

Publication of the Northern Illinois Hosta Society

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

You should be reading this at the most magical time of year for any gardener - when the garden is coming to life and when those planting labors invested last year are paying dividends as new plantings come up.

Our Sponsor Plant Program was a big hit this year. Virtually every single plant was spoken for and the quality of the plants supplied by Q&Z was terrific. By now everybody who ordered them is deciding where the new additions will grace their gardens.

Please do not forget the NIHS Cut Leaf Exhibit and hosta sale that takes place the weekend of May 28th and 29th at the Chicago Botanic Garden. It is a perfect opportunity to talk hostas as well as take in one of the really spectacular public gardens in the Chicago area. We are still looking for volunteers to help staff the event. If you can give us a couple of hours on Friday afternoon (set up) Saturday, or Sunday, you should call Dawn Anderson at (815) 344-1808. There is a free lunch voucher in it for you if you volunteer.

Last but not least, I want to mention the Annual Bus Trip we enjoy each summer. This year we are going to the Madison, Wisconsin area with a stop at one of my favorite nurseries, the Flower Factory. The trip takes place on July 23rd. Trip chairman John Van Ostrand tells me that the trip is already 75% booked. One of the activities planned for the trip is for the riders to vote on the best entries in a contest that I am announcing right now. Contestants must simply finish the following statement: YOU KNOW YOU ARE A TRUE HOSTAHOLIC WHEN....

Needless to say, we are looking for funny, creative, and original entries. You can send your entry to me either by email (lehorton85@ameritech.net) or by regular mail at 1N 735 Ingalton, West Chicago IL 60185. Entries must reach me by July 22nd. The participants in the bus trip (members and their guests) will vote to decide who wins. The prizes will be Sponsor Plants from this year specially reserved for this purpose. There will be a winner and a runner up. Winners need not be present to win, but we would sure like them to be. This is not the city of Chicago - one vote per person and no voting by dead people.

Before I sign off for this issue, I would like to congratulate Diana Stoll, a NIHS member who was recently recognized as an outstanding Master Gardener statewide. Nice work, Diana!

Lou Horton

2005 ACTIVITIES

March 13	Pot Luck & Swap, 1:00-4:00, Schaumburg
April 17	Sponsor Plant Pick-Up & Guest Speaker, Friendship Park, 1:00-3:00, DesPlaines
May 1	Hostatality Walk-About Garden Visit, 2:00-5:00, Riverwoods
May 28 & 29	Cut Leaf Exhibit, Public Display, Chicago Botanic Garden
June 2-4	Midwest Regional Hosta Society Convention, Springfield, MO
June 12	Hostatality Walk-About Garden Visit, 2:00-5:00, Oak Brook
June 14-18	American Hosta Society Convention, Cleveland, OH
July 10	Hostatality Walk-About Garden Visit, 2:00-5:00, Naperville
July 23	Bus Tour, Madison, WI
August 6	Foxfire Gardens 20 th Anniversary Celebration, Marshfield, WI
August 14	Hostatality Walk-About Garden Visit, 2:00-5:00, Orland Park
August 21	Plant Auction, 1:00-4:00, Hinsdale Community House (Public Invited)
September 11	Hosta Pot Luck, Plant Swap & Annual Membership Meeting, 1:00-4:00, Glen Ellyn

Northern Illinois Hosta Happenings

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President, Lou Horton, 1N375 Ingalton, West Chicago, IL 60185 (630) 293-7735

Vice President, John Van Ostrand, 21 Robin Crest Road, Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047-8965 (847) 438-1056

Hospitality, The Hosta Hussies

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Director-at-Large, Tom Micheletti, 23720 Hearthside Drive, Deer Park, IL 60010 (847) 540-8051

Director-at-Large, Jim Morrow, 3S630 Virginia, Warrenville, IL 60555 (630) 393-3439

2005 Perennial of the Year

Helleborus x hybridus (Lenten Rose) has been chosen by the Perennial Plant Association members as the 2005 perennial of the year.

