



Don Dean

AHS President

Presidents Message

Fall garb of whites, yellows, shades of amber, and russet hues arrived for their annual treat in the hosta gardens albeit briefly and has already or soon will be transposed into a white, winter scene. Gardens are put to rest, and like our plants, the body can recharge following this year's labor. Dreams and plans for next season play in our heads as catalogs become available, news of coming events is distributed, and hybridizers have initiated the next generation of jewels that may be shared in the future.



The 2015 issue of *The Online Journal* coming in December will surely have those who attended fondly reminiscing about the

convention in Raleigh. All members will want to read the article about the pending convention in St. Louis. Consider attending. The hosts are creating an exciting 2016 convention. Not a member? No problem, become one and meet us in St. Louis to find out what brings so many back annually to AHS conventions!

The annual AHS Online Auction held in January will prompt exciting dreams for next spring. For more detail click http://www.americanhostasociety.org/Activities/auction_agreement.html. The event is open to members and non-members, so invite a gardening friend to join the excitement.

We are grateful for the many talented members willing to take on service roles for our society. At times these members must make the difficult decision to end their service.

We express thanks to Jeff Miller for his service as Public Relations Coordinator as he pursues his next "giant" project (Jeff is



known for everything BIG).

The International Registrar for the Genus *Hosta* fulfils a crucial record-keeping role for hosta within the international horticultural world. Kevin Walek, our current registrar, has tenured his resignation effective upon completion of the 2015 registrations. The process will be completed sometime in January of 2016. Kevin, holding true to his nature, has been mentoring his successor during the processing of the 2015 registrations and will continue to be available for assistance in the future. He intends to fulfill his goal of providing a smooth transition for the benefit of the society and hosta world. News and contact information for the new registrar will be published via multiple methods early in 2016. This allows both Kevin and our new registrar to more easily complete of this year's tasks. Look for announcements and masthead updates in the future. All should dispose copies of the 2015 and earlier registration forms to ensure that registrations reach the correct address for 2016 and beyond next year.

Your Board of Directors and many chairs have continued their productivity. Established elements of our society are on schedule to continue and some new endeavors are in the planning stages. I encourage all to read updated reports and minutes to keep informed. You will not want to miss coming opportunities. December marks the end of a calendar year and membership renewal time. Consider a few minutes of service on your part by reaching out to a gardening friend and inviting them to join you in this journey. Perhaps a gift membership during the holiday season is an appealing way to share your enthusiasm!

In service,

Don Dean

AHS President





Barbara Schroeder

AHS VP Publications

By the time you receive this E-Newsletter the Hosta Journal has, hopefully, been mailed. The OnLine Journal is moving along and still planned for December 10th.

This year I have had so many nice surprises of people being willing to donate journals. We have been getting a nice array of old journals and will always accept more. We still have requests for old issues that we do not have so if you are cleaning out please think of us. We have filled up two complete sets of journals for the AHS archives and working on the Third set, the goal is to have 6 complete sets. We are in need of the following original issues: 15, 20.2, 21.2, 23.2, 28.2 and 37.2. If you have two copies and are willing to donate one to us (or have one or a collection to donate) please email or call me and we can make arrangements. Plus, since we have gotten a couple of large sets we have old copies of some of the journals from 1969 to 2014 (not all originals) available again so if you need some to fill your own collection please contact me. The journals are \$5.00 each plus shipping so think about filling out your collection as well as ours.

We also have a large quantity of "Hosta Adventure: A Grower's Guide" (printed in 2008). We sell them for \$4.00 each plus \$2.50 shipping. For quantities over 100 please contact myself or Paula Lehtola at paulalehtola@comcast.net to see if we can give you a special price and/or cheaper shipping.

Barbara Schroeder

VP Publications

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Sandie Markland

AHS Membership Secretary

Time seems to fly more quickly with each passing year --- **YES, IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME AGAIN!** If there is a "15" after your name on the mailing sheet which accompanied your copy of *The Hosta Journal*, then it's time to renew --- you wouldn't want to miss any of the fun, would you?! I know this might be surprising news (and possibly somewhat distressing) to those who recently joined for just a single year immediately prior to the 2015 membership cut-off date and I'm sorry for that ... but, remember, your membership was back-dated to 01-01-15!

