

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

HOSTA LEAVES

ISSUE NUMBER 79

FALL 2015

WC REGISTRATION; DUBUQUE CONVENTION IN REVIEW

CHAMPAIGN, IL CONVENTION



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President's Message

If you didn't make it to the MRHS Annual Convention in Dubuque, Iowa, in July, you missed a truly great gathering. From the river cruise to the closing of the hostality suite on Sat., it was well-planned from beginning to end with inspirational gardens, great vending, a hosta show with cut leaves that left you both envious and desirous, plus lectures to learn from - definitely fun for all. Regretfully, I didn't make any of the optional gardens on Sunday, but I am certain those who did were rewarded for their visit in both gardens to enjoy and extra hostality. Great job, everyone! And special congratulations to Barb Schroeder, recipient of the DeEtta Montgomery Award! Barb's outstanding service to MRHS alone would have been enough to merit this award...her warm personality and willingness to help wherever needed undoubtedly made her an even easier choice. Thankfully, Barb continues to work hard for all of us...read on!

The first task the Board tackled after the convention was a major overhaul of the By-laws. I know, if it works, don't fix it...but truth is, the voting base of the board wasn't in good ratio to the size of the organization, so the most major change is bestowing voting rights to positions that were serving MRHS in significant ways without a vote. Barry, Barb and I made up the Bylaws Review Committee. We put on our future vision goggles and did our best to craft flexible bylaws, trying to foresee the good and the bad. After all, bylaws should provide a framework, not necessarily all the nuts and bolts. Please take time to read through the existing bylaws, the proposed bylaws, and the summary of the changes. Your questions/input are invited...there is plenty of time to tweak these proposed changes since a vote will not be taken until next summer's convention in Champaign, IL. Additional modifications would need Board approval before being posted to the web site...but like I said, we have plenty of time.

Your hardworking Board also developed and approved a grant application for funds to be used toward educational enhancements to AHS Display Gardens in Region 5. The application form is posted on the web site and included in this newsletter along with application guidelines. Special thanks to Barry Ankney, Barb Schroeder and Glenn Herold for their time in developing this new program. The Board has allocated \$1,500.00 to this program initially. If your group sponsors (or plans to sponsor) an AHS display garden, keep this opportunity for assistance in mind.

Web master, Barry Ankney, with the approval of the Board, has added a Members Only section to the MRHS web site. Among other things, the Members Only section will house the current newsletter, archived newsletters, and eventually, a listing of MRHS member gardens that are available to tour. It will also include a member directory that you may opt out of or restrict your contact info to name only. Please contact the MRHS web master at barry.ankney@gmail.com with such requests. The password for the Members Only section is mrhsfriends. Of course, you can keep abreast of all the latest MRHS news on the web site, www.midwesthostasociety.org, by visiting periodically.

Hard copy membership dues are increasing effective Jan. 2016, so I'm making a special plea to all "hard copy" members to take advantage of renewing now for up to three

years at the current membership rate of \$10/yr and avoid incurring the new rate (effective Jan. 2016) for hard copy newsletter mailings that triples the price. Bottom line is, email is free...so if you can go that route at all, it will save you and MRHS bundles. We do not want to edge anyone out, so I need to hear from you if you have questions or concerns about this policy (contact info below).

The gardening season is winding down after a splendid September in this part of the Midwest (SE Minnesota). Warm temperatures with plentiful rainfall mean that many hostas still look good, though frost is knocking on the door. Soak up the cool sunshine and embrace the changing seasons as a time to reflect on what worked in the garden and what didn't, what needs attention next spring and how your landscape might benefit from a face-lift. Buckthorn removal and aggressive vole control are on my agenda now that the temps have cooled, Last fall voles devoured almost all of my lily bulbs...a small sacrifice since they left the hostas alone, but this year there aren't many lily bulbs left to feast on, so there's more concern hostas are next. I wish voles would attack buckthorn!

Many of you know me, and I look forward to becoming acquainted with those of you who don't, so please introduce yourself at the Winter Conference or whatever hosta event our paths might cross at. If you are in SE Minnesota, give me a call or stop by and visit. My husband, Mike and I, reside in Rochester, Minnesota, and have a second home near Preston, Minnesota ("the farm"). We are blessed with three great (adult) kids, a cat, and two grand-dogs. They have put up with my hosta fascination for nearly 30 years (my, that sounds like a long time!). For the past 15 years MRHS conventions and the (former) Winter Scientific Meeting have been highlights of my year, along with AHS conventions and, for the past ten years, SOGHS activities. Shades of Green Hosta Society of Southeast Minnesota is my hosta home base/personal support group J, augmented by the Minnesota Hosta Society. Besides various positions on the SOGHS Board, I've also served on the AHS Board, currently in the position of VP Member Services. Regardless of which hat I'm wearing, be assured I consider it an honor and take the responsibility very seriously. It's your job, along with the other members of the MRHS Board, to let me know if there is a problem or need. Please call or email me if you have a concern...I look forward to hearing from you!

Rooted in the Midwest,
Cindy Tomashek
MRHS President
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The DeEtta Montgomery Outstanding Service Award for 2015

Barbara Schroeder

Author's Note: the 2015 DeEtta Montgomery award was presented to Barbara Schroeder at the Dubuque Conference by MRHS President, Glenn Herold. Here is the text of Barb's acceptance speech.



I first want to say how honored I am to receive this award.

I must say when I first heard I was receiving this award I was shocked and embarrassed. The DeEtta Montgomery award was established in 2007 after Ms. Montgomery died and she was the first recipient. The

award is to acknowledge a person's contributions that benefit the Midwest Region.

