

THE HOSTA LEAF

A newsletter of Shades of Green Hosta Society Rochester, MN

SOGHS Board Members, 2021

- President** - Kathy Rustad
1st Vice President / Garden Tours - VaLinda Wondrasch
2nd Vice president / Programs/ Education - Cindy Tomashek
3rd Vice President / Membership/ Promotions - Joyce Rapp
Secretary / Historian - Alma Andover
Treasurer- Mona Keehn
Plant Sale - Paula Zollman and Jenifer Magera
Member fundraising -Jan Suter
Webmaster - Dave Cocker
Newsletter - Mary Lanier

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President's Letter

Growing up in the farm community of northern Minnesota, I learned early in life that farming is not for the faint of heart. Weather, infestations and markets are challenges a farmer deals with each year. As I look at my garden, it reminds me of a micro-version of the farm industry. It has been a challenging growing season that started with frost nipping the tender hosta pips and quickly turned to a beating sun that scorched and melted more hosta leaves as they emerged.



Gardeners, like farmers, are a hardy breed. No matter what challenges are sent our way, we get back out there to water, fertilize and nurture our plants to be the best they can be given the circumstance. And what I have seen so far is that the folks in Shades of Green are winning the battles! From the Spring Open House at Keehns' to the member tours, our members have some of the most beautiful gardens I have ever seen. The artistic flare used to combine colors and companion plants into lovely hosta beds leaves me inspired and grateful for the opportunity to behold their beauty. An example of our members' gorgeous garden produce was displayed in grand form at the SOGHS Annual Plant Sale! What a great turnout of variety and quantity. I want to extend a special "Thank-You" to Deanna Nash for her generous hosta donations and to the dig team for the days/ hours of tireless work preparing these plants for the sale. Last but not least, a round of applause to Jen Magera and Paula Zollman for pulling off an incredibly successful plant sale during a most challenging time! You two kept the faith and figured out how to hold a plant sale that was safe for people and plants. As we slowly get back to normal, keep your eyes open for SOGHS announcements like carpool trips, in-person Founder's Day Picnic, member meetings and socials. I look forward to "seeing" each of you once again and enjoying the lovely world of hostas.

Take care and stay well,

Kathy Rustad, SOGHS President

**Welcome
Newest Members**

Thank you and welcome to all who have signed up as a new member to SOGHS. Some of you we got to meet at the plant sale. I hope that each of you will enjoy membership as much as the rest of us do. New members include: **Gary and Joyce Miller, Karin Marek, Jennifer Ray, Callie Mutschler, Louise and Walter Hanson, Dawn Meyer, Talor Gray, Mary Erath, and Eileen Ehrich.**

-Joyce Rapp, Membership



**WATER!!
WATER!!
WATER!!**

REMEMBER to water your hostas a lot...especially when the weather has been as hot and dry as it is this year. Drench them thoroughly once a week. If you want them to get huge, fertilizer is recommended.



Founders' Day

Mark your calendars for the Annual Founder's Day Picnic and Live Auction on **Saturday, September 11, 2021**, at "the farm" near Preston. (Fire code number is 21587 Hwy 52.) White flutter flags will mark the entrance to the driveway. Plan to arrive by 11 am, with a pack-your-own picnic lunch and beverages. There's plenty of room to spread out but you might want to bring a lawn chair just in case. The live auction (donations welcome) will start at 1:30 pm.

This day is meant to be a relaxing get together for SOGHS members and their families. There are hosta gardens to tour, biking or hiking on the Preston-Harmony trail (about a half mile to access), and lots of yard space to share conversation.

Check the website (soghs.org) for more details to come.

- Cindy Tomashek, education/programs

October Member Meeting

The next member meeting of SOGHS will be on **October 7** and as of now we will be able to meet in the Fellowship Hall of Good Shepherd Church, our usual meeting place! The program isn't finalized yet, so stay tuned. If you are a new member or missed our prior programs from February and April, you can view them in the members only section of the website.

We embraced Zoom as an important tool for us during the peak of the pandemic to continue meeting and offering speakers. We hope to continue to use it as a tool for members who can't make meetings in person (like snow birds) or perhaps to offer a speaker that is reluctant to travel to us (think having the speaker on the screen from a remote location during our meetings-in-person). Hopefully we never have to resort to only meeting through Zoom again, though, as I have missed your company very much.

The excitement is growing,

Cindy Tomashek, education/programs

CONVENTION CONNECTION

Hosta dreamin' is coming!

Mark your calendars for the 2023 MRHS Convention, **Hosta dreamin'**, that will be held in Rochester, July 13-15, 2023.

Plans for an extraordinary Convention are underway...

While Steering Committee members already have been working over the past 2 years, Convention Committees Chairpersons will be meeting for the first time in mid-June to begin making detailed plans for the meeting.

THANK YOU to the many SOGHS members who already have volunteered to be a part of the Convention. A meeting this size requires the participation of everyone and workers in all areas are needed.

Please consider participating by becoming a Convention volunteer. You can email us with your area(s) of interest and we'll contact you with volunteer opportunities

A logo has been selected...

After many months of anticipation, the steering committee anonymously reviewed and selected a logo for the for the Convention. The design was contributed by Joe and Chris Parisi.



Convention ideas needed...

Your ideas for Convention activities and educational session topics are welcome.

Help make the 2023 MRHS Convention extraordinary—please email:

SOGHS2023MRHSConvention@gmail.com with your ideas and participation!

