



Volume 13, Issue 4

May-June, 2012



Phyllis Weidman President
Photo by Kelly Hall

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Vendor's Day was GREAT! Thanks to Spencer for making all the arrangements with the vendors. Thanks to all his helpers. Thanks to all of you who attended. We had over 82 people attend. Fantastic!

The Society will be very busy the next couple months with lots of activities to get to know new hosta friends. May 12 will be our first Garden Walk at Pam and Chester Wolkowitz's. Garden Walks are always fun. A casual way to meet people, talk about gardening and get ideas for your own garden. This is a new garden but I bet it will amaze you.

May 19 is the Plant Sale at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Remember dig, pot and label your donations. If you cannot

get them to the Garden call me (314-965-7027).

Then Sunday, May 20, we have our regular meeting at the Creve Coeur Government Center. We will learn how to use those hosta leaves in a different way. There will also be a silent auction of a new hosta.

Here comes June. The AHS Convention will be in Nashville on June 13-16. Some of our members will be attending and we will get a report about the activities.

June 23 will be the Garden Walk at Chick and Bruce Buehrig's. If you attended the March meeting, you have an idea of what a wonderful garden you will see. Mark your calendar now.

Lots of things to do!

Phyllis

Editor's Special Note: Please consider donating plants to the Missouri Botanical Garden Sale. The hail storm of May 28 severely damaged the gardens of several of our most generous contributors. Unless they already had their hostas selected for donation dug and under cover, those plants might not now be fit for sale.

FABULOUS GARDEN WALKS!



Fish pond surrounded by hostas. Photo by Pam

May 12, 10:00 AM
Pam and Chester Wolkowitz
9255 Byrnesvill Rd, Cedar Hill, MO 63016

Just three years ago, Pam's and Chester's garden was the site of Pam's mother's double-wide mobile home. When mom said she was ready for an easier life in a retirement center, Pam and Chester potted up their extensive collection of hostas and companion plants, sold their existing home and moved into the mobile home.

Once their new home was finished, the mobile home was removed and work began on the new garden. They had eight loads of good garden soil dumped. Chester built beautiful stone steps, paths and a patio. A wooden fence, most of which was cut and milled on the property, protects the newly planted hostas and trees from roaming deer. As Pam couldn't exist without her fish, the garden includes a small natural pond. Pam states "Every time I open the gates, I feel like I'm in a special secret place".

As the trees are small and shade limited, this will be a morning garden walk. Bring a snack to share, your beverage of choice and a chair. Pam will put the coffee pot on! Come listen to the birds and enjoy the serenity of Pam's secret place.

Directions: Take Hwy 270 south to Hwy 30 (Gravois Road). Turn right and go west to Route W in House Springs. Turn right, go 1 mile and turn left on Byrnesville Rd. Go approximately 6 1/2 miles. Pam's drive is on the right side. Their neighbor has a white owl on a red pole at the corner of the drive - very visible. In case you get lost, call her cell: 314-614-3451.



Photo from St. Louis Hosta Society web site

June 23, 6:00 PM
Chick and Bruce Buehrig
31 Bellerive Acres, St. Louis, MO 63121

Chick's and Bruce's steep, two acre hillside features plants for both sun and shade. Stately oak trees provide ample shade and filtered light for growing pulmonarias, astilbes, ferns, hostas and daffodils. The hostas, both old favorites and new specimens, range in size from miniature to the extremely large. Intermingling with the shade tolerant plants

are portions of Bruce's vast collection of Japanese maples, yews, spruces and hemlocks.

At the base of the hillside, daylilies, grasses, dwarf conifers and bamboo thrive. A natural flowing creek is crossed by footbridges. Back at the top of the hill, huge boulders frame a waterfall and pond. The upper terrace contains a large rock garden dotted with plants suitable for our St. Louis weather.

You saw the pictures at the March meeting; now experience the beauty of this garden in person. Bring a beverage of your choice and a snack to share.

Directions: From the intersection of Olive Blvd. and I-270 N, travel north 4.1 miles. Merge onto I-70 E via EXIT 20B-A toward St. Louis. Travel 8.1 miles and take the N. Hanley Rd. exit, EXIT 239. Turn right onto N. Hanley Rd. Travel 0.7 miles and turn left onto Natural Bridge Rd/MO-115. Travel 0.3 miles and turn left onto Bellerive Acres. Travel 0.4 miles to #31 Bellerive Acres which is on the right.

It's fast upon us!

Hosta Plant Sale at the Missouri Botanical Garden

Set up time: Friday May 18, 5:00 PM – until done

Sale time: Saturday May 19, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Location: Orthwein Room at the Missouri Botanical Garden



The leaf display set up by Phyllis and Jim Weidman at the 2011 plant sale generated lots of interest and questions.



During set up, plants are priced, groomed and arranged in alphabetical order.



Members were available to answer questions about the planting and care of hostas.