I am a worker bee, not a person who likes to get up in front of people or make speeches. I like to be in the background. When asked to do a task, if I have the skills and time, I jump in with both feet. You can ask my husband, I am a planner, I am organized, and methodical. I am not a dreamer, visionary, or marketing person.

In 2004 my husband and I attended our first convention at Dubuque. We joined the AHS around 1999 (I think) and joined the local Peoria chapter a few years later and the Midwest Regional after that. In 2003 we were on the garden walk in Champaign and a nice lady asked if we would be interested in a hosta club in Champaign. That lady was Mary Ann Metz. From that conversation we and 16 others started Illinois Prairie Hosta Society in 2004. Rick and I are now members of 3 locals, 2 regionals and the National.

In approximately 2006 Tom Micheletti, then President, asked me to be Secretary of MRHS, as Audra Wilson needed to step down. I was new and didn't know what I was

getting into. I did that job for one term and was starting my second term in 2009 when Lou Horton, then President, asks me to switch to the Treasurer job as the just elected second or third term Treasurer, Pete Postlewaite, needed to step down. So I did that. I have been Treasurer since July 2009. Since my background is in finance and computers my husband and I have also gotten involved with the auction each year and I am also a Master Leaf Show Judge and VP Publications for the AHS. I am also treasurer of our local society and Co-Chair of the Midwest Convention coming to Champaign in 2016 – “Grand Prairie Hostas – Revisited”. I guess you could say I have promoted Midwest Regional and AHS because we talk about it at our society meetings and now have 10 Illinois Prairie members coming to these conventions.

I still think of myself as a worker bee doing what needs to be done for those that ask. I want to say thank you to all the friends I have made in these 11 years, thank you to my husband for his support and willingness to do whatever is asked. I want to thank you, Midwest Regional for the honor bestowed on me with this award. I want to encourage others to jump in and help with Winter Conference, Conventions, and board positions. It really is fun and you make a lot of wonderful friends.

Thank you all.

Submitted by Barry Ankney, MRHS Vice President



Midwest Regional Hosta Society Winter Conference, January 16th

By Lou Horton

There are changes in the works for the regional Hosta meeting formerly known as the Winter Scientific Meeting. It again will be held at the Northern Illinois University Conference Center in Naperville, IL. But the meeting headquarters will be at the Hampton Inn directly across the street so attendees can walk to the Conference if they choose. Of course, those who found the Lisle Hilton to their liking will still only be a five minute drive away.

Other changes include a little less emphasis on the technical aspects of raising and hybridizing hostas . For example, one of the three breakout sessions will include a presentation on basic hosta culture including fertilization, siting for the various types, dividing, etc. We will also draw from the wealth of expertise available from Extension educators more than we have in the past. Of course, fans of Bob Solberg and Mark Zilis can rest assured that they will be on hand to inform and entertain us with their hosta expertise.

More on the 2016 conference will become available in the coming months.

More information: Check <http://midwesthostasociety.org/events.shtml> for updates.



MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY 2016 WINTER CONFERENCE MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

Sat., January 16, 2016 Northern Illinois University Conference Center and Hampton Inn, Naperville, IL

Hospitality will be on Friday and Saturday Night at the Hampton. Hampton Room rate is \$74.00 per night (Friday and Saturday night), see at bottom for details. Deadline for reservations is 12/25/2015.

Check in Fri. afternoon at the Hampton, from 3 to 5 PM and Sat. morning at the NIU Conference Center from 7 to 8 AM.

The Winter Conference meeting will be held at the NIU Conference Center, just across the street from the Hampton. Continental breakfast will be at NIU from 7:30 to 10:30 AM. The Meeting will be from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM-no food in meeting rooms.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. Fill out registration form completely.

Make a copy of this registration form for your records. Confirmations will be done by email.

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

ATTENDEE 1:

NAME _____ MRHS member Non-MRHS member
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE/ZIP _____
PHONE _____
EMAIL _____

If a non-MRHS member, would you like your \$10 surcharge applied to a 1 year FAMILY membership in the MRHS?
 YES NO

ATTENDEE 2: Address same as Attendee 1

NAME _____ MRHS member Non-MRHS member
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE/ZIP _____
PHONE _____
EMAIL _____

If a non-MRHS member, would you like your \$10 surcharge applied to a 1 year FAMILY membership in the MRHS?
 YES NO

Registrations postmarked after January 9, 2016 require a \$10 late registration fee per person. Cancellations before January 3, 2016 will be sent a full refund. We will be unable to issue refunds after January 3, 2016.

Number of members _____ X \$60= _____
Number of non-members _____ X \$70= _____
Number of late registrations _____ X \$10= _____
TOTAL _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MRHS

Mail your registration and check to:
Barbara Schroeder, MRHS Treasurer 1819 Coventry Dr. Champaign, IL 61822

Questions about registration? Contact Barbara at MRHS.HOSTA@gmail.com or phone: 217-369-0927
NIU Naperville Conference Center, 1120 East Diehl Rd, Naperville, IL 60563
Hampton Inn, 1087 East Diehl Road, Naperville, Illinois, 60563, TEL: 1- 630-505-1400 (when calling mention MRHS or code HOS to get the discounted rate).

Upcoming Hosta Society Conventions

Midwest Hosta Society

2016 Champaign, Illinois

2017 Kansas City, Kansas

American Hosta Society

2016 St. Louis, Missouri

2017 Indianapolis, Indiana

2018 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2019 Green Bay, WI

Hosta Seedling Competition Dubuque, IA



The Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Garden By Tom Micheletti (Photos too)



One of the jewels along the Mississippi River in Dubuque, Iowa is “The Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens”. Founded by a small group of gardeners with very little money to fund such an endeavor, the premise was to create a garden designed by volunteers, with donated plants, materials, and labor. In 1980 a 60 acre park area was donated, and the project had a home.

