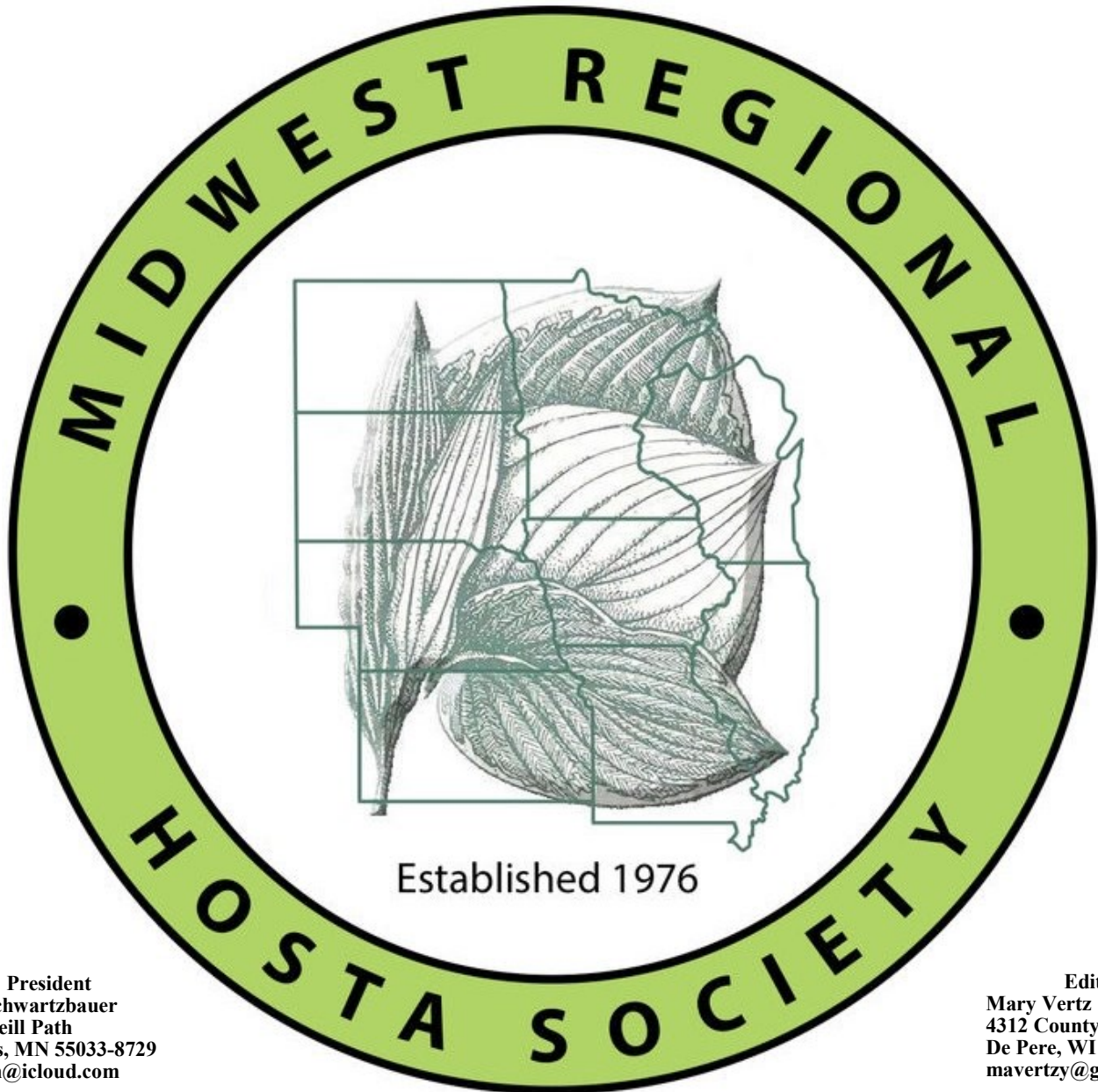


MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

HOSTA LEAVES

ISSUE NUMBER 90
2021 Updates

SPRING 2021



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MRHS President's Message

Hello everyone! Well, this has certainly been an eventful year! Who would have thought we'd still be wrestling this COVID beast over a year later? While still being careful, people are dipping their toes tentatively in the water so to speak. Starting to feel they may be able to venture out a bit. But that means different things to each of us. Depending upon your age, if you've been vaccinated, how populated your area is and so forth, you may feel more or less comfortable.

With all of that in mind, we have determined an in-person convention is still not the best choice for this year. The hotel and our convention hosts have again worked diligently and cooperatively to 'postpone' the convention once again. Thankfully, this whole mess (what other word can one use to explain this whole worldwide situation?), has not resulted in any penalties to our organization so that is great. Again, we extend our thanks and support to everyone who has worked so hard on this never ending (never started?) convention!

When this all started, just over a year ago, none of us new how long it would last, how to 'zoom', or any number of things related to this whole thing. Your board decided to basically skip any meeting, thinking it couldn't last too long, could it? And what do we do?

