



# The Hosta Leaf

January 2013h

Volume 8 Issue 1



**H**appy New Year fellow Hosta Holics!!  
 For those members that renewed their membership by December 31<sup>st</sup>, this year is especially happy. Our club has been blessed with so many generous members who work really hard to make our annual plant sale, which is our primary fund raising event, a huge success. Whether it be donating plants, digging and potting plants members have offered up, arranging tables, posting signs, receiving/identifying/pricing plants, arranging plants, working as a cashier or cashier assistant, assisting shoppers haul plants to their vehicles, doing setup and teardown, providing food and beverages, transporting plants to the sale for others unable to do so, cleaning plant pricing tags and tables, sweeping floors, assisting with the plant "holding" area for robust shoppers or countless other activities that entail our annual plant sale, you have made it a it a HUGE success year after year.

The annual plant sale is just one of many examples of how amazingly generous our members are of their time, resources, and skills. Our club is extremely fortunate to be very "rich" in a number of ways, all thanks to each and every one of you!

One of the items the board of directors focused on in 2012 was a way to give back to the membership. Many ideas were brought forward and discussed, the main sticking point with most of the ideas was "would it be fair to everyone". After several discussions, we determined the

fairest way to give back to the membership who has been so very generous in multiple ways is to provide a 1 year membership to the American Hosta Society (AHS). After all, we're all hostaholics, so who could be disappointed with access to more hosta resources and publications!

No worries! If you were already a member, your membership has been renewed for an additional year. For those of you that are new to the AHS, you're in for a treat! Your \$30+ membership allows you to receive 'The Hosta Journal' 3 times a year and so much more. There are 2 hard copy journals and 1 softcopy journal published each year that provide information ranging from gardening with hostas to the latest and greatest in new cultivars and much more. Another key benefit is the privilege of visiting display gardens throughout the US, many of which are only open to AHS members.

At our February meeting, our very own Gerry Meyer will walk you through not only the numerous hosta resources on the AHS web site, but will also provide information on a number of other resources that will help you find information on hostas, including how to grow, fertilize, water, split, etc. hostas. Be sure to join us at our February meeting to learn more!! We listened last year, and we will be on a strict schedule this year to ensure you are able to glean the appropriate information at our meeting in a timely fashion.

*(Continued on page 2)*

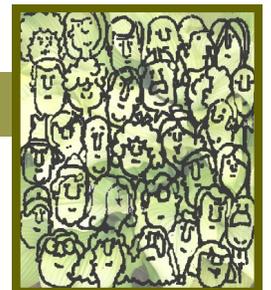
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## Membership Moments By Mona Keehn

Happy New Year! As membership chair I am happy to announce that we are starting off the year with a record number of members who have paid their dues for the upcoming year. Because of our generous "give back" gift of a one year AHS membership, it made my job quite a bit easier getting renewals. That truly makes for a happy new year. Plan to attend the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. We are going to highlight the value and advantages of having an AHS membership.

You still have time to renew for 2013. We have a very exciting year ahead of us. Check out the calendar of events here and check for potential updates on the website. Remember that shortly after the February meeting the password to the members only area on the website will be changed and given out to current members.



## SOGHS 2013 Officers

- President -  
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Garden Tours -  
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H. 'Liberty',  
Northern Grown Perennials.  
Photographer, Jan Gerke

# Hosta Hot-Spot for the month...

The **HHS** for this newsletter pairs nicely with our February topic. Bob and Nancy Solberg of Green Hill Farms is an excellent choice for hosta lovers who are looking for ordering online. As you may have noticed, an email went out to many members asking for testimonials about their Green Hill Farm's purchasing experience. Here are some of the testimonials.

"To overstate the obvious, I shamelessly utilize the Solberg's Scratch and Dent hostas to provide healthy, root mass at affordable prices for our members. Those strong, healthy roots produce impressive sized leaves the following spring that make both gardener and garden look good! Bob is very committed to producing healthy yet fast growing hostas that perform as good as they look because Nancy doesn't intend to waste her time growing fussy hostas. Both Solbergs are helpful educators, growers, and sellers of the plants they handle, so pick their brains and take advantage of their expertise when ordering..."

