



# *Show Me Hostas Newsletter*

Volume 8, Issue 1

January 2007

## **Pot Luck Meeting and Slide Show**

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM**

**At Creve Coeur Government Center**

**300 N. New Ballas, St. Louis 63141**

***(Ballas Rd. between Ladue Rd. and Olive)***

Our first meeting of 2007 will be our annual Pot Luck dinner at Creve Coeur Government Center. Be sure to join us! The club will supply soup and beverages for the pot luck. If your last name begins with A - G please bring a salad (pasta, lettuce, etc...); H - P please bring finger sandwiches or bread; Q - Z please bring a dessert.

During this event we'll also enjoy a slide show of the 2006 National Convention presented by Kelly Hall, and a brief meeting about upcoming events. A Naylor Creek gift certificate and an Anne Durbin leaf will be given away as door prizes. Please plan to stay after the standard meeting for Jim Weidman's 2008 National Convention meeting.

### **2007 Calendar of Events**

<b>February 11</b>	<b>Annual Pot Luck Dinner and Slide Show (**Plant Orders Due**)</b>
<b>March 3</b>	<b>The St. Louis Community College Garden Symposium</b> <a href="http://www.hortco-op.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=events.detail&amp;eventID=11">http://www.hortco-op.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=events.detail&amp;eventID=11</a>
<b>April 15</b>	<b>Vendor Day, Plant Pick-Up, and guest speaker Mary Ann Fink from MoBot</b>
<b>May 26</b>	<b>MoBot Plant Sale</b>
<b>May/June</b>	<b>St. Louis Hosta Society Garden Walks and Garden Tours</b>
<b>June 21-23</b>	<b>2007 American Hosta Society National Convention (Indianapolis, IN)</b>
<b>July 12-14</b>	<b>2007 Midwest Regional Hosta Convention (Davenport, IA)</b>
<b>July 22</b>	<b>Hosta Auction - Guest Auctioneer Jeff Hall</b>
<b>September 16</b>	<b>St. Louis Hosta Society Meeting (Program/Speaker to be announced)</b> <b>Election of new officers.</b>
<b>November/December</b>	<b>Holiday Party</b>

# St. Louis Hosta Society Club Plants - 2007 Order Form

(Page 1 of 3)

**Keep this page of the order form for your records**

All plants will be given out at the plant pick-up and Vendor day on April 15th, 2007.  
All plants will be bare root (unless otherwise noted).

See pages 2 & 3 of this order form for a brief description of each Hosta. For a full detailed description of these Hostas visit [www.naylorcreek.com](http://www.naylorcreek.com).

**Plants Ordered:**

Paradise Glory	_____	Tom Schmid	_____
Paradise Joyce	_____	Katsuragawa Beni	_____
Robin Hood	_____	Red Dragon	_____
Clifford Forest Fire	_____	Daisy Doolittle	_____
Lakeside Beach Captain	_____	Sugar Daddy	_____
Flemish Sky	_____	Heat Wave	_____

**Deadline for ordering plants is February 11, 2007**

Please bring your order (Page 2 of this form) and payment to the Feb. 11 meeting or mail to:

Pat Payton  
361 S. Maple  
Webster Groves, MO 63119

**\*\* Remember, plant pick up will be at the April 15th Vendor Meeting. \*\***

## **The Hosta Hospitality Party**

Review by: Shirley Anton Suntrup

The St. Louis Hosta Society enjoyed a Holiday Open House at the home of Joan and Larry Hummel on Saturday, December 16, 2006. The custom-built Federal style home, adjacent to Rockwoods Reservation, is reached by an uphill road, and the entrance to the curving driveway was marked by a lighted evergreen tree. The windows of the three-story home were illumined with candlelight. We were welcomed to the parlor with a giant Christmas tree reaching the ten-foot-high ceiling, glowing with hundreds of lights and ornaments, many created by Christopher Radko. It was a perfect introduction to the Christmas collections of Joan and Larry!

Joan has collected Christmas items of every type for many years. She and Larry also collect Early-American furniture, especially corner cabinets, which held their multiple collections of Americana, augmented with their Christmas collections (stored year-round in the third floor attic). Every corner, window over-ledge, shelf, mantle and tabletop overflowed with Santa's, Christmas mice, Christmas trees, sleds, stuffed animals and other memorabilia, hundreds of items from the smallest possible to quite large pieces. The displays enticed you to every corner of every room.

The lighted slopes of Hidden Valley Ski Resort, on an adjacent hill visible from the windows of the home, contributed to the Winter Wonderland effect. Woodwork in the home was completed by a Master Carpenter, highlighted by a coffered ceiling in the family room, beautiful library shelves in the study, and a state-of-the art kitchen with beautiful cabinetry. The space under the steps to the second floor, in the entry foyer, is completely filled with built-in drawers for additional storage, featuring perfectly finished wood. Joan designed the glass window over the entry door.

In addition to the refreshment provided by Joan and Larry, guests enjoyed the contributions of their fellow gardeners, lavish and delicious. The evening's conversation naturally centered on the gardens of 2006 and anticipation of the gardens of 2007.

Joan and Larry had planted trees since their original purchase of the property and started planning and planting beds before the construction of the home. In addition to the Hostas and other plants and perennials, Larry has constructed a Prairie Garden. Their gardens are visited by many species of hawks, owls and other birds.

Just before leaving we were privileged to see two gray fox pups in the side garden. Altogether the evening was a perfect start to Christmas festivities. May everyone enjoy an abundant, felicitous growing season in 2007!

As a reminder of Meeting/Event dates and times, please save the front page of this newsletter. You can always cut out the Calendar of Events and place it on your fridge.

