



Volume 17, Issue 3

April, 2016



President Diana Plahn

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Happy Spring fellow Hostaholics! This is an exciting time of year where you scratch around in the dirt to see how many hosta eyes are coming up (or at least I do). Please remember our Missouri Botanical Garden Plant Sale coming up on April 23rd and 24th. If you have two eyes coming up away from the bulk of the plant please consider potting those eyes up and donating them to the sale. We are very low on plants this year, as the people on tour donate a lot of them and they can't dig their clumps before the convention in June.

Our next meeting is our Vendors Day Sale where you will all get to shop and pick up your club plants. Remember, this year we have the meeting at the Missouri Botanical Garden in the Beaumont room. For those of you unfamiliar with the Garden, the Beaumont room is to the right immediately after you enter the Ridgeway Center at the garden. The meeting also starts one hour earlier at NOON and goes to 3pm. Setup is at 11:00am, so please come and help setup if you can. We'll also need some people to help the vendors break down their displays and for clean-up.

Diana

Membership Roster

At the March meeting a member requested that a list be created for member use giving member name, address, phone number and email address. Many societies provide such a roster to their members. It is especially needed this year with so many convention activities requiring phone or email communication.

If you receive your newsletter by email, the roster will be the second attachment. If you receive a postal copy, your roster will be included with your newsletter.

2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 17 <u>NOTE Location Change</u>	Vendor Day and Club Plant Pick-up 12:00 PM, Beaumont Room Missouri Botanical Garden
April 23-24	Plant Sale at the Missouri Botanical Garden Setup Friday April 22, 5:00 PM. Sale 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Beaumont Room, Missouri Botanical Garden
May 15 <u>NOTE Location Change</u>	Meeting 1:00 PM, Beaumont Room Missouri Botanical Garden
May 21	Cross Pollinator's Party 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM Sugar Creek Gardens 1011 N. Woodlawn, Kirkwood, MO 63122
June 15-18	American Hosta Society National Convention St. Louis, MO
July 7-9	Midwest Region Hosta Society Convention Champaign, IL
July 17	Members Plant Auction 1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
September 18	Meeting with Speaker TBA 1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
October 16	Meeting with Speaker 'The Gourd Sisters' 1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
November TBA	Board Meeting TBA
December 4	Holiday Party TBA

Note:

The annual spring work day at the Missouri Botanical Garden's AHS Hosta Display Garden has been cancelled. There simply weren't enough free weekends in May to schedule this fun event. It might be possible to fit the work day into the fall lineup. Stay tuned.

APRIL 17, 2016 – New Location
Setup 11:00 – 12:00, sales 12:00 – 3:00 PM.
Beaumont Room, Missouri Botanical Garden

VENDOR DAY

This April's meeting gives members an opportunity to purchase quality hostas and companion plants from two regional nurseries, unique sculptured leaves from a local artist and gardening supplies from a local hardware store. Bring all your friends and of course your checkbook. An afternoon of plant and gadget shopping is the perfect way to welcome the spring gardening season.

As usual, club members and the vendors present will be happy to answer any gardening questions. Vendors scheduled to be in attendance this year are:

AVALON ACRES HOSTAS and MORE



Denise Lutz purchases a plant from Denny Ricketts at our 2015 Vendors Day event.

Avalon Acres is a 10 acre hilltop nestled among hundreds of large red and white oak trees in South Central Illinois near Effingham. The family owned and operated nursery's mission is to bring you the highest quality plants at the lowest possible prices. Denny and Alicia Ricketts state on their web site that they "don't just sell hostas, but are avid collectors as well." They have had a sales table at our Vendor Day event for many years, offering quality plants, both new cultivars and old standards.

If you are looking for a particular hosta, you're invited to send them an e-mail. They have over a thousand varieties in their vast collection - some rare or in limited quantities.

You may also place a pre-order. Individual orders can be emailed to sales@aahostas.com. Include your name, phone number, items ordered and state that you will pick-up your order at the St. Louis Hosta Society's Vendor Day. Do not place your order online.