The original group of volunteers designed the new gardens around their interest areas. Sections for roses, perennials, annuals, dwarf conifers, tree, prairie, woodland, shade and vegetable gardens were created. They were also maintained by those interest groups.

The early years were spent researching other notable gardens throughout the country. Gene Heinemann, a retired Burlington Northern agent, and Jim Schwarz, a retired teacher, traveled as a team, with their wives of course, looking for ideas and inspiration from these other notable gardens. Travels also included trips to nurseries to acquire plant donations. A major contributor from early on has been Roy Klehm who generously donated peonies, hostas, and daylilies. One of the next ventures to procure plants was to Mark Zilis’ nursery. Mark generously donated carloads of hostas to the garden. Other early donors included Van Horn Nursery, a Chicago area wholesaler, and Walters Gardens in Zeeland, Michigan. Other hosta notables donated to the garden as time went on, including Van and Shirley Wade, Bob Kuk, Bob and Arlene Savory, Ann Arett, John and Liz Stratton, and Eldrin Minks, and Hideko Gowan, who donated many of Herb Benedicts plants to name a few. Many of these donors have their own designated collections.



As time went on other specialized gardens were established. Most recently the Japanese Garden, which is still in development. It was designed by Hoichi Kurisu, who also designed the notable Anderson Japanese Garden in Rockford, Illinois. About 10 years ago a Dwarf Conifer Garden was also created through donations. Other recent garden additions are the Herb Garden, English Garden, and All-American Selections display gar-

den. Visitors will also notice a Daylily Garden featuring the Stout Award winning day-lilies.

Convention attendees were treated to a real delight visiting this wonderful garden. My only regret was that I didn't have enough time to view everything. I headed directly for the hosta garden to photograph the beautifully displayed and labeled mature plants. There are around 1200 varieties, and counting. Karen Schwarz, Jim's wife over-



saw the maintenance of this garden for our visit, and it was meticulously maintained and cared for. There was informative signage explaining hosta care and general information that will be of benefit to the learner.

Before I knew it I was the only person left in the garden, when a docent in a golf cart asked me if I needed a ride back to the pavilion where dinner was served. I made it back in time just before they closed the line. Not that missing a meal

would really hurt me! ;-)

As I have visited this garden previously, it has been a real treat to see this garden mature over the years. It is amazing what a dedicated group of volunteers can accomplish in such a short period of time, and with limited resources. Thank you for sharing your dreams with us.



Garden of Mary Ann Emery
Midwest Regional Hosta Convention 2015
Dubuque, Iowa

This was Mary Ann's first Hosta Convention but she has been gardening since moving to this property of 2.35 acres in 1978. In 2010 she was on the Master Gardeners Tour. The property has a beautiful display of large trees including several types of oaks, walnut, hickory, hackberry and cherry trees. About 37 years ago, Mary Ann and her husband added some Norway pines in the front yard.

As you enter her driveway, the visitor is greeted on the right by a lovely collection of hostas in one bed and another bed of blood root, columbine, bleeding heart, astilbe and early in the season by a display of spring bulbs. Another bed consists of Monk's Hood, Siberian Iris, Wild Geraniums, Daylilies, Coral Belles, Turtle head and Clematis. Many hanging baskets containing colorful annuals grace the front of the house.

Walking around the back of the house, you encounter a serene environment of majestic trees and well-manicured lawn. This can be enjoyed from the deck surrounded by many hostas, including seedlings. The garden also includes Mary Ann's favorite perennial, Joe Pye Weed plus sedums, red headed fountain grass, hydrangeas and Asiatic lilies. Large clumps of Moonbeam brighten the area.

Most of the beds are lined with limestone because when Mary Ann tries to plant anything she finds a rock! She started using hostas in her landscapes in 2007. Her friend Bill said he is starting to feel like he is being held "Hostage!"

They enjoy watching the deer, turkey and occasional red fox roam the property.

Submitted by Judy Systma



HACKBARTH GARDEN

Submitted by **Jim King**



I have to say at the outset I liked everything about the Hackbarth garden. Despite the rain and drizzle. The site was formerly a farm a long way out in the country from Dubuque, the farthest point in the 95-mile circuit of MRHS convention gardens. Here we found actually three distinct garden areas with over 2000 varieties of hosta. That by the house was the oldest. With limestone lined curving paths proceeding over varying elevations, many interesting ornaments and well placed water features—including a bridge over a running stream—it nicely showed off an extensive collection of hostas, both classic and not commonly seen, with a very good representation of minis and smalls. Amidst all these was a rich variety of delightful companion plants. I thought H. Dark Star was spectacular and was much impressed with H. Blue Ice. Of very special note was the Hackbarth collection of, by my count, thirty eight Rosedale hostas.

Bob told us that in acquiring hostas two interesting things happened. First, as his collections grew his wife Julie suggested he start selling hostas and companion plants. The result is the garden center announced by a big sign on the road, *The Hosta Leaf*. Second, they had the good fortune to become friends with the Hadravas and with Jerry's passing in 2007, Bob was given the

major portion of the Rosedale collection..

We reached the second of the garden areas, across the grassy parking area and behind a small barn with a cover sheltering from the weather. Here we met Bob and members of the family ready to advise or to dig plants for us. Potted hostas are displayed on tables and farther rows of larger specimens are grown in dozens of labeled beds. Other plants were on display for sale in a greenhouse. With the rain abating my wife Barbara went on to survey all these offerings while I spent my time enjoying just wonderful conversation with the family. Rather later we suddenly remembered our tight schedule, paid for our quite reasonably priced purchases (sadly all the Rosedale offerings had been taken) and departed. I had not visited the gift shop and had time only to take a quick peek at the third hosta garden area, which appeared to be the newest. But I shall correct those omissions at our next visit.





