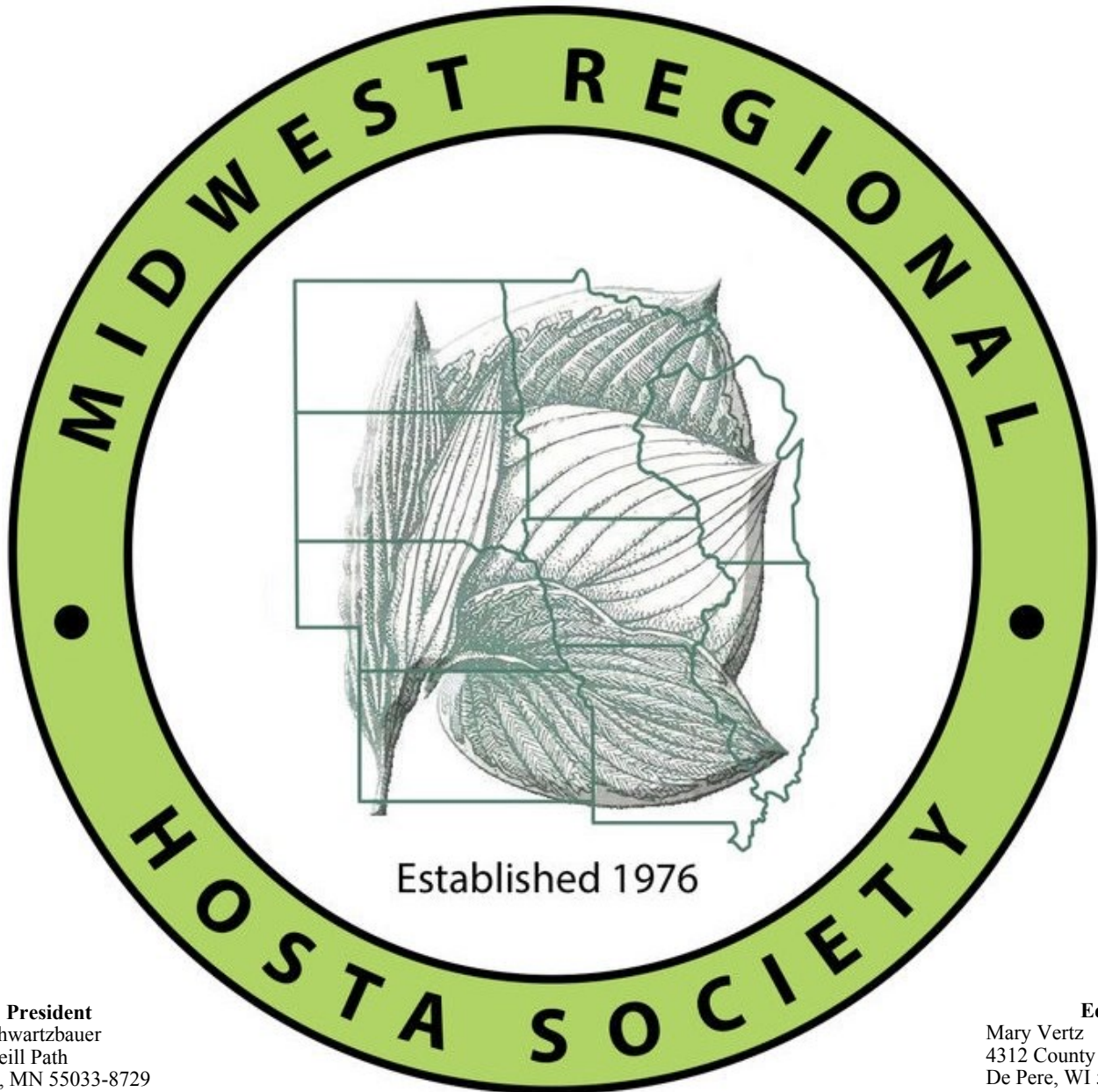


MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

HOSTA LEAVES

ISSUE NUMBER 89

FALL 2020



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MRHS President's Message

Fall, 2020

Greeting all. What a roller coaster of a year this has been! We started out okay with our winter symposium in February which again proved to be an event well planned by our own Jack Barta, and it looked like all were on board for a busy year ahead. Then things started to take a downward turn. COVID-19. Rumors started slowly, then started rumbling, the train had left the station and was barreling along to parts unknown. The American Hosta Society Convention that was planned for the Twin Cities area was moved to 2022 as Kalamazoo, Michigan's plans were well underway for 2021. That meant no national convention for 2020. Things didn't look like they were going to turn around, so we also had to postpone The Midwest Regional Convention until next year. Other societies and organizations were facing a similar scenario. In the end it seemed like not only were there basically no garden-related events to go to, there was nothing to go to - period!