# Seasonal Hosta Tips

by Bob Solberg

## **Spring - Foliage Emergence Begins** (March - April - early May)

Fertilization: Apply Osmocote 2 weeks after emergence, or apply granular 10-10-10 mid-March, or begin applications of liquid fertilizer mid-March.

Irrigation: As needed to maintain moist soil, but not wet. Remember this Bob Solberg rule:

If you **aren't** going to water -- **DON'T START**. If you **are** going to water -- **DON'T STOP**.

Protection: Protect from late frosts with lightweight cloth, pots, boxes or newspaper.

Division: Not the best time, since roots are not growing until after leaves form.

Pests: Begin slug control before foliage emerges.

## **Late Spring - Period of Rapid Foliage and Root Growth** (Mid May - early June)

Fertilization: Apply granular 10-10-10 May 1, or continue weekly applications of liquid fertilizer. For rapid growth, foliar feed high-nitrogen fertilizer. Add a pinch of magnesium per gallon of water (Epsom Salts).

Irrigation: Maintain moisture needed for growth (overhead watering may damage blue hostas).

Protection: Thin layer of coarse mulch to conserve soil moisture.

Division: OK to transplant entire hosta, being careful not to damage roots. Do not divide.

Pests: Continue to watch for slug and vole damage, apply bait as needed.

## **Summer - Period of bloom, seed setting and dormancy** (June-July-early August)

Fertilization: Apply 10-10-10 July 1, or weekly applications of liquid fertilizer until bloom. Also, fertilize once after dividing and replanting.

Irrigation: Maintain soil moisture. Also, sprinkle leaves during heat of day to cool.

Protection: Thin layer of coarse mulch to conserve moisture and keep crown cool.

Division: August is the best time to divide and replant. Fertilize after replanting.

Pests: July and August, begin watching for foliar nematodes on leaf blades, and isolate or destroy affected plants. Fungal diseases begin during summer. (Use Daconil every 10 days as needed)

## **Fall - Final seed set and dormancy begins** (September-October-November)

Fertilization: None. Irrigation: None.

Protection: Apply 1" coarse mulch.

Division: None, remove scapes and dead foliage if desired.

Pests: Begin watching for voles.

## A Note from the President

What we need to do in 07 is about the same as I wrote about in 06. ...Donate plants for sale at MBG and our Auction (plants potted in early spring will look really good by our auction in July). Save a few for National Convention in 08 (donation of plants for this auction is one of the primary sources of funds for our National Society).

If you are a list maker, I have a number of items I would like to have you add to your lists. Start thinking about how you might like to get more involved with your Hosta Society. I am always amazed by how much talent you all have, but because you do not have a sign on your back, saying I can do this or that, we do not get you involved. Every year two or three people come forward and we get to know more about you.

Here are some ways many of us can get to know each other better:

- Plan to donate plants and help sell plants to the public at MBG hosta sale. This is a chance to spend time together, visit, and talk hostas.

Get involved in our Garden Walk program. Volunteer your garden for a garden walk at our meeting in February. What we have been trying to do with garden walks is to visit members' gardens. The procedure has been for visitors to bring their beverage of choice to drink, and a snack to share. Garden hosts have provided a couple of tables for snacks and some seating, but it is best for garden walk visitors to bring your own chairs. Talk to Dave Poos about hosting a garden walk in your garden. Times and dates are open, but, so far, the two most popular times have been Sunday afternoons and Friday evenings. Garden walks have been a lot of fun so please volunteer your garden and/or join us.

- Dave is also Chair of Garden Tours, so start thinking about having your garden on tour and talk to Dave.
- Join both the Regional and National Societies and plan to attend the National which is in Indianapolis, Indiana and/or the Regional which is in Davenport, Iowa. We will have a short photo DVD film on the city and Gardens in Davenport, in addition to a recap of the Gardens in Philadelphia, being prepared by Kelly Hall.

When you get your list of plants in this newsletter remember you can go on line to the Hosta Library and see photo's of most of the plants. Go to [www.hostalibrary.org/](http://www.hostalibrary.org/) and check them out.

Spring is coming,

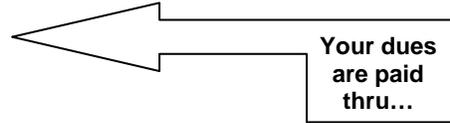
Arlie





**St. Louis Hosta Society**  
**668 Woodstream Dr.**  
**St. Charles, MO 63304**

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**



**St. Louis Hosta Society  
 Officials**

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**www.stlouishosta.org**



**Are Your Dues Due?**

To determine if your St. Louis Hosta Society membership dues are due, check the four digit number appearing after your name on the address label of this newsletter. Your membership dues are paid through the end of the year appearing after your name. For example, if “2007” appears after your name, your dues are paid through the 2007 year. Membership dues are due before January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. To renew your membership, please send your check (payable to St. Louis Hosta Society) to Pat Payton, 361 S. Maple, Webster Groves, MO 63119-3841.

**Membership Information**

**The American Hosta Society**

Contact: Sandie Markland  
 8702 Pinnacle Rock Ct.  
 Lorton, VA 22079-3029

Dues: Individual \$25 per year, Family \$29 per year

**Midwest Regional Hosta Society**

Contact: Scott Hildebrandt  
 1020 Redwood Dr.  
 Norwalk, IA 50211

Dues: Individual \$10 per year

**St. Louis Hosta Society**

Contact: Pat Payton  
 361 S. Maple  
 Webster Groves, MO 63119-3841

Dues: \$7 per year, \$18 for three years  
 Family or Individual