

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

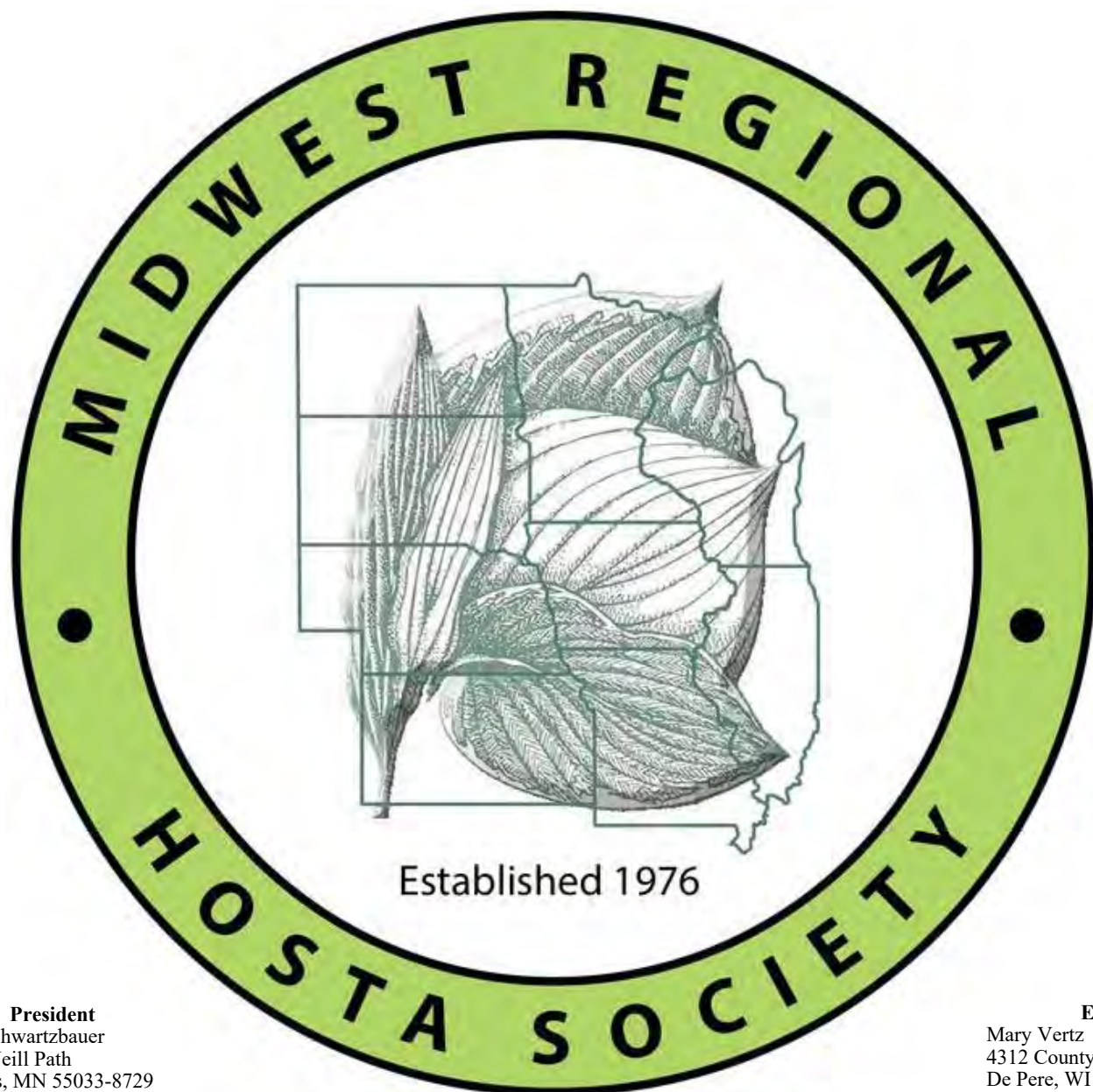
HOSTA LEAVES

ISSUE NUMBER 87

FALL 2019

GREEN BAY IN REVIEW

WINTER HOSTA SYMPOSIUM
LISLE, ILLINOIS "HOSTAS CHICAGO STYLE"



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MRHS President's Message

Fall, 2019

Welcome to old and new members alike! Hopefully you all had an enjoyable summer and you are now trying to finish up any tasks that weren't quite completed yet. Quick before the snow flies!

It seems like it was kind of a different summer this year. After the winter that wouldn't end, we all seemed eager for warm weather and some relaxing down time. Wrong!! The summer started out with a bang when we had our combined AHS and MRHS convention in Green Bay in June. Although the combined venue meant only one convention in our region, it seemed like an awful lot was packed into it. Perhaps it seemed that way for me because after the unexpected death of our AHS President and MRHS member, Gregg Peterson, this last winter, I took over his position until we could elect a new President at the convention. Everyone really pulled together and now we are back on track. Now everyone's attention seems to be focused on getting our gardening tasks completed so we can just 'enjoy' for a while.

