



Volume 16, Issue 5

June, 2015



Phyllis Weidman President

Photo by Kelly Hall

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

For years I have been telling groups that the number one food for hostas is water. Well this spring has proven my point. Our hostas are bigger than they have been in years. Lots of water and no 100° weather will do that. Hope you are having the same problem.

June is the month of conventions: The American Hosta Convention is in North Carolina and the Midwest Regional Hosta Convention is in Iowa. You all should try going once.

There are many reasons to go: meet all those hosta people you hear others talking about, learn new things at the lectures, buy hostas you cannot get at our local nurseries, come home excited about how great your garden can be. Once you go, you will want to go again! It will be exciting to invite the attendees to St. Louis for the 2016 AHS Convention.

One event at a convention that is enjoyed by all is the tour gardens. Big or small, lots of hostas or not, every garden is different. The host gardener has worked extremely hard getting the garden ready for your visit.

Locally, we are having garden walks. We watched the skies, the rain passed, and the hosta people came to Sharon and Mike Schmitt's beautiful garden. Sitting around in a beautiful garden talking with other hosta friends cannot be beat. Sorry if you missed it!

Make plans to come to the next garden walk on June 28th.

Phyllis

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 18-20	American Hosta Society National Convention Raleigh, North Carolina
June 28	Garden Walk in Member's Garden Home of Phyllis and Jim Weidman
July 9-11	Midwest Region Hosta Society Convention Dubuque, Iowa
July 19	Members Plant Auction 1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
September 20	Meeting with Speaker Lee Coats 1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
October 18	Meeting with Speaker TBA 1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
November TBA	Board Meeting TBA
December 6	Holiday Party TBA
June 13-19, 2016	American Hosta Society National Convention ST. Louis, MO

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Karen and Philip Chancellor of Eureka, MO
Gregg and Rebecca Goble of Augusta, MO
Barb Haberer of Highland, IL
Wayne Lewis of St. Louis, MO
Melissa Losos of St. Louis, MO
Jeannine Myer of Edwardsville, IL
Jeff Stroud and Dennis Range of St. Louis, MO

It is exciting to have so many new members in our society. We hope that all of you will join us at the Weidman's garden walk and the July member auction. For all members, new or old timers, these events are the perfect time to sit and chat and get to know one another.



Garden Walk and Meeting

June 28, 1:00 PM

**Beautiful home of Phyllis and Jim Weidman
508 Essex Point, Ct
Kirkwood, MO 63122**

Ever wonder where all those beautiful leaves that Phyllis and Jim bring to Society leaf shows and events grow? This is your opportunity to see beautifully grown hostas.

Years of amending the rocky and clay soil of their suburban home has resulted in a stunning garden. Their large hosta collection lives happily under and amongst the huge trees, dwarf conifers and Japanese maples. A dry creek, flanked by hostas and a variety of perennials, meanders down the hillside to the right of their home. Newly constructed stone stairs reach the sun portions of their steep backyard garden.

The Weidmans have recently re-landscaped their entire front yard. Major work involved the removal of an over-grown crabapple, the relocation of the steps and walk leading to their front porch and the removal of miles of lirope and H. 'Lemon Lime'. Come see what has replaced all this vegetation. Also view the latest weapon in their constant war with Bambi's kin.

Directions:

- From I-270 take the Dougherty Ferry Road exit.
- Go east on Dougherty Ferry Road about 1.1 miles to W Essex Ave
- Turn right on W. Essex Ave and continue about 0.3 miles to Pointe Essex Ct.
- Turn right on Pointe Essex Ct and continue to 508 which is on the left.



photo from Google

AHS Research Shows Promising Results

An article written by Cindy Deutekom and Rob Mortko appeared in the most recent issue, Volume 46 Number 1, of *The Hosta Journal*. It summarizes the results of the first year of a two-year study of foliar nematodes in hostas. These small worms which destroy leaf tissue are a plague to gardeners in warmer climates.

The study determined that "nematodes do not overwinter as eggs either in the soil or in hosta plant tissue. They overwinter only as juvenile and adult worms." Yet to be determined are the exact conditions which affect the migration of the nematodes from the soil to the plant leaf. The study is focusing on temperature and relative humidity. This determines the best time to apply treatments.

The study tested the effectiveness of several chemicals and boiling water. Boiling water and two compounds, NemaKill and Pylon, showed promise. For the home gardener boiling water is not practical and Pylon is available only commercially. But NemaKill may be our answer. It is an organic product containing natural cinnamon, clove and thyme oil.

