



The Hosta Leaf

Co-Vid-19 Special Edition for Shades of Green Hosta Society

May 2020

A Letter From Our President

Welcome to this "Special Edition" of the SOGHS Newsletter! My sincere thanks to our editor extraordinaire, Mary Lanier, for volunteering to help us stay connected with this extra edition of The Hosta Leaf. Our members are the heart of this society and we want each of you to know your health and safety are top priority as we traverse this year's events.

As you read about our plans for SOGHS, please know we want to stay connected and will continue to look for safe ways to do just that. On April 23rd, the SOGHS board met via a Zoom video meeting with great success. We covered plans for upcoming events including a safe distribution of our HOTY plants. Unfortunately, to adhere to the governor's social distancing guidelines, there are a number of activities that have been canceled. For events planned later in the year, we simply postponed the decision and are taking a wait-and-see approach.



But for now, most of you are busy in your yard and gardens preparing for another year of gardening bliss. Thank goodness for Hostas! The little pips are emerging with great promise of colorful greens, golds and blues in all shapes and sizes. I am strengthening my resolve to fight the nasty slugs that plague my hostas while crossing my fingers the dreaded jumping worm does not raise its fiendish head.

Enjoy this edition, and let's be sure to stay connected!

Kathy Rustad, SOGHS President

MRHS Convention Postponed

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we, the Northern Illinois Hosta Society, wanted to give you an update on the status of the 2020 MRHS Convention scheduled for July 16-18, 2020. We all agree that, given the current available information about the anticipated timing of the pandemic to subside, it is likely that many of our attendees may not want to be a part of a large gathering such as our convention. We have collectively decided to postpone the 2020 MRHS Convention and reschedule it to July 8-10, 2021, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Lisle, IL. We will provide a full refund of registration fees to those already registered.

Please understand that as much as we would like to move forward with this 2020 convention, it is our first priority to protect everyone involved with organizing and participating in this event. That includes our volunteers, garden hosts and vendors as well as attendees. (MRHS Continued on Page 2.)

Officially POSTPONED
or Canceled Due
to Co-Vid 19 Virus:

AHS Convention, 2020 in
Minneapolis, **POSTPONED**
until 2022

MRHS Convention
POSTPONED until 2021

SOGHS Events CANCELED
for 2020:

Spring Open House
SOGHS June Plant Sale
Carpool Tours to Nurseries
Bus Tour
Member Garden Tours

TO BE DETERMINED
Overnight Tour
Founders' Day Picnic

NOT CANCELED!!!
2020 HOTY Sale

More Details Inside

Spring Hosta Tips

From an Expert

By Don Rawson*

Enjoy these spring tips from Don Rawson who understands all too well how anxious we are to get things cleaned up in the garden. This is excerpted from the Western New York Hosta Society newsletter.

Tip #1: Don't be tempted to remove the winter mulch until the last frost is gone. Early arrivals, such as H. Montana 'Aureomarginata' may require additional protection from frost and wind.

Tip #2: Thoroughly clean your gardens. All debris should be raked and added to the compost bin to eliminate a breeding ground for slugs. Be careful not to rake or step on the shoots that are just popping up to avoid damaging the leaves which are about to unfold.

Are your plants in good shape?

Tip #3: Look to see if the frost has heaved your plants out of the ground- especially young hostas which were planted last year. As the ground freezes and thaws, freezes and thaws, and freezes and thaws (get the idea?), those plants may need to be tucked in on several occasions.

Tip #4: Make sure all plants, including new arrivals, are accurately labeled and the tags are in good condition. Remember that large hostas will cover up name tags that are too close to the mound. Can your friends easily read those plant labels? Or has the name tag completely disappeared?

Tip #5: Spring is the best time to prune most trees, and shrubs, after flowering. Dead branches should be cut off cleanly, chipped up, and added to the compost bin or reserved for a woodchip path.