H. 'Victory'



Ed & Jean Schulz Garden

What a welcome we had in July at the Dubuque Regional Hosta Society hosts of the Midwest Regional Hosta Convention. We were in Iowa and the garden of Ed and Jean Schulz was a piece of heaven to come. There gardening consists of twenty years of collecting hostas and accompanying perennials. The garden continues to expand by adding another hosta that can be squeezed in.



The enjoyment was seeing older hosta varieties that have been left undivided to show their potential, along with a hosta of newer varieties and many of Ed's seedlings. The companion plantings, color and placement are left up to Jean with an eye for great locations.

New shade structures were designed and built by Ed after they

lost several trees. Its much easier building shade structure than moving hundreds of hostas. Everyone that visited Ed & Jean Schulz garden had a day in heaven. On behalf of Midwest Regional Hosta Society membership "Thank You"

Submitted by Pat Gwidt
Green & Gold Hosta Society



H. 'Daybreak'

H. 'Beckoning'



H. 'Dorothy Benedict'



H. 'Guardian Angel'



Jim and Karen Schwarz

By Mary Vertz

This year the Midwest Hosta Convention was in Dubuque and Jim's Hosta's was one of the tour gardens. I've been buying hostas from Jim Hosta's for years and couldn't wait to see where Jim and Karen grow all the great plants that have moved from their yard to ours! First thing I checked out was their write-up in the convention booklet.



Let's see. They grow 3100 labeled varieties – one of the largest collections in the Midwest. They have everything from old to new varieties to streaked breeding plants – something for everyone! They are retired teachers whose hosta hobby has turned them into premier hosta collectors. And all this on one acre of land! But wait, according to their picture, they have grass! How can they possibly have room for any grass?

When we arrived at their gardens bright and early, we were greeted by Karen as she was dead-heading their daylilies. Wait – they have room for daylilies too! As we stroll into their yard, our eyes are treated to waves of hostas rolling down their hillside. Natural shade is at a premium but is supplement by strategically placed shade structures. What a treat! Rows and rows of hostas and hostas in every nook and cranny.

Their collection includes a large collection of Lakeside hostas. Minis, small, medium, large, and giants. Golds, greens, blues, white edged, white centers gold edged, gold centers



and streakers. Their introductions are featured under their Tricolored Beech. Truly a hostaholic's paradise! As we reached the bottom of their "hosta" hillside, we were greeted by the sound of a small stream flowing into their Koi pond. Did I mention they have all of this on one acre of land? Oh and yes there is some grass to stroll on and a house too! Rumor has it the Koi pond needs to go to make room for more hostas. Or is that the only reason the Koi pond has seen its last days? Only Jim and Karen know for sure!



H. 'Liberty'



H. 'Lakeside Paisley Print'



Don and Mary Kay Wood



“It All Began In A Garden” is the phrase on one of the arbors positioned in the gardens of Don and Mary Kay Wood. Actually, the atmosphere for their sophisticated gardens begins at the entrance to the front yard. The gray home is set off with white petunias planted in white containers, white hydrangea, a white hanging lantern, plants with white edged leaves and even a white rocking chair. This bright and clean scene is just the beginning of a peaceful and serene garden that allows you to relax, walk slowly and forget the time of the day.

The garden path is brown/red brick that neatly defines the planted areas. Hostas are strategically positioned to take advantage of the sloping land and filtered shade from the tree canopy above. An understory Redbud tree gracefully hovered over the Hosta beneath it like a mother hen protecting her chicks. The curving brick path led you to new views as you meandered along. Bright green moss between the bricks also had a happy home in the changing sun and shade of the oak trees.

There were so many Hosta to view but some of those that really caught ones eyes were: H. On Stage, H. Sweet Innocence, H. Lunar Eclipse, H. Allegan Fog, H. Wood Monster, H. Touch of Class, H. Brother Steffan,

H. Journey’s End and H. Artist’s Palette. The hue of colors ranged from dark green to light green, Gold to bright yellow, dusty blue to intense blue and variegated centers to colored edges.

The gardens were complimented with other perennials like Ferns, extravagant “Sky Rocket” Ligularias, Woodland Poppy with their lobed leaf profile, and a variegated Porcelain Vine climbing on a trellis. Some of the surprises in the yard were an antique rusted bicycle, a metal flower, Rhubarb and Tomatoes mixed in with the Hosta, a swing in a tree and water filled bird baths. Potted Hosta were carefully stationed to show off their beautiful leaves. A very interesting wall of photos artfully displayed favorite hostas and views from the gardens.



The view of the gardens was breath taking from the raised deck area as one could easily see the grassy areas in the center of the yard bordered by the Hosta and accompanying plants. White trellises framed very special views as you carefully made your special journey through the woodland setting. It was very easy to understand why several couples chose Don and Mary Kay’s beautiful yard as the setting for their weddings. They could honestly say that “It All Began In A Garden”.

Submitted by Chuck Steele



It's Not Easy Being Green

Presented by Josh Spece from In the Country Gardens

Josh started his case for using green hostas with a picture of a green frog. **"It's not easy being green!"** According to Josh here are some reasons to consider adding more green to your hosta gardens:

- ◆ Green hostas bring balance to a garden. You should mix them in with other colors – they bring out the color of the others.
- ◆ They have characteristics that make them unique. – crinkly to shiny.
- ◆ Consider their overall form – upright, waving.
- ◆ Look at their flower shape, size and form – tall scapes, bell to flat.

