



Don Dean
AHS President

Presidents Message

Spring has arrived across the northern hemisphere with all of the joys and work that accompanies its arrival! Society members continue to dedicate numerous hours to provide ongoing services and knowledge to both members and non-members.

I had the privilege and honor in April to present a special award to one member that exemplifies the meaning of service. All individuals within the horticultural and botanical world, scientists to hobbyist, have benefited from efforts and resulting sharing of knowledge gifted by W. George Schmid. It is the AHS Lifetime Achievement Award. George will not be attending the annual convention (where we often present major awards), which led to the presentation at a Georgia Hosta Society meeting. Be sure to read details in Amy Peterson's article found within this newsletter for more detail.

An annual joy for many of our members is the annual convention. It is just a few weeks away in St. Louis. Not enough can be said about the dedication and service to all attendees that is required to provide a convention. A heartfelt message of gratitude goes to the many St. Louis and AHS members that make this event possible. It is not too late to make plans to attend the convention if you have not done so already. No other single event offers more about hosta than the convention. Details

can be found at <http://www.stlouishosta.org/2016Convention/2016Convention.htm>. Consider joining the gala event!

The convention brings with it the need for a few volunteers. A live auction is one of the premier convention events. It takes many to conduct all of the elements involved in auctions. Any attendee that can type a name of a person, type a plant name, attach a label, and is willing to spare one to two hours to serve your society is encouraged to visit the auction plant receiving room and voice your willingness. Floyd Rogers and either Barb or Rick Schroeder will mentor you through a role that you can fill. Consider this is our society. It is as strong and successful as the cumulative contributions of its individual members. Here is a way that you may be a contributor to your society.

Local and regional society leadership take note. The AHS has auction software (it appears easily usable for society sales as well as auctions) and step-by-step directions for its use. Thanks go to Floyd Rogers and Barb Schroeder for creating an Excel version and testing the functionality of the program during AHS convention auctions. The program and directions are available by request. More detail is given by our VP Member Services, Cindy Tomashek, in this newsletter.

National convention, regional meetings, and local tours as well as visits to friends' gardens within your local area provide an opportunity to view the performance of hosta in multiple gardens. Consider joining others that are Benedict Garden Performance judges while you are considering your "must have" plants to add to your own gardens. This is one means to assist others in their knowledge of the great

performing plants. Qualifications are not prohibitive. It takes a few minutes to complete an application, read the ballot, and then submit your ballot in the fall. This is a small but critical role that you may choose to do that benefits others within the hosta community. A large role is completed with a large number of judges casting votes which enhances the data used to publish the names of great performers in multiple growing regions. Go to the Members Only section of the AHS website, <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/>, and select Hosta Judging, then Benedict Garden Performance for more complete details.

Spring brings with it a special time for hybridizers and hobbyist alike that have their eye upon a “special” hosta creation or find. Are you considering sharing with a few others or introducing the plant to the market? You are strongly encouraged to consider registration of your plant(s). Yes, a personal bias for some specific reasons. Current and future hosta enthusiasts and hybridizers find the registration information useful. Hobbyists use the data to show leaves in the numerous hosta shows throughout the year. Hybridizers use the data to make informative decisions when making crosses of their own. Word of mouth, emails or electronic forums do not provide the same benefits of a permanent record that is needed to preserve the legacy of the plant.

Accurate photographic records of plants being registered are important. High quality clump and leaf photos are a must. Spring coloration as well as mid to late season color changes are desirable. Flower and notable characteristic photos are also helpful. Take photos using the highest resolution that your camera can accommodate; either JPEG or Tiff formats work fine. Try to capture photos that represent “true to color” representation without editing the photos. The AHS is in the process of gathering a photo library to support the Registry site. One of the aims is to educate. Another is to represent the best of your plant for the world to appreciate. Once spring passes us by, going back and capturing the early season color is not a choice.

Along with the addition of a new Registrar, we also have a new registration form. Changes were made primarily to clarify areas where confusion was common, and to elicit more consistent responses from those wanting to register their cultivars. However, if you find the new form is still confusing- please contact Gayle for clarification and/or discussion. Gayle has voiced her desire to be as helpful and available as possible so please contact her with any questions, concerns or comments.

Wishes are extended to all for successful and rewarding gardening experiences throughout the season. Doing it together with other folks within the hosta community will enhance the experience.