Tip #6: Turn over your compost pile. You may want to add a little sand. The warm, rainy weather will turn all that debris into black gold. Then when those hot summer days reach 70 or 80 degrees, apply that free mulch around the base of your plants.

Tip #7: Take an inventory of your gardening supplies- tools, gloves, hoses, sprinklers, wheel- barrows, fencing, tomato cages, etc. Shop and replace worn-out items now so you have everything when you need it.

AHS Convention Is Rescheduled

The news you have been waiting for is now here. The American Hosta Society National Convention, Hosta Vision 2020, is officially postponed until 2022.



All registration fees and vendor deposits will be refunded as soon as possible in the manner in which they were paid. If you paid by check, you will receive a check. If you paid by credit card, the fee will be refunded to that card. Credit card refunds may take up to two weeks to appear on your credit card statement. T-shirts that registrants ordered will be mailed to them. You do not need to do anything to request either a refund or t-shirt. And thanks to Dennis Savory of Savory's Gardens, the convention plant, H. 'Phoenix Feathers', will be carried over for the 2022 convention.

We are grateful that the convention hotel, Minneapolis Marriott Northwest, has been very flexible in allowing us to postpone our event for two years. Many details still need to be negotiated and we will keep you posted as they become known.

The convention committee and the AHS Board of Directors know that this is disappointing. The circumstances are entirely unique and the committee and the Board felt they had no real choice in order to protect the health of the many hosta lovers who had planned to attend.

Please plan to attend the 2021 convention in Kalamazoo, MI, and then join us in Minneapolis in 2022. Enjoy your gardens this summer and stay safe and healthy.

Andy Marlow

President, American Hosta Society

MRHS '2020/2021 Convention

(Continued From Page 1)

If you have specific questions, do not hesitate to email us at GenInfo.MRHS2020@gmail.com.

Thank you for your understanding. We are looking forward to seeing you at the 2021 MRHS Convention.

On behalf of the Northern Illinois Hosta Society, hosts for the MRHS Convention, we wish you safety and wellness.

Hosta Shopping COVID-19 Style...

PSSST! Take a Look

In lieu of our planned 2020 bus trip, two hosta growers in south central Minnesota will happily provide a hosta fix! While they will be part of our 2021 bus trip, a visit to their websites may tempt you into not waiting.

Mike Dammen from Hollandale (located near Albert Lea) has an online hosta business, hostas-store.com with a nice selection of hosta varieties, including newer and rare varieties. This mail order business ships bareroot plants for a flat \$6 rate. Mike has become a serious collector, with his first plants coming from Hans Hansen in Waseca, then from Walters Gardens, and recently Naylor Creek.

In addition, former SOGHS members Gene and Jan Erickson from Good Thunder (south of Mankato) have a small business called Maple River Gardens specializing in hostas but they also carry some other perennials. Hans Hansen's Shady Oaks Nursery in Waseca also gave them their start. They are now developing new hostas of their own. Check out their website mrg--hostas.com with its amazing deals. Open by appointment, they would love to see some Shades of Green Hosta Society friends!

Feel free to contact Jan Gerke (janice.gerke@gmail.com) or VaLinda Wondrasch (spice4valinda@gmail.com) with any questions.

Canceled, Postponed, Not Sure???

The times, they are changing, there is no doubt. The SOGHS board and its numerous committees worked all year to ensure membership opportunities to socialize, learn, see, do and buy all things hosta. But then...Covid-19, and, we, like the rest of the world, were forced to change our calendar to maintain social distancing and community health, but we haven't folded up the shop. In fact, we are rolling up our sleeves to figure out ways to keep interest and to offer something to membership, things like social distancing, hosta sales, a year of free membership and plans for future conventions and meetings! Thank you for your patience, understanding and for continuing to support our SOGHS family. - **Mary Lanier, newsletter editor**

JUNE HOSTA SALE AT FAIRGROUNDS - CANCELED

CARPOOL TOURS, MEMBER GARDEN TOURS AND BUS TOURS - CANCELED

AUGUST OVERNIGHT TOUR - TO BE DETERMINED

FOUNDERS' DAY PICNIC - TO BE DETERMINED

OUR GIFT TO YOU

At the last Board Meeting, at the suggestion of Webmaster Dave Cocker, the Board decided that since this year is a loss in member benefits, we will extend everyone's Membership by 1 year.



