



Volume 19, Issue 6

July, 2018



President Diana Plahn

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello All:

First off, I'd like to say thank you to our open gardens from the 24th: Janelle & Jim Criscione and Martha & Paul LaFata. Both gardens were beautiful and appeared weed less (thanks to their owners' hard work).

Our next hosta society event coincides with the Midwest Regional Hosta Tour. Some of us will be at one or the other.

The next society event is the member's plant auction. If you haven't done so, please check your garden for any overgrown hostas that you can dig and divide for this event. Divide a part of expanding perennials and pot it up for July. Ted Piekutowski is in charge of this event, so if you have any questions please ask Ted. Also I'm sure he would like volunteers to help at this event also. You can bring friends to buy hostas at this auction (preferably with checkbook in hand). Let's get some more people hooked on hostas.

Diana

Welcome new members!

Chris and Diane Fawcett of St. Louis, MO
Sherry Liu of Affton, MO
Shane Mills of St. Louis, MO
Joe Rhodes of Des Peres, MO

We hope that you will join us on July 15 for our annual Members Plant Auction. It's a great time to meet fellow hosta lovers and maybe take home that plant you've always wanted.

2018 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 12-14

MRHS Regional Convention
Peoria, IL

July 15

Members Plant Auction
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center

September 16

Meeting with Speaker Mark Glenshaw: Owls
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center

October 21

Meeting with Speaker Anne Kirkpatrick: Hydrangea
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center

November 11

Board Meeting
2:00 PM, home of President Diana Plahn

December 2

Holiday Party
TBA

Note: There is no newsletter published in August.



2017 auction selections

Member Plant Auction

July 15, 1:00 PM

Hard to believe, but it really is that time of year. After the drought of last fall and winter and then the vicious start of spring, maybe some of your hostas didn't make it. The remedy is just weeks away.



2017 auctioneer –
Pam Wolkowitz

The Member Plant Auction serves two purposes. It is one of two fund raisers for our Society. Proceeds from the auction help pay for speakers, for the publication of this newsletter and for other activities held throughout the year.

Secondly, this is the opportunity for you to obtain specimens that may not be available at local nurseries. All the plants are donated by your fellow members and grown in their gardens. Usually there is a wide selection – greens, golds, blues, plain and variegated; large, small and in between; smooth, puckered, rippled, glossy or dull. There's something that's sure to appeal to you and fill in those spaces caused by a hard winter or hungry voles.

Come one and all. Bring your checkbook. Bid for a plant that will shine in your garden.

June Garden Walk Janelle and Jim Criscione



A peaceful front yard seating area welcomes guests to the beautiful Webster Groves home of Janelle and Jim Criscione. Hostas fill the bed backing the wrought iron benches.



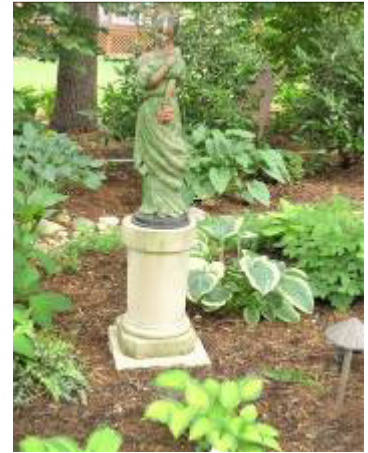
Beveled glass windows accent the side of what was once a chicken coop. Janelle now uses the structure as a tool shed.



A pink flowering hydrangea anchors the back border. Several large Blue Atlas Cedars and a beautiful gold redbud highlight other beds.



Members stopped to chat and share their impressions of this beautiful space - wonderful conifers, lots of different companion plants, a vegetable garden and a relaxing patio. We thank Janelle and Jim for inviting us in.



Many figurines, some classical in appearance as this elegant lady, others whimsical, are nestled in the beds.



We weren't the only ones appreciating Janelle's garden. This little fella was happily munching on the hostas ignoring Janelle's protestations.



Janelle prefers her rabbits to be of the concrete variety. She has a childhood fondness for these creatures although not when dining on her hostas.

June Garden Walk Martha and Paul LaFata



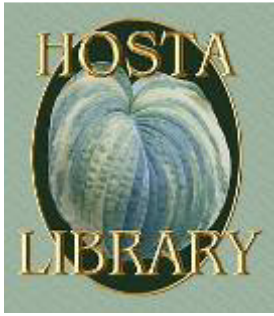
A border of hostas and their companions guides the eye around and up the side of the LaFata's garden. Halfway up this sloping yard is a hillside that once contained rocks, railroad ties, euonymus and overgrown plants. Martha painstakingly removed all and replaced them with a collection of hostas, peonies, grasses, conifers and small trees. In the upper yard a stand of golden grass has an oriental feel.



The upper yard has more sun. In the middle are two large raised beds which contain vegetables and herbs. The picture at right is a view of the side yard looking down from the upper reaches.



