



The Hosta Leaf

of Southeastern Minnesota

Volume 4 Issue 3 June- July 2009



Plant Sale 2009

As the showers come and the sun warms the earth, our hearts and minds can now start to turn to Hosta. As our Hosta Sale inches closer, there is a lot of work to be done. I am calling for all willing SOGHS Members to help out.

Prior to the sale our busiest task is digging, dividing, and potting hostas. Volunteers are needed to do the digging and dividing.

We also need help doing something with the Hostas and other perennials once they are out of the ground. If you are unable to attend any of the scheduled digs, I am more than willing to have you come and pick up some clumps to take home to split them up and put in pots.

As for the sale itself, we can never have too many volunteers for set-up day. We need an army for the day of the sale, too.



Thanks so much for your efforts to make our Hosta Sale a continued success.



Jason Leigh - chairman

If interested in helping out on either day, you may contact me at leigh.jason@mayo.edu, or simply show-up during a time that works for you.

Donations

If interested in donating plant material to the Hosta Sale, we will take any and all hostas and perennials. If you could label the plant prior to bringing it in great. If unsure of the exact name, we will do our best to identify the plant in time for the sale.

Tax Deduction

Also, for those of you interested, donation forms will be made available to those interested in having their Hosta Sale donation tax deductible. Just ask when you bring in your donation.

Hosta Sale 2009
Set-up Friday May 29 1 pm – 7 pm
Sale Saturday May 30 8 am – noon

Olmsted County Fairgrounds
Horticulture Building

Early-bird shopping

will occur once again this year at 6:30pm Friday evening **for those who help with the Hosta sale set-up.**



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cindy Tomashek



A few weeks ago I ran into a friend I hadn't seen in some time. In the course of our "catch-up" conversation, Richard said he had failed to take my advice a couple of years ago to dig and split the large hostas growing beside his house, exclaiming that "now they are so big it would be easier to move the house!" It takes no stretch of the imagination to conjure up such an image and, while I laughed then, pain is likely in store for me this spring when I divide some hefty hostas that were neglected last year...and the year before...and the year before. Moving the house over a few feet is starting to look appealing!

Fortunately, any excess hosta divisions can go to the SOGHS Plant Sale, along with other bonus plants. Now is the time to share the abundance in your garden...sterilize a few pots...make a few labels...pot a few up. If each member of SOGHS donated a mere TEN (10) plants, there would be over 1500 plants for sale...so my challenge to you is to donate TEN plants (though more will be deeply appreciated!). If you can't do 10, try to pot up FIVE. Of course, ANY donation will be welcomed...one plant or one hour of your time to help set up or at the sale or provide a treat for workers. My personal challenge is to donate one plant per member (currently 160 members). Don't be awed by that number - there are several SOGHS members who far exceed that every year...can you match them?

My 2009 resolution was to purchase only hostas I could lay hands and eyes on to verify good substance and other superior characteristics. My resolve weakened when our Plant of the Year offerings were made available and exacerbated by the Plant of the Year offerings from Minnesota Hosta Society. My resolve totally evaporated when traveling "hosta friends" (you know who you are!!) offered to purchase plants from my wish list while visiting southern nurseries. With friends like that, who needs resolutions?

So the gardens will be bulging with new acquisitions, some I've yet to make acquaintance with-- whose leaves I've yet to caress between thumb and forefinger. Their mettle will be tested in my slug-infested garden! But making room for them means another opportunity to donate to the plant sale.

Look for some of my new acquisitions during the spring garden tour at my home on May 21 from 5:00-8:30 pm (rain or shine). The spring flowers are already near peak in my garden and in a short time the hostas will be unfurling – early risers like H. 'Chinese Sunrise' have exploded out of the ground and the shoots of H. 'Sagae' are breathtaking at nearly a foot high!

