in the U.S. are not the true *Hosta minor*. It has regularly been confused with *Hosta venusta*, *Hosta sieboldii*, and *Hosta nakaiana*. George Schmid has a selection of the true form of *Hosta minor* and named it “Gosan”—which is not a valid cultivar name.

One of the only known hybrids is *H. ‘Mrs. Minky’* (*Hosta minor* x ‘Piedmont Gold’). It is a small plant with rippled margins.

Hosta tsushimensis is found only on Tsushima Island in the Korean Strait that runs between Korea and Kyushu (the Southernmost of the Japanese Islands). It is quite small (forms a mound about 12 inches high) but otherwise quite variable. It can have straight leaves or wavy leaves; branched inflorescence or not branched; white flowers or purple flowers—and even a rare yellow flowered form.

A cultivar with yellow leaves (‘Ogan Tsushima’) has been crossed with *Hosta yingeri* and resulted in ‘Whiskey Sour’. A second generation of this was crossed with *Hosta clausa* var. *normalis* and produced ‘Beet Salad’—with red petioles.

Hosta jonesii closely related to *Hosta tsushimensis* and also is found on island(s) off the South-east coast of Korea. It differs from *Hosta tsushimensis* in having creeping rhizomes and reddish-purple flower scapes. It is not commonly seen in America and most so-labeled hostas are not the true *Hosta jonesii*.

To date the Korean species hosta have not been widely used in hybridization, but look for that to change as breeders become more interested in purple/red scapes and yellow flowers.

submitted by Robert Olson

Hostas of Distinction

by Mark Zilis

Mark Zilis was fortunate enough to get involved with hostas during the 1970's at a time when he could form relationships with virtually all of the most famous hosta pioneers. Mark's WSM audience was also fortunate that Mark was willing to share many of his memories of some of those people with us. Mark related to us a dozen or more anecdotes involving people like Herb and Dorothy Benedict, Savory, Ruh, Wade, and Aden. While many of us late comers have certainly become familiar with those names, we probably never had the experience of talking hostas with most of them. Mark even had video of some of the conversations including one with Van Wade who related the story behind his famous Sum & Substance that was considered the world's largest hosta for a number of years.

As a matter of fact, most of the stories not only involved the people but also famous hostas associated with them. This was truly one of those presentations which one had to hear in person to fully appreciate. I sincerely hope that Mark will consider doing another talk of this sort at a future Winter Scientific Meeting because all the attendees thoroughly enjoyed his recollections.

submitted by Lou Horton

Volcano Mulching Harms Trees

The term "Volcano Mulching" refers to a practice of piling mulch against the trunk of a tree, thereby creating a volcano shape at the base of the tree. This approach to mulching is extremely harmful to the health of trees.

While mulching can be one of the most beneficial things that you can do to keep your trees healthy, if done improperly, it can lead to disease, infestation and even the death of the tree. Following are tips on how to be sure that your trees are being mulched properly:

- ... Mulch should be spread out away from the base of the tree to expose the base of the root flare.
- ... Apply mulch to a depth of approximately four inches. This will settle to two inches after a few rains, the desirable level, and is shallow enough for rain to reach the roots.
- ... Mulch out away from the tree in a 4 5 foot diameter. Ideally, trees should be mulched to the drip line (below the farthest reaching branches).
- ... Consider mixing hardwood mulch with grass clippings, sawdust, pine needles, compost and shredded leaves to increase porosity. Using a groundcover plant instead of mulch or grass is also a good choice.
- ... Check mulch levels each year. Trees often do not need to be mulched annually.
- ... Avoid cypress mulch, since it is highly water absorbent, reducing the amount of water that reaches the tree roots.
- ... Dyed mulch is less desirable because it is usually made from chemically treated scrap lumber that can leach chemicals into the soil. The dye itself is also often made from synthetic chemicals.

If your tree has been "volcano" mulched, use gloved hands to remove mulch from the base of the tree, exposing the root flare (the area where the roots turn out and away from the tree). Do not use a rake or shovel, as this can damage delicate roots. If removing years of layered mulch by hand is too difficult, hire a tree care company; they will use a specialized device known as an "air spade" that will not harm the roots.

Hosta Garden Tips and Observations

by Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller, owner of Land of the Giants Hosta Farm, estimates that he has planted 220,000 hostas in the last 8 years. He has 2 ½ acres planted at his home just outside of Milton, WI, near Janesville, and has been adding 5 new beds of varying sizes each year.

He has also been hybridizing for most of that time. In a typical year, he makes approximately 5000 crosses and grows 100,000 seeds. After culling, only 4 or 5 percent make it into the seedling beds for further observation and evaluation. For several years, Terri Meyer, who lives just a few miles away, has worked with Jeff as his hybridizing partner.

Jeff shared gardening tips from his experiences and observations on hosta gardening:

- ... H. montana 'Aureomarginata' is always up first in his garden.
- ... He's found the old adage for perennials, "1st year – sleep, 2nd year – creep, 3rd year – leap", to be especially true for hostas.
- ... Many people refer to the "10 Foot Rule" or "20 Foot Rule" when they talk about "recognizability" of hosta cultivars, but when Jeff is evaluating hostas, particularly his seedlings, he uses the "50 Foot Rule".
- ... He likes to place blue hostas strategically in his garden to maximize their impact and better show off the other colors.
- ... Always be aware of the mature size a clump will be for any hosta when planting it to avoid moving it in a few years.
- ... Jeff uses rocks and other elements to add visual interest and height in his beds.
- ... When a hosta clump is cut into, its maturity is set back the majority of time.
- ... Jeff has discovered that with sufficient water, hostas love being in the sun in northern states, and he urged people to try growing hostas in sunnier locations. Many of his hostas are in full sun most of the time.

Fertilizer

In early spring when hosta pips are emerging, he spreads a 12-12-12 fertilizer on the ground.