Well, now we are a bit more informed, and we now know we can't live in suspended animation. So, although a live convention is still off the table, we do plan on having an 'un-convention-al' meeting on June 24, 2021 at 6:30pm. We will have a brief business meeting - vote on the budget, have election of officers, and any other business that needs our attention. We value our Montgomery Award recipient and feel it only right to give that person their moment to shine, so that will be carried over until next year.

We will have Bob Solberg as our speaker. He always provides an entertaining and relaxed program and I'm sure he will not disappoint. He is developing a new program just for us! We hope you can join us.

Later in this newsletter you will see the proposed budget as well as the proposed slate of officers for your consideration. Please let us know before the meeting if you have any questions about the budget so we can address them at the meeting. Please let us know of any other concerns you may have as well.

****If there are any nominations from the floor for the below published slate of officers, they must be submitted to Barry Ankney, nominations chair, by June 1, 2021. ****

This newsletter printing's call for nominations from the floor will

be considered the official call for nominations. We will not be asking for nominations from the floor at the zoom meeting as that is too difficult to manage. So again, if you want to nominate someone for a position 'from the floor', you need to contact Barry by June 1.

Later this fall we are planning another zoom presentation by Glenn Harold. Date and topic to be determined so stay tuned for that as well!

We know this past year has been a challenge for everyone, and we are trying to bring you some fun things to look forward to! We hope you can join us!

Happy gardening,

Mary Schwartzbauer
MRHS President
marysch@icloud.com
17190 Neill Path
Hastings, MN 55033-8729



The Midwest Regional Hosta Society (MRHS) extends a warm welcome to our new 2021 members! We hope you enjoy this newsletter and the many friendly hosta enthusiasts in MRHS today. Hosta people are friendly, knowledgeable people, willing to share their experiences on the genius hosta as well as many other gardening topics. Glad to have you join us! Kathy Rustad, MRHS Membership Chair

Lou and Sue Captain
Nancy Johnson



New MRHS Website password,
effective May 15th:
SHADY2021



Educational Grant

Greetings from Northern Wisconsin, as your Vice President of Midwest Regional Hosta Society, I'm asking the Hosta Societies that have American Hosta Society National Display Gardens within Region 5 to submit the Educational Grant Application, which is enclosed in this newsletter. It's as easy as one-two-three. One: Have an Educational Project, Two: Fill out the Application Three: Submit to: Pat Gwidt Vice President, N1673 Fox Ridge Trail, Keshena, WI 54153 or email application pathen33@yahoo.com All applications will be reviewed at the Midwest Regional Hosta Society Board Meeting in June.

MRHS Nominating Committee Recommendations

The nominating committee has secured two candidates for the upcoming election of officers who need to be replaced this summer. Mary Schwartzbauer, the current President of MRHS, is stepping aside due to many other commitments in her busy life. The nominating committee is pleased to announce that Rob Mortko has accepted the offer to stand for election as the next President. I am sure that all of you know Rob for his years as the owner of Made in the Shade. Rob has served the hosta world in a variety of roles, including service on the executive board of the American Hosta Society, the American Hosta Growers Association, and his local Hosta society and Master Gardener organizations. Rob currently is a popular speaker about all topics related to hosta, and currently operates a highly active tissue culture business, Made in the Shade Tissue Culture.

The second position that needs to be filled is Region 5 Director. Glenn Herold has held that position for the maximum two terms and must be replaced. Glenn has served MRHS in a variety of positions over the

years and will be missed by his fellow board members. The nominating committee is recommending Kay Dye from the Central Illinois Hosta Society as the next Region 5 Director. Kay has been active in the local and regional hosta societies for many years. She is a retired teacher. She has regularly attended both MRHS Conventions and AHS Conventions and will make an excellent liaison person between the two societies.

There are two positions that require re-election, in accordance with the MRHS by-laws - the positions of secretary and vice-president. The current secretary, David Dettmann, has agreed to serve for a second term. Pat Gwidt, our current vice-president has also agreed to serve a second term.

The remaining members of the board will continue to serve and do not need to be elected, as the by-laws require a vote on those positions only when a person in one of those positions is being replaced.

Nominations from the floor.

Normally, we would ask for nominations from the floor for the open positions at the membership meeting at the convention. Since we are not having a convention this year and will hold the annual membership meeting via Zoom Conferencing, the nominating committee is asking that any nominations from the membership be submitted in advance of the virtual meeting this year. If any member wishes to nominate someone for the office of President, Region 5 Director, Secretary, or Vice-President we ask that you submit that nomination to the Nominating Committee Chairperson, Barry Ankney by June 1, 2021. Please remember that the person you are nominating must agree to the nomination before you submit their name. Please email or send any nominations from members to:

Barry Ankney, MRHS Nominating Committee Chair
1104 Oxford Court, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181-5249
barry.ankney@gmail.com

Spring Beauty: A Woodland Beauty

By Glenn Herold, Cedarburg, WI

Ephemeral (adj.): Lasting for a very short time. This definition clearly describes a group of plants that emerge in wooded areas in early spring. They are wonders of nature, finding their niche in a tough environment and completing their above-ground life cycle during a short window of opportunity in the spring. In the shade garden, they come up before the hostas and go dormant as hostas reach maturity.