When adding to your hosta collection look for those green hostas that are distinct. Josh shared pictures of his favorite distinct green hostas and reasons why they made it on his list.

- ◆ Bridegroom – leaf tips point upward
- ◆ Raspberry Sorbet – flowers are distinct
- ◆ Hoosier Dome – cups downward and has domed leaves
- ◆ Manhattan – intense corrugation and flat flowers
- ◆ Niagara Falls – 2012 Benedict Garden Medal, upright and deeply veined
- ◆ Marilyn Monroe – smooth leaf, pie crusted and white undersides
- ◆ Jade Cascade – long pointed leaves, downward slope
- ◆ Candy Dish – Marilyn Monroe seedling, smaller than parent, red petioles
- ◆ Nippers – small, round leaves that are puckered and bubbly
- ◆ Potomac Pride – 1995 AHS convention plant, almost black green and shiny
- ◆ Clear Fork River Valley – intense corrugation
- ◆ Leapin' Lizard – straight out of the prehistoric era, leaves remind you of an ancient lizard
- ◆ Tongue Twister – Long wavy and ruffly
- ◆ Raucous Ruffles – long, puckered

Josh's favorite is Candy Dish. Some others suggested by the audience are:

- ◆ Irish Luck
- ◆ One Man's Treasure
- ◆ Corkscrew
- ◆ Smokey Bear
- ◆ Moonlight Sonata

As you can see **"It's not easy being green!"** There are so many truly unique ones to choose from!

Submitted by Mary Vertz

Designing in the Shade

Presented by Sara Carpenter from Steve's Ace Hardware

Sara started by stating that Steve's Ace Hardware was known as the 'coolest Ace Hardware on the planet'. She is a landscape designer for them. Her job as a designer is to "Help you look like you have great gardens without trying". For ideas, gardeners use to look for hardcover books. Now people use Pinterest and Google.

She suggested taking pictures of the area you want to design and overlay it with what it could be. Have different overlays for different seasons – after all daffodils are not always in bloom. Try to draw it or have it drawn to scale. Keep in mind what it can be when the plants mature. Don't plant it to look good now.

Some things to consider in designing are texture, shape, color, height, balance, scale, fragrance, and seasonal interest.

When choosing hostas, consider texture and shape. Other plants to consider mixing in with hostas for added texture and shape are goatsbeard, grasses, and ferns. For grasses consider Japanese Forest Grass or some of the other shade grasses that are available. Be aware that some are not as hardy as others. Goatsbeard comes in regular and mini sizes.

Mix in other plant varieties that will bring interest to your shade garden. Consider adding heuchera, tiarella, variegated brunnera, ligularia and bleeding heart. Some brunnera varieties are Jack Frost and King's Ransom. Bleeding hearts can be dwarf or large size and chartreuse in color.

When planting think of how big they will become. Then plant a mixture of heights and texture to achieve a balance in height from front to back and mixture of colors and shapes.

In the overall design of your gardens don't forget the understory area. The middle layer between your trees and the gardens. Use small to medium Japanese Maples, dogwoods, redbuds and service berries. Service berries are one of Sara's favorite for their flowers, berries and fall color.

Add fragrance to your gardens with fragrant hostas, sweet woodruff, lily of the valley, and sweet spirea. Sweet spirea will also provide fall color in your garden.

For seasonal interest add daffodils, hyacinth, coleus, and conifers. Hydrangea are a new twist on an old favorite that will also add seasonal interest. They come in many shapes, sizes and colors. Some conifers to consider are hemlock, weeping hemlock and false cypress.

Some other suggestions from the audience for the shade garden are rhododendron, holly, pulmonaria, sedges, and epimedium.

Don't forget to consider adding hardscape for functionality. Add walk ways and walls were needed. Walk ways can be stamped concrete or crushed stone with a defining edge. Also consider adding a natural edging to your gardens by creating a trench 4-6 inches deep and filling it with mulch.

After Sara's presentation we visited Steve's Ace Hardware and it is the "Coolest Ace Hardware store" we've ever been in.

Submitted by Mary Vertz

By-Laws
Midwest Regional Hosta Society
July 9, 2010 revised September, 2015

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 and Life, **the latter of which may only be awarded for merit by the executive committee.**
- 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.

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, auctions/silent 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 **the** 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. **Any other** expenses of any 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~~ distributed equally to the AHS National Display Gardens in Region 5 who are 501c3 organizations.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND DUTIES

- Section 1 The officers of the Society shall consist of the following: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, ~~TREASURER~~, NEWSLETTER EDITOR, WEBMASTER, DIRECTOR AT LARGE, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, and AHS REGIONAL DIRECTOR. These officers shall constitute the voting members of the Board and are hereinafter referred to as the Executive Committee (EC).
- Section 2 Vacancies other than the Presidency occurring between meetings shall be filled by appointment of the President, with approval of the EC.
- 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, including convention liaison. The Vice President and Immediate Past President shall, under advisement and approval of the EC, seek hosts for future conventions.
- Section 5 The Secretary shall record the minutes of the Executive Committee including electronic meeting minutes, Annual and MRHS Winter Conference meetings, and actions taken. Upon approval by the Executive Committee, 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, upon approval by the Executive Committee, 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 by an unaffiliated auditor.
- Section 7 The Regional Director of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society 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 ~~Board~~ EC 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 semi-annual basis.
- Section 9 The Webmaster shall be responsible for maintaining the official web site of the

Society and shall post material of interest to all members of the Society, and material that is in keeping with the purpose and intent of the Society, including newsletters, meeting notices and minutes.