Slugs

At the same time, he spreads the first round of slug repellent. He uses various brands at intervals with the goal of breaking up their life cycle so there will be fewer eggs laid before they retreat in July and August.

Southern Blight

Jeff discovered that his 2 little dogs stink badly after they rolled around on soil containing southern blight. He advised to dig up the plant, remove all of the soil, and wash it in a 10% bleach solution. Then remove all of the soil in the area where the plant was.

Foliar Nematodes

He hasn't had many issues with foliar nematodes in his location as it seems to be more of a problem in southern gardens than in northern areas.

HVX

He advised extreme caution regarding HVX as it can be spread very easily from plant to plant.

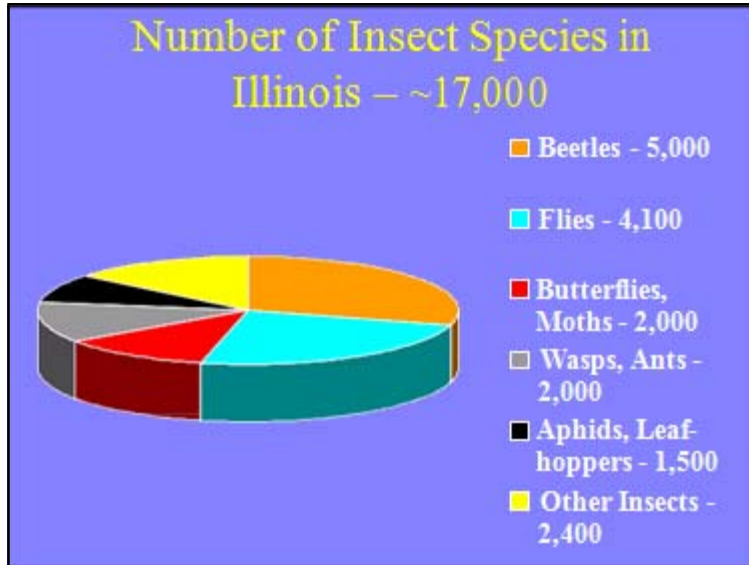
Voles

Voles attacked a mature 6 foot clump of 'Solar Flare' one year in his garden, and it was reduced to the size of a TC the next year. Jeff tried several methods before he came up with a solution that worked for him. He uses quart jars and cuts an area no larger than a quarter out of the lid. He places a piece of the block form of "Tomcat" vole poison in the jars and spreads the jars throughout the gardens. He tried using the pellet form, but the voles just carried them away.

submitted by Reldon Ramsey

Garden Pest – The Good Guys VS. The Bad Guys

by Richard Hentschel




There are over 17, 000 species of insects in Illinois. Approximately 850,000 insects have been identified while only 10,000 insects are considered destructive. The vast majority then are beneficial performing their role in the environment by providing pollination, becoming food for wildlife and humans. Insects are some of the first to scavenge and recycle organic matter. Some insects can control weed populations and others keep more harmful insects in check. Many of these 17,000 species are harmless. Besides the true insects, we lump spiders, mites, ticks, centipedes, millipedes and sowbugs into the mix.

Before we can decide any management strategy, proper identification is critical. Missing the ID can mean limited or no control, elimination of an insect predator rather than the intended pest. Understanding the life cycle will provide appropriate times of the year for better management. How they feed, where they feed and when they feed should be taken into account to determine if an insect even requires management. Consider allowing a insect predator to take care of the problem or use an organic or botanical solution with the intent of preserving other non-destructive insects. Use a chemical insecticide as a last resort.

Good insects

Many insects are beneficial:

- Plant pollinators
- Food for wildlife and humans
- Scavengers-feed on dead plant parts recycle debris
- Eat Weeds
- Eat other insects



IPM methods

- **Cultural**
Grow healthy plants
- **Biological**
Living organisms prey on pests
- **Mechanical**
- **Chemical**

Slug Management Illinois Recommendations

- Manage Organic Matter
- Trap and Dispose
- Baits applied to moist soil
 - Iron phosphate
 - Sodium ferric EDTA
 - Metaldehyde



Chemical control methods

- Includes insecticides, and repellents
- **Select only after considering non-chemical methods of control**
- **Select the least toxic pesticide that will provide adequate control**
- Read and follow the pesticide label directions



(More slides on page 32.)

Experience and Experiments on Moving a Mature Garden— You Don't Have to Say Goodbye to Your Old Friends

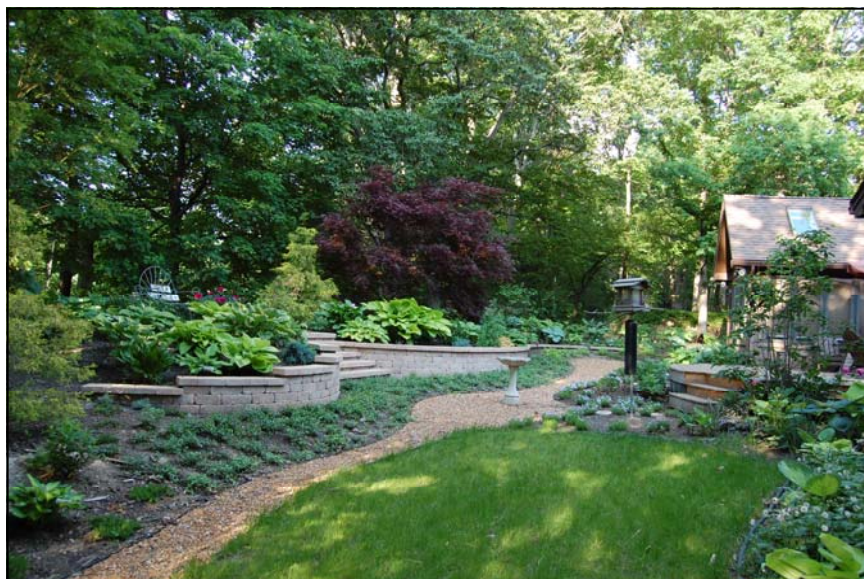
by Olga Petryszyn

Many of us have relocated or may face the prospect of moving in the future. As gardeners, we are concerned about the fate of our former gardens and may have strong attachments to plants that we just cannot bear to leave behind. Olga Petryszyn's presentation at the Winter Scientific Meeting on January 19 shows that given enough, time, planning, determination and money, one can move a garden to a new residence. Olga's presentation could have been subtitled "Expect the Unexpected" as she recounted numerous obstacles to the success of her move. Her good-humored descriptions of many stressful events and accompanying photographs held the audience's attention.