One of the first flowers to appear on the floor of the woodland or shade garden is Spring Beauty, also known as wild potatoes, fairy spuds, or good-morning spring. It is one of the most abundant spring flowers in its range, which extends from Canada through much of the Eastern United States, west to Texas, and includes all of Wisconsin. Its abundance stems from its ability to grow in a wide diversity of sites, from prairies and disturbed areas, to its preferred habitat, a moist woodland. Rarely growing more than 6 inches tall, this member of the Purslane family may cover the forest floor beginning in March and, if the spring is long and cool, extend into May. The botanical name, *Claytonia virginica*, honors the plant explorer John Clayton (1694-1773) who found it in Virginia in about 1715.

Aptly named, spring beauty can put on quite a show with its clustered flowers reaching above two long, slender, fleshy leaves. The five-petaled flowers may be entirely pink, or white with pink veins. Over 100 species of bees, flies, butterflies, and beetles are attracted to the flowers where they gather pollen and nectar. Adding to its lure are the flower filaments, which reflect ultraviolet light. This light, invisible to humans, can be seen by many bee species.

The flowers of spring beauty open only when the sun is shining, and, like the sunflower, follow the path of the sun. Each flower opens on three consecutive days. On the first day the male reproductive structures, the anthers, ripen and shed their pollen to waiting neighbors. Only on the second and third days, however, is the stigma able to accept pollen, therefore guaranteeing that cross pollination takes place. This is one way that Mother Nature ensures the survival of her species, since inbreeding often leads to the decline of a species population.

Spring beauty, like many other woodland ephemerals, completes its entire above-ground life cycle within a few short weeks before the forest trees leaf out. It must flower, set seed, and store up food, all before it goes dormant to await the next spring. Food is stored in an underground modified stem called a corm, which is from 1/2 to 2 inches in diameter and is found 2 to 3 inches under the plant. This corm was prized by Indigenous tribes as a delicate and tasty nut flavored morsel. Cleaned corms are simply boiled for 10 to 15 minutes in salted water, peeled and eaten. Woodland homeowners who find their taste delectable are reminded to eat the large tubers only and replant the others, so as not to deplete the natural supply. As Euell Gibbons stated in *Stalking the Wild Asparagus*, "Let's not let our greediness for this food destroy or diminish this attractive plant. The tubers are good food for the body, but, after a long winter, the pale-rose flowers in early spring are food for the soul."

Though spring beauty is one of the first flowers to appear in the spring woodland, it certainly isn't the only one. Many other ephemerals grace the woodland floor at this time. All make great additions to the shade garden and companions of hostas.



Glenn Herold

What's a Derecho?

By Mark Rekoske

On August 10, 2020 a storm that grew into a derecho originated along the southeastern South Dakota and northeastern Nebraska border as a rapidly intensifying group of thunderstorms. Daytime heating and unstable humid air turned the storms into a self-sustaining wind machine propelled across Iowa, northern Illinois, southern Wisconsin, northern Indiana, Ohio and finally ending over southwestern Ontario, Canada. The storm travelled from west to east at an average rate of 55 mph. The storm's wind speed was consistently in excess of 70 mph. At its peak from east-central Iowa to northwestern Illinois the storm included wind gusts as high as 140 mph, the equivalent of a Category 4 hurricane. Cedar Rapids Iowa, where the 140 mph wind gust was reported, experienced some of the worst damage.

A *derecho* (pronounced "deh-REY-cho" is a widespread, long-lived wind storm. Derechos are associated with bands of rapidly moving showers or thunderstorms variously known as bow echoes, squall lines, or quasi-linear convective systems. A derecho can produce destruction similar to that of a tornado, but the damage typically occurs in one direction along a relatively straight path. As a result, the term "straight-line wind damage" sometimes is used to describe derecho damage. By definition, if the swath of wind damage extends for more than 250 miles, includes wind speeds of at least 58 mph along most of its length, and also includes several, well-separated 75 mph or greater gusts, the event may be classified as a derecho.

Before this event I am not sure I had ever heard the term derecho. I learned that the word "derecho" was coined in 1888 by Dr. Gustavus Hinrichs, a professor of physics at the University of Iowa. Hinrichs used the term in a paper published by the *American Meteorological Journal* to distinguish thunderstorm-induced straight-line winds from the damaging, rotary winds of tornadoes. "Derecho" is a Spanish word meaning "right," "direct," or "straight ahead." In contrast, the word "tornado" is thought to have been derived from the Spanish word "tornar," which means "to turn."

