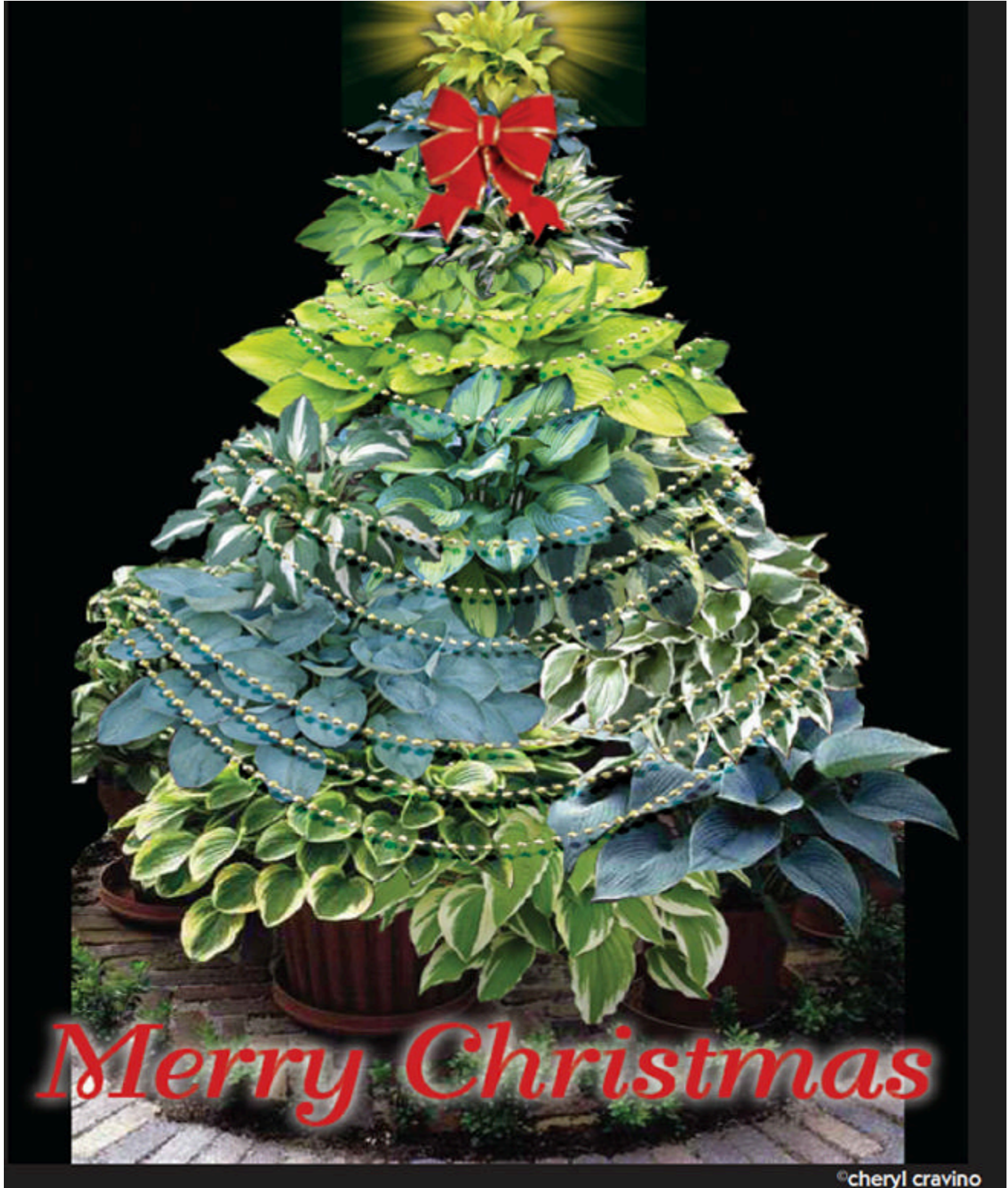




# Hosta Happenings

December 2010

Vol. 14, Iss 910



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## Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2010

Our guest speaker for the November meeting was Beverly Rings from Burnside, IL. Her presentation on "Heritage Plants" was greatly received. Bev showed us a few slides of heritage plants in her garden and there was a Q&A session at the end.