All AHS Memberships run from January 1 through December 31 regardless of when an individual joins or renews. The year of your membership expiration immediately follows your name on the mailing sheet which accompanies each paper publication you receive from the AHS. The second *Journal* mailing of each year (which will arrive shortly if it hasn't already) is always accompanied by a renewal form. It is important to renew in a timely manner in order to avoid the \$5.00 late fee which **MUST** be applied to all renewals mailed or entered online after January 15 of each calendar year --- mailing that first issue of the year individually to late renewals is a costly process!

eMembers --- your membership renewal will also come due at the end of the year. Although a late renewal fee does not apply to eMemberships, why wait until the last minute?!

It is important to keep the AHS Membership Secretary informed of changes in your contact information. If you do not receive AHS mailings due to an unreported change of address, a \$6.00 payment is required to cover the cost of shipping and handling for the replacement issue. Please send address changes to AHSMembershipSecretary@charter.net as promptly as possible. Individuals who travel between summer and winter homes should advise the Membership Secretary of their change of address approximately 6 weeks in advance.

If you have questions about your membership or believe you might have missed the first *Journal* mailing of this year, please contact me at the email address above.

AHS Memberships make great gifts for your gardening friends --- or great door prizes for your local club events!

Sandie Markland

AHS Membership Secretary



Cindy Tomashek

VP Member Services

AHS exclusive Member-Only Plant Update

Your spring 2016 THJ will include an order form for Hosta 'Sterling Medallion', so be prepared to get your order in asap. Also, a new 2017 offering has been identified and approval is pending by the AHS EC in the near future. If approved, it will quickly go into the lab for production. More information will be released about the next exclusive offering when it is confirmed.

It won't be long before we'll be soliciting entries for the 2018 Members Only Plant, so consider what you might have that fits the bill of 'very special' and please consider bringing it forth for consideration.

To all club Presidents and Newsletter Editors

Ongoing reminder to promptly report email changes to Mary Arnberg, Newsletter Editor Coordinator (mkarnberg@comcast.net), and all NLE's when an editor change takes place in your club. Presidents, be sure to check your website link on the AHS web site periodically and provide 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. ahsclubpresidents@yahoo.com

Follow AHS on Facebook

Show us your stuff (please, keep it appropriate - hostas or great garden scenes)! Join more than 3500 other hostaphiles on Facebook by joining the AHS Facebook group. Moderator, Rick Goodenough, AHS Social Media Chair, has done a fabulous job of facilitating the AHS Facebook page and it has become THE go-to media source for hosta questions and posting dreamy pictures that will carry us all through the bleak months ahead while our hostas nap. Check it out. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2248595978/>

The AHS is committed to serving our members ...helping you grow in your hosta knowledge through connecting you with the AHS hosta community. Invite your gardening friends to connect too, and keep the excitement growing!

Cindy Tomashek

VP Member Services (507) 250-5311



Cindy Deutekom

AHS VP Genus Hosta

Foliar Nematode Research Project Update

As we near the end of the research project, one major finding I wanted to pass on to you is that the nematodes do not actively move to the soil and crown through the leaf as originally thought.

Studies have shown that the nematodes remain in the leaves fall to the ground in a desiccated state. Thus it is important to clean up hosta leaves in the fall. These leaves should not be composted as the dehydrated nematodes can revive when exposed to moisture in your compost pile!

Fall cleanup will greatly decrease foliar nematodes next year, as well as slugs and fungal infections.

Although it is too late for this year, it would be beneficial to cut off any leaves when signs of nematodes are present and destroy those leaves.

Cindy Deutekom

VP Genus Hosta



Joshua Spece

Web Editor-in-Chief

Many of us are still entrenched in fall garden chores, or even still enjoying your hostas, if you garden in the south. We still have a few weeks of 2015 left to enjoy, but it is never too early to begin planning for 2016...especially when it comes to hosta events!

The Activities page on the AHS website has been updated with known event dates for 2016: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/Activities/Activities.htm>

Mark your calendar! Request time off from work! Rally your hosta buddies! Whatever you do, don't miss out on any of the hosta fun next year!

Josh Spece

Webeditor



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.

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.