On average, in the upper Midwest, one derecho occurs each year, typically in the warmer months. Although records are not kept that classify derechos by wind speed, duration or intensity, weather authorities recognize the August derecho as one of the strongest on record. The storm held together for over 14 hours and pushed across nearly 800 miles leaving incalculable destruction in its wake. In addition to straight line wind damage weather experts identified 21 tornadoes that the derecho spawned. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration estimated the total storm damage at 7.5 billion dollars, second only to Hurricane Laura in 2020 storm damage. About 2 million homes, farms and businesses were left without power, some for more than a week. Just in Iowa, over 8,000 homes were severely damaged or destroyed. Damage to tens of thousands of acres of corn and soybean fields left the crops flattened and unable to mature and be harvested. At the Iowa Arboretum more than 200 mature trees were toppled by the winds. Blessedly, very few fatalities or serious injuries were blamed on the storms.

By the time the derecho approached my Richmond house about 3:00 p.m., its potential was well recognized. The National Weather Service issued an area-wide tornado warning although none had yet been seen or recorded on radar imaging. The mounting winds preceded the rainstorm. Dark clouds of dust approached from the west and all at once the storm was upon us. The wind howled, leaves were stripped from trees, and twigs rained down on the house and the yard. I saw trees bent over at angles I had never seen. We took shelter in the basement, but I could not stop myself from looking out the windows. There was no hail, and surprisingly little thunder or lightning. It rained hard and the rain was driven almost sideways. The wind was unrelenting. It blew at an estimated 70 to 90 mph at times and it continued for about 45 minutes. I cannot imagine what it is like to live through a hurricane where the high winds last for hours. Our electricity went out at some point, but we are lucky to have a standby generator to keep things powered up.

When the wind finally subsided and it was brightening outside. I went out to inspect. The garage doors, windows and bricks on the west side of the house were coated with green bits of shredded leaves of less than one inch in diameter. In the back yard I found about a dozen oak limbs from 4 to 8 inches in diameter strewn about. Some were still hanging in the trees and others had crushed the hostas and perennials under

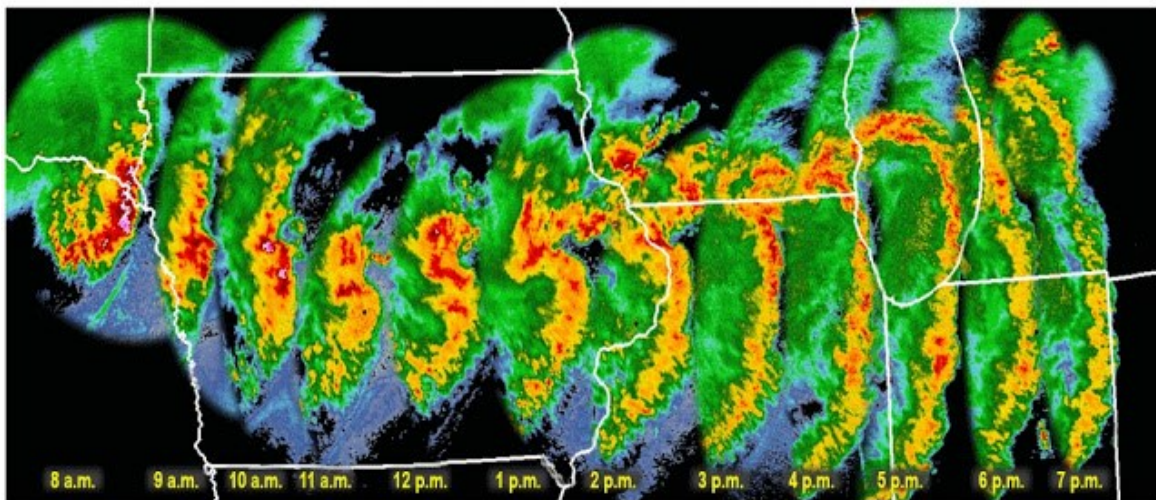
them. I began to drag limbs off the planting beds while warily watching the dangling branches above. In the side yard, adjacent to the vacant lot next door I saw a number of branches down, but none of my Japanese Maples or other understory trees appeared damaged. I made my way to the front of the yard and was shocked to see the destruction. The trunk of a 200+ year old white oak had been snapped off about 25 feet above the ground and fell across an area I had planted six years ago. The tree crushed yews, a pagoda dogwood, hydrangeas, a Tiger Eye sumac and a large number of hostas. Some of the fallen limbs were imbedded several inches into the soil. In addition, the falling tree crushed a sapling red oak I had planted expecting it to replace the ancient tree one day. The branches and leaves of the fallen tree covered the ground so thoroughly that I could not see what was going on under it. It took several days to get someone out to cut up and remove the fallen tree.