For a successful MoBot plant sale, our Society needs your donations and your time. Mini and large hostas were especially in demand last year. Variegated hostas of any kind always sell well. It's not too late to dig and divide. 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 sale chairwoman Phyllis Weidman if you need help or can help.

Please keep in mind that monies from this sale and the member auction in July pay the costs associated with meeting room rental, speakers, the website, newsletter publication, the holiday banquet and many more events held throughout the year.

Plants can be dropped off at the Botanical Garden during set-up time or ahead of May 18th at any of the following member's homes. Just call to make arrangements and obtain directions.

Jeff and Kelly Hall – skyridgegarden@earthlink.net

Dave and Joan Poos – 314-821-1622 or david.poos@att.net

Phyllis and Jim Weidman – 314/965-7027 or

pow1031@gmail.com

Workers are needed to help set up and price plants for sale. This occurs Friday evening May 18 starting at 5:00 PM. It doesn't take long and is a good way to become active in your society. Besides, who knows, we may decide to go out for a bite to eat after the work is done.

Workers are also needed to man the sales tables throughout the day. This year due to space constraints at the Botanical Garden, our society will be sharing the room with several other garden clubs. This wide variety of plant material – everything from bonsai to general purpose perennials – should translate into lots of foot traffic and potential sales.

Donate an hour or two of your time to talk and spread the word about that great plant the hosta.



May 20

Don Defoe
AIFD Master Designer

“Using Hosta Leaves in Floral Designs”



You too can create exquisite flower designs such as these using hostas and other plant materials that can be found right in your own back yard. Florist Don Defoe created the two arrangements above for use in the Poos garden during a recent tour.

Don started delivering flowers as a teenager and opened his first shop in 1962 in the basement of his parent’s home. He has gone on to win national awards for his flower designs and has put together arrangements for a US President and also for the 1996 Olympic Games. After 49 years of service as owner of Don Defoe Flowers, he has recently joined forces with Walter Knoll Florist. Don is well known in the Sunset Hills area not only for his friendly service and quality workmanship but also for his generosity and involvement in his community.

Come to the May 20th meeting and learn how to put a bit of flair on your tables

WOW WOW WOW!

President Phyllis Weidman purchased a few special plants, which she calls WOW PLANTS, on the hosta online auction in January. These are specimens that are not yet available or available in limited quantity.



At the May 20th meeting, H. ‘Broad Band’ will be made available to the lucky winner of a silent auction. H.‘Broad Band’ is a non-registered 2011 introduction by Ron Livingston. (Photo from the Hosta Library) It forms a medium-sized clump of attractive heart-shaped leaves with wide, creamy yellow to creamy white margins that jut into the dark green center.

Welcome new member!

Jean and Rich Iezzi of St. Louis

Look for them at future meetings. Stick out your hand and give them a hardy welcome. There are lots of exciting events and speakers scheduled this year. We hope our new members and all our old friends will join in the fun.

June 2, 2012 Work Day at Missouri Botanical Garden 8:00 AM until about noon



American Hosta Society Display Garden designation plaque which will be permanently situated in the hosta section of the Garden.



St. Louis Hosta Society volunteers spruce up the beds during the 2011 work day. Members Pam Wolkowitz, Barb Moreland and Dave Poos work with Darmon Williams.

Last year Society members spent a Saturday morning planting approximately 60 new hostas in MoBot's existing hosta beds. Our newly created bed plus the older hosta beds were weeded, overgrown perennials down-sized and numerous shrubs pruned.

Saturday June 2 will be our next work day. MoBot Project chair, Phyllis Weidman, states that we will be planting newly purchased hostas and rearranging existing plants. The Garden would like to establish a bed dedicated to hosta species. Part of our time will be spent on this project. Of course, there's always plenty of weeding, thinning and pruning to be done. No shortage of tasks. This is a great time to get to know other members. The work isn't that hard and the time goes fast when talking and laughing with other volunteers.

In addition, the AHS Display Garden plaque which has been attached to an attractive rock will be placed in the hosta garden. A picture will be taken and article written by the Garden staff for use in a future Missouri Botanical Garden *Bulletin*.

Society members will meet in front of Ridgeway Center at 8:00 AM and proceed from there to the hosta beds. Bring only gloves as the Garden will supply any needed tools.

Notify Phyllis if you think you might want to participate in this very rewarding event. The Garden requires, in advance, a list of all persons working in their facility.

Phyllis Weidman

314-965-7027

Pow1031@gmail.com

A Special Request from our Web Master

Kelly Hall, our Web Master, would like to update the Members' Gardens page of our Society's web site. As two of the gardens now featured no longer exist, she would like to delete those and expand that portion of the site to include more members' gardens. All of us have gardens that we enjoy. It doesn't have to be extensive to be enjoyable. Yours might be a collection of pots on a deck, a border along your walk or fence, a bed encompassing your patio or maybe a landscaped hillside. Why not let others have a peek at their uniqueness and beauty? Let us all see what you have created and enjoy.