We will be back to two conventions next year- AHS in Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 11-13 and MRHS in Lisle/Naperville (Chicago), Illinois, July 16-18. Some of you will need to decide which one to attend, but I hope you choose both since they are both close by, in our region, and both have reputations of putting on stellar conventions!

But before that I hope you plan to attend our returning Winter Symposium on February 1 in Brookfield/Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I know you all are a little tired now, but we all know that we'll be itching for anything garden/hosta come February!

Jack Barta is again planning this event for us so it should prove to be a good time. We'll have speakers and a seed sale as usual, but I am also hoping to come up with some evening activities for those who travel from a bit further away and spend a night or two. A registration form can be found on the MRHS website.

I would like each of you to put your thinking caps on and come up with some ideas of where you want this society to go moving forward, how you would like some of our funds spent (we have a large balance right now and our mission is to promote the genus, educate, research, etc.), and how to increase our membership. Please share these thoughts with me or any board member. We thank you for that.

My mulch has all been spread, the hosta's all planted and now I've moved on to planting some peonies. Still a couple dozen to get in but then maybe, MAYBE, it will be time to relax!

Hope to see you all at our upcoming events!

Mary Schwartzbauer
MRHS President
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Who is Mary Schwartzbauer?

We moved in 1986 from a basically no tree, sunny 90'x120' lot to a 5-acre, sun in the front, fully treed (read shady) back property. Until that point my gardening experience was limited to a few vegetables and the occasional meatball shrub next to the house.

When I would drive our older son to school, I would pass this house that really had no grass and was a paradise filled with lilies, and other plants of which I had no idea. One day I saw the woman of the house outside and stopped to compliment her on her efforts. A lifelong love of hostas and gardening was born.

The woman was Lillian Maroushek and her husband was very ill. He died a few months later. I ended up helping her in her garden and since she didn't drive, became her chauffeur of sorts. My payment for these services was in plants. She was kind of known at the time as the lily lady, but I quickly came to realize that she was as much the hosta and clematis, and anything that grew lady too. Since my back was shady, these hostas were a perfect match.

Over the years my passion for hostas grew and grew as did it for lilies, especially martagons (they grow in the shade), and peonies. Most plants, really.

Several decades have gone by since that fateful day, and I sometimes feel that I am on the back end of my passion- I've created more beds than I probably should have over the years, and it seems it takes me longer to accomplish any of the many tasks gardening imposes. I literally have over 2000 varieties of hostas, a few hundred each of lilies and peonies, as well as grasses, irises, magnolias, and other assorted perennials. It is a lot to care for.

This love of plants also led to the thirst for knowledge about them. That in turn led to joining societies and groups associated with them. That in turn led to wanting more involvement. I have, over the years been a member in most, and an officer in many.

From my local garden club to the state horticulture society, rock garden society, lily society, day lily society, peony society, master gardener and more, my interest continues.

That brings me to today and my current office as President of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society! So please introduce yourself and if you have any particular ideas or concerns, share them with me. I know all too well the desire and passion you feel towards your plants and want to help make your journey as enjoyable and heart-filling as mine has been.

Mary



Come, sit a spell . .



... enjoy a review of the 2019 AHS convention Green Bay.



Youngest Attendee

Wednesday Evening Pig Roast

Rain, rain, everywhere! Though the rain prevented watching the pig being roasted, it did not prevent people from enjoying a great meal and a stroll through the Green Bay Botanical Gardens.



H. 'Earth Angel'

Tammy & Paul Borden's Garden

By Betsy Rogers

(Photos too)

It was raining, big, sloppy glops of rain as my husband and I walked up the driveway to visit Tammy and Paul's lovely home and garden. Beautiful ribbons of yellow and green and blue Hosta and shade companion plants glowed in the wet front yard. Hostaphiles in raincoats huddled under bright umbrellas and strolled the yard, digging out their cameras for brief moments



as they took pictures of the beautiful plants and garden art along the way. And if you listened, there was a whispered breeze rustling through the trees, intensifying the sound of the rain and the call of the birds. I felt like I was a participant in Monet's painting, "A Walk in the Park."



Tammy and Paul live on a big, multi-acre lot that includes a football-field sized forest. The pristine forest provides a backdrop for many of the garden beds that back up to it. In those beds carefully chosen and placed plants create a natural look and feel. Boulders of glacial stones edge some of the beds. In others, wood art or containers made of wood blended with the forest and created the natural look that Tammy strives for.



In some areas of the garden, Tammy said she has trees that she has trouble planting hostas under. There she has resorted to container gardening to provide interest. Big, hosta-filled containers line the side of the house and add interest in a hard-to-grow-in space. In another bed, blue containers with hosta add color and texture to another area.

There are so many things I love about this garden including the beautifully grown hosta, my favorite being - H. 'Liberty', the splashes of color from the yard art juxtaposed against the green, blue and gold of the hosta beds, and the interesting companion plants. Though probably not the most interesting for some, I particularly liked the purple iris blooming in the front bed because I am very fond of purple and blue in a garden setting. The addition of small tree interest provided by the yellow Japanese maple also added texture to another area.

Thanks Tammy and Paul. We so enjoyed walking in your spectacular garden. And the rain even added to its mystique.