I was feeling pretty bad about the damage at my house until I drove my son to work that evening. East of here, between Wilmot and Camp Lake Wisconsin it looked like a war zone. Trees were down across the highway and we had to detour twice to make our way. There was no electricity in the whole town of Wilmot. Later I learned that an EF1 tornado had touched down about a mile from here in Spring Grove that left a path of damage north into Wisconsin. Another tornado had been recorded east of Lake Geneva, about 10 miles north. That night and the next day, I heard news reports of the devastation across Iowa and western Illinois and saw many Facebook posts describing the damage. Subsequently, I learned that the property just south of the vacant lot next door had six huge oaks down including several leaning on and endangering other adjacent trees. It could have been much worse for me and I am grateful that there was no damage to my house.


For the next several weeks we could hear the daily droning of chainsaws and chippers as neighbors cleaned up their properties. It was quite an inconvenience to be without an internet connection for over a week, but hardly comparable to those whose houses were damaged or destroyed. The story of the damaging superstorm quickly receded from the news cycle. I hope those most seriously affected have insurance and government disaster recovery grants or loan guarantees to help them recover.

I've not heard from other NIHS members how the derecho affected their homes and gardens. I would be interested to hear others' stories.

August 10, 2020 Derecho: Lowest Angle NWS Radar Reflectivity at One-Hour Time Steps
All times in CDT



This long-lasting, severe wind thunderstorm complex (known as a derecho) produced hundreds of reports of damage along with likely a few tornadoes.

 NWS Chicago | weather.gov

Aug 11, 2020



Mark Rekoske

The Golden Roots of Goldenseal

by Glenn Herold, Cedarburg, WI

One of my favorite plants in the shade garden, and companion for hostas, is Goldenseal, *Hydrastis canadensis*. Native to most of eastern North America, including southern Wisconsin, it is found in shaded woodlands on rich soil of moderate moisture. In the garden it is easily grown, rapidly reaching a height of 10 to 15 inches. The plant produces a single basal leaf on a long hairy petiole and a purplish flower stalk with two leaves near the top. Initially the leaves are very hairy, but they lose their hairiness during the summer. The 3/4-inch diameter ball-like white flowers appear in May, a time when the garden is finally coming to life after a long Wisconsin winter.

Though appearing normal to the untrained eye, the flowers are rather unusual. They lack petals and lose their sepals early in development. The white color is due to numerous white stamens, the male reproductive part of the flower. Pollination is primarily by bees. After fertilization, the flower gives way to a red, raspberry-like fruit which is loved by birds but is not edible by humans.

This member of the buttercup family of plants (Ranunculaceae), which is known for its yellow flowers, has a yellow underground rootstock that gradually spreads to form small colonies. It's this yellow rootstock, from which a yellow dye can be derived, that has given the plant its common name. The rhizomes contain hydrastine, berberine, and canadine, all bitter alkaloids. Native Americans employed the rhizomes to produce concoctions used for treating skin disorders, digestive problems, and eye irritations. Members of the Cherokee tribe pounded the roots into bear fat and used the resulting salve as an insect repellent.

Goldenseal is still taken as an herbal supplement today. Mixed with echinacea it is used to boost the immune system, thus helping the consumer to resist colds and the flu. By itself it is used as a digestive aid, to pro-

mote healthy skin (added to cosmetic products), and as a natural diuretic. The anti-inflammatory properties of goldenseal make it helpful in the treatment of arthritis and joint pain. Like many herbal remedies, goldenseal can be toxic if used in high doses or for long periods of time. Short-term treatment is recommended, because the body can become immune to it if used long-term.

There is no limit to goldenseal's use in the garden, however. I find it to be an excellent companion plant in my hosta garden planted with ferns, trillium, and other shade plants. Visitors to my garden inevitably point to it and ask, "What is that plant?" The next question is always, "Where can I get it?" Though it is rarely available from local garden centers, it can be found from on-line specialty nurseries. However, I am almost always happy to share a division! One of the greatest joys of gardening is to share your garden, and plants, with fellow gardeners.



Glenn Herold

Chuck Steele

Submitted by Glenn Herold

So sorry to announce the passing of Chuck Steele of Cedarburg, who I believe was a MRHS and AHS member and was very active in the Southeast Wisconsin Hosta Society before it folded. Chuck was 80 years old. His garden was on tour when Milwaukee hosted the AHS national meeting. Attached is a picture of Chuck (left) with Chuck Finke when the MRHS was at the Green Bay Botanical Garden.



Glenn Herold



2013 Convention



2013 Convention

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Budget for 2022

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

Last Updated: 03/11/2021				
Category	2019 Actuals (2020 Budget Items)	2020 Actuals (2021 Budget Items)	2021 Budget (approved June 2020)	2022 Budget (to be approved July 2021)
Income:				
Membership Dues	1,020.00	770.00	100.00	1,000.00
Convention	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	2,500.00
Income-Interest	25.34	8.22	25.00	10.00
Winter Symposium	1,780.00	3,444.00	500.00	2,000.00
Seed Auction	0.00	828.00	0.00	500.00
Subtotal	<u>2,825.34</u>	<u>5,050.22</u>	<u>5,625.00</u>	<u>6,010.00</u>
Expense:				
Award-Montgomery	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00
Awards-AHS	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
2020 Grants	300.00	600.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
Liability Insurance	461.00	421.00	461.00	450.00
Membership Expense	0.00	40.00	200.00	200.00
Miscellaneous	1,500.00	22.00	100.00	100.00
Newsletter	539.70	644.10	750.00	750.00
Internet Site	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Zoom Meetings		200.00		600.00
Winter Symposium	1,000.00	5,682.54	0.00	5,500.00
Subtotal	3,800.70	7,609.64	3,011.00	8,900.00
Net Totals	(975.36)	(2,559.42)	2,614.00	(2,890.00)

Account Balances: Current		
Checking	14,648.09	12,195.54
Savings	57,039.51	57,040.95
Total Assets	71,687.60	69,236.49

HELP WANTED - A message from the Webmaster.