BUS TRIPS and GARDEN TOURS

To make the most of tours lined up throughout the summer, please be mindful of garden etiquette. Whether in a public or private garden, there are several dos and don'ts you should follow (these are combined from articles provided by a fellow SOGHS member):

1. DO make a rest stop before arriving at the garden.
 2. DO arrive on time or a few minutes late.
 3. DO be attentive and respectful to a tour guide.
 4. DO offer genuine praise.
 5. DO dress comfortably – appropriate shoes are a must along with an umbrella, insect repellent, sun screen!
 6. DO ask questions.
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1. Don't touch the flowers with your hands or nose – oils on your skin can spoil them!
 2. Don't take seeds or cuttings!
 3. Don't weed or deadhead.
 4. Don't criticize!
 5. Don't stray from paths.
 6. Don't leave any trash behind.

These tips are offered in the kindred spirit of garden friendship that we share and nurture at SOGHS...because we want the excitement to continue growing!

Cindy

Calling all shutterbugs

May is not too early to get out in your garden with your camera. It's a perfect time to get interesting pictures of emerging plants as the leaves unfurl and hold droplets of morning dew. Or capture the fresh, new green color of unblemished Spring leaves. Remember, last year we had a major hailstorm on May 30th that shredded many hosta gardens before pictures were taken, so don't procrastinate.



Linda Orleff
photo contest chair



Hosta *montana*
'Aureomarginata' by Karen
Noltee, Spring 2007

Tips to keep in mind:

Pictures taken at the height of the harsh noon day sun tend to wash out the colors. You can shade your scene with an umbrella for better colors.

Close-up pictures will look more dramatic. Try using the Macro feature on your camera.

Be aware of your surroundings; pick the right direction to shoot from. Don't make the car in the neighbor's driveway a distraction in your beautiful hosta picture.

Take more than one picture and keep only the best shot. Try taking the picture with flash and without; close up and far away; horizontal and vertical; move a step or two and **SHOOT FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE.**

That's the beauty of digital cameras—you see what your picture will look like right away. Take advantage of that and strive for the best pictures you can get.

DID YOU KNOW that the Grand Prize for the photo contest this year is Mark Zilis's new Hostapedia book? The more pictures you take the more chances you have to win it.

Photo categories for contest:

- ❖ Most Beautiful Hosta—in member's own garden
- ❖ Most Beautiful Hosta—in tour & other gardens
- ❖ Gardens & Landscapes
- ❖ Flowers & Foliage
- ❖ Garden Accents & Oddities
- ❖ Critters and Creatures



Hosta 'June'
Cindy Tomashek's garden, May 2006

Hellebores

by Jean Meyer

A companion for hostas

Hellebores are a delightful addition to the shady garden. You will see them sold as Christmas Rose (*Helleborus Niger*) or Lenten Rose (*Helleborus orientalis*) because in more temperate times they actually bloom at those times. My hellebores usually bloom in mid to late spring. Some hellebores will start with the Scilla. More pop blossoms with the early daffodils .



While we don't have the rich choice of color and plant variety available in higher numbered zones we can still grow some lovely flowers. We can grow flowers pale pink and hearty pink, both fair and freckled. We can have purple hued, greenish white or snowy white blooms. There is also a lovely pale yellow. And some dark black reds and raspberry pinks are becoming available. The colors soften with age but still remain interesting for weeks.

You will see new blooms along side of older blooms with seed formation well under way. Once flowering is past they make a mound of foliage that contrasts nicely with hosta and deer don't usually like the leathery leaves. (But may like tender flower shoots)



Hellebores are long lived perennials and highly adaptable. They grow naturally in open woodlands and meadows and can do well in either sun or shade. However, too much hot sun and the leaves may burn. Too much shade and bloom and mound size may be smaller. Lots of sun in the spring before the tree leaves have come out will encourage good growth and bloom but be sure to keep the soil moist but not wet.

Take a little care in establishing the plant. Nurture it the first year or two. Plant in organic rich soil that retains moisture but does not get water logged. They prefer neutral to slightly acid soil (pH 6-7). Tolerant of shade, they will bloom better under light shade and morning sun. Make sure the plant is set in the ground so that the crown is at the same level as in the container. Do not bury the crown as flowering will be affected. Fine textured mulch applied at 1-2 inches provides a barrier to heat and drying, keeping the soil cool and moist and hopefully weed free.

