



Volume 18, Issue 1

February, 2017



President Diana Plahn

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Hosta Lovers:

First, I would like to wish all of you a Happy and Prosperous New Year of gardening.

I hope you are surviving the winter months well. I'm sure a lot of you have made hosta purchases for spring delivery, along with other companion plants to spread the joy around. Craig and I always enjoy looking at catalogs and making wish lists. Some get purchased, some get passed on, but the process is usually entertaining. Sometimes, it gets a little expensive too!

Our next event is our February potluck dinner. Karen Frey, our Hospitality Chairperson will be asking for your help in bringing side dishes and desserts to round out our meal.

The year's calendar will also be published in this newsletter, thanks to our Newsletter Editor, Joan Poos. Our Webmaster, Melissa Byrd (and new Treasurer) will post the November board meeting minutes on the web site, if it's not already there.

Our December Christmas Party/Reception was a new idea we tried this year. Karen and Greg Frimel graciously opened their home to us, and a good time was had by all who came. The weather was not inclement so that did not affect turnout. Please think about whether this is an event you want to continue versus the Christmas Party at Creve Coeur in December of this year. I will be asking for your feedback in the future.

Hope to see you all at the Potluck on February 19th at the Creve Coeur Community Center.

Diana

2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- February 19** **Annual Potluck Luncheon**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- March 19** **Meeting Jean Ponzi speaking on composting**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- April 29** **Work Day at the Missouri Botanical Garden**
8 AM, Missouri Botanical Garden, AHS Display Garden beds
- April 30** **Vendor Day and Club Plant Pick-up**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- May 5-6** **Plant Sale at the Missouri Botanical Garden**
Setup May 5, 4:00 PM – we are done
Sale May 6, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Missouri Botanical Garden
- May 21** **Garden Walk/Meeting**
1:00 PM, Home of President Diana Plahn
- June 7-10** **AHS National Convention**
Indianapolis, IN
- June 18** **Garden Walk/Meeting**
1:00 PM, Location TBA
- June 22-24** **MRHS Regional Convention**
Lenexa, Kansas (Kansas City area)
- July 16** **Members Plant Auction**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- September 17** **Meeting with Speaker TBA**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- October 15** **Meeting with Speaker TBA**
1:00 PM, Creve Coeur Government Center
- November 12** **Board Meeting**
TBA
- December 3** **Holiday Party**
TBA



**Time to forget the ice and snow of winter.
Let's get the gardening season off to a great start.
Join your fellow hosta lovers for an afternoon of delicious food,
lively chatter and talk of upcoming hosta happenings.**

FEBRUARY POTLUCK LUNCHEON MEETING

Sunday, February 19 at 1:00 PM, doors open at 12:30 for socializing
Creve Coeur Government Center
300 N. New Ballas, St Louis 63141

The first Society meeting of 2017 will be our annual Potluck Luncheon at Creve Coeur Government Center. Our Hospitality Chair, Karen Frey will supply submarine sandwiches and beverages. Members please bring the following: if your last name begins A-J, salad or side dish; K-Z, dessert.

Stay for a short business meeting during which our president Diana Plahn will give a preview of all the exciting events scheduled for this year.

2017 Membership Dues Are Payable Now

If you receive the newsletter by postal mail, check the two-digit number appearing after your name on the address label of this newsletter. Your membership dues are paid through the end of the year appearing after your name. For example, if '16' appears after your name, your dues are paid through the 2016 year and are now payable for 2017.

If you receive the newsletter by e-mail, check the attachment for a list of all members and the year through which their dues are paid. For example, if '16' appears after your name in the attachment list, your dues are paid through the 2016 year and are now payable for 2017.

Dues are \$7 annually (individual or family) or \$18 for three years. Make checks payable to SLHS (St. Louis Hosta Society) and bring to the next meeting or send to:

**Melissa Byrd
117 Gunston Hall Drive
St. Charles, MO 63304**

Let's Go Green - Give E-mail a Try

If you currently receive the SLHS newsletter by mail, please consider switching to email. Each year either printing prices or postal rates increase. The cost of producing and mailing a newsletter already exceeds the amount of your dues. The use of e-mail saves paper and will significantly reduce our club's printing and mailing costs. Plus you will receive the newsletter sooner with all those pictures in color.

If you would now prefer an e-mail copy instead of a postal copy send an e-mail to SLHS Newsletter Editor Joan Poos at david.poos@att.net. I will add your address to my email lists. If at any time, you change your e-mail address or wish to change your e-mail status, just send a message requesting the change to Joan at david.poos@att.net.