The Peterson Cheesehead Garden

By Marjie Morris & Jacquelyn Geisel

(photos by Mary Vertz, unless noted otherwise)

We arrived to see colorful umbrellas dotting an appealing long path through tall pine trees and bordered by glorious well identified hostas.



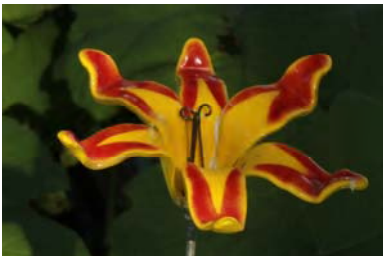
Rick Schroeder



Rick Schroeder



We noticed H. 'Humpback Whale' with its own blue glass fish label. The glass accents were creative, colorful and flowed throughout the garden. Guests enjoyed being able to buy a piece of glass for their own gardens.



Rick Schroeder

We could image enjoyable evening fires on the patio by the firepit. There were large and smaller hostas bordering this area as well. H. 'Zeppelin' and H. 'Chief Sitting Bull' were especially memorable. Special perennials were scattered through the hosta beds adding color and interest. This hilltop garden was truly a delight.

The AHS convention attendees thank Jen and Cory Peterson for their hospitality.



Rick Schroeder



Photos on this page by Mary Vertz



Gina & Max Burgert's Garden

By Marjie Morris & Jacquelyn Geisel

(photos by Rick Schroeder)

We exited our bus into a wonderful garden with a collection of 700 hostas, just as the cold rain began. Umbrellas went up and inspection and photos of the large and well-marked hostas in the front yard commenced. H. 'Silver Tongued Devil' was admired among others.



Attendees were drawn to the serene and gorgeous koi pond in the front yard to see the waterfall, lily pads and fish. We enjoyed the garden around the pond which included some lovely blooming iris and an unusual Begonia called "Escargot".



Continuing around the house, past the fun gecko and iguana sculptures, we found a small path with a bench which was the perfect spot to rest or take a photo. On the way back to the bus we enjoyed the gardens on the side of the house which included a beautiful H. 'Barbara Ann'. Many thanks from the busloads of AHS convention attendees for Gina and Max's hospitality.





Photos on this page by Mary Vertz



Audrey & Jim Temmer's Garden

By Nancy Huck

(photos too, unless noted otherwise)

On a cul-de-sac in Appleton an absolutely gorgeous garden begins in the front yard. A curved bed of trees, hostas, and other perennials is edged with H. 'Curly Fries'.



There are 1,100 hostas throughout their property. Many shade and ornamental trees are perfect for casting dappled shade for the hostas to flourish. And flourish they do! Quite a sight to see such large specimen plants .



Terraces off the back of their home make for a peaceful setting. There are also many other types of perennials, hydrangeas, and vines. Annuals in decorative pots provide a splash of color. Every inch of the garden is tended by both Audrey and Jim—Audrey does the plantings and Jim the lawn. Many of the convention attendees agreed that their garden was the best one of all 10.



At the convention auction, Mark Zilis was describing H. 'Golden Meadows' and mentioned that he saw a beautiful specimen of it at one of the convention gardens. I agree, as I had noticed it as well. It was in the Temmer's garden. I now have H. 'Golden Meadows' in my garden, but it will need lots of time to measure up to the Temmer's.

Rick & Jill Dowland's Garden

By Karen and Chas Wagner

(photos by Rick Schroeder)

I was one of the last visitors off the bus and as I approach the 'refreshment' tent there was a young lady with Kylea on her name tag. She informed me she was the Dowland's daughter and the land had been in the family several generations on her mother's side of the family. The farmhouse to the right was her grandfather's, who had passed a couple years before, and Kylea had recently purchased it and the barn.



As I made my way through the garden, one could see that land was purchased in stages - the garden directly behind the home, then the addition between the house and the barn, then behind the church parking lot, etc.



Returning to the refreshment tent there was a young man standing there. Rocky! It makes sense now. Rocky and Kylea are being married on October 12th in the church just a couple doors away and had made a deal with Grandpa before he died to continue living on the generational family property and start a new life together - gardening, raising chickens, fixing the barn - maintaining life in small town middle America. Best Wishes!!



Photos on this page by Mary Vertz



Dennis & Amy Russell's Garden

By Ron Asselborn

(photos too)

As you drive down the charming tree-lined suburban street the Russell's garden literally jumps out from the mostly well-tended lawns. The front of their 2-story colonial is surrounded by lushly planted garden beds filled with a variety of trees, shrubs, hostas and heucheras. The cocoa bean mulch aroma makes you crave for a chocolate cookie, which they provided. This ¼ acre Eden is Dennis' passion since he retired as a city planner. The garden has also been a family affair with important contributions from Amy and their kids including fence-building and bricklaying.



Dennis is most proud of his garden shed, a picturesque structure that is both attractive and functional, tucked into a corner of the backyard.



Dennis is both the garden designer and plant installer. He has chosen the plants including the blooming lilac standards & hostas in pots. His favorite hosta is H. 'Jerry Landwehr', named after a local landscaper and Jerry's mentor.

