

THE HOSTA LEAF

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The President's Letter

Fall is my favorite time of year, partly because of the cooler temperatures but mostly the much awaited bounty of delicious produce at the local farmers' market. I can't wait to make butternut squash soup and to cook beef stew over our backyard fire pit! Somehow this helps make the end of summer a bit more palatable.



What I don't like about fall is saying goodbye to the gardens. Hostas have done their duty for the season and are ready for a nice rest. So, I have been thinking about how I

will take care of my hostas this fall. Some years I have waited until spring to clean-up dried leaves but this year I think I will cut back the leaves after the first hard frost. This is mainly to prevent those nasty slugs from having a breeding ground in the dead foliage, but it will also help me see what hostas I want to divide in the spring. This is a great time to take a careful look for the dreaded Hosta Virus X and jumping worms. Checking the hostas and soil conditions will help set a plan for treating plants and soil as well as properly caring for garden tools to insure nothing is transferred from one garden to the next.

For hostas that will be divided in the spring, a helpful tip is to mark hostas with an orange flag in the fall. In fact, come to our member meeting on **October 10th** and receive orange flags to help you mark your hostas for dividing in the spring!

Wish me luck as I plan to bring a few more hosta pots into our
(Continued on Page 2)



Thank you again for making the 2019 Hosta Sale a success. The Annual Hosta Sale would not be what it is without the generosity of SOGHS members.

Have you thought about the h o s t a divisions you want to make next year? We're suggesting that you think about



marking them in the fall with a flag. Using marker flags helps us remember which hostas we need to divide...and where they are in the garden. We will have marker flags available for pick up at the October SOGHS meeting. Remember, the dig team is ready to assist you with dividing next year.

There is also the option to dig and spit your hostas before winter arrives. If you have space to plop them in the ground and then place them in pots in the spring, the plants have a chance to recover from the splitting and will look wonderful for the sale.

We have increased the size of our storage unit, and the new unit is closer to the fair grounds so we will have soil and pots ready for the 2020 Hosta Sale.

Mark your calendars for Friday June 5, 2020, to help set up for the sale and Saturday, June, 6 for the Annual Hosta Sale.

We look forward to seeing you all again at the sale in 2020 if not before.

-Jenifer Magera and Paula Zollman, Plant Sale Co-Chairs

The President's Letter

Continued from Page 1

unheated garage for the winter. Try as I might, the fact remains that I really need to get better at feeding them a handful of snow each month. While the gardens are winding down, the fellowship of hostaholics will continue to go strong all year long. Mark your calendars for the October 10th member meeting with speaker Mike Shadrack and also with the SOGHS Social on November 7th. Wishing you a safe and bountiful autumn.- Kathy Rustad, President

Watching Their Gardens Grow!

Thirty SOGHS members not only added some fantastic hostas to their gardens but they also simultaneously helped support our fundraising efforts. A huge thank you for all the Scratch and Dent orders this past August! Thanks to Bob Solberg for giving us wonderful deals and a nice selection of possible plants.

It will be great fun to see our new treasures come up next spring.

- Sue Martino, Fundraising



Sign Up to Bring Food for Meetings

I hope all of our members have enjoyed touring lush gardens of friends and families this summer. With all the rain, watering was one less task, but, oh, the weeds! Our final member meeting in October will be your chance to share some Hospitality for the 2020 calendar year by signing up to bring servings for up to 50 of: Cheeses and Crackers, Desserts, a Veggie Tray and Dip. The Hostatality Team has a budget, so be sure to turn in your receipts to be reimbursed when you assist us with creating an array of scrumptious delights. We ask that food donations be supplied for our member meetings in February, April, and October, 2020. Talk to Linda Brech or June Stoehr if you have questions.

- Linda Brech, Hospitality



Tours

SOGHS Members Visited Gardens Near and Far

On Saturday, July 13, the SOGHS Hosta Group left from Deanna Nash's house early and headed out to tour members' gardens. Mary Bricken-Gale's in Goodhue, our first stop, boasted beautiful gardens on a hilltop with a large variety of perennials and many hostas. We then headed to Joyce Rapp's outside of Cannon Falls. She has a large yard with around 200 hostas and 50 or more lilies. She also has many other perennials to enjoy in a rural setting. We next went to Linnae Carlson's in Welsh. She has many gardens with a varied selection of perennials and a pond. The group next drove to the Cities to the Lutz railroad garden for a new experience and we were not disappointed. He has designed and built the railroad himself with buildings, waterfalls and many plants surrounding everything. We then needed to change plans due to construction in the Cities to be able to visit some nurseries.