Olga's former home in Chesterton Indiana was in the path of the expansion of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and was taken by eminent domain by the National Park Service. Fortunately, Olga had several years to prepare for the big move. Since the house and garden would be destroyed for the park, Olga was determined to take every bit of flora that she could possibly remove from her old home and donate, give away or move to her new home. Every hosta from seedlings to huge clumps in place over 10 years would be moved. Trees, shrubs, even groundcovers would be moved. Her advice to anyone who wants to move their garden is to plan ahead, save lots of money, and start digging early.

Two to three years before the planned move, Olga enlisted helpers and started digging and labeling plant material. In spring when flowering bulbs were in bloom, she dug and potted up the bulbs and sunk the pots in prepared spaces where they continued to grow. As hostas began to emerge she dug them before they leafed out so they could be potted up with minimal damage and the pots returned to the ground. An unprecedented spring flood in the garden made locating and digging plants more daunting than expected. When they ran out of pots, Olga and her helpers used tarpaulins cut to contain plants and tied them at the tops. Every plant was labeled as it was dug. Many plants grew and even thrived in their pots for several years as long as they were watered.

In the fall of 2009, Olga and her husband Lew settled on a new house in Valparaiso. It is 10 miles south of the old house, smaller in size and on a hilltop lot of just one acre. The soil, she learned, was heavy clay. Immediately, they began planning. There was much to be done and they had a deadline to vacate the old property. It was too late in the season to accomplish much, but they built a shed and made plans for the front and rear portions of the yard. The heavy clay soil on the front of the lot was quite eroded and the roots of a stand of maple trees protruded from the soil. Olga decided to use stonework and good soil to terrace the front of the property to create planting areas. In the



midst of planting Olga learned that the drain tiles from the house had failed and heavy equipment was brought in to dig three new trenches for tiles from the house. The newly laid stone and planting beds had to be redone, of course. Olga covered the ground under the maple trees with Tex-R copper treated landscape fabric to prevent tree root penetration of the new planting beds. The stone terraces and considerable amounts of new soil were placed on top for planting hostas and companion plants in the shade of the maples.

The rear yard presented other challenges. In another unexpected surprise, Olga learned that a portion of the rear yard sloped toward the house, more drain tiles had failed, and serious re-grading would be needed before any hardscape or planting could be done. More heavy equipment was brought in and trenches for tiles were dug. Some of the soil removed from the back was brought to the front to fill the terraced beds. A wall, a new deck and a sculpture were added in back once the drainage was corrected and they were now ready to plant. With lots of help, everything was brought from the old property. Shrubs and small trees were pulled from the ground using a fork lift. Despite the root loss and harsh handling these plants survived the move. Everything was replanted. No trace of usable plant material was left at the old property. Once everything was planted, deer repellent was set out, and Olga and Lew were ready to sit back and enjoy the fruits of their efforts.



No garden is ever “done” however, and soon Olga noticed that the maple trees in the front yard were struggling. The maples’ roots were being suffocated by the addition of soil and all the compaction that occurred during the grading and building of the terraces. She tried to dig out areas to provide aeration, but to no avail. The next year she had to cut down the maples that shaded the front beds. All the hostas were again dug up. New trees were brought in and the hostas were replanted. However, the new trees are not large enough to shade the beds and the hostas were stressed in all that sun. As unsightly as some neighbors might find it, Olga set posts and hung shade cloth to protect the hostas from the hot sun.

Things are now filling in and Olga has learned through experience which hostas can handle lots of sun. Plants, hostas in particular, are survivors she noted. Even dogwoods and magnolias literally torn from the ground by a fork lift are thriving. She encouraged her listeners to experiment and take chances with plants. Olga’s advice to those thinking of moving their gardens is to go for it. However, she said, plan ahead; start digging two years before you go. And, save lots of money to cover the cost of surprises.

submitted by Mark Rekoske

Tissue Culture for Dummies

by Rob Mortko

Rob started his nursery “Made in the Shade Gardens” in Olathe, KS ten years ago. At the time, he was working as a chemical engineer. When he retired about four years ago, he thought he had his retirement lifestyle all planned out. That plan changed significantly when he decided to try his hand at tissue culturing.

Tissue culturing, or more correctly, laboratory micropropagation, provides the means for new plants to be brought to market much faster than traditional division. One hosta eye could potentially become 10,000 clones in just one year. The process is used to propagate many types of plants including orchids and other tropicals and many other perennials and woody plants besides hostas. Over 250 million plants per year are produced worldwide by tissue culture.

There are four stages in the Tissue Culture process:

1. Initiation
2. Multiplication
3. Rooting
4. Return to the soil

The first three stages all take place “in vitro” which means in glass growing tubes in the lab and in a controlled growing area. One of the real keys to T.C. success is cleanliness. Rob’s very comprehensive presentation demonstrated the vigorous process he uses to create and maintain a sterile environment. The slightest contamination by bacteria or fungi in the growing tubes will quickly overwhelm and destroy the plants you are trying to reproduce. Start clean and stay clean was Rob’s mantra. Bleach, alcohol and the temperature (over 250 degrees) are used throughout the process to achieve this.

Rob showed photos of his home lab which included a kitchen-like prep area with sink, laminar hood sterile transfer area and growing area. Equipment included culture vessels, dishwasher, scale, magnetic stirrers, PH meter, pipette dispenser, pressure cooker/autoclave, etc.

