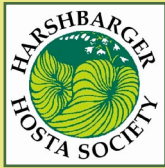


# HOSTA HERALD

2012 April Edition of the Harshbarger Hosta Society



## HHS Officers

### President

**Judi Pohorsky**

pohojsta@aol.com  
1712 Morris Ave NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405  
(319) 396-6116

### Vice Presidents

**Jay & Nancy McWherter**

jaybirddad@aol.com  
1610 Timberland Dr NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405  
(319) 396-6972

### Secretary

**Lorri Hughes**

heyyoupi@aol.com  
16 Lincoln Dr.  
Palo, IA 52324  
(319) 851-4321

### Treasurer

**Lois Cahill**

loisacahill@yahoo.com  
354 Adams Ct.  
Lisbon, IA 52253  
(319) 455-3700

### Newsletter Editor

**Jill Koch**

jillpkoch@gmail.com  
3643 Rogers Rd. NW  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405  
(319) 390-5482

## Hello Hosta Friends...

Isn't this weather something?! It seems like it should be time to plant in the garden and put out our hanging planters! I am hoping we don't get the cold weather when it should be warm.

There are so many things happening this year with the Harshbarger Hosta Society.

First...we have officially committed to bring the 2014 National Hosta Convention to Cedar Rapids. It will be held at the Marriott Convention Center in Cedar Rapids, June 11-14. We will need everyone to step up and help with this event and make it a positive experience for all our members and all attendees! We will need to talk about a theme and the hosta gift plant. The theme could highlight something about our area or be a catchy phrase...think about it and bring to the meeting. Please, check the list of committees, at the spring meeting, and find some way you can help with it. Let's form a team...and MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Another biggy is...we have a website...finally!! I am hoping this will help create better communication with all members. It will be very important with the approaching convention. In it there is the calendar, news and updates, the newsletter, pictures and more. Please take the time to visit it at ([harshbarger-hostasociety.org](http://harshbarger-hostasociety.org)) and browse around. If you have some suggestions to improve the website, please let me know. I hope we can all enjoy this and...really...do help me improve it.

I have listened to many of our members say "Can we go back to Klehm's on our bus tour, again?". Well...enough is enough! I have made arrangements for our bus to stop at Klehm's Songsparrow on Saturday, June 2nd! This should make many of you very happy! We will visit the Flower Factory, Kopke's Nursery, Olbrich Botanical Garden in Madison, Wisconsin and we'll find a place to enjoy a noon meal! All of this for \$50.00. More details will follow at our meeting...just mark your calendar for June 2nd. I still can see the bottom of the bus on our last trip.... TOTALLY full of every kind of plant you can imagine!! It was so full that we were storing our 'investments' on the back seats of the bus! What fun!

HELP!! This is what we need for our hosta garden tour. We will have no problem with the auction or the meal, but we need gardens to enjoy! If you would like to share your garden this summer...or for the convention...please email, or talk with me at the spring meeting.

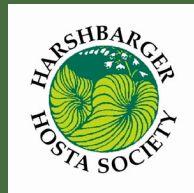
Don't forget...Bob Solberg will be with us October 13th! Like I said...so many things going on!

Let's take this warm weather and treat it as a gift — *Judi*

## **THE 2012 HOSTA FINDER**

Steve Greene's 2012 Hosta Finder has arrived. This year's edition features over 175 pages with 3,900 cultivars. You will also find individual prices from over 45 nurseries, average price, cultivar size, color, flower color and credits in the latest edition.

Copies will be available for purchase at the Harshbarger Hosta Society spring meeting. The cost is \$14.



## **HARSHBARGER HOSTA SOCIETY SPRING MEETING**

**APRIL 17TH, CORALVILLE LIBRARY, 6:30 PM.**

### **Presentation on Yard Art by Judy Stevens**

**Some people call it recycling;**

**Some people call it yard junk.**

**Judy calls it yard art.**

**Share ideas to add a whimsical touch to your yard. En-**

**joy pictures of other people's yards.**

**Learn a few hands-on techniques**

**for creating your own art.**

# Cut the Mush



Spring is always an exciting time of year for gardeners. This year the weather has been exceptionally warm. The trees and spring flowers have been in full bloom for several weeks. Many other perennials, including hostas, are also weeks ahead of schedule.

Most of us have eagerly cleaned up the garden beds to admire the shoots as they poke through the soil, leaving tender new foliage vulnerable. Gardeners across the Midwest are keeping their fingers (and toes) crossed that the weather doesn't suddenly turn wicked and kill the young vegetation.