In service,

Don Dean

AHS President



Anemonella thalictroides



*Barbara
Schroeder*
AHS VP Publications

Voles and Mice – Love them or Hate them

We have grown hostas in the ground and in pots for many years. We also always have extras to hold over during the winter for one small plant sale every year, and we have been selling our extras since 2010. Prior to 2010, we were vole free. From 2010 to 2013 we saw no voles, but a few mice moved into the “neighborhood.” We started using the jar method with bait around 2013. This seemed to keep them under control. Then, in 2015, the voles moved into our neighborhood and several neighborhoods around us. They devoured 100 of our potted hostas and damaged some 20 others during the winter. In addition, they ate all of the bait we put out. We were filling the jars every couple of weeks. So, this past winter, 2016, we went on a full-out war against the voles. We used a spray on the ground and the jars with bait. The results were amazing. We have absolutely no damage or loss of hostas in our yard or pots and none of the jars with bait were touched all winter.

A hosta friend and club member in our neighborhood goes to Florida every winter. Before he left he managed to spray his backyard but lacked time to do the front yard and could only get the jars ready for the front yard. We went over every month or two to check things for him and would find all the jars in the front yard empty. We would refill them, but the jars in his backyard were untouched. This spring we have found that his backyard is untouched and his front yard is devastated. He has runs and holes all over and the jars in front were empty. So once his hostas start growing more, we can only guess that he has lost some of the front yard hostas.



Now for how to do the jars. It is quite simple. We take a glass pint or quart jar, cut a small “V” the size of a quarter in the lid, fill the jar with a scoop (1/2 cup) of bait, and tighten the lid. We place the jar, cut side down, with the wide part of the “V”, like an upside down “V” on the ground. We place the jar on a small mound of soil and slope the jar down so water can't get in. This keeps the bait dry until it is all entirely consumed. They will not eat wet bait. Fill as needed; it could be as often as once a week if you have a lot of voles and mice. We have used D-Con, Tomcat, and others. By putting the bait in the jars, it stays dry and other animals and birds cannot get to it. We have two dogs, so we also put plastic milk crates over them, with a brick on top, just to be sure.

Then for the spray:

Large Area Applications Using a Hose-End Sprayer:

- 1 - 2 Oz Castor Oil (DO NOT USE UNSCENTED CASTOR OIL!)

We order our Castor Oil from

<http://www.shayandcompany.com/castor-oil-1-gallon.html>

- 1 - 2 Oz Dish Detergent

Add the mixture to the jar of the hose end sprayer. Then fill the jar with water. Attach to your hose and thoroughly water every location where you want to deter the pests. If your hose-end sprayer has a dial, set it to the highest setting. Note, when spraying you need to continue shaking the jar to be sure the combinations mix well.

Small Area Application Using a Watering Can:

- 1 teaspoon Castor Oil (DO NOT USE UN-SCENTED CASTOR OIL!)
- 1 teaspoon Dish Detergent

Add this mixture to 1 gallon of water and thoroughly water the area to be protected.

How To Apply the Organic Vole Control:

You want to water the ground, not spray it. If the soil is dry, you should thoroughly wet the soil so that the mixture penetrates a few inches. It is hard to say how much lawn and garden area the solution will cover. You just want to make sure you get the mixture into the soil. You do not have to re-apply after a rain.

You may want to re-apply in spring if you have damage during the growing season. Some people do and some don't. Most vole and mole damage is just a winter issue, as the pests are desperate for a food source.

When To Apply the Organic Vole Control:

You want to apply the mixture before the ground freezes and after you have cleaned away all the leaves from your garden. This is typically after a few frosts.

This Castor Oil solution is organic and will not harm wildlife or pets. It just makes those garden pests move out of your gardens!

So, to keep voles, moles and mice out of yard try the spray and/or bait solution. Good luck with ridding yourself of these pests.

Many thanks to Richard Merritt, owner of New Hampshire Hostas Nursery <http://www.nhhostas.com> for the vole spray recipe. Thanks to Barry Ankney, owner of White Oaks Nursery <http://www.whiteoaknursery.com/> for sharing this spray and how well it works for him (Barry has also reported that his moles have moved to other parts of his yard that were untreated); and thanks to Jeff Miller, owner of Land of the Giants Hosta Farm <http://landofthegiantshostafarm.com/> for sharing his vole jar solution.

Isn't it great how sharing the hosta world is?

Barbara Schroeder

VP Publications

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Cindy Tomashek

VP Member Services



AHS exclusive Member-Only Plant UPDATE

The long-awaited, much-anticipated ordering process for the Member-Only Plant, Hosta ‘Sterling Medallion’, has been a success beyond expectations and has already surpassed the number of plants available for late June shipment! But don’t despair – more plants will be available for shipment in the fall, and, if demand persists, we have decided to continue shipment in 2017. The order form is now posted online and accompanied The Hosta Journal. If you haven’t ordered yet, you will find the order form at the end of this e-Newsletter. Orders are being taken for **fall shipment** on a first come-first filled basis until supplies are exhausted, since **June shipment supplies have already been exhausted**. Only payment by check will be accepted, mailed with the order form to Sandie Markland, AHS Membership secretary. She will verify AHS membership and forward shipping information on to the shipper. Shipping will be this fall, hopefully late August. What are you waiting for?? Get your order in now!