The next adventure for our group members was the local Members' Garden Tour on Monday evening, July 25. The gardens of Deb Roos, Jane Yunginger, Kari Maciver and Sharon Gentling were open for members' enjoyment. They were each very beautiful and different and a great chance to see others' hard work and creativity. I don't know about you, but I sometimes get so involved in the gardening part that I forget to just sit back and enjoy what I've created. This gave everyone the chance to do this for one evening. (Continued on Page 4)



SOGHS Awards Scholarships

For many years, SOGHS has partnered with Rochester Community and Technical College (RCTC) Foundation in providing much-needed scholarships to promising RCTC students



enrolled in the Horticulture Program. Scholarships are competitive and students are chosen on the basis of numerous criteria, including GPA, Financial Need, Community Service/Volunteer Work, Extracurricular Involvement, an essay, and plans after graduation.

For the 2019-2020 academic year, SOGHS provided three scholarships to awardees Katrina Harris Portwood, Dane Saxon and Brittany Wilcox.

Donors and student recipients were recognized at the RCTC Foundation Scholarship Awards Ceremony on Saturday, September 14, 2019, at the Rochester Regional Sports Center.

Awardees of 2019-2020 SOGHS Scholarships: Brittany Wilcox (left) and Dane Saxon (right) with SOGHS representative Chris Parisi, center left, and Robin Fruth Dugstad (RCTC Horticulture Instructor and Program Leader, center right). - Joe Parisi

Garden Tour Report Continued

(Continued from Page 3) Our final adventure for the year was our overnight car pool into Wisconsin. We stopped at Olbrich Botanical Gardens in Madison. We also visited Al's Autobody and Arboretum and then went to Janesville to K & W Greenery, another nursery. We stayed in Janesville and of course went out for a fish fry. Saturday morning we visited the Rotary Gardens in Janesville which changes each year and is always a treat. The next stop, Stoughton Garden Center. We had lunch and shopping at the Flower Factory in Stoughton. Our last stop was Uniquely Hostas in Elroy WI. With our adventures over and our cars FULL we headed back home to Minnesota.

We had a wonderful time on all of these trips and tours and I hope that more people will consider joining us in this coming year. We are already starting to plan for new places to go and things to see. Your Tour Committee Members, Deanna Nash, Barb Threinen, Sue Martino, Dorothy Wichman, Jan Gerke and VaLinda Wondrasch, look forward to sharing more fun and adventures with great Hosta friends. - VaLinda Wondrasch, Garden Tours

Plants Linked to Longer Life for Women

Excerpted from an article by Linda Parker

Research from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health as well as the Brigham and Women's Hospital analyzed the results of an eight-year study that examined a potential link between thriving vegetation and an extended lifespan. According to the study, "Women in the U.S. who live in homes surrounded by more vegetation appear to have significantly lower mortality rates than those who live in areas with less vegetation."



Essentially, women who live in greener surroundings have clearly been found to have better mental health and mortality rates 12% lower than those living in homes without plants, in areas void of vegetation".

The link found between mortality rate and the number of green plants is based on several different research-backed components. Those who surround themselves with plants demonstrate a much lower level of depression. Additionally, those who own plants or live near them actually have "increased opportunities for social engagement, higher levels of physical activity and reduced

exposure to air pollution."

Researchers carefully examined crucial data gathered from 108,630 women over a period of eight years between 2000 and 2008.

According to one of the researchers, Peter James, "We were surprised to observe such strong associations between increased exposure to greenness and lower mortality rates. We were even more surprised to find evidence that a large proportion of the apparent benefit from high levels of vegetation seems to be connected with improved mental health."

It's Soon Time to Renew Memberships



As many of you know, the Hosta has long been called the friendship plant because it is so easy to share. In spring we are excited about getting new varieties and ideas for our gardens. As we move into summer, our gardens start to show off our hard work. Sorry to say, but cooler weather will soon be here and we stay indoors while our gardens take a rest.

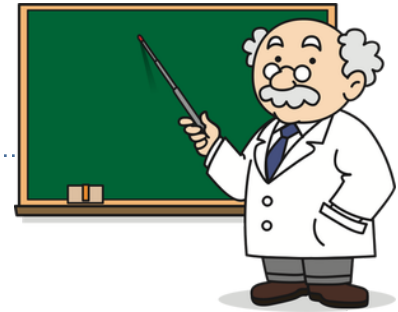
Take time this fall and winter to stay connected to friends and even make new ones by attending meetings and social events. Invite a friend to join SOGHS and meet you at some of our activities.