At this point I was really wondering how dummies like me were going to be able to deal with all of this, but Rob did a good job laying it out one step at a time.

The T.C. plants will be grown in a sterile media that will feed the growing plants and provide appropriate growth hormones to encourage the growth desired at each stage. Rob gave “recipes” for this media but also noted that pre-mixed medias are available. When the equipment and supplies are obtained and set up, the test tubes are sterilized and sterile media is prepared, pumped into the tubes and sealed for future use.

Now that all of the prep work is completed, the actual first step in the initiation process is isolating a hosta bud from the plant you want to reproduce. The meristem in the bud contains apical cells, the undifferentiated tissue at the growing tip which can become leaves, petioles, etc. as the plant grows. The bud must be peeled down to these apical cells and must be completely cleaned.

These tissues are placed in the media in the tubes and set aside for four weeks under lights that are on a schedule of on for 16 hours and off for 8. Remember that the slightest bit of bacteria or fungi can frustrate all of your efforts. Rob detailed the extensive process he uses to try to assure the cleanliness of this plant tissue in this the initiation phase, or stage one.

If you have done everything right and were successful in your cleaning, after the four weeks the piece of tissue will have become tiny plants with 2-4 divisions. The plant is removed from the tube, the divisions are separated and each one is placed back into a new tube and set aside for another four weeks. Each time the plants are transferred, the same extreme care must be taken to create and maintain a sterile environment. By the end of the second four week period, your original sample could have become as many as 16 plants. The 16 could become 64 in another four weeks if you continue to process, and you can continue multiplication until you have the desired amount of plants. This is stage two, the multiplication process.

These tiny plants you are creating have lived all of their lives in a sterile 100% humidity environment, being fed all the nutrients, vitamins and hormones they need through the media they are growing in. They have no roots yet because they have not needed any. The hormone cytokin supplied to them in the media they have been growing in thus far has promoted shoot growth, not root growth. At any point in the multiplication process, some or all of the plants can be moved out of stage two to stage three which is the rooting stage. During this stage, rather than being returned each to its own tube, the plants are grouped into larger containers with a media that has the same nutrients and vitamins but the hormone balance is changed, emphasizing auxins which promote root growth. Sterility must continue to be maintained through this stage. A few more weeks and roots will be showing in the containers and the plants will be ready for stage four, return to the soil.

Remember that all through their lives these plants have been in a 100% humidity environment with all of their nutrient needs met by the growing medium they have lived in. Even though they have roots, these roots lack the root hairs, etc. to draw nutrients from the soil effectively, and they must be coddled through their transition to growing in soil. Rob washes the media off the roots and moves them into a soiless mix either in a tray with a humidity dome or preferably into his greenhouse under misters that turn on every hour. Lighting remains the same on 16 hours off 8 schedule. If the plants coming out of stage three are healthy, maintaining good humidity should make this transition successful.

To conclude, Rob emphasized that developing a sterile technique was of the utmost importance. The process is science but also an art and could have a steep learning curve. Be prepared for a healthy dose of humility, but keep learning and enjoy the ride.

submitted by Owen Purvis

2013 AHS National Convention Registration Form

June 13-15, 2013 Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Visit our website for schedule & more information

www.2013ahsconvention.com

****Please fill out separate form for each person being registered.****



Name as you would like it to appear on your name badge _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip code _____ Phone _____ Email** _____

**Registration confirmation will only be sent by email.

JUDGES CLINICS: Please indicate which clinic(s) you will attend. An up-to-date handbook is required and may be downloaded for free at www.hosta.org. _____ Check here if you wish to purchase a Judges Handbook for \$10

Clinic 1 Fri. June 14 1-5pm Clinic 2 Fri. June 14 3-5pm

Hosta Show: See schedule at www.ahs2013convention.com I plan to ___ Enter ___ Judge ___ Clerk

No. of Entries: ___ Div.I Leaf Show: ___ Div.II Container ___ Div.III Troughs ___ Div.IV Education ___ Div.VI Artistic

Maximum of 25 entries

Please Note!

At this convention we will return to the society's beginnings when we drove and carpoled to the gardens. Since parking will be limited at gardens it is important that attendees carpool. Please make arrangements to carpool with friends. *Every effort* will be made to accommodate both individuals that need rides and those that offer rides. *As hostas are known as the "The Friendship Plant" we believe this will not be a problem for attendees.* Maps and written directions will be provided for tours. We would like to know in advance if you will need a ride and would be willing to accommodate attendees that need rides.

___ I will need a ride ___ I will gladly offer a ride A Hertz car rental office is available at Hotel.

Convention Registration

Full Registration (postmarked before May 15, 2013) \$139.00 _____

Late Full Registration (postmarked May 16, 2013 or later) \$189.00 _____

Meals Only registration \$89.00 _____

Credit Card payment is available to all attendees for a \$8.95 convenience Fee \$8.95 _____

Total payable in US funds _____

Send checks and registration form payable to the "AHS 2013 Convention" to:

Sandie Markland

P.O. Box 7539

Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948-7539

Sat. Dinner Options: Circle One Pork Chicken Vegetarian Gluten Free

If paying by credit card: Choose One: ___ Visa ___ Master Card ___ American Express ___ Discover

Name as it appears on card _____ There is an \$8.95 Convenience fee

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Convention Registrants assume all responsibility for liability

Hotel: Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield 375 S. Moorland Rd., Brookfield, WI 53005, 262-364-1100 or 800-325-3535. **Rate: \$105 + tax includes hot breakfast buffet.** For rate **reserve by May 22, 2013**, mention "Hosta". Hotel link is on our website. Reserve rooms early as there is an automobile race in Milwaukee that same weekend and rooms will be at a premium.