Working from home, loss of jobs, gyms closed, school from home, meetings on zoom, grandma and grandpa on Skype, groceries delivered, eating at home, the list goes on and on! I've gotten pretty good at cutting my husband's hair, however!

Now it is October, and there are starting to be some questions about what's to come for next summer. Honestly, we don't know for sure at this point. The hotel where we have been meeting for our winter symposium lately has informed us that they will not be able to serve food and with social distancing as it currently is, a meeting of our size would not work anyway. Other facilities are in the same boat.

We are so grateful for our membership sticking by us in these unfortunate times, and we are looking at having a zoom event where you can get your hosta and gardening fix. We will keep you informed as that takes shape. AHS did one earlier this year and it was well received.

Also, your board has voted to extend everyone's membership by one year to make up for this 'lost year'. You don't have to do anything it will just happen! We hope that puts a smile on your face! We are also running a membership offer on Facebook which is 3 years for the price of 2. This is

primarily to attract new members. Tell your friends! To be clear, you can't sign up for the 3 year deal and then expect the free year as a member on top of that. Basically, it is one additional year per membership.

Currently, we are still on track to have our convention next summer. This year many hotels worked with groups by allowing them to move their events (mostly to the next year) without penalty, so we suffered no loss in that respect. Should groups need to postpone or cancel again it is unclear how generous they will be. We will have to wait and see. We also know many people may be hesitant to gather in groups, fly on an airplane, and so forth too soon. Again, we will be looking at ideas to bring you any experiences we can, but for now let's remain positive and hopeful that we'll be back on track by July!

What a downer of a President's Message! I wish it could be happier, but this is our current situation and it is hard. But as I write this, and I'm trying to think of something positive to say, I realize what a positive thing it is that so many have been trying so hard, working together, to put whatever we can together for you, our hosta friends. And I think of all the friends I've made over the 30+ years I've been involved in the hosta world, how many people I otherwise never would have met, life-long friendships that a been made, all the experiences I've had, all the laughter and tears and memories, knowledge I've gained and how much I've learned about myself. All of these riches, I cannot complain that this year has been different. I know some people have experienced tremendous loss during all of this. I hope this message finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. I am blessed and I hope all of you are too.

Mary Schwartzbauer
MRHS President
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Hostas Are Amazing

By Mona Keehn

Every Spring we can't wait to get into the garden to see the hostas coming alive. We count the eyes on our purchases from the year before to see if they have increased, or check out the older ones as they come up as big fat "unicorn horns", as my five year old granddaughter described them. It is an exciting time!

Until we get that late Spring frost! I had friends who had experienced this in the past and I would sympathize with them, hearing how disappointed they were. Well, as with anything else, you don't truly understand until it happens to you.

This Spring started out like Summer. Very little rain and unusually warm temperatures. The hostas were coming up with some of them even starting to leaf out. Then we heard freezing temperatures were in the forecast. We covered a few things, but of course it is impossible to cover hundreds of hostas, so they were left to take what Mother Nature was about to unleash. Imagine the sinking feeling when we saw the thermometer at 24 degrees. And then a second night at 27 degrees.

The aftermath was pretty devastating. We estimated about 75 hostas were hit hard. The ones that were still pips weren't affected as much as the tender new leaves that had already unfurled.

As I told people about it, they were unsure how the damage should be handled. Some thought the whole hosta should be cut back, while others thought it would just die. Well, the task of taking care of it is not exactly pleasant. I decided to wait a few days before starting to remove the damaged leaves to give them a chance to dry a bit. The leaves are a lot like lettuce that has frozen – they become very limp, slimy and after some time, smelly. One thing I discovered is that a leaf that has not completely unfurled gets "stuck" because the damaged part dries and adheres so tightly that it can't unfurl. It took some time to get to all of them.

But much to my surprise, they looked pretty good. Many were much smaller because they lost so much, but we could still enjoy their beauty.

I took some pictures to show the before and after.



Sagae May 15th



Sagae June 1st

Sagae very thin at the bottom after cleanup.



Cloudburst May 15th



Cloudburst May 15th

So, if this ever happens to you, find a sympathetic friend, and then be assured that it all is not lost.

HOSTAS ARE AMAZING.

Hosta Associates

by Glenn Herold

Maidenhair Fern (*Adiantum pedatum*)

With over 1000 different plants in our garden, it is difficult for me to identify which is my favorite. For my wife Terry, however, the choice is easy: it's Maidenhair Fern, also called Five-finger fern. Maidenhair Fern is one of the most cold hardy ferns of the genus *Adiantum*. Though members of this genus are typically found in tropical regions of the world, this species is found in damp, shady woods of Eastern North America and Asia, including all of Wisconsin. Though it prefers part shade or even shade and moderately moist soil, it can grow in full sun if moisture is adequate and thrives on limestone.