Amy has collaborated on design and enthusiastically embraces maintenance weeding as Zen therapy. She loves to invite friends and neighbors to enjoy their retreat and share the tranquility. Amy's favorite space is their "Memorial Garden" on the side near the Asian-style fence & gate. The area is dedicated to memories of her mom and family. Her fav hostas include H. 'Liberty' and H. 'Marilyn Monroe'.

Son Garrett, with a twinkle in his eye, relates the family's attention to detail with his recent cleaning the roof of the billions of silver maple seeds just prior to the tour. He also smiles when recounting Amy's slug-hunting adventures in the back yard at midnight using a miner's helmet.

Together the Russell family have created and enjoy a gorgeous retreat that nourishes both body and soul.





Photos on this page by Rick Schroeder



Herb & Gladie King's Garden

By Mary Ann Brucher

(photos too)

When arriving at the Herb and Gladie King garden, you are greeted with a spectacular panorama of beautiful hostas surrounded by many complimentary green plants and many colorful flowers dotted throughout the scene.



I had my picture taken with our host, Herb King. He was talking with many of the visitors telling them stories about the garden.



The pictures tell the story of this beautiful garden. The backyard greeted guests with a lovely oriental touch in the garden. A gazebo with a dragon perched on top of it, a lovely arched bridge to cross, also add a touch of the oriental.



Many potted plants in interesting containers, water features, a babbling stream and fountain make the garden inviting and restful. Many small Ginkgo trees in pots and in the ground are accent plants among the Hostas.



Garden statuary is dotted throughout the garden. They are specifically placed to accent plants and be enjoyed by the visitors.



An overlook of the garden is possible by the elevated porch on the back of the house, a beautiful scene. This garden has over 400 named hostas and many more still under evaluation. Herb and Gladie are "Hooked on Hostas" and enjoying every minute and the amazing garden shows it.

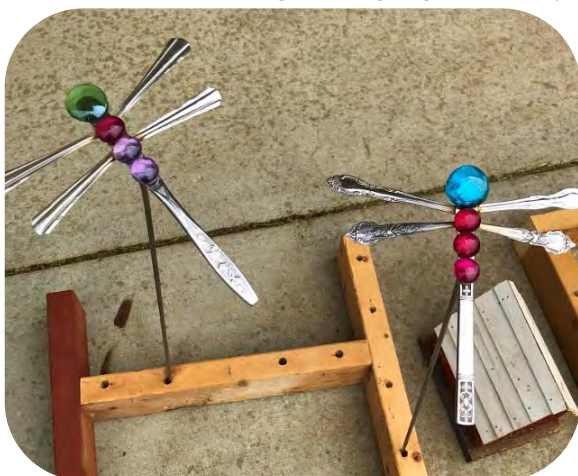


Barb & Bob Klika's Garden

By June Vandervest

(photos too)

The moment you step onto the Klika's property you are treated like an old friend of the family. Barb Klika welcomed you and wanted to know what she could get you to drink. You were asked to sign their guest book and if your name was on the lucky line, you got to select one of Bob's free creations. In his spare time Bob welds insects and flowers from tableware and turns them into garden art. I could easily see the things that inspired his teaspoon and fork renditions growing right nearby.



The Klika's have managed to find inspiration from the fond memories of their daughter Molly. You can see their love in garden quotes and the selection of named plants like H. 'Golden Prayer', H. 'Snow Angel' and many others.



From tiny hidden vignettes to bold dancing water features, I was impressed by the vast scope of their collections. Their passion for hostas was the reason for our visit, but that of their heuchera, daylilies and asiatic lilies was an added benefit.



Bob's bed of seedling daylilies shows that he's a serious hybridizer. I would love to come back in July when they are all in bloom.

The Klika gardens were not only a feast for the eyes, but the other senses too. The sound of the little stream, the birds and the fantastic smell of their Miss Kim Lilac tree was the icing on the cake to a wonderful garden walk.



Carl and Karen Vanden Heuvel's Garden

By Kyle Gigot

(photos by Rick Schroeder, unless noted otherwise)

One of our Saturday tour stops was the home and garden of Carl and Karen Vanden Heuvel. To describe this only as a garden and Carl and Karen only as gardeners does not do either justice. It was a combination of plants, art, architecture, and artisanship with large doses of imagination and engineering added in.

Have you ever seen an outdoor bathroom made of concrete reinforcing wire and field stones? They have one. And it has a sink and flush toilet.

How about a rubble-stone foundation of a round barn? It was hand laid by Carl. The round stained glass window was one of several hand made by Karen. We saw a court yard with a domed metal pergola. Carl was taught metal craft by his father.



Did I mention the pond? It was filled with water plants (and frogs) and edged with deciduous shrubs, dwarf and full sized conifers, hostas, succulents, and annuals raised from seed. It was created by digging a fifty foot wide hole and lining it with about 75 tons of 500 pound stones. But before doing the construction Carl turned scrap parts into a trailer with a winch to lift the stones.