If you are unable to attend the April 17th meeting, the Ricketts welcome visitors to their nursery. Please call ahead (217-536-9443) so they can dedicate quality time to you. They are available most evenings and Sundays from April 30 through August 25. For more information, visit their web site www.aahostas.com.

Leaf Recreations by DyAnn Reynolds

DyAnn is a new vendor this year. She creates artistic renditions of various types of leaves out of concrete and other synthetic products. Among other places, DyAnn has displayed her works at the 2015 Kirkwood Green Tree Festival and at an artisan fair held in October at Greenscape Gardens Nursery. She will also be a vendor at the AHS 2016 National Convention held this summer in St. Louis.

Welcome DyAnn! Members are sure to find an item or two to enhance their hosta beds.

HOMESTEAD FARMS NURSERY



Ron Vitoux ready for business in 2015

Homestead Farms Nursery is a family owned perennial flower nursery located near Owensville, Mo, which specializes in field-grown daylilies, hostas, peonies and Siberian iris. They also have a nice selection of clematis and hardy ferns. The nursery, run by Ron Vitoux and his family for over 25 years, offers over 1200 varieties of daylilies, 350 varieties of hosta, 100 different peony cultivars and 50 Siberian iris varieties. For a number of years, Ron and his sons Kurt and Brett have brought hostas, companion plants and a wealth of gardening knowledge to our April Vendor Day event.

For a special treat, in May, take a leisurely drive through Missouri's rolling hills to Owensville, about 60 miles northwest, to see the field of peonies ranging in color from white to hot pink to deep red. In June, visit the colorful daylily beds. Of course, a vast number of container grown hostas and ferns are always available.

Homestead Farms Nursery also has an outstanding web site, www.homesteadfarms.com/, which is easy to navigate. Besides a picture inventory, the web site has hosta growing tips as well as information about the other perennials they offer for sale. If there is a particular plant that you would like, call or send Ron an email and he will bring it with him.

Overland Hardware



Susan & Gail Abernathy, Steve & Terry Metzler browse Overland Hardware's wares.

Overland Hardware owners, Gregg Wesche and Don Burkhardt, continue the long tradition of excellent customer service established by their father and father-in-law. They state that they are an "old-fashioned" hardware store. In their minds that means "you can get in and out without having to walk a quarter mile, that someone offers to help you when you walk in the door and the person who helped you find what you needed also checks you out and helps carry it out to your car". They stock everything from Italian granite paint for countertops to numerous blends of birdseed and rabbit chow.

Overland Hardware, located at 2520 Woodson Road, Overland MO 63114, is the place to go for those hard to find services. Specialties available at Overland are: cutting glass and acrylic to size, sash and screen repair, sharpening chainsaw chains, lock re-keying, chip keys for cars, cutting and rethreading pipe, sharpening lawn mower blades and lamp repair. Visit their web site, www.overlandhardware.net for more information, hours of operation and directions to their store.

Again this year, Gregg, a St. Louis Hosta Society member, is offering special prices for selected gardening items that he will bring to our Vendor Day event. Later in this newsletter is a list of products and prices. Email (greggdon@swbell.net) or call (314-427-1404) Gregg with your order and he will bring it with him on April 17th.



Kim and Ted Piekutowski organizing orders at our 2015 Vendors Day.

The plants that members ordered have been obtained by Ted and Kim and sorted into individual member packages. Remember, if you are unable to attend the meeting, please designate another person to pick up your order. Many thanks to Ted and Kim for handling this member-only event.

APRIL 17, 2016 MEETING

CLUB PLANT PICK-UP

12:00 – 3:00 PM

Missouri Botanical Garden, Beaumont Room

In addition to Vendors Day, this is the time to pick up the plants you ordered last February and March. Event chairs, Ted and Kim Piekutowski, selected plants that might be appealing to our members from Rob Mortko's Kansas *Made in the Shade Nursery* catalogue.

St. Louis Hosta Society Plant Sale

Missouri Botanical Garden, Beaumont Room

April 22 - Setup time 5:00 PM until done

April 23 - Sale time 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

April 24 - 9:00 AM until sold out

We need your HELP!