The genus *Adiantum* comes from the Greek word *adiantos*, meaning unwetted, and refers to a characteristic exhibited by the water repellent medium-green foliage. Young fiddleheads, known as crosiers, emerge pink to wine red. The frilly fronds divide into finger-like projections, resulting in a fan-like appearance. The reddish-brown to black wiry stems are typical of the genus. Terry refers to them as black stiletto heels. The plant will spread slowly by creeping rhizomes to form a tight colony. It is a graceful looking plant with lacy foliage.

Though slow to emerge in the spring, Maidenhair Fern is easy to grow, given filtered sunlight and moist soil. Grow it with hostas, *Brunnera*, *Astilbe*, *Heuchera*, and wildflowers such as spring beauty, toothwort, Virginia bluebells, and *Trillium*. Perhaps it will become a favorite of yours as well.

Maidenhair Fern is only one of 29 different ferns that we grow in our garden. These are some of my other favorites and good performers:

Athyrium filix-femina 'Lady in Red'

Athyrium filix femina 'Victoriae'

Athyrium nipponicum 'Apple Court'

Athyrium olophorum

Athyrium 'Branford Beauty'

Athyrium 'Ghost'

Dryopteris affinis 'Stableri'

Dryopteris filix-mas

Dryopteris filix-mas 'Parsley'

Osmunda cinnamomea

Osmunda regalis

In an informal survey of hosta society members that I did a few years ago, ferns were listed as the #1 companion plant for hostas. The textural contrast that they present make them ideally suited for showing off our favorite genus. Whenever I find a fern in a garden center that I don't have, I tend to buy it and try it out. Rarely am I disappointed. If you have a favorite, drop me a line at Glenn.herold50@gmail.com.



Glenn Herold

Adiantum pedatum (Maidenhair Fern)



Glenn Herold

Athyrium filix-femina 'Lady in Red'



Glenn Herold

Athyrium filix-femina 'Victoriae'



Glenn Herold

Athyrium 'Ghost'



Glenn Herold

Athyrium nipponicum 'Apple Court'



Glenn Herold

Dryopteris affinis 'Stableri'



Glenn Herold

Osmunda cinnamomea (Cinnamon Fern)



Glenn Herold

Osmunda regalis (Regal Fern)

Call for Nominations

Midwest Regional Hosta Society President, Vice President, Secretary and Regional Director positions are up for election in 2021. Our current President (Mary Schwartzbauer), Vice President (Pat Gwidt) and Secretary (David Dettmann) are only in their first term, so according to the by-laws are eligible to be elected to another two year term. Regional Director Glenn Herold is in his second consecutive term, so is not eligible for re-election in 2021. Board member job descriptions are in the Midwest Regional Hosta Society By-laws, which are available from the 'Members Only' page of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society web site :

<http://www.midwesthostasociety.org/>

Password for the 'Members Only' page was in the 2020 Spring newsletter.

If you know of anyone interested in serving on the board please let one of the board members know. Their emails can be found on the front of this newsletter. At their January/February meeting, the board will determine the nominating committee to present nominations at the 2021 Members Meeting.

Hosta Associates

by Glenn Herold

Leopard Plants (*Ligularia* species)

One of the most difficult sites for plants to thrive in the garden is that which is shady and constantly damp. For this locale, plants of the genus *Ligularia*, as well as hostas, are perfectly adapted. Most of the 120 to 140 species of this genus are native to damp habitats of eastern Asia, with a few found in Europe. Half of the species are endemic to China.

Ligularia, commonly called Leopard Plant, is a member of the Asteraceae or Daisy Family. The compound flowers are yellow or orange with a brown or yellow center, but the foliage is usually considered more attractive than the flowers. Leaves are typically large, and if exposed to too much sun they will wilt. Recovery occurs during the night if soil moisture is adequate. If not, they will scorch. The ideal site would be one which gets afternoon shade and soil that maintains a moist root zone.

There are numerous species and cultivars of *Ligularia* that are garden worthy; I grow eight of them in my garden. Many are cultivars of the species *Ligularia dentata*. 'Desdemona' has leaves that emerge a purple-red and then change to green with a purple edge and back. Height is two to three feet.



Ligularia dentata 'Desdemona'
Glenn Herold

'Othello' is similar but with smaller flowers.