St. Louis Hosta Society Club Plants

Every year the St. Louis Hosta Society Club Plant Sale chairperson compiles a list of plants that can be purchased by members at wholesale prices. A small charge is added to the price to cover shipping or pickup costs. This is one of the perks of belonging to this society.

Enclosed at the end of this newsletter is the SLHS Club Plant Sale order form for 2017 and the hostas' pictures. Listed are fifteen selections from Rob Mortko's Made in the Shade Nursery. The selections include something for everyone – mini, small, medium, large and giant in combinations of green, blue and gold. If you are a postal newsletter recipient, the pictures will be at the February meeting or you can look them up at <http://www.hostaquy.com> or <http://www.hostalibrary.org>

Some plants are limited in number. Your requests will be filled in the order in which Ted receives your forms. Please fill out the form indicating the number of plants of each type that you wish to order. Total your order. Then bring the form with your money to the February meeting. **Make your check out to St. Louis Hosta Society.**

If you are unable to attend the meeting, mail the form with your check to our plant sale chairman Ted Piekutowski. **Deadline is February 19.**

**Ted Piekutowski
1269 Brenthaven Lane
Florissant, MO 63031**

This year all plants will be given out at the April 30 Vendor's Day.

Christmas Party – December 4



Hosts Karen and Greg Frimel greet fellow member Marian Murphy



Pam and Chester Wolkowitz, Joyce Fry, Jolly Ann Whitener, Carol Michaelis, Toni Boschert and Melissa Byrd sit around Karen's gaily decorated dining room table.



Carol Michaelis shares photos with Toni Boschert and Melissa Byrd.



Greg Frimel and David Maliagliati discuss the Frimel's recent trip to Africa.



Jolly Ann whitener



Diana Plahn and Dave Poos chat after sampling the wide assortment of goodies brought by members.



Toni Boschert joins members relaxing in the family room.



Delicious sweets to end the night!

Congratulations – Martha LaFata

On December 1, the City of Webster Groves awarded Martha an Award of Excellence in the Landscape Architecture category. The award recognizes owners, designers and builders for their achievements and contributions to their community in areas of architecture, historical preservation and landscape architecture.

In the last five years, Martha has transformed her Webster Groves yard into a place of beauty and serenity. Many, many hours of hard work and sweat went into dredging rocks, railroad ties, overgrown groundcovers and shrubs from a steep hillside behind her home. Martha added three large boulders to give the hillside more character. Then came the planting. The area now contains Japanese maples, tree peonies, Itoh peonies, junipers, conifers, iris and many hostas. Rocks from the hillside found new homes as part of a new front street border.

An under-utilized sunny area above the hillside is now the focus of another renovation project. Japanese maples, a weeping blue cedar, boxwoods and dogwoods are under-planted with hostas, ferns, gingers and other shade plants. The sunny center area contains a vegetable garden planted in raised beds.

This is an award well deserved.



Front street border



Portion of back hillside



Sunny area above hillside

Is your St. Louis Hosta Shirt wearing out? Don't have one, but would like to. Secretary Barb Moreland is the person to see.

Two styles are available. One is a lime green polo shirt (the only color offered), the other a long-sleeve denim blue shirt. Both styles will be embroidered with our Society logo. The shirts come in a wide range of men's and lady's size. Talk to Barb about prices and ordering information.

A GREAT NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Don't be a couch potato! Don't let life pass you by! Get up, get out, get moving! Join in the camaraderie! Get to know your fellow society members. Smile a bit or laugh a lot! Attend our meetings. Volunteer! There are lots of different activities scheduled this year – some require a shovel, others a phone, and many just a smile and a bit of your time.

Come out for the MoBot work day in April. Help with the MoBot Sale or the Member Auction. Donate plants to the auction and sale. Man the sales tables for an hour or two. Show off your beautiful yard - open your garden for an afternoon or evening of socialization. Give Diana a call and say "Sign me up, I would like to help."