Helleborus Orientalis is the botanical name of the very popular, early blooming shade perennial more commonly known as the Lenten Rose. It grows hardy around the world in temperate zones 4-7. In the English speaking world they are known as the Lenten Rose but are not roses at all. They are actually of the Buttercup family. Their flowers bloom during the Easter celebration of Lent, leading the vernal precession of color in the shady areas of thoughtful perennial gardens. When they are not in bloom they remain as lush ground cover throughout the year; and they are deer proof. This lush, hardy shade perennial is grown and prized by master gardeners throughout the world.

The helleborus is an outstanding companion plant for the hosta garden.

A Gardener's Creed

I want it.

I want it all.

I want it now.

If it will not grow in my area or is prohibitively expensive, I want it most of all.

I am perfectly willing to forego the necessities of life, such as food for my children, in order to have it.

I recognize my horticulture dependency.

I recognize your horticulture dependency.

I will willingly aid and abet your dependency as you will mine.

This makes me infinitely happy.

Any money saved by virtue of comparison shopping equals found money and therefore is not counted as spending.

If I have planted everything that I have already purchased, I must immediately buy more plants.





Photos taken in the Rogers' garden. Contact Peter Postlewaite (<u>Peter@ShadyPath.com</u>) to get your newsletter via email. Then you can see these beautiful pictures in color.

Peter will also send you reminder notices for the upcoming NIHS events so that you don't forget to come to our incredibly fun activities. May 2005 Issue 49

NEW MEMBERS

Earlina Lenz, Lemont Beth Capettini, Batavia Dennis & Connie Hood, Elgin

WELCOME

Hostatality Walk-About Garden Visits June 12th, July 10th, & August 14th

June 12th at Susan Beard's garden in Oak Brook, 2:00-5:00. Susan Beard's 3+ acre garden has been 34 years in the making. A landscape designer, Susan has used her ever-changing garden as a testing laboratory. The garden, which was featured in the 2004 September/October issue of *Chicagoland Gardening*, includes both sunny areas, as well as shady woodlands.

There are over 300 varieties of hostas, along with a collage of massed perennials. Large sunny perennial beds surround a small pool situated next to the brick patio that houses numerous potted and hanging plants. A seemingly endless series of flagstone paths leads from a sunny perennial garden through the woodlands beyond. This wonderfully shady strolling garden winds through tall oak, ash, shagbark hickory, and ironwood trees. There are understory hydrangeas, pagoda dogwoods, redbuds, and viburnums, along with interesting combinations of groundcovers such as ginger, ferns, cotoneaster, sweet woodruff, yellow corydalis, brunnera, pachysandra, ivy, and vinca.

Driving Directions: The destination is 3711 Madison Street in Oak Brook. From the intersection of Route 83 and 31st Street in Oak Brook, proceed .6 mile east on 31st Street to Spring Road, and turn right. Proceed .6 mile on Spring Road to Madison Street, and turn right. Proceed .3 mile on Madison Street to 3711. Park only on the EAST side of the street. People parking on the west side of the street risk being ticketed.

Or from the Ogden exit on I-294:

Proceed west on Ogden 1 mile to Madison Street, and turn right. Proceed .6 mile on Madison Street to 3711. Park only on the EAST side of the street. People parking on the west side of the street risk being ticketed.

July 10^{th} at Terri Shane's garden in Naperville, 2:00-5:00. Terri's seven year-old garden, situated on a large city lot, is divided into a very pleasant series of sun and shade 'rooms' that feature 85 hosta cultivars and a wide variety of companion plants that includes ferns, coral bells, goatsbeard, and meadow rue. Mature trees and shrubs provide the bones of the garden, and the patio is rimmed by an attractive variety of potted plants.

Terri previously lived and gardened in Anchorage, Alaska, and finds gardening here to be much simpler. In addition to the longer growing season, one does not have to worry about moose invading the garden and devouring the plants. Those of us who have an on-going battle with deer should be glad that we are 'only' combating deer, and not moose.