Jeanne Truedstedt

Pam and Larry attended a number of the presentations at the convention. They found Bob Solberg of Green Hill Farms to be the most informative and useful of them all. Larry Schmidt

**Reminder....** Til Feb 9 enjoy a free shipping offer during our 2013 Hosta Preview. Visit , [www.HostaHosta.com](http://www.HostaHosta.com) for more details or call [919-309-0649](tel:919-309-0649). [www.facebook.com/HostaBob](http://www.facebook.com/HostaBob)

(Continued from page 1)

Jan Gerke, our VP of tours has a great line-up for us this year. Jan is planning to kick the tour season off with a visit to the LaCrosse area followed by the annual June bus tour which this year will include a garden tour that has a number of dwarf conifers. Okay, I'm in!! To make the member's only garden tours more accessible to more members, the current goal is to have the June and July garden tours to be both on Wednesday and Thursday evening of the week they are held. This will give us a not only a rain date but also provide more flexibility for members that have specific evening commitments. We hope to see you at the tours this coming year!

If you're looking for a couple of unique hostas to adorn your gardens, you're in luck. There are two great Hosta of the Year (HOTYs) being offered. I know I plan to get my order in early as these are sure to go fast!!

Stay warm out there and do your snow dance (is there such a thing?!?) in hopes we can get some decent cover to help protect our precious plants.

Hoping to see all of you at the February meeting!! *Kim Greene*

# 2012 SOGHS Garden Tours Recap

# Hostatality says,



Picture was taken at Kerin Marek H. Gold standard, H. Sum and substance, H. Big Daddy. H. Patriot, H. Montana



H. 'Arc de Triomphe', Tim and Kurt's garden. Taken by Jan

"THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all of our generous members who have provided food and door prizes at our 2012 meetings. We have had many yummy treats and lovely gifts to share. Recipes are always welcome and would be good to include in future newsletters. We look forward to another great year of Hostatality in 2013!" Tricia



Left to right Montana, Earth Angel, Regal Splendor, Olive Branch and Sun Power. Lloyd Meyer



2012 Picture from Jane Yuninger of her yard.

H. 'Indigo', Kim Greene's garden. Photographer. Jan Gerke



H. 'Daybreak', Tim and Kurt's garden.



H. 'Inniswood', Reed's Valley Hosta Farm Photographer. Jan Gerke



H. 'Guardian Angel', Mona Keehn's garden. Photographer Jan Gerke



H. 'Guardian Angel', Mona Keehn's garden. Photographer. Jan Gerke

H. 'Winfield Mist', Tim and Kurt's garden. Photographer. Jan Gerke



H. 'June', Jeanne Truestedt's garden. Photographer. Jan Gerke

H. 'Iris Frazier', Mona Keehn's garden. Photographer. Jan Gerke



# SOGHS 2013 Hostas Of The Year



## ORDER FORM

### **h. 'Blue Cascade' – medium blue**

(Monty Carlson 2009) a Minnesota hybridizer

A hybrid of H. 'Urajiro' x H. 'Elvis Lives'. An outstanding and beautiful blue that puts on a stunning display. Dense, medium-sized mound of extremely pie-crust-ed leaves are an intense blue color.

The leaf tips twist outward creating the illusion of constant motion. The mature leaves are 8" long by 4" wide. Lavender flowers midsummer.

### **h. 'Farewell Party' – large gold**

(Mark Zillis 2011) first time availability to the public

A hybrid of H. 'Gold Regal' x H. 'Mesa Fringe'; semi-upright mound of golden yellow foliage, much brighter gold than its pod parent, H. 'Gold Regal'.

The mature plant dimensions are 21" high by 45" wide; semi-upright. The mature leaves are 10" long by 8" wide; golden yellow; lightly wavy and corrugated. The flowers are near-white tubular on 24-36" scapes. Medium growth rate.