Soon it will be time to renew your membership for 2020 - think about inviting a friend to join.

Watch for Information about your membership status and when you need to renew. Membership form on Page 12. - Joan Tillborn, Membership

SOGHS Website 101 :

A Tutorial from our Webmaster



I'm writing this because there seems to be a lot of confusion about what is on the SOGHS website and how to use it.

Let's start with the header on the website.

There are nine pages that can be accessed from the Home page of SOGHS.org.

The first button is the [Home](#) button.

Wherever you are or whatever page you are on, by clicking on the button it will take you back to the Home page.

The second button is [About Us](#). It has a brief history of our group, our mission statement and a listing of our community service projects.

The third button is [Membership](#). On this page you can click to see the current membership form. Also, you can click to see a brochure on membership in SOGHS.

The fourth button is [Contacts](#). This page has the current officers of our club and contact information.

The fifth button is [Photo Gallery](#) and is not being used at the time.

The sixth button is [Calendar](#). This is where we post our yearly calendar of events.

The seventh button is [Links](#). This page has a lot of information associated with it. There are links to other organizations, vendors and other information. Please take some time to explore this page.

The eighth button is [Member's Only](#). This page is **JUST FOR OUR MEMBERS**. The information on this page, **SHOULD NOT BE SHARED WITH ANYONE ELSE**. This page is password protected. On this page we post our current Newsletters, Member Meeting Minutes, Board Meeting Minutes, Members' contact information, e-mail distribution list. A word of caution: if you are going to use the https://cdn.pixabay.com/photo/2014/04/03/09/59/teacher-309533_640.png e-mail distribution list use it in Bcc (Blind copy copy). Send the e-mail to yourself and Bcc the members.

The ninth button is [Archives](#). This is where our old newsletters are.
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Website 101, a Tutorial

(Continued from Page 5)

Please use and enjoy all the information on our website. If you have any questions please contact me, Dave Cocker, at djspaniel@hotmail.com

Just one more thing. If you are having problems with our website, please include the following information.

1) What browser (Edge, Firefox, Chrome, Safari) are you using?

2) Where or what page did you get to (ie: You are trying to get to the Newsletter. Did you get to the Members' Only page? Were you able to enter the username and password? Did you get to the link for the newsletter? Did it open? Did you get an error message? Just telling me you couldn't see the newsletter doesn't give me enough information to help you.

Thank you and enjoy our website. - Dave Cocker, Webmaster

H. 'Dancing Queen'

AHS Hosta of the Year for 2020

The American Hosta Growers Association established the AHGA Hosta of the Year in 1996. It is selected by a vote of AHGA members. Award winners are hostas that are good garden plants in all regions of the country. The hosta is usually chosen at least two years in advance to allow nurseries enough time to increase their stock.

Registered in 2005, 'Dancing Queen' is from Kent Terpening and Altarra Sheer. Offspring include: 'Amalia', 'Dancing Darling', 'First Dance' and 'One Last Dance'.

2019 Hosta Of the Year is 'Lakeside Paisley Print'. Look for both hostas at your local garden center. Article reprinted from the Delaware Valley Hosta Society Newsletter. Photo: Mario Wick via The Hosta Library



See Page 10 for information on how to join the American Hosta Society.

Jumping Worms: the new invasive species



Join the Olmsted County Extension Master Gardeners at a special meeting to learn about jumping worms, an invasive species spreading through the area.

This meeting will be held at John Adams Middle School and, as all Master Gardener events, is open to the public. Information on the threat of jumping worms will be presented by Master Gardener Beth Solie and Forester and Regional Extension Educator Angela Gupta.

The impact of the Olmsted County Extension Master Gardener program, along with the process of becoming a Master Gardener, will be shared as well. Information regarding available scholarships will be provided upon request.

**John Adams Middle School Cafeteria
1525 31st St. NW
Rochester, MN 55901**

**October 8, 2019
6:30 p.m.**



For more information on the Master Gardener program and resources on jumping worms, visit: <https://local.extension.umn.edu/local/olmsted>.



Olmsted County Extension Master Gardeners
<https://extension.umn.edu/master-gardener/about-master-gardener>

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SOGHS Hosts Shadrack Oct. 10

The October 10 SOGHS member meeting will feature Mike Shadrack, a well-known expert in the hosta world, whose talk is titled *Eight English Gardens*.