Unfortunately, we have several weeks to worry about keeping our garden plants protected from a sudden cold snap. The last average frost date in Eastern Iowa is May 10<sup>th</sup> in the south and May 15<sup>th</sup> in the north. Luckily, temperatures do not typically drop below 32° for more than a few hours this time of year. Most of the hostas in my garden do well until the temperature drops below 28°.

To prevent damage from freezing temperatures should they occur, plants should be covered with an insulating material such as leaves, blankets, towels, boxes, pots, garbage cans, or buckets.

It's also a good idea to leave dead air space between the covering and the foliage. Don't forget to uncover your plants once the temperatures warm up.

Despite valiant efforts, hostas may succumb to freezing temperatures and turn to mush. Hostas damaged by frost will usually recover by summer, but hostas hit

with a hard freeze may be subject to crown rot even if the leaves are still tightly furled.

If plants are injured, cut off any significantly damaged leaves as soon as possible. Keep as many healthy leaves and petioles on the plant as possible and wait for new leaves to grow back. (Remember to sanitize the cutting tool in between hostas.)

Check the crown. If any soft areas are discovered, remove them back to solid tissue to prevent crown rot or death of the hosta.

If the frost damage is light, wait a few days before cutting injured leaves, sometimes they will recover with warmer temperatures.

Keep your eye on the forecast in the coming weeks and protect those plants! — Jill



## Definitions from the National Weather Service

A **freeze** is when the surface air temperature is expected to be 32°F or below over a widespread area for a climatologically significant period of time. Use of the term is usually restricted to advective situations or to occasions when wind or other conditions prevent frost. "Killing" may be used during the growing season when the temperature is expected to be low enough for a sufficient duration to kill all but the hardiest herbaceous crops.

**Frost** describes the formation of thin ice crystals on the ground or other surfaces in the form of scales, needles, feathers, or fans. Frost develops under conditions similar to dew, except the temperatures of the Earth's surface and earthbound objects falls below 32°F. As with the term "freeze," this condition is primarily significant during the growing season. If a frost period is sufficiently severe to end the growing season or delay its beginning, it is commonly referred to as a "killing frost." Because frost is primarily an event that occurs as the result of radiational cooling, it frequently occurs with a thermometer level temperature in the mid-30s.



**Kincaid Gardens**  
**100% Stainless Steel Plant Mark-**



## Discounts for members and rebates to Harshbarger Hosta Society

Kincaid Gardens has recently launched a new program for local garden clubs providing their members a discount on plant markers and a rebate check back to your garden club. Our new program, Grow Your Rewards, provides your members a Reward Discount of 50¢ per bundle of plant markers purchased – and your club receives a Rewards check of up to 50¢ per bundle for all the orders placed by your members. You can learn more about this new program at Grow Your Rewards, on our website.

*The highest quality marker in the industry . . . made for gardeners by gardeners*

Kincaid Gardens is a wholly owned family business that traces its roots back to our passion for gardening. This passion led us into the design, development, and manufacturing of 100% Stainless Steel plant markers. Our plant markers feature a heavy duty design, captive plate, and our posts have nearly 3 times the tensile strength of other available plant markers. We have worked hard to earn a reputation for superior quality, outstanding customer service, and timely delivery. We distribute throughout the United States and Canada.

*Learn more and register online to receive your rebate checks*

When you visit Grow Your Rewards, on our website you will learn more about this exciting new program and find a link to a Grow Your Rewards Application that registers your club to receive the semi-annual Rewards bonus check. And, when we receive your application, we'll send handouts of the Rewards Code for you to pass on to your members for them to use in placing orders. By using this Rewards Code at checkout, they will automatically receive their Rewards Discount, and their purchase will be credited to the clubs account for the club's rebate check.

*Get started today*

Your members can start receiving their discount immediately – and your club can start earning its next rebate check -- by using this Rewards Code, HOSTA-HHS during the checkout at [www.kincaidgardens.com](http://www.kincaidgardens.com).

Kincaid Gardens, Inc. - [www.KincaidGardens.com](http://www.KincaidGardens.com) - [info1@kincaidgardens.com](mailto:info1@kincaidgardens.com)  
Local: 816-324-4931 - 11000 County Road 366, Savannah, MO 64485-2312

## HOSTA COMPANION

A hosta garden isn't complete without interplanting some exciting companions that share similar light and soil conditions. Adding other plants can add seasonal accents of color into the hosta garden!