Carolyn gave the Call to Order due to Shirley's absence.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted by the membership present.

Dean Piatt was not present so a Treasurer's Report was not available.

Old Business: A tree for Vander Veer, a Japanese Hemlock, will be donated by the MVHS at a cost of \$200.00. The expenditure was voted on and accepted.

New Business: A suggestion for a plaque to commemorate deceased MVHS members should be purchased and placed in the hosta glade at Vander Veer. Also, MVHS the purchase of a shrub or tree for the Childrens' Garden at the Botanical Center is temporarily on hold until their new building is complete. It is all sun there, so hostas are out of the question.

A few members attended a tissue culture class and passed around their successful hosta cultures. Don Musak discussed a possible propagation class to be held with the MVHS membership next spring.

Election of officers for 2011-12 was held, voted and accepted by the membership, and they are:

President: Carolyn Hamilton

Vice President: Ron Simmering

Treasurer: Jim Cato

Recording Secretary: Mary Johannsen

Announcements: Carolyn urged everyone to consider attending the annual MVHS Christmas party being held at the Thunder Bay Grill, December 3, 2010 starting at 6:00 PM.

A meeting will be held in January and a new schedule will be published at that time.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

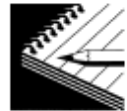
Mary Johannsen, Secretary

## Killer Compost

*GARDEN GATE MAGAZINE ISSUE 91 FEBRUARY 2010 pg 45  
Reprinted from the Septemer 2010 NW Ind Newsletter and the Michigan Society November 2010 Newsletter*

**“Gardeners in the United Kingdom and the United States have recently lost plants due to compost contamination with aminopyralid. It’s a chemical found in the weed killers ForeFront® and Milestone®, used to treat pastures where cattle and horses graze. The problem for gardeners is that aminopyralid doesn’t break down even if eaten and digested by an animal. As a result, some manures are laced with an unhealthy dose of broadleaf herbicide. The company that produces this chemical recommends that composted manure from animals grazing in treated fields not be sold for use in gardens. So the next time you buy manure from a local source, ask if the field where the animals grazed was treated with aminopyralid.”**

### *Notes from the Editor ....*



Many of our members now receive their newsletter by email. The newsletter comes with full color pictures and in some issues, they receive an appendum of full color pictures of MHS activities. We'd love to send these extra color pictures to everyone but the cost of postage and reproduction is prohibitive. If you check your email at least weekly, you might want to take advantage of email newsletters. If you don't like reading your newsletter from a computer screen, you can print it on your home printer and then also save the pdf file on your computer for future reference. No more "lost" newsletters.

The MVHS board is meeting in early January to prepare a 2011 schedule of events. Suggestions are very welcome on speakers, programs, places to visit, local gardens to visit in the summer of 2010.

This is your club and we want to make the programs more entertaining and better so we can have a better attendance at meetings.

Please call me at 355-6973, or talk to any board member!!! We need your input!!!

*Carolyn*

## Winter Scientific Meeting of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society is once again sponsoring the Winter Scientific Meeting. This popular winter event will be held Saturday, January 22, 2011 at a new venue – the Wyndham Hotel, 3000 Warrenville Road, Lisle, IL. Lisle is located twenty miles south of Schaumburg, where the Winter Scientific Meeting has been held in previous years. The hotel has given us a \$79.00 room rate. Please make your own reservations by calling 877-999-3223, and mention the “Midwest Regional Hosta Society Winter Scientific Meeting” to guarantee the rate.