SOGHS is lending a helping hand to the Friends School Plant Sale Fundraiser that was canceled in the Twin Cities due to Covid 19. We are hoping you as members will lend a SOGHS helping hand by buying some of the inventory. The organizers had already acquired plants for this huge sale. The Friends School Plant Sale raises money for their financial aid program to help students attend this private Quaker school. SOGHS has purchased 96 Hosta to help out the organizers of this event. SOGHS is able to offer them to **you** at a discount right now!



Check out the list of 10 Hosta varieties offered and follow the **How to Order Directions**. There is no limit to how many plants you may order of each type **EXCEPT Hosta Glad Rags** which will be one per household. Pick-ups will be done May 27 and May 28 at Paula Zollman's home with social distancing in mind. Please refer to ordering page for more details! Some varieties Hosta will sell out quickly to those **ordering early birds** so don't delay your order of Hosta Happiness!

Sue Martino, Paula Zollman, Jen Mageras 2020

SEE FRIENDS PLANT DESCRIPTIONS, PAGES 5 and 6

BONUS PLANT, PAGE 7 HOW TO ORDER, PAGE 8

FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS



H. 'Age of Gold' (10 plants)

Forms a giant clump, 2' tall x 5' wide of large, round, corrugated leaves... looking like someone placed the sun in your woodland garden. Hosta 'Age of Gold' is sure to become an industry standard for giant gold hostas. Size: Giant



H. 'Beyond Glory' (10 plants) \$7

This sport of 'Old Glory' goes above and beyond its parent with its attractive, very wide, dark green margins. The margins measure about 3" at the widest point, more than twice the width than those of 'Old Glory'. Pale lavender flowers appear above the clump in midsummer. Size: Large



H. 'Glad Rags' (6 plants) \$10

A unique **Hosta**, **Glad Rags** lights up the shade garden with its heart shaped leaves with large brilliant yellow margins and contrasting dark green centers. In spring its leaves emerge with a chartreuse margin. The margins transform to brilliant gold, then to ivory in late summer. Size: Medium



H. 'Waterslide' (10 plants) \$7

'Waterslide' has wavy, ruffled leaves with heavy substance. The blue, rippled leaves look like water splashing in the shade garden, and hold their blue color well into the summer season. Lavender flowers appear on proportionate flower scapes in late summer. Size: Medium



H. 'Robert Frost' (10 plants) \$7

Hosta

'Robert Frost' is breathtaking in spring when the frosty blue-green leaves are bordered by a nice yellow margin. Heart-shaped blue-green leaves with creamy-white margins adorn this beautiful mounding hosta. Size: Large



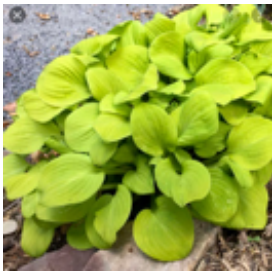
H. 'Blueberry Muffins' (10 plants) \$5

Medium-sized mound of blue foliage with thick leaves that are puckered and slightly rippled. The petioles are speckled with mauve which creates a nice contrast with the blue leaves. Good grower that will always look good with very nice blue color. . Size: Medium



H. 'Seducer' (10 plants) \$7

The foliage of the Shadowland Seducer Hosta is sophisticated. It has large leaves that grow in mounds. They are dark green with a gold margin with a touch of white near the center. In the summer lavender-white flowers bloom from its scape.