The primary hosta garden was enclosed by a stone fence hauled one trunk load at a time by Carl on his commute home from work. The hostas were viewed from a meandering path that showcased more of our host's artwork and included interesting views of more metal sculptures, a stone pyramid, and in a tribute to the property's history as Karen's family farm, a chicken yard.



The Vanden Heuvels regularly host bus tours and are frequently visited by wedding parties, using the grounds for photos. We thank them for their hospitality.



Mary & Terry Vertz's Garden

By Erin Stewart

(photos by Rick Schroeder,

A short trip through the quiet countryside of Wisconsin is required to reach the garden of Terry and Mary Vertz. Once there, an army of hostas salute incoming visitors, ushering them from the country road into the whimsical and yet serene gardens. A Cheesehead eagle statue is the first clue of the sense of humor Mary and Terry have sprinkled into their massive hosta collection. Once one finally parks and opens the car door, Jazz music drifts over giant clumps of hostas and pulls your attention into the heart of the garden.



A full frog jazz ensemble is found beside the prized limestone bench Terry and Mary Vertz received from their children on their 35th wedding anniversary, and one may be even tempted to sit down and enjoy the music, if not so many other details of the garden beg for attention. Nearby, perhaps one of the most fascinating pieces of garden art reminds one of a planetarium, but instead of the inspection of

other worlds, we are invited to gaze at our own. A kaleidoscope turns a spinning hosta and perennial container garden into a whirl of pattern, color, and light.



As you travel around from the side to the back of the house, large clumps of hostas invoke hosta-envy. A H. 'Backyard Monster' is more endearing than petrifying with its giant, heart-shaped leaves, massive clump, and yellow margins. A nearby H. 'Jabulani' competes for attention. Deep, cupped and puckered leaves also boast a dark green margin that creates an impressive clump. A fantastic 'Hideout' taunts any visitor from below the Mason Dixon line with its white centers

devoid of burn or melting. And finally a large clump of H. 'Tidewater' is a show stopper as the ruffled leaves cascade towards the ground, living up to its name. Humorous gar-

den art keeps visitors chuckling as they meander through the clumps of hostas, while the joy is in discovering them tucked into the corners of the garden, some



of the favorites included a bicycling cow planter, Green Bay Packer-themed decor, and a sign with a stern warning: "Frog parking. All others will be toad."

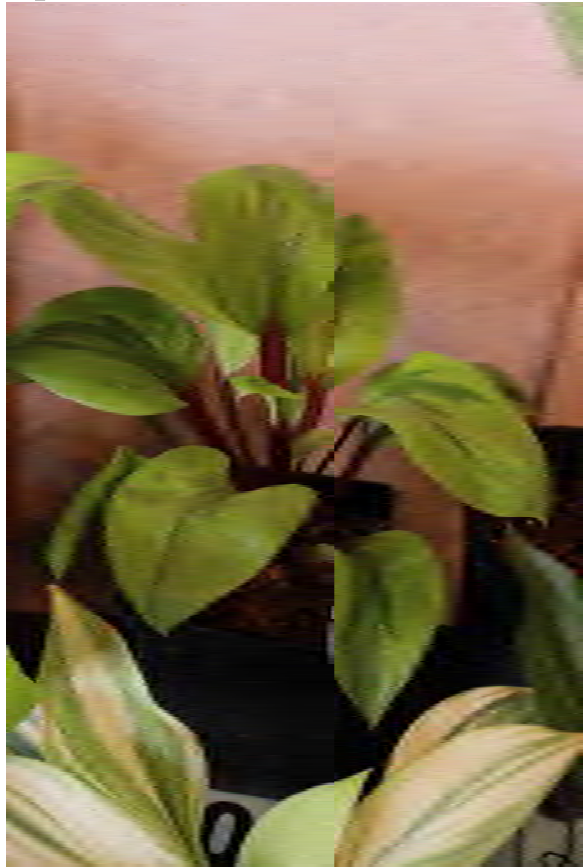


After traveling around the back of the house towards the side, one is enchanted by the angel garden. Created in honor of Mary's mother who gave her a love of gardening, the whimsical atmosphere fades to serene as stone angels linger among the hostas and lupines to pray, meditate, or comfort passing guests. Composed lavender, pink, and fuschia lupines ascend heavenward between earth-bound clumps of hostas. The garden rests in front of an unplowed hay field causing viewers to wonder if perhaps angels really do frolic here in the early morning dawn. Pink peonies draw the eyes and curiosity back towards the driveway.



Completing a full circle, one realizes that an hour truly doesn't do the garden enough justice to explore the creativity and thoughtfulness of Terry and Mary. After a short discussion with Mary, I learn that she doesn't have an affinity towards any particular hosta bed, but rather she loves them all. She is equally impartial to picking a favorite hosta, but if pressed she particularly likes her H. 'Ebb Tide', H. 'Wave Runner', H. 'Backyard Monster', H. 'Niagara Falls', H. 'Dancing Queen', and H. 'War Paint'. And in the true spirit of hostas, I leave the garden with a hug from Mary and the famous last words of any hosta collector, "I never met a hosta I didn't like."