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention 2013

Lisle, Illinois
July 11-13, 2013



The Northern Illinois Hosta Society invites you to go to your calendar right now and reserve July 11 – 13 for the 2013 MRHS Convention, HOSTAMANIA! in suburban Chicago. You might even want to come early and stay afterward because three days of immersing yourself in hostas won't leave enough time to visit the area's many attractions.

But you're probably interested mainly in the hostas, so let's talk first about what HOSTAMANIA! will have for you. Ten excellent vendors will set up shop for all three days, and 10 outstanding gardens will be spotlighted on Saturday's tour.

Of course there will be an auction and a leaf show. Two seminars with excellent presenters are on the schedule for Friday afternoon. An optional free tour of nearby Ball Horticultural Company's fabulous test and exhibit gardens, open only by appointment, is offered for Friday morning—you'll surely want to sign up!

Morton Arboretum is just five minutes from the convention hotel, and beautiful Cantigny Gardens is ten. Both are easily accessible to convention attendees who might want to visit them on their own. The Chicago Botanic Garden is farther, but its amazing displays are well worth a visit. All three provide complimentary admission to members of other American Horticultural Society gardens/arboretums, so be sure to bring your membership card from the one you belong to in your area. You can spend the money you save on admissions at excellent full-service nurseries in the area; two of the best are within minutes of the hotel, and we're working on getting discount certificates for you.

Whether you come just for the convention or for an extended visit, you can make the convention hotel--the Lisle/Naperville Hilton--your base. It's located just off I-88 in Lisle, 25 miles west of downtown Chicago with easy access to the city via I-88 and the Eisenhower Freeway by car, or by commuter train from either Lisle or Naperville.

The Hilton is giving a great room rate of \$96 per night for the convention. (A direct, personalized link to Hilton reservations for attendees is at the top of the HOSTAMANIA! registration form.) Add the free breakfast for hotel guests at classy Allgauer's Restaurant, the swimming pool, workout room, free parking—you can hardly afford not to come!

HOSTA MANIA

MRHS Convention - Lisle, IL July 2013

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION AND FILL OUT A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH CONVENTION REGISTRANT

HOSTA MANIA HEADQUARTERS (HMHQ)	Hilton Lisle/Naperville 3003 Corporate West Drive Lisle IL 60532 630-505-0900 or 800-552-2599 Convention rate: \$96 + tax (includes breakfast at Allgauer's Restaurant, on-site), reserve by 6/20/2013 by calling the above numbers or using this direct internet link: www.hilton.com/en/hil/groups/personalized/N/NAPHIHF-CMRH-20130711/index.ihtml?WT.mc_id=POG
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SPECIAL HOSTA MANIA CONVENTION EVENTS

SPECIAL TOUR	<input type="checkbox"/> YES! Sign me up for the tour!	FRIDAY JULY 12 at 8:30 am: The spectacular Gardens of Ball are just minutes from HMHQ. They are not usually open to the public, so RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED for this FREE guided tour! More info at www.MRHS2013.org Preview the gardens at www.ballhort.com/ball/ball_gardens.aspx
JUDGES CLINIC	<input type="checkbox"/> YES! Sign me up for the clinic!	FRIDAY JULY 12 at 8:00-11:00 am An up-to-date handbook is required for the Judges Clinic and may be downloaded for free at www.hosta.org <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer to purchase the handbook (\$10) at the convention
HOSTA SHOW <small>(See the show schedule at convention website)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES! I will judge!	
	<input type="checkbox"/> YES! I will clerk!	
	<input type="checkbox"/> YES! I will enter! Approximate Number _____ (NOTE: Maximum of 25 entries. Preparation begins Thursday July 11 at 1:00 pm)	
AUCTION	<input type="checkbox"/> YES! I will donate! <input type="checkbox"/> Plants - approximate number _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Non-plant items - approximate number _____	
FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER	<input type="checkbox"/> CHICKEN <input type="checkbox"/> PORK <input type="checkbox"/> VEGETARIAN <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL NEEDS: _____	
SATURDAY BANQUET	<input type="checkbox"/> CHICKEN <input type="checkbox"/> BEEF <input type="checkbox"/> VEGETARIAN <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL NEEDS: _____	
ATTENDEE LIST	<input type="checkbox"/> YES! Please include my name and address on the convention attendee list provided to all attending Hosta Maniacs	
OTHER AREA GARDENS	There is a wealth of other public gardens to visit on your own near HMHQ and around the Chicago area. Visit www.2013MRHS.org for a list. Don't forget to bring your membership card from your local botanical garden for reciprocal FREE entry to many of them.	

Visit our website for schedule and more late-breaking Hosta Mania information: www.MRHS2013.org

I'M A HOSTA MANIAC - HERE'S MY INFORMATION!

Name (as you would like it to appear on your convention name badge): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email (for convention use only): _____

PLEASE NOTE: Saturday's Garden Tours will be self-guided. Parking is limited at many homes, so carpooling is recommended whenever possible and provides opportunities to better know other Hosta Maniacs! Hosta Mania Car Pool Central will be available at HMHQ to help form carpools, and you will be provided with explicit maps and precise driving directions.
 If you know you will need a ride or that you can provide a ride, please let us know in advance!
 I will need a ride I will gladly offer a ride and can accommodate _____ passengers

Full Registration (postmarked before July 1, 2013):	\$119	_____	Send registration form(s) and checks payable to "NIHS 2013 Convention" to: Kristine James 523 E Calhoun Street Woodstock, IL 60098
Late Full Registration (postmarked July 1, 2013 or later):	\$149	_____	
Meals only Registration (Friday and Saturday dinners):	\$105	_____	
Judge's Handbook:	\$10	_____	
Total this registration form (please make a copy for your records):		_____	

REGISTRATION USE ONLY: Check # _____ LIST ALIST AL-N/A # _____

CONVENTION SPEAKERS

MARY ANN METZ (Seminar: Landscaping with Hosta and Other Shady Characters.) has worked in the field of horticulture for 30 years. She spent 20 of those years as greenhouse manager and grower at Klehm Nursery in Champaign, IL, which specialized in peonies, daylilies and hosta. For several years she was co-owner, “with a fellow plant nut,” of a small garden center. She has recently established her own landscape design and consulting business while also working in plant production and sales at Prairie Gardens in Champaign. Additional experience includes teaching community education classes at Parkland College, conducting seminars at garden centers, and making presentations to garden clubs and plant societies throughout the Midwest. Mary Ann is a member of several plant societies, including the American Hosta Society for which she is a Master Judge and Vice President of Member Services. As if she were not busy enough, she is also Vice President of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society.