For a successful MoBot plant sale, [our Society needs your donations and your time](#). Many members who usually donate are unable to do so this year as their gardens are on tour and they do not wish to disturb their hostas before the convention this summer. Mini and large hostas are always in demand. Variegated hostas of any kind always sell well.

[Now is the time to dig and divide](#). Many of my hostas are getting a jump on the season, already poking their noses through the mulch. If you need help dividing those large clumps in your yard, digging crews are available. Other members will help dig, label, transport your plants or just supply moral support. Contact **Phyllis Weidman 314-965-7027**, pow1031@gmail.com for help or to help. Phyllis will even pick up your plants.



Ted Piekutowski's wheelbarrow 2015 sale advertisement.



Plenty of customers in 2015!

Remember the plant sale is one of our Society's biggest fund raisers. Monies from this sale pay the costs associated with publishing the society newsletter, speakers, maintaining its website, facilitating community projects such as MoBot hosta bed enhancements, covering partial costs of the holiday party, plus our many other activities. Please drop off your donations during the setup time or give Phyllis a call to arrange a pickup.

Convention News – Special Member Registration Fee

The cost for St. Louis Hosta Society members to attend the 2016 AHS convention is \$100. For this discounted amount, a member may attend the Thursday evening Meet & Greet party, Thursday plant auction, Thursday and Friday afternoon seminars, Friday and Saturday garden tours, Friday and Saturday banquets, the Leaf Show, Vendors, the hospitality room, and the silent auction and raffle.

Excluded from the discounted member fee are the convention plant, a seat on the tour bus and the breakfasts at the hotel.

A registration form must be filled out and sent to Jolly Ann Whitener the convention registrar. The form can be found on our website, www.stlouishosta.org

Convention News – Volunteer opportunities abound!

This is your chance to take an active part in this exciting party - meet some really cool people, see behind the scenes activity, get the first look at auction plants, and view the latest hostas offered for sale. Volunteer a few hours of your time. Listed below are some areas in need of your help.

Registration: Help needed manning the registration table at the hotel. Greet arriving attendees, give them their packet and convention plant and answer questions. Contact Jolly Ann Whitener for days and times help is needed. Just an hour or two! (jawhit6@gmail.com or 636-240-5068)

Vendors: Vendors need help unloading/loading their merchandise and setting up sales tables. Contact Ted Piekutowski for days and times. (circustaz2@sbcglobal.net or 314-952-1317)

Hospitality: A person to coordinate food donations is needed. Members are needed to staff the hospitality room making sure snacks and drinks are available. This is a great time to meet fellow hosta lovers from areas outside the St. Louis region. Contact Diana Plahn for times. (dplahn@me.com or 314-968-2737)

Auction: An AHS representative oversees the AHS Auction. However, volunteers are needed to move auction plants from a holding area to the auction platform and to distribute the plants to their successful bidders. Contact Bruce Buehrig for times. (Buehrig31@aol.com or 314/421-1173)

Silent Auction/Raffle: Help needed setting up the silent auction and selling tickets to the raffle. Just an hour of your time would be appreciated. Contact Janelle Criscione. (lambypie@gmail.com OR 314-324-4380)

Leaf Show: Plant sitters needed. Be present in the leaf show room in case a bottle is toppled or someone has a question. Phyllis and Jim Weidman have filled many of their time slots but more help might be needed. Contact Phyllis. (pow1031@gmail.com OR 63122-3644)

Convention News – Silent Auction/Raffle items needed

Janelle Criscione has collected from our convention advertisers a number of items for both the silent auction and the raffle that will run during the convention. At the February meeting Ted brought a miniature plant aquarium that he had made. Several decorative bird houses are also headed to the auction table. Be creative or just pick up an interesting garden related item that you might bid on if you had the chance. Contact Janelle about pickup/delivery.



American Hosta Association National Convention

'Gateway to the Gardens'

St. Louis – June 15-18, 2016

Convention Advertisers

Please patronize these fine businesses. When there, thank them for their support of our organization. When talking with your friends in other gardening societies, mention these fine gardening outlets.

