



The Royal Standard

July 2017

WISCONSIN HOSTA SOCIETY
EST. 1991

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello hosta lovers!

Well, the mosquitoes are out with all the rain we have been getting. Gardens are sure looking great this year. But the weeds have been also very busy.

The national convention was wonderful in Indy. Marlene from Uniquely Hostas was there with me vending. Bob, Dawn and their son Justin were also there taking in their first convention. Justin entered the seed growers competition and did well. Dawn participated in the leaf show, and I was proud of her also with all her wins.

Hoping to see everyone here at Land of the Giants soon for the leaf show and competition. We are also catering the meal, so hope everyone comes hungry.

See you soon,

Jeff



2017 CALENDAR

WISCONSIN HOSTA SOCIETY

July 22 • **Leaf Competition at Land of the Giants Hosta Farm (LOTG).**

6PM LOTG, Milton, WI

WHS is catering the meal. Bring chairs and your best hosta leaves.

August 5 • **WHS Summer Potluck Picnic (2PM) and Garden Tours (11AM-1:30PM).**

Host: Marla Robinson. 2317 Gold Ct, Fitchburg
Tours:

Kim Sorbet (1867 Paddock Place, Fitchburg)

Cherith Bruckner (1889 Paddock Pl, Fitchburg)

Windi Fourdraine (922 Johnson Ave. Oregon)

August 17 • **Rotary Gardens Tour**

6PM, Janesville Rotary Gardens, led by Rotary Gardens Director Mark Dwyer

September 13 • **Membership Meeting**

6-8:30PM, Olbrich Gardens

"Game Night"

October 11 • **Membership Meeting**

6-8:30PM, Olbrich Gardens

Speaker: Kathy Sisson- hybridizer, Master Hosta Show Judge from Avon, CT.

October 14 • **Bonfire at LOTG Hosta Farm, aka "Phil-O's Giant Marshmallow Roast"**

3PM LOTG, Milton, WI

WHS is catering dinner. Bring chairs!

November 4 • **WHS Harvest Party**

1:00-4PM, Firefly Coffeehouse, Oregon, WI.

Fun, food and games to finish the season!

RECAP: WHS 2017 HOSTA AUCTION

SUNDAY JUNE 4, 2017

The past couple of years we have been tweaking the annual sale and auction. This year the decision was made to go strictly with an auction. The initial plan was to obtain some rare trees and plants in addition to hostas for this auction. Then the fiendish jumping worms made their presence known. Many societies made the decision to cancel their sales rather than risk spreading the jumping worms. There was even talk of cancelling the WHS auction. After much discussion it was decided to go through with the auction but to only obtain hostas that were either grown in a safe growing mix, or to remove all soil from the hosta and to repot.

This decision turned out to be a good one. The auction happened; approximately 50 people attended; it was a fast and entertaining two hours; and the Wisconsin Hosta Society made a few thousand dollars. The final total was a little more than \$2800. That is a lot of money for two hours of auction. But of course this would not be possible without the hosta donations. We as a club are very fortunate to have as members and friends several people who are always willing to donate hostas and to help out the Wisconsin Hosta Society. A very special Thank You to Marlene Rosenberg of Uniquely Hostas; Owen Purvis of Elim Gardens; Nancy and David Nedveck of The Flower Factory; Deb Sharpee of Norwegianwood; Marla Robinson; and Jeff Miller of Land Of The Giants Hosta Farm. Your generosity is very appreciated. — Phil Timm

(Editor's Note: We owe Phil a BIG Thank You for donating hostas AND coordinating this fundraiser!)



RECAP: WHS 2017 HOSTA AUCTION

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Quick Facts:

- There were 37 registered bidders; 25 made purchases.
- Number of plants sold: 64 hostas and 3 lilies.
- 22 hostas sold for \$50 or more.
- Top Earners: H. "Lakeside Flame Dance" (\$80), H. "Kikutti Iwa" (\$75), a Dorothy Benedict Seedling (\$70), H. "Diane Gray Dalton" (\$65), H. "Glad Rags" (\$65), H. "Silver Eagle" (\$65), and H. "Yellow Bonkers" (\$65)



UPCOMING WHS ELECTIONS

Our current President and Vice President's terms will be over soon, so it's time to accept nominations for these offices. (WHS Bylaws stipulate 2-year terms) Voting is held at the October meeting. Please consider running for office, since WHS needs member involvement on all levels to stay strong. Nominations will be accepted at the September meeting or you can also contact WHS Secretary Marlene Rosenberg (uniquelyhostas@yahoo.com) with nominations.

According to the Bylaws, the duties of President are to "preside at all meetings of the Society and the Board. He/she shall appoint all Committee Chairpersons and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee."

The Vice-President "shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of the President and shall serve as Chairperson of the Program Committee."



WHS Board Members

Jeff Miller
President
MrHosta@charter.net

Phil Timm
**Vice President &
Program Chair**
hostamanphil@yahoo.com

Marlene Rosenberg
Secretary
uniquelyhostas@yahoo.com

Marla Robinson
Treasurer & Membership
j_robinson@charter.net

Sandy O'Malley
Member-at-Large
4gardenstuff@gmail.com

LEAF COMPETITION AND DINNER

LAND OF THE GIANTS HOSTA FARM

6PM, SATURDAY, JULY 22

Grab your best hosta leaves and your appetite! It's time for the Leaf Showdown at the Land of the Giants Hosta Farm. WHS will furnish all supplies for the leaf display and is also catering the meal. Hope to see everyone there!

