



The Royal Standard

September 2019

WISCONSIN HOSTA SOCIETY
EST. 1991

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello Hosta Friends!

Here we are again in mid-September, and some of our hostas are beginning to recognize that fall is on the way! They are loving the rainy weather we've been having ~ good news for next year's growing season.

This has been a busy year for the WHS. In addition to our booth at Garden Expo, we've enjoyed great speakers, an Ice Cream Social and Leaf Show/Competition, a potluck picnic and auction, and several wonderful garden tours. In addition, we now have awesome t-shirts and tote bags touting our enthusiasm for the "friendship plant" and the Wisconsin Hosta Society.

It was exciting to have an auction at the potluck picnic again this year . . . in spite of the rainstorm that caused us to end it very quickly! A very big THANK YOU to our business donors: Elim Hosta Gardens, Hollywood Bob's, Norwegianwood, and Uniquely Hostas, as well as the Phil Timm garden of Rockford, IL! Because of their support, the WHS bank account saw an increase of \$945. Please remember to show them some support when you are looking to purchase your next great hosta!!

On Wednesday, October 2, member Frank Greer will be sharing with us much of what he has experienced during his 40+ years as a gardener. Don't forget, we will be in the upstairs meeting room at Olbrich Gardens. **We will also be electing a new President and Vice President at the October meeting. It's not too late — contact any board member to get your nominations in. Deb and I are not running for re-election, but would be happy to answer any questions you might have about the positions. **

In November, I hope you are planning to join in on the fun and food at the Harvest Party at Ziggy's in Oregon!

Sandy

WHS President

2019 CALENDAR WISCONSIN HOSTA SOCIETY

Wednesday, October 2

Membership Meeting

Speaker: Frank Greer

"40 Years in my Garden"

6PM Social, 6:30-8:30PM Mtg

Olbrich Gardens **UPSTAIRS**

Saturday, November 2

WHS Harvest Party

2:00-4:30PM

Ziggy's BBQ Smokehouse

135 South Main St. Oregon, WI

(Beverages and finger foods
provided by WHS)



2019 GARDEN EXPO

Our booth at Garden Expo was a huge success for WHS. Thanks to Marlene and Jonathan for growing and delivering the 120 hostas that were offered for sale. Kudos to 1st year committee chair Lori Gerber for a job well done! We sold 74 hostas and recruited 18 new members, as well as collecting 16 renewals. Thanks also to Bob Geske who crafted and donated "Bob the Bunny" Birdhouse for the member raffle.



WHS MEETING MINUTES

March 7, 2019

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm. WHS board members were introduced: Sandy O'Malley, president, Deb Hayes, vice president and chair of programming committee, Marla Robinson, treasurer and membership chair, and Peggy Lemon, secretary.

1.) Thank you to Marlene Rosenburg and Jonathan Goodrich of Uniquely Hostas for growing, re-potting, prepping and delivering hostas for the WHS booth at the Garden Expo!

2.) Thank you to Lori Gerber for all of her extensive work on Garden Expo!

3.) Thank you to Bob Geske for donating the bird house for our new/renewal members drawing! Bob drew the name for the winner.

4.) Committee Reports:

The president and vice president positions come open this fall. We are looking for people interested in being on the nominating committee. They would seek out people interested in running for the 2 offices. Per the bylaws, candidates are nominated and elected by the membership present at a fall meeting. If you are interested in this, please submit your name to any board member.

5.) The American Hosta Society National Convention is being held in Green Bay on June 12-15. If there are those attending and wish to discuss room sharing or carpooling, please contact Marla Robinson (phone 608-273-3641)

6.) We are working on setting up a WHS bus trip this summer! The suggested itinerary will be Hornbaker Gardens in Princeton Il. (a large nursery), and Anderson Japanese Gardens in Rockford Il.

7.) Windi Fourdraine, editor of the newsletter, would like a short submission from people about their favorite hosta. (As if it is possible to pick just one!) If there is something you would like to see in the newsletter, please let Windi know.

8.) Treasurer/membership report: At Garden Expo, we sold 74 of 120 hostas. 12 more were sold at the March meeting. We have 18 new members, and 30 renewals from the Garden Expo. Garden Expo gross intake (dues and hostas) was \$1580. Expenses (hostas, booth rental, percentage of sales to Alliant Energy Center, incidentals) were \$1093.53. Our net income from Expo was \$486.47

The directory is being worked on at this time. If you have not paid your dues, you will be deleted from the directory, and you will not receive the directory or further emails.

9.) There has been a calendar change to our April 3rd meeting: Jamie Nack from the UW Department of Forestry and Wildlife Ecology will discuss tips and hints for wildlife control and management.