Keep well watered the first year. After the plant is well established it can tolerate some drier conditions but prefers adequate moisture while blooming and putting out new growth. As with hostas, you wait about 3 years and then you go, "Wow!"

You will probably want to remove old leaves in the spring – the ones turning brown and laying on the ground. It tidies things up and shows off new growth and bloom. Be careful weeding around the plant because soon you will see numerous little additions to the clump. Soon you will have a naturalized or crowded overgrown area. The blooms work well in flower arrangements and look very nice in the spring bouquet so snip a few, if you choose, and avoid too many little plants. Or, transplant desirable seedlings while still small.

Some sources suggest that hellebores do not like being moved so you may want to choose your site carefully. I have successfully moved a couple of large clumps. Dig a few inches away from the drip line of the leaves and all around the plant with a sturdy shovel or fork. Then carefully loosen

the root ball. Try to keep all the soil and roots. Move to new location into a hole a little wider than root ball but plant at same depth. Keep well watered until established again.

There is a good deal of hybridizing going on with hellebores. Breeders are aiming for better colors and multi tone flowers. Upright or outward facing flowers is also desirable. Select seed strains are being developed. Tissue culture is becoming successful and all these developments may help bring down the price on desirable plants. Still, hellebores are not really common at many plant retail outlets. The more available *Helleborus niger* and *orientalis* are hardy in zone 4 as well as several harder to find species. Most retail plants are now hybrids with parentage from several species. Be sure to check for hardiness when purchasing. Don't be too afraid to try a zone 5.

Some of my first hellebores came from Plant Delights Nursery in NC. I then won an auction bid for a half dozen young plants from Barry Glick's Sunshine Farm and Gardens in WV. Both of these are excellent sources for hellebores. I later picked up and like the Lady series: White Lady, Pink Lady and Yellow Lady from other retail sources. Some web sources:

www.pineknotfarms.com; www.sunfarm.com;

www.plantdelights.com; www.heronswood.com;

www.gosslerfarms.com; www.arrowheadalpines.com;



Member Garden Tours

What kind of socks does a gardener wear? Garden hose.

May 21 Garden Tour 5-8:30pm

Cindy Tomashek 1288 Wicklow Lane SW; Rochester

Come enjoy the spring splendor of Brunnera macrophylla, Pulmonaria, Rue Anemone, Virginia Bluebells, ferns and over 600 varieties of hostas in this wooded near-acre garden, Wildwood on Wicklow. Here you can find mature specimens of most of Bob Solberg's introductions, including H. 'Nate the Great' and 'Sharp Dressed Man', H. 'Corkscrew', H. 'Blueberry Tart', H. 'Roller Coaster Ride', H. 'First Frost' (2010 Hosta of the Year) as well as younger or new plantings of H. 'Awakening Angel', H. 'Final Summation', H. 'Frozen Margarita', H. 'Iris Frazier', H. 'Ray of Hope', and H. 'Machete'. Also look for new additions to the garden from Steven Schulte of Foxfire Gardens, including H. 'Foxfire Bamm Bamm', H. 'Foxfire Crying Game', H. 'Foxfire Irish Moon', H. 'Foxfire Irish Pebbles', H. 'Foxfire Rose Red' and H. Foxfire Shadow Dancer'.

June 6

Bus Tour leaving 6:30 am from Wal-Mart North

PLEASE NOTE: There will be **no box lunches** as enough folks did not sign up. Be sure to bring your own lunch as we will not be stopping anywhere to purchase lunch

It is going to be a fun day. We have a full bus and lots of hostas and gardens to see. And yes, lots of buying opportunities.

Consider bringing:

Lunch, mosquito repellent, sunscreen, camera, umbrella
Cash, checks and/or credit card for purchases.

Good humor and joke or two.

Be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes and layer your clothes.

June 18 Garden Tour 5-8:30 pm

Vicki LeCocq 1313 30th ST NW, Rochester

I have sun! Do you want to see what Hosta look like when they are grown in the Sun? Come see and compare. Bob Solberg said, "Hosta leaves are different when they are grown in the sun."