We are looking for someone who is willing to assume the role of webmaster for MRHS. This person could take over as the webmaster once they are comfortable with that role.

Here is what the job entails. At this point, almost everything is current and needs little time in maintaining. There are a few tasks that need to be done on a regular basis. They are:

1. Updating the membership list on the members only section of the website. This is done several times each year and requires about 30 minutes time to complete.
2. Posting the MRHS newsletter to the website. This is done two times each year and requires about one hour each time to complete.
3. Update the local hosta society contact information yearly.
4. Add the new Hosta of the Year to the website yearly. This takes about 15 minutes to complete.
5. Update the list of Officers of MRHS. This is done every other year and takes about 15 minutes to complete.
6. Update the future events twice yearly, taking about 30 minutes.
7. At present, we also post the information for the local society who is hosting the convention. This task requires the most work and would be something that the current webmaster would assist with as long as needed.

The job requires a fundamental knowledge of html (Hyper Text Markup Language) programming, which can be easily learned. The current webmaster will assist the new person in learning the skills needed and will remain a resource as long as the new person would require assistance. If you or someone you know has an interest in this position, please contact me,

Barry Ankney barry.ankney@gmail.com (309-678-4119) with any questions.



H. 'Stargate'



H. 'Photo Finish'

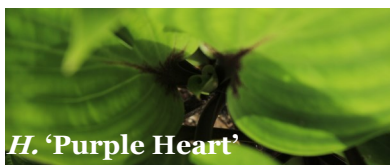
MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY ELECTRONIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES February 6, 2021

President Mary Schwartzbauer called an electronic board meeting to order at 3:00 pm to discuss a business item submitted by the Co-Chairs of the MRHS Convention planned for July 7-11, 2021 in Lisle, IL. Co-Chairs Barbara King and Mike Kraus reported that the current active survey of MRHS members has shown to date that more than 2/3 of respondents state they want the 2021 Convention to be postponed due to the continuing covid-19 pandemic. The Convention hotel has been contacted and has assured the Co-Chairs that both the contracted date of July 7-11, 2021 and potential replacement dates of July 14-18, 2022 will be available for us. The membership survey deadline of February 15 will be the deciding point and the Hilton Conference Hotel has agreed to arrange a new contract for 2022 as needed. Vendors, garden hosts, speakers, and others will be notified for their information and arrangements for participation in 2022 as needed.

Motion made by Barry Ankney, Webmaster & Past President, at 3:22 pm that MRHS endorse cancellation of the 2021 Lisle IL convention and have it rescheduled for July 2022. Kathy Rustad, Membership Chair, seconded the motion at 4:23 pm, subject to agreement with the group previously planning a 2022 Convention in the Fond du Lac, WI area. Board members supporting the motion were Glenn Herold, AHS Region 5 Representative at 4:46 pm, who also confirmed that the Fond du Lac, WI planning group is agreeable to the change; Mona Koehn, Treasurer, at 6:12 pm; Mary Vertz, Newsletter Editor, at 8:53 pm; Barry Ankney at 9:02 pm; David Dettmann, Secretary, at 9:15 pm; Kathy Rustad at 10:30 pm; and Patricia Gwidt, Vice President, on February 7 at 8:34 am. Members opposed: None.

Motion APPROVAL declared by President Mary Schwartzbauer on February 16, 2021 at 8:01 am and the electronic board meeting was closed as completing the requested business item.

Respectfully submitted,
David F. Dettmann, Secretary



MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY ELECTRONIC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2021

(Minutes to be approved at next Board Meeting)

President Mary Schwartzbauer called an electronic (Zoom video conferencing) board meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Attendance: Vice President Pat Gwidt, Secretary David Dettmann, Treasurer Mona Koehn, Region 5 Representative Glenn Herold, Membership Chair Kathy Rustad, Newsletter Editor Mary Vertz, Director-at-Large Mark Rekoske (later), and Webmaster & Immediate Past President Barry Ankney.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Secretary's Minutes for Electronic (by e-mail) Board Meeting on February 6, 2021 were reviewed. Motion by Barry Ankney to approve, seconded by Pat Gwidt. No discussion; approved by all. Post-hoc: Barry Ankney's name was incorrectly spelled "Ankeny."