Driving Directions: The destination is 1222 Cheshire Avenue in Naperville. From the Maple Avenue exit on I-355, proceed west 3.3 miles to Olesen Drive. Note that Maple Avenue becomes Chicago Avenue when it enters Naperville. Turn left on Olesen and proceed .5 mile to Cheshire. Turn right and proceed to 1222.

August 14th at Dale & Ron Karlic's garden in Orland Park, 2:00 – 5:00. The gardens of Dale and Ron Karlic are a continuing work-in-progress. Six and a half years ago, they had 5/8 of an acre of manicured lawn, 3 lilac bushes, 6 rose bushes and 12 hostas (all of the same variety). A few trees, that were volunteers 30 years ago, provided some shade in the rear of the yard. Today, there are dozens of trees, hundreds of perennials, 2 ponds, tons of stone and dozens of shrubs covering 60% of the land where grass used to be.

The first project, in the fall of 1999, was to dig 2 ponds, which contain about 8000 gallons of water and are connected by a stream with a curved bridge over it. A waterfall and additional streams provide sound and excitement, whereas marginal plants, water lilies, lotus, and lots of goldfish add motion and beauty. The ponds attract frogs, toads, birds, dragonflies and a variety of other wildlife visitors. The clay dug to create the ponds was used to construct berms, which were planted with trees, shrubs and groundcovers. The garden took on an oriental feel with the addition of a large stone pagoda, purchased from a neighbor, and a large trellis and zigzag fence that Ron built from cedar. Tumbled blue stone created inviting paths around the pond, and end-of-season plant purchases added texture throughout the gardens.

The shade garden was tackled next by cleaning out all the weeds and adding a stone path and some stone lanterns, hand-made by Ron in pottery class. Hosta varieties started to increase due to Dale and Ron's growing interest in the different hostas they learned about through NIHS.

Ornamental grasses were added across the back of the yard, along with a small area for vegetables and cuttings, shielded by a cedar Japanese-style fence. A visit to Japan further influenced the style of the garden, and an authentic Japanese Gate was added as the entrance to the veggie garden.

The grass was being torn up at an amazing rate as new beds were created, ornamental trees were strategically placed, paths were planned and laid, and other trees and shrubs were planted. Additional shade areas were created and more hosta varieties were added, bringing the number of different plants to almost 200. Many copper trellises and a stand of copper bamboo were added – more of Ron's handiwork.

In 2003 15 yards of dirt were dumped on the front lawn, and a walk-over rock garden was sculpted and planted. 2004 saw the addition of a new water feature and yet another new hosta bed. 2005 plans include the completion of a Machiai, a structure where you wait to be summoned for the tea ceremony, and a new temple bell (supplied by Ron Trock) and holder, built in the Japanese style. It is also possible that the new raked stone garden and zigzag bridge over short ornamental grasses to a new fern and hosta bed may be completed by the tour date. Welcome!

Driving Directions: The destination is 7881 Forestview Drive in Orland Park. From the north or south, proceed on either Harlem (route 43) or LaGrange Road (route 45) to 151st Street.

From the intersection of 151st Street and Harlem, turn west and proceed ¾ mile to Meadow Lane. Turn right on Meadow Lane, proceed to the end of street, and turn right on Forestview Drive. Proceed to 7881 (3rd house on right).

or

From the intersection of 151st Street and LaGrange Road, turn east on 151st Street and proceed approximately 2 miles to Meadow Lane (1st street on left after 80th Ave.), and turn left. Proceed to the end of Meadow Lane and turn right on Forestview Drive. Proceed to 7881 (3rd house on right).

May 2005 Issue 49



The Greater Ozarks Hosta Society Invites you to the

2005 MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY CONVENTION

to be held in Springfield, Missouri June 2,3,&4, 2005 at the

Oasis inn & Convention Center 2610 N. Glenstone Springfield, MO. 65803 (888) 532-4338 (417) 866-5253

Convention rates are \$60 poolside and \$54 general plus tax. Make reservations with the hotel directly and be sure to mention the convention to secure the special rate.