**members only - place an X to order, limit of one each per member.**

'Farewell Party' (4" pot).....\$10 \_\_\_\_\_

'Blue Cascade' (4" pot).....\$10 \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**(Make checks out to "SOGHS")**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this completed form and checks made out to "SOGHS" to:**

**Vicki LeCocq, 1310 30th St NW, Rochester, MN 55901 or bring it to the February meeting.**

*Targeted plant availability is mid-May. Plan to pick up your HOTA at the Meyer's Turkey Run Hostas location. Other hostas will be available at that time to use your SOGHS Gift Certificates.*

Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013 6:30 PM

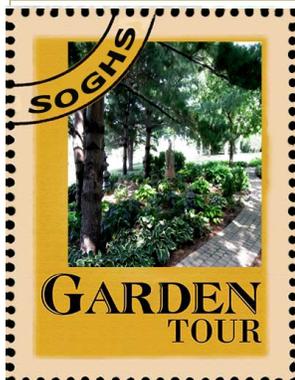


SOGHS 1st General Membership Meeting of the Year  
open to the public  
Location: Fellowship Hall, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,  
559 20th St SW, Rochester, MN

Let's kick-off the year with an informative and exciting meeting.

*Meeting topic: "Information you need to know about hostas"  
and how to find it on the world wide web.*

### Green Vibes...2013 Tours!



Imagine yourself strolling through a lush beautiful garden or a great nursery, filled with wonderful plants to delight your senses! Before long, our gardens will be popping with color and interesting foliage.

Here's a bit of information on what's in store for your 2013 garden touring pleasure.

Coming in 2013, we will take a carpool tour to the LaCrosse area to visit the Riverside International Friendship Gardens in LaCrosse, plus Christians Nursery in Holmen and perhaps another nursery or a private garden or two. This tour is planned for Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, but the date is subject to change based on weather and the condition of the gardens we'll be visiting. The alternate date will be June 1<sup>st</sup> if our spring is not kind this year.

This year's Spring Open House will be held on Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, hosted by Mona and Rick Keehn. Once again there will be a silent auction and other activities, in addition to enjoying some garden camaraderie while strolling through their delightful gardens.

We will travel into northeast Iowa on our bus tour, which is scheduled for Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for further info on the stops we will make.

The June member tour is scheduled for Wednesday, June 19<sup>th</sup> and/or Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and the July member tour is set for Tuesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> and/or Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. We are considering doing these tours as two day events to allow more members to make them plus provide a rain date. The tours are scheduled from 5:00pm to 8:30pm. If you've ever thought about opening up your garden for others to enjoy, here's your chance. It is not only a great incentive to get your garden in shape for the year but it is also a wonderful way to learn from each other. We all appreciate and understand the trials and tribulations of gardening as well as the therapy that gardens provide. So don't be shy, sign up at our member meeting in February or April or contact me at [Janice.gerke@gmail.com](mailto:Janice.gerke@gmail.com), or phone (507)259-7096. I am always working on the list of potential member tour gardens, so if 2013 doesn't work, how about 2014? As a reminder, those who so generously share their gardens via these tours, receive a new hosta as a special "thank you". And who wouldn't want a free hosta?

More details on these tours will be coming soon, so get ready for lots of touring fun in 2013!

Jan Gerke



## Welcome to the 2013 AHS Convention

*The 2013 AHS Convention is coming to Milwaukee, WI, June 13-15. There has never been an AHS convention in Milwaukee before and the gardeners are excited to have us visit their area and their gardens.*

### Things To Do In Milwaukee

*There are **many local cultural things** to do in Milwaukee either before or after the convention. The Mitchell Park Horticultural Domes, Boerner Botanical Gardens, The Harley Davidson Museum, Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum, The Milwaukee Art Museum, Miller Brewery Tours, Jelly Belly Candy Factory Tours, The Pabst Mansion, The Milwaukee County Zoo and many more. Visit the ["Links"](#) and ["Things To Do"](#) pages for more details and information on what Milwaukee has to offer.*



