



Show Me Hostas Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 9

November, 2011

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Pam Wolkowitz President
Photo by Kelly Hall

Happy Fall Y'all,

The leaves are falling and a frost is twinkling on the lawn. We have to admit that another gardening year is coming to an end. It's time to clean up our gardens and get them ready for their winter rest.

I want to thank you all for the privilege of being your president. It's been a fun two years for sure! Phyllis, your new president for next year, and I have already met and there

are some great things being planned for 2012. So, be sure and come to all the meetings.

See you all at the Christmas party,

Pam

WELCOME!

We hope to see our new member **Marian Murphy of St. Louis** at the Christmas Party.

May your stuffing be tasty
May your turkey plump
May your potatoes and gravy
Have nary a lump.
May your yams be delicious
And your pies take the prize
And may your Thanksgiving dinner
Stay off your thighs!

~Author Unknown

2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 18

Board Meeting

6:00 PM, Home of Phyllis Weidman

December 4

Holiday Party

1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center

January 21

MRHS Winter Scientific Meeting

Lisle, Illinois

June 13-16, 2012

American Hosta Society National Convention

Nashville, TN

July 12-14, 2012

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention

Rochester, MN

Last newsletter of 2011

First newsletter of 2012 will be in January with our first meeting occurring in February



**Be a part of the action
Join in the fun
See what happens behind the scenes
Make your wishes known**

**Fall Board Meeting
November 18, 6:00 PM**

**Home of President-elect Phyllis Weidman
508 Pointe Essex Court, Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-965-7027 or Pow1031@gmail.com.**

All members are invited to join the old and new Board members for a delicious bowl of soup, a fabulous dessert and a spirited meeting. The agenda includes such items as setting 2012 meeting dates, establishing the 2012 budget, brain-storming about possible speakers and scheduling other interesting events. Let the Board know what you want for your Society in 2012. What did you like or not like in 2011? Get to know your Board members - they're really a lot of fun to be around, are enthusiastic about gardening, hostas and your Society, and are quite generous with their time and expertise. Call or email Phyllis to reserve your place at the table.



One of Rick Clarkson's
2010 Centerpieces

Don't procrastinate!
Reservation Deadline is November 20

St. Louis Hosta Society Holiday Party
Sunday December 4, 2011
1:00 PM
Creve Coeur Government Center



Gene Fink, Duane Cookson and
Bob Squire talking before the
2010 festivities began.

Don't miss out on one of the most popular events of the year! Karen Frimel and Martha Lafata are putting together a FUN afternoon guaranteed to get you in the holiday mood. Judging by years past, there will be twinkling lights, holiday music, white linen tablecloths, colorful centerpieces, delicious food and of course plenty of gardening talk and laughter. Tim Cancila from 'The Gas House Grill' will again be catering our party as he has the last two years. Members loved his good food, his excellent, friendly service and the fact there were no dirty dishes to wash and dry.

If you wish to partake in the Gift Exchange (what kind of game will it be this year?), please bring a wrapped gift of approximately \$10.00 value.

Reservations are required. November 20 is the deadline. Price for this catered lunch is \$10.00 for each person attending. A cash bar will be available. Please RSVP by mailing your check to:

Dave Poos
9904 Crestwood Dr.
Crestwood, MO 63126

**The spring tornados, strong winds, heavy rains, fallen trees and eroded gardens are distant memories.
The constant battle with moles, voles and four-legged hosta-munchers is over for another year.
Glazed pots and hypertufa troughs have found their way into garages or under thick mulch.
The short days of November and December signal the end to another gardening year.**

With the holiday seasons upon us, it's time to reflect and give thanks. Thanks for:

**Programs that educated as well as entertained
Pot lucks and Christmas Parties with their waist-thickening goodies
Hospitality tables filled with cookies and drinks each and every meeting
Volunteers who weeded, pruned and planted at our new AHS Display Garden
Members who opened their gardens for their fellow hostaholics to browse and socialize
Chances to add to our ever increasing collection of beautiful hostas at prices we could afford
Volunteers who welcomed new members, ran auctions, organized vendor days and plant offerings**

Thanks to each and every person who attended meetings, events and gave of their time!