This is why your Hosta sometimes looks different than other gardeners Hosta with the same name. For everyone who saw my garden with the BIG MAPLE – come and see how the garden looks with blue skies.

Jan Gerke and husband, Gordon Haubenschild, 5317 Timberidge CT SE, Rochester

Jan and Gordon live about 5 miles southeast of Rochester on a wooded 3 acre lot. Aside from some azaleas which are over 20 years old and a shady annual garden, their gardens range in age from brand new to just over 10 years old. Since retiring in 2005, Jan has been planting new gardens on the edge of the woods all around their home. Gordon provided the heavy-duty muscle and chain sawing (when needed), plus an electric fence through the woods to keep the deer at bay. While many are not yet mature, they have roughly 250 varieties of hosta, along with astilbe, ferns, heuchera and other shade-loving annuals and perennials. In addition there are iris, columbines, daylilies, asiatic and oriental lilies, cone flowers, phlox, some roses, and sedum (among other things) in the sunnier gardens. A small pond was added last year.

Katy McCabe-Schaller 912 8th AV SE, Rochester

Our deep but narrow city lot has both sunny and shady areas. Start by viewing the boulevard garden. Be sure to see the many sedums, hens and chicks in a rock type garden at the front entry. Sculptures are featured in front and back gardens along with many container grown plants, accent rocks and limestone paths. Our shady areas feature a lot of hosta, ferns, and other shady perennials. Color is added with coleus and other annuals. Grasses, lilies, daylilies and a crazy lily (I hope one of you can identify) are some of the sunny garden perennials. Magnolia, sumac, flowering crab, and arctic blue willow add structure to the garden. and arctic blue willow add structure to the garden.

Member garden tours: Tours will run from 5- 8:30 pm. You may visit the gardens in any order you choose. These garden tours are for members only and guests if you have family or friends visiting from other areas. Please no small children or pets.

July 23 Thursday 5-8:30pm Member Garden Tours

Karen Noltee, 3617 1st ST NW, Rochester
(Country Club Manor- take 2nd ST SW west to 36th AV, Turn right. Turn left on 1st ST NW. On right.)

Lots of flower power and hosta leaves packed into a small city lot! Smaller space means more collecting of mini's, dwarfs and small size hostas. My garden beds are always a work in progress! Check out the latest in the rabbit patrol squad I use! Frick and Frack don't do much to scare away the slugs tho! Join us to socialize with other SOGHS folks while enjoying some refreshments before you head home!

Ron & Connie Neuman. 4010 Windsor LN SW, Rochester

(take Hwy 63 S to 40th ST SW. go west on 40th ST SW. Just past 18th AV SW turn left on Windsor LN SW)

Our yard is a three quarter acre lot since road construction took half of our property and most of our mature trees. After giving away hundreds of plants to avoid their destruction we have replaced them with several different varieties. We have had to redo our deck and many of the plantings in our backyard. We added a boulder wall and several limestone paths thru the hostas and other shade plants. We have also added more sun loving plants now that we have more open space.

Kim Greene, 307 12th LN SW, Oronoco

(Hwy 52 N to 100th ST NW exit. Turn left and go over 52. About 1.2 mile turn right on 3rd AV SW. At stop turn right on 12th ST SW. Turn left on Lake Shady AV. Turn left on West Center. Turn left on 12th LN SW. Follow round curve to house on right.)

Kim and George's gardens include something for everyone. Their gardens include multiple sun and shade gardens, providing something in bloom through most of the season. Visitors are greeted by a wildflower garden to the East of the driveway. The site includes two ponds, a formal 300 gallon pond and a 6000 gallon pond that features natural filtration through the use of bogs and a wetland filtration system. For those into vegetable gardening, the garden has been planted using the square foot gardening method this year. Both Kim and George are avid gardeners, actively working on new projects in their spare time. Their landscape has evolved over the years and continues to change each year.

Community Programs

Hope Lodge

Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help out with garden maintenance at Hope Lodge this summer - there are only a few weeks left to sign up for, so please consider filling in once or twice. The sign up will be posted at the member's only link on the web site...contact Cindy if you can take one of the open weeks.

