



The Hosta Leaf

Member of the American Hosta Society website, at www.hosta.org

March/April 2014

Volume 9 Issue 2

In This Issue	
Our President's Pen	1
Membership Moments	1
Coffee & Catalog	2
HOTY Time	2
Workshops	3
Wall of Honor	4
Conventions Wisconsin	6
Convention Iowa	7
2014 SOGHS Calendar	8



What a fantastic way to start the year off fulfilling our hostaholicism. For those that attended the Snowflake Gala in January, you know what a smashing success it was. I would like to extend a huge thank you to committee co-chairs Gerry Meyer and Karen Noltee and all of the volunteers on the committee for a job well done! The food, beverages, comradery, and door prizes were outstanding. Job well done team!

Speaking of committees, there is more opportunity for you to participate and get to know your fellow members better by work-

ing in a team environment. Susy Olsen is chair of the Workshop committee. The first workshop has been held and attendees are abuzz with all of the great knowledge they shared and took away from the workshop. There are many more workshops to come, so you have plenty of time to help out on this committee. Contact Susy to help out.

There are two more committee opportunities for you: the plant sale dig committee and the garden fair committee. Kelly Tweite would love to have extra help ready to go when the ground finally thaws out, that's going to happen, isn't it?? Sherrie Bowe, founder of the Garden Fair

which is a fundraiser and awareness raiser for homeless youth in the Rochester area, is also looking for a few more people to sign up for the garden fair committee to determine and execute SOGHS's involvement in the fair this year. I encourage you to sign up! See the Committee Chairs contact information on page 2 of the newsletter.

Thank you to those of you that have already submitted nominations for the AHS President's Wall of Honor. This is such a special award, if you haven't sent in your nominations yet, please do so!

Oh my, this weather is something else. Tonight is the big snow storm with the wet heavy snow
(Continued on page 4)

MEMBERSHIP MOMENTS



Thanks to all that have renewed their memberships for 2014. The board has been working on a great calendar of events for the coming

year, so be sure to check it out on the website.

I would like to remind anyone who

does not have a name badge, that you can purchase one through me. The cost to you is \$6.00, which is a great deal. The actual cost of these name badges is around \$10.00. SOGHS covers the balance. Our hope is that all members will eventually have these. The name badges are held on with a strong magnet. Therefore, no holes in your clothes.

I would like to welcome our newest members: Nancy Peterson, Janet Suter, Zoei Pritchard, Cathy Dallman, Kay Wachaltz, Angela Clemens, Kim Erbach, Mary Lanier and Bill Mrkvicka.

Looking forward to an exciting year. Mona Keehn, Membership/Promotions Chair

288-3511/chum721@gmail.com

SOGHS 2014 Officers

President - Kim Greene
kkgreene@gmail.com

1st Vice President/
 Garden Tours - Jan Gerke
janice.gerke@gmail.com

2nd Vice president/
 Programs/Education -
 Kris Hust dkhust@gmail.com

3rd Vice President/
 Membership/Promotions-
 Mona Keehn chum721@gmail.com

Secretary/Historian-
 Linda Brech mnbrech@charter.net

Treasurer- Larry Schmidt
pjalar01@gmail.com

Plant Sale - Dennis Bowe
Bowe442@msn.com

Hospitality -
 Tricia Torrens-Burton
jandttb@gmail.com

Member fundraising -
 Carrie Schroeder
SchroederCarrie@mayo.edu

Webmaster - Dave Cocker Djspaniel@hotmail.com

Newsletter- open for nominees

Committee Chairs

WORKSHOPS: Susy Olsen
ga2hafun@gmail.com

PLANT SALE DIG: Kelly Tweite
ktweite@hotmail.com

GARDEN FAIR COMMITTEE:
 Sherrie Bowe
bowe442@MSN.com

March 22

Coffee & Catalogs

Old Country Buffet

Rochester, MN

8:30 AM - 10:30 AM



Come join us for a good time

and talk about Hostas, our gardens, the weather or what ever

Please bring your favorite catalogs

It's HOTY time again! Introducing H. 'Carry On' and H. 'Mouse Capades,' coming to you from our friend, Rob Mortko, at "Made in the Shade Gardens." Both are brand new on the market this year. Not only is it exciting our club gets first dibs on them, but Rob is offering them to us at a reduced price! I think they are divine! Please note Rob's inventory is limited, so we have 50 of each plant to offer, which is only 100 total. So send your order in now, first come, first served! Get them while they are HOT!! Order forms are on the SOGHS website. *Carrie S.*



Workshops



Workshops “2014” got underway on February 15th with 16 participants at the home of Susy Olsen, workshop chair. Fulfilling her Master Gardener requirement was not her initial intent when she signed up as the chair of this committee, but it is proving to be a fun and rewarding way to accomplish this obligation!

