



Hosta Happenings

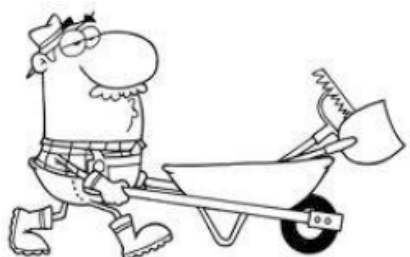
April 2014

Vol. 18, Iss. 3

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2014

10:00 AM



ANNUAL FLUFF & BUFF VANDER VEER HOSTA GLADE

BRING YOUR GLOVES, RAKE AND A TOOL TO DIG WEEDS!

The park employees have raked most of the leaves and will spread the mulch (yipee), but we need everyone's help to get ready for summer!!! We have 7 gardens to spruce up.

**MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!!
THERE IS A JOB FOR EVERYONE**

Milorganite As a Deer Chaser?

Milorganite as a deer chaser? We were surprised to learn this fact at the recent AHS convention in Milwaukee. For those of you that were able to attend the convention and visit the beautiful garden of Bill Radler, developer of the Knock Out rose; you saw many hostas placed throughout the garden. We spent about 2 hours in the garden and even toured the area with Bill as he discussed various plantings, how the beds were laid out and some in the group of 6 or 7 even were able to identify some hostas for him.

The home is located near a major stream and a large portion of it floods during storms. This is also a heavily wooded area with deer, one of which walked across in front of us as we drove down the street to

his home. But if you really studied the yard you noted there were a lot of hostas and other plants outside the deer fence. How do they survive?

At the dinner on Saturday night Barb and I were at one of the

front tables with Bill. Someone asked how he kept the deer from eating the hostas. The answer – Milorganite! Everyone said "What?" It seems that about every one to two weeks they broadcast Milorganite on the beds outside the fence and have zero deer damage. In addition to not seeing damage I did note the hostas outside the fence were very large and great color, even some that appeared would be in more sun than shade.

If you have not used Milorganite fertilizer on your garden or lawn you need to check it out. For some 85 years this product from Milwaukee has been used by professionals and gardeners. It does not have to be watered in, does not burn, is slow release over some 8-10 weeks and is safe for children and pets. I mix it with my yard fertilizer when I broadcast each spring. In addition I broadcast Milorganite on our hosta beds at least once or twice a year and add some to pots along with the other fertilizer. Milorganite is organic nitrogen with 4% iron and does contain some



Get Them Growing in the Spring

I believe that if you ask three hosta people the question about how to get them going in the spring you may get three different answers. Here is a list of what I do each spring in the order I think they should be done:

Clean up the beds- doing so helps control slugs by exposing their eggs

Mulch the beds- good hardwood mulch

Spread Deadline before hosta pips start coming up - the secret to good slug control is to control them from the start of the season. Lou Horton



H. Liberty

phosphorous, but the manufacture notes it will not leach out as occurs with mined phosphorous. It is more available for the plant and will not move into groundwater, lakes or streams. If you have concerns or areas where you think this may happen the decision to use it is yours alone.

Milorganite is available at any of the garden centers here in 50 pound bags. So if you have a deer problem check this out. It may be the best solution to your problem instead of using sprays, hanging soap in the trees in your yard or building the 6-foot tall fence. Rick Schroeder

For more information go to www.milorganite.com.

From the Illinois Prairie Hosta Society Aug 2013

Spring Tip:

Do not water your hostas until the threat of frost subsides. If watering is done early, the foliage may come up prematurely, and suffer from a late frost. (Late spring frosts seem to affect plantaginea and lancifolia the most.) By keeping the leaves in the ground as long as possible, it's also easier to clean up leaves and sticks without worrying about stepping on hosta pips coming up. When the pips are still in the ground, it's safe to apply 10-10-10 fertilizer without burning the hosta leaves.



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HOSTA SOCIETY
ANNUAL
HOSTA SALE

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2014

9 AM - MEMBER'S ONLY SALE
10 AM - 1:30 PM - PUBLIC SALE

DUCK CREEK PARK SHELTER #1
Davenport, Iowa

HOSTAS, HOSTAS, HOSTAS
and COMPANION PLANTS

Please start digging the plants you are going to donate NOW or by May 15 at the latest, so they will be adjusted to pot living by sale time.