SLHS Club Plant Sale – 2017



Name: _____ Telephone: _____ Check #: _____

<u>Description</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Cost</u>
American Gothic <Large (27"ht x 52"w)> (Russ O'Hara Hosta Society 2008) The 2010 MRHS Convention plant, this hosta has blue-green leaves with a showy wide creamy white margin. Thick substance. Moderate corrugation. \$14.50	_____	_____
Angel Falls <Med (16"ht x 25"w)> (Walters Gardens - NR) This semi-upright hosta, a sport of H. 'Niagara Falls', features cascading, green foliage with white centers. \$13.00	_____	_____
Dancing Queen <Med (18"ht x 30"w)> (Terpening 2005) This plant's bright yellow foliage is broad and wedge-shaped with a rippled edge. Leaves turn pale yellow later in the season. \$12.00	_____	_____
First Blush <Small (14"ht x 28"w)> (Solberg NR) This new introduction features green leaves with red petioles that extend into the leaf blade, with a thin red margin around the leaf. In spring the leaf will "blush" red from the tip of the leaf down toward the base. The leaves remain red well into June. \$19.00	_____	_____
Fruit Punch <Med (17"ht x 49"w)> (Dean 1999) Bright yellow leaves with wavy margins change to chartreuse by late summer. The leaf stems and flower scapes are purple-red. Deep purple flowers edged in white bloom in late summer. \$12.00	_____	_____
Great Plains <Large (28"ht x 50"w)> (Brincka/Petryszyn 1994) This upright hosta features powdery blue, wavy, slightly cupped foliage which turns dark shiny green later in the season. Good substance. Dense clusters of near white flowers emerge in June. A good specimen plant. \$14.00	_____	_____
Hans <Med (21"ht x 32"w)> (Avant NR) This hosta has blue-green leaves with stunning cream centers and a narrow green pattern between the blue and green layers. Near white flowers emerge on white scapes in mid-summer \$14.50	_____	_____
Joy Ride <Med (16"ht x 36"w)> (Walters Gardens NR) Very wavy, blue green foliage is accented with a distinctly folded edge which shows off the white underside. An eye-catching clump. \$13.00	_____	_____
June Spirit <Small (14"ht x 26"w)> (Walters Gardens 2012) A sport of H. 'June Fever', its leaf has wide deep green margins with a chartreuse center which turns yellow in summer. \$13.00	_____	_____
Old Faithful <Large (28"ht x 50"w)> (Brincka/Petryszyn 1991) This hosta is a large vase-shaped mound of shiny apple green foliage. Slight corrugation. Red petioles. Late summer fragrant flowers. \$12.00	_____	_____
One Last Dance <Med (16"ht x 38"w)> (Walters Gardens NR) A sport of H. 'Dancing Queen', its leaves have dark green centers and very wide yellow margins that have an irregular pattern creating a feathery look. The intense yellow mellows to chartreuse later in the season. \$13.00	_____	_____
Rocket City <Small (10"ht x 24"w)> (Goodwin 2014) A tight yellow clump with upright leaves that are narrow and folded. Bloom scapes are like rockets erupting from the clump. Vigorous. \$14.50	_____	_____
Summer Music <Med (18"ht x 14"w)> (Klehm 1998) This specimen plant has leaves with large creamy white centers and green margins and areas of gold between. It needs bright morning sun..... \$11.50	_____	_____
Sun Mouse <Mini (6ht x 18w)> (Avent NR) A gold form of H. 'Blue Mouse Ears', it has thick, slightly wavy golden foliage that holds its color well. Great vigor. \$13.00	_____	_____
Titanic <Giant (31"ht x 70w)> (Hansen/Shady Oaks Nursery 1999) A majestic sport of H. 'Sum and Substance' whose leaves have wide gold margins and dark green centers. \$14.00	_____	_____

TOTAL _____



H. 'American Gothic'



H. 'Angel Falls'



H. 'Dancing Queen'



H. 'First Blush'



H. 'Fruit Punch'



H. 'Great Plains'



H. 'Hans'



H. 'Joy Ride'



H. 'June Spirit'



H. 'Old Faithful'



H. 'One Last Dance'



H. 'Rocket City'



H. 'Summer Music'



H. 'Sun Mouse'



H. 'Titanic'

St. Louis Hosta Society Officials

Diana Plahn – President
314-346-3007
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Barb Moreland - Secretary
314-961-4191
Bmore433@aol.com

Karen Frey – Hospitality

Ted Piekutowski – Vice-President
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Circustaz2@sbcglobal.net

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mabyrd68@gmail.com

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

St. Louis Hosta Society Membership Information

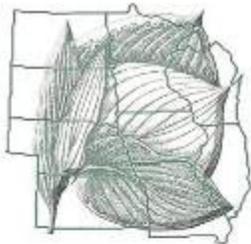
Contact: Melissa Byrd
117 Gunston Hall Drive
St. Charles, MO 63304
mabyrd68@gmail.com

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/>