H. 'Sun Mouse' (10 plants) \$7

Hosta 'Sun Mouse' shows great vigor and forms a 6" tall x 18" wide clump of thick, slightly wavy, golden foliage. Each 3" long x 2" wide leaf emerges a nice gold and holds the color well. The clumps are topped with attractive heads of medium lavender flowers. Size: Mini



H. 'Diamond Lake' (10 plants) \$5 Attractive, heart-shaped, thick and heavily corrugated blue leaves have wavy margins. Large-sized clump with large leaves, they can get up to 9 inches wide by 11 inches long. Pale lavender flowers appear in early to midsummer.

Size: Large



H. 'Etched Glass' (10 plants) \$7

There are hostas, and then there's 'Etched Glass' that brings style and refinement to your hosta garden. This sport of 'Stained Glass' has wider margins and thicker leaves than the parent. Very wide, dark green margins contrast with a bright, brilliant yellow margin. Between the margin and the centers is a light green pattern. Margins have puckering when the plant is mature.

Don't miss out



BONUS FUNDRAISER

(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 Hosta to SOGHS for 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 show just one summer of growth. 'Truly An Honor' will ***never*** be marketed, so this is an ***exclusive plant*** to have in your garden! Act now! SOGHS has only 8 potted plants ready to be still scooped up by members. Don't wait, so you don't miss out!

Price is \$20.00

Only 8 Left



Make check out to SOGHS

Mail Check to: Sue Martino

40437 Ryans Bay RD
Zumbro Falls, MN 55991

Pick-up is at Paula Zolman's
driveway by the garage

2317 Lenwood Drive SW

Rochester

May 27 or May 28
1:00 p.m. to 7:00
p.m.



HOW to ORDER

1. Email or phone your plant requests to Jenifer Mageras at: magera.jenifer@gmail.com or #507-259-0227
2. Jen will confirm that your requested plants are still available by an email or a phone call.
3. After your confirmation from Jen, mail your check , made out to SOGHS, to Jenifer Mageras at: 3802 4th Place NW Rochester, MN 55901
4. Safe Social Distancing Pick-ups will be at Paula Zollman’s Home, 2317 Lenwood Drive SW Rochester, Wednesday, May 27 or Thursday, May 28 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Plants Will Be Placed Near the Garage

Please look for the plants that have your name on them in pots near Paula’s Garage
 If you have a HOTY order to pick up look for your labeled baggie of bareroot hostas.

Your order will be entered into a drawing for a door prize hosta!

H. ‘Age of Gold’	\$7	(10 available)
H. ‘Beyond Glory’	\$7	(10 available)
H. ‘Glad Rags’	\$10	(6 Available) 1 per Household
H. ‘Water Slide’	\$7	(10 available)
H. ‘Seducer’	\$7	(10 available)
H. ‘Robert Frost’	\$7	(10 available)
H. ‘Sun Mouse’	\$7	(10 available)
H. ‘Blueberry Muffin’	\$5	(10 available)`
H. ‘Diamond Lake’	\$5	(10 available)
H. ‘Etched Glass’	\$7	(10 available)
H.’Truly An Honor’	\$20	(8 Available) - <u>Photo, Page 7</u>



Design a Logo for 2022 MRHS Convention

The 2022 MRHS Convention Committee already has been hard at work planning for the Convention that will be hosted by SOGHS and held July 7-9, 2022, at the Apache Hotel in Rochester. The Committee is developing a detailed schedule of events and identifying individual committee chairs and committee members.

Hosting the Convention is a major undertaking and requires the help and support of **ALL SOGHS** members. We are encouraging members to consider offering time or talent to serve as a Committee Chair or volunteer, and/or offering their garden for consideration for the Member Garden-tour, and asking members to contact us by phone or email with their area of interest.

SOGHS members embraced the contest to pick a “theme” for the Convention—an astounding 150 entries were submitted by 25 individual and creative members!

All entries were considered anonymously and each judged on its own merit as the Convention theme. After careful consideration and unanimous agreement, the Convention theme chosen was **Hosta Dreamin’**. Congratulations to **Chris Parisi** who submitted the winning entry! The winning theme and its submitter were announced at the February 6th SOGHS Member Meeting.