Ligularia dentata 'Othello'
Glenn Herold

'Britt-Marie Crawford' was found in the Scotland garden of Ms. Crawford as a sport of 'Othello.' Glossy leaves maintain a deep purple color all summer.



Ligularia dentata 'Britt-Marie Crawford'
Glenn Herold

'Pandora' could be considered a dwarf of 'Britt-Marie Crawford.' It tops out at about 16 inches.



Ligularia dentata 'Pandora'
Glenn Herold

'Osiris Fantaisie' is an unusual 24 inch hybrid plant. It has thick, leathery incised leaves which are dark green on the upper surface and burgundy below. It forms a dense, compact plant. In my garden it is thriving in full sun.



Ligularia dentata 'Osiris Fantaisie'
Glenn Herold

Several species of *Ligularia* also make excellent specimens. *Ligularia japonica* has large, deeply incised leaves. Foliage may reach a height of four feet, but flower spikes may tower to six feet. It is a very impressive plant.



Ligularia japonica
Glenn Herold

Ligularia przewalskii is also a large plant with deeply lobed leaves. The long stems are a purple-black color.



Ligularia przewalskii
Glenn Herold

Ligularia stenocephala is best known for the cultivar 'The Rocket' but I do not have that plant in my garden. Instead, I grow 'Little Rocket,' which at 20 inches is about half the size of its big brother.



Ligularia stenocephala
Glenn Herold

Ligularia is an excellent plant for rain gardens or that shady spot in your garden that never seems to dry out. In my garden I team it with hostas, *Rodgersia*, and *Osmunda claytonia*, the Interrupted Fern. The fine texture of the ferns contrasts nicely with the bold leaves of its companions. My only regret about *Ligularia* is that I don't have more ideal sites in which to grow it.



Ligularia dentata 'Fantaisie' Flowers
Glenn Herold



Ligularia japonica Flowers
Glenn Herold

Green & Gold Hosta Society of Northeastern WI Display Garden

By Mary Vertz

In 1997 the Green & Gold Hosta Society of Northeastern Wisconsin was established to bring together gardeners interested in the Genus Hosta. It is dedicated to educating its members on the use of hostas in various aspects of gardening and the sharing of ideas between its members.

As part of its mission, the society partnered with the Green Bay Botanical Garden to establish a hosta display garden. The Green & Gold Hosta Society's display garden is ideally located outside the entrance to the Green Bay Botanical's Visitor Center.

In 2010, the Green & Gold Hosta Society was proud to sponsor Green Bay Botanical Garden as an American Hosta Society Display Garden. A plaque designating its display status was dedicated in June of 2010.



In 2019 the Green & Gold Hosta Society was presented with the Green Bay Botanical Garden's 'Founder's Award' for their continued involvement with the Green Bay Botanical Garden.



A group of dedicated member volunteers maintain the display garden. They work to keep the garden in ‘tiptop’ shape and showcase the unlimited variety hostas offer for the shade garden. Under the leadership of Margaret Carriveau, they strive to provide an hosta educational experience for all visitors by displaying hostas in various sizes and shapes alongside a variety of companion plants.



MJ Kapla and Margaret Carriveau

As part of that mission, they applied for and received funds from the Midwest Regional Hosta Society Educational Fund. The funds were used to expand the Green & Gold Society’s display garden to include a section highlighting Wisconsin Hosta Hybridizers. So far, they have added hostas hybridized by Eunice Fisher and are looking forward to showcasing the hostas of other Wisconsin Hosta Hybridizers.



Has your local club received funds from the Midwest Regional Educational Fund. If so, please write an article on how they used the funds. Submit the article with pictures to maverty@gmail.com.

Is your local club interested in receiving funds from the Midwest Regional Education Fund? Rules and the application are included in this newsletter and will be included in future newsletters too.

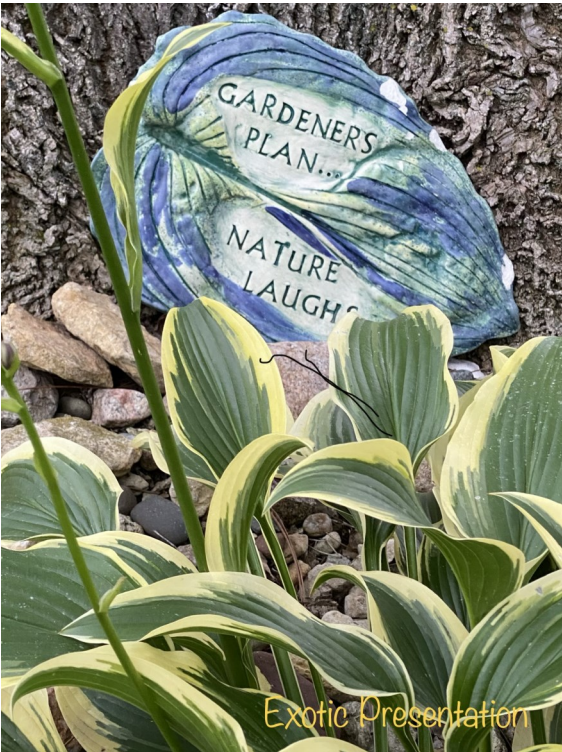
Green & Gold Hosta Display Gardens At Green Bay Botanical Garden