TOM MICHELETTI (Seminar: The Problem with Hostas) is a retired middle school teacher of industrial arts. He says, “Having summers off enabled me to pursue my interest in gardening. I became involved with hostas when I was given the green hosta, the one with the white edge and the one with the white center. I had them all! When I received some mail order catalogs I realized I didn’t have them all, and set out to acquire as many as I could.... In order to supplement my plant passion in 1990 I began selling plants at a garage sale each spring. This soon transitioned to selling hostas mail order through The Hosta Patch.” Tom founded the Northern Illinois Hosta Society in 1992 and was its first president. He is immediate past president of the American Hosta Society and has served on its board for 14 years. He was president of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society for 6 years and organized the Winter Scientific Meeting for 16 years. He is also on the board of the American Hosta Growers Association.

MIKE NOWAK (Saturday Banquet Speaker) is host of the aptly named “The Mike Nowak Show,” Sundays at 9 on Chicago’s Progressive Talk, WCPT 820AM and 92.5, 92.7 and 99.9 FM. For a decade before coming to WCPT, he was the host of WGN Radio’s “Let’s Talk Gardening” and has appeared on several local and network television programs. He is also a writer and award-winning columnist for Chicagoland Gardening Magazine. Mike is an Illinois Master Gardener and Openlands TreeKeeper. In 2002, he co-founded the Midwest Ecological Landscaping Association and served as MELA’s president for four years. He is president of the Chicago Recycling Coalition and part of the Speakers Network for SafeLawns.org, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting natural lawn care and grounds maintenance. In another environment, Mike is a 33-year veteran of the Chicago stage, having received awards for acting, directing and writing.

Show Committee

Show Co-Chairs	Mary Ann Metz, John Van Ostrand
Awards Chair	John Van Ostrand
Classification Chair	John Van Ostrand
Clerks Chair	TBA
Design Chair	Mary Ann Burcher
Judges Chair	Mary Ann Metz
Placement Chair	Ellen Van Ostrand, Nancy Bodinet
Registration Chair	Karen Johanson
Schedule Chair	Mary Ann Metz
Staging and Dismantling Chair	TBA
Tabulation Chair	Carolyn Hamilton, Sally Ste

2013 MRHS Convention Schedule

<u>THURSDAY, JULY 11</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Room</u>
8:30 am – Noon	Hotel guests' complimentary breakfast	Allgauer's
	Vendor setup	Regency
Noon – 6:00 pm	Registration	Atrium
	Auction plants received	Oak
	Free time to visit public gardens: Morton Arboretum and Cantigny are nearby; see list on website for more	
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Hosta Leaf Show entries received	Regency/Pine & Spruce
1:00 pm – 10:00 pm	Vendor sales – OPEN TO PUBLIC	Regency
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Hosta Leaf Show entries received	Regency/Pine & Spruce
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Hostality	Parlor 811
 <u>FRIDAY, JULY 12</u>		
	Hotel guests' complimentary breakfast	Allgauer's
8:00 am – 6:00 pm	Registration	Atrium
8:00 am – 5:00 pm	Vendor sales – OPEN TO PUBLIC	Regency
8:00 am – 11:00 am	Hosta Leaf Show entries received	Regency/Pine Spruce
8:00 am – 11:00 am	Judges Clinic 1	Majestic
8:00 am – 2:00 pm	Auction plants received	Oak
8:30 am	Optional Tour at Ball Seed Gardens	Off site
11:00 am – Noon	Judges luncheon	Majestic
Noon – 3:00 pm	Hosta Leaf Show judging	Regency/Pine & Spruce
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Seminar I: The Problem with Hostas -Tom Micheletti	Majestic
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Auction preview	Oak
2:45 pm – 3:45 pm	Seminar II: Landscaping with Hosta and Other Shady Characters -Mary Ann Metz	Majestic

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Hosta Leaf Show – OPEN TO PUBLIC	Regency/Pine & Spruce
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	MRHS Board Meeting	Lisle Exec. Boardroom
TBA	Silent Auction	
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Cocktails	Atrium
6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Dinner, Announcements, Introductions	Majestic
7:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Auction – OPEN TO PUBLIC	Majestic
9:30 pm – 11:00 pm	Hostatality	Parlor 811

SATURDAY, JULY 13

7:00 am – 4:00 pm	Hotel guests' complimentary breakfast	Allgauer's
9:00 am – 4:00 pm	Tour gardens open (self-guided)	Facilitators in Atrium
	Registration	Atrium
	Vendor sales – OPEN TO PUBLIC	Regency
	Hosta Leaf Show – OPEN TO PUBLIC	Regency/Pine & Spruce
4:00 pm	Vendor and Hosta Leaf Show teardown	Regency
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Presidents' Meeting	Lisle Exec. Boardroom
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Cocktails	Atrium
6:00pm – 7:00 pm	Banquet	Majestic
7:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Announcements, Awards, Previews	Majestic
7:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Speaker: Mike Nowak (Topic TBA)	Majestic
9:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Convention Wrap-Up Meeting	Majestic
9:00 pm – 11:00 pm	Hostatality	Parlor 811

SUNDAY, JULY 14

	Hotel guests' complimentary breakfast	Allgauer's
Removal of remaining convention items from hotel		

GENERAL SHOW RULES

1. Anyone who wishes to exhibit may do so. However, section and higher awards are limited to AHS members. Any exhibitor who is not an AHS member and wins a section or higher award will be asked to become an AHS member. If the winner refuses membership, the Show Chair may either present the award to the next qualified entry or leave the award vacant.