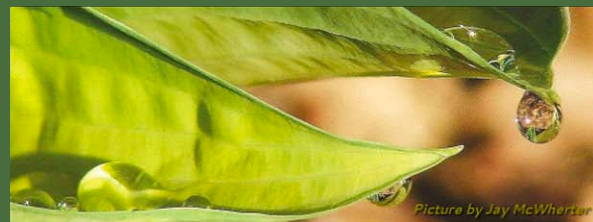
In my opinion, Nodding or Spotted Mandarin is one of the most attractive of the *Disporum* species. This lovely woodland plant has nice dark green foliage reaching from eight inches to two feet in height. The shallow rhizomes form a colony over time. Nodding flowers are white with light purple-brown speckles on the inside of each bloom. Individual blossoms can be up to 1 1/2 inches across in clusters at the end of each stem.

Nodding mandarin is a very easy plant to grow if you duplicate it's natural habitat. It needs rich moist woodland conditions. The garden setting should have filtered sunlight to full shade and soil amended with organic matter for good moisture retention. Add a mulch of shredded hardwood bark to protect it from Summer dry spells. This perennial works perfectly as a companion to your hostas.



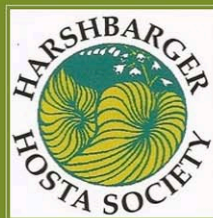
Nodding or Spotted Mandarin  
*Disporum maculatum*

Visit our new website at <http://harshbargerhostasociety.weebly.com/>



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About Us
Calendar
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Gardens/Tours
Hosta Information
AHS Convention 2014

## Harshbarger Hosta Society



We are a Central Iowa gardening society organized to promote the cultivation and enjoyment of hostas, to both the beginner as well as the serious collector. We are 90 members strong with members as far south as Washington, IA, as far west as Pella, north to Waterloo and as far east as Lisbon. Whether you are new to hostas or have been a serious hosta gardener for years, we encourage you to join. We regularly meet for club activities in the Iowa City/Cedar Rapids area.

Goals are both educational and social; first to promote further interest in and greater knowledge of the genus *hosta* and second to foster a fellowship and friendship with other members whose interest has been this remarkable plant. Furthermore, our goals align with those of the American Hosta Society in promoting the development and improvement of the genus *hosta*.

Benefits of membership include:

- Meeting fellow hosta enthusiasts
- Two meetings per year
- Educational seminars
- Garden and bus tours
- Four newsletter per year
- Active website [www.harshbargerhostasociety.org](http://www.harshbargerhostasociety.org)
- Acquire hostas and companion plants at Society auctions
- Support and share the love of gardening with fellow Iowans

Annual membership is \$10.00 per family per year (Calendar year – January to December). Please open the Harshbarger membership form, print, fill it out and forward it with your check to the address provided. Any questions? Please feel free to contact any of the officers.



# AHS 2012 National Convention Registration

June 13 – 16, 2012      Nashville, Tennessee  
 Hosted by the Middle Tennessee Hosta Society  
*See Web Site for more information: [www.hosta2012.com](http://www.hosta2012.com)*

Name (as it will appear on your name badge): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State (or Country if outside U.S.) \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \*\* \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*\*Registration confirmation will be sent via e-mail only.

JUDGES CLINICS: Please note which clinic(s) you will attend. A current handbook is required and may be downloaded for free at [www.americanhostasociety.org](http://www.americanhostasociety.org)  
 \_\_\_ Clinic I: June 13 at 5:30 pm    \_\_\_ Clinic II: June 15 at 6:15 pm    \_\_\_ Clinic III: June 15 at 8:15 pm  
 \_\_\_ Check here if you want to purchase the Handbook for \$10 at the clinic.

HOSTA SHOW: See Schedule at [www.hosta2012.com](http://www.hosta2012.com) . I plan to: \_\_\_ Enter \_\_\_ Judge \_\_\_ Clerk  
 Please enter number of entries in each category you plan to submit: (Limit of 25 for Division I)

Division	I – Leaf Show	II – Containers	III – Troughs	IV – Education	VI – Artistic
Number of entries					

**Optional Wednesday Tours – ONLY CHOOSE ONE:**

- Garden Tours of Nashville – visit a private garden, Cheekwood and The Parthenon.  
 Box lunch included. \$55 \_\_\_\_\_
- Civil War Sites in Franklin, TN – visit the Carnton Plantation and its Period Gardens,  
 the Carter House, and the Lotz House. Box Lunch included. \$65 \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention Registration – ONLY CHOOSE ONE:**