\$150.00 Registration fee per person if postmarked after May 1, 2005

The registration fee will cover bus transportation and meal Friday evening at "The Garden of Dream"

Saturday's breakfast, lunch and evening meal at the auction. The fee also includes bus transportation to tour gardens, admittance to hosta leaf show, the "Live Plant Expo", hospitality room, vendors' area, and the hosta auction.

Participant #1	Participant #2
Name	Name
Address	Address
City, State, Zip	City, State, Zip
Phone	Phone
E-Mail	E-Mail
Will you have plants to donate to the Midwest	Will you have plants to donate to the Midwest
Regional Hosta Society Auction?	Regional Hosta Society Auction?
Please indicate the number of entries you	Please indicate the number of entries you
will submit in the hosta show.	will submit in the hosta show.
Cut Leaf Container Grown	Cut Leaf Container Grown
Trough/Container Gardens	Trough/Container Gardens
Educational Display	Educational Display
`Expo" Seedling	"Expo" Seedling
`Expo" Sport	"Expo" Sport
	"Expo" Sport red to judge this show, please check here or for more hosta si
information contact;	
•	le, MO. 65669 (417) 443-2472 or email info@gohs.org

Make Checks payable to: *Greater Ozarks Hosta Society* and mail to Susanne Jeffery 19288 Oasis Dr. Phillipsburg, MO. 65722

Northern Illinois Hosta Society, Inc.

BUS TOUR 2005

GARDENS of MADISON WISCONSIN Area

SATURDAY: July 23, 2005 7:00 AM to 6:30 PM

Gather at 6:45 AM for our prompt departure at 7:00 AM at WOODFIELD SHOPPING CENTER OUTER PARKING LOT, just west of Route 53, 290 and north of Woodfield Road in the south outer parking lot facing "Streets of Woodland".

Note: Please LOCK YOUR VEHICLE as Woodfield cannot be responsible for the vehicle and contents.

FURTHER DIRECTIONS: SEE Map at right:

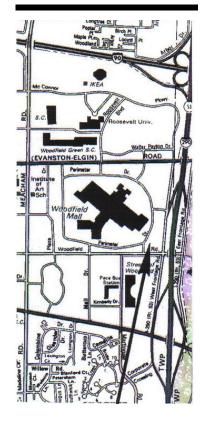
ABSOLUTELY NO PRIVATE CARS WILL BE PERMITTED ON THE TOUR PAST THE DEPARTURE POINT.

We will travel by Bluebird Charter Coach bus with on board toilet facilities to the **Madison**, **Wisconsin** area. We will be visiting 5 private gardens and The Flower Factory (where there will be plants available for purchase). There will be a rest stop near Madison while traveling both to and from the main destination point. See the garden descriptions for more details of the various garden stops.

Please **bring your own lunch** (but no alcohol), camera, comfortable shoes, and an **umbrella** if it looks like rain, since we will go regardless of the weather. There will be activities and refreshments provided by the NIHS (including beverages) on the bus which helps shorten the trip. We are limited to about 52 people and **have sold out all seats well in advance** on former tours so **sign up early** to be assured of a place on the bus.

Please arrive promptly at the departure point as we leave at 7:00 AM sharp.

Please note that no special pick up points will be arranged.



WOODFIELD MALL Outer Parking Lot "G" Look for the "BLUEBIRD" Bus Be there at 6:45 AM to leave promptly by 7:00 AM

COSTS: (By Prepaid Reservation Only - The Cost is Non Refundable) \$30.00 NIHS Member or Member's Spouse \$35.00 Guests (Non Members of NIHS) \$35.00 All Late Entries (Postmarked July 9, 2005 or Later)

QUESTIONS? Call:

John Van Ostrand at

847-438-1056

Cut off the bottom part and send it in with your check

Make your check Payable to:

NORTHERN ILLINOIS HOSTA SOCIETY, INC.