It's simple. You or a friend takes pictures of your special areas. Mail or email a maximum of four photos to Kelly. She will handle converting them to the necessary format. By submitting your photos, you grant permission to the St. Louis Hosta Society to use them on the website and in our newsletters.

Kelly Hall

12473 Robyn Road, Sunset Hills MO 63127

skyridgegarden@att.net

Don't Wait! Don't Miss Out! Reserve Your Seat Now!
Hosta Garden Field Trip to Champaign Illinois
August 4 & 5, 2012

Bus trips are fun! Get up early, get yourself to the departure site, find a seat and let the driver do the work. What could be more carefree?

Departure is Saturday, August 4, 8:00 AM from the Missouri Baptist Hospital parking lot. On day one, before arriving at the Hawthorn Suites Hotel, we will visit a garden, have lunch, stop at a garden center, and then visit two more gardens. Whew. Dinner will be on our own.

Day two begins with breakfast at the hotel, followed by an 8:00 AM departure for two more gardens, the arboretum, lunch and another garden. There will be plenty of nap time on the bus ride home.

The deadline for reservations is July 1, If you know you want to be included but wish to wait to pay, please let Phyllis know soon. If there are not 40 reservations from our society, we will invite other groups to join us. A reservation form is included in this newsletter.

Wear your walking shoes, bring your camera and be prepared to have a good time.



Photos
taken at the
2009
MRHS
Convention
held in
Champaign

Need to get away from hot, steamy St. Louis?
Consider attending a national or regional hosta convention

June 13 - 16, 2012 --- AHS Convention – Nashville, TN

“**Hostas, Friends and Music**” will be a time for visiting with old friends, making new ones, experiencing Nashville and of course, seeing Middle Tennessee gardens. More information and a registration form can be found at www.hosta2012.com

July 12, 13 and 14 --- 2012 Midwest Convention in Rochester, MN

The theme for the 2012 Midwest Region Hosta Convention is "**Operation Hosta**". Visit our website: <http://www.soghs.org/2012mrhsconvention/> to see our promotional video, convention schedule, convention gift hosta - 'Candy Kisses', registration information, tour gardens, and much more.



Hosta Garden Field Trip Two Days in Champaign, Illinois

Saturday & Sunday, August 4 & 5, 2012

Cavallo Buses Depart from Missouri Baptist Hospital Parking Lot
Saturday about 7:30 AM; return on Sunday about 6:00 PM

Price \$100 per person - **Double Occupancy**

Price includes the bus and the hotel – Hawthorn Suites.
Breakfast will be at the hotel. Lunch and Dinner will be on your own.

This trip is limited to the first 40 people who reserve by check.
Checks should be sent to Phyllis Weidman and are due no later than **July 1st**.
Members of the St. Louis Hosta Society have first choice.

If the reservations are filled, you will be notified and your name kept on a waiting list for cancellations.

Please sign me/us up for the bus trip.

Attached is my check payable to St. Louis Hosta Society.

Name(s) _____ E-mail _____

Phone Number _____ Number of reservations @ \$100 _____

Cell Phone Number _____

Send reservation to:

***Phyllis Weidman
508 Pointe Essex Ct.
Kirkwood, MO 63122***

APRIL 15, 2012 MEETING

VENDOR DAY and CLUB PLANT PICK-UP

The house was packed with more than 80 eager buyers. Boxes of plants and garden supplies were being stored in car trucks even before the official 1:00 start time. Spencer Sorenson did a fabulous job of contacting a variety of vendors and organizing volunteers which resulted in a smooth running, highly successful club event. Thanks Spence.



Spencer Sorenson and his crew of volunteers set up vendor tables then helped move merchandize from their trucks and cars into the rec center.



More than 80 members and friends jammed the room happily chatting and buying new hostas, imaginative garden art and needed pest controls.



Alaine and Chris Hinshaw, from Eclectic Arts, brought a variety of their unique garden art. A number of their birdhouses found new homes



Gregg Wesche from Overland Hardware was a popular man for members wishing to replenish their supply of those durable Atlas garden gloves. He was soon out of slug bait.



Jeff Travers of The Turf Plan sold a variety of products to control those pesky critters that roam our gardens. He answered many questions about lawn and garden care.



The hosta filled tables of Denny Ricketts of Avalon Acres grew a crowd seeking new introductions.



Kurt and Ron Vitoux of Homestead Farms help customers select plants. Besides numerous well grown hostas, Ron brought clematis, ferns and astilbe.



Terry Fiebig from Meadow Sweet displayed numerous companion plants for both sun and shade. A new viola was especially popular.

Having attended our event for several years, these vendors are a part of our extended hosta family and willingly share their vast knowledge of plants and plant habits. We thank them for taking time from their busy selling season to make our event a highlight on the yearly schedule.

St. Louis Hosta Society Officials

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

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

Kelly Hall – Secretary
skyridgegarden@att.net

Cindy Michniok – Treasurer
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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>