



Hosta Happenings

December 2013

Vol. 17, Iss. 11

WARMEST GREETINGS

OF THE SEASON

AND EVERY GOOD WISH

FOR HAPPINESS AND

GOOD HEALTH

IN 2004

October 13, 2013 Minutes

A meeting of the Mississippi Valley Hosta Society was held at 6 PM on Sunday, October 13, 2013. The meeting was called to order by President, Sally Stewart. Minutes of the March meeting were published in the newsletter and there were no corrections. There was no Treasurer report.

Old Business:

- Sally thanked Teri Simmering for arranging and serving the refreshments at each meeting. It really is appreciated.
- Sally advised 55 people attended the educational talk given by Don Dean on September 22. A discussion followed regarding the declining attendance at these talks. It is an expensive project; however, it was decided to continue and have another in 2014.
- We had originally planned to have a fall hosta dig at VanderVeer for the spring Plant Sale and overwinter the plants at Franc Freeman's, but time got away from us and it is too late to do that this year. We will do a dig next Spring but we will probably dig fewer plants as the older plants do not sell as well. Dean Piatt advised he had ordered one extra of each hosta we ordered from Solberg this past Spring and he and Jennifer Meyer (from VV) had recently planted them. There are quite a few plants at the VanderVeer gardens that did not survive the drought. We plan to ask members for mature replacement plants as the younger new plants we have planted do not thrive.

New Business:

- Our annual Christmas dinner will be held on Friday, December 6, at the Outing Club. Social hour is a 6 PM and dinner will be served at 7 PM. Our club will pay a portion of each meal...beef tenderloin is \$25, grilled salmon is \$25 and breast of chicken is \$20. Dessert will also be served. Teri Simmering is taking reservations until November 29. A bulletin will be included in the November newsletter. Meeting was adjourned and following refreshments, we had a Q and A discussion on hostas and related subjects.

November 10, 2013 Minutes

A meeting of the Mississippi Valley Hosta Society was held at 2 PM on Sunday, November 10, 2013. The meeting was called to order by President, Sally Stewart. The minutes from the October meeting will be in the next newsletter, and there was no Treasurer's report. Our Treasurer, Jim Cato, is still going through chemo treatments, and the good news is there aren't that many left.

Old Business:

- 2014 dues are due. Dues are still \$7 a year and can be sent to Jim Cato. Our dues are still \$7 because so many of our members are receiving their newsletters via email, which really helps defray printing and mailing costs.
- The Christmas party will be held on Friday, December 6, at the Outing Club. See Teri Simmering for making reservations, which need to be made by November 29.
- The MVHS Board will be meeting in December or January to plan the 2014 schedule of events. A Program Chair is needed!!!! We only have 4 meetings during the year - February, March, October and November. The February meeting has been a potluck with Bingo so that would leave three meetings for a speaker. Several suggestions for programs were discussed - Liz Jansen could talk on her trip to Africa; Carolyn, Kay and Ann could talk on their trip to Alaska and Nancy Gruber will come back for a talk about a water garden in the shade. Please call Sally if you could help out.

New Business:

- A discussion was held on how we can get more people to attend our meetings. Attendance has really declined this past year. Following a suggestion that we disband, it was decided by the group to continue on. Other suggestions: calling committee, put a piece in the newsletter in the "Things to Do" column, have fewer meetings. This will be discussed in the January board planning meeting.
- The MRHS Winter Scientific meeting will be held on January 18, 2014, in Lisle, IL. Sally encouraged everyone to attend. The next meeting will be held in February 2014. The meeting was adjourned. Our speaker cancelled at the last minute, so we had a round table discussion on hostas.

Carolyn Hamilton
Secretary Pro-Tem

Winter Scientific Meeting Program
Sponsored by the Midwest Regional Hosta Society
(January 18 – 19, 2013)

Friday January 18th

- 4:00 - 6:00 – Registration (Lobby Foyer)
- 7:00 - 10:00 – Hospitality Get-Together (Getz)

Saturday January 19th

- 7:00 - 8:00 – Registration & Continental Breakfast (Savoy Ballroom Foyer)
- 8:00 - 8:10 – Introductory Remarks (Savoy Ballroom)
- 8:10 - 9:25 – Bob Solberg – What Makes a Great Hosta (Savoy Ballroom)
- 9:25 - 10:40 – Glenn Herold – The Korean Hostas and their Contributions to the Hosta Garden (Savoy Ballroom)