Now that we have a theme for the Convention, we’ve launched a new contest to choose a logo for the Convention. The contest is open to all SOGHS members. We’re seeking a unique and innovative design to identify and promote the Convention and incorporate the Convention theme.

The Contest entry form and details are available at <https://www.soghs.org> (Member’s Only Section). Due to the many COVID-19-related cancellations, the deadline for the Contest has been extended to September 1, 2020. Please put your creative genius to work and design a LOGO for the 2022 MRHS Convention!

Joe Parisi and Kathy Rustad,
Convention Co-chairs

Entry Form
On Page 10

SOGHS 2022 MRHS Convention Logo Contest

Official Entry Form

NOTE: This "fillable" form can be completed on your computer or electronic device by typing into the displayed fields. Then save and/or print the completed form to submit with your entry.

Design a graphic that will be the symbol of the 2022 MRHS Convention. It can contain an image/drawing, a stylized name or symbol, and/or words or letters.

Contest Guidelines:

1. Design a logo that visually identifies the Convention and incorporates its theme: Hosta Dreamin'.
2. The logo should be:
 - Recognizable and distinctive for identifying the Convention
 - Simple and visually appealing
 - Memorable/impactful, capturing attendees' attention and the Convention spirit.
3. Artwork doesn't have to be professional—your ideas are need!
4. Artwork should be original and not contain copyrighted text or characters.
5. Contest is open to all SOGHS members in good standing.
6. Submit as many entries as you like.
7. Entries must be received by Tuesday, March 17, 2020 (St. Patrick's Day).
8. Winner will be announced at the April 02, 2020 SOGHS Member Meeting.
9. Contest prize is the prestige of having your entry assigned to the Convention, and a \$50 VISA gift card! (Thanks to the SOGHS Board!)
10. Submit your design electronically or by mail:
 - Submit electronically by emailing your design as an attachment (jpeg, tiff, png, pdf, pptx, ppt, psd, doc, or docx) to: SOGHS2022Convention@gmail.com,
 - Submit by mail by sending your design on an 8.5 x 11 sheet of white paper to: SOGHS 2022 Convention Contest, c/o Joe/Chris Parisi, 3200 Wright Rd SW, Rochester, MN 55902

Name _____

Address 1 _____

Address 2 _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

email _____

Phone XXX-XXX-XXXX: _____

Good luck and get designing--Enter early and enter often!ENTRY DEADLINE EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

Entry Deadline Extended to Sept. 1, 2020

Growing Hostas from Seed – Part 2

Amidst all the negative news concerning Co-Vid 19, we thought we'd send a pleasant story your way. This comes from our president, Kathy Rustad.

In the Spring edition of the Hosta Leaf, I told you about my venture into hosta seed growing. I thought I would give you a brief update as to how my little hosta seed babies are doing so far.

Here is a picture of my little darlings on April 24th, 2020



I started out with 12 cups of seeds and am down to these 6. They are: 2 - Swoosh x Open Pollinator (OP), 2 - Gold Sport of Coalminer, 2 – Niagara Falls x OP.

Adding to my lessons learned, I should have started these little darlings in something with a plastic dome cover to help keep them moist. My alternative was to place my hosta seed babies in a plastic bag covered with a towel. This helped speed the germination process but they may have done better in a plastic dome tray. Which brings me to my second lesson learned, keep the room at a stable temperature and humidity. I struggle with this in our house. Thanks to my husband who added a room humidifier and heater, it helped but these two units were not meant to stay on 24x7. For now, this is what I have and slowly but surely these little tykes are coming along.

Stay tuned for the continuing saga of the hosta seed babies adventure.

Kathy Rustad

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All events for May and June are canceled except for hosta sale pickups from orders places for HOTYs and orders placed to help the Friends Sale. Check the website, SOGHS.org, for updates.