FREE Auction Software

Club presidents and regional directors recently received an email from me rolling out a special new offer of **FREE AUCTION SOFTWARE**. A couple of emails bounced back, so read on if you didn’t receive the information.

The software is provided courtesy of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society and AHS. The original software was developed when MRHS started doing Silent Seed Auctions at the Winter Scientific conference, using Microsoft Access. In 2012, Floyd Rogers of MRHS reworked and converted the program from Access to Excel, making it much more user-friendly. In 2013, AHS began using the software at Live Auctions and MRHS continued using it for Live and Silent Auctions. After three years of active testing, it is graciously being offered to share with Local and Regional Hosta Societies. Barb Schroeder and Floyd Rogers have written step by step directions for use of the software that is included with this offer. Among the capabilities of the software is the ability to print labels for pots, record keeping, printing receipts, and tracking payments. Many thanks to Floyd and Barb for all their hard work to make this a program any society can use and for their willingness to broaden the scope of accessibility beyond MRHS.

The software will be provided to you "AS IS" - there will be **NO support services** for learning or use of the program. To receive the FREE AUCTION SOFTWARE (via email as a zip file) along with complete instructions, please contact Barbara Schroeder (barbschro1@gmail.com).

Report Changes and Updates

Newsletter Editors, please promptly report email changes/updates to Mary Arnberg, Newsletter Editor Coordinator (mkarnberg@comcast.net), and all NLE’s when an editor change takes place in your club. Presidents, check your website link on the AHS web site periodically and pro-

vide new information as changes occur or to report problems with the link. Susan Hedrick, AHS Club Liaison Chair, will help you update or correct contact information (ahsclubpredents@yahoo.com).

Follow AHS on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2248595978/>

Spring arrived in a full spectrum of colorful photos posted by gardeners around the world on our Facebook page. Hybridizers continue to post tantalizing glamour shots of seedlings offering a sneak peek at hostas of the future. Moderator, Rick Goodenough, AHS Social Media Chair, facilitates the AHS Facebook page and helps keep things fresh and friendly.

Do you have ideas on how AHS can better serve its members? If so, I want to hear from you. It's our ongoing goal to offer you the best and most current information and to enhance your experience as a Hosta gardener. Invite your gardening friends to check out the AHS web site and Facebook page or bring them along to your local society and regional gatherings. Last summer we saw a record number of first time attendees at the national convention and they thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie we have all come to cherish.

More Friends = More Fun! Let's grow together!

Cindy Tomashek

VP Member Services
(507) 250-5311
Prestonplants@aol.com



Rob Mortko
AHS VP Conventions

Late Breaking Convention News

Haven't mailed your convention registration yet? No problem. The St. Louis Hosta Society has extended the early registration date from April 30th to May 31st. Save on your convention registration fee, but don't delay!

AHS Conventions

Mark your calendar now for June 15-18. The St. Louis Hosta Society will be hosting the 2016 AHS National Convention. The convention will be held at the Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel. Enjoy great tour gardens, a hosta show, auction, vending, seminars, banquet speakers (including keynote speaker Dr. Parwinder Grewal who will report on the AHS Foliar Nematode Research Project) and hostatality.

The following link will take you to the convention website where you will find more info along with the registration form. You can set your own pace and drive to the tour gardens. Or you can enjoy the totally unique convention comradery by optionally taking a tour bus. However there are limited bus seats available, so don't delay in getting your registration form submitted.

See you soon in ol' St. Louie at the Gateway to the Gardens convention.

<http://www.stlouishosta.org/2016Convention/2016Convention.htm>

Conventionally yours,

Rob Mortko

AHS VP Conventions

What's in a Hosta Garden Name?

Mike & Kathy Shadrack's Smug Creek Gardens In Western New York State

by Warren I. Pollock
Glen Mills, Pennsylvania

Many hosta gardens, small and big, old and new, have interesting and often unusual names. I've always been fascinated with the origins of garden names and thought others would be interested, also. So, from time to time, I plan to have a short item on these names in this publication. This is the first.

Smug Creek Gardens is Michael and Kathy Guest Shadrack's bit of gardening Eden in western New York State, about 20 miles south of Buffalo. The name of the town is Boston, but the postal address is Hamburg. Kathy says they live in "ski country": for "ski" read "snow."



Mike retired from the London (England) Metropolitan Police in 1992 after 32 years of service. The signature caricature he uses in his writings as president of the Western New York Hosta Society is a friendly Bobby in traditional blue uniform with white shirt and tie, whistle chain across the front and tall dome-top helmet with shiny badge mounted at the front.