10.) The September 4th meeting is still in flow. Olbrich has scheduled their own speaker for that evening: Fergus Garrett, the head gardener at Great Dixter House and Gardens in London. More on this at the next meeting.

11.) There are still hostas for sale for \$15 each. There are June, Royal Wedding, Abiqua Drinking Gourd, and Lakeside Paisley Print left. Please contact Deb Hayes or Sandy O'Malley if you are interested.

Business Meeting adjourned 7:30 PM and Owen Purvis, of Elim Hostas gave a presentation on "New and Newer Hostas, 2019". He identified 109 of his favorites, all gorgeous! These beauties came from 7 nurseries: Walters Gardens, Naylor Creek, Land of the Giants, Uniquely Hostas, Glenbrook Farm, Green Hill Farm, and Elim Hostas.

Submitted by Peggy Lemon, secretary.

WHS MEETING, CONT.

March 7, 2019



WHS Board Members

Sandy O'Malley
President
4gardenstuff@gmail.com

Deb Hayes
Vice President &
Program Chair
debhayes1052@yahoo.com

Peggy Lemon
Secretary
katmai414@yahoo.com

Marla Robinson
Treasurer & Membership
j_robinson@charter.net

WHS MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 3, 2019

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm. WHS board members present: Sandy O'Malley, president, Deb Hayes, vice president and chair of programming committee. Marla Robinson, treasurer and membership chair, and Peggy Lemon, secretary.

1.) Calendar updates

—MEETING CHANGE: Due to Olbrich scheduling, our September meeting has been moved to Thursday Sept. 5th. A speaker is still in the works.

—Dawn Geske's presentation "Choosing and Prepping Leaves for Show" workshop date is being arranged.

2.) American Hosta Society convention is in Green Bay June 12-15th. Marla is coordinating carpooling and roommates.

3.) WHS bus trip will most likely be to Hornbaker Gardens in Princeton IL. The cost will be \$25 to members, with any overages covered by the society. There was discussion about finding an alternative to Anderson Gardens, ie a public non-profit garden.

4.) The offices of president and vice president come up for election this fall. As there have been no volunteers for the nominating committee, we are cutting out the middleman! If you are interested in running for office, please contact Peggy Lemon, secretary, at katmai414@yahoo.com.

5.) Treasurer's report: Our bank balance is \$10,154.71. There are still hostas left from the Garden Expo, with some sold at tonight's meeting so this amount will increase. Currently there are 128 paid members.

6.) Windi Fourdraine showed the design and color of the soon to come WHS tee shirt, polo shirt and tote. These will be available to order online with pick up at meeting, or shipped to you with shipping charges incurred. Costs are not finalized, but are within the expected price range. Windi did a great deal of work on picking a printer as well as designing the logo. A big thank you to Windi for all the artistic and business work of doing this!

7.) The newsletter will be out mid April. Windi sent a big thanks to all who sent her "My Favorite Hosta" comments. Keep them coming! With photos if possible!

Business meeting adjourned at 7:00P.M. and Jamie Nack of UW department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology spoke on Wildlife Damage Management: Tips, Tools and Techniques. This was a fascinating presentation full of information on how to prevent, discourage, and eliminate our most offensive non-insect pests.

Submitted by Peggy Lemon, secretary.

LEAF SHOW AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

JUNE 22, 1:30-4:30PM



A big thank you to Jeanette Wheat for hosting the Leaf Show and Ice Cream Social this year!



WISCONSIN HOSTA SOCIETY 2018 FINANCIAL REPORT

\$ 8,601.66	Beginning Balance December 31, 2017
\$ 1,360.00	Income Membership Dues
\$ 1,468.00	Income Garden Expo Hostas Sold in 2018
\$ 670.00	Income Refund Hostas Paid for in 2017 Not Received for 2018 Expo
\$ 1,889.00	Income May Hosta Auction
\$ 400.00	Income H. What The Hill Phil @ \$20 each
\$ 535.90	Income Hosta Signs/Stakes
\$ 666.00	Income Bus Trip
\$ 6,988.90	Total Income
(666.53)	Expenses Garden Expo Hostas Paid in 2018, Sold at 2019 Expo
(209.41)	Expenses Garden Expo 2018
(260.00)	Expenses Garden Expo 2019 Booths
(430.21)	Expenses & Food at Picnic, Leaf show, Auction. Meetings
(515.66)	Expenses Hosta Signs/Stakes
(30.26)	Expenses Misc. Office/Filing Fees/Postage
(268.00)	Expenses Insurance
(3,000.00)	Expenses Donations
(425.00)	Expenses Speakers/Olbrich Botanical Gardens
(489.58)	Expenses Harvest Party 2018
(820.00)	Expenses Bus Trip
(289.14)	Expenses Website Domain
(180.00)	Expenses Refunds What The Hill Phil (originally sold for \$50)
(7,583.79)	Total Expenses
\$ 8,006.77	Ending Balance December 31, 2018 Bank Statement