With coffee, tea, and healthy snacks in hand, the workshop began promptly at 10:30 with attendees introducing themselves and explaining how they have been inventorying their hostas and other perennials and what they hope to gain from the workshop.

Susy’s dining & living-room converted into a mini lecture hall, providing a place to first of all discuss what categories attendees were interested in tracking. Suggestions included: botanical names, common names, cultivars, date of purchase, where it was purchased, parentage, plant requirements, location and more. After that, low tech and ‘high-er’ tech options were introduced. Binders, publications, and easy to use word processing options were demonstrated for those who were interested in low tech options. Hyper-linked word processing, Excel type spreadsheets and i Pad apps were introduced to those who had an interest in a higher tech system.

Mapping your gardens and labeling options brought us to the end of the workshop.

Our next workshops will be ‘Give me the Dirt’ on May 22nd at the Spring Open House. There are two sessions (with room for 10 members per session) at 5:30-6 & 6:30-7:00. Another workshop on May 24 at 10:30 will be ‘the Mystery of the Unlabeled Hosta.’ Check out the description and times in this newsletter. *Susy*

Spring Workshop: “Give Me the Dirt”

This will be a down and dirty workshop where we can all get our hands a little dirty. Recipes will be shared for potting mixes you can make yourself. If you have a good potting mix recipe for hostas and other shade plants as well as one that is good for the flowers in the sun, let me know. I’ll get them printed up. All who participate will get a 2 gallon bag of potting mix, all submitted recipes and a mystery gift.

Want to sign up or help? Contact Susy at ga2hafun@gmail.com

When: May 22, at the Spring Open House hosted by Cindy Tomashek. This will take place at 2 different time slots during the open house!

Spring Workshop: “Mystery of the Unlabeled Hosta”

Lost a tag or two? Got a hosta from someone but you don’t know what it is? Did your grand-kids pull out plant stakes when you weren’t looking? Come to this workshop to learn how to sort through the over

7,000 different hosta cultivars and species to determine what you have in your own yard. We will start in the yard of Susy Olsen, workshop chair. After a brief talk, we will break into small teams to practice what we learn. Want to sign up or help? Volunteer your yard, offer input or your expertise? Experts needed. Contact Susy at ga2hafun@gmail.com

When: May 24 at 10:30

Summer Workshop: “Seed Collection & Planting”

This workshop will help you get started with harvesting, marking, and planting hosta seeds and tracking their characteristics and parent-age. If you are interested in seeing what interesting gifts ‘nature’s little helpers’ have given you during the pollination season and what to do when the seedlings appear, you’ll want to sign up for this class. Want to sign up or help? Volunteer your yard, offer input or your expertise? Contact Susy at ga2hafun@gmail.com Experts needed..

When and Where: July 19 at 10:30



AHS President's Wall of Honor

The purpose of the American Hosta Society (AHS) President's Wall of Honor award is to honor members of local hosta societies who have given of their time, skills, energy, and enthusiasm over the years. Each hosta society is given the opportunity to nominate two members for this honor.

In 2012, nominations poured in for Dave and Denice Cocker and we were very proud to be able to honor them with this award. Nominations for 2014 are being accepted until Friday March 14th. Please include the name of the nominee along with a description of why you are nominating them. Nominations can be submitted via email to kkgreene@gmail.com or by mailing them to:

Kim Greene
307 12th Lane, SW
Oronoco, MN 55960

(Continued from page 3)

Autumn Workshop: Water Feature

Want a water feature but haven't seen one that meets your aesthetic or pocket book requirements? This workshop will be a chance to get your creative juices 'flowing' and make your own. If you plan on signing up for this workshop, start shopping for clearance or used items. Suggestions: Outer container to hold up to 3-5 gallons of water (You may or may not want to drill a hole in this.), smaller container that will sit in or on the outer container that can drain or allow water overflow into the outer container, a small water pump and hosing. Want to help? Email Susy for details at ga2hafun@gmail.com
When and Where: October 4 at 10:30

SOGHS 9th Annual



May 17, 2014 8:00-11:00 am

At the

Olmsted County Fair Grounds
Horticulture Building

For questions go to www.soghs.org

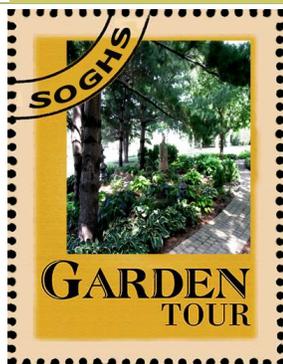
(Continued from page 1)

that is wreaking havoc with our trees and shrubs. This reminds me of early May last year when we had all of that wet heavy snow that did so much damage. I really hope the damage isn't as bad as last year. This season has been really hard on any living being outdoors with the extreme cold they've had to endure and now this heavy snowfall. I have to say looking forward to the plethora of tours Jan has put together gives me hope this long, long winter will end!