Mike started growing hostas in 1986. He came to hostas through his other hobby, fish keeping, when the beauty of hostas reflected in his London garden pond was drawn to his attention in a TV gardening program he happened to be watching one evening.

After retirement he became a London Tourist Board Guide. He often visited the U.S. organizing tours to Europe, attending hosta meetings and giving presentations. (Audiences loved his Brit pronunciation of words, for example, pay-tent, not patent, for the exclusive right granted by a government to an inventor.) Mike is active in both the British Hosta and Hemerocallis Society and The American Hosta Society. He served as BHHS chairman and currently is *BHHS Bulletin* executive editor. For some eight years he was a member of the AHS Board of Directors, serving as vice-president of publications and then awards and honors. Since 2001 he's lived in the U.S.

Kathy is administrative assistant for a foundation in a Buffalo hospital. She has been gardening intensively for over 40 years and claims that her favorite plant is "whatever is in bloom." This usually seems to be daylilies and irises (her email address is irisborer@aol.com) -- but hostas are extensively included, too. She served as AHS recording secretary for many years.

Mike and Kathy became acquainted when he was a tour guide to the Royal Horticultural Society's Chelsea Flower Show for a group Kathy led from the Buffalo and Erie County (New York) Botanical Gardens. She had seen Mike speak at Hosta College (the Great Lakes Regional gathering held annually in Piqua, Ohio, in March) and picked up one of his tour brochures. The Botanical Gardens was turning 100 years old and wanted to do a special tour that year to commemorate

the event. She organized tours and events for them at the time, and proposed going to the Chelsea event in May and hire “this guy.”

Known as Kathy Guest at that time, she organized that tour in 2000 and a second one with Mike to Holland and France two years later. Both Mike and Kathy were without partners...and, well, one thing led to another. “Ours was an unconventional and unexpected romance,” she remarked. In August 2003 they married.

A year later they found the property where they now live and garden. A classified ad caught their eyes:

“House in the woods, surrounded by water.” There was no address and no photo, just some difficult-to-follow instructions where it was located. “Finding it was challenging,” she explained. “But when we did, we were smitten.”

“After that, things just happened,” Kathy said. “Mike’s London house sold. My house in East Aurora, New York, sold. The National Football League player who owned the house we were interested in buying had already bought another place and just wanted to be rid of this one. We thought ‘the fates were with us.’ We could not believe our good fortune in all of the coincidences of our lives. We were feeling *quite smug*. *Privately smug*. *Very smug*. We referred to each other as *Smugracks*. We were the *Smugracks: Mike and Kathy Smugrack*.”

“The creek that runs under the house,” Kathy said, “is only a feeder for a larger creek at the bottom of the hill on which we live. It had no name, so we named it ‘Smug Creek.’ And in doing so, we had a name for our garden: *Smug Creek Gardens*.”



Many AHS members may know Kathy and Mike best from their publications. They are authors of the highly informative *The Book of Little Hostas* (Portland, Oregon: Timber Press, 2010). With Diana Grenfell, Mike co-authored *The Color Encyclopedia of Hostas* (Portland, Oregon: Timber Press, 2004) and *The New Encyclopedia of Hostas* (Portland, Oregon: Timber Press, 2010). In 2007, Timber Press published *Timber Press Pocket Guide to Hostas* by Diana Grenfell and Michael Shadrack. An excellent photographer with a huge collection of hosta photos, Mike supplied the illustrations for all the books.

Smug Creek Gardens has a large collection of modern hostas and a garden devoted to little varieties, for the most part minis – as would be expected. Check its website, www.smugcreekgardens.com, for more information.

This is a new column by Warren Pollock that will appear in the AHS e-News from time to time. He is author of the popular “What’s in a Hosta Name?” in The Hosta Journal. If you have a hosta garden candidate for a write up, please contact him at giboshiwip@aol.com.





Amy Peterson

VP Awards and Honors

Volunteer Recognition & Participation

In the last e-newsletter I talked about volunteerism and my own journey. In this issue I share my experience traveling to Atlanta, GA. to recognize W. George Schmid who received the prestigious AHS Lifetime Achievement Award. This is a unique and rare award, and has only been given seven times in the AHS 48 year history, George being the seventh recipient.

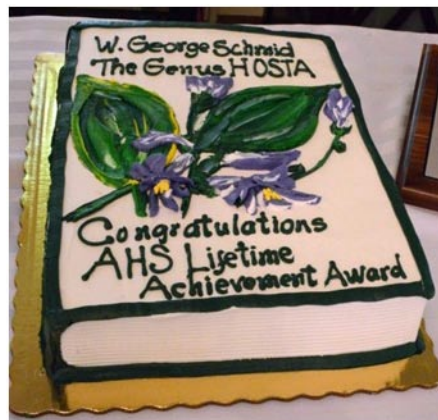
AHS President, Don Dean delivered this presidential award to George at a Georgia Hosta Society meeting. George was much honored and presenting the award in GA allowed his wife Hildegard and many other family members and friends to be present to share in his recognition.