Joe Parisi & Kathy Rustad
Convention Co-chairs



Plant Sale Success



Photos by Joe and Chris Parisi



American Hosta Society

Virtual National Convention

July 15 – 17, 2021

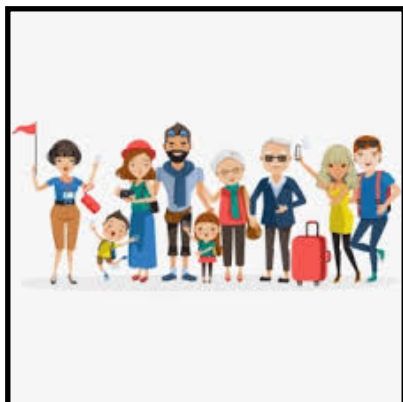
Kalamazoo, Michigan

REGISTER NOW



Welcome! It is with great excitement and pleasure that the Southwest Michigan Hosta Society and the West Michigan Hosta Society are partnering to bring you the first-ever Virtual 2021 American Hosta Society National Convention.

We're On the Road Again With Great Tours



We have had a busy spring, working hard to make up for time lost during Covid pandemic. On Monday, April 26, we took a trip to the Mennonite Greenhouses in Iowa. Some of us also went on Monday, May 3, to the Amish greenhouses around St. Charles. We were surprised at how many plants were already either sold out or in limited supply, but we did find some good, healthy plants at good prices. Tuesday, June 22, was our Member Garden tour. The four gardens were: Denny and Sherri Bowe, Linda Brech, Dave and Cheryl Moertol and Andrea and Curt Sanders. We also had an overnight/carpool trip on Wednesday and Thursday, June 23 and 24, to the Flying Frog in Iowa as they are going out of business and we wanted to be there the first day of the sale. We also had some other greenhouse stops planned along the drive on Wednesday.

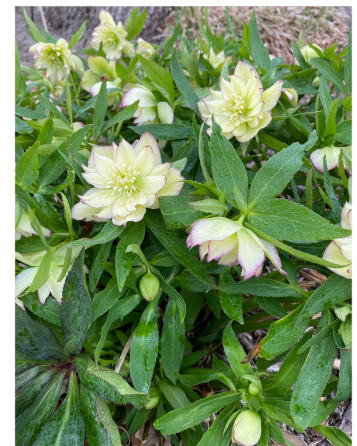
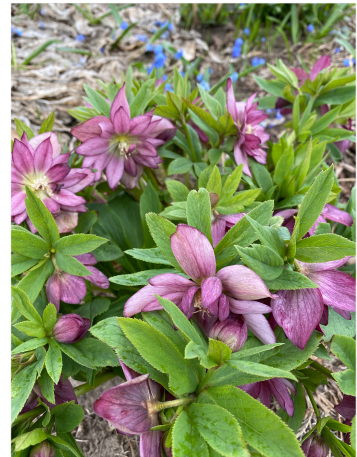
We have another overnight/ carpool planned for Friday and Saturday, **July 30 and 31**, to the Winter Greenhouse in Winter, Wisconsin, along with some other greenhouses. Please email me if you wish to go on the trip to Winter at spice4valinda@gmail.com. More details about this trip will be sent out later along with a reminder. I know how busy we have all been lately, and we wouldn't want you to miss the fun.

- **Valinda Wondrasch, Tours**



In the spring, Newsletter Editor Mary Lanier asked for photos of spring color. Cindy Tomashek obliged. While we have moved into vibrant summer garden color, I hope you enjoy this candy box sampling of delightful spring blooms.

Photos by Cindy Tomashek





Membership in MRHS

Membership in the society is \$20.00 for two years. Members receive two issues per year of the society's newsletter, *The Hosta Leaves*. **First time members receive a voucher for \$10.00, good for purchases at our participating Hosta Vendors.**

In addition there are two meetings held annually. The Winter Scientific Meeting is held in January, in the Milwaukee area. It is a one-day event with an assortment of speakers that present the latest information pertaining to Hostas and gardening with them. All of this is offered in an enjoyable and down-to-earth format with something for everyone interested in gardening and learning more about Hostas.

In the summer, an annual convention, hosted by a local society, is held in different locations throughout the region. This three-day extravaganza features garden tours, a show of Hosta leaves, vendors selling the newest in Hosta plants, an auction of plants, a banquet, and an informational speaker.

Midwest Regional Hosta Society Membership

Send your completed membership application and check to:

Kathy Rustad
4011 10th Avenue NW
Rochester, MN 55901

[Printable MRHS Membership Form](#)

Plan to Attend the 2022 "Chicago Style" MRHS Convention

2022 Convention Information
LISLE, ILLINOIS - "HOSTAS CHICAGO
STYLE"
July 14-16, 2022



- **Calendar of Events**

- **July 15-17 - AHS "Virtual" Convention, "Hosta Smitten in the Mitten", Hosted by Kalamazoo, Michigan**
- **July 29 - Executive Board Meeting**
- **July 26-Aug 1 - Olmsted County Fair**
- **July 29 - 31 Overnight car pool trip (pending)**

- **August/September - Scratch & Dent Sale**

- **September 1 - Article deadline for October/November/December Newsletter**
- **September 11 - Founder's Day Picnic**
- **September 30 - Executive Board Meeting**
- **October 7 - SOGHS General meeting open to the public / Board Elections**

- **November 11 - SOGHS Social Event from 4PM -7PM TBD**

- **December 1 - Article deadline for January/February/March Newsletter**
- **December 2 - Executive Board Meeting**

SOGHS NEWSLETTER

1101 20th St. NW

Rochester, MN 55901