Seedling Competition



Seminar Speakers

Don Dean

Kathy Baun

Shane Wagner

Keynote Speaker

Rick Goodenough

Hosta Show....





As we put our hostas to bed for the winter and sit to reminisce about the 2019 convention...



...Make plans to attend the return of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention in Lisle, IL. Check the Midwest Hosta Society Website for details.

HOSTAS



CHICAGO STYLE

Upcoming Hosta Society Conventions

Midwest Hosta Society

2020 Hosted by Northern Illinois Hosta Society

Looking for a host for the 2021 Convention. If interested Please contact a board member.

American Hosta Society

2020 Rochester, Minnesota

2021 - Kalamazoo, MI

Don't forget to get your winter "Hosta Fix" at the 2020 Winter Symposium!

**MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY
2020 WINTER HOSTA SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FORM**

Saturday, February 1, 2020 - Sheraton Milwaukee-Brookfield Hotel

Hotel Rate: \$105 single, \$10 each additional occupancy + tax (includes breakfast for registered hotel guests).

Deadline for hotel reservation is 1/17/2020

The Winter Hosta Symposium meeting will be held at the Sheraton Hotel. The Meeting will be from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Conference check-in is Friday afternoon from 4 to 6 PM, and Saturday morning from 7 to 8 AM.

Hospitality will be on Friday and Saturday Nights at the Sheraton Hotel.

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 household are also MRHS members.

NAME _____ MRHS member Non-MRHS member
ADDRESS _____ If a non-MRHS member,
CITY _____ your \$10 surcharge will be applied to a
STATE/ZIP _____ 1-year membership in the MRHS.
PHONE _____
EMAIL ADDRESS _____
FAMILY MEMBER(S) ATTENDING _____

Sheraton Milwaukee-Brookfield Hotel - Registrations postmarked after January 17, 2020 require a \$10 late registration fee per person. Cancellations before January 5, 2020 will be sent a full refund. We will be unable to issue refunds after January 17, 2020. (Except for medical emergencies or death in family)

Number of members _____ X \$59 = _____
Number of non-members _____ X \$69 = _____
Number of late registrations _____ X \$10 = _____
TOTAL _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MRHS

Mail your registration form and check to:
Dave Collura, 13600 W. Graham St., New Berlin, WI 53151-2572

Questions about registration? Contact Jack Barta (jbarta@wi.rr.com) (262) 375-0617

Sheraton Milwaukee-Brookfield Hotel - 375 S. Moorland Rd, Brookfield, WI 53005 (262) 364-1100
Mention Winter Hosta Symposium Meeting for this rate. Rate is guaranteed through Jan. 17, 2020.

Confessions of a 'Seed-a-holic'

By Mary Vertz

It all started so innocently a few years ago (well maybe more than a few years ago). I've always enjoyed starting flowers from seed - there is something special about watching that tiny plant emerge and grow in the dead of winter. So why not collect hosta seeds from some of my interesting hostas?

The first year I cut off a couple of scapes of dried seed heads from H.'Revolution'; put them in labeled paper lunch bag; and placed them on my potting bench in the shed. It gets cold on that side of the shed, so this would emulate Mother Nature and provide a period of cold for the seeds. Plus after fall comes Christmas, so I wouldn't have time to plant them until the new year and they were out of the way there. I was excited when the small seedlings emerged – most of them had streaking on their tiny leaves. Then I slowly killed them all by using softened water to water them. I knew you shouldn't use softened water, but it didn't dawn on me until after they were all deceased that I was using softened water. Now I had to wait a whole year to try again!

Next year, I collected even more seeds using the same routine. Cut the seed laden scapes and stored them in paper lunch bags which I placed in a shopping bag on my potting bench until I had time to plant them. This time I did not kill them off with softened water! I had many survivors but alas none were streaked like my first hosta babies. Most were 'greenies' but there were a few 'goldies'. When spring came, they were all planted in one of my raised beds. Then I waited to see how my hosta babies would turn out. Did I mention it takes a few years before 'greenies' and 'goldies' grow up enough to know if they will be more than just ordinary?

While waiting for my first (or is it second) hosta babies to grow up, I continued to collect seeds each fall and plant them in late winter. My collection of hosta babies 'in waiting' continued to grow! But where to plant them all? Only had two raised beds and one was already full of hosta babies 'in waiting' and the other one was in use. So I started placing flats of hosta babies on the ground near the raised bed and threw garden ground on top of them. They did survive!

Meanwhile, my early hosta babies grew up and it was time to move them out of their first home. But what to do with them all? I selected a few that were unique (yes only a 'few' unique ones) and found new homes for them in my gardens. The rest? I couldn't throw them out – they were my babies! So they were dug and placed in plastic bags. Now to find them new homes. I found a few kind souls to take them off my hands. A trailer load (yes, a trailer load) went North to a friend's house and further North to their cottage – a few deer have loved them but sounds like most are doing well. Some made their way to a neighbor's house to rest in her garden along a stream. What hosta doesn't like being near water? One lonely baby never found a new home but still survives to this day in its bag under the trees behind our Packer Band stage. It managed to plant its roots into the ground right through the plastic bag which is still very visible.