In receiving the award George spoke of his motivation to seek out answers to unanswered questions and his great satisfaction in the effort and sharing his knowledge with people. He researched and networked with others, traveled, critically reviewed and categorized hosta information. His quest for answers sometimes resulted in changes, such as re-categorizing some hosta previously deemed species to cultivar status and consolidating multiple names for the same plant to one. He found answers and preserved those answers in his book "The Genus *Hosta*", published in 1991.

This book still is the go to book on the genus *Hosta* and a tribute to George's efforts. More information on George's contributions to AHS can be found in *The Hosta Journal* (Volume 47, Number 1).

The GA Hosta Society provided a beautiful venue, great food and a cake to celebrate the event. Southern hospitality was at its finest. Volunteers provided a smorgasbord of food and hosta. The hostas were for the society's annual auction which the Schmid children, spouses and grandchildren heartily participated. A few plants even came to MN. The pictures provided herein were taken by Mikky Lockwood and Gregg Peterson.



Motivation to seek knowledge, share knowledge and recognizing contributions large or small help the Society succeed and can be personally rewarding. Look for opportunities where you too can contribute, meet new friends, share ideas and share the workload. Sometimes volunteering leverages existing skills and sometimes develops new ones and sometimes it is "just necessary work". If you are going to the AHS National Convention, "Gateway to the Gardens" in St. Louis, MO, June 15-18, 2016 volunteers are needed to help with the Hosta Show and Auction.

Hosta Show volunteers (in addition to participating) are need.

- If you can help with leaf show set-up or take down/clean-up please go to the hosta show area at the time and place designated in the convention schedule.

Hosta Auction volunteers (in addition to donating/volunteering plants for the auction) are needed.

- If you can help with labeling donated items, moving donations from the viewing area to the auction area (4-6 people needed) or be a runner to transfer plants from the auctioneer to the buyer, go to the convention plant receiving area listed in the convention schedule and let Floyd Rogers or Rick Schroeder know where you can help.
- Contact Barb Schroeder at the convention if you can help at the auction back table: tasks may include documenting bids for computer entry, or other as needed.

The convention schedule can be found on the St. Louis Hosta Society website at <http://www.stlouishosta.org/2016Convention/2016ConventionAgenda.pdf>. Check it out and see if you can lend a hand at the convention.

"Many hands make light work" meaning large tasks become small when divided among several people, so please volunteer.

In closing, thank you to the GA Hosta Society for making George Schmid's Lifetime Achievement Award ceremony a truly memorable event.

Amy Peterson

VP Awards and Honors



Cindy Deutekom

VP Genus Hosta

With the AHS research project on Foliar Nematodes completed, a summary report was included in the Spring issue of The Hosta Journal.

We will be posting the Foliar Nematode Research Final Report in full on the AHS website in the Members Only section by the end of May. It is with Dr. Grewal for final clarification on a few items. This report covers all the experiments laid out in the AHS Contract with Dr. Grewal.

For those of you going to the AHS National Convention in St. Louis, you will meet Dr. Parwinder Grewal, head of the research team as he is the key note speaker on Friday evening. Bring any of your questions as there will be a Q&A session at the conclusion of Dr. Grewal's presentation. I am excited to finally meet him after spending hours on the phone and by email!

Of the 23 chemicals that were tested in a sequence of staged experiments over the two year research, one chemical emerged that not only provided the best control but is available to all (both homeowner and commercial grower alike and with no labelled application restrictions). That was NemaKill.

Many hosta enthusiasts were excited to hear this and have either purchased or received samples of NemaKill. Those involved in the research project would like to track your experiences with this product and how effectively it works for you so that we can offer further recommendations.

With that in mind, would you to send me an email (cindydeutekom@gmail.com) telling me the following:

- Are you a hobby gardener, a professional grower or retailer?
- Where are you located?
- Did you remove infected hosta foliage in the fall prior to trialing NemaKill?
- When did you apply NemaKill and what strength did you use?
- Did you apply on potted hosta or field grown/in the ground plants?
- Did you apply to immature 1-2 division plants, multiple eye plants, mature clumps?
- Did you apply NemaKill to buds or were the leaves unfurling, mid season, late season when evidence of nematodes appeared?
- Did you apply NemaKill as a drench or a spray to the leaves?
- If applied as a soil drench, what quantity of NemaKill did you use? How deep did the solution penetrate (entire root zone, to the depth of the crown?)
- If spraying the leaves, did you spray both sides of the leaves or the top only?
- What frequency was it applied during the growing season (once, every few weeks)?
- What is the total number of applications you applied during the growing season?
- Were there existing nematodes in the area you sprayed or were you using it as a prevention?