Section 10 The **Director(s) at Large** shall be responsible for finding the location of the Winter Conference, determining registration fee (with ~~board~~ approval of the **EC**), engaging speakers, and conducting and organizing the event. This position is filled by the person or persons who plan the Winter Conference, as long as there is a Winter Conference. In the event the Winter Conference is no longer held, the position of Director(s) at Large will be elected from the general membership with term limits consistent with other elected positions and should be filled by a candidate that brings some special expertise to the EC.

Section 11 Any voting member of the ~~Board~~ **EC** who fills more than one voting position shall have only one vote. In the event that any position is filled by co-chairs, only one shall have a vote.

ARTICLE VI – TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1 The term of ~~all officers who constitute the Executive Committee is~~ **President, Vice President, Secretary and Regional Director** is two years. The following positions have no term limits: Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, and ~~MRHS Winter Conference Chair~~ **Director at Large**. Election to fill these positions will be held only when a vacancy occurs. Two consecutive terms constitute maximum tenure for the President, Vice President, **Secretary and Regional Director**, excluding appointment for vacancies occurring to fill unexpired terms. Elections shall be held annually as necessary. **The Past President Position changes automatically as the President Changes.**

Section 2 All Committee Chairpersons serve only at the appointment of President, with approval of the EC.

Section 3 Any Executive Committee ~~Board~~ member who misses two ~~Board~~ **EC** meetings without prior approval of the President may be removed from office.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

Section 1 The Executive Committee shall meet prior to the annual meeting of the Society and prior to the MRHS Winter Conference. Fifty percent (50%) of the members of the EC shall constitute a quorum. Approval of actions put forth at EC meetings require a simple majority of the EC present. Additionally, electronic meetings may be called as needed by giving 5 days' notice of such meeting. Approval of actions put forth in electronic meetings requires a simple majority of the EC participating.

Section 2 The annual meeting of the Society shall be held at a site and at such time as determined by recommendation of the **Vice President** and approval of the Executive Committee. The **host/host group** shall schedule a general business meeting, a hosta garden tour, an auction/silent auction, an accredited cut leaf show, and a judge's clinic. **Waiver of any of the aforementioned criteria for the annual meeting must be approved by the Board EC.** Any variance in annual meeting criteria or frequency must be approved by the EC.

- Section 3 The members present at any properly announced meeting shall constitutes a quorum. Motions require two thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of members present and voting for passage.
- Section 4 Special Meetings may be called by any member of the ~~Board~~ EC with a one month notice of such meeting if in person or 5 day notice of such meeting if by email.
- Section 5 The Midwest Regional Hosta Society Winter Conference shall be held annually or such other frequency as agreed to by the EC.
- Section 6 Monies received from the auction at the annual convention or Winter Conference shall be retained by the Midwest Regional Hosta Society. With prior approval of the EC, the local hosting society may retain monies received from a silent auction.
- Section 7 In the instance of Conventions being sponsored by individual hosts, rather than a local society, all monies shall be retained by MRHS.
- Section 8 Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, unless otherwise specified herein, shall govern all business meetings.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES

- Section 1 The President shall appoint, with the approval of the Executive Committee, chairpersons of Standing Committees as needed.
- Section 2 The Nominations Committee shall consist of at least three elected ~~Board~~ Executive Committee Members, excluding the President. The Nominations Committee shall present a slate of candidates for open positions to be voted upon at the annual meeting, following the advice and ~~consent~~ approval of the EC.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS

- Section 1 These bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting when an amendment is submitted in writing to the Executive Committee for approval and published in the Society publication and posted on the Society website prior to the Annual Meeting. Amendments must be approved by a two-thirds vote of members in attendance.
- Section 2 These bylaws shall be reviewed as needed 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, as set forth in

Article IV Section 7 of these Bylaws. 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 2/3 majority of the voting members at an Annual Meeting.

Approved _____, _____.

Summary of Proposed Changes to MRHS By-Laws:

An update to the MRHS By-Laws was overdue, so significant changes are proposed. Here is a breakdown of the changes in order of appearance. The most significant changes are in red. NO CHANGE was made to Articles I or II so they are not referenced here.

1. Article III, section 2 is updated to reflect that no record exists for Charter Members, so that reference is removed. Honorary Memberships are also deleted since the Life Membership award is basically an Honorary Membership, leaving Family and Life Membership classes. Article IV is deleted since it references Charter members that we have no record of.
2. Article IV – Finance
 - Section 6: Minor language modification.
 - Section 7: Now identifies AHS National Display Gardens in region 5 who are 501(c) (3) organizations as the recipients in equal share of any assets remaining upon dissolution. Previously the recipient was the MN Landscape Arboretum.
3. Article V – Officers and Duties contains the following MAJOR changes
 - Section 1: Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, and Director at Large (title change – previously Winter Conference Chair) have been added as ELECTED officers with full voting rights (term limits are removed for these positions later in Article VI (renumbered) Terms of Office). The logic for this proposed change is to provide better representation of the region to the Board as well as provide for more engagement/continuity of memory that these positions can bring to the table as voting members. The size of the current voting Board was also small for the number of members in our organization.
 - Section 2: Better check and balance requiring approval of the EC for Presidential appointments to open positions that occur between meetings.
 - Section 3: No change
 - Section 4: Added convention liaison duties to the VP position.
 - Section 5: Clarification of duties, update name of former Winter Scientific meeting to

Winter Conference, and added approval of EC prior to publishing minutes.

Section 6: Added approval by EC prior to publishing Treasurer's reports and requirement for an outside audit when Treasurer position changes hands.

Section 7: Minor language changes.

Section 8: Clarifies publication time table of newsletter to semi-annual – previously omitted.