### Tour Gardens

*In addition to all of the cultural activities, we also have **ten wonderful personal gardens to tour**. See the ["Tour Gardens"](#) page for a preview.*

### Schedule

*As previously noted this convention will follow an abbreviated schedule from previous conventions, but rest assured this convention will have all of the events expected from a national convention.*

*We begin on the evening of **Thursday June 13** with the opening of vending, leaf show prep, and hostality. **Friday June 14** will have the leaf show, vending, garden tours, speakers, auction plants received, silent auctions, awards banquet, and hostality. **Saturday June 15** vending continues, as do garden tours, AHS business meeting luncheon, live auction, awards banquet, future convention meeting, and hostality. Check out our SOGHS website for a link to the schedule.*

### Registration

*The cost for this convention extravaganza is **\$139 per person**. In order to be able to offer this reasonably low cost, we will drive and carpool to the gardens. Attendees will be encouraged to carpool to gardens as parking is limited. Written directions and maps will be provided.*

*Attendees flying in to Milwaukee and have not made prior arrangements with fellow attendees to carpool will be accommodated and every effort will be made to pair up attendees needing rides with attendees that have rides to offer. As the hosta has been called the friendship plant we are confident there will not be any problem accommodating all attendees. See our website to find the registration link.*

### Hotel

*The Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel is the host site. In addition to superb accommodations, they have offered us a **room rate of \$105 per night** which includes a hot buffet breakfast. To make reservations call 1-800-325-3535 or 1-262-364-1100. The hotel also has a free shuttle service from Milwaukee's Mitchell Airport. Book rooms early! There is an automobile race in Milwaukee that same weekend and hotel rooms will be at a premium! See our website for a link to details about the hotel.*

### Auction

*If you would like to make a **auction donation** and are unable to bring it with you to the convention, see the ["Contacts"](#) page for further information.*

*This convention is hosted by a couple of cheeseheads.*

**Tom Micheletti and Jack Barta**

Susy Olsen  
 SOGHS Newsletter Editor  
 1427 15th Ave  
 Rochester, MN 55901  
 507-281-4469



#### SOGHS 2013 Calendar of Events

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| January 19    | Winter Scientific Meeting, Lisle, IL   |
| January 22    | Executive board meeting  |
| February 7    | Annual member meeting, Jean and Gerry Meyer, 'Hosta Resources on the Web' *                                    |
| March 15-16   | Great Lakes Hosta College, Piqua, OH   |
| March 16      | Coffee & Catalogs, Old Country Buffet, (8:30 AM – 10:30 AM)  |
| March 26      | Executive board meeting  |
| April 4       | Member meeting, back by popular demand, 'Ask the Experts Q&A Panel' *  |
| May 1         | Public sign-up for June SOGHS bus tour   |
| May 4         | May carpool tour [subject to change depending on the weather]  |
| May 18        | SOGHS Annual Hosta and Shade Plant Sale, Bldg 40, Olmsted County Fairgrounds                                   |
| May 22        | Spring Open House  |
| June 8        | SOGHS bus trip   |
| June 13-15    | AHS National Convention, Milwaukee, WI   |
| June 19 or 20 | Member's only garden tour (5:00 PM – 8:30 PM)  |
| July 11-13    | Midwest Regional Hosta Convention, Lisle, IL   |
| July 16 or 17 | Member's only garden tour (5:00 PM – 8:30 PM)  |
| July 18       | Rochester Flower and Garden Club tours   |
| July 22-28    | Olmsted County Fair (don't forget the hosta leaf show!)  |
| July 24       | Master Gardener garden tours   |
| September 7   | Founder's Day Picnic/Silent Auction  |
| September 24  | Executive board meeting  |
| October 3     | General meeting open to the public / Board elections, Glen Herold, 'Best Trees and Shrubs for Hosta Gardens' * |
| October 29    | Executive board meeting  |

Meeting Locations Fellowship Hall, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 559 20th St SW, Rochester, MN