10:40 - 10:50 Break

10:50 - 12:00 Morning Breakout Sessions

- 1) Rob Mortko – Tissue Culture for Dummies Like Me (Getz)
- 2) Olga Petryszyn – Experiences and Experiments on Moving a Mature Garden - You Don't Have to Say Goodbye to Your Old Friends (Savoy Ballroom)
- 3) Richard Hentschel – Garden Pests - The Good Guys vs. the Bad Guys (Shaw)

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

1:00 - 2:10 Afternoon Breakout Sessions

- 1) Rob Mortko – Tissue Culture for Dummies Like Me (Getz)
- 2) Olga Petryszyn – Experiences and Experiments on Moving a Mature Garden - You Don't Have to Say Goodbye to Your Old Friends (Savoy Ballroom)
- 3) Richard Hentschel – Garden Pests - The Good Guys vs. the Bad Guys (Shaw)

2:10 - 2:20 Break

- 2:20 - 3:35 – Mark Zilis – Hostas of Distinction, Part 12 (Savoy Ballroom)
- 3:35 - 4:40 – Jeff Miller – So You Want a Shade Garden - Building a Shade Garden Dos and Don'ts (Savoy Ballroom)

4:40 Closing Remarks

- 7:00 - 10:00 – Hospitality Get-Together (Getz)

Seed & Plant Silent Auction

Again this year, the popular hosta seed silent auction will be held. Included in the auction will be some live plants. Be sure to pick up the separate handout that describes the seeds and plants up for auction.

REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE WINTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING IN ON NEXT PAGE.

2014 WINTER SCIENTIFIC MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

Saturday, January 18, 2014 at the Lisle Sheraton, Lisle, IL

Make a copy of this registration form for your records.

If you would like confirmation of your registration, 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 _____ MRHS member Non-MRHS member
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ If a non-MRHS member, would you like
STATE _____ your \$10 surcharge applied to a
ZIP _____ 1 year FAMILY membership in the
PHONE _____ Midwest Regional Hosta Society?
EMAIL _____ YES NO

ATTENDEE 2: Address same as Attendee 1

NAME _____ MRHS member Non-MRHS member
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ If a non-MRHS member, would you like
STATE _____ your \$10 surcharge applied to a
ZIP _____ 1 year FAMILY membership in the
PHONE _____ Midwest Regional Hosta Society?
EMAIL _____ YES NO

Registrations postmarked after January 6, 2014 require a \$10 late registration fee per person.

Cancellations before January 6, 2014 will be sent a full refund.

We will be unable to issue refunds after January 6, 2014.

Number of members _____ X \$55 = _____
Number of non-members _____ X \$65 = _____
Number of late registrations _____ X \$10 = _____
TOTAL _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO MRHS

Mail your registration and check to:

Kristine James
523 E Calhoun Street
Woodstock IL 60098

Questions about registration? Contact Kristine at MRHS.HOSTA@gmail.com or phone: 815-337-4621

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 you plan to enter: Cut Leaf (Limit of 20 Leaves) Trough/Container Garden for Effect
 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.

Payment

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

TOTAL: \$ _____

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/>

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

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

WHAT WORKS - Central Illinois Hosta Society

During his presentation to the CIHS, Rob Mortko and members in the audience mentioned several products that they have used with great success for various problems in their gardens.

Osmocote Pro - a slow release coated fertilizer sold by various companies, one of which is Scotts. This is the fertilizer Rob uses in his greenhouses.

Deadline - a very hard little turquoise pellet which contains yeast (to attract the slugs) and Metaldehyde, which causes them to stop feeding and kills them. Deadline contains 4% Metaldehyde. The exclusive DB27 attractant system lures slugs and snails toward the bait.

Sluggo - a blend of an iron phosphate based ingredient and bait additives. Pellets, that are not ingested by snails or slugs, will biodegrade and become part of the soil in your garden. The bait additives are attractive to snails and slugs and lure them from their hiding places. Once snails or slugs ingest Sluggo, they stop eating plants and die within 3-6 days. Sluggo is approved for organic gardening.

Bayer Advanced All-in-One Rose and Flower Care or Bayer Advanced Disease Control for Roses, Flowers and Shrubs - three systemic products in one that control insects, diseases and fertilizes. This is an excellent product to use to control Southern Blight on hostas. Read the label to make sure one of the active ingredients is Tebuconazole. According to Rob, Tebuconazole is the key chemical needed to treat this fungus.