Ann's Gardens & Greenhouses
5130 Mexico Road
St. Peters, MO 63376
636-244-5533
www.annsgandg.com

Crabapple Cove Nursery
6961 Telegraph Road
St. Louis, MO 63129
314-846-4021

Daniel's Farm & Greenhouse
352 Jungermann Road
St. Peters, MO 63376
636-441-5048
danielsfarmandgreenhouse.com

Dauster's Greenhouse
1751 Creve Coeur Mill Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63146
314-469-3938

Dintelmann Nursery and
Garden Center
1710 Centreville Avenue
Belleville, IL 62220
618-233-4638

Effinger Garden Center
720 South 11th
Belleville, IL 62220
618-234-4600
www.effingergarden.com

For The Garden
Haefner's Greenhouse
6705 Telegraph Road
St. Louis, MO 63129
314-846-0078
www.ForTheGarden.net

Frisella Nursery
550 Highway F
Defiance, MO 63341
636-798-2555
www.frisellanursery.com

Greenery
1021 W. Delmar
Godfrey, IL 62035
618-466-8475

Greenscape Gardens & Gifts
2832 Barrett Station Road
Manchester, MO 63021
314-821-2440
www.greenscapedgardens.com

Gringo Jones Imports
4468 Shaw
St. Louis, MO 63110
314-664-1666
www.gringojonesimports.org

Jaeger Greenhouses
2369 Creve Coeur Mill Road
Maryland Heights, MO 63043
314-739-1507
www.jaegergreenhouses.com

Kirkwood Material Supply
800 S. Fiillmore
Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-822-9644
2701 Barrett Station Road
Manchester, MO 63021
314-966-4840
www.kirkwoodmaterial.com

Lake St. Louis Garden
Center
3230 Technology Drive
Lake St. Louis, MO 63367
636-561-0124
lakestlouisgardencenter.com

Missouri Botanical Garden
4344 Shaw Blvd.
314-577-9400
St. Louis, MO 63110
www.mobot.org

Naturescapes Nursery
1674 N. Bluff Road
Collinsville, IL 62234
618-344-8841

O.K. Hatchery
115 E. Argonne Drive
Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-822-0083

Convention Advertisers - continued

Rolling Ridge Nursery
60 North Gore
Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-962-3311
www.rollingridgenursery.com

Roots And Blooms
915 S. Kirkwood Road
Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-966-9801
jen@rootsandblooms.biz

Sandy's Back Porch
2004 West Blvd.
Belleville, IL 62221
618-235-2004
www.sandysbackporch.com

Sappington Garden Shop
11530 Gravois Road
St. Louis, MO 63126
314-843-4700

Sherwood's Forest
2651 Barrett Station Road
St. Louis, MO 63021
314-966-0028
www.sherwoods-forest.com

Sugar Creek Gardens
1011 N. Woodlawn
Kirkwood, MO 63122
www.sugarcreekgardens.com

Summer Winds Nursery
54 Clarkson Road
Ellisville, MO 63011
636-227-0095
moexpert@summerwindsgc.com

Summit Produce
Kirkwood Farmers Market
150 E. Argonne Drive
Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-984-984-9496
www.summitproduce.com

The Bug Store
113 Argonne
Kirkwood, MO 63122
314-966-2287

and

4475 Shaw Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63110
314-773-9251
www.bugstore.com



In Memoria

On Monday March 28, long time member Bob Squire was laid to rest near his home in Columbia Illinois. I remember a lovely man with a generous heart and a passion for all things living. He often brought cuttings and divisions of his many plants to meetings to be shared with others. His niece told my husband and me several stories of the stray animals he patiently nursed back to health. We will miss you Bob.

The following words were sent to me by Chick Buehrig who shared Bob's love of daylilies.

With a sad heart, I am sharing information concerning the passing of a long time member of several St. Louis area garden clubs, Robert Squire. Bob was an avid fan of daylilies, iris, hostas and cactus, growing all of them exceptionally well. Bob enjoyed sharing his plants with others. At most meetings of the West County Daylily Club, Bob came bearing gift plants. He grew cactus and other drought tolerant species under lights in his basement. His home garden was filled with daylilies, iris and hostas.

In the autumn of 2015 Bob moved to Florida to be near his niece, Kathy Unger. Kathy took great care of Bob seeing that he attended doctor appointments, prescriptions were filled and delivered, and his computer and cell phone remained in good working order. Yes, Bob, who was in his nineties, read and sent emails and used his cell phone.



