



# The Hosta Leaf



Volume 5 Issue 6 Holiday Edition 2010

## LINES FROM LINDA



### Many Thanks!

2010 was a phenomenal year for Shades of Green Hosta society. It was jam-packed with fun-filled, non-stop hosta activities:

- meeting in February with Rob Mortko
- **new** Winter Social in March at Old Country Buffet
- meeting in April with Dave Wanninger
- Spring Social at Cindy Tomashek's in May
- **new** hosta display garden planted at RCTC
- annual plant sale in June
- 200<sup>th</sup> member registered in June
- June bus trip to the cities
- AHS Convention & optional tour in June
- June & July member garden tours
- Olmsted County Fair leaf show in August
- Founder's Day picnic at Tomashek's Preston farm in September
- special event with Ken Harris in September
- November meeting with the photo contest & elections
- 2012 MRHS convention planning

We could not have done all of this without help and as the year ends, we should all take time to thank the many volunteers who made these events possible. Many thanks to all of the SOGHS Board members for their dedication and enthusiasm—they made the job of being President this year fun. A big thank you goes to Cindy Tomashek for her continuing efforts to make SOGHS a success; it was her vision that started it all and she encourages us to be one of the best. Thanks to Jason Leigh for the huge job of running the plant sale and to all of Jason's volunteers—it starts way before June with digging and potting and nursing and hauling—and the hostas just flew out the door again this year. Many thanks

to the members who hosted tours of their gardens for both the AHS convention optional tour and summer member garden tours—it's a lot of hard work and we want you to know we appreciate you sharing your beautiful gardens. Thank you to all those who helped make the RCTC hosta display garden possible this year—whether it was planning the garden, donating hostas, planting, digging, or maintaining—your efforts made a great start to what we hope will one day be an official AHS Hosta Display Garden. Thank you to all the members involved in the conventions; your work was a big hit for the national convention; we can't wait to see what you come up with for the 2012 regional convention. Thanks to our guest speakers who educated and inspired us this year; we hope to see you again. Thank you to all of our members for record turnouts at events and making this a fun organization. And last but not least, thank you to Kim Greene for accepting the job of President for next year—her many talents will serve SOGHS well in the year to come.

Wishing you all Happy Holidays and a green garden in the Spring. *Linda*

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### Voted Photo Contest Favorite

Jan Gerke



## 2010 PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

SOGH'S 2011  
OFFICERS

- o President - Kim Greene  
[k.k.greene@att.net](mailto:k.k.greene@att.net)
- o 1st Vice President / Garden Tours - Jan Gerke  
[jan\\_gerke@yahoo.com](mailto:jan_gerke@yahoo.com)
- o 2nd Vice President / Programs/Education - Cindy Tomashek  
[prestonplants@aol.com](mailto:prestonplants@aol.com)
- o 3rd Vice President / Membership/Promotions - Mona Keehn  
[chum721@charter.net](mailto:chum721@charter.net)
- o Secretary/Historian - Joan Till-Born  
[rbitb@hotmail.com](mailto:rbitb@hotmail.com)
- o Treasurer- Tim Farnham  
[tjfarnham69@yahoo.com](mailto:tjfarnham69@yahoo.com)
- o Plant Sale - Jason Leigh  
[Leigh.jason@mayo.edu](mailto:Leigh.jason@mayo.edu)
- o Hospitality - Tricia Torrens-Burton  
[jandttb@gmail.com](mailto:jandttb@gmail.com)
- Member fundraising - Jeanne Truedted  
[jetrues@attglobal.net](mailto:jetrues@attglobal.net)
- o Webmaster - Gerry Meyer  
[gerrymeyer@att.net](mailto:gerrymeyer@att.net)
- o Susy Olsen- Newsletter -  
[ga2hafun@gmail.com](mailto:ga2hafun@gmail.com)

Committee Chairs  
2012 Convention Chairs  
Cindy Tomashek  
[Prestonplants@aol.com](mailto:Prestonplants@aol.com)  
June Stoehr  
[June.Stoehr@bench.com](mailto:June.Stoehr@bench.com)