If you have tried other treatments, we would like to hear about your experiences too.

We will compile the data we receive from you to come up with a recommendation regarding frequency of applications for your hostas.

Cindy Deutekom

AHS VP Genus Hosta



Gregg Peterson

VP Judging/Exhibitions

“Put On Your Own Hosta Show”

DISCLAIMER: *Before Claudia Walker, AHS Chair – Hosta Shows reads the title of my article and has a heart attack; let me calm her by stating I am not talking about AHS Accredited Hosta Shows!!*

All of us who collect and grow hostas think we are fairly astute and quite savvy when selecting a new hosta cultivar for our garden. But are we really? If we stop to look at the process many growers go through, we find it woefully inadequate to prepare us to truly appreciate a new plant.

Most people tend to focus on clump size when looking at a new cultivar. We want to know how big is it going to get and will it fit in the space I am considering for it? After that, we consider color (or we might consider it first with the clump size next). From there we consider any variegation and distinctive features, but usually only to the extent of is it pleasing to look at. Finally, we might get to considering the flower; is it fragrant and what color is it?

The true test of whether we know about a particular hosta is to ask someone or for that matter yourself, to describe in detail, the leaf of a particular hosta sight unseen. Ask them to detail the size of the leaf, the color(s), the type of variegation, other distinctive markings and the substance of the leaf. In addition, ask about the basic leaf shape and its attributes such as the corrugation and waviness of the margin. Finally, is the leaf folded, concave or convex?

Truth be told, most of us fail miserably when asked to describe a leaf from even our favorite hosta. We are a poor judge of size of the leaf, we don't remember or mix up colors and variegation patterns and if asked about

something as important as the color of the back of the leaf, we are at a loss to even say we have looked at the backside. Is the leaf symmetrical in its markings if we mentally divide it in half and consider each side against the other? Again, we like to think that we know all of this about the plant, but can we describe that leaf with certainty or are we many times guessing or assuming.

My solution to help us better describe and appreciate the hostas in your garden, is to stage and conduct our own little hosta show. Start with 5-10 leaves that you select, prep and stage for your viewing. You say you don't have a collection of vases to stage your plants in. Not to worry, a six-pack of beer in glass bottles or a bottle or two of wine can get you started to put together your own collection of “vases”. What better reason to “crack” open a frosty one than to say you are collecting supplies for a hosta show!

Before you begin selecting your leaves for your show, go to the AHS website and click on the Hosta Judging button to access the Judges Handbook, Classification List and other helpful articles about selecting and prepping your leaves. Note which attributes are important to judging a leaf and how does your selected leaf do with respect to them.

Consider putting together an impromptu Hosta Show if you are hosting a dinner party, a garden tea or if you are fortunate to host a garden tour for a local garden club or your hosta society. It can be a nice “icebreaker” to get a group talking as well as being an educational display to educate others about the genus *Hosta*.

I would love to hear about your own little hosta shows that you put on or any other ideas you have tried to gain a better appreciation of the “friendship” plant. Have a great growing and showing season!!

Gregg Peterson

VP Judging/Exhibitions



2016 MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA CONVENTION

Hosted by Illinois Prairie Hosta Society

July 7 - 9, 2016

The **Illinois Prairie Hosta Society** is proud to host the '**Grand Prairie Hostas**' 2016 Midwest Regional Hosta Convention in Champaign, Illinois, July 7-9, 2016. The convention location is the **Hawthorn Suites**, 101 Trade Centre Drive, Champaign, IL 61820. The convention includes all the expected activities such as national vendors, live auctions, garden tours, banquet, hospitality suite, and optional garden tours on Sunday. New events include a Thursday evening Wine and Cheese party, educational seminars on Friday and Saturday.

The metro area of Champaign, Urbana and the University of Illinois campus offers attendees a variety of restaurants, garden centers, shopping, museums, parks and other activities. Travel to Champaign is easy and direct via three interstate highways, Willard Airport (CMI), Amtrak or Greyhound. Contact the **Hawthorn** for room reservations at **217.398.3400** and use "Midwest Regional Hosta Society".

2016 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

THURSDAY: The convention begins on Thursday when the vendors open. Only a short distance from the convention hotel, enjoy a wine and cheese party in the adjacent gardens of a *hostaholic*.

FRIDAY: Friday features garden tours and several educational seminars as well as the seed growers show. The vendor area is open to attendees and the public all afternoon so come early for the best selection. During evening cocktails enjoy the dinner followed by the live auction. The evening concludes in the hospitality suite.

SATURDAY: Saturday begins with garden tours. After lunch you can return to the hotel with time to relax, visit the vendors, attend educational seminars and the seed growers show, and get ready for the convention banquet. The evening concludes in the hospitality suite.