**Give yourself an early Christmas present
Place your order now**

As a service to our members, each year the St. Louis Hosta Society compiles a list of plants that can be purchased by members for wholesale prices. Orders are placed now and plants will be available for pick up at our Vendor Day and Club Plant Pick-Up in April 2012.

Listed are eleven selections from Naylor Creek Nursery. The selections include something for everyone – small, medium and large, in combinations of green, blue and gold. These usually are newer plants that are not yet available at local nurseries.

If you receive an email version of the newsletter, the SLHS Club Plant Sale Order Form for 2012 is the second attachment. If you receive a postal copy, the order form is the last page of the newsletter.

Please fill out the form indicating the number of plants of each type that you wish to order. Total your order and then mail the form with your check, made out to St. Louis Hosta Society, to our plant sale chairman Rick Clarkson.

**Rick Clarkson
14 Hebner Street
Alton, IL 62002**

The order forms with your money must be returned to Rick by [December 4, 2011.](#)



Ben Vernoij



Cranberry Wine



Hands Up



Double D Cup



Forbidden Fruit



Stand By Me



Frank Lloyd Wright



Pistache



Proud Sentry



Rocket's Red Glare



Minnesota Wild

It was a gorgeous October afternoon, sunny and mild.



Mike Curren

Mike Curren, assistant manager in charge of trees and shrubs (among other things), was prepared to give us an informative talk on one of his favorite subjects – conifers. Mike has worked for Summer Winds since 2000, working his way up from “hole-digger to selling, talking and ordering”. He makes an annual trip to Oregon searching for unusual specimens for the garden center and also for his own vast collection.

Conifers, distinguished by cones which hold the seeds of the plant, are generally evergreen, but not always. Ones that do not have needles include Ginkgo, Bald Cypress and Dawn Redwood.

Conifers usually need full sun, but not always. Deep shade is not good - some might survive, but they will be sparse. The following can tolerate light shade: *Cephalotaxus* (Plum Yew), *Chamacyparis obtusa* (Cypress), *Cryptomeria* (Bald Cypress), *Microbiota* (Cypress), *Picea abies* (Norway Spruce), *Picea orientalis* (Oriental Spruce), *Taxus* (Yew), *Sciadopitys* (Japanese Umbrella Pine), *Thuja* (Arborvitae) and the Hemlocks. Firs do not do well in St. Louis, succumbing to our summer heat and humidity.

Conifers come in all sizes:

- Miniature – 1-2 feet in height, growing less than 1 inch per year.
- Dwarf – up to 8 feet in height, growing less than 6 inches per year.
- Intermediate – 8 to 15 feet in height.
- Large – any tree more than 15 feet in height.

It's possible to keep larger conifers small by pruning or cutting their candles (the growing tips of the tree).

Mike's tips for planting conifers in St. Louis are:

- Plant in spring, March into May, or in fall, late September to late Oct.
- Drainage, Drainage, Drainage. Except Bald Cypress and Dawn Redwood, most need GOOD drainage.
- Dig a wide hole and plant the root ball three inches higher than the surrounding soil grade. On a hillside plant the backside of the root ball level with the hill and build up the front side.
- Water, but don't over water. Conifers prefer 'drip' watering, a slow, steady flow on the top of the root ball, about one inch a week. Create a routine for watering, especially newly planted conifers. Watch to see how many days it takes for the top of the root ball to dry to determine how often to water.
- Needle browning in the center of conifers is normal as is seasonal needle drop, but if tips begin to brown it can be a sign of stress, pests or other diseases.

Thanks Mike for introducing us to your world and giving us a source for the bones and winter interest in our hosta beds.

I'm curious to hear how JoAnn Rawson's new miniatures over-winter in their new trough homes. Keep us posted.



Summer Winds Garden Center conifer display.



Mike, Dave Poos, Jeff Hall, Doug and Marla Gann converse.



Members browse after Mike's talk.

Upcoming Regional Event

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society once again sponsors the popular Winter Scientific Meeting

Date: **Saturday, January 21, 2012**

Location: Wyndham Hotel, 3000 Warrenville Road, Lisle, IL, 877-999-3223
If you plan to stay overnight, please make your own hotel reservations, and mention the "Midwest Regional Hosta Society Winter Scientific Meeting" to guarantee the special room rate of \$79.00. You can also make your hotel reservation online or by clicking on the link below:



Time: Registration at the hotel will begin on Friday, January 20, from 3:00 - 6:00 pm, and Saturday, January 21 from 7:00 - 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.