Members' Gardens

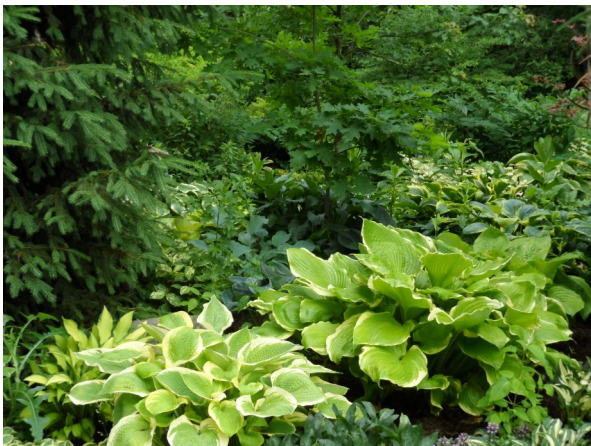
Since there are no convention activities to highlight, I solicited board members for pictures of their gardens. Enjoy a peak at some of their gardens.

Kathy Rustad



Mark Rekoske





Mona Keehn



Mona's son Al with *h.* 'Gitchigumi'



h. 'Liberty'



Glenn Herold



h. 'Praying Hands'



h. 'Brass Ring'

Mary Vertz



h. 'Much Appreciated'



h. 'Tickle Me Pink'



h. 'The King'



h. 'The Queen'



h. 'UFO'



h. 'Urban Cowboy'



Primrose



Rudbeckia



h. 'Much Appreciated'



Fall Colors

Though it is sad to see our beautiful hostas and flowers go to sleep for the winter, some put on a wonderful show of fall colors. Hope you were enjoyed their fall show as much as I enjoyed them.

Have a safe and restful winter,
Mary Vertz, Editor



h. 'Afternoon Delight'



Balloon Flower



h. 'Kabuki'



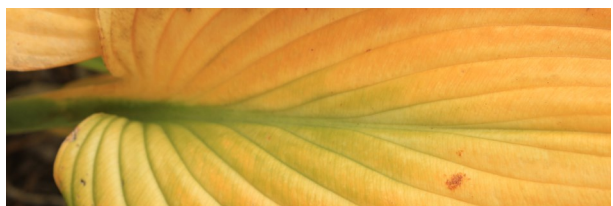
h. 'Urban Cowboy'



h. 'Jabulani'



Bloodroot





As we put our hostas to bed for the winter and wish for 2020 to be behind us...



...Make plans to follow the path to Lisle, IL for the return of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention.

Check the Midwest Hosta Society Website for details.



Upcoming Hosta Society Conventions

Midwest Hosta Society

2021 Lisle, IL Hosted by Northern Illinois Hosta Society July 8-10, 2021

2022 Fond du Lac, WI

2023 Rochester, MN

American Hosta Society

2021 Kalamazoo, MI

2022 Minneapolis, MN

2023 Ames, IA

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTRONIC MEETING MINUTES

July 22, 2020

Call to Order-4:24 PM by President Mary Schwartzbauer.

Present: President Mary Schwartzbauer, Vice President Pat Gwidt (by phone audio & pc video), Secretary David Dettmann, Treasurer Mona Koehn, Membership Chair Kathy Rustad, AHS Region 5 Representative Glenn Herold, Director-at-Large Mark Rekoske, Webmaster & Immediate Past President Barry Ankney, and Newsletter Editor Mary Vertz.

Absent: None

Officer Reports:

Secretary: Minutes of the January 31, 2020 meeting held in Brookfield, WI were reviewed. Corrections and additions noted were that Barry Ankney called the meeting to order, board member minutes did not contain the nominated and selected winner of the DeEtta Montgomery Award, correction of spelling for Fond du Lac, and that Pat Gwidt confirmed the 2021 Convention planning. Motion to approve with changes noted, Kathy Rustad, second by Barry Ankney. Motion approved by all.