- ~~1. Early Full Registration (postmarked by 1/31/2012) \_\_\_\_\_ \$229.00 XXXXXXXX~~
2. Full Registration (postmarked 2/1/2012 through 4/14/2012) \$249.00 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Late Full Registration (postmarked 4/15/2012 through 5/15/2012) \$280.00 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Meals only \$165.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment by Credit Card is available to ALL Attendees**

If paying by credit card add a Convenience Fee of \$10.00 \$10.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL AMOUNT (Include Optional Tour, Registration and credit card if applicable) Payable in US \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

If paying by check make payable to “AHS 2012 Convention”  
 Send payment and form to:

2012 AHS Convention, Registrar  
 P.O BOX 2648  
 Brentwood, TN 37024

If paying by Credit Card: Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_  
 Choose one: Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3 digit code on back \_\_\_\_\_

DINNER OPTIONS: please choose one  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Regular  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Gluten Free

For questions, email: [hosta2012@comcast.net](mailto:hosta2012@comcast.net) or call 615-794-4153

Hotel: Reserve by May 21, 2012 for convention rate of \$149 + tax: Nashville Airport Marriott, 600 Marriott Drive, Nashville, TN 37214 Phone: 615-889-9300 or 888-403-6781 mention “**HOSTA**”; to link to Hotel Web site, go to [www.hosta2012.com](http://www.hosta2012.com)

# 2012 MRHS Convention - "Operation Hosta"

2012 Midwest Regional Hosta Convention Registration Form  
July 12-14, 2012, Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Rochester, Minnesota  
Hosted by: Shades of Green Hosta Society of Southeast MN, Inc.

To register, mail one completed registration form per person.

Include check payable to "SOGHS/2012 MRHS Convention" or you can pay online with a credit card (additional \$5 convenience fee) at: [www.soghs.org/2012mrhsconvention/](http://www.soghs.org/2012mrhsconvention/)

**REFUND POLICY: NO Refunds will be made after June 9.** Make a copy of this form for your records.

Name (as you want on your badge) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**HOTEL: Ramada Hotel and Convention Center**  
1517 16<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Rochester, MN 55902

For reservations call (507) 289-8866 or Toll Free 800-552-7224. Mention MRHS Convention for convention room rate (\$109 pool side, \$99 other, plus tax) through 06/11/2012. Rate not available on-line.

Publish my name in Convention  
Attendee list? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

\*Confirmation will be sent by e-mail only. For questions email [prestonplants@aol.com](mailto:prestonplants@aol.com).

**Meals include:** Friday Evening Buffet, Saturday Tour Box Lunch, and Saturday Evening Banquet  
**Saturday Evening Banquet choice:**  Chicken  Walleye  Vegetarian  
 I request all vegetarian meals  I request gluten free meals

I will donate plants or items for the Friday night auction. Approximate number \_\_\_\_\_  
Auction proceeds go to MRHS. Please support MRHS with a donation!!

**HOSTA LEAF SHOW** – Preparation time Thursday 7/12/12: Noon – 5, 7-10 pm and Friday 7-10:30 am

Check if you plan to:  Enter (Limit 20 leaves per exhibitor)  Judge  Clerk

Judging will begin Friday, July 13, at 12 Noon Check below if you plan to enter:

\_\_\_\_\_ Cut Leaf (limit 20 entries) \_\_\_\_\_ Trough Container for Effect  
\_\_\_\_\_ Container Grown \_\_\_\_\_ Educational Display  
\_\_\_\_\_ Artistic Design \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Competitive Exhibit

**Judges Clinic I, Friday, July 13, 2012, 8:00 -11:00 am**

I will attend Judges Clinic I

A current **Judges Handbook** is required. You may download the free Judges Handbook at [www.hosta.org](http://www.hosta.org).

Check here if you want to purchase the official handbook/binder at the clinic (\$10.00 payable at convention).

Please select

- \$135.00 – Early Full Registration (before June 7, 2012)  
 \$150.00 – Late Full Registration (after June 7, 2012)

Full Convention Registration: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursday Garden Picnic: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Registration \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send form and check to:  
Mona Keehn, Convention Treasurer  
1635 Chippewa Drive NW  
Rochester, MN 55901  
[soghscon@gmail.com](mailto:soghscon@gmail.com)

Check payable to:  
SOGHS/2012 MRHS CONVENTION  
 \*Paid online with credit card  
\*must mail or email registration form

**OPTIONAL GARDEN PICNIC, THURSDAY, JULY 12, 6-8 PM**  
At Camp Creek Farm (Cindy and Mike Tomashek) near Preston, MN,  
in the heart of southeast Minnesota bluff country; includes busing,  
BBQ picnic, hosta gardens and renovated barn.

\$15.00/person