The Art Museum flanked by Red Maples. Photo by Randy Allen



Pagoda Circle and the Nathan Frank bandstand. Photo by Randy Allen



The Jewel Box fronted by the water lily ponds. Photo by Randy Allen

March 20 meeting: Forest Park presented by Jack Lane

At the March meeting Master Gardener Jack Lane described three periods in the life of St. Louis' jewel, Forest Park. The years from its dedication in 1876 until the 1930s was a period of great development. City Fathers envisioned the area as New York's Central Park only bigger and better. Its early history revolved around the 1904 World's Fair.

The fair grounds were stripped of trees and the homes of the wealthy to make way for fabulous temporary structures and venues. Many of the specimen trees were stored and then replanted on the fair grounds. 60,000 shrubs, 9,000 trees, 5,000 vines and 1300 evergreens were also planted. Most were moved on flatbed train cars from the Notre Dame campus. Planted in winter while dormant, surprisingly 70% survived. River Des Pares, basically a sewer at this time, was channeled into large pipes situated under the existing lakes and open spaces.

The years from the 1940s through the 1970s were a period of decline. Lack of money led to deterioration – a crumbling infrastructure, crime and vandalism. Not our shining moments.

The Renaissance of Forest Park began in the 1980s and continues today. Civic minded men and women stepped forward to found an organization, Forest Park Forever, dedicated to preservation. Millions of dollars have been raised to facilitate restoration of both the Parks structures and its natural beauty. Lakes were dredged, interconnected and supplied with city water. Wet lands and wet meadows were established to provide shelter for birds and wildlife. Kennedy Forest now contains well maintained trails. A playground catering to the needs of disabled children occupies a corner of the park. With a large endowment now in place, the future of Forest Park will only become brighter.



An egret lands on the Deer Creek riffles – an excellent location to spot larger birds such as egrets and herons. Photo from www.forestparkforever.org



The Cascades Photo by Randy Allen



The park is a beautiful peaceful place once one steps off the beaten path. This picture depicts the park at dusk. Photo by Sarah Pritt

Overland Hardware Vendor Day 2016 Price List

Thanks to everyone who purchased something from me the past six years. Most of these items I use in my own hosta beds at home and I've marked the price down to benefit Society members as they begin to work in their own beds. **Email me if you have special requests.** Prices include sales tax.

**** New This Year! Diatomaceous Earth 4.4 LB. Food Grade - \$10 ****

There has been an interest in Cotton Burr Compost and Milorganite from Society members. For the April Vendor Day Meeting, I will take **preorders only** for 36# Milorganite for \$10 a bag and 2 Cu. Ft. BacktoNature Cotton Burr Compost for \$9 a bag for 4/17 pickup. I will **not** be bringing additional bags to the meeting and I will need preorders by **April 9th**.

SNAIL, SLUG & DEER PRODUCTS

I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN BLESSED WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF SLUGS IN MY HOSTA BEDS.

- 2 LB ORTHO BUG-GETA ACTIVE INGRED.: 3.25% METALDEHYDE \$8
- 4.25 LB ORTHO BUG-GETA ACTIVE INGRD. : 3.25% METALDEHYDE \$14
- 1.5 LB SLUG MAGIC ACTIVE INGR.: PELLETIZED IRON PHOSPHATE \$10

WEED CONTROL

ONE OF THE BANES OF ALL GARDENERS IS THE PULLING OF WEEDS, ALTHOUGH IT SOMETIMES GIVES YOU SOME TIME TO THINK OR WORK ON YOUR TAN.