The hoses have been replaced in the northwest courtyard but there's no timer yet. For the time being just check to make sure the soil is moist and use the hose to water if necessary. Recent rains have been pretty timely, so things are moist enough at present.

There will be some rearranging of plant material in the northwest courtyard as for the second straight year five hostas have been lost. Crowns turned to mush from too much mulch or they came up too early and then froze...best guess! For the most part, the rest of the plants are doing ok and the serviceberry in the east courtyard is blooming gloriously.

The residents at the lodge have been enjoying sitting in the courtyards with the warmer temps. They are, as always, appreciative of our efforts to give them a nice garden to relax in.

RCTC Horticulture Program Scholarships

On April 23 Cindy Tomashek represented SOGHS at RCTC Scholarship Celebration Night where SOGHS awarded **four** \$1,000.00 scholarships! The following RCTC Horticulture students were the latest recipients of our scholarship program:

Grant Hoogendoorn, Steven Kocak,
Anthony Krogh and Mary Prinzing.

Along with notes of thanks from the recipients, Jean Jech, Executive Director of RCTC Foundation, and Don Supalla, RCTC President, both expressed thanks to SOGHS for these scholarships.

Cindy said, "It was a real pleasure to represent SOGHS on this occasion. My thanks goes to everyone who donated time or plants to our 2008 plant sale. It is the proceeds of this sale that make these scholarships possible. Let's see if we can top last year's success in 2009!"

Do You Dream of Red Hostas?

by Bob Solberg

Sometimes the evening news is worth watching, if only rarely. Last fall I saw a segment on one of the major network news programs discussing why tree leaves turn red in autumn. We all used to think that they were red all year long and we just could not see the red color because of all the green chlorophyll. As that chlorophyll started to break down as the days shortened toward winter, the hidden red color just appeared. Research in the last ten years has shown, while this unmasking does occur for the orange and yellow fall colors of tree leaves caused by the carotenoid pigments in the chloroplasts. The red color, however, is not present in summer leaves and is actually manufactured by the plants in the fall.

So why do we hosta folks care about red maple leaves, most of them are brown by the time we rake them from the hosta beds anyway? Well, it turns out the same chemicals, with some slight rearrangements, that turn maple leaves red, also make hosta petioles purple. Understanding how these pigments, called anthocyanins, are made in other plants might give us clues as to how they work in hostas.

Botanists are not sure what anthocyanins do to justify their existence in plant cells. There are many theories and the truth is that they probably serve different functions in different types of plants, if any at all. In the trees of the Eastern Deciduous Forest, these red pigments may very well act as sunscreens to protect the plant from increased light penetration as the chlorophyll fades. They may also be "carbon sinks", storing sugars formed during photosynthesis. They may also be a warning or even camouflage to insect predators, bugs frequently do not see red very well, especially in the young leaves of tropical rain forest species.

If you "Google" anthocyanins, you will find article after article praising these blue, purple and red pigments as antioxidants. Humans are encouraged to eat blueberries and plums, and even drink red wine for better health and increased longevity. Believe it or not, they work the same way in plants. In photosynthetic, oxygen rich cells, (oxygen gas is an abundant product of the process, thank goodness), anthocyanins capture some of that free oxygen and protect cell proteins from being oxidized. Too much oxygen can be very corrosive to plant parts.

All these functions seem plausible but many plants do just fine without anthocyanins. Frequently, plants put them in places that seem to have no function at all. It is still a mystery. Scientists assume that every molecule must have a function or it would be a waste of time and energy to produce it. Maybe, some anthocyanins are just for decoration, like spots on cows. In any case, I will leave it to you to try to find the function of the anthocyanins that hostas put on various body parts.



H. "Fire Island"
Photo by Jean Meyer

Unlike other photosynthetic pigments in plants that are found in chloroplasts, anthocyanins are stored in vacuoles, large empty warehouses in the cell. They are a group of related organic molecules that vary slightly from plant species to plant species but have the same basic structure. They are manufactured as part of the photosynthetic process using sugars as some of their building blocks. Plants produce them in high quantities in cool weather and high light intensities. They are also produced if a plant has a phosphorus deficiency. This means spring and fall are ideal times of production of anthocyanins for trees like Japanese maples. Hostas probably only produce them in the spring as they are approaching dormancy by fall.