Good news and sad news:

Good News: Jim Cato received a "clean bill of health" following his bout of cancer!

Sad News: Jill Ringenberg, wife of Al Ringenberg, passed away. Al was president of our group in 2000. We still have some people who were in our group at that time who might remember the Ringenbergs. Al's address is 6531 Doering Lane, Prophetstown IL 61277.

Dear Hosta Societies of Midwest Region:

At the Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention this past summer, I was elected to the position of Regional Director (Region 5) representing the MRHS. I am a member of Green & Gold Hosta Society of Northeast Wisconsin (Green Bay, WI), MRHS and the American Hosta Society.

I retired from the Financial Industry as a Bank Marketing Officer. My volunteer involvement is Master Gardeners, Hosta Society, Garden Club and food pantry at church.

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society has convention sites for 2014 Green Bay, WI and 2015 Dubuque, IA. We are still in need for 2016 and going forward to have your society or a group of local societies to host the Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention

If your society has a public garden in your area that is worthy of becoming an AHS National Display Garden, please contact me. The criteria for an official AHS National Display Garden is on the web site, www.americanhostasociety.org. Currently, we have 12 AHS National Display Gardens in the Midwest. (VanderVeer Botanical Park here in Davenport is one of these gardens.)

Please attend the Winter Scientific meeting at Lisle, IL on January 18, 2014, sponsored by your MRHS. What a way to spend a weekend in the middle of winter visiting old and meeting new hosta friends. Please check our website at www.midwesthostasociety.org for speakers, cost and registration.

As your Regional Director I would like to help you with issues that MRHS may be able to help your society. I look forward to meeting you or hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Gwidt

N1619 Fox Ridge Trail, Keshena, WI 54135

Phone: 715-799-4521

Email: pathen33@yahoo.com

.....If you are not a **Garden Performance Judge**, become one.....
It is easy to do and the most important requirement is that you love hosta.

CALL FOR: GARDEN PERFORMANCE JUDGES

By Meg Dalton

The AHS Benedict Garden Performance Awards Plan recognizing performance excellence of individual hosta cultivars in the garden setting began in 2005. The system was approved by the Board of Directors in 2003 and the details of the plan are listed on the AHS website.

We need members to apply to become Garden Judges. The plan allows for a maximum of 15% of each Region's membership to be Garden Judges.

What is the Garden Judge expected to do? The requirements are simple and straight forward. First you will be expected to visit and observe hostas growing in as many gardens as possible in your own region.

For balloting purposes, your opinions on cultivar performance should be based primarily on your observations of hostas in your region. Recognizing regional performance is an important aspect of this plan. The second responsibility is to vote. A ballot will be sent to you by April 15 of each year. The ballot will list all cultivars eligible for the awards under consideration. You will circle the cultivars that you wish to vote for, using the selection criteria and point scales that are part of the plan to assist you making your choices. Then return the ballot to the Garden Performance Chair by October 15. That is all you will need to do each year.

Who is eligible to become a Garden Judge? Anyone who has:

1. been a member of The American Hosta Society for three years
2. a demonstrated knowledge of hostas
3. a demonstrated ability to visit a representative cross section of gardens in his or her Region.

How do you apply to become a Garden Judge? Just download the application form found on the AHS web site (www.hosta.org) fill it out and send to Barbara Jones - Garden Performance Chair, 46 Bartlett Street, Chelmsford, MA 01824. You may also send it to her at her email address bbrownj@aol.com. OR if you cannot access the form at the web site, send Barbara a letter of application listing your number of years as an AHS member, the number of hosta cultivars you grow in your own garden as well as the approximate number of cultivars you have added to your collection in the last five years, and the names of the hosta gardens you have visited in your own Region and at National Conventions during the previous two years. (List a maximum of fifteen gardens.) Based on the information you provide, Barbara will determine if you satisfy the requirements to become a garden judge and will notify you within thirty days of receipt of application. Remember that a maximum of 15% of each Region's members can participate at one time so apply soon to assure your appointment as an AHS Garden Judge.

REV. 1-1-08



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!!

JAN 18 - Winter Scientific, Lisle, IL

FEB - MVHS Meeting

MAR 14-15 - 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://forums.gardenweb.com/forums/hosta>

Mini Hosta Forum - <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.

Jim's email is pussbug@aol.com.

Mississippi Valley Hosta Society
909 Mississippi Blvd.
Bettendorf, Iowa