2. Entries will be received from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM on Thursday, July 11. Entries will be received from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Friday, July 12. Judging will begin at noon on Friday, July 12. All entries must remain in place until Saturday, July 13, 4:00 PM. Entries, entry tags, ribbons, and awards may be claimed from 4:00 PM to 5 PM Saturday, July 13.

3. Entry tags must be properly completed by the exhibitor. Incorrect entry tag information will be corrected by the Classification Committee, and entries may be disqualified at the discretion of the Classification Committee.

4. During the time of judging, only the Show Chair, Show Co-Chair, AHS Judges Chair, Judges, and Clerks are permitted in the immediate judging areas.

5. Divisions I-Horticulture, II-Container Grown Hosta, III-Trough/Container Gardens Arranged for Effect, IV-Educational Displays and VII – Specialty Division will be judged by panels of three to four American Hosta Society show judges including one master judge per panel. 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.

6. Division VI-Artistic Design will be judged by National Council of Flower Show Judges.

7. All decisions of the judges are final.

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.

9. Division II – Container Grown Hosta Rules

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

10. Division III – Trough/Container Gardens Arranged for Effect Rules

Self-contained trough or container gardens of any size may be entered for judging as an arrangement. Multiple varieties of hosta and other plant material may be used. **Hostas must be a strong focal point of the entry.** No artificial plant material is allowed. Plants and container must be clean. Accessories are permitted. Individual plants need not be identified. However, if the exhibitor would like to identify the material, an identification ledger card to the side of the exhibit is acceptable.

11. Division VI – Artistic Design Rules

Hosta leaves must be the predominant foliage in the design. Hosta blooms are permitted. An exhibitor may enter one entry per class. Plant material need not be grown by the exhibitor but the design work must be the work of the exhibitor.

The Artistic Design committee reserves the right to move an entry to improve spacing if the exhibitor is unavailable to do so.

Pre-registration is required. To pre-register, contact Mary Ann Brucher at 630-969-4078 or brucher7@aol.com

SHOW DIVISIONS

DIVISION I – HORTICULTURE (Cut Leaf)

Section I	Giant-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section II	Large-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section III	Medium-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section IV	Small-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section V	Miniature-Leaved Registered Cultivars and Species
Section VI	Giant-Leaved Unregistered 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 XI	Youth Exhibits of Registered Cultivars and Species Displayed in Alphabetical Order
Section XII	Unregistered Named Hosta Cultivars Displayed in Alphabetical Order

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 (distinct from margin color)
- Class 7 – Streaked or Mottled
- Class 8 – Others (including early season variants)

DIVISION II – CONTAINER GROWN HOSTA

Section I	Container Displays Not exceeding a Total Height or Width of 18 Inches
Section II	Container Displays with Height or Width of Greater Than 18 Inches

DIVISION III – TROUGH/CONTAINER GARDENS ARRANGED FOR EFFECT

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

DIVISION IV – EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS

1. There are no sections in Division IV – Educational Displays. Educational displays must pertain to hosta. The show chair may bar entry to any exhibit that does not meet this requirement.
2. Point scoring for Division IV – Educational Displays
 - Educational Value – 50 points; theme, originality.
 - Presentation - 50 points; materials, arrangement, attractiveness, neatness.

DIVISION V – NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS

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

DIVISION VI – ARTISTIC DESIGN – UNFORGETTABLE CHICAGO

Class I: WINDY CITY - Must show the hint of movement in arrangement. Limit of four entries total.

Class II: GOLD COAST - Must have some color of gold in arrangement. Limit of four entries total.

Class III: LAKE MICHIGAN - A reflective arrangement. Limit of four entries total.

Class VI: SKYLINE - A design that interprets the Chicago Skyline. Limit of four entries total.

Pre-registration is required for exhibition in this division. Each class is limited to four entries. Please contact the Design Chair, Mary Ann Brucher, at 630-969-4078 or brucher7@aol.com

DIVISION VII – SPECIALTY DIVISION, SEEDLING AND SPORT PLANTS

1. A maximum of 3 plants per exhibitor is allowed. Entries should be plants of distinction. This division will be limited to 30 entries.
2. Bloom scapes may be removed or left intact at the exhibitors' discretion.
3. Plants must have at least two growth eyes and they should be similar in characteristics.
4. There will be two categories for judging. Category 1 will be seedlings and category 2 will be sports.
5. All entries in each category must be unregistered and unnamed.
6. Point scoring for Division VII – Specialty Division Seedlings and Sports

Distinction – 35

Color and pattern – 20

Form – 15

Substance – 15

Condition and grooming – 10

Clump size – 5

Total Points - 100

SHOW AWARDS

Best of Show - Horticulture – Awarded to the best species or registered cultivar entry in Division I – Horticulture and is selected from the section winners in Sections I-V and Section XI. (Please note that entries in Section XII – Unregistered Named Cultivars are not eligible to receive this award.) This award is a large triple streamer blue and white rosette ribbon.

Best Seedling or Sport Award – Awarded to the best seedling or sport entry in Division I – Horticulture and is selected from the section winners in Sections VI-X. This award is a large triple streamer green and white rosette ribbon.

Best Artistic Design Award – Awarded to the best entry in Division VI-Artistic Design. This award is chosen from the Best of Class winners in the division. This award is a large triple streamer blue and white rosette ribbon.

Sweepstakes Award – Awarded to the exhibitor who wins the largest number of blue ribbons in Division I – Horticulture. (In case of a tie, count red ribbons, then yellow ribbons if necessary to break the tie.) This award is a certificate and a medium triple streamer blue rosette ribbon.