Treasurer: Mona Koehn described a preliminary budget but will present a formal final budget at the next electronic meeting, as uncertainty exists regarding income and expenses due to the Covid-19 virus causing significant impacts on MRHS activities and membership. It was noted that budget approval typically is done at the annual convention, which was not held this year. Board questioned whether membership has to approve the budget in the context of not having a membership-wide meeting this year. Reduction of expected membership income to \$1,000 was based on what has been received to date this year. Budget planning is typically done after the Winter Symposium to use the known data of membership activity and proposed expenses for the year.

Past President: Nothing to report.

AHS Region 5 Representative: Glenn Herold reported that the annual report was sent to AHS. The Facebook group for MRHS now has 1,100 members, increased from 200-300 in the past several months, with possible very favorable responses to Glenn's posting of the 25 Hosta of the Year series. Discussion identified a possible membership recruiting opportunity with the popularity and exposure on Facebook. Glenn Herold moved that Facebook MRHS group members be offered a three-year membership for the price of two years (\$20); seconded by Mona Koehn. Discussion noted that the membership form question of "How did you hear about MRHS?" could have a response choice of "Facebook group" to get the new membership incentive. Motion ap-

proved by all.

Director-At-Large: Nothing to report.

Newsletter Editor: Mary Vertz requested assistance in providing content and interest for future newsletters by having board members provide articles and also pictures and/or stories of their personal gardens. She noted that AHS President Any Marlowe recently had pictures and videos of AHS convention gardens for a You Tube virtual show to compensate for the cancelled 2020 convention experience.

Webmaster: Nothing to report.

Membership: Kathy Rustad reported on her efforts to get members current with dues, including that 32 reminder letters were sent in May producing two responses, and that she also called members needing to renew. All e-mail contact information for our membership is now current. She will send reminder e-mails in October, and post-card reminders in November to encourage members to renew memberships. Discussion then identified possible benefit to delay membership contacts to 2021, perhaps at the Winter Symposium if held. Two additional ideas then surfaced: could the Winter Symposium be moved to March or April, 2021 to allow for participation based on hopes that the Covid-19 pandemic would be better managed by then, and could current memberships be granted a one year extension due to lack of MRHS activities cancelled by the pandemic. The group decided to table the membership extension idea to be discussed at the planned electronic board meeting in September, 2020.

New Business:

1. 2020 Convention status report: the convention was postponed to 2021, with continuing concern about pandemic impact for the viability of the event. A contract has been signed with the convention hotel.
2. 2022 Convention is being planned for the Fond du Lac, WI area, as reported by Pat Gwidt, and Jack Barta will forward the hotel contact for consideration and possible commitment. As the current plans note that there may not be a local society functioning as host (currently being developed by Jack Barta and Glenn Herold), it was recommended that 100% of the auction revenue will go to MRHS. Motion by Pat Gwidt, seconded by Mona Koehn. Motion approved by all.
3. Discussion of By Laws Article VII, Section 6 covering distribution of auction proceeds going to MRHS versus sharing with the local sponsoring society, creating uncertain status as to compliance with the By Laws, and potential need to have members approve an amendment, which would have to be done by pre-publication in a newsletter followed by discussion and approval at the following convention. Decision was to table this idea for now, and include it with any other By Laws that might need to be revised and updated in one concerted action in a future meeting.
4. Shades of Green requested formal approval of moving their hosting of the MRHS

Convention to 2023, with 50% of auction proceeds being shared (50% with SoG and 50% with MRHS). Pat Gwidt so moved, seconded by Mary Vertz. Motion approved by all, except for Kathy Rustad abstaining due to conflict of interest.

Old Business:

1. 2020 AHS convention was to receive support from MRHS for a hospitality night. Due to cancellation of the convention, the MRHS support will be carried over to the rescheduled convention for 2021.
2. The Central Illinois Hosta Society had requested \$300 for improved signage at their national hosta display garden. Kathy Rustad moved for approval, seconded by Mona Koehn, and approved by all.
3. The DeEtta Montgomery Award presentation for 2020 will be postponed to 2021 due to the pandemic-induced cancellation of the 2020 convention, and there will be no nominee for 2021. Discussion of enhancing the award with a plaque instead of the framed certificate, as the society has strong resources. It was decided to continue with the present arrangement of framed certificate and the granting of lifetime membership. The Montgomery Award was identified to be a good topic for a future newsletter and on the Facebook group, including listing all prior winners. Question raised was "who has the master list of all winners?"
4. Discussion of finding a nominating committee for board positions (President, Vice President, Secretary, Regional Director) up for election in the next year. Policy is that three board members are part of the committee. The current President, Vice President, and Secretary can do another two year term per by laws, but Regional Director Glenn Herold has reached the term limit. Mary Vertz will put a story in the next newsletter requesting nominations, and noting that job descriptions are found in the By Laws.