- 5.625 LB PREEN WEED PREVENTER ACTIVE INGR.: 1.47% TRIFLURALIN \$14
- 16 LB PREEN WEED PREVENTER ACTIVE INGR.: 1.47% TRIFLURALIN \$26
- 16 LB PREEN WEED PREVENTER PLUS PLANT FOOD 9 -12 -9 \$28
- 30 OZ SPECTRACIDE CONCENTRATED WEED/GRASS KILLER – MAKES UP TO 12 GAL \$19
- 35.2 OZ ROUNDUP SUPER CONCENTRATE 50.2% GLYPHOSPHATE SALT \$45

FERTILIZERS & AMENDMENTS

- 8 LB OSMOCOTE OUTDOOR & INDOOR 15-9-12 \$18
- 20 LB BONE MEAL 0-10-0 \$18
- 16 QT EARTHWORM CASTINGS - A GREAT FERTILIZER/SOIL AMENDMENT! \$9

And For The Hardcore Gardener:

- 4 LB SUPERPHOSPHATE \$5 4 LB MURIATE OF POTASH \$6
- 4 LB ALUMINUM SULFATE \$5 3 LB COTTONSEED MEAL \$5
- 4 LB COPPERAS (IRON SULFATE) \$5

GARDENER HELPERS

- THESE GLOVES I RECOMMEND WITHOUT RESERVATION! ATLAS NITRILE TOUGH GLOVES AVAILABLE IN SM, MED., LARGE AND XLARGE. TOUGH AND DURABLE, BUT LIGHTWEIGHT WITH MAXIMUM DEXTERITY. 7 COLORS AVAILABLE \$4/PAIR
- IS YOUR PRUNING SHEARS DULL AND/OR WORN OUT? FISKARS ALL STEEL BYPASS \$10 OR GILMOUR COMMERCIAL BYPASS CAST ALUM \$20
- FOAM KNEELING PAD 20 x 9.5 x 1 \$3
- O'KEEFE'S WORKING HANDS - OUTSTANDING RELIEF FOR CRACKED/SPLIT FINGERTIPS \$6
- VALUE SIZE O'KEEFE'S TWICE THE SIZE \$10 **NEW** 3 OZ SQUEEZE TUBE \$6
- POP-UP GARDEN BAG 27"H X 22"DIA LIGHTWEIGHT BUT DURABLE, COLLAPSES FOR EASY STORAGE OR TRANSPORT, GREAT FOR CLEANUP & WEEDING \$16

YOU CAN EMAIL OR CALL ME WITH YOUR ORDERS AND I'LL BRING THEM TO THE VENDOR DAY. THANKS

**GREGG WESCHE, OVERLAND HARDWARE
2520 WOODSON, OVERLAND, MO 63114
314-427-1404 OR GREGGDON@SWBELL.NET**

St. Louis Hosta Society Officials

Diana Plahn – President
314-346-3007
dplahn@me.com

Barb Moreland - Secretary
314-961-4191
Bmore433@aol.com

Sharon and Mike Schmitt – Hospitality
314-719-9305
Sharons39@aol.com

Ted Piekutowski – Vice-President
314-952-1317
Circustaz2@sbcglobal.net

Kim Piekutowski – Treasurer
314-556-9741
kimberlypiekutowski@gmail.com

Melissa Byrd – Webmaster
mabyrd68@gmail.com

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

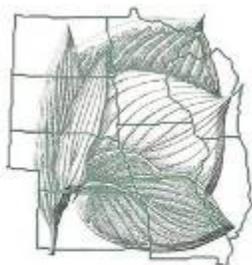
St. Louis Hosta Society Membership Information

Contact: Kim Piekutowski
1269 Brenthaven Lane
Florissant, MO 63031
kimberlypiekutowski@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



Midwest Regional Hosta Society

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society represents Region 5 of the American Hosta Society that includes 9 states.

Membership in the society is \$20.00 for 2 years, which includes two issues per year of the newsletter.

Please mail a check made payable to **MRHS** to:

Barbara Schroeder,
Treasurer
1819 Coventry Dr.
Champaign, IL 61822

along with Name, Address, phone, and email (Most correspondence is by email). For questions email MRHS.Hosta@gmail.com.



AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

Members receive three issues per year of The Hosta Journal, which includes color photographs of hostas, reports on national conventions, scientific information concerning current research pertaining to hostas, and advertisements of interest to hosta families.

Membership checks should be made out to "AHS," and mailed to:

Sandie Markland, AHS Membership Secretary
P O Box 7539
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

Dues for one year are \$30 for an individual and \$34 for a family. For more information, visit the AHS website: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/>