Respectfully submitted Treasurer Marla Robinson

IN MEMORIAM

MARY ROSE POLANCIH



It was with sadness that we said 'goodbye' to WHS member Mary P. (as she often introduced herself). earlier this year. Mary passed away in her sleep on March 18, 2019. Mary had been an avid gardener for many years---she was a Master Gardener, belonged to the Hardy, Hosta, and Herb Societies, and participated in several gardening trips to England. She was often at Hosta Society events, such as Rotary Garden tours, picnics, member garden walks (and showed her garden at one such) and out-of-town tours. Mary was most active until approximately 5 years ago, when she was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma, a cancer of bone marrow/blood. She survived the chemo and 2 stem cell transplants, and was essentially cancer free for a year or so, when she became very ill last fall and received a diagnosis of Leukemia. Even though she received aggressive treatment for several months, the earlier bout of cancer had severely limited her body's ability to fight on. Mary had strong opinions and preferences (for example, she didn't care for variegated hosta) and was always willing to discuss the latest climate or garden information. She was also a stout advocate for people with disabilities and school programs for all, and enjoyed political discussions as much as gardens and birds. Time spent with Mary was never boring! Those of us who were lucky enough to be frequent companions with Mary will miss her sorely....

Terry Anne

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Your WHS Board is seeking input from members about future activities.....

Here are some questions/volunteer opportunities we have for **YOU**, the members! Feel free to speak up at meetings or email your ideas to Sandy or Deb.

We're always looking for **ideas** for **next year's meeting presentations**. Anything you'd like to hear more about?

We need fall **nominations** for **President** and **Vice President**. (terms beginning in 2020) Email Sandy or Deb with questions or your name.

MOVE OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE

You can only grow if you are willing to feel awkward and uncomfortable when you
TRY SOMETHING NEW.



“MY FAVORITE HOSTA”

BY PEGGY LEMON



Okay, asking for a favorite hosta is an impossible task! There is a favorite hosta of the week, a hosta of the day, and a hosta of the moment that your eye lights on it. Aren't they all beautiful, cute or humorous in their own way? Yes, even your neighbor's, that he dug out with a mattock, put in the trash, that you then rescued and planted along your ugly lot line. Those are some of my favorite hostas because of the awesome weed blocking job they do, bless their little hearts!

With a lot of reflection, (because what else are you going to do

about gardening this time of year?), I would identify hosta '**Great Expectations**' as one long time favorite. This was the 1st hosta I got when I moved in my house 19 years ago. I bought it at Gloria's and spent 8 dollars on it. I was quite worried if building a garden was going to financially ruin me. What if I spent 8 dollars on it, and it didn't survive the winter? (Haha, have you quit laughing yet?) As you expect, up it came in the spring with even more leaves than before.

It has been a very slow grower in its dry space under the large maple, but I think it's the perfect spot—I see it out the back window all day long, and it always catches my eye. The variegated leaves and upright form are very appealing.

It had 3 leaves and 1 eye that first year, and 5,7,11,13,15+ leaves over subsequent years. It has survived to be a beautiful plant in front of the tree despite all the years that the bunnies ate some of the buds and hail tore at some of the leaves. One year I had a weird invasion of a mystery bug that left huge perfectly rectangular holes in the leaves. The hostas all looked healthy and the insect ID book was no help. It was not until I watched the neighbor's pets pecking their way through my garden that it dawned on me: it was chickens making those holes!

If YOU have a favorite hosta (or two), please tell us! Send a short paragraph and picture (if you have it) to Windi Fourdraine. (twotxaggies@frontier.com)

UW EXTENSION TEACHING GARDEN TOUR

On June 6, 2019 WHS members gathered for a tour of the UW Extension Teaching Gardens. Extension Specialist Lisa Johnson led us through the 12 different garden areas that make up the teaching garden. Everyone enjoyed hearing about the plants and seeing so many different styles. The garden is free for the public to tour and is located at 5201 Fen Oak Dr in Madison.



www.wisconsinhostasociety.com
wihostasociety@gmail.com



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



"Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale." ~ Lauren DeStefano

WISCONSIN HOSTA SOCIETY
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