Sections 9, 10: Duties of Webmaster and Director at Large. The title change and new job description of Director at Large aim to create a flexible board position while maintaining the number of current board members (voting and previously non-voting) the same. The position is essentially the same as the Winter Conference Chair until such time as there might not be a Winter Conference and then the job description would be redefined to best suit the organization's needs. Term limits would apply to future Director at Large if there are no longer Winter Conference duties.

Section 11: Sets forth limitations of voting in instance of a Board member holding two positions or in the event of co-chairs.

4. Article VI – Terms of Office (renumbered)

Section 1. Identifies term limits (same) for President, VP, Secretary, and Reg. Director (same) and identifies Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Web Master and Director at Large as having no term limits.

Section 2: More generic language regarding committees and added approval of EC.

Section 3: New section sets forth meeting attendance requirements for EC.

5. Article VII – Meetings (renumbered)

Section 1: Clarifies EC quorum requirements, number of meetings, meeting notice time frames and exceptions. Provides for electronic meetings as needed and outlines time frame and notice requirements.

Section 2: Clarifies Member meeting requirements and allows for non-society hosted conventions. Sets forth meeting criteria requirements at a convention (business meeting, hosta garden tour, auction/silent auction, accredited hosta show, and judge's clinic), and allows for variance in annual meeting requirements via EC approval. We felt this flexibility was important for dealing with the changing landscape of conventions.

Section 3: Clarifies quorum requirements for member meetings.

Section 4: Clarifies special meeting notice requirements and methods of notice.

Section 5: Allows for flexibility in Winter Conference frequency should the need arise to go to every other year or not at all.

Section 6: Addresses how auction/silent auction funds are retained and clarifies that permission must be granted in advance of silent auction funds being retained by a hosting society.

Section 7: New – directs that all non-society hosted convention funds are retained by MRHS.

Section 8: No change.

6. Article VIII – Committees – renumbered

Section 1: Minor change requiring EC approval of committees.

Section 2: Clarifies the make-up of the Nominations Committee (excluding President

in keeping with Article V, Section 3) and the proposed slate now requires approval of the EC prior to being brought to the membership for vote at the annual meeting.

7. Article IX – Amendments

Section 1: Minor language changes and added requirement to post proposed amendments on the MRHS web site.

Section 2: Changed annual review of by-laws to “as needed”.

8. Article X – Dissolution

Section 1 – Same

Section 2 – Added reference to Article IV Section 7 (directing funds upon dissolution to AHS Display Gardens in Region 5 that are 501c3 orgs.

9. Article XI – Adoption of Bylaws

Establishes requirement of approval of 2/3 majority of the voting members at an annual meeting .





Best of Show—The Fonz, Jim O'Donnell
Photo by Gregg Peterson



Best Seedling or Sport - sport of H. The Razor's
Edge, Jim Heinz
Photo by Gregg Peterson



Photo by Gregg Peterson

2015MRHS Convention
Rendezvous Hosta Show Results
Dubuque, IA July 10 2015

Show Chairs– Ed Schulz

Show Awards

Division I –

Best of Show – Section III, Jim O'Donnell

Best Seedling or Sport – Section X, Jim Heinz

Sweepstakes – Germaine Schwaller

Section I – *H.* 'All the Jazz;', Chuck Steele

Section II – *H.* 'Blaze of Glory', Germaine Schwaller

Section III – *H.* 'The Fonz', Jim O'Donnell

Section IV – *H.* 'Designer Genes', Germaine Schwaller

Section V – *H.* 'Kinbotan', Edwin Schulz

Section VI– Seedling 09-02, Josh Spece

Section X – Sport of the *H.* 'The Razor's Edge', Jim Heinz

Section XII – ,*H.* 'Streakin in Ohio', Cindy Tomashek

Division VI

Artistic Design - New Diversity, Joyce Rapp





MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

10 July 2015

Call to Order 9:35 am

Present: Glenn Herold, Barb Schroeder, Holly O'Donnell, Barry Ankney, Cindy Tomashek, Mary Vertz, Pat Gwidt

President appointed Holly O'Donnell as interim Secretary.

Approval of minutes from January 2015 (Barry, Barb)
(Treasurer's report from January 2015 in minutes approved as amended)

Treasurer's Report

2014

Net Income: \$5544.41

Expenses: \$781.09 under budgeted amount

Total Net Assets (as of Dec. 2014): \$47,997.41

2015

(Jan – Jun): Received \$735.02 and spent \$2,914.02

Balance: \$45,805.92

Treasurer's report approved (Pat, Barry)

Membership dues

After 1 January 2016 dues for any member who wants a paper copy of the newsletter will go up to \$30 per year. Anyone who renews prior to 1 January 2016 will be paying \$10 per year. Max of 3 yrs. renewal. Thus, current members who are receiving a paper copy have the option to stay at this rate longer. Of 250 members, about 35 still get the print copy.

Discussion of 2016 budget

Barb recommended that in January the board come to a decision about how to spend some of the income since the club is operating at a balanced budget.

Glenn suggested the money be spent on the Winter Scientific Meeting and/or used as an incentive for clubs to host the MRHS Convention.

Proposed that \$1500 be added to Grants and \$1500 be added to Winter Scientific budget. Committee will be appointed when new president takes office to set up grant structure for regional display gardens.

Convention updates

2017 – possibly Kansas City with Rob Mortko and friend hosting

2018 – possibly Peoria

Club presidents will be contacted for feedback about the possibility of hosting conventions on a club rotation basis.

Winter Scientific Meeting

Name change for 2016 – two choices will be presented at membership meeting and voted on at convention banquet tomorrow:

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Educational Conference OR
Midwest Regional Hosta Society Winter Conference

Lou Horton and Mark Rekoske will be notified that the budget for WSM has been increased.