Send it to: John L. Van Ostrand 21 Robin Crest Road Hawthorn Woods, IL 60047-8965	Confirmation & the Tour Schedule will be sent by mail.			
YOUR NAME:	Members:	\$30 X	_(No.) = \$	_
	Guests:	\$35 X	_(No.) = \$	
YOUR TELEPHONE:	All Late Entries:	\$35 X	(No.) = \$	
GUEST(S) NAME(S):	Non Refundable Total		\$	

April 2005 Issue 49

CUT LEAF EXHIBIT ~ MAY 28 & 29

It's getting to be that time of the year for the NIHS Cut Leaf Exhibit and Plant Sale at Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe, IL. We are in need of volunteers for the following dates and times:

Friday, May 27	3 pm to 5 pm	set up and leaf staging
Saturday, May 28	7 am to 5 pm	leaf staging and exhibit
Sunday, May 29	9 am to 6 pm	exhibit and break down

The exhibit will be on Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 4:30 pm. This year we will be asking for people to sign up for increments of 2 hours or more. If you are an early bird, we really need help on Saturday morning. Donated leaves can be dropped off Friday 3-5 pm or Saturday 7-9 am. Please make sure all leaves are clearly identified - we will not have time to identify leaves during the staging process. If interested in volunteering or selling plants, please contact Dawn Anderson at 815-344-1808.

Volunteer Perks:

- 1. \$5 gift certificate for the Garden Café
- 2. Free parking and entry at Chicago Botanic Garden volunteer for a couple of hours then enjoy CBG for the rest of the day!
- 3. Meet people that also have interests in growing and collecting hostas.

Cut Leaf Exhibit Criteria:

- 1. Leaves must be from a plant that is 3 years or older. Leaves from an immature plant do not properly show the mature characteristics.
- 2. Hosta leaf must be clearly named/identified. If the leaf cannot be easily identified, it will not be displayed. Assistance with identification will be available at the show (10am 4:30pm).
- 3. In order to have leaves that are as fresh as possible for this 2 day event, they should be submerged in cold water for at least 8 hours prior to the show.
- 4. Leaves must arrive at Chicago Botanic Garden multi-purpose room from 3 pm to 5 pm Friday evening or 6:30 am to 8 am Saturday morning. This will allow for proper set-up of the leaves.
- 5. Up to 2 (two) leaves of any given variety will be displayed. In the case that more than 2 leaves are provided of a variety, the leaves that best represent the registration will be exhibited.

Vendor Guidelines:

- 1. Notify event coordinator no later than May 1 that you will be selling plants.
- 2. Must help with event set up Friday and breakdown Sunday.
- 3. Provide leaves for cut leaf exhibit.
- 4. 10% of total sales must be paid to Chicago Botanic Garden (form provided by event coordinator).
- 5. Must be a current club member of Northern Illinois Hosta Society.

Kay Johanson



We lost a good friend recently. This is a picture of Kay and Carl doing their second most favorite activity – hosta. The most favorite is their family. We will miss her terribly, but God has gained a master gardener and a beautiful person.

Thank you Kay.

Springtime

Dan McConnell, President, Central Illinois Hosta Society

"Spring is wonderful. It makes you feel young enough to do all the things you're old enough to know you can't."

Franklin P. Jones

This is my "it is time to get out and enjoy your yard and garden, but be careful because you have been sitting all winter so don't overdo it and hurt yourself" article. That says it all, but I have more space to fill so let's talk about making the job easier and more enjoyable.

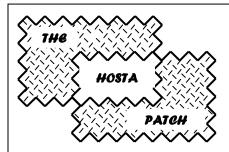
Garden Tools; use tools with the right size grip – to find the proper fit, make a circle with your index finger and thumb, that is the correct size for your tool grip. Use tools with longer handles to cut down on the need to bend over or kneel. Keep tools sharp and in good condition. Use the lightest weight tool possible to complete tasks. Use tools with a soft pliable handle for easier gripping. Use nonskid surfaces, so as not to waste energy gripping tools too tightly.