Category	1st Place	2nd Place
Most Beautiful Hosta in Members Garden	1. Title: Reach for the Sky Hosta: <u>Sagae</u> Jan Gerke	2. Title: Got Seduced? Hosta: <u>Seducer</u> Rich Konen
Most Beautiful Hosta in Tour and Other Gardens	3. Title: Grand Slam Hosta: <u>Grand Slam</u> Jean Meyer 4. Title: Liberty, Front and Center Hosta: <u>Liberty</u> Susy Olsen	5. Title: Such a Tease Hosta: <u>Gypsy Rose</u> Susy Olsen
Gardens and Landscapes	6. Title: Hot Stuff Hosta: <u>montana Aureomarginata</u> Jan Gerke	7. Title: Past the Blue River Hosta: <u>Krossa Regal</u> Susy Olsen
Flowers and Foliage	8. Title: My Kind of White Christmas Hosta: <u>White Christmas</u> Susy Olsen	9. Title: Blue Sea Rising Hosta: <u>Deep Blue Sea</u> Mona Keehn
Garden Accents and Oddities	10. Title: Peek-a-Boo Hosta: <u>Praying Hands</u> Jan Gerke	11. Title: Follow the Leader Hosta: <u>Blonde Elf, Hillybilly Blues</u> Gerry Meyer 12. Title: Hi There! Hosta: <u>St.Paul, Candy Hearts</u> Karen Nolte
Critters and Creatures	13. Title: Gone in a Minute Hosta: <u>Minuteman</u> Jan Gerke	
Novice	14. Title: The Elusive Hosta: <u>Aphrodite</u> Svenja Muenther	



## A NOTE FROM THE INCOMING PRESIDENT



As the incoming SOGHS president, I would like to thank Linda Orleff for her leadership over the past year. Linda had some big shoes to fill when Cindy's term as president was done. She did a great job and continued the club on a growth path with great

member enthusiasm. It's unfortunate for us but fortunate for Linda that she and her husband found their dream vacation home and have moved to Tennessee. The move means she is unable to continue on in her board position, so I am stepping up to the plate for 2011.

We had a combined board meeting at the end of November with both the 2010 and 2011 board members present. This was the first combined board meeting and was a great way to allow incoming board members to work with the person who previously held their position so they're able to get up to speed as quickly as possible in fulfilling their new position. Welcome Joan Till-Born, Jan Gerke, and Tim Farnham to the 2011 board!

I'm really excited about the upcoming year and am certain you will be too as we unveil our plans for the upcoming year. The creativity of our board members is truly amazing. The ideas that have been brought forward for ways to continue to grow the club, getting more young people involved, providing more hand-on learning opportunities via workshops, increasing interest and attendance at regional hosta related events, getting more members involved in the hosta leaf show at the Olmsted County Fair, and the list goes on.

To see what the year holds for SOGHS, check out our calendar of events at: <http://www.soghs.org/Xcalendar.html>. Some highlights for the first quarter of 2011 include:

January 15<sup>th</sup> convention planning meeting. If you haven't gotten involved yet, now is your opportunity. It's a huge compliment for our hosta society to be hosting the regional convention in 2012, it's going to be fun!

February 10<sup>th</sup> annual Member's Meeting

March 19<sup>th</sup> annual Coffee & Catalogs breakfast

We have non-SOGHS hosta related events on the calendar as well. This is because our goal is to not only provide our own offerings, but also do what we can to make it easier for SOGHS members to attend other hosta meetings and events by ensuring you know what is coming up in the region and arranging some car pooling to make it easier to travel to some of these external events. After all, we know it's all about the plants!!

We have some positions that need to be filled both this coming year and in 2012. If you have organizational skills, then please consider one of these two opportunities.

We are in need of someone to coordinate maintenance (watering and weeding) of the Hope Lodge Project gardens in 2011. There have been plenty of volunteers in the past to do the actual work, so if you're good at working with people and organizing a schedule, please step forward.



Jason Leigh is our Plant Sale Director through the end of 2011. Jason's board term will be up at the end of 2011, this means a new board member will be taking on this position in 2012. We'd like to identify Jason's replacement as soon as possible to ensure whomever steps forward has ample opportunity to intern with Jason this year. The plant sale is the largest fund raiser for the club, so filling this upcoming vacancy is extremely important.