We have an outstanding program of speakers with interesting and timely topics:

Bob Solberg – What Ploidy Really Means to the Hosta Grower

Kevin Walek – The Hosta World from the Point of View of the Hosta Registrar – (The increasing problem with the registration of plants he does not think should be registered)

Mark Zilis – Hostas of Distinction

Glenn Herold – Major Minor – (Utilizing hardy bulbs in the garden)

Again this year, the program will include a series of three concurrent breakout sessions. The topics covered in these sessions will be:

Session A: So You Want to get Your Photo Published in the Hosta Journal (by Ken Harris)

Session B: What’s New with Hydrangeas (by Dave Wanninger)

Session C: Hybridizer’s Perspective – Are Our Hostas Going to the Dogs? (by Ron Livingston)

These breakout sessions will be presented twice, so attendees will be able to attend two out of the three sessions.

Again this year, there will be a hosta seed silent auction, proceeds of which will be used to underwrite a portion of the cost of the meeting.

The cost of this winter extravaganza is only \$50 per person for Midwest Regional Hosta Society members and \$60 for non-members, and includes a continental breakfast and a deli buffet lunch. At their option, non-members can apply the \$10 difference in the registration fee to a one-year membership in the MRHS. Please make checks payable to MRHS, and mail before January 10, 2011, with the registration form to:

Kristine James  
523 E. Calhoun Street  
Woodstock Ill. 60098

**Registrations postmarked after January 10 require a \$10 late registration fee per person.**

Registration at the hotel will begin on Friday, January 21, from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm, and Saturday, January 22 from 7:00 am – 8:00 am. The program will run from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm on Saturday. Dinner Friday and Saturday nights will be on your own at one of the many fine area restaurants. The Hospitality Suite will be open from 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm, both Friday and Saturday nights, for all that good hosta fellowship.

Questions? Contact Lou Horton (630-293-7735) or email: [lehorton85@ameritech.net](mailto:lehorton85@ameritech.net)

# 2011 Winter Scientific Meeting Registration Form

Make a copy of this registration form for your records. If you would like confirmation of your registration, list a valid email address or enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Please **PRINT CLEARLY**. Fill out registration form completely.

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

## ATTENDEE 1:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Member of MRHS  Non-member

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

If a non-member, do you want your \$10 surcharge applied to a one-year FAMILY membership in the Midwest Regional Hosta Society?  
 YES  NO

Please confirm my reservation by email

## ATTENDEE 2: Address same as Attendee 1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Member of MRHS  Non-member

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

If a non-member, do you want your \$10 surcharge applied to a one-year FAMILY membership in the Midwest Regional Hosta Society?  
 YES  NO

Please confirm my reservation by email

Registrations postmarked after January 10 require a \$10 late registration fee per person.

Cancellations before January 10 will be sent a full refund.  
We will be unable to issue refunds after Jan. 10, 2011.

Number of Members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Non-Members \_\_\_\_\_ x \$60 \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Late Registrations \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to MRHS.

Questions about registration? Contact Kristine: email [dankrisj@mc.net](mailto:dankrisj@mc.net) or phone 815-337-4621

Mail your registration to:  
Kristine James  
523 E Calhoun Street  
Woodstock IL 60098

## CHANGE THE PLANT LABEL

By Ray Rodgers

Reprinted from Michigan Society Newsletter, Nov 2010

There have been a number of hosta name changes for a variety of reasons over the years. I have chosen the following examples because these hostas are all likely to be in a number of central Illinois gardens, and in some cases labels / markers may have not yet been updated.

### Non-current/Incorrect Name--

#### Correct Name as of 2010

-*H. montana* 'Praeflorens' -- *H. montana* f. *macrophylla*

-*H. fluctuans* 'Variegated' -- *H.* 'Sagae' or *H. fluctuans* 'Sagae'

-*H.* 'Great River Sonata' -- *H.* 'Sagae' or *H. fluctuans* 'Sagae'

'Great River Sonata' was the gift hosta for the 2004 MRHS convention in Dubuque, Iowa. This hosta was originally thought to be a white-margined sport of 'Moonlight Sonata', but due to a mistake at the tissue culture lab, all plants with this name are actually 'Sagae'.