"Lift that Bale"; ask for help if an object is too heavy or too cumbersome for you to lift. Buy the smaller sized bags of planting mix, peat moss, etc. Use the wheelbarrow or wagon to transport gardening materials. Use an old golf bag with wheels on it to carry long handled tools. Find a small canvas bag to carry hand tools. Place a decorative mailbox in your garden and store tools there.

Most Important Tool; your body. Listen to it. Pain is the body's warning sign that something is wrong. If a garden activity causes you pain, STOP. Poor posture can lead to pain, fatigue, and strains. Do not slouch while you garden (remember your mother telling you to sit up straight?). Avoid staying in one position too long. Switch tasks often. Bend, stretch and move around often to avoid stiffness. Repetitive tasks can lead to injury, such as the grip and release movements used in pruning. Protect yourself from the effects of the sun especially this time of the year when the weather is mild. Drink plenty of water and pace yourself. Gardening is not a race. Above all, enjoy your time outside.

"The time to relax is when you don't have time for it."

Sydney J. Harris



500 Hosta Varieties

Visit our website for quality plants at reasonable prices.

The Hosta Patch

www.hostapatch.com

23720 Hearthside Dr. Deer Park. IL 60010 (847) 540-8051 tommich@hostapatch.com

Advertising Rates for NIHS Hosta Happenings Tom Micheletti's

	Per issue	Per year
Full page	95	250
½ page	60	155
½ page	35	90
1/6 page	25	65

Send camera-ready copy with your check, made payable to NIHS, to Floyd Rogers, 22W213 Glen Valley Drive, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137.

Editor's Note: -

Thanks to all for the articles for our newsletter. I eagerly accept input for newsletters and encourage all to contribute. The cutoff date for the next issue of *Hosta Happenings* is April 20, 2005. Please contact me by any of the following methods:

editor@NorthernIllinoisHostaSociety.org e-mail

(630) 858-3538 phone

22W213 Glen Valley Dr., mail

Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

www.NorthernIllinoisHostaSociety.org

Didn't order any Sponsor Plants? Here is what you missed: John Van Ostrand with a flat of 'Stained Glass'.





AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY

If you are not a member of the American Hosta Society, have always wanted to get your copy of <u>The Hosta Journal</u> (published three times each year with many color pictures of Hostas), and you are interested in joining, please write Sandie Markland, 8702 Pinnacle Rock Court, Lorton, VA. 22079-3029. Dues are: Individual, \$25 for one year, \$47 for two years, \$65 for three years, Life \$500 single payment; Family, \$29 per year; \$52 for two years, \$75 for three years. Joining AHS will enable you to attend the national convention in Cleveland, OH, King of Prussia, PA., St. Louis, MO, and Indianapolis, IN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL HOSTA SOCIETY

The Midwest Regional Hosta Society publishes a twice-a-year newsletter and holds an annual convention. To join, send a check for \$10 to Carolyn Hamilton, 909 Mississippi Blvd., Bettendorf, IA 52722. The 2005 convention will be held in Springfield, MO, Milwaukee, WI in 2006, Quad Cities in 2007, and <u>Schaumburg, IL in 2008</u>.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS HOSTA SOCIETY

www.NorthernIllinoisHostaSociety.org

If you are interested in joining NIHS, please write Membership Chairman, Pete Postlewaite, 21172 Andover Rd, Kildeer, IL 60047 (847) 438-7790. Membership dues are \$20 for two years. Please send membership renewals to Pete at the above address. **Check the expiration date on your label**.

Infamous Quotation Contest

Who said, "He also serves who only breaks wind." Was it Lou Horton, Barb Carlson, or Floyd Rogers?

Northern Illinois Hosta Happenings editor@NorthernIllinoisHostaSociety.org
May 2005 Newsletter

Floyd Rogers, Newsletter Editor 22W213 Glen Valley Drive Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 FIRST CLASS STAMP REQUIRED

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