Next Meeting Agenda to include By Law review, budget review and approval, membership extension due to pandemic impacts, and the new membership incentive to start covering the 2021-2023 time frame.

Appreciation was given to Kathy Rustad for making the Zoom meeting arrangements.

Adjournment at 5:27pm by motion from Barry Ankney, seconded by Glenn Herold, and approved by all (except Mona Koehn who left the meeting at 5:16 pm).

Respectfully submitted,

David Dettmann, Secretary

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP E-MAIL MEETING MINUTES August 12, 2020

Call to Order - 4:57 PM by President Mary Schwartzbauer.

Present via e-mail: President Mary Schwartzbauer, Vice President Pat Gwidt (by phone audio & pc video), Secretary David Dettmann, Membership Chair Kathy Rustad, AHS Region 5 Representative Glenn Herold, Director-at-Large Mark Rekoske, Webmaster & Immediate Past President Barry Ankney, and Newsletter Editor Mary Vertz

Absent: Treasurer Mona Koehn

Old Business:

1. David Dettmann moved to suspend the 2021 Winter Scientific Symposium due to continuing concerns about impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Seconded by Barry Ankney. Discussion of developing a substitute experience such as a virtual presentation (via Zoom) during the winter period to provide an alternative educational experience. Pat Gwidt was asked if she knows Tammy Borden who did a similar event for AHS or if she could come up with another topic. Motion approved by all. Glenn Herold will inform event Co-Chair Jack Barta of this board action.
2. Membership extension of one year being granted to all current members to compensate due to cancelled formal society activities this year was discussed as a follow up from the July 22, 2020 meeting Mark Rekoske moved, seconded by David Dettmann, and approved by all

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm as all board members involved signed off the e-mail meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
David Dettmann, Secretary

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP E-MAIL MEETING MINUTES September 18-29, 2020

Call to Order - 8:00 AM by President Mary Schwartzbauer.

Present via e-mail: President Mary Schwartzbauer, Vice President Pat Gwidt (by phone audio & pc video), Secretary David Dettmann, Treasurer Mona Koehn, Membership Chair Kathy Rustad, AHS Region 5 Representative Glenn Herold, Director-at-Large Mark Rekoske, Webmaster & Immediate Past President Barry Ankney, and Newsletter Editor Mary Vertz.

Absent: None

The MRHS Board was to review and clarify the membership incentives discussed at the July 22, 2020 Zoom electronic meeting and August 12, 2020 e-mail meeting:

MHRS will provide a one year extension for current members to compensate them for loss of formal society activities cancelled this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and that this was not to be combined with the Facebook MRHS group incentive which is to recruit new MRHS memberships (offer thru 12/31/2020 of a "buy a two year membership at \$20 and get three years of membership").

Motion to this effect made by Glenn Herold at 10:18am, seconded by Kathy Rustad at 11:08 am. Approvals by David Dettmann (11:30 am), Barry Ankney (11:30 am), Mona Koehn (12:49 pm), Mary Vertz (4:36 pm), Pat Gwidt (7:56 pm), and Mark Rekoske (9-19-20, 5:56 am).

Motion summary made by President Schwartzbauer on 9-29-20, 1:28 am that the motion was approved by all. Having completed this board review and action, the meeting was adjourned by President Schwartzbauer at the identified date and time.

Respectfully submitted,

David Dettmann, Secretary

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTRONIC MEETING MINUTES

October 12, 2020

Call to Order – 4:11 PM via Zoom by President Mary Schwartzbauer.

Present: President Mary Schwartzbauer, Vice President Pat Gwidt (by phone audio & pc video), Secretary David Dettmann, Treasurer Mona Koehn, Membership Chair Kathy Rustad, AHS Region 5 Representative Glenn Herold, Director-at-Large Mark Rekoske, Webmaster & Immediate Past President Barry Ankney, and Newsletter Editor Mary Vertz

Absent: none

Guests: none

President's Agenda:

1. 2021 Budget Approval. Mary Schwartzbauer reviewed MRHS bylaws to determine proper and efficient procedures for approving the 2021 budget. The usual process is review and approval at the annual convention. Due to the covid-19 pandemic, the 2020 convention was not held, and thus the customary process was not performed. Board discussion identified options of a Zoom format alternative membership meeting after posting proposed budget in an upcoming newsletter or have the Executive Board review and approve the budget. Determination was made that the Executive Board process would be appropriate and efficient. Mona Koehn provided the proposed budget. Mary Vertz motioned for approval as presented, supported by Barry Ankney, and approved by all. Further discussion identified questions about impacts of covid-19 cancellations for expenses and income, especially the 2021 Winter Scientific Conference (budgeted at \$3,400 income & \$5,700 expense) which won't be held, so it was recommended that this line item be zeroed out. A second modification of substituting \$100 was suggested for the income line item of \$1,000 membership (primarily renewal) The MRHS membership loyalty promotion (all current members will receive one free year of membership renewal to compensate for loss of MRHS programming due to covid-19 impact) is expected to significantly reduce this income. Motion by Mary Vertz to approve the budget as amended (zero out 2021 Winter Scientific Conference income and expenses & reduce membership income from \$1,000 to \$100), supported by Kathy Rustad, and approved by all.