Please bring your plants to the sale location at 8 AM and have them named, if possible. We will price them! If you are unable to get them there on Sunday, call Carolyn Hamilton at 355-6973, to make other arrangements.



2014 AHS National Hosta Convention Registration

June 11 - 14, 2014 Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Hosted by the Harshbarger Hosta Society

Please check out our website at HarshbargerHostaSociety.org

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

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

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____ *Email: _____

**Registration confirmation will be sent by email only. No refunds after June 1, 2014*

Publish my name in the Conference Attendee list? Yes _____ No _____

JUDGES CLINIC A current handbook is required and may be downloaded for free at americanhostasociety.org
 _____ Check here if you want to purchase the handbook for \$10.00 at the clinic
 Please note which clinic(s) you will attend.
 _____ Clinic I (Wed. evening) _____ Clinic II _____ Clinic III (times to be announced)

HOSTA SHOW I plan to: _____ Enter _____ Judge _____ Clerk _____
 Please enter the number of entries in each category you plan to submit (limit of 20 leaves per garden in Div I)
 Division: I - Cut Leaf II - Containers III - Troughs IV - Education VI - Artistic
 No. of Entries: _____

I will donate plants or items for the Friday Night Auction. (proceeds to go to AHS) Yes _____ (approx. no.) _____

Will you need a ride for the garden tour? Yes _____ No _____ This will be a drive-yourself garden tour.
 Can you offer a ride for others on the tour? Yes _____ No _____ One bus will be available (see our website for details)

DINNER OPTIONS
 Friday: Beef _____ Tilapia _____
 Saturday: Pork & Sauerkraut _____
 Chicken Paprika _____
 Both Nights: Veg. _____ Gl. Free _____

Full Registration <i>(postmarked before May 23)</i>	\$175 _____
Late Registration <i>(postmarked May 23 or after)</i>	\$200 _____
Tour of Amana Colonies (June 11) \$55 includes lunch at Ox Yoke Inn	_____
Dinner at Czech Museum (June 12) \$45	_____
Garden Tour Bus \$55 first 50 to sign up, box lunch on Friday	_____
Meals Only Registration	\$125 _____
Credit Card Fee	\$10 _____
Total - payable in US funds	\$ _____

For a complete description of the registration options, full schedule and latest updates, please refer to HarshbargerHostaSociety.org

Send registration and check payable to AHS 2014 Convention to:
Diann Pavelka
600 Main St.
Lisbon, IA 52253

All convention registrants assume all responsibility for liability.

If paying by credit card:
 Visa _____ MC _____ Am Ex _____ Disc _____
 Name as it appears on card: _____
 Card Number: _____
 Expiration Date: _____
 3 Digit Code on Back: _____

Cedar Rapids Marriott
 1200 Collins Rd NE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
cwp.marriott.com/cidmc/americanhostasociety
 Convention Rates of \$114.00 - reserve by May 27th
 Make reservations by calling 1-800-396-2153
 and mentioning 'Hosta Convention'.

CAR POOL TRIP TO SONG SPARROW?

Song Sparrow is a catalog sale nursery in Wisconsin. You have probably seen their beautiful catalog! They are open a couple of Saturdays a year for garden clubs. They will be open this year on Saturday, June 7. Is anyone interested in going? If we get enough club members interested, we could rent a big van OR we could car pool. We also thought we would go to The Flower Factory in Stoughton, Wisconsin in the afternoon.

If you are seriously interested, please either contact Mary Johannsen at 563-505-4258 or her email is mry_jhnnsn@yahoo.com.

HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH?

Glancing through the Spring newsletter of the St. Louis Hosta Society I came across an article that is apropos at this time of year. Most of us use some form of mulch to control weeds, retain moisture and keep the soil cooler during our long, hot summers.

The American Hosta Society recommends not applying more than 2-3" of mulch. Too much can lead to vole problems by providing a covering that is warm and easy to tunnel through. Keep the mulch away from the petioles to avoid rot and other diseases.

But how do I know how much to buy? Use the following calculations.