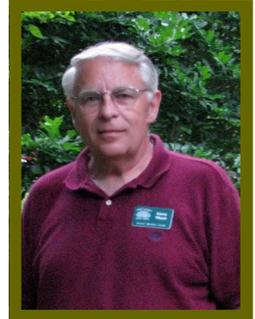
If you're interested in either of these opportunities, please contact myself ([k.k.greene@att.net](mailto:k.k.greene@att.net) or 507-254-9353) or another board member.

Wishing you all a Happy Holiday season and a successful gardening season in 2011!

*Kim Greene*

**SOGHS  
Website -**

**New  
News!**



There's new news on the SOGHS website AND it's decorated for the holidays:



- Calendar contains proposed events for 2011.

- Photo Gallery has winners of the photo contest categories and a slide show of all entries.

- Contacts contains the new board of directors elected at the Nov. 11th meeting.

Check out these updates to the SOGHS website [www.soghs.org](http://www.soghs.org) and put it on your "Favorites" list so you can visit it frequently,

Happy Holidays,

*Gerry Meyer*





## CONVENTION CONNECTION

In the upcoming months you're going to be hearing a LOT about volunteer opportunities during the 2012 MRHS Convention SOGHS is hosting July 12-14 at the Ramada Hotel & Conference Center in Rochester. A lot of planning has already taken place, but there are many details to finalize before 2012 rolls around. We will begin fund raising through t-shirt sales once the screen printing is finished and hope to show our promotional video on January 23 to the participants at the Winter Scientific Meeting in Illinois.



Susy Olsen has been hard at work on the video, along with assistance from a few brave souls (I must say it's also been a ton of fun!). The video will also be shown at 2011 AHS and MRHS conventions and again at the 2012 WSM, which should provide excellent exposure and entice good attendance. We'll also spend some time at our meetings this year talking about convention experiences and what our volunteer needs will be, along with the great perks that come with being involved during the convention as an attendee, volunteer or both. If you have questions, please don't hesitate

to ask for more information. A great way to learn more is to attend our next planning meeting on January 15, 10:00 am at Vickie LeCocq's house. Our web site also has a section dedicated to convention information, so be sure to check it out. Soon we'll post our *proposed* Convention Schedule (there's the possibility minor adjustments will have to be made) to give you an idea of what activities will be taking place and when/where volunteers will have opportunities to help out.



There may be a couple feet of snow on the ground, but there's no doubt the excitement is growing!!

Your Convention Co-Chairs,  
Cindy and June



**H**ave you checked out the online Hosta Journal that provides coverage of this summer's AHS convention, including coverage of the **Optional Tour** to southeast Minnesota?? It is an awesome publication rich in educational articles and dripping with coverage of the convention gardens and convention experiences...including articles by SOGHS convention "newbies" Kim Greene and Susy Olsen! This is only accessible by AHS members (another great reason to join!). If you're not already a member, just go to [www.hosta.org](http://www.hosta.org) and go to



**MEMBERS COPY**

## HOSTA VIRUS X DONATION, EDUCATION, & MORE

**A**t the board meeting on November 30<sup>th</sup>, the board voted unanimously to donate \$2000 of SOGHS funds to the next phase of the Hosta Virus X research project. We provided a donation previously to the first phase of the research project which focused on clarifying methods of HVX transmission to understand the dynamics of how HVX is spread. This research is instrumental in reducing exposure and perpetuation of the virus. A summary of the report of the first phase of the HVX research project is on our SOGHS web site at: <http://www.soghs.org/HVX%20Research%20Summary%20Report%20-%20June%202010.pdf>

One of the critical findings of the first phase of research is that the HVX virus can persist in soil and remain in effect long after the infected hosta has been removed. This second phase of the HVX research project will focus on determining how long HVX remains viable, how much virus-infected root tissue is needed to cause infection, whether perennials planted in infected hosta locations are susceptible to infection, and providing a definitive protocol for tool decontamination to ensure the virus won't remain on tools when removing an infected plant.