The Leaf Show will have 9 categories:

VARIEGATED EDGE

GREEN

RED STEM

VARIEGATED CENTER

YELLOW

MOST UNUSUAL

MISTED OR STREAKED

BLUE

LARGEST LEAF



ID Label/Stake Group Order

(Deadline July 25)

Plant Labels/Stakes can be ordered through the WHS. The labels are a sturdy plastic rectangle, black with white lettering, with fixative on back, 1 3/4" x 3 1/2". Stakes are galvanized wire, 13 inches tall with a plate to fit the label. Approximately \$2.50 each, depending on the total number ordered.

A label for any plant can be ordered. Maximum of two lines of text, e.g.

Rosa
"Meiebeth"

Va-Va Victoria

H. Lakeside
Dragonfly

Lists do not need to be alphabetized or organized in any particular order. They will be printed EXACTLY as you send them with spelling, punctuation marks as listed.

PLEASE SEND YOUR LISTS TO taylor.thereasa@gmail.com BY JULY 25.

I will let you know what your order total is when I've gotten all the orders. Stakes/labels will be delivered at the August 5 picnic. If you won't be attending the picnic I will happily work out an alternative delivery. Thanks!

---Terry Anne Taylor

WHS SUMMER POTLUCK PICNIC AND GARDEN TOURS

AUGUST 5, 2017

Marla Robinson is hosting this year's summer picnic on August 5. She is located at 2317 Gold Ct., Fitchburg, WI 53711. (Phone 608-273-3641)

As in past years, there will be additional gardens to tour before the picnic. WHS members Kim Sorbet (**1867 Paddock Place, Fitchburg**), Cherith Bruckner, (**1889 Paddock Place, Fitchburg**) and Windi Fourdraine (**922 Johnson Ave., Oregon**) will open their gardens for **pre-picnic tours from 11am-1:30 pm** on August 5.

The picnic starts at **2pm**. WHS is providing meat, water/soda, plates, utensils, and napkins. Members should bring a dish to pass and lawn chairs. There also will be a shade canopy set up over long tables and chairs.

WHS is providing plants for the picnic auction, but note that we will **NOT** be doing a plant swap. (so don't bring plants!) Instead, we are going to have a **Garden Art Swap**. It will run in the same format as past plant swaps, so if you want to pick early, you should bring something eye-catching! You can make it yourself or you can purchase it, just as long as it's garden art.

Please RSVP to Marla (j_robinson@charter.net or 608-273-3641) if you plan to attend the picnic. Family members are invited too. Hope to see you there!



2017 AHS CONVENTION TRIP REPORT

Bob and I and our son Justin attended this year's American Hosta Society Convention in Indianapolis, IN in June. This was our first time attending a Hosta Convention. Jeff Miller and Kathie Sisson told us prior to the Convention that in order to get the full experience of a Hosta Convention you not only need to attend but you need to exhibit also. At first I was not so sure about the exhibiting part. We had no clue what we needed to do and we would be competing against people who have had years of experience. It took some time and convincing but Jeff and Kathie finally talked us into exhibiting at the Convention. Jeff started working with Justin last fall teaching him how to start his own seeds and how to care for them. It was fun watching the Hostas grow in our four seasons porch over winter while it was snowing outside. Justin entered the First Year Seedling Class at the Convention and won 2nd Place. We were excited on how well he did. Owen & Sue Purvis won Reserve Best In Show Seedling with a beautiful yellow Hosta. Congrats!

Kathie worked with me and gave me tips on showing Hosta leaves at a Convention. I was shocked that showing leaves entailed a lot more than just cutting a leaf and showing it. I entered a total of 13 Hosta leaves at the Convention. When I entered the room at the Convention to start staging my leaves I felt very overwhelmed. I definitely stuck out as a rookie in the room against the others who you could tell have done this many times before. Once I had all of my leaves staged and was getting ready to enter them I did have several people come up to me and tell me that my Hosta leaves looked really good. At that time I guess they all knew something that I didn't know as I ended up doing extremely well in the show. I won nine 1st Place ribbons, three 2nd Place ribbons, and one 3rd Place ribbon. I also won 2 Class awards and 1 Section Award. I was extremely honored on how well my Hosta leaves did especially since there were over 500 leaves entered in the Show. We cannot thank Jeff and Kathie enough. They took time out of their busy schedules to work with us and helped prepare us to compete at the Convention. We would not have been this successful if it wasn't for Jeff and Kathie. Thank you both so much.

Also at the Convention there was a room with many vendors from across the Country selling Hostas, trees, garden art, pottery, etc. Marlene Rosenberg and Jeff Miller each had booths selling Hostas. They each did extremely well. They sold almost everything they took. It is no surprise as their booths and Hostas looked amazing. During the Convention we also attended several seminars and went on many garden tours. We went to 10 different gardens. Some of them were absolutely amazing. We felt like we were in Hosta Heaven.

We are glad that we had the opportunity to experience a Hosta Convention. We learned a lot, met new friends and had a wonderful and relaxing time.

Bob, Dawn and Justin Geske



2017 AHS CONVENTION TRIP REPORT

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One of
Dawn's
winning
entries!

Photo credits: Dawn Geske
and Marlene Rosenberg.



Corrections? Comments? Suggestions? Contact Newsletter Editor Windi Fourdraine at twotxaggies@frontier.com



“Summer afternoon. To me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language.”

— Henry James