Board Nominations

No discussion

Other

Barry proposed that a “Members Only” section on the MRHS website be created in order to view current newsletter, archived newsletters, membership lists. Also, those members (after contacted) who would open their gardens to other members could be noted. An opt-out option to members not wanting their names and phone numbers listed would be available. These upgrades to the MRHS website were approved by consensus of the board.

Current by-laws will be mailed to all board members. A by-laws committee will be appointed by new president to examine possible changes and additions.

Meeting adjourned at 10:41 am.

Minutes submitted by Holly O'Donnell, Secretary



<u>Midwest Regional Hosta Society 2016 Approved Budget</u>		
Category	2015 Budget	2016 Budget approved
Income:		
Convention	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00
Income-Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership	<u>\$1,600.00</u>	<u>\$2,300.00</u>
Subtotal	\$7,600.00	\$7,300.00
Expense:		
Award-Montgomery	-\$150.00	-\$200.00
Awards-AHS	\$0.00	-\$200.00
Grants	-\$1,000.00	-\$2,500.00
Miscellaneous	-\$100.00	-\$100.00
Newsletter	-\$2,000.00	-\$1,600.00
Internet Site	-\$200.00	\$0.00
Winter Scientific 2015	<u>-\$4,000.00</u>	\$0.00
Winter Conference 2016	<u>\$0.00</u>	-\$2,500.00
Subtotal	(\$7,450.00)	(\$7,100.00)
Totals	<u>\$150.00</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>
Total Assets	\$45,805.92	
Note: President is looking at forming a committee to look at ways to reduce our assets philanthropically.		
Respectfully submitted,		
Barbara Schroeder		
Treasurer		
July 11, 2015		

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Educational Fund (Draft)

At the Midwest Regional Hosta Society (MRHS) Executive Committee meeting held at the Dubuque Convention, it was decided to set aside funds for specific educational enhancements of current and/or future AHS National Display Gardens within Region 5. The funds will be available for any AHS National Display Garden within the region that is sponsored by a local hosta society.

Application for these funds must be submitted to the Vice-President of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society. The application must be submitted by the local society that is requesting funding of a specific educational aspect of the sponsored garden. A committee composed of the Vice-President, Immediate Past President, and the Treasurer of MRHS will review and make recommendations to the Executive Committee for awarding grant money.

Funding for any specific project may not exceed \$300 per project in a single calendar year, with each local society limited to a single project per year.

Specific guidelines for eligible projects include but are not limited to the following:

- Producing handouts or brochures that are available at the garden that provide specific educational information about *Hosta*.
- Producing or updating garden signs that provide information about the display garden or a specific component of the garden related to *Hosta*.
- Installing a new display bed that features some specific collection of *Hosta*, for example, a miniature *Hosta* collection, a collection of introductions from a specific hybridizer, a collection of *Hostas* related to one of the *Hosta* species (like a *H. plantaginea* bed with cultivars derived from that species).
- Procuring display cases or containers to hold educational materials for public distribution.

The local society who is granted funding of a specific project must agree to provide documentation of the project being completed by providing samples of educational materials that are produced, providing photographs of the completed project, and submitting a report to the MRHS Executive Committee. The local society must further agree to promote membership in and participation in the Midwest Regional Hosta Society by posting membership information about MRHS in the local newsletter and/or website.

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Educational Grant Application

Name of the AHS Display Garden: _____

Name of Sponsoring Local Society: _____

Contact person/title: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Local Society Website: _____

Date Received: _____

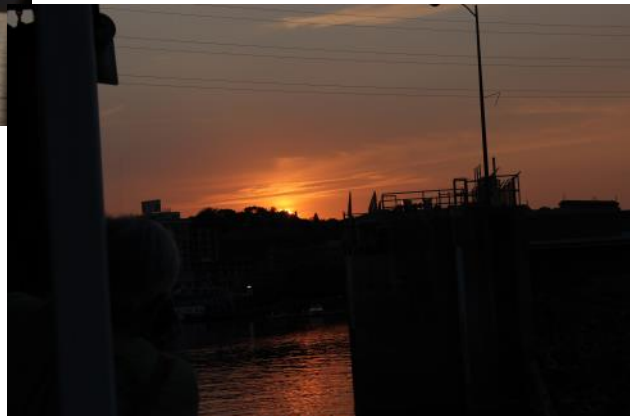
Date Approved/Disapproved: _____

Description of the proposed educational project for this AHS Display Garden: (use additional sheets if necessary to describe your proposed project)

Draft Educational Fund - September 18, 2015



Spirit of Dubuque



AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

We invite you to join over 3,000 other hosta enthusiasts as members of the American Hosta Society. Members receive two printed 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. Once each year members also receive access to *The Online Hosta Journal*. 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/>

Photos by Mary Vertz unless noted otherwise.

Advertise in the *Hosta Leaves*

Contact Mary Vertz for publishing deadlines and more details. (920) 336-7678 or mavertyz@gmail.com



H. 'Unruly Troll'

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"

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY
FALL 2015 NEWSLETTER

Barb Schroeder
1819 Coventry Dr.
Champaign, IL 61822
mrhs.hosta@gmail.com

Membership

Please check the expiration date on the label located above this notice. If it says “2015”, please send in your check to continue your membership. We would miss you. If the date is later, send in a check anyway *just in case*.

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 Conference each January in Schaumburg, Illinois. To join, or renew membership, please send a check for \$20 (ten dollars per year) to Barb Schroeder, 1819 Coventry Drive, Champaign, IL 61822.

Next summer’s convention will be held in Champaign, Il and in 2017 we’ll be in Kansas City, KC . Our conventions usually 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!