Hostas need sunscreen in early spring with the cool, high light conditions that exist before the tree leaves have emerged. Many hostas have red or purple bud sheaths to protect the emerging "eye" from burning. Some hostas may also for a short period of time have red or purple leaf tips in early spring. As summer arrives, many hostas seem to lose some of the purple color on leaves and petioles. This may be due to heat and shadier conditions alone but probably is also caused by the fact that as hosta leaves mature they are less productive and just may not make the surplus pigments any more. Many hostas will "green up" in summer, even green ones, and this may mask some of the purple pigments present in leaves and petioles. These pigments do not totally disappear or break down because they can be seen again in the fall even after the foliage becomes clear after freezing.



H. 'One Man's Treasure'
Photo by Jean Meyer

Currently, there are many hosta hybridizers attempting to concentrate anthocyanins in all the parts of their hosta seedlings. This turns out to be a complex process, certainly dependent on more than one gene. It is really selecting for two very different things at the same time. First, the hosta must have the genes to be able to produce anthocyanins. Most but not all hostas do.

Do you dream of red hostas cont.

Kevin Vaughn in his article in the American Hosta Society Bulletin No. 7, page 11 found that two anthocyanins are present in the flowers of *H. cathayana*, (now 'Lancifolia' or *H. lancifolia*). Any hosta that has purple in its flowers should have the ability to make at least some of the purple pigments we see in foliage. In contrast, a pure white-flowered hosta like *H. plantaginea* may not have that ability and must be crossed with a purple-flowered one to acquire it. By the way, have you ever seen a pure white-flowered hosta with purple petioles? It may be possible, but I have not.

So, first a hosta must have the genes to produce anthocyanins.

There are probably several different ones that the entire genus of hostas is able to produce and crossing different species may concentrate the ability to produce all these pigments into a single hosta seedling. Maybe not. This is not as simple as passing a single gene from one purple-flowered hosta to another. Building an anthocyanin molecule is a multi-step process that may take several enzymes and their corresponding genes to complete. If a single gene is missing or has mutated and a single enzyme cannot be produced then the pigment can not be made. One gene system may produce the basic structure of the molecule and then other genes produce the variety of pigments by substituting one sugar for another. I assume purple color is produced by one gene and red by another, for example.

Producing the pigments is just the beginning. We are really dealing with a gene family here. There are also locator genes that tell the pigments where to go in our hosta, maybe one for each location. We now know that hostas can "locate" purple pigments in flowers, to attract bees, I would guess. They are also found as "sunscreen" in emerging bud sheaths and leaf tips in the coolness of spring. Hostas seem to favor vascular tissue, veins, as a site to locate anthocyanins. Think of petioles, scapes, seed pods, and even leaf veins. We have even seen glimpses of purple color in the leaf blade itself but this seems to be the most difficult location for hostas to send their purple pigments.



H. 'Fire Island'
Photo by Jean Meyer



H. 'Peacock Strut'
Photo by Jean Meyer

The intensity of purple color or how much pigment is sent to the various parts of our hosta is also controlled by these "locator" genes or other similar ones. Different genes may control not only how far up the petiole it is colored purple, but how intense the color is, and whether it is solid colored or stippled. With all this, the making of several pigments, locating them in certain parts of the plant and regulating their intensity we are now talking about a pretty big gene family. Lining up all the correct genes to create a red hosta leaf will certainly take more than a little luck.

Where are we now? Hostas with purple petioles are fairly common now. The best ones have intense color with the pigment on both the top and the bottom, extending up the midrib into the leaf blade, maybe one third the length of the leaf blade. I still use 'One Man's Treasure' as a baseline for petiole color. A seedling must have better color than that old favorite, either in intensity or coverage, to be saved from the compost pile. I have seen hostas with all the veins colored purple in the entire leaf blade, nothing dramatic but at least I know that the plant can locate the pigment

there. I have seen a green hosta with bright red petioles and a thin red line of color filling the outside vein around the entire leaf blade. Still, nothing to run to the patent office over, but interesting. I have seen the purple pigment fill portions of the leaf blade itself but either it was soon gone with the first warm day of spring or the hosta itself curled its leaves and turned brown. All glimpses of the success that is sure to come in the future.