-*H. nigrescens* 'Elatior' -- *H.* 'Elatior'

*H.* 'Moerheim' -- *H.* 'Antioch'

*H.* 'Spinners' -- *H.* 'Antioch' 'Antioch' has also been sold as 'Moerheim' and 'Spinners'.

*H. venusta* 'Variegated' -- *H.* 'Masquerade'  
Prior to being registered as *H.* 'Masquerade' in the early 1990s, this hosta was marketed as *H. venusta* 'Variegated'.

- *H.* 'Geisha' -- *H.* 'Ani Machi' The plant Kevin Vaughn registered in 1983 as 'Geisha' is believed to no longer exist. Plant labels for the hosta widely sold as 'Geisha' should be changed to 'Ani Machi'.

*H.* 'J.W. Matthews' -- *H.* 'Jim Matthews'  
Before being registered, this cultivar was known as 'J.W. Mathews'.

*H.* 'Golden Prayers' -- *H.* 'Little Aurora'  
The plant sold as 'Golden Prayers' since the early 1980s is actually 'Little Aurora'.

- *H.* 'Emerald Island' -- *H.* 'Emerald Ruff Cut'  
The name 'Emerald Island' introduced in the late 1990s, changed to 'Emerald Ruff Cut' when registered in 2003 to avoid any confusion with 'Emerald Isle'.

*H.* 'Polar Moon' -- *H.* 'Clifford's Polar Moon'  
What was commonly marketed as 'Polar Moon' is actually 'Clifford's Polar Moon'.

Continued next column

-*H.* 'Dancing Eddy' -- *H.* 'Uzu-no-mai'

'Uzu-no-mai' is sometimes incorrectly listed under its translated (Japanese to English) name, 'Dancing Eddy'. The popularity of this cultivar, widely considered the smallest hosta, has been negatively impacted because of its difficulty to maintain and over winter.

Whether one elects or chooses not to change labels to coincide with what the American Hosta Society (AHS) considers to be the most current and correct names is a personal choice. I personally suggest following the guidance of the AHS. Those that keep track of their hostas in a spreadsheet or database may want to retain both the original and updated names.

The third issue of the *Hosta Journal* is now available on the internet and it's a beauty. The AHS needs to save some money too and they are going to have two printed issues and one on the internet.

AHS members can access the newsletter from the American Hosta Society website. All you have to do is click on the big hosta and enter a universal password and it was printed in the President's letter in the latest Journal. The colored photos are really great.

For those members who do not have a computer, please ask a friend to get them to the website, and you can print off a paper copy.

A VERY MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
TO ALL OF YOU AND A  
HAPPY AND HEALTHY  
2011.

**AHS DUES:** The American Hosta Society offers participation in all national activities, including a convention, 3 issues of "The Hosta Journal", and a directory. They also have a web page - [www.hosta.org](http://www.hosta.org). Dues are \$30/yr, \$57/2 yrs and \$900 life for an individual. Family memberships are also available at \$34/yr and \$62/2 yrs. Make your check to AHS and send to the Membership Secretary, Sandie Markland, PO BOX 7359, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

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**Midwest Regional Hosta Society Dues** are \$10/yr. Send your check to: Barbara Schroeder, 1819 Coventry Dr., Champaign, IL 61822-5239.

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**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HOSTA SOCIETY DUES** are \$7/YR. Please make your check payable to MVHS and send to JIM CATO, 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 plant sale and many other good opportunities.

Mississippi Valley Hosta Society  
909 Mississippi Blvd.  
Bettendorf, Iowa 52722

**WHAT'S HAPPENING:**

**Jan 22** - Winter Scientific, Lisle, IL

**Mar 11-12** - Hosta College, Piqua, OH

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Visit our MVHS Web Site: **[mvhosta.org](http://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://](http://forums.gardenweb.com/forums/hosta)

[forums.gardenweb.com/forums/hosta](http://forums.gardenweb.com/forums/hosta)

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

[groups.yahoo.com/group/minihosta](http://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.**

**HIS EMAIL IS: [pussBug@aol.com](mailto:pussBug@aol.com).**