Mike has been growing hostas since 1986 and has been attempting to hybridize them almost as long. Although originally from the UK, Mike has been active in hosta communities across the globe. A man of many careers, he retired from London's Metropolitan Police in 1996, and is a qualified London Tourist Board Guide who has organized several garden tours in England and hosta tours in the US.



As a longtime member of the *British Hosta and Hemerocallis Society*, he has served as former Chairman and currently as executive Bulletin Editor. He has been a member of the *American Hosta Society (AHS)* since 1992 and a member of its Board for eight years. A tireless advocate for hostas and the AHS, he often serves as a guest "auctioneer" at AHS National Meetings. In 2017, he was the recipient of the prestigious Alex J. Summers Award from the AHS. At his acceptance speech, Mike announced his choice for Alex J. Summers Distinguished Merit hosta, *H. 'Mike Shadrock.'* This medium to large plant boasts thick corrugated blue leaves with yellow margins in spring that become blue-green with creamy white margins and white flowers in summer. The hosta "forms an attractive mound of corrugated and slightly cupped foliage," and it's reported that "just like the man, this hosta gets better with age!"

Mike and his gardening enthusiast wife, Kathy, have been residents of Western New York since 2005. Their spectacular *Smug Creek Gardens* comprise 13 wooded acres that include hundreds of hostas, iris and daylilies.

Mike currently is President of the *Western New York Hosta Society*. He also serves as a member of the Board of the *Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens* and chairman of their Plant Collection Committee, as well as chairman of the Events Committee and Board member of *Garden Walk Buffalo Niagara*.

Mike's passion for photography has resulted in over 8000 photos of hostas, which have been the basis of many of his publications. These include: *The New Encyclopedia of Hostas*, published in 2010; *The Color Encyclopedia of Hostas*, authored with Diana Grenfell in 2004; the *Timber Press Pocket Guide of Hostas*, published in 2004; and *The Book of Little Hostas*, published with his wife Kathy in 2007.

A truly entertaining speaker and a genuine renaissance man, his talk promises to be colorful and entertaining, and certainly not to be missed. Bring your books for him to autograph!

- Joe Parisi

Founders' Day Picnic

On Saturday, September 14, SOGHS members were treated to another fantastic *Founders' Day Picnic*, hosted by Cindy and Mike Tomashek, at their *Camp Creek* location in Preston, MN.



Some threatening early morning clouds gave way to a sunny fall-like afternoon. Attendees enjoyed a buffet followed by a silent auction, under the direction of Sue Martino and Sue Haggerty. The live auction with veteran auctioneers Cindy Tomashek and Dave Cocker, featured several rare and highly desirable hostas. The hosta that brought the highest bid was originator stock of H. 'Sun Dogs,' a variegated sport of H. 'Sun Power' that gets to be 72" wide and 36" tall. It was donated by Gerry and Jean Meyer who said it is new in the AHS Hosta Registry and Hosta Library this year!

H. 'Woop Woop' was the other hosta bringing a large live-auction bid.

SOGHS member Doris Amundsen donated some small handmade quilts. The silent auction had many nice plant donations as well as homemade jelly and pickles. A Root Slayer shovel was a hot item donated by Bob and Val Jessen. The very successful auction inspired some friendly competitive bidding and more than a few laughs and surprises. A special thanks to all who donated so many beautiful plants and items to the auctions, and to auction clerks, Denice Cocker and Sue Haggerty, who kept every detail in order. \$264 was raised at the silent auction and \$769 at the live auction.

Everyone enjoyed great food and fun, and most importantly, the company of so many fellow hostaphiles and friends, both new and old. - Contributed by Joe Parisi, Sue Martino, Jan Gerke and Mona Keehn. (More photos from Founders' Day on Page 11)

Mark Your Calendars for 'Hosta Vision 2020'

Hundreds of garden enthusiasts from around the country and the world are expected to attend the annual American Hosta Society (AHS) National Convention, being held June 10-13, 2020, at the Minneapolis Marriott NW, Brooklyn Park, MN. Founded in 1968, the AHS is a non-profit organization that has grown from a handful of members in its early days to about 3,000 active members today. In 2018 the AHS celebrated its 50th anniversary at the annual convention held in Philadelphia, PA. In 2020 the Minnesota Hosta Society is hosting the annual convention for the third time. Convention organizer Amy Peterson says "The MHS is proud to once again host the convention. Our membership is excited to join in fellowship with other hosta gardening enthusiast, often termed "hostaholics." Our theme "**Hosta Vision 2020**" reflects the ever expanding use of the genius *Hosta* in the garden as one of the top perennials of choice due to their versatility in use and form in the landscape. Plus they are very hardy in Minnesota's Zone 4 climate! A major part of the convention is participating in area garden tours by motor coach bus or a self-driving tour over the span of two days, with many gardens displaying over 500 hosta varieties. The accredited Hosta Leaf Show creates an opportunity for membership and the general public to see the plethora of variety in form and color the genius *Hosta* provides as a landscape plant. More information to come in January newsletter.