What I like best and have probably worked the hardest at trying to achieve, is a bright yellow hosta with bright red petioles and veins. At this date I can not report complete success but each generation of seedlings shows improvement.

'Whiskey Sour' was the first in this line and 'Sun Worshiper' the next generation. A new member of the family will be introduced next year but I feel the best is yet to come. Some day we will have a red hosta, I am sure, and you just never know in whose seedling patch it may pop up.



H. 'Whiskey Sour'
Photo by Jean Meyer

**Shades of Green Hosta Society
of Southeastern Minnesota**
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Shades of Green Hosta Society
\$10.00/yr individual, \$15.00 fam

Send dues to:
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2009 Calendar

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|--------------|---|
| May 21 | Members Only Garden Tour |
| May 29 | 2 pm-7pm Set up for SOGHS annual Plant Sale |
| May 30 | 8 am – noon SOGHS Annual Plant Sale
Bldg 40, Olmsted County Fair Grounds |
| June 7 | The Bus Trip. Leave Wal-Mart N 6:30 am |
| June 11-13 | Midwest Regional Convention, Champaign, IL |
| June 18 | Members only Garden Tour |
| June 24-27 | National Hosta Convention, Lansing Mi |
| July 11-12 | Leaf Show, Tentative |
| July 16 | Rochester Garden and Flower Club Tour |
| July 21 | SOGHS exec Board Meeting |
| July 23 | Member Garden Tour |
| Jul 27-Aug 9 | Olmsted County Fair – Hosta leaf Exhibition |
| Aug 6 | Members Only Garden Tour |
| Sep 12 | Founder's Day Potluck, and Silent Auction, Tomashek Farm
21587 Hwy 52, Preston MN |
| Oct 1 | Member meeting, Year End Special Event

6:30 pm, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rochester |
| Oct 24 | 10 am 2010 and 2012 Conventions Planning Meeting |
| Nov 17 | 6:30 pm SOGHS Exec Board Meeting- Budget requests due |
| Dec 14 | Executive Board Year End Reports Due |

**The philosopher who said that work well done never needs doing over
never weeded a garden.**

- Ray D. Everson

Other Important Hosta Memberships

Midwest Regional Hosta Society
\$20./2yr Send dues to
Peter Postelwaite
2112 Andover Road
Kildeer, IL 60047

1-847-438-7790

www.MidwestHostaSociety.org

American Hosta Society
1 yr \$30. Individual/ \$34. Family
2 yrs \$57. Ind/ \$62. Family
3 yrs, Ind/\$80.
Send dues to: Sandie Markland,
AHS membership Sec.
Post Office Box 7539
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948
www.americanhostasociety.org



PLANT SALE ALERT

FYI.... SOGHS's has received Hosta 'Frosted Mouse Ears', H. 'Holy Mouse Ears' and H. 'Green Mouse Ears' as hosta liners. They are all in excellent condition and all potted up in 4" pots. They should sell very well as these were new releases in 2008 and many hosta collectors are now shopping for dwarfs. These should be great companions for H. 'Blue Mouse Ears'.

Shop Early!

There's one good thing about snow, it makes your lawn look as nice as your neighbor's.
- Clyde Moore

The real meaning of plant catalog terminology:

"A favorite of birds" means to avoid planting near cars, sidewalks, or clotheslines.

"Grows more beautiful each year" means "Looks like roadkill for the foreseeable future."

"Zone 5 with protection" is a variation on the phrase "Russian roulette."

"May require support" means your daughter's engineering degree will finally pay off.

"Moisture-loving" plants are ideal for landscaping all your bogs and swamps.

"Carefree" refers more to the plant's attitude than to your workload.

"Vigorous" is code for "has a Napoleonic compulsion to take over the world."

"Grandma's Favorite" -- until she discovered free-flowering, disease-resistant hybrids.