Norrie has had to step down from her position as the Newsletter Editor due to a change in her time commitments. If you are a good communicator, work well with others, and enjoy working on a fun and energetic team, we'd love to have you on the

board. Please contact me if you are interested in this position. A huge thank you to Susy Olsen for being ever so gracious in stepping up to put this newsletter together! To keep your hostas free from Hosta Virus X, check out page 6 for the latest research that Gerry Meyer has made us aware of. Looking forward to seeing everyone at Coffee & Catalogs in a few weeks and stay safe in this weather!!

Kim



Announcing Our 2014 Hosta Tours!

I'm ready for Spring! Our SOGHS annual bus tour itinerary is set and the carpool tours (yes, there are two) are coming together! And of course the member garden tours are set for June and July.

On Saturday, June 7th our bus will depart from Shopko North promptly at 7:00am (loading at 6:45), heading toward the Twin Cities. Our first stop will be in Afton at Squire House Gardens (website www.squirehousegardens.com), which is known for beautiful gardens. In addition, they also have a nursery for you shoppers. Then we visit Highland Nursery (www.thehighlandnursery.com) in St Paul for more fun shopping opportunities. Our third stop will be the hosta gardens of Sheila and Jim Hartmann in Minneapolis. They were an optional tour garden on the 2010 AHS National Convention in Minneapolis. Then it's off to Kelley and Kelley Nursery www.kelleyandkelley.com in Long Lake before a "two-fer" garden stop in Minnetonka at the hosta gardens of Julie Carley/Gary Mosiman and Laura and Steve Hanson. The Carley/Mosiman garden was on the 2010 AHS National Convention tour. These last two gardens will be on the Arboretum's 2014 summer garden tour in July, so we will get a preview! Sign-up is open to members now and will open to the public on May 1st. Cost remains at \$30 for members, \$35 for non-members for an 11 hour fun-filled day!

Are you interested in a free hosta? If so, I have a deal for you! I am looking for several residential sized gardens for our member garden tours, which will again follow a two evening format, occurring on Tuesday and Wednesday, June 17th and June 18th and July 15th and July 16th. Stay tuned for information on the specific gift hostas you can choose from for letting us tour your gardens. As mentioned before, garden hosts will be reimbursed (receipts required, \$50 maximum) for snacks and non-alcoholic beverages served (all entirely optional). Please join in the fun of hosting your gardens for one of these events...the attendees are always so

appreciative and what a great incentive to get your gardens in shape for the summer!

Our Sunday, July 20th carpool tour is heading west toward Faribault. In addition to a stop at Roger and Kak Koopmans in Faribault, we will tour SOGHS member gardens. I have one member garden already lined up for this carpool tour, but I'm looking for one or two more gardens to add to our itinerary. So if you live west of Rochester (Owatonna area members?), please consider hosting some SOGHS friends in your gardens. As with our June and July member tours, you will receive a free hosta for your generosity, plus you will be reimbursed for any snacks and non-alcoholic beverages served (receipts required, \$50 maximum).

An overnight carpool tour to the Winter Greenhouse in Winter, WI (and if desired, Simply Succulents in Cable, WI) has been added to the plans, with the date being either Friday/Saturday June 20th and 21st or July 25th and 26th. Sign up and help me decide which date works best! We will depart Friday (time dependent on attendees' schedules) and plan to stop at Wouterina De Raad's sculpture garden in Beldenville (near River Falls) that day, then head north. If you're curious, check out Wouterina's website www.concretemosaicsculpture.com or the September/October 2013 Northern Gardener article. Wouterina charges \$5 per person to tour the gardens and has a 10 person minimum, so our stop will be dependent on the number of people making the trip. I haven't checked into overnight accommodations yet, but we will stop somewhere enroute to Winter. If you can't make the two day trip, maybe just Friday works in your schedule, which is completely fine! That's the great thing about a carpool tour...flexibility! Just note that on the sign-up sheet, so I am aware.

Look for the sign-up sheets for each of these tours at our April meeting. Feel free to contact me with any questions beforehand or to put your name on the appropriate list(s)!