Grand Awards – Awarded to the best entries in Division II – Container Grown Hosta, Division III – Trough/ Container Gardens Arranged for Effect, Division IV – Educational Displays, Division VI – Artistic Design and Division VII – Specialty Seedling and Sports. In order to win, entries must have scored 95 points. For Divisions II and III, Grand Awards will be chosen from the Section Award winners. These awards are medium triple streamer purple rosette ribbons.

Section Awards – Awarded to the Best of Section winners in divisions containing sections. All section award winners must have scored at least 95 points. These awards are medium single streamer purple ribbons.

Class Awards – Awarded to Best of Class winners in divisions containing classes. All class award winners must have scored at least 95 points. These awards are single streamer green ribbons.

The following ribbon awards are awarded in accordance with rules set forth by AHS:

First Place Blue Ribbons – Entries must score 90 or more points to receive this award.

Second Place Red Ribbons – Entries must score 85 or more points to receive this award.

Third Place Yellow Ribbons – Entries must score 80 or more points to receive this award.

Fourth Place White Ribbons - Entries must score 75 or more points to receive this award.

THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY POINT SCALES FOR JUDGING HOSTA

**REGISTERED CULTIVARS AND SPECIES
DIVISION I, SECTIONS I-V AND SECTION XI**

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

**UNREGISTERED NAMED HOSTA CULTIVARS
DIVISION 1, SECTION XII**

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

**UNREGISTERED SEEDLINGS AND SPORTS
DIVISION I, SECTIONS VI-X**

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

**CONTAINER GROWN HOSTA
DIVISION II**

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

**THROUGH/CONTAINER GARDENS
ARRANGED FOR EFFECT – DIVISION III**

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

**EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS
DIVISION IV**

Educational Value	50
Theme, Originality, Materials Used	
Staging	50
Arrangement, Attractiveness, Neatness	
TOTAL POINTS	100

**NON-COMPETITIVE EXHIBITS
DIVISION V**

Not Judged – No Scale of Points

**ARTISTIC DESIGN
DIVISION VI**

Conformance	20
Design	42
Artistic Concept	12
Expression	10
Distinction	16
TOTAL POINTS	100

**SPECIALTY DIVISION – UNREGISTERED AND UNNAMED SEEDLING AND SPORT PLANTS
DIVISION VII**

Distinction	35
Color and Pattern	20
Form	15
Substance	10
Condition and Grooming	10
Clump Size	10
TOTAL POINTS	100

Pest Management Summary

- Proper ID – Good Guy / Bad Guy
- Determine if control is warranted
- Insect development influenced by temperature
- Apply controls at insect's most vulnerable life stage using the safest product available

Contact Information

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2013 MRHS Convention Vendors

GREEN HILL FARM
Bob & Nancy Solberg
Franklinton, NC

JACK'S HOSTAS
Jack Barta
Cedarburg, WI

**MADE IN THE SHADE
GARDENS**
Rob Mortko
Olathe, KS

**SILVERS-ELBERT
NURSERY**
Bill Silvers
Cisco, GA

NAYLOR CREEK NURSERY
Gary Lindheimer
Chimacum, WA

**LAND OF THE GIANTS
HOSTA FARM**
Jeff Miller
Milton, WI

**IN THE COUNTRY GARDEN
& GIFTS**
Josh Spece
Independence, IA

PEGGY'S FLOWERS
Lee Coates
Highlandville, MO

**JAN'S BIRD BATHS AND
STEP-IN STONES**
Jan Smith
Carol Stream, IL

SKYLAR'S HOSTAS
Jim Morrow
Warrenville, IL

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Board Meeting January 21, 2012

Present: President Glenn Herold, Lou Horton, Irwin Johnson, Mary Ann Metz, Barb Schroeder, and Sally Stewart

Absent [excused]: Floyd Rogers

Glenn called the meeting to order at 8:35 p.m.

Barb reported our membership is 490; past experience indicates that some will not renew. We will seek to identify more members to whom we can e-mail our newsletters. Much money will be saved if we use e-mail rather than postage.

Barb gave a detailed financial report. We are in compliance with IRS regulations. Barb suggested we add a board position: Membership, in which Kristine James has volunteered to serve; Barb would like to continue as Treasurer. Moved by Sally, seconded by Mary Ann to make that change, passed unanimously. Moved by Irwin, seconded by Lou to accept the financial report.

We discussed our past financial support of the study of Hosta Virus X by Prof. Lockhart and Ms. Anderson at the University of Minnesota. The subject was tabled to the July convention in Rochester, July 12-14.

Lou led a discussion of a possible 2013 Regional convention. Mary Ann volunteered to be Show Chair that year, and all other board members were enthusiastic about that convention possibility. Our 2014 convention will be in Green Bay.

The Board members were unanimous in their choice of a winner for the De Etta Montgomery Award this year. The award will be presented in July at Rochester.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40.

Respectfully submitted by Irwin Johnson, Secretary

Editor's Note:

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

AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

We invite you to join over 3,000 other hosta enthusiasts as members of the American Hosta Society. Members receive 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. 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***

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	3⅛" x 4½"
1/8 page	45	80	3⅛" 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	3⅛" x 4½"
1/8 page	30	50	3⅛" x 2"

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

Wanted

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

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY
SPRING 2013 NEWSLETTER

Kristine James
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MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY

Our Regional Society is composed of over 300 members in AHS Region Five (Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin) and many members from other states. We publish a twice-a-year newsletter, hold an annual convention each summer, and hold the Winter Scientific Meeting each January in Schaumburg, Illinois. To join, or renew membership, please send a check for \$20 (ten dollars per year) to Kristine James. This summer's convention will be held in Lisle, Illinois, Green Bay in 2014, and TBA in 2015. Our conventions include a Hosta Show; a Judges' Clinic; garden tours; speakers; vendors of hostas, companion plants, and garden art; a lively auction; a sit-down banquet; a buffet dinner; and lots of hospitality and fellowship!