Members congregated at different spots to share their gardening experiences. After touring this beautiful space they relaxed on the patio and nibbled on snacks they had brought to share with the others. We thank Martha and Paul for giving us this opportunity to visit a truly wonderfully created and maintained garden.



Hosta Library – A Fountain of Information

www.hostalibrary.org

The Hosta Library is a large on-line resource created in 1999 by Bob Axmear and Carol Brashear. It now contains over 25,000 photos of more than 7,500 hosta cultivars and species. Over the years links to other topics of interest have been added, Recently links to the registration information for each hosta was also added.



The home page of this web site is divided into two main sections. The top part features icons labelled A to Z and Species. To search for a particular cultivar, click on the icon for the first letter of the hosta's name. Suppose I was interested in obtaining information about a new hosta named *H. 'Bam Bam Blue'*. I would click on the icon for letter 'B'. This displays a second page which lists cultivar names on the left side of the screen. Click on 'Bam Bam Blue'. A number of photos of this hosta will display on the right. In the upper left corner of the first photo is another link labelled 'MyHostas.net Database'. Clicking this will bring up the registration information for the hosta.

The bottom portion of the home page contains links to topics of interest to a hosta lover. Some are very technical in nature such the discussion under 'Genetics'. Others like 'Dividing', 'Seed Growing' and 'Hosta Definitions' are quite educational.

Want a list of hostas having a vase-like growing habit or hostas that have red petioles, look at 'Rawson's Lists'.

If you are interested in finding a seller of a particular hosta, explore the link labelled 'Find My Hosta'. If you want the web sites of different hosta sellers, click on 'Links'.

<u>SEND US PHOTOS</u>	<u>LIBRARY HISTORY</u>	<u>HOSTA REGISTRATION</u>
<u>MYHOSTAS.BE</u>	<u>HVX INFO</u>	<u>RAWSON'S LISTS</u>
<u>LIBRARY LIST</u>	<u>PUBLICATIONS</u>	<u>REGISTRATION FORM</u>
<u>2016 HOSTA FINDER</u>	<u>FIND MY HOSTA</u>	<u>AHS FACEBOOK PAGE</u>
<u>COMPARISONS</u>	<u>DEVELOPING HOSTAS</u>	<u>SEED GROWING</u>
<u>HYBRIDIZING</u>	<u>GENETICS</u>	<u>COMMERCIALIZATION</u>
<u>DIVIDING</u>	<u>HOSTA SHIPPING</u>	<u>COLOR WHEELS</u>
<u>LABELS</u>	<u>POLLEN STORAGE</u>	<u>HOSTA DEFINITIONS</u>
<u>GARDENWEB FORUM</u>	<u>HOSTACOLLECTIE.BE</u>	<u>LEMKE DATA</u>
<u>LINKS</u>	<u>PAUL ADEN STORY</u>	<u>HALLSON FORUM</u>

Click on the box labelled 'Articles' for discussions about hosta culture, pests and diseases, hybridizing and more.

Whether you are trying to identify a specimen in your garden, want information on a good way to divide a hosta (for our upcoming Member Auction maybe), or just want to relax in the cool of your home and read about your favorite plant, this is an ideal place to begin. Each year more and more photographs will be added. The registration material will be expanded. I am sure more topics will be listed under the 'Articles' icon.

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St. Louis Hosta Society Membership Information

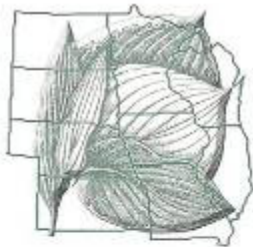
Contact: Melissa Byrd
117 Gunston Hall Drive
St. Charles, MO 63304
mabyrd68@gmail.com

Dues: \$7 per year, \$18 for three years
Family or Individual

Meetings held at **1:00 PM** at the **Creve Coeur Government Center, 300 N. New Ballas, 63141** (between Ladue Road and Olive), unless otherwise noted.

Visit our Web site: www.stlouishosta.org

Visit us on Facebook, St. Louis Hosta Society



Midwest Regional Hosta Society

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society represents Region 5 of the American Hosta Society that includes 9 states.

Membership in the society is \$20.00 for 2 years, which includes two issues per year of the newsletter.

Please mail a check made payable to **MRHS** to:

Barbara Schroeder,
Treasurer
1819 Coventry Dr.
Champaign, IL 61822

along with Name, Address, phone, and email (Most correspondence is by email). For questions email MRHS.Hosta@gmail.com.



AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

Members receive three issues per year of The Hosta Journal, which includes color photographs of hostas, reports on national conventions, scientific information concerning current research pertaining to hostas, and advertisements of interest to hosta families.

Membership checks should be made out to "AHS," and mailed to:

Sandie Markland, AHS Membership Secretary
P O Box 7539
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948

Dues for one year are \$30 for an individual and \$34 for a family. For more information, visit the AHS website: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/>