See you April 3rd! *Jan Gerke*,
(507)259-7096, janice.gerke@gmail.com

C O N V E N T I O N S

**"HOSTAS BY THE BAY"****Green Bay, Wisconsin****June 26-28, 2014**

The Green and Gold Hosta Society of Northeast Wisconsin invites you to take a leap to your calendar and reserve the dates to join us for the convention. The lineup of activities for the three days include tours of six outstanding private gardens, an auction of Hostas of all colors, some will be our team colors of green and gold. Seminars will be quarterbacked by local and nationally recognized Hosta experts. An afternoon tour of the Green Bay Botanical Garden followed by a supper tailgate party will serve as a kickoff to the Hosta Auction back at the hotel. If you don't score at the Auction, there will be 10 vendors available throughout the convention to offer a wide selection of new and old favorites of hosta plants, conifers and yard art. You might want to take a chance at the raffle table where the Hosta Trophy of your dream awaits you. The leaf show winning entries will be displayed for all to see. An optional tour to Door County for a fish boil is available.

Contact the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center at (920) 494-7300 and be sure to mention **MHRS Convention** to get the special rate of \$99.00 per night, plus tax. You will be assured a room for the convention. A breakfast buffet each morning is included.

<http://www.midwesthostasociety.org/Docs/registration2014.pdf>

A H S U P D A T E O N H O S T A V I R U S X R E S E A R C H

With the completion of the Hosta Virus X Project, the updated HVX brochure has been published on the AHS website! The key fact to remember is that the virus remains infective in soil where an infected Virus X plant has been removed. We still do not understand the mechanism, but this finding was reconfirmed during the second phase of the research.

[To view/print a copy of the final HVX research report, go to the AHS Website "disease" section to access the report in a tri-fold report format.](http://www.americanhostasociety.org/PDF/HVX_Brochure_Revised_Dec_2013.pdf)

(the hyperlink for the underlined text is http://www.americanhostasociety.org/PDF/HVX_Brochure_Revised_Dec_2013.pdf)

*Hosted by the
Harshbarger Hosta Society*

AHS National Convention

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

June 11-14, 2014

"Czech It Out!"



<http://harshbargerhostasociety.weebly.com>

Hotel: [Collins Road Marriott Hotel](#) in Cedar Rapids, IA.

Tour Gardens include 10 exciting gardens on Friday & Saturday.

More **Optional Gardens** on Sunday.

For More Information: Visit
<http://harshbargerhostasociety.weebly.com>.

Upcoming Conventions

June 18-20, 2015 - Raleigh, NC

SOGHS Newsletter
1427 15th Ave
Rochester, MN 55901



SOGHS 2014 Calendar of Events

- *March 14-15 - Great Lakes Hosta College, Piqua, OH*
- *March 22 - Coffee & Catalogs, Old Country Buffet, (8:30 AM - 10:30 AM)*
- *March 25 - Executive board meeting*
- *April 3 - Member meeting, in progress*
- *April 15 - Newsletter deadline for May/June newsletter*
- *May 1 - Public sign-up for June SOGHS bus tour*
- *May 17 - SOGHS Annual Hosta and Shade Plant Sale, Bldg 40, Olmsted County Fairgrounds*
- *May 22 - Spring Open House at Cindy's, Workshop: "Give Me the Dirt"*
- *May 24 - Workshop: "Mystery of the Unlabeled Hosta", 10:30 AM*
- *June 7 - SOGHS bus trip*
- *June 11-14 - AHS National Convention, Cedar Rapids, IA*
- *June 15 - Newsletter deadline for July/August newsletter*
- *June 17 and 18 - Member's only garden tour (5:00 PM - 8:30 PM)*
- *June 26-28 - Midwest Regional Hosta Convention, Green Bay, WI*
- *July 15 and 16 - Member's only garden tour (5:00 PM - 8:30 PM)*
- *July 17 - Rochester Flower and Garden Club tours*
- *July 19 - Workshop: "Seed Collection & Planting", 10:30 AM*
- *July 20 - Carpool tour*
- *July 21-27 - Olmsted County Fair (don't forget to register for the hosta leaf show!)*
- *July 23 - Master Gardener garden tours*
- *August 15 - Newsletter deadline for September/October newsletter*
- *August 21-22 - SOGHS exhibit at State Fair*
- *September 6 - Founder's Day Picnic/Silent Auction*
- *September 23 - Executive board meeting*
- *October 2 - General meeting open to the public / Board elections, "Grasses for Shady Gardens/Those to Avoid" by Mary Meyer*
- *October 4 - Workshop: "Water Feature", 10:30 AM*
- *October 15 - Newsletter deadline for November/December newsletter*
- *December 2 - Executive board meeting*

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