Founders' Day Picnic at
Tomasheks' Farm in Preston -
Photos by Joe Parisi



Shades of Green Hosta Society

Of Southeastern Minnesota, Inc.

www.soghs.org

Membership Registration Form

The membership year for Shades of Green Hosta Society (SOGHS) begins January 1 and ends December 31.

This form is the sole source of information for the Member's Only Section of SOGHS Website

PLEASE Complete each section of this form (even if you are a current member)

New Member

Renewal Membership

Single Membership

Dual Membership

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Residence () _____

Cell () _____ () _____

EMAIL: Address(es): _____

Membership Dues – check one, not prorated. Two types of membership available: "Single" or "Dual" (Couple or family)

Membership type	Dues (check one)	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Single Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr= \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> 2Yr= \$20	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Dual Membership	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Yr = \$15 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Yr = \$30	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Name Badge*	<input type="checkbox"/> x \$6.00 each	\$
Total Payment: make check payable to SOGHS		\$

*Name on Name Badge: _____

Committees: Sign up for at least 1 committee. Please check any you would like to participate in.

<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Plant sale worker	<input type="checkbox"/> Hope Lodge	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> Hosta Dig Team	<input type="checkbox"/> Snowflake Gala	<input type="checkbox"/> Hostatality
<input type="checkbox"/> Historian/Shutterfly Book	<input type="checkbox"/> Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> Education/Speakers
<input type="checkbox"/> Smart Garden	<input type="checkbox"/> Garden Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> State Fair/Cty Fair/leaf show
<input type="checkbox"/> Tours	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership/Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising (HOTY,S&D, logo wear)
<input type="checkbox"/> Financial Resource		

Each committee is described on the SOGHS website www.soghs.org

Membership profile:

<input type="checkbox"/> American Hosta Society (\$30/yr) www.americanhostasociety.org	<input type="checkbox"/> Midwest Regional Hosta Society (\$20/2 yr) www.midwesthostasociety.org
<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota Hosta Society (\$20/2 yr) www.mnhosta.org	<input type="checkbox"/> Master Gardeners http://www.ahsgardening.org

Submit form and payment to:

Shades of Green Hosta Society (SOGHS)

Joan Till – Born
4053 70th Ave NW
Byron, MN 55920

<input type="checkbox"/> Cash	<input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____	Date received: _____
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Only 17 Left

A Bonus Fundraiser Hosta for Members

(From Jeff Miller at The Land Of The Giants Hosta Farm)

H. 'Truly An Honor'

is a medium blue hosta and ***one of a kind***. Jeff generously ***donated*** 34 beautiful hostas to SOGHS for its membership sale. This is part of a program he started to help clubs raise funds. He promised this hosta is a good grower and the photos below shows just one summer of growth. H. 'Truly An Honor' will ***never*** be marketed, so this is an ***exclusive plant*** to have in your garden! Act now! SOGHS has only 17 potted plants ready to be scooped up by members. Don't wait. You don't want to miss out!

Price is \$20.00

**Make check out to
SOGHS**

Mail Check to:

Sue Martino

40437 Ryans Bay RD
Zumbro Falls, MN 55991

**Pick-up is by special
arrangements with Sue
Martino**
suewmartino@gmail.com



The American Hosta Society

The AHS is a not-for-profit organization organized exclusively for educational and scientific purposes, and especially to promote, encourage, and foster the development of the genus *Hosta* and public interest therein. Join the **American Hosta Society** and receive *The Hosta Journal* mailed twice a year and have access to a third issue online in the *Members Only* section of the AHS website.

Check out the benefits of membership.

www.americanhostasociety.org

Calendar of Events

October 10 - General meeting open to the public / Board Elections 6:30PM

November 7 - Social Event from 4pm-7pm TBD

December 5 - Executive Board Meeting

Mission Statement for SOGHS

The Shades of Green Hosta Society of Southeast MN, Inc. is a non-profit organization formed to educate members about hosta selection, cultivation and nomenclature, new and improved varieties, uses in the home landscape, and to promote interest in the genus Hosta.

The Mission shall be supported through the publication of a Society Newsletter, educational programs and garden tours, a web page and other group activities throughout the year.