SUNDAY: Before leaving on Sunday, take optional tours of beautiful private gardens or the University of Illinois' Arboretum with Idea Garden, National Trial Gardens, Japan House, and Illinois Prairie's National Hosta Display Garden. All in Champaign.

Please join us July 7-9, 2016 for a 'Grand Prairie Hostas Revisited' good time!



2016 MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA CONVENTION

Hosted by
Illinois Prairie Hosta Society
July 7-9, 2016

Hawthorn Suites by Wyndham
101 Trade Centre Dr. Champaign, IL 61820

Full or Children's Registration

1. One Form for Each Person – Please Print

Name (as you want it on your badge): _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Email: _____

2. Auction

I will donate plants or garden items for the Friday night auction. Approximate number: _____

5. Reservations – Refunds through June 9, less \$25 processing fee

Registration Fee includes two meals: Friday banquet, Saturday banquet. Hawthorn Hotel offers free breakfast for guests. Fee also includes: Thursday evening cocktail party, convention hosta voucher and handbook, auction, vendors, garden tours, educational seminars and hospitality room.

Contact the Hawthorn Suites directly for room reservations at (217) 398-3400 and mention attending Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention. The group rate of \$89.99 plus tax is available through June 7, 2016.

- Full Registration (by June 9) \$120.00
- Children Registration (12 and under) \$ 70.00
With Parent
- Late Full Registration (after June 9) \$140.00

Plan to attend Thursday evening wine and cheese party. Please circle YES or NO

6. Send Form and Check

Mail to: Carol McClure
1413 S Western Ave.
Champaign, IL 61821
clmcclur@illinois.edu

Total Registration Amount: \$ _____

Checks payable to: Illinois Prairie Hosta Society

For additional information and schedules, see
www.illinoisprairiehostasociety.com/2016mrhs.html



AHS Membership

The American Hosta Society (AHS) is a society dedicated to the study and improvement of the genus *Hosta* and the dissemination of general and scientific knowledge about hostas. There are many benefits for the members that result from these efforts, both social and in nursery trade. AHS members receive several publications a year, including two colorful issues of *The Hosta Journal* (mailed), four *eNewsletters* (emailed), and *The Online Journal* (posted on the web for members only). All of these include articles on cultivation tips, propagation techniques, landscape uses, new cultivars and old species, pioneers and personalities, scientific advances, convention awards and gardens and news about the AHS.

- ◆ An opportunity to attend national meetings and conventions which offer educational and scientific presentations, garden tours, judge's clinics, and a chance to see the latest and best hosta in the hosta show.
- ◆ A Biennial AHS Membership Directory
- ◆ The privilege of visiting display gardens throughout the country, many of which are only open to AHS members.
- ◆ An invitation to exhibit your favorite hostas and compete for recognition in various AHS national and regional hosta shows.
- ◆ Developing friendships with people who share an interest in growing hostas.
- ◆ Access to Members Only section of the AHS website

Other membership benefits:

Another benefit of becoming a new member is you receive a voucher from the AHS Membership Secretary good for \$15.00 towards any purchase at sponsoring nurseries. Go to

<http://www.americanhostasociety.org/Membership/AHSVoucherProgram.htm>

Go to <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/Membership/Membership.htm> to join online or print the membership application and mail to the Membership Secretary listed.



Gateway to the Gardens
St. Louis, Missouri
2016

2016 AHS Convention

June 15-18

St Louis, the Gateway to the West, is ready to open gates to beautiful gardens, renowned parks, and riverways just for you!

Join us for fabulous garden tours around the area.
The gardens are accessible by car
with limited bus service available.
Think about carpooling and sharing the fun!

Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel is the convention headquarters.
www.sheratonwestport.com/Sheraton-Westport-chalet-hotel.html
Mention the AHS Convention when reserving your room to receive
the group room rate per night of \$129 plus tax.

For more information visit www.stlouishosta.org.
The St Louis Hosta Society is delighted to host this event, and we look
forward to seeing old and new friends in St Louis.





American Hosta Society 2016 Convention Registration Gateway To The Gardens June 15-18, St. Louis, Missouri

Clear Fo

One form per person – please print

Name (as you want it on your badge): _____
 Street: _____ City: _____ St: **AL** Zip: _____
 Country: _____ E-mail: _____ Phone: (____) _____
 Is this your first convention? Yes ___ No ___ Date of Arrival _____

\$215 FULL REGISTRATION (Postmarked by May 31st) Includes 10 self-guided garden tours, Friday & Saturday breakfast buffet, Friday banquet, Saturday banquet, gift hosts, handbook, and access to all seminars, speakers, and vendors.

\$250 LATE FULL REGISTRATION (Postmarked June 1 and thereafter) Same as Full Registration. After June 1, contact Registrar for availability.