Featured Speakers:

Roy Klehm – My Favorite Garden Plants
Bob Solberg – Bringing a New Hosta to Market: Hybridization, Selection, Production & Marketing
Mark Zilis – Tissue Culture – Past, Present and Future
C. H. Falstad – Topic TBA

The program includes a series of 3 concurrent breakout sessions. Each session is presented twice so attendees can attend two of the three sessions. Presenters and their topics are:

Session A: So You Want to Create a Water Feature (by Dennis Hood)
Session B: Trees for the Hosta Garden (by Glen Herold)
Session C: Hybridizer's Perspective (by Jeff Miller of Land of the Giants Hostas)

The cost of this winter extravaganza is \$55 per person for Midwest Regional Hosta Society members and \$65 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 9, 2012 with the [registration form](#) to:

Kristine James
523 E. Calhoun Street
Woodstock IL, 60098

Note that after Jan 9, a \$10 late fee is added.

The Registration Form is included within this Newsletter (Postal recipients) or as the third attachment (Email recipients). More information and the registration form are also available on the MRHS website:

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

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

For those dreary winter days

HOSTA WORD SEARCH

By SWMOgardens.com - permission granted for use in Hosta Society newsletters

T E U Q U O B T N A R G A R F
A C L F T S L U G U L S S A R
T N I S O S W E E T J D O E S
S A B F I R S T F R S N G Y T
O T E Y R O L G S L U A P E A
R S R G T P U M U J L H R H I
F B T I A S G G E S U G A T N
T U Y R P I H L P A T N Y F E
S S A U D T O L G G I I E O D
R D J A R M E Q U A B Y S A G
I N R A A N B A L E B A L T L
F A E C D A G A S T A R U S A
P M A O G G U L S E R P G O S
S U R E A R T H A N G E L H S
G S R A E E S U O M E U L B T

HOSTA OF THE YEAR

1996 So Sweet

1997 Patriot

1998 Fragrant Bouquet

1999 Paul's Glory

2000 Sagae

2001 June

2002 Guacamole

2003 Regal Splendor

2004 Sun and Substance

2005 Striptease

2006 Stained Glass

2007 Paradigm

2008 Blue Mouse Ears

2009 Earth Angel

2010 First Frost

2011 Praying Hands

2012 Liberty

St. Louis Hosta Society Officials

Pam Wolkowitz - President
636-285-3114
lovehostas@msn.com

Phyllis Weidman – Vice-President
314-965-7027
Pow1031@gmail.com

Dave Poos - Treasurer
314-821-1622
david.poos@att.net

Joan Hummel - Secretary
636-405-2584
HummelJFam@sbcglobal.net

Kelly Hall - Webmaster
skyridgegarden@att.net

Karen Frimel – Membership
cckmf@aol.com

Barb Moreland – Hospitality
314-961-4191
Bmore433@aol.com

Joan Poos - Newsletter Editor
314-821-1622
david.poos@att.net

Membership Information

The American Hosta Society

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

AHSMembershipSecretary@earthlink.net

Dues: Individual \$30 per year, Family \$34 per year

Midwest Regional Hosta Society

Contact: Barb Schroeder
1819 Coventry Drive
Champaign, IL 61822

mrhs.treasurer@midwesthostasociety.org

Dues: Individual \$20 for two years

St. Louis Hosta Society

Contact: Dave Poos
9904 Crestwood Drive
Crestwood, MO 63126
david.poos@att.net

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

Meetings held at 1:00 PM at the **Creve Coeur Government Center, 300 N. New Ballas, 63141** (between Ladue Road and Olive), unless otherwise noted.

Visit our Web site

www.stlouishosta.org

Other Hosta and Garden Web Sites

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

Midwest Hosta Society – <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>

Hosta Registry – <http://www.hostaregistrar.org/>

2012 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:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip :

Phone:

e-mail:

Member of MRHS Non-member

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:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip :

Phone:

e-mail:

Member of MRHS Non-member

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 9 require a \$10 late registration fee per person.

Cancellations before January 9 will be sent a full refund.

We will be unable to issue refunds after Jan. 9, 2012.