The research will be continued by Dr. Benham Lockhart and Grace Anderson at the University of Minnesota. The proposed budget for the next phase of research is \$41,500 for a two-year project to span 2011 and 2012. The American Hosta Society has a web page dedicated to the HVX project where you can find details on all the latest with HVX. I encourage you to check it out at: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/HostaVirusX.html>



**I**n addition to providing the \$2000 donation to the continued research on HVX, each active SOGHS member (send your renewal information to Mona Keehn, our 2011 Membership Chair) will receive a HVX test kit as a benefit of being a member. The current plan is to hand out one test kit to each member starting at the April 2011 meeting. If you're not able to attend that meeting, don't worry, we'll have other get-togethers to distribute the test kits. It's essential that we all do everything we can to prevent the spread of this virus. If you have a hosta that you think might be infected, you'll now have the opportunity to test it to find out whether or not it has HVX.



**W**e're planning some hosta virus X education opportunities to the membership this coming year ranging from how to identify the virus to how to properly use an HVX test kit. We're also looking at ways to provide test kits at cost to the membership for those needing additional test kits. Its critical we keep our hostas virus free and offer virus free hostas at our annual plant sale so we're looking at all angles to make this possible.

*Kim Greene*



*2010 Membership Chair,  
Mona Keehn*

## EVERYTHING GARDEN FAIR RECAP

Hats off to Susy Olsen and Jeanne Truedtedt for doing a fantastic job of fleshing out the details of and organizing the first SOGHS Everything Garden Fair. The idea of having a garden fair was hatched at the August board meeting. Susy and Jeanne took the idea and ran with it and did a wonderful job. We had all sorts of garden related items being sold from delicious jams and soup mixes to very creative garden art. The fair offered a nice opportunity for members to mix and mingle before the annual photo contest while picking up some holiday gifts along with items to display in our gardens next year.

Susy conducted a survey that has provided us with some great feedback on what worked well and what we can do differently with an offering of this type next year. If you have ideas you didn't get a chance to submit via the survey, we're all ears.

Thank you Susy and Jeanne for a job well done!

*Kim Greene*



PLEASE CONSIDER  
SHARING  
YOUR GARDEN  
DURING A TOUR  
IN 2011.



## 2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January 11 or 18: Executive board meeting / year-end reports and budgets due
- January 15 -- 2: 012 MRHS Convention Planning Meeting at Vickie LeCocq's, Saturday, Jan. 15th, 10:00 am.
- January 22: [Winter Scientific Meeting, Lisle, IL](#)
- February 10 : Annual member meeting, Speaker: Terry Yockey, Topic: Establishing Ground Covers - The Living Mulch
- February 22 : Executive board meeting
- March 10-11: [Great Lakes Hosta College, Piqua, OH](#)
- March 19 - Coffee and Catalogs, Old Country Buffet, (8:30am - 10:30am)
- March 29: Executive Board Meeting
- April 7 :General Meeting - Speaker: Rob Mortko on "Tissue Culture for Dummies"
- May 1: Public sign-up for June SOGHS bus tour
- May 10 : Executive Board Meeting
- May 21 : SOGHS Annual Hosta and Shade Plant Sale, Bldg 40, Olmsted County Fairgrounds
- May 26 : Spring Open House for SOGHS members and guests
- June 11 : SOGHS bus trip - garden tours and hosta buying opportunities
- June 16 : SOGHS member garden tour for members and guests (5:30am - 8:30am)
- June 22-24: [AHS 2011 National Convention, Marlborough, MA](#)
- July 7-9 :[MRHS 2011 Convention, Madison, WI](#)
- July 14: SOGHS member garden tour for members and guests (5:30am - 8:30am)
- July 16: Workshop: Preparing Hosta Leaves for a leaf show
- July 21 : [Rochester Flower and Garden Club tour](#)
- July 25-29: [Olmsted County Fair - Hosta Leaf Show - see Fair Book for details](#)
- August 13: Workshop: Making cement steps with hosta imprints
- September 10: Founder's Day Picnic/Silent Auction
- September 19: Executive Board Meeting
- October 6: General member meeting, details TBD
- October 24: Executive Board Meeting
- November 10: General member meeting / year-end special event/ photo contest/ Board Election
- November 29 : Joint executive board meeting of 2011 and 2012 officers



Welcome newly elected board members:

Treasurer- Tim Farnham

1st Vice President /Garden Tours - Jan Gerke

Secretary/Historian - Joan Till-Born (not pictured)



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HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR  
SOGHS  
MEMBERS

AN EXCITING 2011  
IS RIGHT AROUND  
THE CORNER