\$50 BUS: One will be available for the first 54 people who sign up. Box lunch provided.

\$100 BANQUET ONLY REGISTRATION Includes Friday's Banquet, and Saturday's Banquet

Will you need a carpool ride for the garden tour? Yes ___ No ___
 Can you offer a ride for others on the tour? Yes ___ No ___

Cancellations received prior to May 15 will be charged a \$50 processing fee. Cancellations received thereafter will not be refunded.

Fri banquet preference: Chicken breast () Roasted pork () Vegetarian ()

Sat banquet preference: Grilled salmon () Grilled fillet of beef () Vegetarian ()

If you have any serious dietary restrictions, please note here: _____

JUDGES CLINICS – Please note which clinics you will attend.

Clinic I (Wednesday 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm) **Clinic II** (Friday 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm) **Clinic III** (Thursday 8:30 am – 10:00 am)

JUDGES HANDBOOK If attending a Judges Clinic, you must bring a current Judges Handbook. Download it free at www.hosta.org

Check here if you would like to receive the official handbook and binder at the clinic (\$10 fee payable at the clinic).

HOSTA SHOW – The Show Schedule will be available online at www.stlouishosta.org. Please check your planned entries and anticipated number of entries in each:

Leaf Show Div I _____ (Limit of 25 entries for Div I)
 Containers Div. II _____ Artistic Div. VI _____
 Troughs Div III _____ Specialty Div. VII _____
 Ed Div IV _____

Please check if you plan to: Judge Clerk

For additional Hosta Show information (including Div VII – seedlings and sports grown in containers), contact Phyllis Weidman:

pow1031@gmail.com Tel: (314) 630-9036

Registration Amount \$ _____
 Credit Card Fee \$15 \$ _____ (If applicable)
 Bus Fee \$ _____ (If applicable)
 Total Amount \$ 0.00 (US dollars)

Checks payable to: **St. Louis Hosta Society**

Mail to: Jolly Ann Whitener – Registrar (636) 240-5068
 10 Oak Hollow Dr (636) 485-9537 Cell
 St. Peters, MO 63376 jawhit5@gmail.com

Credit Card Visa MasterCard Expires ___/___/___

Security Code

Name on Credit Card: _____

Signature: _____

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Please contact Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel directly at (800) 325-3535 and mention American Hosta Society or go online at www.starwoodmeeting.com/book/americanhostasociety. The group rate of \$129 + taxes in effect from 6/12/15 to 6/19/16. Hotel needs to receive reservations by 5/31/16.

Hotel Addr: 191 Westport Plaza Dr, St. Louis, MO 63146
 Tel: 314-878-1500

See www.stlouishosta.org for convention information and additional Registration Forms

Rev 5/1/16

AHS Members-Only Plant



H. 'Sterling Medallion'

(D. Dean – 2012)

13 inches high by 36 inches wide, intensely blue-green, glaucous, wavy leaves with moderate cupping, and corrugation. Pale lavender flowers appear on 24-inch scapes in late June.

Orders are being accepted for the first AHS Members-Only Collector Plant. This is a beautiful frosty blue introduction from Don Dean. The cost for this exclusive AHS members-only plant is \$20.00 plus \$6.50 shipping. It will be a beautiful addition to any member's hosta collection.

Plants are in limited supply and will be sold on a first come basis until sold out. Limit is **ONE** plant per member. Group orders will be accepted, which will save the group on shipping charges. The price of each plant will still be \$20.00. Each person in the group must be an AHS member, and membership will be verified. For actual shipping charges groups should email Rob Mortko at Rob@hostaguy.com.

AHS vouchers may be used toward the purchase of a plant (include with your order). Checks should be made out to AHS, and orders should be sent to Sandie Markland, AHS Membership Secretary, P.O. Box 27948-7539, Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948-7539.

Plants will commence shipping in late June 2016. The deadline for orders is June 30, 2016. Sorry, plants cannot be shipped outside the U.S.

See reverse for order form. Order forms are also available on the AHS website www.hosta.org.

Order form



H. 'Sterling Medallion'

**MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO AHS.
Mail Order Form and Payment to:**

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

Individual Member Order

Limit one per member \$20.00
Shipping \$6.50
Total due \$26.50

Group Order

For shipping charge on Group Order: contact Rob@HostaGuy.com

_____ x \$20.00 = \$ _____
→ Shipping \$ _____
Total due \$ _____

Group Order (entire order must be shipped to one address — enter this address at bottom of page).

*EACH PERSON LISTED MUST BE A CURRENT AHS MEMBER.

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	AHS MEMBER*

Ship to:

Plants can only
be shipped to
U.S. addresses.

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____
Email (for shipping tracking) _____

Date received: _____

Plants will ship this autumn.