2. Conventions Status. Mary Schwartzbauer has been communicating with the 2021 Convention co-chairs who have confirmed they continue to plan and are optimistic the event can be held with adequate attendance in the face of uncertain impacts from the

continuing covid-19 pandemic. Board discussion noted that a variation of a "hosta tail-gate" as an open-air event could be explored as a convention aspect, and that it was hoped that the 2021 Convention hotel would continue to be flexible if further changes are needed in our arrangements and agreements. The board felt that our budget and financial resources would be able to manage another year of Convention postponement. AHS convention plan changes from 2020 to the future were also briefly discussed.

3. Alternative MRHS programming. The Board explored possible options for providing some programming to our membership yet in 2020. Pat Gwidt suggested a virtual (Zoom) educational presentation by Tammy Borden who did this for an AHS event set up by Rob James. During this Board meeting, Pat contacted Tammy Borden and made arrangements of her one hour Zoom presentation of "Companion Plants for Shade" to be given on Thursday November 5, 2020 with a 6:30 pm start. Promotional actions agreed upon were Glenn Herold posting on the MRHS Facebook page (along with a reminder for the "join MRHS for 3 years for the price of 2 years" available thru 12/31/2020), Barry Ankney posting on the MRHS website in the members-only section, Kathy Rustad to send an e-mail blitz (8 MRHS members use USPS only for communication, so will get a mailing) from Mary Schwartzbauer as an invitation letter (to be drafted by Kathy Rustad), and Mary Vertz will include it if possible in the forthcoming newsletter. Kathy Rustad will provide the Zoom hosting arrangements, a limit of 200 attendees was established (noting this is good capacity for our current 253 members), and that attendees will need to register in advance. Discussion also identified unknown details (user ID and password) involved in the possible use of the MRHS g.mail account for Zoom meeting registration; Kathy Rustad will contact past Secretary Barb Schroeder to see if she has this information.

4. Fall newsletter. Editor Mary Vertz requested Board members to provide photos and information about their gardens to be used in the upcoming newsletter, with a deadline of November 1, 2020.

5. MRHS Facebook Group. Glenn Herold reported that there currently are over 1,200 members and growing. He continues to post weekly informational items.

6. Appreciation given to Kathy Rustad for Zoom meeting arrangements made for this board meeting.

7. Meeting Adjournment by Mary Schwartzbauer at 4:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Dettmann, Secretary

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Budget for 2020

(Per By-Laws: Fiscal Year is January 1st to December 31st)

Last Updated: 10/01/2020

Category	2019 Actuals	2020 Actuals (as of 10/1/2020)	2020 Budget	2021 Budget* (Approved by the Board)
Income:				
2020 Membership Dues	1,020.00	680.00	1,500.00	100.00
2020 Convention**	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	
2021 Convention				5,000.00
Income-Interest	25.34	5.36	0.00	25.00
2020 Winter Symposium	1,780.00	3,444.00	5,000.00	0.00
2021 Winter Symposium				0.00
Seed Auction***		1,828.00	0.00	500.00
Subtotal	2,825.34	5,957.36	11,500.00	5,625.00
Expense:				
Award-Montgomery	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Awards-AHS	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
2020 Grants	300.00	300.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Liability Insurance	461.00	421.00	454.00	461.00
Membership Expense	0.00	11.00	200.00	200.00
Miscellaneous	1,500.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Newsletters (2)	324.15	0.00	750.00	750.00
Internet Site	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Winter Symposium 2020	1,000.00	5,711.46	5,000.00	0.00
Winter Symposium 2021	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal	3,585.15	6,443.46	8,004.00	3,011.00
Net Totals	(759.81)	(486.10)	3,496.00	2,614.00
*Since there wasn't a convention this year, the board approved the budget				
**Since the 2020 convention was postponed, no income was received				
***Winter Symposium Seed auction plus \$1,000 Seed Growers donation				
Account Balances:				
Current				
Checking	14,648.09			
Savings	57,039.51			
Total Assets	71,687.60			

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 board members and Glenn Herold 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. 'Coast to Coast'

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 2020 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 "2020" or earlier, 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!