Now what to do with the growing number of flats of hosta babies. H'mmm the

golf course has a lot of shade, maybe they might want them. I can't just throw them out! They are my hosta babies. Good news, yes, they will take the 5 to 6 trays I have. We started loading them up in the truck - #5 and #6 went but there were still more! We loaded up a total of 13 flats of hosta babies (well most weren't babies anymore). What a relief, they took them all. Now they are teased that it should be called "Hosta Haven" instead of "Hilly Haven".

Time to cut back on the number of hostas I collect seed from, so I laid low for a few years and was more selective of the hostas I collected from. After a few years of scaling back on seed collection, I have ramped it up again. After all I have added some very unique hostas to my collection so have many streaked parents to collect from and the seedling exchange to acquire other unique seeds. I still use paper lunch bags when collecting but no longer simply cut off all of the seed laden scapes – I didn't need to plant every seed and they were too messy to clean in the dead of winter. Now I either shake off a 'few' seeds from open seed pods or strip a 'few' unopened seed pods into my bag. By the time I'm ready to plant them, the unopened seeds pods have popped open and the seeds are easy to separate from their pods with minimal mess. No longer are all the seeds planted, nor are all the hosta babies transplanted. I look for streaking and unique shape or coloring in the babies I select to transplant and grow on. Though I still find it hard to simply throw out those that don't make the cut. Maybe I'll just throw a little garden ground on them and see how they do.



H. 'First Blush'



H. 'Crazy Hazy'



MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES 13 June 2019

President Barry Ankney called the meeting to order at 8:02 pm.

Secretary

Secretary Holly O'Donnell announced a correction to the minutes from last year's meeting. The winner of the Hosta Show Sweepstakes was incorrectly tabulated. The winner was actually Dawn Geske.

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the 14 July 2018 membership meeting – Cindy Tomashek, Second – Barb Schroeder.
Motion approved.

Motion to accept the minutes as amended – Tom Micheletti, Second – Don Dean.
Motion approved.

Treasurer

Motion to accept the 2020 budget as published in the newsletter – Tom Micheletti, Second – Cindy Tomashek.
Motion approved.

By-Law Changes

The position of Treasurer and Membership Chair were previously combined. In order to make them separate positions the by-laws need to be amended as discussed in the newsletter.

Motion to accept the proposed changes as published in the newsletter – Sandy Klausman, Second – Mary Vertz.
Motion approved.

Election of Officers

The slate of officers as published in the Spring Newsletter are:

President – Mary Schwartzbauer
Vice President – Pat Gwidt
Secretary – David Dettman
Region 5 Rep – Glenn Herold
Membership Chair – Kathy Rustad
Treasurer – Mona Keehn
Newsletter Editor – Mary Vertz
Director at Large – Mark Rekoske

Webmaster – Barry Ankney
Immediate Past President – Barry Ankney
(Barry has one vote though 2 positions)
No nominations were made from the floor.

Motion to accept the nominated slate of officers – Sandy Klausman, Second
– Rick Schroeder.
Motion accepted.

Newsletter Editor

Mary Vertz appealed to members to write a narrative or make a pictorial description of the gardens on the garden walk for the newsletter. Mary's garden is on the garden walk and she will not be able to tour any of the gardens.

MRHS Logo redo

Danny Lawson from the Wichita club is doing a mock-up of a new round logo for MRHS. His club has also offered to donate the decals for cars.

Membership

Barb announced that every attendee that is currently a MRHS member will receive a 1 year membership free. Non-members that want to join and do so at this convention will receive 2 years membership for the price of one.

Winter Symposium

The Winter Symposium will be held next year around 1 February at the same venue as last year. Glenn Herold and Jack Barta are co-chairs again next year.

Motion to adjourn – Tom Micheletti, Second – Cindy Tomashek.
Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by
Holly O'Donnell, Secretary



MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

13 June 2019

Call to Order – 8:35 am

Present: President – Barry Ankney, Treasurer – Mona Keehn, Secretary – Holly O'Donnell, Newsletter Editor – Mary Vertz, Membership Chair – Barb Schroeder, AHS Region 5 Liaison – Glenn Herold, Director at Large – Mark Rekoske, Immediate Past President – Cindy Tomashek.

Absent: Vice President – Barbara King.

Also attending are candidates for board positions that will be vacated this year: Mary Schwartzbauer, Pat Gwidt, David Dettman, Kathy Rustad

Officer Reports

Secretary

Correction of winner of the 2018 Leaf Show Sweepstakes Award will need to be announced at membership meeting before vote of accepting the minutes from 2018 membership meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes from the board meeting held at the Winter Symposium – Cindy, Second – Glenn.

Motion approved.

President

Discussion of repeating the Winter Symposium in 2020 in Wisconsin. Glenn suggested reducing the number of speakers from 6 to 5 to allow more time for questions.

Motion to having the Winter Symposium in 2020 – Holly, Second – Mary V.

Motion approved.

Vice President

Barbara was unable to attend this meeting but Barry attended a planning meeting for the NIHS Convention and reported the following details.

