



Volume 13, Issue 2

March, 2012



Phyllis Weidman President
Photo by Kelly Hall

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The year ahead is filled with many new and interesting programs and events. The list of these programs and events can always be found on our web site. The web site is easy to understand and well maintained, thanks to Kelly Hall. She is only one of the many volunteers needed to make the Society function smoothly.

There is Spence Sorenson who said "yes" to organizing the Vendors Day in April. Mike Schmitt is handling the auction (anyone know an auctioneer?) and Martha Lafata will take care of the Holiday Party in December. Rick Clarkson has the 2012 Club Plant Sale well in hand and Jean Hudson will work on next year's sale.

Of course, there are the people at every meeting who do things we take for granted. Those cookies and snacks that Barb Moreland puts together; the name tags placed on the table in alphabetical order by Jim Weidman and Catherine Mayer; the photos taken by Phil Brammer; and the new member packets set in place by Jo Ann Rawson.

Behind the scenes are Dave Poos getting the speakers; Kelly Hall preparing the minutes of all our meetings; Cindy Michniok collecting dues, paying the bills and making sure everyone knows we have a new member; Rose Hall calling new members to welcome them and encourage them to come to the meetings; and Joan Poos who continues to do an outstanding job as newsletter editor, which you can find on the web site as well.

As some politician said, "It takes a village".

Remember to say "thank you" to these folks because we are all the recipients of their willingness to give to the Society.

Phyllis

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 18** **Meeting with Speaker Bruce Buehrig**
‘The Elements of Shade Gardening’
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- April 15** **Vendor Day and Club Plant Pick-up**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- May 19** **Plant Sale at the Missouri Botanical Garden**
Set up Friday May 18, 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Sale Open Saturday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Missouri Botanical Garden
- May 20** **Meeting with Speaker Don DeFoe**
‘Using Hosta Leaves in Floral Arrangements’
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- June 2** **Work Day at the Missouri Botanical Garden**
Missouri Botanical Garden
- June 13-16** **American Hosta Society National Convention**
Nashville, Tennessee
For more information: www.hosta2012.com
- June 2** **Work Day at the Missouri Botanical Garden**
Missouri Botanical Garden
- June 23** **Garden Walk – Chick and Bruce Buehrig**
31 Bellerive Acres, St. Louis, MO 63121
6:00 PM
- July 12-14** **Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention**
Rochester, MN
For information: <http://www.soghs.org/2012mrhsconvention/>
- July 22**
Note date change **Member Plant Auction**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- August 4-5** **Bus trip to Champaign, Illinois**
- September 16** **Meeting with Speaker TBA**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- October 21** **Meeting with Speaker Larry Tucker**
“Confessions of a Hostaholic”
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- December 2** **Holiday Party**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center

2012 Membership Dues are Payable Now

If you receive the newsletter by postal mail, check the two-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 '11' appears after your name, your dues are paid through the 2011 year and are now payable for 2012.

If you receive the newsletter by e-mail, check the attachment for a list of all members and the year through which their dues are paid. For example, if '11' appears after your name in the attachment list, your dues are paid through the 2011 year and are now payable for 2012.

Dues are \$7 annually (individual or family) or \$18 for three years. Make checks payable to SLHS (St. Louis Hosta Society) and bring to the next meeting or send to:

Cindy Michniok
14300 Quiet Meadow Ct.
Chesterfield, MO 63017



Bruce Buehrig
photo by Kelly Hall

March 18 **“The Elements of Shade Gardening”** **Presented by Bruce Buehrig**

Bruce Buehrig, a co-founder of our St. Louis Hosta Society, has taught classes in hosta culture at the Missouri Botanical Garden and regularly speaks at local nurseries and garden clubs about shade gardening. His own exquisite garden has served as a tour destination for the national daffodil, Japanese iris, daylily and hosta conventions.

Bruce and his wife Chick garden on a shaded two-acre hillside. In creating different venues in his vast garden, Bruce has discovered many common and unusual perennials, bulbs, conifers, and trees that thrive in his shady St. Louis garden. Bruce's presentation describes the many types of shade as well as particular plants and natural features that can be used to enhance a dark area's hidden beauty. Don't miss this peek at one of St. Louis' finest gardens.



Photo of the Buehrig garden taken during the 2008 AHS National Convention.

Stay tuned!

Please note! The member auction has been moved to July 22 to avoid a conflict with the Midwest Regional Hosta Convention. Same place, same time.

Save the date! An overnight bus trip is being planned for August 4-5 to Champaign Illinois. If you remember, the Illinois Prairie Hosta Society paid us a visit last year, so this summer we are headed to their home turf. Details will be forthcoming.

Garden Walks! Several members have volunteered to host garden walks. One, in the garden of Chick and Bruce Buehrig, has already been scheduled for June 23. Watch your newsletters for others as dates are finalized.

WOW Hostas! What are they? You'll have to wait until your May newsletter.

Have your garden gloves and hats handy! June 2 is our annual work day in the hosta beds at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Welcome new member!