Region 5 AHS Representative Glenn Herold noted he sent in our report to AHS. Glenn continues to monitor and manage our Facebook post, and reported that "likes" continue to slowly increase, with a current tally of about 1,440. The membership incentive used last year did produce a new member and the incentive has expired.

Newsletter Editor Mary Vertz reminded board members that she needs input for the next MRHS newsletter by April 1. She appreciated the articles from Glenn and Mark to date and requested the usual President's Message and minutes.

Membership Report from Kathy Rustad reviewed the data provided to the board, highlighting that there are currently 256 paid thru at least 2021, and that no renewal reminders were sent because all current members were granted a free year extension last year due to the pandemic interruptions of normal Society activities and membership benefits. It was noted that there has been a continuing slow decline in membership during the past 8 years from a recent high of 313 in 2014.

Treasurer's Report by Mona Koehn was the draft budget proposal for the calendar year of 2022, along with the 2019 and 2020 Actuals, and the 2021 Budget which was approved in June 2020. The comparison budget references were provided to allow historical reference in making adjustments for the unusual budget years of 2020-21 due to pandemic im-

pacts. Extensive discussion by Board members focused on fine tuning projections, condensing entries, and adjustments for activity delivery changes from in-person to Zoom video events. Changes for the draft were:

- 1. Remove specific year entries for income line items of membership dues, convention, symposium, and expense item of symposium;**
- 2. Increase projection for membership dues to \$1000;**
- 3. Expect \$2500 income from 2022 convention;**
- 4. Total income predicted to be \$4,610 (includes \$10 interest on accounts, noting interest returns have declined);**
- 5. Delete \$100 for 2022 Montgomery Award (using carry over from 2021 budget expense as we postponed 2 award years due to not holding conference in person) and delete \$200 for AHS Award that is not given;**
- 6. Propose \$900 for Zoom video hosting expenses with unlimited access, speaker honoraria, and possible quarterly or fall meetings for more Society interactions;**
- 7. Resulting expenses total were projected at \$8,900 which would result in a calendar year loss of \$4,290 viewed as tolerable given the very ample capital position for MHRS as a non-profit.**

Mona will make the revisions as discussed and present a formal budget proposal to the Board before sending to the Newsletter Editor for presentation to the Membership. Motion to approve the budget revisions by Glenn Herold, seconded by Kathy Rustad; approved by all.

Webmaster and Immediate Past President Barry Ankney identified need for back-up coverage of his access and management of the MRHS website. Kathy Rustad volunteered to assume this coverage, and Barry will send the password and other details to her. Barry also noted that his role with AHS is increasing, so he welcomes a replacement of his Website management role, with the successor hopefully having HTML skills.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. 2021 Convention Status report summarized the process for postponing the event to July 14-16, 2022 with the same Host of the Northern Illinois Hosta Society, convention hotel, and hopefully the vendors, presenters, etc. The hotel contract (with inserted clauses and revisions from the board discussions held on e-mail) was signed and sent to the hotel. No response from the hotel, so it was assumed they have accepted our signed contract.**
- 2. By-Law Changes: Discussion of potential changes needed for division of convention auction proceeds with host Societies and MRHS. No changes**

were identified as being needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Budget Proposal: See Treasurer's Report in Officer Reports.**
- 2. Director Terms: Terms are expiring for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Region 5 AHS Director. Pat Gwidt (VP) and David Dettmann (Secretary) agreed to run for another two-year term, President Mary Schwartzbauer declined to run as she has other significant time demands, and Glenn Herold appears to have completed his two term limit for Region 5 AHS Director. Brainstorming by the Nominating Committee (all Directors except for President) was held to identify possible candidates, resulted in Barry Ankney's offer to coordinate the search for President and Region 5 AHS Director and to present the final slate of candidates to the Membership in the upcoming Newsletter to allow the formal election at the next full membership meeting.**
- 3. Future Conventions: Due to postponement of the 2020 Convention hosted by the Northern Illinois Society to 2021, and then again to 2022 due to the covid-19 pandemic, this moves the planned Rochester, MN Convention to 2023, and the Fond du Lac, WI event to 2024. The Fond du Lac event has had preliminary work in identifying gardens and hotel but no formal arrangements as of yet.**
- 4. Winter Symposium for 2022 looks promising in reference to pandemic factors, and Co-Coordinator Jack Barta and Glenn Herold will continue to work on this event**
- 5. National Display Garden Grant status: No grants have been recently requested for the potential \$300 support. Pat Gwidt will submit a promotional article in the upcoming Newsletter.**
- 6. Alternative Event for Postponed 2021 Convention. Following the model of AHS with their virtual convention for the cancellation of the in-person format at Kalamazoo, MI, the Board discussed possible alternatives for MRHS to provide some meaningful activity for our members and to conduct formal Membership business. A Zoom video conferencing meeting was identified as the best alternative. Pat Gwidt will search for a possible feature speaker using several potentials given by Directors. Decision was made to hold this event on 1 night, likely a weekday in June 2021 with several proposed dates (Thursdays June 17 or 24) to be used for coordination with the potential speaker, and that the formal business meeting of brief president's message, officer election, approval of minutes, and review/approval of budget proposal would be the first 20-30 minutes of the planned 70-90 minutes event. Honorarium expense was anticipated to be \$200. Kathy Rustad has been hosting Board meetings on her Zoom account, and suggested**