The 2020 MRHS Convention will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Lisle, Illinois. There currently are 7 gardens for the garden walk and trying to get 3 more. There will be 2 convention plants. A special event will be held on Thursday at Cantigny Park where the newest national display garden is located. A preliminary schedule has been created and more info will be on the website and in the fall newsletter.

Treasurer

Checking account balance: \$16,268.37

Savings account balance: \$57,022.76

Past President

Discussion of the lack of a host for 2021 MRHS Convention and possible suggestions of host clubs.

Region 5 Rep

MRHS Facebook group now has around 450 members. Glenn encouraged board members to join and to contribute info on the site.

Director at Large

No report.

Newsletter

October 1 deadline for articles and photos. Addresses and emails will be needed for new board members to be published in the newsletter.

Membership

There are currently 247 active members which is down from 262 in January.

13% of members are receiving newsletters by mail rather than email.

New Business

Danny Lawson from the Wichita Hosta Society has made two new proposals for the MRHS logo. His club has also offered to donate peel off decals of the logo to MRHS. The two designs were shown to the board and discussed.

Motion to accept the round design – Barb, Second – Mary V.

Motion approved.

Mary Schwartzbauer asked if MRHS would be willing to donate funds for the 2020 AHS Convention in Minneapolis in the form of a sponsorship of a night at the Hostality room. Discussion.

Motion for the MRHS to sponsor a night of hostality in the amount of \$1500 at the 2020 AHS convention – Cindy, Second – Barb.

Motion approved.

Motion to adjourn the meeting – Glenn, Second – Mary V.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 am

Submitted by

Holly O'Donnell, Secretary

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Actual versus Budget 1/1/2019- 10/19/2019					
ALL ACCOUNTS					
Category	2019 Actual	2019 Budget	Difference	2020 Approved Budget	Notes
Income:					
2019 Convention Auction	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	(\$2,500.00)	5,000.00	
Income-Interest	\$12.80	\$0.00	\$12.80	0.00	
Membership:	\$1,590.00	\$2,100.00	(\$510.00)	1,500.00	
Winter Symposium 2019	\$3,305.00	\$0.00	\$3,305.00	0.00	
Winter Symposium 2020	\$354.00	\$0.00	\$354.00	0.00	
2019 Seed Auction	\$519.97	\$0.00	\$519.97	0.00	
Subtotal	\$5,781.77	\$4,600.00	\$1,181.77	6,500.00	
Expense:					
Award-Montgomery	\$0.00	(\$100.00)	\$100.00	(100.00)	
Awards-AHS	\$0.00	(\$200.00)	\$200.00	(200.00)	
Grants-Display Gardens	(\$300.00)	(\$2,400.00)	\$2,100.00	(1,200.00)	
Liability Insurance	(\$461.00)	(\$452.00)	(\$9.00)	(454.00)	
Membership Expense	(\$291.45)	\$0.00	(\$291.45)	(200.00)	
Miscellaneous	(\$65.74)	(\$100.00)	\$34.26	(100.00)	
Newsletter	(\$311.40)	(\$750.00)	\$438.60	(750.00)	
Internet Site	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	
Winter Symposium 2019	(\$6,133.91)	\$0.00	(\$6,133.91)	0.00	
Winter Symposium 2020	(\$1,000.00)	\$0.00	(\$1,000.00)	(5,000.00)	
Convention 2019	(\$150.00)	\$0.00	(\$150.00)	0.00	Green and Gold
Convention 2020	(\$1,500.00)	\$0.00	(\$1,500.00)	0.00	
Subtotal	(\$8,563.50)	(\$4,002.00)	(\$4,561.50)	(\$8,004.00)	
Net Totals	(\$2,781.73)	\$598.00	(\$3,379.73)	(1,504.00)	
Account Balances:					
Checking	\$14,281.37				
Savings	\$57,028.42				
Total Assets	\$71,309.79				
	Respectfully submitted,				
	Mona Keehn				
	Treasurer				
	October 22, 2019				

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Educational Fund

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.

Educational Fund
September 18, 2015

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)

Educational Fund
September 18, 2015

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.

Join in the fun of creating the spring newsletter. Volunteer to be a Field Editor and provide an article for the Spring Newsletter. Contact Mary Vertz (920) 336-7678 or mavertyz@gmail.com

BIG thanks to our Field Editors for this edition — without you this newsletter would not be possible.

Advertise in the *Hosta Leaves*

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



H. 'War Paint'

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

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY
FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

Kathy Rustad
4011 10th Avenue NW
Rochester, MN 55901
kdrustad@gmail.com

Membership

Please check the expiration date on the label located above this notice. If it says "2019", 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 250 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 a one day Conference either in fall or January. To join, or renew membership, please send a check for \$20 (\$10 per year) to Kathy Rustad, 4011 10th Avenue NW Rochester, MN 55901 for email newsletters. \$30.00 (\$15 per year) for paper copy mailed newsletters.

Next summer's convention "**HOSTAS CHICAGO STYLE**" will be hosted by the Northern Illinois Hosta Society. Our conventions usually includes 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!