The Society is delighted to welcome our first new member for 2012:

Mary Ann Hatlelid of Webster Groves

Look for her at future meetings and give her a big smile and hearty welcome. There are lots of exciting events and speakers scheduled this year. We hope our new member and all our old friends will join in the fun.

Hosta Finder 2012 Available

This spiral-bound reference book contains the retail listings of over 40 hosta growers. The 3,700+ listings include hosta name, Originator/Namer/Introducer/Registrant, size, leaf color, flower color and price. The cost per book is \$14. Please contact our treasurer to purchase a copy:

Cindy Michniok
Cmichniok@gmail.com or
14300 Quiet Meadow Ct.
Chesterfield, MO 63017

Be an active part of our village!

Many members have stepped forward to help with both the month-to-month activities and the special events of our hosta society. Join in the fun and give these people a helping hand. It often only takes a bit of thought or a few minutes of your time.

Linda VanDeven is assisting Barb Moreland, our Hospitality Chair. If you arrive a few minutes early, help Barb and Linda carry in supplies and set up the table. Offer to bring some cookies. Grab a paper towel and clean off the table before you walk out the door.

Spence Sorenson is chair of the April Vendor Day. Come a bit early or stay a few minutes late to help vendors carry in merchandise, set up their displays, then cleanup.

Mike Schmitt is Member Auction chair. Mike's looking for an auctioneer or two. If you're not glib of tongue, then help carry in plants, arrange them in alphabetical order, look up prices and descriptions, distribute plants and of course the always necessary clean up.

Phyllis Weidman is chairing our plant sale at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Lots of volunteers are needed to make this fundraiser a success.

Martha Lafata is chairing the Holiday Party, assisted by Karen Frimel. If you have any ideas about different caterers or entertainment, pass on your suggestions to them.

Jim Weidman and Catherine Mayer are keepers of our name tags. Give them a hand by remembering to turn yours back in after the meetings.

Phil Brammer will be taking pictures at our events. Give him a big smile when he points his camera at you.

Rose Hall has volunteered to call new members and remind them of upcoming meetings and events.

JoAnn Rawson will be in charge of new member packets.

Rick Clarkson has handled the member plant sale for the past several years. Jean Hudson has volunteered to give him a break and take over this task in 2013.

Joan Poos continues as your newsletter editor. Give her a hand by writing a newsletter article or send her suggestions for topics you would like to see covered in the newsletter.

And of course the officers are always looking for suggestions to improve your society. Let Vice President Dave Poos know about possible speakers or topics. Help Treasurer Cindy Michniok keep track of sales during the member auction. Kelly Hall, Secretary and Web Master, is always open to suggestions for improving the Web site.

Lastly, but most importantly, say "yes I can" whenever President Phyllis Weidman calls.



First stop is check in. Treasurer Cindy Michniok greets Shirley Suntrup while Jim Weidman hands Jean Hudson her name tag.



Joan Hummel cuts a delicious fruit pizza as Joan Clarkson and Nancy Tempel ask about the recipe. The food table is taking on color as more side dishes arrive.



Roving photographer Phil Brammer greets arriving members.



Members catch up on the winter activities of their hosta friends. The room is soon filled with the sound of laughter, talk of the possible effects of the mild winter and oft voiced hopes that Mother Nature is not planning spring surprises.



President Phyllis Weidman describes the coming year's scheduled events.

Potluck Lunch 2012

What better way to begin a new gardening year!

There were trays of sandwiches – roast beef, turkey and chicken salad. The choices were many and varied. There were colorful fruit salads – deep red cherry, warm yellow baked pineapple and a cheery pizza. We got our veggies too – delicious broccoli, creamy peas and of course potatoes. The dessert table was also loaded. Many sampler plates were seen piled with lemon cake, chocolate brownies, apple strudel and cookies. No one left hungry.

As our food began to digest and the chatter died down, President Phyllis Weidman outlined the events planned for the upcoming year. There will be our normal events, plus several garden walks, at least three interesting speakers and an over-night bus tour.

The afternoon concluded with a slide show put together by Phyllis and Jim Weidman featuring the gardens they toured during the 2011 AHS National Convention in Marlborough, Mass. The size and beauty of the hostas were stunning. It's hard to envision nurseries that stock hundreds of different hosta cultivars. Attendance at a National or Regional Convention is a wonderful way to spend a vacation, giving a unique opportunity to view some of the best gardens in the land.

St. Louis Hosta Society Officials

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

Dave Poos – Vice-President
314-821-1622
david.poos@att.net

Kelly Hall – Secretary
skyridgegarden@att.net

Cindy Michniok – Treasurer
314-434-0946
Cmichniok@gmail.com

Karen Frimel – Membership
cckmf@aol.com

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

Kelly Hall – Webmaster
skyridgegarden@att.net

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: Cindy Michniok
14300 Quiet Meadow Ct.
Chesterfield, MO 63017
Cmichniok@gmail.com
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>