that MRHS get a dedicated Zoom account, with yearly subscription fee of about \$165 allowing unlimited attendance. Motion by Mona Koehn to accept the proposed Zoom Alternative Event as discussed, seconded by Barry Ankney; approved by all. Glenn Herold will make a post on our Facebook link to promote the event and potential membership, and hopefully details will be confirmed to allow inclusion in the upcoming newsletter.

7. **Compensatory Membership Year Extension** was given to all members for 2020 due to no formal MRHS activities impacted by the covid-19 pandemic. The Board felt that the alternative events planned for 2021 will be adequate, so another compensatory membership extension was not needed.
8. **Awards:** Our prestigious Montgomery Award will be postponed as it deserves presentation at an in-person meeting.
9. **Society News:** It was reported that the Mississippi Valley Hosta Society has a new President: Joan Gentzko, from Davenport, Iowa. Post-hoc report also identified Peggy Moody, from Boone, Iowa as the new President of the Russ O'Harra Hosta Society.

Adjournment: Motion by Barry Ankney, seconded by Pat Gwidt to adjourn at 8:07pm; approved by all, and with appreciation to Kathy Rustad for Zoom hosting arrangements.

Respectfully submitted,

David F. Dettmann, Secretary

2021 Hosta of the Year Rainbow's End

Check out the Hosta Growers website for details on the 2021 Hosta of the Year. While there check out the past Hosta of the Year. How many do you have in your garden?

http://www.hostagrowers.org/Hosta_of_the_Year.html



AHGA



HOSTAS



Make plans to attend
“Hostas Chicago Style”
July 14-16, 2022.

Later this year check the Midwest Hosta Society website for exciting details about “Hostas Chicago Style” 2022! <http://midwesthostasociety.org/>

WE'RE GOING
Virtual!
Join us!
JULY 15-17, 2021
AHS2021.org



AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION
KALAMAZOO, MI



H. 'Silk Kimono'



H. 'Bud Is Wiser'



H. 'Fantastic'



H. 'Pistache'



H. 'How About That'



H. 'Margie's Angel'

Upcoming Hosta Society Conventions

Midwest Hosta Society

2022 Lisle, IL Hosted by Northern Illinois Hosta Society July 14-16,

2023 Rochester, MN

2024 Fond du Lac, WI

American Hosta Society

2021 Kalamazoo, MI July 15-17 Virtual Convention

2022 Minneapolis, MN

2023 Ames, IA

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)

Submit completed application to:
Pat Gwidt
MRHS Vice-President
N1619 Fox Ridge Trail
Keshena, WI 54135

Educational Fund
September 18, 2015

Or email application to Pat at:
pathen33@yahoo.com



H. 'Laura & Darrel'



H. 'Justice'



H. 'Emerald Ruff Cut'



H. 'Herbal Tea'



H. 'Arc de Triumph'

Editor's Note:

If you have any suggestions, pictures to share, or articles for future newsletters, please send to mavertzy@gmail.com.

If you are getting this newsletter by "snail mail", please help save money and request your next newsletter be sent by email.

Happy Spring! If you have any articles or pictures to contribute to the next edition of *Hosta Leaves*, please send them to mavertzy@gmail.com.

As my mother (and probably many other mothers among us) use to say "Many hands make light work".

Everyone stay safe. See you at the next event.

Mary

AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

We invite you to join over 3,000 other hosta enthusiasts as members of the American Hosta Society. Members receive two 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. A third publication is the Online 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. Dues for one year are \$30 for an individual and \$34 for a family—check their website for multi-year rates. Joining AHS will enable you to attend our national conventions.

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

Advertise in the
Hosta Leaves

Full Color Ads:			
Size	Single Issue	Full Year	Dimensions
Full page	\$275	\$475	6½" x 9½"
1/2 page	175	300	6½" x 4½"
1/4 page	90	155	3⅞" x 4½"
1/8 page	45	80	3⅞" 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	3⅞" x 4½"
1/8 page	30	50	3⅞" x 2"

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

Wanted

Host Societies for future MRHS Conventions. If your local group has never or not recently hosted a convention, please consider doing your part by hosting one of these convention openings in 2025, 2026, 2027.

Contact Pat Gwidt, MRHS Vice-President
at pathen33@yahoo.com

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY
SPRING 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 or on the Subject Line on your email . If it says “2020”, 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.

Due to health concerns of COVID-19, this summer’s convention "HOSTAS CHICAGO STYLE" hosted by the Northern Illinois Hosta Society, is postponed to next year 2022. Join us next year in Lisle, IL for 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! Until then stay safe.