Number of Members	<input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	x \$55	<input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	
Number of Non-Members	<input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	x \$65	<input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	
Number of Late Registrations	<input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	x \$10	<input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	
Total			<input style="width: 30px; height: 20px;" type="text"/>	

Please make checks payable to MRHS.

Questions about registration? Contact Kristine: email dankrisj@mc.net or phone 815-337-4621

Mail your registration to:

**Kristine James
 523 E Calhoun Street
 Woodstock IL 60098**

SLHS Club Plant Sale – 2012



Name: _____

Telephone: _____

<u>Description</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Cost</u>
<u>Ben Vernooij PPAF</u> <M/S> (Fransen/Vernooij) A very striking and fully tetraploid form of H.'First Frost'. Its unbelievably thick blue leaves have a very wide feathered creamy-yellow border. Large lavender flowers. 'Ben Vernooij' differs from 'Autumn Frost' in that the leaves are thicker. Grows slower than its parent.\$10.00	_____	_____
<u>Cranberry Wine</u> <M> (Sisson) H.'Cranberry Wine' is a seedling from H.'Cinnamon Sticks' x H.'Tequila Sunrise'. The bright yellow pointed leaves that become chartreuse are shiny, very wavy and have wonderful substance. The petioles become cranberry-colored as the season progresses. Purple flowers appear late in the season on top of dark cranberry scapes.\$12.00	_____	_____
<u>Double D Cup</u> <M> (Asch) In the spring the plant emerges a grayish-green color looking very ordinary. Then in early June it starts to show variegation with a faint green border. The border gets darker and darker as the summer days pass and the leaves begin to cup. It looks like a different plant in late summer and with maturity comes the best cupping.\$12.50	_____	_____
<u>Forbidden Fruit PPAF</u> <M> (Fransen) Marco Fransen brings a stunning new hosta, the fully tetraploid form of H.'Orange Marmalade'. Thick leaves have glowing yellow-orange centers set off by a wide blue-green border that can be seen from across the garden. It is proving to be a vigorous grower. Lavender flowers.\$12.00	_____	_____
<u>Frank Lloyd Wright</u> <L> (Goodenough) Naylor Creek states this is an outstanding hosta - it's blue, it's big and it has style Large steel-blue wavy leaves come to a tapered point that turns downward and are held horizontally atop strong petioles creating a vase-shaped clump. Near white flowers appear midseason.\$12.50	_____	_____
<u>Hands Up PPAF</u> <S> (Fransen) This is a true tetraploid of H.'Praying Hands' with lots of great attributes that make it a superior plant. It has very thick leaves which almost feel like rubber. The leaves stay much smaller than those of the parent and have a creamy-yellow to white border that is much more defined. The dense clump will be topped with lavender flowers.\$10.00	_____	_____
<u>Minnesota Wild</u> <M/L> (Carlson) Monty Carlson of Minnesota introduces an elegant new hosta with large heart-shaped green leaves that have great substance. The leaves are framed with a wide and variable creamy-white border with lots of ruffles. Monty says this one does not burn.\$12.50	_____	_____
<u>Pistache</u> <M> (Van Eechaute-2007) Stunning sport from H.'Spilt Milk'. Its leaf centers are a misted combination of several colors of green surrounded by a variable border of green and blue-green. Place the plant in a bright, but shady location. Good grower. \$10.00	_____	_____
<u>Proud Sentry</u> <M> (Dean-2008) Vigorous growing, erect, fountain shaped clump is all dressed up in its crisply pressed and edged uniform. The heavy substance of each leaf is held up and out to reveal the red slacks completing the appearance of this 'Proud Sentry' as it stands guard anywhere in the front to middle of the garden border. Pale lavender flowers.\$8.00	_____	_____
<u>Rocket's Red Glare</u> <M> (Stegeman) Very attractive shiny dark green leaves are held by red petioles whose red color reaches way up into the leaf blade. The leaves have good substance and nice wavy margins. The plant is topped with lavender flowers in midsummer.\$9.00	_____	_____
<u>Stand by Me</u> <S/M> (Fransen) This unique sport of H. 'June' has upright yellowish-green leaves with a very irregular blue border with lots of streaking toward the center. It does not get as large as its parent, but is still a vigorous grower. Lavender flowers.\$9.00	_____	_____
TOTAL	_____	_____