Length in feet X Width in feet = Total square feet

Length in feet X Width in feet X Depth in feet = Total cubic feet
The most commonly sold bags contain about 2 cubic feet

27 cubic feet = One cubic yard

One cubic yard will fill roughly 1/2 a pick-up truck bed

Example: A hosta bed 10 feet by 12 feet with a 3 inch layer of mulch

$10 \times 12 \times .25 = 30$ cubic feet Divide by 2 = 15 2 cubic foot bags Divide by 3 = 10 3 cubic foot bags

One cubic yard will cover 160 square ft at a depth of 2"

One cubic yard will cover 108 square ft at a depth of 3"

One 2 cubic foot bag will cover 7 or 8 square feet at 3" deep One 3 cubic foot bag will cover 10 square ft at a depth of 2"

Dean Piatt has been working on setting up a facebook account for our organization and he advises the facebook page is up and running. It is at MVHS. Present fb users will see a list of similarly named sites. Ours is the one with our logo by MVHS. It also says non-profit organization by it.

2014 MRHS Convention - "Hostas by the Bay"



2014 Midwest Regional Hosta Society (MRHS) Convention Registration Form
 June 26-28, 2014, Radisson Hotel and Conference Center, Green Bay, Wisconsin
 Hosted by: Green & Gold Hosta Society of Northeastern Wisconsin

To Register, mail one completed registration form per person.
 Include check payable to "GGHS/MRHS Convention 2014".
REFUND POLICY: NO Refunds will be made after May 30. Make a copy of this for your records.

Printed Name (First & Last, as you want it on your badge. One letter per line please.)

Street Address

City	State	ZIP Code
E-mail *	Phone	Phone

Hotel: Radisson Hotel & Conference Center
2040 Airport Dr, Green Bay, WI 54313
 Hotel reservation must be made separately. Call (920) 494-7300 or 800-333-3333. Mention **"MRHS Convention"** for convention room rate of \$99 + tax for single/double occupancy/night through May 30. Hotel guests get large breakfast buffet. Convention rate not available on-line.

Publish my name in Attendee list?
 Yes No

* Confirmations will be sent by E-mail only.
 For questions E-mail pathen33@yahoo.com.

Meals Included: Friday Tailgate Dinner and Saturday Banquet.
 Saturday banquet choice: Beef Short Ribs Walleye Vegetarian/Gluten Free Friday and Saturday

Auction Donations
 I will donate plants or items for the Friday night auction. Approximate number: _____
 Auction proceeds go to the MRHS. Please support MRHS with a donation.

Hosta Leaf Show: Preparation time is Thursday, 6/26 from 6-9:00 PM and Friday, 6/27 from 7-10:30 AM.
 Check if you plan to: Enter Judge Clerk (Judging will begin Friday, 6/27 at 11:30 AM)
 Check each category Cut Leaf (Limit of 20 Leaves) Trough/Container Garden for Effect
 you plan to enter: Container Grown Educational Display
 Artistic Design* Non-Competitive Exhibit
 * The themes are: Hostas By the Bay, Hostas in the Off-Season, Heritage Hill and Let's Go to Bay Beach

Judges Clinic I, Friday, 6/27, from 9-11:00 AM:
 I will attend judges clinic I
 A current Judges Handbook is required. You may download the free Judges Handbook at www.hosta.org.
 Check here if you want to purchase the official handbook/binder at the clinic. (\$10.00 payable at convention)

Speakers: The educational class speakers will be Leo Bordeleau of Rose Hill Gardens on 'Heucheras-A Wonderful Companion to Hostas' and Roy Brodhagen of Apple Valley Nursery on 'Conifers for Shade'.

Class
 Pebble birdhouse make & take Friday morning \$45.00.
 (Limit 20 people)

Convention Registration
 \$120 Full Registration (Postmarked By 5/30/14)
 \$160 Late Full Registration (After 5/30/14)
 \$90 Meals Only
 Full registration includes the following: Hosta "Cheesehead", admission to the Green Bay Botanical Garden, Friday night tailgate party, leaf show participation, 6 self guided garden tours, 2 seminar speakers plus Saturday banquet and speaker.

Optional Tour, Thursday 6/26 Transportation Provided at 3:00 PM
 Meissner Nursery/garden tour and Door County fish boil.
 \$40 Per Person (Minimum of 50, maximum of 100 people)
 Meissner's Website: <http://www.meissnerlandscape.com/>

For the latest details, schedules, updates, etc. go to:
<http://greenandgoldhosta.org/2014-convention.html>

Payment

Early Registration: \$ _____
 Late Registration: \$ _____
 Meals Only: \$ _____
 Thur. Tour & Door
 County Fish Boil: \$ _____
 Pebble Birdhouse
 Class: \$ _____
TOTAL: \$ _____

Make checks payable to:
GGHS/MRHS Convention 2014
 Send this form and check to:
Germaine Schwaller
N1492 Blue Heron Trail
Keshena WI 54135
 Germaine's E-mail: gmschwaller@yahoo.com

SOLBERG HOSTAS

Dean Piatt has placed the order for Solberg hostas. For those who ordered, Dean will let you know when they arrive and where and when you can pick your hostas up.