In another year, we should have some answers. Stay tuned!



photo courtesy of Ginny Mueller

2015 Pond-O-Rama Tour June 27-28

The St. Louis Water Gardening Society (SLWGS) will present its 15th annual water garden and pond tour, Pond-O-Rama, **Saturday, June 27 and Sunday, June 28 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day.**

The 2015 tour has 45 private gardens owned and maintained by Society members. These gardens are located throughout the St. Louis metropolitan area including Illinois. The self-guided tour is arranged each day by geographic location. Several members of the St. Louis Hosta Society will have their gardens open for this event.

The water features range from spectacular high, thundering waterfalls to quiet streams. There are “pond less waterfalls” that simply disappear at the termination of the falls, and a number of new rain-recovery systems that make the storage and use of rainfall practical. Many of the SLWGS members have new water gardens to share, and many have enhanced their current ponds and gardens into outdoor rooms and quaint woodland spaces. This year you will see some very unique and creative designs in waterfalls and ponds, gorgeous koi fish, and fantastic gardens.

In addition to their water features, many of the hosts are avid gardeners who maintain beautiful landscapes filled with perennials, annuals and shrubs. They will be available and delighted to share information and answer questions about their gardens, their water features, their fish, and their beautiful plants. If you are thinking of adding water to your own garden or you simply enjoy beautiful landscapes and a weekend filled with beauty this tour is for you!

This event provides funds for the St Louis Water Gardening Society to continue their civic project to plant and maintain the reflecting pools at the Jewel Box in Forest Park, and for other society activities.

Tickets covering both days of the tour are \$15 each and are available at retail stores and garden centers throughout the metropolitan area. The tour ticket booklet gives location addresses, descriptions and driving directions.

For more information, view the SLWGS website www.slwgs.org, or contact St. Louis Hosta Society member

Virginia (Ginny) Mueller, POR Coordinator, Publicity
(314) 808-7000, vcmueller16@hotmail.com

(Editor Note – this article contains verbiage taken from the 2015 Pond-O-Rama press release)



2015 MRHS Convention 'A Hosta Rendezvous'

Need a break this summer? How about a long weekend in cool (cooler) Iowa. Think about joining the Weidmans and the Pooses in Dubuque. It's not too late. The convention runs from July 9-11. Registration accepted until June 15.

For information see the Midwest Region Hosta Society website: <http://www.midwesthostasociety.org/>



Creative display designed by Ted Piekutowski welcomed buyers.

**MoBot
Plant Sale
May 2-3**



Jean Hudson, Pam Wolkowitz, Jeanine Fassero and Martha Lafata price the donated plants.



Pat Payton and Mary Jones look up plant prices while Marian Murphy arranges them in order.



Barb Moreland arranges the hostas in alphabetical order.



Spence Sorenson and Ted Piekutowski explain how easy it is to grow hostas.



Hosta leaves gathered by Phyllis Weidman show their different sizes, textures and colors.



Open the doors, we're ready!



The customers surged in.

May Garden Walk

Sharon and Mike Schmitt



Whimsical pieces enliven the terrace.

The threat of rain did not keep members from enjoying the hospitality of Sharon and Mike Schmitt. Thank you for opening your garden to us.



Let us remember those that are gone.



Mike and Sharon greet members.

We marveled at the many pots of beautifully grown hostas. Golden 'Lemon Meringue' hangs from a tree while 'Barbara Ann', 'Korean Snow' and 'Formal Attire' flank the stairs to their back door. Large hostas, heucheras and lilies soften the back of the house and side yards.



How relaxing under the pergola!

Beautiful Tranquility!



Hanging pots display hostas at eye level for easy viewing.



Freida Wiese, Karen Frey and Laurey King found a shady place to chat.



Pots of beautiful hostas are grouped along the edge of their patio.



Marjorie King, Jan Sorenson and Catherine Mayer enjoy the afternoon under the pergola. (Surprise! no rain).



Members admire the waterfall and pond that is a focal point for the Schmitt's steep backyard.

St. Louis Hosta Society Officials

Phyllis Weidman – President
314-965-7027
Pow1031@gmail.com

Secretary
Position open

Sharon and Mike Schmitt – Hospitality
314-719-9305
Sharons39@aol.com

Dave Poos – Vice-President
314-821-1622
david.poos@att.net

Cindy Michniok – Treasurer
314-434-0946
Cmichniok@gmail.com

Melissa Byrd – Webmaster
mabyrd68@gmail.com

Joan Poos – Newsletter Editor
314-821-1622
david.poos@att.net

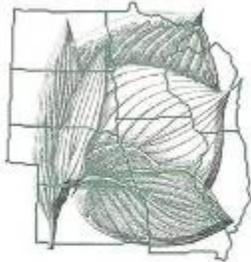
St. Louis Hosta Society Membership Information

Contact: Cindy Michniok
14300 Quiet Meadow Ct.
Chesterfield, MO 63017
Cmichniok@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



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/>