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### **PLANT SALE IS SUNDAY, JUNE 1st**

There is a typo in the year's schedule!!! Our plant sale is Sunday, June 1st!!! On the schedule it said June 2nd. So, please change your schedules. Wouldn't want you to come on the 2nd when no one would be there!! Sorry about that.

### **LOCAL PLANT SALES!!**

**April 25-27** - Friends of Vander Veer.  
Vander Veer Conservatory, Davenport  
25th-Friends Only 3:30-6:30 pm  
26th-10am-3pm; 27th-10am-2pm  
**May 10** - Illinois Master Gardeners,  
Fair Grounds, East Moline, IL  
**May 15** - Liz Jansen's Sale, 3pm-dark,  
16th-17th - all day

If you know of any other sales, please let Carolyn know and it will be in next newsletter!

# **HOSTA DIG**

at VanderVeer Hosta Glade

**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014**

**Come and help dig hostas for the Plant Sale!**

**There is a job for everyone -  
diggers (just a couple), runners, potters and labelers!**

Our club will have these available for \$40.50 (they retail for \$44.95 plus shipping). Please contact Jim Cato if you would like to order. His email is: [pussbug@aol.com](mailto:pussbug@aol.com). His telephone number is 309-787-3651.

Q & Z Nursery introduces the all new  
**MARK ZILIS' FIELD GUIDE TO HOSTAS**

**MVHS dues** are \$7 a year. Please make your check payable to MVHS (not Jim) and send to Jim Cato, Treasurer, 12915 - 25th St. Ct., Milan, IL 61264. We offer 8 newsletters a year, reduced prices on hosta offerings, garden walks, first opportunity to buy plants at our annual hosta and companion plant sale and many other good opportunities.

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AHS dues - The American Hosta Society offers participation in all national activities, including a convention, 3 issues of "The Hosta Journal." Dues are \$30/yr; \$57/2yrs. Family memberships are also available at \$34/yr and \$64/2 yrs. Make check payable to AHS and send to Membership Secretary, Sandi Markland, PO Box 7539, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948.

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**MRHS dues** are \$10/yr. Send your check to: Kristine James, 523 E. Calhoun St., Woodstock, IL 60098 and please include your name, address, tel. no. and email address.

### **WHAT'S HAPPENING!!**

APR 19 - Fluff & Buff, VanderVeer Hosta Glade  
APR 28 - Plant Tags, VanderVeer Hosta Glade  
MAY 3 - 1 PM - Hosta Dig, VanderVeer  
JUNE 1 - 9 AM, Members Only Plant Sale  
10AM-1:30PM - PUBLIC SALE

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Visit our MVHS Web Site: **mvhosta.org**

Other hosta and garden web sites:

American Hosta Society - <http://www.hosta.org>

Midwest Hosta Society - [http://www.](http://www.midwesthostasociety.org)

[midwesthostasociety.org](http://www.midwesthostasociety.org)

Hosta Library - <http://www.hostalibrary.org>

Hosta Forum - questions/answers - <http://forums.gardenweb.com/forums/hosta>

Mini Hosta Forum - [http://](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/minihosta)

groups.yahoo.com/group/minihosta

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**LET US KNOW!!! IF YOU HAVE MOVED or HAS YOUR EMAIL CHANGED?**

**Send your corrected info to JIM CATO, 12915-25th ST. CT., MILAN, IL 61264.**

**Jim's email is [pussbug@aol.com](mailto:pussbug@aol.com).**

Mississippi Valley Hosta Society  
909 Mississippi Blvd.  
Bettendorf, Iowa

FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T PAID THEIR DUES FOR 2014,  
THIS IS YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER!!! We don't want to lose you,  
so please send your check for \$7 for one year, or \$14 for two years,  
to our treasurer, Jim Cato, 12915 25th St. Ct., Milan IL 61264!!!!